

## **Agenda**

1. Call to Order

Information concerning the Open Meeting Law, Chapter 84, Article 14 of Nebraska State Statutes, is posted in the meeting room at a location accessible to members of the public and attached to the online agenda.

Mrs. Kari Loseke, Board President, will call the Board of Education Regular meeting to order.

2. Roll Call

The Board Secretary will conduct roll call attendance.

2.1. Approval of Absent Board Members

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Dr. Gilson will lead the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Approval of Emergency Additions to the Agenda

5. Call for Removal of Consent Agenda Items

6. Approval of the Consent Agenda

6.1. Waiver of reading minutes from previous meeting

6.2. Acceptance of minutes of the previous meeting as published

- August 14, 2023 Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes

- August 24, 2023 Board of Education Special Meeting Minutes

6.3. Receipt of Communications

6.4. Treasurer's Report

- General Fund

- Building Fund and Savings & Depreciation

## 6.5. Audit of Claims

- Activity Fund
- General Fund

## 7. Business

### 7.1. Items removed from Consent Agenda

### 7.2. Recognitions

### 7.3. Acceptance of Gifts

### 7.4. Consideration of Communications

#### 7.4.1. FBLA Letter

A letter has been received from Mr. Tyler Siecke, District Activities Director, and Mrs. Vicki Schrick, FBLA Advisor, requesting permission for FBLA members to attend the FBLA National Fall Leadership Conference in Dallas, Texas from Thursday, November 16 through Sunday, November 19, 2023. Mrs. Vicki Schrick and Mrs. Tatum Hartvigsen, Assistant FBLA Advisor, will provide guidance and support at this event. The advisor fees will be covered by Blair FBLA and students will cover their own expenses for the trip.

The administration recommends approving this request.

#### 7.4.2. Blair High School Band and Choir Trip

Communication for Board consideration and possible action.

#### **Blair High School Band and Choir Trip to Southern California in June 2025:**

Mr. Chaz Fonda, BHS Band Director, is requesting Board approval for the Blair High School Band and Choir to take a trip in June 2025 to Southern California. Mr. Fonda and Mr. Hays, BHS Choir Director, would be coordinating the trip and the estimated cost to each student is around \$2,359. Students have opportunities to fundraise for this trip.

### 7.5. Comments From The Public

This is the portion of the meeting when members of the public may address the board about matters of public concern.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO WISH TO SPEAK:

- Getting started: When you have been recognized, please stand and state your name.
- Time Limit: The board has the discretion to limit the amount of time set aside for public participation and unless stated otherwise, will employ a time limit of 5 minutes or less.
- Personnel or Student Topic: If you are planning to speak about a personnel or student matter involving an individual, please understand that our policies require you to follow the district's complaint procedure before addressing the board. Board members will generally not respond to any questions or comments you make about individual staff members or students. Please remember that slanderous comments will not be tolerated.
- General Rules: This is a public meeting for the conduct of business. Comments from within the audience while others are speaking will not be tolerated. Offensive language, personal attacks, and hostile conduct will not be tolerated.
- No action by the Board: The Board will not act on any matter unless it is on the published agenda.

## 7.6. Committee Reports

### 7.6.1. Policy Committee

The Policy Committee met on Monday, August 21, 2023. Meeting minutes are attached.

TeamMates

606.04-Technology and Instructional Materials

606.05-Media Centers

606.06-Acceptable Use of Computers, Technology, and the Internet

606.06R2-Publishing Guidelines for Worldwide Web Pages

606.06R3-Employee Agreement to Publishing Guidelines for World Wide Web Pages

606.07-District Website

606.08-Reproduction of Copyrighted Materials

606.08R1-Copyright Compliance Procedures

### 7.6.2. BG&T Committee

The Buildings, Grounds, and Transportation Committee met on Thursday, August 31, 2023. Meeting minutes are attached.

### 7.6.3. Finance Committee

The Finance Committee met on Tuesday, September 5, 2023. Meeting minutes are attached.

## 7.7. Approval of the 2023-24 Budget

Approval of the 2023-24 Budget.

## 7.8. 2023-24 Tax Request Resolution

Approval of the 2023-24 Tax Request Resolution.

## 7.9. Approval of New Teachers

## 7.10. Acceptance of Resignations

## 7.11. Superintendent Report

Dr. Gilson will share his Objectives and Key Results (OKR's).

#1. Establish a system that assists Blair students and staff to set incremental goals to monitor their learning and supports them to significantly outperform their peers in math, literacy, science, social studies, fine arts, and activities.

- As measured by the development of an ad hoc committee that will meet three times this semester to develop standard operating practices (SOP's) for developing common formative assessments for learning aligned to each course. These practices will include educating staff about six quality criteria of developing effective assessments and set forth a plan to develop a set quantity of formative assessments for each course.
- As measured by conducting three meetings with Assistant Superintendents and principals to develop a plan for students to actively set goals to develop a set of skills to support students to achieve what comes next in their learning and establish a research-based instructional method teachers will employ to support students to achieve what comes next in their learning.
- As measured by, 80% of K-10 students performing at the 40th percentile and 60% reaching the 60 percentile or higher on the Winter MAPS reading assessment and 82% of K-10 students performing at the 40th percentile and 62% reaching the 60 percentile or higher on the Winter MAPS math assessment.

#2. Develop a five-year plan to most effectively carry out safety, culture, and efficiency of personnel, educational programming (and processes), and facilities (setting) to support current and projected increases in student enrollment.

1. As measured by having three ad hoc committees to develop a five-year plan for safety, building culture, and efficiency of (processes) and facilities. Lead each ad hoc committee to develop a set of standard operating practices for safety, culture, efficiency, and the use of facilities.
2. As measured by monthly BG&T and Finance Committee meetings, three meetings with BCS architect (Jackson & Jackson), and three Ad Hoc Safety and Process meetings to

support the K-5 facilities, Early Childhood, 6-8, and 9-12 facility needs. At a minimum, plans will be completed to relocate the office and add new lunch room space at Arbor Park. A standing item on the Finance and Building & Ground Committee meetings will address these needs.

3. As measured by monthly BG&T and Finance Committee meetings, bi-weekly meetings with BCS architect (Jackson & Jackson), and three Ad Hoc Safety and Process meetings to address K-5, 6-8, and 9-12 facility and personnel needs during the next five years based on increases in student enrollment by 50 intervals. The report will use Jackson & Jackson estimates and the Building Condition Evaluation instrument to determine the cost necessary for each building to be renovated or expanded to meet projected enrollment trends using the Analogy method to evaluate potential growth and consider recommendations of an Ad Hoc committee based on best education research and practices. The BG&T Committee will recommend a five-year capital forecast plan for governing board approval in January 2024.

#### 7.12. Informational Items

The 2023 State Education Conference is scheduled for November 15th-17th, 2023 at the CHI Health Center in Downtown Omaha. Let Angie know if any Board members are interested in attending.

#### **Monthly Board Reports**

- Student Services
  - Blair High School
  - Otte Middle School
  - Arbor Park Elementary
  - Deerfield Elementary
8. Adjournment

**THE NEBRASKA OPEN MEETINGS ACT**  
**NEB. REV. STAT. §§ 84-1407 through 84-1414 (2014, Cum. Supp. 2022)**

**A. BASIC PROVISION.** The basic statement of our state policy on public meetings is found at Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1408. That statute provides, "[i]t is hereby declared to be the policy of this state that the formation of public policy is public business and may not be conducted in secret. Every meeting of a public body shall be open to the public in order that citizens may exercise their democratic privilege of attending and speaking at meetings of public bodies, except as otherwise provided by the Constitution of the State of Nebraska, federal statutes, and the Open Meetings Act."

1. **History.** Section 84-1408 was passed as a part of LB 325 in 1975. That bill repealed previously existing public meetings provisions and substituted new provisions which were intended to preserve the features of the previous law and strengthen and expand their authority. Government Committee Statement on LB 325, 84th Nebraska Legislature, First Session (1975). LB 325 was passed to ensure that all meetings of public bodies would be open to the public, except when protection of the public interest clearly called for a closed session concerning specific matters. *Id.* 2004 Neb. Laws LB 821, § 34 formally established the name of §§ 84-1407 through 84-1414 as the "Open Meetings Act."

2. **Purpose.** The Nebraska open meetings laws are a statutory commitment to openness in government. *Wasikowski v. Nebraska Quality Jobs Board*, 264 Neb. 403, 648 N.W.2d 756 (2002); *Steenblock v. Elkhorn Township Board*, 245 Neb. 722, 515 N.W.2d 128 (1994); *Grein v. Board of Education of the School District of Fremont*, 216 Neb. 158, 343 N.W.2d 718 (1984). Their purpose is to ensure that public policy is formulated at open meetings of the bodies to which the law is applicable. *Dossett v. First State Bank, Loomis, NE*, 261 Neb. 959, 627 N.W.2d 131 (2001); *Marks v. Judicial Nominating Commission for Judge of the County Court of the 20th Judicial District*, 236 Neb. 429, 461 N.W.2d 551 (1990); *Pokorny v. City of Schuyler*, 202 Neb. 334, 275 N.W.2d 281 (1979). In Nebraska, the formation of public policy is public business, which may not be conducted in secret. *Schauer v. Grooms*, 280 Neb. 426, 786 N.W.2d 909 (2010); *Johnson v. Nebraska Environmental Control Council*, 2 Neb. App. 263, 509 N.W.2d 21 (Neb. Ct. App. 1993).

