

Board of Education Regular Meeting  
Monday, May 11, 2026 7:00 PM  
Central Office Board Room  
401 South Pine Street  
Valley, NE 68064-0378

1. <b>Call to Order</b>	
2. <b>Public Communications and Correspondence</b>	<b>3</b>
3. <b>Approval of Agenda</b>	
4. <b>Administrative Reports</b>	<b>5</b>
4.1. Superintendent's Report	29
4.2. Financial Report	31
5. <b>Consent Agenda</b>	
5.1. Approve Minutes	38
5.2. Approve Claims for Payment	
5.3. Approve Financial Report	
5.4. Approve Classified Staff	
6. <b>Old Business</b>	
6.1. Building and Grounds Committee of the Whole	
7. <b>New Business</b>	
7.1. HAL Presentation	
7.2. Approval of New Classified Staff Positions	
7.3. Approval of Extra Duty Positions	
7.4. Food Service Management Company	
7.5. Authorize the Superintendent to Sell, Dispose, or Recycle Materials	

8. **Executive Session**

8.1. Reconvene to Regular Session

9. **Adjournment**

## Board of Education

Cole Groteluschen

Dr. Kelly Hinrichs

Luke Janke

Jamie Jorgensen

Elizabeth Mayer

Jim Tomanek

Dr. Melissa Poloncic, Superintendent

Kristi Trost, Board Secretary

*This pamphlet has been developed to help the general public attending a meeting of the Board of Education to understand the internal operation of the Board. It is hoped that this pamphlet will foster improved relations between the Board and the citizens it serves.*

## Meetings of the Board

### When

- The Board of Education convenes once each month on the second Monday except in the months that have five Mondays. In months with five Mondays, the Board convenes on the third Monday of the month. Holidays and unexpected conflicts may create exceptions to this practice.
- The Board of Education will convene in special session whenever it is deemed necessary for the efficient operation of the school district.
- Board of Education meetings are called to order at 7:00 p.m. unless another time is stipulated.

### Where

- Regular and special meetings of the Board of Education will be held in the Board Room on the Valley Campus at 401 S. Pine St., in Valley, unless another location is specifically identified.
- Whenever public participation dictates the need for a larger meeting room, the Board will convene in the High School library.

### Notice of Meetings

- Official notice of the time and place of the regular board meetings are posted on the doors of the schools, banks in Valley and Waterloo and the Valley City Hall.
- Notice of special meetings will be posted at least 24 hours in advance. Hearings will be published in The Omaha Daily Record.

## Business of the Board

### Agendas

- Agendas for the regular meeting on the second Monday of the month will be prepared in advance and kept current and available in the superintendent's office. Business items of an emergency nature may be placed on the agenda by a majority vote of the Board of Education.
- Parents, employees and patrons may request items placed before the Board of Education for consideration by contacting the Superintendent at least three business days in advance of a regular meeting.

### Public Participation

- The Board of Education invites you to offer comments during the Public Communication and Correspondence portion of the meeting. Public requesting to offer comments during the Public Communication portion of the meeting shall make a request to speak or complete the sign-in information sheet at the meeting. The individual is asked to state the purpose and general nature of his or her appearance before the Board. The Board President shall indicate to the individual how much time the Board will allot the individual. Speakers normally will be given five minutes with a maximum of 20 minutes set aside for such communications.
- Members of the public requesting to speak to an item considered New or Old Business on the Agenda will request time during the Public Communications portion of the meeting. Unless the comments are related to an agenda item no action will be taken by the Board. Questions or requests of the Board by the public will be taken under consideration. The Board will direct the Superintendent, or the Superintendent's designee, to respond in writing to any public

question or request brought before the Board. Equal time shall be allotted to individuals speaking for and against a proposal when opposing points of view are represented at the board meeting.

- The Board invites you to share any information you may have or address any question to any Board member or the Superintendent regarding new business in the week prior to the next meeting.
- If, at any Board meeting, any person shall conduct himself or herself in a disorderly manner and after notice of the president or the person presiding shall persist therein, the president or person presiding may ask the person to leave and if the person refuses, the president or presiding officer may order any law enforcement officer or any other person or persons to take him or her into custody until the meeting is adjourned.
- Meetings may be recorded. Recording must be done so as not to disrupt the meeting.
- Meetings of the Board of Education shall be conducted in compliance with appropriate policy, state statutes and open meeting laws.

#### **Mission Statement**

**DC West Community Schools engages, prepares, and empowers all of our students for the future.**



## **Board Meeting Procedures**

*“Engage, Prepare, and Empower”*

**Douglas County West  
Community Schools  
P.O. Box 378  
401 S. Pine St.  
Valley, Nebraska 68064**

The Douglas County West Community Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, age or other protected status in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:

**Students:** Superintendent of Schools, 401 S. Pine St., Valley, Nebraska 68064 (402-359-2583).

**Employees and Others:** Superintendent of Schools, 401 S. Pine St., Valley, Nebraska 68064 (402-359-2583).

Complaints or concerns involving discrimination or needs for accommodation or access should be addressed to the appropriate Coordinator. For further information about anti-discrimination laws and regulations, or to file a complaint of discrimination with the Office for Civil Rights in the U.S. Dept. of Education (OCR), please contact OCR at 8930 Ward Pkwy, Suite 2037, Kansas City, Missouri 64114, (816) 268-0550 (voice) or (877) 521-2172 (telecommunications device for the deaf) or [ocr.kansascity@ed.gov](mailto:ocr.kansascity@ed.gov).



### Douglas County West High School and Middle School Director of Athletics & Activities Board Report April 2026 Mr. Jeremy Travis

Our school year is winding down, especially with Senior Graduation on Sunday, May 10<sup>th</sup>. I'm gonna miss this senior class and all of their efforts as Falcons for DC West. They have left their mark and I believe have helped continue to move us forward as a school.

Our Teams and Programs are gearing up for their NCC and District Level competitions, which is great. Our coaches and student athletes have done a nice job of continuing to learn and grow throughout the spring season.

We have also had a lot of preparation and coordination with Coach Bergan and all of our athletic programs for the summer strength & conditioning program here at DC West.

I put this in last months board report but wanted to add it again. We are needing to add the following activity extra duty position at the middle school level for current teacher, Morgan Thompson. **MS Band: Concerts, Pep Band, Solo/Ensemble Prep, Solo/Ensemble Contest, 8th Grade All-State Lessons, Honor Bands, and Jazz Band.**

Thank you for your consideration!



Our **HS Baseball Team** just celebrated Senior Night here at DC West. They are entering Districts as the #3 seed and will take on #2 Wayne on Thursday, May 7<sup>th</sup> at Kernel Field in Central City. Our team is coached by Joel Voss, Josh Willmott, Marcus Martin, and Cole Ryan.



The **HS Girls and Boys Track Team** have been competing at a high level this spring. Ericka Murphy (Jr.) sets a new school record in the 400m with a record time of 1:01.31. Jack Steinbach (So.) set a new school record in the 1600m with a record time of 4:35.20. Rylan Loewe (Sr.) breaks her school record in the long jump with a record 16-10.50. The Falcons will be heading to District Track on May 12<sup>th</sup> at Columbus Scotus. The Girls Track Team Head Coach is John Brockhaus and the Boys Track Team Head Coach is Mattie Subbert.



Congratulations to the **DC West High School Band** for receiving a 1\* at District Music Contest, which means they received a Division 1 Superior Rating from all three judges. This is the first time in school history that our band has earned this honor. Congratulations to our Falcon Band, we are proud of you!



