



DUNDY COUNTY STRATTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

400 9th Avenue West • P.O. Box 586 • Benkelman, NE 69021-0586

"Every Day...Every Child...A Success!"



Superintendent Report

June 2026

Student Teacher:

Alexa Schneider from the University of Wyoming will be doing her student teaching experience at the Elementary during the 2026-2027 school term. Alexa will be located in the Sixth Grade classroom with Mrs. Lesley Marshall. Ms. Schneider will be on-campus for three (03) weeks during the months of September, October and November during the fall semester followed by a 16-week experience during the spring semester.

Fiscal Year 2027 House of Representatives Appropriations (FEDERAL):

The House Appropriations Committee released its Fiscal Year (FY) 2027 Labor-Health & Human Services-Education bill on 06/04/2026. This bill provides \$70.7 billion for the Education Department (ED) which represents a cut of nearly \$8.1 billion (10%) from the fiscal year 2026 total for the agency. Additionally, the bill rescinds \$250 million from unobligated balances from the ED's Nonrecurring Expenses Fund. Some takeaways from the bill in its current form:

--K-12 Education: The bill makes deep cuts to K-12 Education. Most notably, it cuts funding for Title I grants to LEA's by 10% (nearly \$2 billion). It eliminates funding for Title II-A Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants (approximately \$2.2 billion). The bill also rescinds advanced funding provided in the FY 2026 appropriations bill (\$1.6 billion) under School Improvement Programs. The bill does reject the Administration's proposal to consolidate K-12 funding for various programs into a block grant.

Summer Maintenance Project(s):

The Elementary HVAC project is moving along as planned. Last week the crane was delayed in arriving at Benkelman by two (02) days so the placement of equipment on the roof was behind schedule but it was completed by Thursday, 06/03/2026. In taking out the prior system lodged in the mezzanine above the gym, they were able to cut the system into pieces and remove without opening a hole in the roof. Ductwork is starting to be installed and, once roughed in, the new ceiling work will begin. The project continues to progress forward.

Fisher Tracks of Boone, IA will be on the Jr./Sr. High campus this week to do the track resurfacing project (weather permitting). They originally were going to be on-site starting Saturday, 06/06/2026 but weather has delayed their crew finishing their current project at Gothenburg Senior High.

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Tigers

The striping of the track will be done by a different Fisher Track, Inc. crew so there will be a period of time between the new surface being applied and the track striping being completed.

The summer period is well underway for the Custodial/Maintenance crew with several projects being worked on. The Jr./Sr. High building is a busy place with summer school taking place, summer lunch being held and rooms being cleaned. As of this morning (Monday, 06/08/2026), the crew started the retaining wall project on the south side of the Jr./Sr. High building.

Blue Cross Blue Shield:

The district was notified on 06/03/2026 that the initial payment from the Blue Cross Blue Shield (BCBS) Antitrust Class Action Settlement had been issued to the district in the amount of \$27,570.70. The original claim had to be submitted by 11/06/2021. This settlement comes from a class action lawsuit that was reached on behalf of individuals and companies that purchased or received health insurance provided or administered by a Blue Cross Blue Shield company. This matter was handled directly through the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association—not Blue Cross Blue Shield of Nebraska. This settlement is for the district so it is not to be distributed or split with employees.

The Plaintiffs allege that the Settling Defendants violated antitrust laws by entering into an agreement not to compete with each other and to limit competition among themselves in selling health insurance and administrative services for health insurance. Settling Defendants deny all allegations of wrongdoing and assert that their conduct results in lower healthcare costs and greater access to care for their customers. The Court has not decided who is right or wrong. Instead, Plaintiffs and Settling Defendants have agreed to a Settlement to avoid the risk and cost of further litigation.

The Settlement will establish a \$2.67 billion Settlement Fund. Settling Defendants will also agree to make changes in the way they do business that Plaintiffs believe will increase the opportunities for competition in the market for health insurance.

Option In/Out and Net Option—Exempt School(s) Information:

With the close of the school term, this is the enrollment of students residing in the district but not attending the school district.

Option In = 04 Option Out = 32 Net Option = (28)

Exempt School Student(s) = 32

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Extra Duty Assignments:

Attached to report is the 2026-2027 Extra Duty Assignments as of 05/27/2026. There are a couple positions that will continue to be pursued over the summer months.

Superintendent Leave (2025-2026):

Work Day(s): 235 days available

Sick Leave: 10 days available (09.0 days used) = 01.0 day remaining

Vacation Leave: 20 days available (16.5 days used) = 03.5 days remaining

(current 06/08/2026)

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Extra Duty

Activities Director
Cross Country
Volleyball
Football
Boys Basketball
Girls Basketball
Girls Wrestling
Wrestling
Boys Golf
Boys Track
Girls Track
Cheer / Dance
One Act
Vocal Music
Instrumental Music
Musical
School Play
Speech
Mock Trial
FCCLA
FBLA
FFA
HOSA
National Honor Society
HS Concessions
HS Academic Bowl
JH Academic Bowl
K-6 Academic Bowl
Student Council
Yearbook
Esports

Head Coach

Jeff Gleisberg
Megan Spargo
Shelby Zoltenko
Mike Spargo
Austin Anderson
Matt Schaub
????????
Travis Lutz
Jeff Gleisberg
Mike Spargo
Megan Spargo
Lindsay Anderson
[REDACTED]
Celger Venzon
Celger Venzon
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Emily Cameron
Emily Cameron
Lindsay Anderson
Kweeny Samson
Kayla Mues
Elisha Hinojosa
Jen Loker
Kweey Samaon
Elisha Hinojosa
Tammi Carmichael
Kale Shields
Jen Loker
Emily Cameron
Kweeny Samson

Assistant Coach

If needed
Allie Behlke
Ryan Zuhlke
Ryan Zuhlke
Emily Gleisberg
Dustin Bundy
Matt Schaub
Lesley Marshall

Extra Assistant Coach

	Mike Spargo, Volunteer

DCS Class Sponsors

7th Grade
8th Grade
9th Grade
10th Grade
11th Grade
12th Grade

Alyson Lundsford
Kweeny Samson
Tammi Carmichael
Lindsay Anderson
Marilyn Zarkowski
Tammie Runions

Bruce Lan
Emily Cameron
Ryan Zuhlke
Kayla Mues
Jen Loker
Jody Crouse

Jr. High Coaching

Football
Volleyball
Wrestling
Boys Basketball
Girls Basketball
Boys Track
Girls Track

Ryan Zuhlke
Emily Gleisberg
??????
Mike Spargo
Matt Schaub
Mike Spargo
Megan Spargo

Mike Spargo
Megan Spargo
Mike Spargo
Ryan Zuhlke
Megan Spargo
Matt Schaub
Emily Gleisberg

Matt Schaub Non sport PE students

Ryan Zuhulke Non sport PE Students
_____ Non sport PE Students

Ryan Zuhulke Non sport PE Students