**3. Construction.** The open meetings laws should be broadly interpreted and liberally construed to obtain their objective of openness in favor of the public. *Schauer v. Grooms*, 280 Neb. 426, 786 N.W.2d 909 (2010); *State ex rel. Upper Republican Natural Resources District v. District Judges of the District Court for Chase County*, 273 Neb. 148, 728 N.W.2d 275 (2007); *State ex rel. Newman v. Columbus Township Board*, 15 Neb. App. 656, 735 N.W.2d 399 (Neb. Ct. App. 2007); *Alderman v. County of Antelope*, 11 Neb. App. 412, 653 N.W.2d 1 (Neb. Ct. App. 2002); *Rauert v. School District I-R of Hall County*, 251 Neb. 135, 555 N.W.2d 763 (1996); *Grein, supra*. The beneficiaries of the openness sought by the Open Meetings Act include citizens, members of the general public, and reporters or other representatives of the news media. *State ex rel. Newman v. Columbus Township Board*, 15 Neb. App. 656, 735 N.W.2d 399 (Neb. Ct. App. 2007).

**4. Exceptions.** Section 84-1408 requires open meetings except "as otherwise provided by the Constitution of the State of Nebraska, federal statutes, and the Open Meetings Act." The Attorney General has concluded that the Nebraska Legislature is not covered under the open meetings statutes because the Nebraska Constitution separately provides for public access to that body. Op. Att'y Gen. No. 120 (July 25, 1985).

**5. Subsequent Legislative Limitations.** The Legislature holds the power to decide the scope of citizen access to governmental meetings. As a result, the Legislature has the right to limit access to public meetings and the effect of the Open Meetings Act through later statutory provisions which provide that certain information in the possession of government should remain confidential without exception or limitation. *Wasikowski v. Nebraska Quality Jobs Board*, 264 Neb. 403, 648 N.W.2d 756 (2002).

**B. PUBLIC BODIES COVERED UNDER THE ACT.** Under § 84-1409(1), public bodies covered by the Open Meetings Act include: (1) governing bodies of all political subdivisions of the State; (2) governing bodies of all agencies of the executive department of state government created by law; (3) all independent boards, commissions, bureaus, committees, councils, subunits, or any other bodies created pursuant to law; (4) all study or advisory committees of the executive department of the state whether of continuing or limited existence; (5) advisory committees of the governing bodies of political subdivisions, of the governing bodies of agencies of the executive branch of state

government, or of independent boards, commissions, etc.; and (6) "instrumentalities exercising essentially public functions."

1. **History.** The initial portion of § 84-1409(1) defining public bodies was originally part of LB 325 passed in 1975. It has been amended several times to add additional entities to the list of bodies covered, and the Certificate of Need Review Committee was removed in 1997. See 1997 Neb. Laws LB 798; 1989 Neb. Laws LB 429 and LB 311; 1983 Neb. Laws LB 43. The language concerning "instrumentalities exercising essentially public functions" was added in 1989 to reach entities such as the Nebraska Investment Finance Authority. Floor Debate on LB 311, 91st Nebraska Legislature, First Session, May 9, 1989, at 6039, 6040.

2. **Cases and Opinions.** A number of cases and opinions of the Attorney General deal with various aspects of the definitions of public body found in § 84-1409(1).

a. "Political subdivision" is not defined within the public meetings statutes. However, the Attorney General has indicated that generally the term denotes any subdivision of a state which has as its purpose carrying out functions of the state which are inherent necessities of government and which have always been regarded as such by the public. 1979-80 Rep. Att'y Gen. 140 (Opinion No. 98, dated April 25, 1979). Presumably, this term includes cities, counties, villages, etc., and their governing boards are covered by the open meetings statutes.

b. In *Nixon v. Madison County Agricultural Society*, 217 Neb. 37, 348 N.W.2d 119 (1984), the Court held that a county agricultural society, organized under the Nebraska statutes, was subject to the provisions of the open meetings law. The Court noted that, although the society at issue resembled a private corporation in some respects, the fact that it had the right to receive support from the public revenue gave it a public character. The agricultural society apparently was an "independent board . . . created by constitution, statute, or otherwise pursuant to law." Based upon the *Nixon* case, the Attorney General concluded that county extension services which have the right to receive support from public revenues are subject to the open meetings law. Op. Att'y Gen. No. 219 (July 24, 1984). Also based upon the *Nixon* case, the Attorney General has indicated that county agricultural societies are

subject to the open meetings statutes. Op. Att'y Gen. No. 91007 (January 28, 1991). In addition, Neb. Rev. Stat. § 2-238 requires that result.

c. In *Marks v. Judicial Nominating Commission for Judge of the County Court of the 20th Judicial District*, 236 Neb. 429, 461 N.W.2d 551 (1990), the Court held that the open meetings statutes do not apply to the activities of a judicial nominating commission which is meeting to select nominees for judicial vacancies. Such a nomination procedure does not involve the formulation of public policy subject to the Act.

d. The Nebraska Court of Appeals, in *Johnson v. Nebraska Environmental Control Council*, 2 Neb. App. 263, 509 N.W.2d 21 (Neb. Ct. App. 1993), held that the open meetings statutes apply to the governing bodies of all agencies of the executive branch of government, including the Nebraska Environmental Control Council.

e. In *State ex rel. Newman v. Columbus Township Board*, 15 Neb. App. 656, 735 N.W.2d 399 (Neb. Ct. App. 2007), the Nebraska Court of Appeals concluded that the electors of a Nebraska township, when assembled at the township's annual meeting, constitute a governing body of the township which is subject to the Open Meetings Act and its provisions concerning notice and preparation of an agenda.

f. The Nebraska Court of Appeals indicated in *Grubbs*, 17 Neb. App. 292, 759 N.W.2d 499 (Neb. Ct. App. 2009), that a county board of equalization is a public body as defined in § 84-1409. The court also held in that case that when two boards are made up of the same members, the duties and functions of the two boards, rather than their membership, determine if they are the same or separate and distinct bodies.

g. Committees of faculty, administration and students created by the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska to advise the Chancellor of the University in his administrative/management function with respect to budget cuts were part of the management structure of the University and not public bodies subject to the open meetings statutes. Op. Att'y Gen. No. 92020 (February 12, 1992).

h. In Op. Att'y Gen. No. 11 (January 20, 1983), the Attorney General indicated that the Environmental Control Council is a public body subject to the open meetings law. On the other hand, the Department of Environmental Control is not. Section 84-1409 applies to governing bodies of state agencies, not the agencies themselves.

i. An employee grievance appeal hearing conducted by a hearing officer is not a meeting of a public body since the word "body" is commonly understood to refer to a group or number of persons, and thus does not include an individual conducting a hearing. Op. Att'y Gen. No. 210 (May 16, 1984).

j. In 1989, the Attorney General indicated that the Central Low-Level Radioactive Waste Compact Commission was not subject to the Nebraska open meetings law because it was a multi-state body which was not created by constitution or statute and which was not a governing body of a Nebraska state agency. Op. Att'y Gen. No. 89008 (February 14, 1989). However, Neb. Rev. Stat. § 71-3521 (the Waste Compact agreement itself) provided that meetings of the Compact Commission must be open to the public with reasonable advance publicized notice, and that the Compact Commission must adopt by-laws consistent in scope and principle with the open meetings law of the host state. Section 71-3521 was repealed by 1999 Neb. Laws LB 530, § 2, and Nebraska withdrew from the Central Low-Level Radioactive Waste Compact.

k. A county welfare board is subject to the open meetings law as an independent board created by statute. 1979-80 Rep. Att'y Gen. 351 (Opinion No. 244, dated March 4, 1980).

l. In Op. Att'y Gen. No. 95014 (February 22, 1995), the Attorney General indicated that the Mayor's Citizen Review Board, appointed by the Mayor of Omaha to advise the Mayor with respect to alleged misconduct of police officers, was not subject to the open meetings statutes because it did not fall under the definition found in § 84-1409(1), and because the board was essentially an administrative body which was part of the management structure of the City.

m. In Op. Att'y Gen. No. 93065 (July 27, 1993), the Attorney General concluded that parole reviews under Neb. Rev. Stat. § 83-1,111 may be closed, and are not subject to open meetings requirements.

n. The Excellence in Education Council created to make recommendations to the Governor regarding selection of projects for Education Innovation grants is a public body which is subject to the open meetings statutes, and its decisions concerning specific recommendations must be done in open session. Op. Att'y Gen. No. 94092 (November 22, 1994).