The **HS Golf Team** just finished in 1<sup>st</sup> place overall as a Team shooting a school record 307 in the Logan View Invite. They have had two individual champions this season in Beckett Zahourek (Fr.) at the Oakland-Craig Invite and Jacob DeLashmutt (So.) at the Logan View Invite. The Falcons enter NCC Tournament Play on Thursday, May 7<sup>th</sup> at River Wild's Golf Club. They have most recently also found out that they will be traveling to Sidney, NE. for District on May 18<sup>th</sup>. The Team is coached by Ben Knobbe, Sean Pralle, and Trey Baker.



The **MS Track & Field Team** has been showing a lot of growth throughout the season both individually and as a team. They will potentially have some state track meet qualifiers in Gothenburg to finish the season. Our Girls Head Coach is Amber Axeline and the Boys Head Coach is Jacob Subbert.

**ATHLETE OF THE MONTH**

**BECKETT ZAHOUREK**

1<sup>st</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> IN LAST TOURNAENTS

SHOT 75 AT OAKLAND GOLF CLUB

**ATHLETE OF THE MONTH**

**ERICKA MURPHY**

27:07 PB 200M, 1:01.31 PB 400M

NEW 400M SCHOOL RECORD

**April Athletes of the Month**

To view upcoming **Team Schedules or Events**, please take the following steps:

- Go to [www.dcwest.org](http://www.dcwest.org)
- Click on the Activities Calendar
- Click on View Schedules
- Select Team
- Click View

There are a lot of moving parts in athletics and activities but everyone is working together towards the same common goal. I want to Thank everyone that has helped work at an event, supported our school and programs, and that have cheered on our Falcons. We are Better Together and I'm a really proud Falcon!

Mr. Travis



 **JEREMY TRAVIS**  
Director of Athletics & Activities (7-12)

**DC WEST** Community Schools  
Engage, Prepare, and Empower

📍 401 S. Pine Street  
Valley, NE 68064

📞 402.359.2583

✉ jtravis@dcwest.org

📧 @DCWestFalcons



May 2026, Board of Education Report  
Dr. Dawn Marten, Director of Learning

## CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION

### Disposal of Middle School & High School Library Books

We are seeking approval to dispose of outdated and no-longer-used middle school and high school library books. These materials have been reviewed by staff, removed from active inventory, and identified as obsolete resources in accordance with district procedures for surplus materials. With the Board's approval, we will follow established surplus and recycling processes.

### HAL Program Handbook

The revised High Ability Learner (HAL) Program Handbook outlines DC West Community Schools' commitment to providing challenging, equitable learning experiences for students who demonstrate high academic potential, in alignment with Nebraska Rule 3 and LB 1329 definitions of high ability learners. The handbook describes core program beliefs and goals, emphasizing identification across diverse student populations, the need for appropriately challenging instruction, strong family and community partnerships, and sustained investment in staff training and resources.

Program elements specify how services are delivered across grade levels: differentiated instruction and teacher consultation in K–2, direct HAL teacher-led enrichment in grades 3–8, and advanced ELA and math coursework at the high school level based on student performance, recommendations, and assessment data. The document also formalizes a multi-step, data-driven identification process for elementary and middle school students that uses MAP Growth, CogAT, and SIGS-2 data, with clear point thresholds for qualification and procedures for communication with families.

### Health Curriculum Review

Health teachers reviewed the current health curriculum and determined that we will continue using the same curriculum content for Grades 4–12. For Grades 4–5, the Human Growth & Development lessons will remain the same with the same delivery model. It is recommended that an updated teacher and student editions be purchased for high school.

### Summer School Presentation: Learning Community Funds

On behalf of DC West, I submitted a proposal to the Learning Community to help fund our three-week Summer School program in June 2027. The program focuses on preventing learning loss and supporting K–5 students in reading, writing, and math. The program will serve approximately 40 students for three hours per day, four days per week, using small-group, standards-based instruction delivered by elementary teachers. Mr. Alan Sarka and I presented the proposal on April 29 and the Achievement Subcouncil Committee voted to approve our proposal and granted DC West with 7,558.26 to help fund a portion of our summer school program.

## ASSESSMENT

### **NSCAS: Grades 3-8**

NSCAS testing has been successfully completed for all students in grades 3 through 8. The district implemented the combined assessment model this year, which provides both a proficiency level and a RIT score for each student. Accordingly, a spring administration of the MAP assessment was not administered. Student results will be shared following the state's finalization and official release of the data when the results are no longer under embargo.

## PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

### **District Professional Learning Day**

On April 17, the district held a Professional Learning Day that started with a staff breakfast provided by the PTSA. Certified staff participated in a range of professional activities aligned to district priorities. PK–5 classroom teachers, literacy interventionists, secondary ELA staff, EL staff, instructional coaches, and special education resource staff engaged in continued development of the ELA Curriculum Framework. In the afternoon, K–3 teachers, elementary specialists, and select SPED staff participated in the launch meeting outlining the UNO Early Literacy Workshop that will take place in the 26-27 school year. All other staff focused on required curriculum updates and engaging in collaborative PLC work.

### **Coaching Cadre**

Kelsey Nabity, instructional coach, and I successfully completed a year-long ESU 3 Coaching Cadre training focused on developing and supporting teachers in implementing literacy-focused success criteria. This professional learning, facilitated by Dr. Toni Faddis, deepened our shared knowledge of best practices in instructional coaching and strengthened our capacity to help teachers and students clearly understand and articulate learning intentions. Our participation in this cadre enhances the district's internal coaching program and aligns directly with ongoing efforts to improve the quality and consistency of literacy instruction across classrooms.

## Family & Community Partnership

### **Teacher Leadership Network**

Under the leadership of Mrs. Kelsey Naboty, DC West Elementary had the opportunity to host a Teaching and Learning Network (TLN) Buffett Site Visit, during which leaders from other districts came to learn from our implementation of the Superintendent's Early Childhood Plan. Participants examined our home visiting and family facilitation programs, building and district alignment structures, and our focus on leadership effectiveness, instructional excellence, and family–community partnerships. The site visit highlighted practices such as the Walking Bus, Falcon Family Room, standards-based grading and SEBL integration, and a wide range of family engagement efforts including Falcon Café, preschool backpack initiatives, and community partnership events. This recognition underscored DC West's role as a model for early childhood

programming and reinforced the impact of our collaborative work with Buffett Institute and community partners to support young learners and their families.

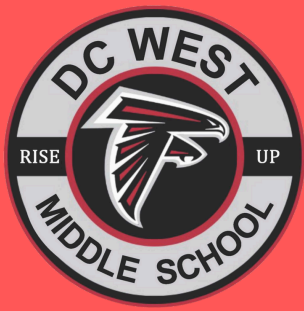
### **District Initiatives 2.0: Learning Community Presentation**

Mr. Alan Sarka and I presented an update on District Initiatives 2.0 to the Learning Community Coordinating Council, highlighting district context, current funded programs, and outcomes. The presentation provided an overview of Learning Community–funded programs:

- Superintendent's Early Childhood Plan
- Preschool Family Engagement/Literacy Backpack Program
- Extended Learning: Elementary Summer School
- K-1 Literacy Backpack Program

### **ESU3 Accreditation Interview Panel**

I had the opportunity to participate on the ESU3 Accreditation Interview Panel, providing the service unit with meaningful feedback to inform its strategic plan and continuous improvement efforts. Serving in this capacity reflected the strong collaboration between our Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment Department and ESU 3 consultants, and reinforced our shared commitment to quality, partnership, and robust support for teachers and students.



# DC WEST MIDDLE SCHOOL

**2025-2026 | From The Desk of Dr. Kerns**

As we enter the final stretch of the academic year, I want to take a moment to reflect on the remarkable growth and dedication our students have displayed. We are incredibly proud of their progress and are eager to finish the year on a high note. To ensure a smooth and successful conclusion to the term, I would like to share several important updates regarding the busy and exciting weeks ahead.

On May 13, our 5th and 6th graders will head to the old football complex for Track and Field Day. Morning events will run from 9:00 AM to 10:55 AM, followed by a midday break. Competition will resume at 11:35 AM and conclude at 2:00 PM.