o. The Quality Jobs Board created under the Quality Jobs Act, Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 77-4901 through 77-4935 is a public body subject to the Open Meetings Act. Op. Att'y Gen. No. 96071 (October 28, 1996).

p. A County Hospital Authority formed under the Hospital Authorities Act, Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 23-3579 through 23-35,120 is a public body which is subject to the Open Meetings Act. Op. Att'y Gen. No. 97012 (February 14, 1997).

q. The Nebraska State Board of Agriculture (the State Fair Board) is not a public body which is subject to the Open Meetings Act, primarily because it has no statutory right to public revenue and also because of case law which indicates that it is a private corporation. Op. Att'y Gen. No. 01038 (November 27, 2001).

r. A county clerk, county attorney and county treasurer acting as a group under § 32-567(3) to make an appointment to fill a vacancy on a county board constitute a public body which is subject to the Open Meetings Act. Op. Att'y Gen. No. 97050 (September 18, 1997).

s. The Attorney General has indicated informally that the Nebraska Board of Pardons and the Board of Inquiry and Review created under Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 80-317 through 80-319 to receive and act upon applications submitted for membership in Nebraska Veterans Homes are subject to the state's open meetings statutes.

t. In Op. Att'y Gen. No. 15016 (October 29, 2015), the Attorney General concluded that the Metropolitan Entertainment & Convention Authority ["MECA"] constituted a hybrid public/private entity subject to the Open Meetings Act. The Attorney General based his conclusion on the fact that MECA was a creation of city

ordinance and was responsible for managing and controlling the City of Omaha's public events facilities.

**3. Other Statutes.** Neb. Rev. Stat. § 2-238 requires county agricultural societies and county fair boards to comply with the open meetings statutes. Previously, under Neb. Rev. Stat. § 85-1502 all coordination activities conducted by the association of community college area boards were subject to the open meetings statutes. This provision was repealed in 2013 Neb. Laws LB 211, § 3.

**4. Exceptions.** Section § 84-1409(1)(b) exempts two types of entities and the Judicial Resources Commission from the provisions of the Open Meetings Act:

**a. Subcommittees.** Subcommittees of the various bodies described earlier in § 84-1409 are not public bodies under the Open Meetings Act unless a quorum of the public body attends a subcommittee meeting, or unless those subcommittees are holding hearings, making policy or taking formal action on behalf of the parent body. For example, in *Meyer v. Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska*, 1 Neb. App. 893, 510 N.W.2d 450 (Neb. Ct. App. 1993), the court indicated that meetings of an executive subcommittee of the University of Nebraska Board of Regents with the University President to discuss his tenure were not subject to the open meetings laws because of that portion of the statute. Section 84-1409(1) was also amended by 2011 Neb. Laws LB 366 to specifically provide that all meetings of subcommittees of the Nebraska Environmental Trust Board established to rate grant applications under Neb. Rev. Stat. § 81-15,175 are subject to the Open Meetings Act.

i. In *City of Elkhorn v. City of Omaha*, 272 Neb. 867, 880-881, 725 N.W.2d 792, 805-806 (2007), the court indicated that while "subcommittee" is not defined in the Open Meetings Act, a subcommittee is generally a "group within a committee to which the committee may refer business." In addition, "making policy," which subjects a subcommittee to the Open Meetings Act under § 84-1409, apparently includes "receiving background information about a policy issue to be decided." *Id.* In contrast, "nonquorum gatherings" of members of a public body "intended to obtain information or voice

opinions” do not seem to involve violations of the Act. *Id.* See also *Koch v. Lower Loup Natural Resources District*, 27 Neb. App. 301, 931 N.W.2d 160 (Neb. Ct. App. 2019) (Notwithstanding statements from staff and/or committee members that committee meetings were open to the public, the Nebraska Court of Appeals found that the committee was a subcommittee of the NRD board and, therefore, not subject to the Open Meetings Act.).

ii. The language applying the open meetings statutes to certain subcommittee meetings when there is a quorum of the public body present was added to § 84-1409(1) as a result of LB 1019 passed by the Legislature during the 1992 regular session.

**b. Entities Conducting Judicial Proceedings.** Entities conducting judicial proceedings are not public bodies under the Open Meetings Act unless the court or other judicial body is exercising rulemaking authority, deliberating, or deciding upon the issuance of administrative orders. LB 325, the original open meetings statute of 1975, was directed strictly at policy making bodies which were legislative or quasi-legislative. [Floor Debate on LB 325](#), 84th Nebraska Legislature, First Session, May 14, 1975, at 4618.

i. In *McQuinn v. Douglas County School District No. 66*, 259 Neb. 720, 612 N.W.2d 198 (2000), the Nebraska Supreme Court held that a hearing before a school board on the question of the nonrenewal of a probationary certificated teacher’s contract where the matters before the board pertained solely to disputed adjudicative facts involved a judicial function, and on that basis, the hearing was not subject to the open meetings statutes. In that context, a school board exercises a judicial function if it decides a dispute of adjudicative fact or if a statute requires it to act in a judicial manner. Adjudicative facts are those ascertained from proof adduced at an evidentiary hearing which relate to a specific party. The *McQuinn* case is discussed further in *Bligh v. Douglas County School District No. 0017*, 2008 WL 2231063, 2008 Neb. App. LEXIS 106 (Neb. Ct. App. 2008) (Not approved for publication).

ii. The Attorney General has determined that hearings before various agencies are judicial and not subject to the open meetings law: 1975-76 Rep. Att'y Gen. 127 (Opinion No. 105, dated July 14, 1975) (hearing before a County Board of Mental Health); Op. Att'y Gen. No. 184 (January 31, 1984) (hearing before the Nebraska Equal Opportunity Commission); Op. Att'y Gen. No. 210 (May 16, 1984) (hearing before a hearing officer appointed by the State Personnel Board); Op. Att'y Gen. No. 02016 (May 21, 2002) (contested case hearing before the Power Review Board on application of electricity suppliers for construction or acquisition of generation facilities); Op. Att'y Gen. No. 05014 (October 19, 2005) (appeal hearing regarding the Nebraska Veterans' Aid Fund before the Nebraska Veterans' Advisory Commission). But, the Attorney General has concluded that a hearing before the Certificate of Need Review Committee is covered by the open meetings statutes. Op. Att'y Gen. No. 87019 (February 13, 1987).

iii. Parole hearings conducted by the Board of Parole are judicial in nature and not subject to the open meetings statutes. However, other statutes specifically pertaining to operation of the Board of Parole require that such parole hearings be conducted with elements of notice and in a manner open to the public. Op. Att'y Gen. No. 93065 (July 27, 1993).

iv. When the State Board of Education holds hearings in contested cases under the state Administrative Procedure Act, such hearings are not subject to the Open Meetings Act. The Board is not required to give notice of such hearings to the public under those statutes, and it may conduct its deliberations and decision-making process for such hearings by a telephone conference call. Op. Att'y Gen. No. 99046 (November 15, 1999).

**c. Judicial Resources Commission.** During the 2022 legislative session, language was added to § 84-1409(1)(b) excluding "the Judicial Resources Commission or subcommittees or subgroups of the commission" from the list of public bodies subject to the Act. See 2022 Neb. Laws LB 922, § 12

**C. MEETING DEFINED.** Under § 84-1409(2), meetings, for purposes of the open meetings statutes, are defined as "all regular, special, or called meetings, formal or informal, of any public body for the purposes of briefing, discussion of public business, formation of tentative policy, or the taking of any action of the public body." Section 84-1410(5) also provides that the open meetings statutes shall not apply to "chance meetings or to attendance at or travel to conventions or workshops of members of a public body at which there is no meeting of the body then intentionally convened, if there is no vote or other action taken regarding any matter over which the public body has supervision, control, jurisdiction, or advisory power."

1. The legislative history of LB 325, from 1975, indicates that meetings of a public body do not include social meetings or meetings which were not called by the body. Government Committee Hearing on LB 325, 84th Nebraska Legislature, First Session (1975) at 2-3.

2. However, § 84-1409 was amended by LB 43 in 1983 to include "formal or informal" meetings. The legislative history of that bill indicates that a meeting between a state senator and the members of a local school board to discuss legislation would constitute an "informal called meeting." Government, Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee Hearing on LB 43, 88th Nebraska Legislature, First Session (1983) at 5-8.

3. The provision of § 84-1410(5) pertaining to "chance" meetings, etc., was added by LB 43 in 1983.

4. The legislative history of LB 43 from 1983 indicates that a "meeting" does not occur absent a quorum. Government Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee Hearing on LB 43, 88th Nebraska Legislature, First Session (1983) at 19. In addition, the Attorney General has concluded that the presence of a majority of the members of a public body is necessary for a meeting to occur. 1975-76 Rep. Att'y Gen. 150 (Opinion No. 116, dated August 29, 1975). In *Johnson v. Nebraska Environmental Control Council*, 2 Neb. App. 263, 509 N.W.2d 21 (Neb. Ct. App. 1993), the Nebraska Court of Appeals indicated that "private quorum conferences" are an evasion of the law. The Nebraska Supreme Court also indicated that subgroups of the Omaha City Council constituting less than a quorum of that body were not public bodies on that ground. *City of Elkhorn v. City of Omaha*, 272 Neb. 867, 725 N.W.2d 792 (2007).