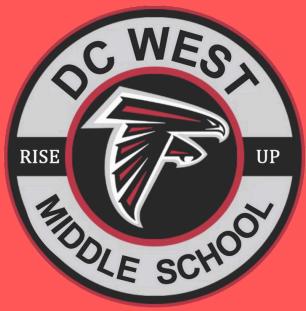
The final two weeks of school will be dedicated to celebrating our students' transitions and achievements. On May 14, we will host the 6th Grade Celebration at 9:36 AM, followed by the 7th Grade Celebration at 1:03 PM in the Performing Arts Center (PAC). On Friday, May 15, we will honor our 8th graders with a promotion ceremony beginning at 1:29 PM in the PAC. Following the ceremony, students will enjoy cake and punch to commemorate their promotion to high school.

We invite families to join us for these events and ask that you please enter through the middle school doors. Our academic celebrations continue on May 19 with the 8th Grade Science Fair, held in the main gym from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM. We encourage you to attend and view the innovation and hard work our students have put into their projects.

Finally, our last day of school will be May 21, with an early dismissal scheduled for 11:45 AM. Thank you for your continued partnership and for making this school year so exceptional. We look forward to seeing you at these upcoming events as we celebrate the accomplishments of our Falcons.

Warmly,

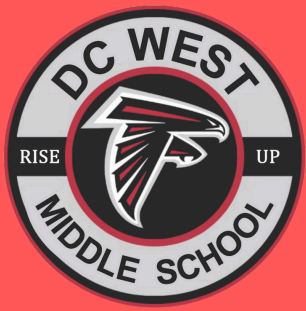
Dr. Jeffrey Kerns  
Principal



# DC WEST MIDDLE SCHOOL

2025-2026 | From The Desk of Dr. Kerns



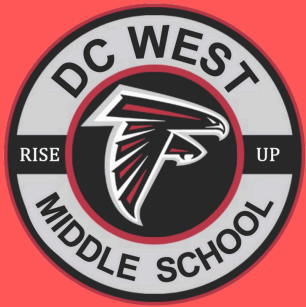


# DC WEST MIDDLE SCHOOL

2025-2026 | From The Desk of Dr. Kerns



Grace Hummel  
Garratt Krings  
Audreanna Kulbe  
Maddon Meyer  
Addison Murdock



# DC WEST MIDDLE SCHOOL

2025-2026 | From The Desk of Dr. Kerns



Board Report  
May 11th, 2026

Shawna Younghans- Administrative Facilitator

April has been a month of celebration, reflection, and forward momentum at the high school level. As our senior class prepares to close this chapter of their academic journey, we are incredibly proud of their accomplishments and extend our best wishes as they move into their next endeavors.

This period of transition has also prompted intentional reflection on how we have prepared our seniors for life beyond high school, and how we can continue strengthening our systems for future classes. We are actively collaborating with representatives from Education Resource Strategies (ERS) and the Nebraska Department of Education to evaluate and improve the efficiency of our master schedule. Through this partnership, ERS conducted an analysis of our current schedule to identify opportunities to refine course sections and offerings. This work is driving meaningful progress in restructuring our schedule to better serve students.

Additionally, our Design Cohort has been focused on identifying student needs and maximizing available instructional time throughout the school day. The high school has had a dedicated period called Keystone, which provides students with structured time for assignment completion and academic support. Academic support is available to students who are earning below a designated grade threshold, though all students may attend to seek assistance.

Building on this foundation, the Design Cohort team has developed a workshop model to operate within the existing Keystone period. These workshops will not replace academic support, but will create an intentional space for teachers to identify small groups of students who would benefit from additional instruction with their content-area teacher. For example, if a group of Geometry students needs re-teaching on a specific concept, the Geometry teacher can coordinate with the workshop teacher to bring those students in during Keystone for targeted support. We are enthusiastic about refining this system to ensure students receive timely, targeted academic intervention. Juniors and seniors maintaining a grade of "C" or better will continue to have access to Keystone Flex.

Regarding the ACT, the high school transitioned this year away from allowing juniors to earn out of finals based on meeting their ACT goal. Instead, we focused on empowering

students to set meaningful, personalized goals across the three primary ACT domains — Math, Science, and ELA (which encompasses English, Reading, and Writing). This approach facilitated purposeful conversations between students and their core teachers during the goal-setting process. We believe the true value of goal setting lies in those conversations and the concrete action steps students commit to pursuing.

Our juniors demonstrated strong engagement throughout the ACT process and will be recognized for their efforts on May 19th with a celebration at Lucky Strike in Elkhorn, featuring bowling, arcade games, and laser tag. This recognition event will be announced to students on May 7th. We are currently awaiting ACT results, after which staff will hold individual conversations with students to reflect on their goals and outcomes.

Below is the goal setting form that all juniors filled out with the help of their teachers.

Date	English Sub Score	Reading Sub Score	Math Sub Score	Science Sub Score
9th Grade Pre ACT				
10th Grade Pre ACT				
11th Grade Practice ACT				

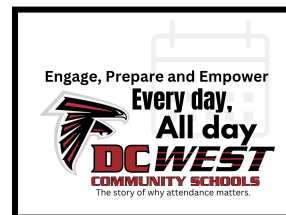
Nebraska ACT Proficiency Levels			
Performance Level	Math	ELA	Science
ACT Benchmark (College Career Ready)	22-36	20-36	23-36
On Track	18-21	18-19	19-22
Developing	1-17	1-17	1-18

Junior ACT Goals			
11th Grade ACT Goal	ELA Score (English, Reading & Writing)	Math Sub Score	Science Sub Score

Action Steps To Achieve My Goal



Congratulations to the Class of 2026  
Mrs. Shawna Younghans

May 4, 2026

Board Report

Elementary School (Mr. Sarka & Mrs. Ranslem)

DC West Community Schools

Contents:

1. **Arbor Day Tree Planting Ceremony**
2. **Step-Up Day/5th grade to Middle School Transition**
3. **Career Day (4th/5th grade)**
4. **STEM Stations in Library**
5. **Battle of the Books**
6. **Omaha Children's Museum Night**
7. **Falcoins/Pie in the Face**

### 1. **Arbor Day Tree Planting Ceremony**

Two of the 4th grade classes had the best time celebrating Arbor Day! We'd like to thank Owen's Mowing, Lanoha Nurseries, and the city of Valley, Nebraska for making today's tree planting event such a success. We even were able to welcome the town Mayor who gave a speech, interacted in a skit with some students, and even threw some of the dirt into the ground! Thank you to all who participated in the event and for making the DCW landscape so beautiful!



## 2. Step-Up Day/5th grade middle school transition

Step Up Day at the elementary was a great success, giving students the opportunity to visit the next grade level, meet their future teachers, and experience what a typical day will look like when they return in August. The energy throughout the building was positive and engaging, with meaningful activities that helped students begin building relationships and feel more confident about the transition ahead. Our 5th grade students also had an outstanding visit to the middle school, where they rotated through sessions, connected with the 6th grade team, and became more familiar with their new environment. A special highlight was reconnecting with Mr. Kerns, who was their principal when they first started as kindergarteners—bringing their elementary journey full circle in a memorable way.



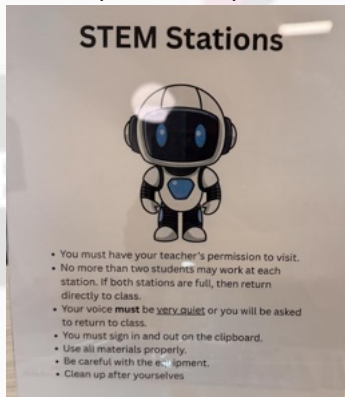
## 3. Career Day (4th/5th)

Career Day at the elementary was a great success for our 4th and 5th grade students! The day provided an engaging opportunity for students to explore a variety of career paths and hear firsthand from professionals in fields such as firefighting, meteorology, construction, business ownership, and public service. We are incredibly grateful to the parents and community members who volunteered their time to share their experiences and inspire our students. Their willingness to invest in our school made a meaningful impact and helped students begin thinking about their future goals. It was a great day to be a Falcon!