5. Even when a quorum of public body is present in one location, there is no meeting under the Open Meetings Act if there is no interaction or

discussion among members of the body regarding policymaking for the public body. *Schauer v. Grooms*, 280 Neb. 426, 786 N.W.2d 909 (2010). The secret formation of public policy forbidden by the Open Meetings Act is the formation of public policy as a group. *Id.* As a result, there is no meeting of a public body based upon the unspoken thoughts of its members who happen to be sitting in the same room. *Id.* The Open Meetings Act is not so broad and sweeping as to require public access to any gathering of any sort that is attended by a quorum of a public body. *Id.* See also *Salem Grain Company, Inc. v. City of Falls City*, 362 Neb. 548, 924 N.W.2d 678 (2019), in which the Nebraska Supreme Court found that a dinner attended by members of the Falls City Community Redevelopment Authority and emails exchanged between authority members did not constitute a "meeting" as defined in § 84-1409(2) of the Act.

6. In *Johnson v. Nebraska Environmental Control Council*, 2 Neb. App. 263, 509 N.W.2d 21 (Neb. Ct. App. 1993), the Court of Appeals held that informational sessions where the Council heard reports from staff of the Department of Environmental Control were briefings which were subject to the requirements of the open meetings statutes. The Court stated that listening and exposing itself to facts, arguments and statements constitutes a crucial part of a governmental body's decision making. As a result, receiving information triggers the requirements of the statutes, and the open meetings law applies to meetings at which briefing or the formation of tentative policy takes place, as well as to meetings where action is contemplated or taken.

7. *Rauert v. School District I-R of Hall County*, 251 Neb. 135, 555 N.W.2d 763 (1996), involved allegations by the plaintiff that a quorum of the defendant school board met in the office of the superintendent of schools on a regular basis for "clandestine" meetings before the beginning of most scheduled board meetings where business was discussed and decided and checks were signed to pay claims which had not been approved in public session. The board then allegedly moved and voted on business at its public meeting with little or no discussion in order to deprive the public of the right to be fully informed. The Supreme Court held that the District Court properly failed to find a violation of the Open Meetings Act with respect to those allegations in the absence of any evidence as to the specific dates and details of the alleged "clandestine" meetings.

8. In *Schauer v. Grooms*, 280 Neb. 426, 786 N.W.2d 909 (2010), the Nebraska Supreme Court considered the propriety of a situation where two separate groups of a city council, neither of which constituted a quorum of that body, toured an ethanol facility for informational purposes. The court ultimately concluded that there was no meeting of the city council as a result of the tours—there was no quorum of the council present, the small groups were merely acquiring information, and there was no evidence that the council was, through the tour, attempting to reach a consensus and form public policy in secret.

9. In *Schauer*, the court also noted that the Open Meetings Act does not require policymakers to remain ignorant of the issues they must decide until the moment the public is invited to comment on a proposed policy. Moreover, the public would be ill served by restricting policymakers from reflecting on and preparing to consider proposals, or from privately suggesting alternatives. As a result, the court indicated that the Legislature, by excluding nonquorum subgroups from the definition of a public body, balanced the public's need to be heard on matters of public policy with a practical accommodation for a public body's need for information to conduct business. *Schauer v. Grooms*, 280 Neb. 426, 786 N.W.2d 909 (2010) (citing *City of Elkhorn v. City of Omaha*, 272 Neb. 867, 725 N.W.2d 792 (2007)); *Koch v. Lower Loup Natural Resources District*, 27 Neb. App. 301, 931 N.W.2d 160 (Neb. Ct. App. 2019).

10. The Attorney General has indicated that an "emergency meeting" may be conducted by electronic and telecommunications equipment including radio and telephone conferences. 1975-76 Rep. Att'y Gen. 150 (Opinion No. 116, dated August 29, 1975). On the other hand, the open meetings statutes do not generally authorize the use of telephone conference calls for non-emergency meetings of a public body, and absent members of a public body may not be counted to achieve a quorum through the use of a conference call. Op. Att'y Gen. No. 92019 (February 11, 1992). [Section 84-1411 has been amended a number of times to allow specified public bodies including the governing body of an entity formed under the Interlocal Cooperation Act, the Joint Public Agency Act or the Municipal Cooperative Financing Act, the board of an educational service unit, the governing body of a risk management pool or its advisory committees organized in accordance with the Intergovernmental Risk Management Act, a community college board of governors, the governing body of public power district, the governing

body of a public power and irrigation district, or the Educational Service Unit Coordinating Council to meet by telephone conference call in certain circumstances. See 1999 Neb. Laws LB 461; 2000 Neb. Laws LB 968; 2007 Neb. Laws LB 199; 2009 Neb. Laws LB 36, 2012 Neb. Laws LB 735, 2013 Neb. Laws LB 510 and Section D.2. below.]

11. An "informational and educational" meeting of a public body governing a political subdivision where members generally discuss matters pertaining to their subdivision, hear reports from various department heads of the subdivision as to their duties and learn the workings of the subdivision is a meeting of the public body for "briefing" purposes which is subject to the open meetings statutes. Op. Att'y Gen. No. 92043 (March 17, 1992). In addition, the Attorney General has also indicated informally that a meeting of a public body "for the purpose of receiving training or doing planning (such as a retreat)" should probably be treated as subject to the Open Meetings Act.

12. In Op. Att'y Gen. No. 94035 (May 11, 1994), the Attorney General indicated that discussions and deliberations by the State Board of Education in connection with the selection of a Commissioner of Education were subject to the requirements of the open meetings statutes. In addition, that opinion indicated that interviews with individual candidates for the Commissioner position were also subject to the requirements of the open meetings statutes, if a quorum of the Board was present for those interviews. However, in the latter interview situation, a brief closed session (as discussed below) might be warranted for a candid discussion by the Board and the candidate which might potentially elicit responses injurious to the reputation of an individual.

13. A workshop held by the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska with a professional facilitator to discuss communication practices and the roles of the Board and the University President was not subject to the Open Meetings Act on the basis of § 84-1410(5) which exempts chance meetings or attendance at or travel to conventions or workshops. The University also asserted that there would be no briefing, discussion of public business, formation of tentative policy, vote, or taking of other action at the workshop. Op. Att'y Gen. No. 04027 (October 20, 2004).

**D. PUBLIC MEETINGS; NOTICE AND AGENDA REQUIRED.** Section 84-1411 sets out several requirements for the notice which must be given for a public

meeting and for the agenda which must be prepared: (1) the public body must give **reasonable advance publicized notice** of the time and place of each meeting; (2) the notice must be transmitted to all members of the body and to the public; (3) the notice must contain an agenda of subjects known at the time of the publicized notice, or a statement that such an agenda, which must be kept continually current, is readily available for inspection at the principal office of the public body during normal business hours.

1. **Notice.** 2020 Neb. Laws LB 148, § 3 placed restrictions on certain public bodies with respect to publication of meeting notices. Under § 84-1411(1)(b)(i)-(iii), governing bodies of political subdivisions and their advisory committees must publish notice in a newspaper of general circulation within the public body's jurisdiction and, if available, on the newspaper's web site. Governing bodies of cities of the second class or villages and their advisory committees must either publish notice in a newspaper of general circulation within the public body's jurisdiction and, if available, on the newspaper's web site, or by posting written notice in three conspicuous public places in the city or village. The posting locations shall remain the same for each meeting. For all other public bodies, notice shall be given by a method designated by the public body. Governing bodies of political subdivisions and their advisory committees may, in addition to the requirements set out above, provide notice of their meetings by any other appropriate method designated by the public body. Section 84-1411(1)(c). Section 84-1411(1)(d) requires each public body to record the method(s) and date(s) of such notice in its minutes. Public bodies holding meetings by virtual conferencing, as provided in § 84-1411(2), must follow the meeting notification requirements in § 84-1411(2)(b)(i).

2. **Agenda.** Under § 84-1411(1)(e), an agenda maintained at the office of a public body for public inspection must be kept continually current and may not be altered later than 24 hours before the scheduled commencement of the public meeting (or 48 hours before commencement of a meeting of a city council or village board if that meeting is noticed outside the corporate limits of the municipality). A public body may modify an agenda to include items of an emergency nature only at such public meeting.

a. New language was added to § 84-1413 in 2021 requiring the governing body of a natural resources district, the city council of a metropolitan class, primary class, or first class city, the county

board of a county with a population greater than twenty-five thousand inhabitants, and school boards to make available on their websites the agenda [and minutes] of any meeting of the governing body. The agenda must be placed on the website at least twenty-four hours before the meeting. The public body shall make the agenda available on the website for at least six months. This requirement became effective July 31, 2022. 2021 Neb. Laws LB 83, § 14.