#### 4. STEM Stations in Library

Shout out to Jeff Kitterman, our incredible Elementary School Librarian at DC West! Since joining us this year, Jeff has created one of the warmest, most welcoming, and engaging spaces for our students. From building unique furniture to designing hands-on STEM stations, he's transformed the library into a place where curiosity is encouraged. Students now have structured opportunities to visit during intervention time, and it's been amazing to see them excited to learn, explore, and create. Jeff is constantly seeking ways to grow and improve his practice, and it shows in everything he does.



#### 5. Battle of the Books

Battle of the Books was a successful and engaging experience for our students this year. Eighteen students participated, forming four teams that competed in performance, writing, and technology-based events. Throughout the process, students strengthened not only their reading skills, but also their collaboration, critical thinking, and confidence.

Our teams earned several recognitions, including a 3rd place finish in writing and 5th place in performance, along with additional top-10 placements in writing, performance,

and technology. We appreciate the support from families in encouraging reading and participation, which contributed to a positive and rewarding experience for all involved.



## 6. Omaha Children's Museum Night

On April 28, DC West Elementary partnered with Omaha Children's Museum to host a family engagement night that saw a tremendous turnout of students and their families. The evening was filled with fun, hands-on experiences that brought our school community together in a meaningful way. Thank you to Mrs. Tessendorf for her outstanding coordination in making this event a success.



## 7. Falcoins School-wide Reward

Mr. Sarka and Mrs. Ranslem are racing toward a *pie-to-the-face* during the final week of school! As we head into summer, we're encouraging all students to boost positive behavior and follow the Falcon Way. This fun, schoolwide incentive is a great way to stay focused, make strong choices, and celebrate a fantastic year together—let's see who ends up with the pie!



## May 2026 Student Services Report

### Future Educator Spotlight

**LINDSAY SCHURMAN**

DC West Community Schools | Midland University

#### Nebraska Teacher Registered Apprenticeship Celebrates

Lindsay exemplifies the initiative and dedication that define an outstanding future educator. She takes an active role in her professional growth, consistently seeking opportunities to expand her knowledge and refine her practice. Whether observing fellow educators or exploring new aspects of the profession, Lindsay is always eager to learn.

Lindsay is already an invaluable member of our school community. As an apprentice, she supports students with compassion and patience. She is a true team player, always ready to step in wherever needed.



**NEBRASKA**  
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

The Nebraska Department of Education, in partnership with the Nebraska Department of Labor, is proud to sponsor the state's Teacher Registered Apprenticeship Program. This innovative, earn-and-learn pathway prepares future educators through paid on-the-job experience, high-quality coursework, and mentorship, strengthening Nebraska's teacher workforce.

### Grow Your Own Update

Last month, I provided an update on the Para-to-Teacher pathway participants we have in the district. As a follow-up, I wanted to share that Lindsay Schurman was recently recognized by the NDE as a Teacher Apprentice who exemplifies the initiative and dedication that we all hope to see in our future educators. We are so proud of Lindsay and know she'll be an amazing teacher!

### Behavior Advantage: A Tool to Support the MTSS for Behavior

Our psychologists and a few select teachers and administrators have recently participated in training for a new web-based service we have subscribed to support behavior. Behavior Advantage provides access to professional development and evidence-based interventions for behavior and helps schools build effective systems for preventing behavior issues, providing targeted supports for some students, and developing robust functional behavioral assessments and behavior intervention plans for

our students with the most significant needs. We are excited to use this program to support our students!

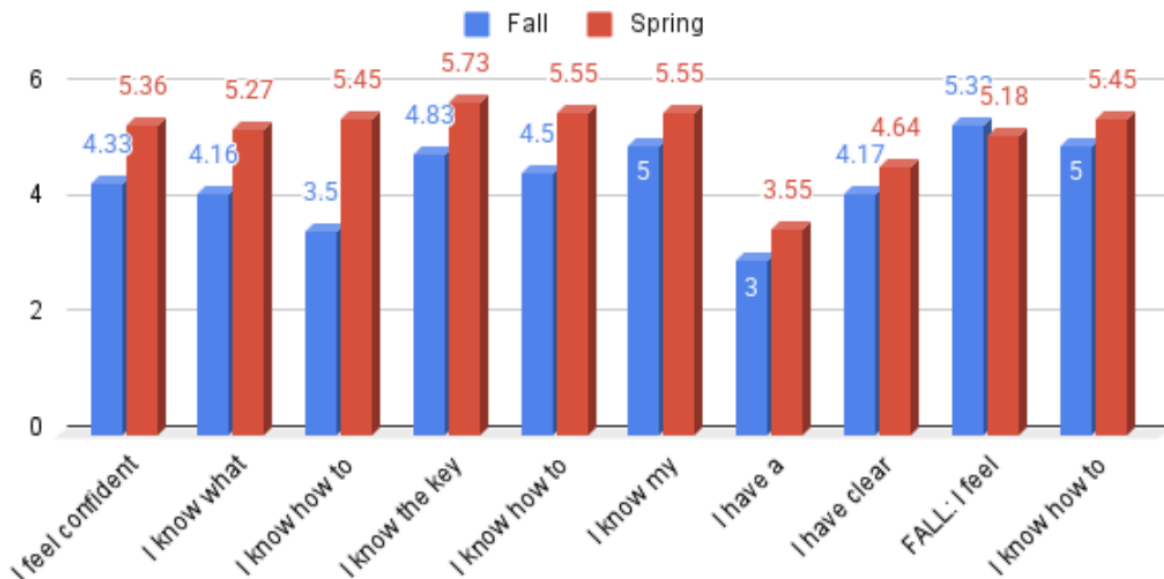
### **Targeted Improvement and Inclusive Practices**

We wrapped up our work on inclusive practices this year with another day of observation and feedback from Allison Kelberlau, ESU 3 Assistant Director of Student Services. Allison was able to observe in several classrooms and provide feedback to teachers to help support their implementation of the inclusive practices and co-teaching methods they have learned about in the Inclusive Practices Academy.

Our outcome data from Inclusive Practices continues to indicate that focusing on high-quality instruction in the co-taught general education classroom is beneficial for teachers and students. For teachers, the data indicates that after participating in the Inclusive Practices Academy, inclusive mindsets and confidence in implementing inclusive practices grew. More importantly, though, special education students continued to show improvement on state testing, making good growth on closing the achievement gap between them and their non-disabled peers.

## Pre- and Post-Inclusive Practices Inventory Teacher Ratings

Average Rating by Item



### ***High School Life Skills Planning***

We are excited about the continual evolution of our high school life skills program. Lisa Masters has done a phenomenal job of working with both high school and middle school life skills students for the past two years. Next year, we have a larger group of middle school students with special education needs, so Lisa will be working full time in the middle school, and Mr. Hoffman will take over the Vocational Skills and Independent Living courses in the high school. As part of our planning, we have purchased some new curriculum, toured neighbor schools with exemplary programs, and spent time planning for implementation. We are excited to see the continued growth our students will make as we develop more specialized curriculum and opportunities for all students.

*Thank you for your continued support of our staff, students, and programming! We appreciate it! Have a great month!*

Nicki Pechous, Ed.D.  
Director of Student Services

### Jim Knott Board Report

High School Principal  
May 11, 2026

We are planning on offering a traditional summer school option for our high school credit-deficient students. The summer school session will run Monday-Friday, June 1-19 from 8:00-11:00. Students must attend 12 sessions out of 15 and complete 100% of the class to earn one semester of credit. Ms. Richards, Mr. Baker, and Ms. Cox will set up and run summer school again. Eligible students will use this time to make up credits missed during the regular school year.