**3. Specificity of the Agenda.** LB 898 from 2006 added language to § 84-1411(1) which states that agenda items shall be “sufficiently descriptive to give the public reasonable notice of the matters to be considered at the meeting.” That statutory change arose out of a sense that lack of specificity in meeting agendas was a major issue of concern around the state. Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee Hearing on LB 898, 99th Nebraska Legislature, Second Session (2006) at 19. The intent of the change was to require public bodies to include sufficient detail in their agendas regarding issues to be discussed or acted upon so as to provide information and notice to the public. Floor Debate on LB 898, 99th Nebraska Legislature, Second Session, March 28, 2006 at 11701 (Statement of Senator Preister). The change was also intended to require sufficient detail in an agenda so that members of the public are not forced to look at past agendas in order to understand the issue to be discussed and/or the action to be taken. *Id.*

**4. Circumvention of Open Meetings Act.** Under § 84-1411(3), virtual conferencing may not be used to circumvent any of the public government purposes established by the Open Meetings Act. Neither may emails, faxes, or other electronic communication be used for such purposes.

**5. News Media.** Section 84-1411(4) requires that the secretary or other designee of each public body shall maintain a list of news media requesting notification of meetings and shall make reasonable efforts to provide advance notification to that list of media of the time and place of each meeting and the subjects to be discussed at that meeting.

**6. Virtual Appearance.** Under § 84-1411(6), a public body may allow a member of the public or any other witness to appear before the public body by means of virtual conferencing. 2021 Neb. Laws LB 83, § 12.

**7. History.**

a. The provision of § 84-1411 which prohibits altering an agenda within 24 hours of a meeting was added in 1983 to prevent addition of last-minute matters to an agenda which did not really represent emergencies. Floor Debate on LB 43, 88th Nebraska Legislature, First Session, March 22, 1983, at 1896.

b. In *Rauert v. School District I-R of Hall County*, 251 Neb. 135, 555 N.W.2d 763 (1996), the court stated that the Open Meetings Act requires public bodies to give reasonable advance publicized notice of the time and place of their meetings, in part so that the public may attend and speak at those meetings.

c. The Legislature has imposed only two conditions on public bodies regarding the method of notification for their meetings: 1. the public body must give reasonable advance publicized notice of the time and place of each meeting, and 2. the method of notification must be recorded in the public body's minutes. *City of Elkhorn v. City of Omaha*, 272 Neb. 867, 725 N.W.2d 792 (2007). There is no minimum time period for public notification of a special meeting, and an agenda for a public meeting can be created (not altered) later than 24 hours before the scheduled meeting. *Id.* In the *City of Elkhorn* case, the court held that notice of a meeting of the Omaha City Council posted and placed on the city's website at 10:15 a.m. for a meeting at 10:00 p.m. the same day was sufficient under the facts of the case where the local newspaper printed an article about the meeting in its afternoon edition and four television broadcasters were present at the meeting. The court also indicated that any defect in notice intended for the benefit of council members would not invalidate a council meeting when all of the members of the council attended without objection.

d. The purpose of the agenda requirement is to give some notice of the matters to be considered at the meeting so that persons who are interested will know which matters are under consideration. *Schauer v. Grooms*, 280 Neb. 426, 786 N.W.2d 909 (2010); *Pokorny v. City of Schuyler*, 202 Neb. 334, 275 N.W.2d 281 (1979); *State ex rel. Newman v. Columbus Township Board*, 15 Neb. App. 656, 735 N.W.2d 399 (Neb. Ct. App. 2007). In *Pokorny*, the agenda at issue, considered with all the previous records of the city council involved, was sufficient to satisfy the open meetings statutes. *Pokorny* also indicates that posting notice at 10 p.m. on

March 15 before a meeting at 10:30 a.m. on March 16 does not constitute reasonable notice. Posting notice one week ahead does.

e. In *Hansmeyer v. Nebraska Public Power District*, 6 Neb. App. 889, 578 N.W.2d 476 (1998), *aff'd*, 256 Neb. 1, 588 N.W.2d 589 (1999), the Court of Appeals considered whether an agenda item which simply stated "Work Order Reports" was sufficient to give adequate public notice of a decision to approve a work order which involved expenditure of over \$47 million for the construction of a 96-mile power transmission line across privately held property to connect two power substations. The court held that the agenda item was insufficient under the Open Meetings Act. The court also seemed to suggest, based upon the *Pokorny* case, that the sufficiency of an agenda item might be measured, at least to some degree, in the context of the other meetings of the public body immediately prior to the public meeting in question.

f. A member of the public should not be required to hunt up and read the documents underlying an agenda of a public body to determine what is actually on that agenda. *Hansmeyer v. Nebraska Public Power District*, 6 Neb. App. 889, 578 N.W.2d 476 (1998), *aff'd*, 256 Neb. 1, 588 N.W.2d 589 (1999).

g. If a public body uses or publishes its agenda to give the required notice for a particular meeting, then the notice contained in the agenda must comport with the law for giving notice of what is to be considered at the meeting. *Hansmeyer v. Nebraska Public Power District*, 6 Neb. App. 889, 578 N.W.2d 476 (1998), *aff'd*, 256 Neb. 1, 588 N.W.2d 589 (1999).

h. A notice of a hearing, given by a school board, which stated that a hearing would be held, and that an agenda would be available for inspection, once established, is not proper notice. An agenda must be available. *Allen v. Greeley County School District No 501*, 1994 WL 272223, 1994 Neb. App. LEXIS 186 (Neb. Ct. App. 1994) (Not approved for publication).

i. When governmental subdivisions which hold annual meetings, such as townships, conduct their annual meetings, electors who participate in the annual meeting must place matters which they wish to discuss on the agenda for the annual meeting. *State ex rel. Newman v. Columbus Township Board*, 15 Neb. App. 656, 735 N.W.2d

399 (Neb. Ct. App. 2007). Electors under those circumstances may not simply appear at the annual meeting and bring up any subject falling within the broad powers of electors if that subject is not on the agenda. *Id.*

j. Two separate public bodies may publish notice of their meetings on the same sheet of paper and need not use separate sheets when the notices contain only the time and place of their meetings, and when the notices direct interested citizens to the place where agendas for each body may be found. *Wolf v. Grubbs*, 17 Neb. App. 292, 759 N.W.2d 499 (Neb. Ct. App. 2009). In addition, two separate public bodies may combine their agendas when the combined agendas make it clear which items are to be addressed by each body. *Id.* The same rule applies to combined minutes. *Id.* The *Wolf* case involved a situation where a county board met both as a county board and as a county board of equalization.

k. Placing notice of future meetings in minutes of a prior meeting does not give sufficient notice under the Open Meetings Act. *Wolf v. Grubbs*, 17 Neb. App. 292, 759 N.W.2d 499 (Neb. Ct. App. 2009).

l. Notice of recessed or reconvened meetings of a public body must be given in the same fashion as notice of the original meeting. *Wolf v. Grubbs*, 17 Neb. App. 292, 759 N.W.2d 499 (Neb. Ct. App. 2009).

m. In *Schauer v. Grooms*, 280 Neb. 426, 786 N.W.2d 909 (2010), the Nebraska Supreme Court seemed to indicate that the requirement to formally record the method of notice in the meeting minutes may be met by a public body if it is possible, through the minutes of past meetings, to discern a customary and consistent method used by the public body to notify the public of its meetings. It does not appear that the choice of method for giving notice of meetings must be formally set forth in the minutes of the public body as such. *See also Robinson v. Morrill County School District #63*, 299 Neb. 740, 910 N.W.2d 752 (2018) (Failure to record the particular method of notice used by the school board in the meeting minutes does not nullify actual notice properly given. The record showed that Robinson and members of the public received reasonable advanced notice and attended the meeting. The record further showed that the method of notice for the meeting at issue was used by the school board and

recorded in its minutes at least 21 times during the preceding two years.).

n. The Attorney General has concluded that "advance publicized notice" means a separate, specific advance notice must be given for each meeting. 1971-72 Rep. Att'y Gen. 314 (Opinion No. 137, dated August 8, 1972).

o. The Attorney General has also determined that (1) an agenda may not be used as the minutes of a meeting, (2) reasonable notice under the statute means notice reasonably calculated to give appropriate notice to citizens of the time and place of a meeting and notice which complies with the formal requirements of the statute. 1975-76 Rep. Att'y Gen. 150 (Opinion No. 116, dated August 29, 1975).

p. In Op. Att'y Gen. No. 96071 (October 28, 1996), the Attorney General indicated that the Quality Jobs Board should give its normal 10-day published notice of meeting rather than an "informal" notice where the Board had recessed a previous meeting on a tax credit application pending a renewed meeting call from the Governor after issuance of an opinion from the Attorney General.