On Friday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, the senior scholarship breakfast was held at 7:00 a.m. in the North Gym. Seniors and their families were invited to receive and honor those receiving scholarships. This year, 34 seniors received scholarships in the amount of \$5 million. High School Counselor Ms. Katie Richards stated, “we had another great turnout for the Senior Scholarship Breakfast. This time of year has quickly become one of my favorites as we get to recognize and celebrate the great achievements of the senior class. I'd like to thank the community, families, and organizations that award scholarships each year. Our partnership plays a major role in setting our seniors up for success. Thank you to Mrs. Nikki Billedeaux for all her help and organization, and thank you to Kelly Ellis and the kitchen staff for preparing the delicious breakfast!”

The senior's last day of school was Wednesday, May 6. Graduation practice was held in the gym from 8:45-10:45 followed by the traditional elementary, middle, and high school tunnel walk and senior grill out. Graduation was held on Sunday, May 10 at 2:00 pm. 67 seniors completed all DC West graduation requirements signifying the end of their high school careers and the beginning of a new chapter of their lives. Nolan Asher, Maren Jarecke, Emma Kincanon, Alexander Phillips, Madelyn Phillips, Anella Pralle, Jetta Sattem, Trey Schieber, and Jaxon Swierczek were members of the top 10% of the class and had the opportunity to speak for the Class of 2026. CONGRATULATIONS SENIORS!

**SENIOR ACADEMIC AWARDS LISTED ON PAGE 2**

### President's Award of Academic Achievement

\*3.0 Minimum Cumulative High School GPA

\*Made Outstanding Growth in English, Math, or Science

Collin Biesterfeld  
Brooke Coyle  
Rylan Loewe  
Benjamin Oien  
Colton Trost

Jayden Blank-Jimenez  
Kyle Gregurich  
Molly Moehling  
Grant Parr

Mackenzie Calaway  
Lillian Kosiske  
Damian Monroe  
Reece Royuk

### President's Award of Academic Excellence

\*3.5 Minimum Cumulative High School GPA

Bailey Anderson  
Kayden Foster  
Nylee Hayner  
Saybra Hermanson  
Maren Jarecke  
Cade Listenberger  
Trey Olsen  
Madelyn Phillips  
Kyler Rippe  
Evan Schlingman  
Joseph Stammer  
Jadie Vieth  
Zane Wohlers

Bella Anderson  
Joslyn Giles  
Adora Hays-Lavender  
Barrett Hinrichs  
Kyler Jorgensen  
Kolten Nelson  
Mason Pettit  
Anella Pralle  
Jetta Sattem  
Waylon Schroeder  
Addison Strong  
Jasmine West  
Izzabella Zach

Nolan Asher  
Ian Gleason  
Tess Henrichs  
Caiden Hoops  
Emma Kincanon  
Amelia North  
Alexander Phillips  
Abby Rayer  
Trey Schieber  
Jackson Schuiteman  
Jaxson Swierczek  
Beau Wilcox

### Nebraska Capital Conference All-Academic Team

\*3.5 Minimum Cumulative High School GPA

\*25 Minimum ACT Score

Nolan Asher  
Kyler Jorgensen  
Amelia North  
Anella Pralle  
Trey Schieber  
Beau Wilcox

Nylee Hayner  
Cade Listenberger  
Alexander Phillips  
Abby Rayer  
Addison Strong

Maren Jarecke  
Kolten Nelson  
Madelyn Phillips  
Jetta Sattem  
Jaxon Swierczek



# DC WEST Community Schools

**Engage, Prepare, and Empower**

## Superintendent's Report May 11, 2026

### Policy Updates

I would like to meet with the American Civics (Policy) Committee in June to process our annual policy updates. The committee is Liz Mayer, Cole Groteluschen, and Luke Janke. I will work with the committee members to schedule a meeting.

### Finance Committee

I would like to meet with the Finance committee before June 3rd to discuss fiscal year 2027 projections for budgeting. We have received guidance from legislative updates and NDE finance that LB803 requiring each school district to attend a county wide budget hearing will not be implemented until the summer of 2027. I still would like to meet with the committee to discuss our Property Tax Request Authority as we enter budget season.

### Land Settlement

A parcel of land that DC West Community Schools unknowingly owned as a part of another landowner's property was discussed at the February Board meeting. The 1884 deed was overlooked and the Douglas County GIS does not show any DC West ownership. The deed is the record of ownership. District 35 (Elm Tree) listed in the deed merged with District 23 (Byersville/ Elm Tree) in 1966. District 23 merged with Valley (District 33) in 2001. Valley and Waterloo merged to form DC West, District 15 in 2005. When mergers occur, the property of the merged district vests in the surviving district. Therefore, the parcel in question is owned by DC West.

In February, you authorized the Board President and I to negotiate the deed transfer and sale of the property to the landowner. We worked with both parties' legal counsel to settle the transfer of the deed in the amount of \$6052.00, which was equivalent to the listed valuation per acre on the Douglas County GIS at the time.

### Superintendent Goals 2026

- Facilitate the Master Planning process to approach Strategic Plan 5.1 & 5.3: creation of a comprehensive facilities plan to address both short term and long term goals including, but not limited to, new construction, renovation, and maintenance of facilities, and acquiring property to meet the future growth needs of the district and align district resources to support a quality education system and high-level learning environment by ensuring necessary staffing levels, space allocation, and resource expenditures
- Implement Strategic Plan Strategy 4.2 to increase communication to maintain perceptions of DC West by engaging students, families, employees, and the DC West community to promote and enrich the brand of DC West Community Schools.
- Lead the vision and support needed to implement strategic plan priorities in 2026. Specifically increase overall proficiency and/or growth in core areas of student achievement district-wide.
- Continue to unify, coach and lead the entire administrative team to excellence.
- Begin to develop a leadership succession plan within the district and a transition process to proactively identify and transition new leadership within the district (Strategy 3.4).

### Upcoming Dates:

[District Calendar](#)

[District Activities Calendar](#)

May 21st, Last Student Day

May 21st, 6-8pm, Staff End of Year Celebration at Sokol Camp~ Board Members included

June 1-19 Summer School

June 8th, 7pm, Regular Board Meeting

# Financial Recap April 2026

	4/1/2026	Receipts	Expenditures	4/30/2026
<b>General Fund</b>	\$5,509,982.04	\$ 3,683,927.89	\$ 1,310,240.76	\$7,883,669.17
<b>Depreciation Fund</b>	\$1,779,259.93	\$ 1,460.88	\$ 10,134.64	\$1,770,586.17
<b>Food Service Fund</b>	\$50,819.17	\$ 59,460.67	\$ 54,673.89	\$55,605.95
<b>Qualified Capital Fund</b>	\$283,855.77	\$ 159,312.02	\$ 1,968.75	\$441,199.04
<b>Bond Fund</b>	\$1,813,687.58	\$ 498,353.88	\$ -	\$2,312,041.46
<b>Special Building Fund</b>	\$688,773.65	\$ 508,165.94	\$ 4,917.00	\$1,192,022.59
	<b>\$10,126,378.14</b>	<b>\$4,910,681.28</b>	<b>\$1,381,935.04</b>	<b>\$13,655,124.38</b>