**E. PUBLIC MEETINGS BY VIRTUAL CONFERENCING.** Section 84-1411(2) allows certain public bodies to meet by virtual conferencing. Virtual conferencing was added to the Open Meetings Act in 2021 with the enactment of LB 83. Virtual conferencing is defined as "conducting or participating in a meeting electronically or telephonically with interaction among the participants subject to subsection (2) of section 84-1412." Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1409(3), amended 2021 Neb. Laws LB 83, § 11. Provisions relating to videoconferencing and telephone conference calls were struck.

**1. Public Bodies Eligible.** In 1993, § 84-1411 was amended by LB 635 to allow certain public bodies to meet by means of videoconferencing. Under the current version of § 84-1411(2), the public bodies allowed to meet by virtual conferencing include: (1) various bodies of state government including state agencies, boards, commissions, councils and committees, together with their advisory committees; (2) organizations created under the Interlocal Cooperation Act, the Joint Public Agency Act or the Municipal Cooperative Financing Act; (3) the governing body of a public power district with a chartered territory of more than one county in this state; (4) the governing body of

a public power and irrigation district with a chartered territory of more than one county in this state; (5) boards of educational service units; (6) the Educational Service Unit Coordinating Council; (7) an organization, including the governing body, of a risk management pool or its advisory committees organized in accordance with the Intergovernmental Risk Management Act; (8) a community college board of governors; (9) the Nebraska Brand Committee; (10) a local public health department; (11) a metropolitan utilities district; (12) a regional metropolitan transit authority; and (13) a natural resources district.

a. The Judicial Resources Commission was removed from the list by 2022 Neb. Laws LB 922, § 13.

**2. Requirements.** The public bodies listed above may hold meetings by virtual conferencing if the following requirements are met:

a. Reasonable advance publicized notice is given pursuant to § 84-1411(1). The notice must include a dial-in number or link to the virtual conference.

b. There must be at least one physical site open to the public and identified in the notice.

c. The public body must make reasonable arrangements to accommodate the public's right to attend and participate as provided in § 84-1412, including reasonable seating.

d. The physical site must have at least one member of the public body or designee in attendance.

e. The virtual conference is recorded by audio or visual recording devices.

f. Members of the public are provided a reasonable opportunity to provide input, including public comment or questions, to the same extent if virtual conferencing was not used.

g. The physical site must have at least one copy of all documents being considered at the meeting.

h. The public body must provide links to the agenda, all documents being considered at the meeting, and the current version of the Act.

See Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411(2)(b)(i)-(iii).

**3. Limitation on Number of Virtual Meetings.** Public bodies authorized to conduct virtual conferencing can hold no more than one-half of their meetings by virtual conferencing in a calendar year. Certain entities (organizations created under the Interlocal Cooperation Act that sell electricity or natural gas at wholesale on a multistate basis, organizations created under the Municipal Cooperative Financing Act, the governing body of a risk management pool that meets at least quarterly and the advisory committees of the governing body, and the State Council on Educational Opportunity for Military Children) are exempted under express provisions. See §§ 84-1411(2)(b)(iv) and 79-2204(4).

4. Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411(8) (2022 Neb. Laws LB 908) authorizes public bodies not listed in § 84-1411(2)(a) to hold meetings by virtual conferencing if the following requirements are met: (a) the purpose of the virtual meeting is to discuss items that are scheduled to be discussed or acted on at a subsequent in-person meeting of the public body; (b) no action is taken by the public body at the virtual meeting; and (c) the public body complies with subdivisions § 84-1411(2)(b)(i) and (ii) (see E.2.a.-f. above).

**5. Hybrid Meetings Not Allowed.** Following the enactment of 2021 Neb. Laws LB 83, the Attorney General considered whether one or more members of a public body could attend and participate virtually at an in-person meeting. The Attorney General informally concluded that § 84-1411 authorizes virtual attendance by members of the public body only at meetings that satisfy the requirements relating to virtual conferencing.

**F. EMERGENCY MEETINGS.** Section 84-1411 allows public bodies to hold emergency meetings without reasonable advance public notice under two statutory schemes.

**1. Emergency Meetings Under Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411(5).** In order to hold an emergency meeting under § 84-1411(5), a public body must meet the following requirements: (1) the nature of the emergency shall be stated in the minutes, and any formal action taken shall pertain only to the emergency; (2) the provisions of § 84-1411(4) dealing with notice to the media shall be complied with in connection with an emergency meeting; and (3) complete minutes of the emergency meeting specifying the nature of the emergency and any formal action taken at the meeting

shall be made available to the public no later than the end of the next regular business day.

a. Emergency meetings may be held by virtual conferencing. 2021 Neb. Laws LB 83, § 12.

b. In *Steenblock v. Elkhorn Township Board*, 245 Neb. 722, 515 N.W.2d 128 (1994), the Court indicated, in a case involving allegations of a violation of the open meetings statutes, that an emergency is defined as "any event or occasional combination of circumstances which calls for immediate action or remedy; pressing necessity; exigency; a sudden or unexpected happening; an unforeseen occurrence or condition." In that case, the Court held that a township board meeting to consider the job status of a township employee, convened as an emergency meeting because of a snowstorm, was not a proper emergency meeting because the employee was given two weeks' notice of his resultant termination, and because the reasons given for the employee's termination were based upon his past performance.

c. In *Wolf v. Grubbs*, 17 Neb. App. 292, 759 N.W.2d 499 (Neb. Ct. App. 2009), the Court of Appeals considered whether a number of items taken up at meetings of a county board without any listing on the board's agenda were "emergency" items. In making that determination in each case, the court focused upon whether there was anything in the record which indicated that a particular item required immediate action or involved pressing necessity.

d. The Attorney General has also stated that an item of an emergency nature is one that requires immediate resolution by the public body, and one which has arisen in circumstances impossible to anticipate at a time sufficient to place on the agenda of a regular, called, or special meeting of the body. 1975-76 Rep. Att'y Gen. 150 (Opinion No. 116, dated August 29, 1975).

e. In Op. Att'y Gen. No. 95063 (August 9, 1995), the Attorney General indicated that action taken during a meeting of the Nebraska Equal Opportunity Commission by a telephone conference call which did not comply with the requirements of the open meetings statutes for emergency meetings was void.

**2. Emergency Meetings Under Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411(7).** Section 84-1411(7) allows any public body in the state to meet by virtual conferencing if an emergency is declared by the Governor under the Emergency Management Act, and the territorial jurisdiction of the public body falls within the declaration. Unlike emergency meetings authorized under § 84-1411(5), public bodies may do any of the things set out in the definition of public meeting in § 84-1409(2): “Briefing, discussion of public business, formation of tentative policy, or the taking of any action . . . .” This provision was added to § 84-1411 by 2021 Neb. Laws LB 83, § 12.

**a. Requirements.** Public bodies must meet several requirements when holding meetings under § 84-1411(7): (i) reasonable advance publicized notice must be provided pursuant to § 84-1411(1); (ii) the notice must include information regarding meeting access for the public and news media; (iii) access to the meeting must be provided via a dial-in number or link to the virtual conference; (iv) the public body must provide links to the agenda, all documents being considered at the meeting, and the current version of the Open Meetings Act; (v) reasonable arrangements must be made to accommodate the public’s right to hear and speak at the meeting and record the meeting; (vi) notice to the media under § 84-1411(4) must be provided; (vii) the nature of the emergency shall be stated in the minutes; and (viii) complete minutes of the meeting specifying the nature of the emergency and any formal action taken by the public body shall be made available in accordance with § 84-1413(5).

**G. PUBLIC MEETINGS; RIGHTS OF THE PUBLIC ATTENDING.** Section 84-1412 establishes the rights of members of the public attending a meeting of a public body.

1. Members of the public have the right to attend and the right to speak at meetings of public bodies, and all or any part of a public meeting except closed sessions under § 84-1410, may be videotaped, recorded, televised, broadcast, photographed, etc. by any person.

2. Public bodies may make and enforce reasonable rules and regulations regarding the conduct of persons attending, speaking at, videotaping, or recording their meetings, including meetings held by virtual conferencing. **A public body is not required to allow citizens to speak**

**at each meeting, but it may not forbid public participation at all meetings.**

3. Members of the public cannot be required to identify themselves as a condition for admission to a public meeting. In 2021, § 84-1412(3) was amended to require public bodies to have any member of the public desiring to address the body to identify himself or herself, including providing an address and the name of any organization represented by such person. The public body may waive the address requirement to protect the security of the individual. 2021 Neb. Laws LB 83, § 13.

4. No public body shall, to circumvent the open meetings laws, hold its meeting in a place known to be too small to accommodate the anticipated audience. However, a public body shall not be in violation of this prohibition if it meets in its traditional meeting place in this state.