## General Fund Detail

<u>Expenditures</u>	April	YTD	Budgeted
All Instructional Program	\$ 651,960.47	\$ 5,566,056.60	\$ 8,519,107.00
SPED Instructional Program	\$ 175,117.96	\$ 1,630,527.41	\$ 2,534,928.00
Support Services SPED Related	\$ 40,227.71	\$ 350,213.90	\$ 551,856.00
Support Services Non-SPED Related	\$ 39,937.62	\$ 352,221.28	\$ 522,058.00
Support Instructional	\$ 48,120.64	\$ 457,851.24	\$ 785,282.00
Board of Education	\$ 21,090.48	\$ 85,660.71	\$ 111,624.00
Executive Administration Services	\$ 28,901.37	\$ 251,418.23	\$ 384,046.00
District Legal Services	\$ 601.25	\$ 8,259.25	\$ 40,000.00
Office of the Principal	\$ 75,528.59	\$ 639,693.10	\$ 971,578.00
General Admin - Business Services	\$ 36,480.69	\$ 198,495.60	\$ 390,055.00
Maint & Operation of Building & Sit	\$ 118,542.94	\$ 1,125,552.20	\$ 1,935,494.00
Vehicle Acquisition & Maint	\$ -	\$ 5,030.35	\$ 9,746.00
Regular Pupil Transportation	\$ 8,720.52	\$ 387,204.09	\$ 658,246.00
SPED Pupil Transportation	\$ 3,884.49	\$ 90,954.09	\$ 172,757.00
Categorical Grant from Coporation	\$ 20,957.91	\$ 166,033.10	\$ 322,001.00
State Categorical Programs	\$ 778.44	\$ 13,635.56	\$ 16,376.00
Federal Programs	\$ 39,389.68	\$ 285,674.18	\$ 412,275.00
Transfer Out	\$ -	\$ -	
	<b>\$ 1,310,240.76</b>	<b>\$ 11,614,480.89</b>	<b>\$ 18,337,429.00</b>

<u>Revenues</u>	April	YTD
Personal and Prop Taxes	\$ 2,932,863.81	\$ 4,465,133.26
Carline Tax	\$ -	\$ 1,258.05
Motor Vehicle Taxes	\$ 126,562.91	\$ 1,064,452.28
Facility Rental	\$ -	\$ 2,100.00
Tuition Received from Individuals	\$ 9,291.65	\$ 80,693.95
Interest	\$ 3,428.09	\$ 27,238.10
Local License Fees	\$ -	\$ 3,180.00
Grants from Corporations/Private	\$ -	\$ 42,330.31
Other Local Receipts	\$ 31.94	\$ 1,028.23
County Fines and License Fees	\$ -	\$ 15,745.49
ESU Receipts	\$ -	\$ -
State Aid	\$ 269,963.00	\$ 2,159,704.00
Special Education Programs	\$ 292,059.00	\$ 1,375,439.00
Special Education Transportation	\$ -	\$ -
Homestead Exemption	\$ 36,370.62	\$ 72,741.24
Pro-Rate Motor Vehicle	\$ 9,975.98	\$ 15,672.03
High Ability Learners	\$ -	\$ 9,515.00
Early Childhood Grant	\$ -	\$ -
State Apportionment	\$ -	\$ 254,040.29
Other State Receipts	\$ -	\$ 68,007.00
Prop & Personal Property Tax Credit	\$ -	\$ 1,769,180.91
Title ESSA Programs	\$ -	\$ 149,703.00
IDEA Programs	\$ -	\$ 301,532.00
Medicaid	\$ 3,380.89	\$ 33,432.56
ESSER II & ESSER III	\$ -	\$ -
Other Federal Categorical Receipts	\$ -	\$ -
Sale of Property	\$ -	\$ 51,421.83
Insurance Adjustment	\$ -	\$ -
	<b>\$ 3,683,927.89</b>	<b>\$ 11,963,548.53</b>

### April 2026 Payroll

Net Payroll	\$ 658,201.37
Payroll Taxes (District)	\$ 69,140.49
Payroll Withholding (Employees)	\$ 165,148.82
Retirement (District)	\$ 71,318.11
Retirement Withholding (Employees)	\$ 70,612.16

**Activity Fund Balance Report - Summary - Exclude Encumbrances**

04/2026 - 04/2026

Regular; Beginning Month 04/2026; Processing Month 04/2026; Accounts to Include Accounts with Activity; Fund Number 05, 12

**Fund: 05      ACTIVITY FUND**

<u>Chart of Account Number</u>	<u>Chart of Account Description</u>	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Revenues</u>	<u>Balance Change</u>	<u>Balance</u>
05 704	INTEREST	4,925.47	0.00	140.36	0.00	5,065.83
05 704 1001	ACTIVITY PASSES	31,377.64	0.00	0.00	0.00	31,377.64
05 704 1002	CORPORATE SPONSORSHIPS	7,331.53	0.00	0.00	0.00	7,331.53
05 704 1003	INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC	2,149.55	0.00	250.00	0.00	2,399.55
05 704 1005	STAFF LOUNGE	3,959.25	0.00	98.45	0.00	4,057.70
05 704 1007	VALLEY WAY	8,523.64	0.00	0.00	0.00	8,523.64
05 704 1011	PTSA DONATION	4,117.70	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,117.70
05 704 1023	PROM	1,213.56	2,080.97	5,476.40	0.00	4,608.99
05 704 1102	ARTS & HUMANITIES	550.62	0.00	0.00	0.00	550.62
05 704 1104	ATHLETICS HS	8,889.85	4,361.00	4,010.00	0.00	8,538.85
05 704 1106	BASEBALL TEAM	1,199.55	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,199.55
05 704 1107	BAND	3,257.80	93.00	0.00	0.00	3,164.80
05 704 1108	CHEER	4,967.25	714.00	7,437.94	0.00	11,691.19
05 704 1110	SPRING PLAY	1,731.27	502.37	2,180.00	0.00	3,408.90
05 704 1111	BBB TEAM	524.05	0.00	735.00	0.00	1,259.05
05 704 1112	CONCESSIONS	44,619.03	7,885.69	3,923.46	0.00	40,656.80
05 704 1113	CONSTRUCTION TECH	7,106.79	0.00	0.00	0.00	7,106.79
05 704 1114	DANCE TEAM	1,889.51	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,889.51
05 704 1115	HS MUSICAL	5,857.55	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,857.55
05 704 1116	ONE ACT	3,607.71	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,607.71
05 704 1117	FBLA	2,558.22	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,558.22
05 704 1118	HIGH SCHOOL	2,542.73	0.00	639.00	0.00	3,181.73
05 704 1119	DC TECH 1:1	4,862.58	0.00	100.00	0.00	4,962.58
05 704 1120	GBB TEAM	4,057.14	0.00	770.00	0.00	4,827.14
05 704 1123	HOSA	2,879.17	290.00	375.00	0.00	2,964.17
05 704 1124	STUCO HS	3,908.87	1,602.50	1,431.67	0.00	3,738.04
05 704 1128	NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY	1,509.37	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,509.37
05 704 1131	FOOTBALL TEAM	13,195.68	0.00	18.26	0.00	13,213.94
05 704 1132	SCIENCE CLUB	446.69	0.00	0.00	0.00	446.69
05 704 1133	SPEECH TEAM	2,897.17	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,897.17
05 704 1134	VOCAL MUSIC	5,012.27	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,012.27
05 704 1136	WORLD LANGUAGE CLUB	660.52	0.00	0.00	0.00	660.52
05 704 1137	ROBOTICS TEAM	4,504.52	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,504.52
05 704 1141	GOLF TEAM	820.88	471.00	200.00	0.00	549.88
05 704 1142	YEARBOOK HS	5,059.43	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,059.43
05 704 1151	CROSS COUNTRY TEAM	1,975.43	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,975.43

**Activity Fund Balance Report - Summary - Exclude Encumbrances**

04/2026 - 04/2026

Regular; Beginning Month 04/2026; Processing Month 04/2026; Accounts to Include Accounts with Activity; Fund Number 05, 12