5. LB 898 from 2006 added language to § 84-1412 which provides that public bodies shall make available at least one current copy of the Open Meetings Act posted in the meeting room at a location accessible to members of the public. At the beginning of any meeting, the public shall be informed about the location of the posted information. The legislative history of LB 898 indicates that “posting” a copy of the Open Meetings Act means putting it up in some fashion, including attaching it to a bulletin board, hanging it by a chain or fastening it to a wall. Floor Debate on LB 898, 99th Nebraska Legislature, Second Session, March 28, 2006, at 11697 (Statement of Senator Preister). “Posting” does not include placing the Act on a table as a loose document which can be removed and therefore might not be available throughout the meeting. *Id.* If a meeting of a public body is moved to another location to accommodate a larger audience, then the posted copy of the Act should be moved and posted in the new location. *Id.*

6. In 2008, LB 962 amended § 84-1412 to provide that public bodies may not require that “the name of any member of the public be placed on the agenda prior to . . . [a] meeting in order to speak about items on the agenda.” That change was made so that members of the public are not required to place themselves on the agenda of a public body prior to a meeting in order to speak on agenda items during the times at that meeting set aside for public comment. Floor Debate on LB 962, 100th Nebraska Legislature, Second Session, February 28, 2008 at 2 (Statement of Senator Preister). That change in statutory language was not intended

to affect the right of a public body to make reasonable rules and regulations regarding the conduct of persons attending, speaking at, videotaping, or recording its meetings. *Id.*

7. A public body may hold a meeting outside the State of Nebraska only if all the following conditions are met: a. a member entity of the public body is located outside of the state and the meeting is in that member's jurisdiction; b. all out-of-state locations identified in the notice of meeting are located within public buildings used by members of the entity or at a place which will accommodate the anticipated audience; c. reasonable arrangements are made to accommodate the public's rights to attend, hear and speak at the meeting, including making virtual conferencing available at an in-state location to members, the public, or the press, if requested twenty-four hours in advance; d. no more than 25% of the public body's meetings in a calendar year are held out-of-state; e. out-of-state meetings are not used to circumvent any of the public government purposes established by the Open Meetings Act; and f. the public body publishes notice of the out-of-state meeting at least 21 days before the date of the meeting in a legal newspaper of statewide circulation. These requirements for out-of-state meetings were added to § 84-1412 by 2001 Neb. Laws LB 250, § 2, and amended to add meetings by virtual conferencing in 2021. 2021 Neb. Laws LB 83, § 13.

9. A public body shall, upon request, make a reasonable effort to accommodate the public's right to hear discussion and testimony at a public meeting.

10. Public bodies shall make at least one copy of reproducible written material discussed at an open meeting available at the meeting or at the in-state location for virtual conferencing provided in § 84-1412(6)(c) for examination and copying by members of the public. The materials may be provided in paper or electronic form. 2021 Neb. Laws LB 83, § 13.

11. **History.** Many of the initial provisions in § 84-1412 dealing with the rights of the public were added as a result of LB 43 in 1983.

a. The language requiring a reasonable effort to allow all parties to hear a public meeting does not involve an absolute requirement that all persons present shall be able to hear. Floor Debate on LB 43, 88th Nebraska Legislature, First Session, March 21, 1983, at 1794-1795.

**H. PUBLIC MEETINGS; MINUTES AND VOTING PROCEDURES.** Section 84-1413 contains several provisions regarding the minutes which are to be maintained by public bodies and the voting procedures for public bodies.

1. **Minutes.** Every public body shall keep minutes of all meetings showing the time, place, members present and absent, and the substance of all matters discussed. The minutes of all meetings and evidence or documentation received or disclosed during open session shall be public records, open to public inspection during normal business hours. Minutes shall be written or kept as an electronic record and available for inspection within 10 working days or prior to the next convened meeting, whichever occurs earlier, except that cities of the second class and villages may have an additional 10 working days if the employee responsible for writing the minutes is absent due to a serious illness or emergency.

a. 2015 Neb. Laws LB 365, § 2 amended § 84-1413 to provide that minutes of the meetings of school boards and educational service units may be kept as an electronic record. In 2022, the Legislature extended the ability to keep minutes electronically to all public bodies. 2022 Neb. Laws LB 742, § 2.

b. As noted in D.2.a. above, beginning July 31, 2022, the governing body of a natural resources district, the city councils of metropolitan class, primary class, and first class cities, the county board of a county with a population greater than twenty-five thousand inhabitants, and school boards shall place their agenda and minutes on their websites. Minutes shall be posted once they are available for inspection as provided in § 84-1413(5). The information shall be available on the website for at least six months. 2021 Neb. Laws LB 83, § 14.

2. **Voting procedures.** Any action taken on any question or motion duly made and seconded shall be by roll call vote of the public body in open session, and the record shall state how each member voted or if the member was absent or not voting. The vote to elect leadership within a public body may be by secret ballot, but the total number of votes for each candidate shall be recorded in the minutes.

a. Electronic Voting Devices. The roll call or viva voce vote requirements of the Open Meetings Act may be satisfied by a public body which uses an electronic voting device which allows the vote

of each member of the governing body to be readily seen. 2016 Neb. Laws LB 876, § 1. Prior to the enactment of LB 876, only certain public bodies, e.g., a municipality, a county, a learning community, a joint entity created pursuant to the Interlocal Cooperation Act, a joint public agency created pursuant to the Joint Public Agency Act or an agency formed under the Municipal Cooperative Financing Act, were authorized to use electronic voting devices under the Act.

3. In *State ex rel. Schuler v. Dunbar*, 208 Neb. 69, 302 N.W.2d 674 (1984), the Supreme Court held that the requirement of § 84-1413(2) that the record shall state how each member of a body voted could not be satisfied by a nunc pro tunc amendment to the body's minutes showing that the recording of the vote in the minutes was performed prior to the time the actual recording in the minutes took place. However, when the same case was before the court a second time, the court held that, as a general rule, a public body may, if no intervening rights of a third person have arisen, order the minutes of its own proceedings at a previous meeting to be corrected according to the facts to make them speak the truth. *State ex rel. Schuler v. Dunbar*, 214 Neb. 85, 333 N.W.2d 652 (1983).

4. Section 84-1413 is violated by a failure to make or take a vote in accordance with the statute rather than a failure to record a properly taken vote. *State ex rel. Schuler v. Dunbar* (1983), *supra*.

5. Section 84-1413(2) dealing with roll call votes does not require the record to state that the vote was by roll call but only requires that the record show if and how each member voted. Neither does that statute set a time limit for recording the results of a vote. *State ex rel. Schuler v. Dunbar* (1983), *supra*.

6. The statutory requirements here dealing with voting and minutes are mandatory since the Legislature provided that action taken in violation of this statute is void. *State ex rel. Schuler v. Dunbar* (1981), *supra*.

7. *Wolf v. Grubbs*, 17 Neb. App. 292, 759 N.W.2d 499 (Neb. Ct. App. 2009) seems to indicate that the Open Meetings Act does not require that minutes of meetings be "published," but only that they be written and available for inspection within 10 working days or prior to the next convened meeting of the public body.

8. The legislative history of the original open meetings statutes, LB 325 from 1975, indicates that the requirement of a roll call vote was directed at votes on questions that would bind the particular public body. Other procedural questions were not covered. Government Committee Hearing on LB 325, 84th Nebraska Legislature, First Session (1975) at 10.

9. The Attorney General has stated that nothing in the open meetings statutes requires approval of the minutes of a public body prior to their publication. Op. Att'y Gen. No. 162 (December 28, 1981).

10. In Op. Att'y Gen. No. 98045 (November 4, 1998), the Attorney General indicated that detailed minutes of all matters discussed need not be maintained when a public body is meeting in closed or executive session, so long as the requirements of § 84-1410 pertaining specifically to the minute entries necessary for a closed session are met.

**I. CLOSED SESSIONS OF A PUBLIC BODY.** Section 84-1410, pertaining to closed sessions of public body, has generated the most controversy of all the portions of the open meetings statutes. Section 84-1410(1) provides that any public body may hold a closed session by the affirmative vote of a majority of its voting members if a closed session is clearly necessary (1) for the protection of the public interest, or (2) for the prevention of needless injury to an individual, if such individual has not requested a public meeting. Closed meetings may not be held for discussion of the appointment or election of a new member to any public body. Nothing in § 84-1410 should be construed to require that any meeting be closed to the public.

1. Under § 84-1410(1), examples of reasons for a closed session include:

a. Strategy sessions with respect to collective bargaining, real estate purchases, pending litigation, or litigation which is imminent as evidenced by communication of a claim or threat of litigation to or by the public body.

b. Discussion regarding deployment of security personnel or devices.

c. Investigative proceedings regarding allegations of criminal misconduct.

d. Evaluation of the job performance of a person when necessary to prevent needless injury to the reputation of a person and if such person has not requested a public meeting.

e. For a Community Trust created under Neb. Rev. Stat. § 81-1801.02, discussion regarding the amounts to be paid to individuals who have suffered from a tragedy of violence or natural disaster. [Amended into § 84-1410(1) by 2011 Neb. Laws LB 390.]

f. For public hospitals, governing board peer review activities, professional review activities, review and discussion of medical staff investigations or disciplinary actions, and any strategy session concerning transactional negotiations with any referral source that is required by federal law to be conducted at arm's length. [Amended into § 84-1410(1) by 2012 Neb. Laws LB 995.]