**Fund: 05      ACTIVITY FUND**

<u>Chart of Account Number</u>	<u>Chart of Account Description</u>	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Revenues</u>	<u>Balance Change</u>	<u>Balance</u>
05 704 1161	SOFTBALL TEAM	8,205.43	0.00	2,117.97	0.00	10,323.40
05 704 1166	BOYS TRACK TEAM	185.52	0.00	55.00	0.00	240.52
05 704 1167	GIRLS TRACK TEAM	57.50	0.00	55.00	0.00	112.50
05 704 1176	VOLLEYBALL TEAM	7,181.90	0.00	0.00	0.00	7,181.90
05 704 1186	WRESTLING TEAM	1,668.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,668.67
05 704 1198	SUMMER SPORTS CAMPS	598.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	598.12
05 704 1224	STUCO MS	14,996.35	0.00	631.67	0.00	15,628.02
05 704 1225	COFFEE CART - EL SPED	1,576.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,576.40
05 704 1319	DISNEY MUSICAL	15,699.90	0.00	0.00	0.00	15,699.90
05 704 1320	PRESCHOOL	9,299.55	135.31	0.00	0.00	9,164.24
05 704 2112	MS CONCESSIONS	2,735.72	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,735.72
05 704 2121	MS BBB TEAM	211.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	211.05
05 704 2136	MS FOOTBALL TEAM	368.47	0.00	0.00	0.00	368.47
05 704 2201	ART CLUB MS	157.88	0.00	126.00	0.00	283.88
05 704 2204	ATHLETICS MS	2,737.81	450.00	1,564.00	0.00	3,851.81
05 704 2205	UNIFIED SPORTS	2,949.94	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,949.94
05 704 2216	MS DRAMA	109.67	66.95	0.00	0.00	42.72
05 704 2218	MIDDLE SCHOOL	828.79	0.00	864.50	0.00	1,693.29
05 704 2242	MS YEARBOOK	3,120.79	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,120.79
05 704 3220	ELEM FIELD TRIP	2,388.75	1,070.00	0.00	0.00	1,318.75
05 704 3221	PBIS/FALCOIN	4,834.65	0.00	144.00	0.00	4,978.65
05 704 3222	BATTLE OF THE BOOKS	26.65	0.00	420.00	0.00	446.65
05 704 3318	ELEMENTARY	8,173.08	2,207.30	888.00	0.00	6,853.78
Fund Total: 05		292,802.58	21,930.09	34,651.68	0.00	305,524.17

**Activity Fund Balance Report - Summary - Exclude Encumbrances**

04/2026 - 04/2026

Regular; Beginning Month 04/2026; Processing Month 04/2026; Accounts to Include Accounts with Activity; Fund Number 05, 12

**Fund: 12      STUDENT FEES**

<u>Chart of Account Number</u>	<u>Chart of Account Description</u>	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Revenues</u>	<u>Balance Change</u>	<u>Balance</u>
12 704	STUDENT PARTICIPATION FEE	32,305.07	0.00	105.00	0.00	32,410.07
	Fund Total: 12	32,305.07	0.00	105.00	0.00	32,410.07

05/07/2026 06:52 AM

MAY 11, 2026 BOARD BILLS

User ID: CQ

Vendor Name	Vendor Description	Amount
Checking Account ID 1	Fund Number 01 GENERAL FUND	
ACT, INC		1,073.00
ADVENTURE ENTERPRISES, LLC		1,874.00
AKRS EQUIPMENT SOLUTIONS INC		12,100.00
ALCOVE ROOFING		1,300.00
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES, LLC		781.47
APPLE COMPUTER INC		4,895.00
BLAZER ATHLETIC EQUIPMENT		162.00
BORDER STATES INDUSTRIES INC		1,729.56
BOYS TOWN		900.00
BSN SPORTS LLC		1,254.91
CITY WIDE FACILITY SOLUTIONS		6,500.00
COMPLETE COMMUNICATION, LLC		160.00
CROWN PLAZA HOTEL & RESORTS		199.00
DAILY RECORD, THE		322.66
DAKTRONICS INC		612.50
DC WEST FOOD SERVICE		1,860.80
DIETZE MUSIC HOUSE		123.76
EAGLE SERVICES INC.		530.00
EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT #3		248.23
EGAN SUPPLY CO		824.56
FIBER PLATFORM, LLC		558.62
FIRST STUDENT, INC		11,700.73
FLINN SCIENTIFIC INC		20.68
FREMONT ELECTRIC INC		861.00
HEARTLAND PEST CONTROL		325.00
HOMETOWN LEASING		2,522.27
HORACE MANN LEAGUE OF THE USA		175.00
HOWIES ATHLETIC TAPE		1,300.78
INSECT LORE		50.94
JOSTENS INC		969.05
JUST FOR KIDS THERAPY INC		4,686.00
MACKIN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES		2,550.80
MARCIA BRENNER ASSOCIATES, LLC		750.00
MATHESON TRI-GAS INC		109.72
MAX I. WALKER		314.80
MENARDS - ELKHORN		134.73
METAL DOORS & HARDWARE CO		858.00
MIDWEST SOUND & LIGHTING INC		100.00
NE COUNCIL OF SCHOOL ADM		585.00
NEBR DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION		15.00
NEBRASKA GAME AND PARKS COMMISSIONS		51.21
NEBRASKA METHODIST COLLEGE		97.50
ODEY'S INC		900.00
OMAHA WORLD-HERALD		6,776.18
ONE SOURCE		303.50
PAPER 101		4,913.56
PERRY GUTHERY HAASE & GESSFORD		760.00
PRAIRIE MECHANICAL CORP		1,485.00
PUBLICATION PRINTING		92.95
RENAISSANCE LEARNING, INC		11,211.08
SELECT CONSTRUCTION, LLC		100.00
SPEECH SQUAD, LLC		20,432.25
STANZEL'S MOW & SNOW LLC		2,945.00
STEMFINITY, LLC		45.98
STONEBROOK EXTERIOR		890.00

05/07/2026 06:52 AM

MAY 11, 2026 BOARD BILLS

User ID: CQ

Vendor Name	Vendor Description	Amount
TEAM BUILDR		1,500.00
VALLEY ACE HARDWARE		172.88
WASTE CONNECTIONS OF NEBR, INC		1,593.87
WATER ENGINEERING INC		317.62
Fund Number 01		<u>120,628.15</u>

Checking Account ID 6	Fund Number 06	NUTRITION FUND	
CASH-WA DISTRIBUTING			14,551.06
CHESTERMAN CO			266.00
EGAN SUPPLY CO			866.86
HILAND DAIRY			5,073.43
MARCIA BRENNER ASSOCIATES, LLC			750.00
MAX I. WALKER			265.60
ROTELLA'S ITALIAN BAKERY INC			604.75
SYSCO LINCOLN			15,194.77
US FOOD INC			12,996.92
Fund Number 06			<u>50,569.39</u>

Checking Account ID 7	Fund Number 07	BOND FUND	
BOKF, NA			285,375.00
Fund Number 07			<u>285,375.00</u>

05/07/2026 06:45 AM

MID MONTH BILLS - APRIL / MAY 2026

User ID: CQ

Vendor Name	Vendor Description	Amount
Checking Account ID 1	Fund Number 01 GENERAL FUND	
ABE'S TRASH SERVICE, INC		300.00
ACH BANK FEE		65.25
CASEY'S BUSINESS MASTERCARD		237.02
CDW GOVERNMENT LLC		634.00
CITI CARD - COSTCO		141.48
CITY OF VALLEY		2,505.15
COX BUSINESS		197.26
DISCOUNT TIRE		570.60
HUMBERT, MARGARET		0.00
HY-VEE INC		210.00
LOVE'S TRAVEL STOPS & COUNTRY STORE		1,665.57
MADISON NATIONAL LIFE INS CO IN		3,055.03
MAGIC WRIGHTER, INC.		254.50
MENSAH, SOWAH		3,819.98
MILLARD NORTH HIGH SCHOOL		155.00
OMAHA PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT		21,524.49
PLATTEVIEW HIGH SCHOOL		150.00
PUBLICATION PRINTING		3,058.48
RAYMOND CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL		274.70
STANZEL'S MOW & SNOW LLC		2,347.50
VERIZON		105.14
WOODRIVER ENERGY LLC		8,990.11
YUTAN HIGH SCHOOL		50.00
ZOOM VIDEO COMMUNICATION, INC.		5.82
Fund Number 01		<hr/> 50,317.08

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF  
EDUCATION OF DOUGLAS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT 28-0015,  
a/k/a, DOUGLAS COUNTY WEST COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Monday, April 13, 2026**

The regular meeting of the Board of Education, District #15, in the County of Douglas, in the State of Nebraska, was convened in open and public session on Monday, April 13, 2026 at the Central Office Board Room, 401 South Pine Street, Valley, NE 68064-0378.

Following public notification procedures approved by the Board of Education, February 14, 2011, in adherence to 84-1411, notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by posting such Notice on the exterior front door of the high school, elementary school, middle school, Valley City Hall, First Nebraska Bank, Foundation One Bank and the Daily Record. Notice of the meeting was simultaneously given to all members of the Board of Education. Availability of the agenda was communicated in advance notice and in the notice to the Board of Education of the meeting. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

Attendance Taken at 7:00 PM.

Cole Groteluschen: Present  
Kelly Hinrichs: Present  
Luke Janke: Present  
Jamie Jorgensen: Present  
Elizabeth Mayer: Present  
Jim Tomanek: Present

Present: 6.

### **1. Call to Order**

The agenda, listing items for consideration by the Board, is on file in the Superintendent's office. Other matters may come before the Board and the Board has the right to modify the agenda before the meeting.

President – "As I call the meeting to order I wish to inform everyone present that a current copy of the Open Meetings Act is posted on the back wall of the Board Room for your review at any time."

### **2. Public Communications and Correspondence**

Comments from the audience were accepted at this time. No correspondence was addressed to the Board.

### **3. Approval of Agenda**

Motion to approve agenda as presented Passed with a motion by Jamie Jorgensen and a second by Luke Janke.

Cole Groteluschen: Yea, Kelly Hinrichs: Yea, Luke Janke: Yea, Jamie Jorgensen: Yea, Elizabeth Mayer: Yea, Jim Tomanek: Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0

### **4. Administrative Reports**

4.1. Superintendent's Report

4.2. Financial Report

The Board extended congratulations to Dr. Pechous for completing her Doctoral Program. Groteluschen also sought clarification on the kindergarten registration numbers reported after the recent roundup event.

### **5. Consent Agenda**

Motion to approve Consent Agenda Passed with a motion by Luke Janke and a second by Jim Tomanek.

Cole Groteluschen: Yea, Kelly Hinrichs: Yea, Luke Janke: Yea, Jamie Jorgensen: Yea, Elizabeth Mayer: Yea,

Jim Tomanek: Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0

5.1. Approve Minutes

Regular Meeting Date:

Special Meeting Date:

5.2. Approve Claims for Payment

5.3. Approve Financial Report

5.4. Approve Classified Staff

Kim Brandom - exit preschool 3/27/26

Candace Goree - hire elem sped para 4/1/2026

Payten Kern - hire ms sped para 3/26/2026

## 6. Old Business

### 6.1. Committee Updates

The Negotiations Committee met at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 8<sup>th</sup> to discuss salary recommendations for classified and administrative personnel.

Buildings and Grounds Committee of the Whole Discussion Items:

- Summer Projects List 2026
  - A bid for bus barn expansion was solicited. The bid exceeded the allocated budget. It was requested that this project be moved to our long-term master planning discussion along with the possible review of both the Elementary and High School parking lots to enhance traffic flow.
  - There have been multiple repairs to the North Gym entrance doors. The district is weighing the cost of continued repairs against a possible full replacement of those original doors.
- Energy Loan Progress
  - The district has secured an energy loan from the bank for the AHU replacement project and is now waiting for final approval from the Nebraska Department of Energy.
- Elementary Roof Warranty Claim
  - The Administration is working with the warranty company on a needed repair on the elementary roof.
- PTSA Legacy Project Update
  - Dr. Poloncic and Mr. Sarka received information from the PTSA regarding future legacy projects. While a significant playground turf project has been considered, it would be a long term goal due to the due to the projected costs.

## 7. New Business

### 7.1. DC West Staff, Student, and Parent Engagement Survey Results

The results of the 2026 Staff, Student, and Parent Engagement Survey were shared with the Board in a summary presentation. It was recommended that we use the parent survey data to hold a feedback session at one of the upcoming superintendent forums to gather more detailed input.

### 7.2. Preliminary Draft Budget Projections for Fiscal Year 2027

Dr. Poloncic shared a draft of preliminary budget projections with received estimates in funding for the 2026-2027 school year. The Superintendent and at least one board member will be required to attend a county postcard hearing in June to present the district's budget information. Therefore, the Finance Committee will meet in early June (or earlier) to review and prepare the budget draft for the upcoming fiscal year.

### 7.3. Master Planning Timeline and Update

Dr. Poloncic shared the timeline and upcoming activities of the Master Planning Process developed by BCDM which includes phases for gathering feedback from students, staff, and the board followed by community engagement.

7.4. Approve Classified & Administrative Salaries for the 2026-2027 School Year

The negotiations' committee met on April 8, 2026 and recommended the attached proposed salary schedule for classified staff and proposed administrator salaries for the 2026-2027 school year.

In addition to the new salaries, the administration proposes the elimination of the classified staff insurance \$2500 deductible group option due to low participation and a 5% premium charge for group members. The classified staff insurance offering will join the teacher-certified EHA group offerings of \$1000 and \$3800 deductibles.

Motion to approve the classified and administrator salaries as presented Passed with a motion by Luke Janke and a second by Jamie Jorgensen.

Cole Groteluschen: Yea, Kelly Hinrichs: Yea, Luke Janke: Yea, Jamie Jorgensen: Yea, Elizabeth Mayer:

Yea, Jim Tomanek: Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0

7.5. Discussion of 2026-2027 Classified Staff Additions

Two additional classified positions were recommended to the Board for consideration. These roles were previously reviewed during the negotiations committee meeting in conjunction with the 2026-2027 classified salary discussions. A District Office Administrative Assistant and Administrative Assistant to the Director of Activities will be placed on the May agenda for formal approval.

7.6. Approve Certificated Staff New Hires for the 2026-2027 School Year

The following certificated staff are recommended for hire by the administration:

Elizabeth Hayes, Elementary

Kylie Phillips, Elementary Special Education

Brooklyn Reynolds, Elementary

Amy Rosenthal, Middle School ELA

Motion to approve Elizabeth Hayes, Elementary Kylie Phillips, Elementary Special Education Brooklyn

Reynolds, Elementary Amy Rosenthal, Middle School ELA Passed with a motion by Kelly Hinrichs and a second by Luke Janke.

Cole Groteluschen: Yea, Kelly Hinrichs: Yea, Luke Janke: Yea, Jamie Jorgensen: Yea, Elizabeth Mayer:

Yea, Jim Tomanek: Yea

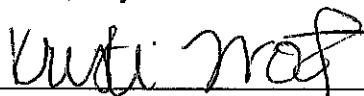
Yea: 6, Nay: 0

**8. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn meeting at 7:47pm Passed with a motion by Jamie Jorgensen and a second by Jim Tomanek.

Cole Groteluschen: Yea, Kelly Hinrichs: Yea, Luke Janke: Yea, Jamie Jorgensen: Yea, Elizabeth Mayer: Yea, Jim Tomanek: Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0



Kristi Trost, Board Secretary



Dr. Melissa Poloncic, Superintendent