These examples are not exclusive; they are merely examples, and other reasons may exist. Government Committee Hearing on LB 325, 84th Nebraska Legislature, First Session (1975) at page 3; 1975-76 Rep. Att'y Gen. 150 (Opinion No. 116, dated August 29, 1975); Op. Att'y Gen. No. 65 (April 17, 1985).

2. LB 898 from 2006 amended some of the provisions of § 84-1410 pertaining to the mechanics of holding a closed session. The subject matter of the closed session and reason necessitating the closed session shall be identified in the motion to hold a closed session. The vote to hold a closed session must be taken in open session, and the entire closed session motion, the vote of each member on the question of holding a closed session, and the time when the closed session commences and ends must be recorded in the minutes. If the motion to close passes, then the presiding officer shall restate on the record immediately prior to the closed session the limitation of the subject matter of the closed session. The public body holding a closed session shall restrict its consideration of matters during the closed session to only those purposes set forth in the motion to close as the reason for the closed session. The meeting must be reconvened in open session before any formal action may be taken, and "formal action" in that context is defined in § 84-1410(2) to mean a collective decision or a collective commitment or promise to make a decision on any question, motion, proposal, resolution, order, or ordinance or formation of a position or policy. Under an amendment to § 84-1410(2) effected by LB 621 in 1994, formal action by the body in that context does **not** include, "negotiating guidance given by members of the public body to legal counsel or other negotiators in a closed [strategy] session authorized

[for collective bargaining, real estate purchases, etc.] under subdivision 1(a) of [Section 84-1410]."

3. Any member of the public body can challenge the continuation of a closed session if he or she determines that the session has exceeded the original reason for the closed session, or if he or she contends that the closed session is neither clearly necessary for the protection of the public interest or the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual. Such a challenge can only be overruled by a majority vote of the members of the public body. The challenge and its disposition shall be recorded in the minutes.

4. **History.** One of the purposes for the initial open meetings statute, LB 325 from 1975, was to tighten restrictions on closed or executive sessions of public bodies. Introducer's Statement of Purpose for LB 325, 84th Nebraska Legislature, First Session (1975). The fourth example of reasons for closed meetings was added by LB 43 in 1983. The provisions dealing with pending or imminent litigation and defining formal action in a closed session were added as a part of LB 1019 in 1992.

5. It is not entirely clear what vote of the public body is necessary to go into closed session. The statute states that "an affirmative vote of a majority of [the body's] voting members" is necessary for a closed session. On its face, the normal meaning of this language would presumably be a majority of those members present and voting. This is particularly true since the later subsection (3) of § 84-1410 requires a "majority vote of the members of the public body" to overrule a challenge to the continuation of the closed session. However, the legislative history of LB 325 makes it quite clear that the legislators intended to make the requirement for a closed session a vote of the majority of the body rather than a vote of the majority of those present and voting. Floor Debate on LB 325, 84th Nebraska Legislature, First Session, May 14 and May 20, 1975, at 4616, 5015. Moreover, there is some indication that "voting" members in § 84-1410(1) refers to particular members of bodies such as the Board of Regents which has both voting and non-voting members. Government Committee Hearing on LB 325, 84th Nebraska Legislature, First Session (1975) at 27-28. The safer approach is to authorize a closed session of the public body by a majority vote of the members of the body rather than by a majority vote of just those members present.

6. The landmark case for what is permissible in a closed session is *Grein v. Board of Education of the School District of Fremont*, 216 Neb. 158, 343 N.W.2d 718 (1984). *Grein* involved a closed session by a school board for discussion of the low bid on a construction project. The supreme court held that the closed session was improper. That case indicates:

a. Provisions of the statute permitting closed sessions must be narrowly and strictly construed. *See also State ex rel. Upper Republican Natural Resources District v. District Judges of the District Court for Chase County*, 273 Neb. 148, 728 N.W.2d 275 (2007).

b. The public interest which is protected in § 84-1410(1) is "that shared by citizens in general and by the community at large concerning pecuniary or legal rights and liabilities." 216 Neb. at 165, 343 N.W.2d at 723. *See also Wasikowski v. Nebraska Quality Jobs Board*, 264 Neb. 403, 648 N.W.2d 756 (2002).

c. Good faith motivation for a closed session is not a cure for non-compliance with the public meetings laws.

d. The prohibition against decisions or formal actions in a closed session proscribes crystallization of a secret decision and then ceremonial acceptance in open session.

**e. There is a guiding principle with respect to closed sessions: "If a public body is uncertain about the type of session to be conducted, open or closed, bear in mind the policy of openness promoted by the Public Meetings Laws and opt for a meeting in the presence of the public."** 216 Neb. at 168, 343 N.W.2d at 724.

7. *Pokorny v. City of Schuyler, supra*, indicates that there is nothing in the open meetings statutes which requires that negotiations for the purchase of land be conducted in open meeting, but deliberations of a public body as to whether an offer to purchase should be made must be done in an open meeting.

8. In a case involving the revocation of a land surveyor's license, the supreme court held that a closed session was improper since there was no showing of either necessity or of the reasons set out in § 84-1410(1). *Simonds v. Board of Examiners of Land Surveyors*, 213 Neb. 259, 329 N.W.2d 92 (1983).

9. Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-832 (1996), dealing with hearings involving cancellation, amendment or termination of a teacher's contract mandates a closed hearing upon an affirmative vote of a majority of the school board's members present and voting and upon specific request of the certificated employee or the certificated employee's representative. However, under that section, formal action by the school board requires that the school board reconvene in open session. *Stephens v. Board of Education of School District No. 5, Pierce County*, 230 Neb. 38, 429 N.W.2d 722 (1988).

10. The provisions of the open meetings statutes dealing with closed sessions, in part, reflect the Legislature's judgment of the appropriate balance between the public's interest in open discussion of governmental issues and the rights of individuals, such as state employees, to have their performance as employees considered in private if they so choose. *Meyer v. Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska*, 1 Neb. App. 893, 510 N.W.2d 450 (Neb. Ct. App. 1993).

11. If the primary purpose for a closed session of a public body is authorized under the open meetings statutes, then any necessary discussion of incidental matters is also authorized. *Meyer v. Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska*, 1 Neb. App. 893, 510 N.W.2d 450 (Neb. Ct. App. 1993). In the *Meyer* case, the Nebraska Court of Appeals indicated that the University Board of Regents could properly discuss the appointment of an interim president for the University during a closed session called to evaluate and consider the employment status of the president.

12. In *Wasikowski v. Nebraska Quality Jobs Board*, 264 Neb. 403, 648 N.W.2d 756 (2002), the court held that if a person who is present at a meeting of a public body observes an alleged violation of the Open Meetings Act in the form of an improper closed session and fails to object, then that person waives his or her right to object to the closed session at a later date. However, that case appears to be legislatively overruled by LB 898 from 2006 which provides that it shall not be a defense to a citizen lawsuit under § 84-1414(3) that the citizen attended the meeting and failed to object at that time.

13. There is no absolute evidentiary privilege which applies to all communications made during a closed session of a public body, and communications made during such closed sessions are

discoverable. *State ex rel. Upper Republican Natural Resources District v. District Judges of the District Court for Chase County*, 273 Neb. 148, 728 N.W.2d 275 (2007). However, to the extent that communications made during a closed session implicate other recognized privileges such as the attorney/client privilege, those communications are protected. *Id.*

14. The statutory provision allowing public bodies to hold closed sessions for strategy sessions regarding litigation or threatened litigation by necessity encompasses discussions and decisions regarding whether to make or reject a settlement offer. Such decisions regarding litigation strategy should not have to be discussed publicly, during an open session, in front of the body's opponent. *Becker v. Allen*, 1996 WL 106217, 1996 Neb. App. LEXIS 73 (Neb. Ct. App. 1996) (Not approved for publication). In addition, the strategic meetings which a public body has with its attorney when threatened with or engaged in litigation, in which the public body may give direction to its attorney, are protected by the attorney-client privilege. *Id.*

#### **15. Opinions of the Attorney General:**

a. A closed session is not proper simply because matters permitting a closed session might arise. Such a closed session is permitted only when such matters do arise and must be dealt with. Op. Att'y Gen. No. 94035 (May 11, 1994); Op. Att'y Gen. No. 11 (January 20, 1983).

b. Discussions of legal matters between a county board and a county attorney involving pending litigation or legal consequences of specific action are suitable for a closed session. 1975-76 Rep. Att'y Gen. 150 (Opinion No. 116, dated August 29, 1975).

c. A public body can go into a proper closed session for discussion of personnel matters and then reconvene for a public vote with no lengthy explanation of the rationale underlying the decision. Op. Att'y Gen. No. 89063 (October 12, 1989).

d. The closed session exception for prevention of needless injury to reputation is for the protection of individual employees and not for the protection of governmental officers on the public body. *Id.*

e. In Op. Att'y Gen. No. 98045 (November 4, 1998), the Attorney General indicated that detailed minutes of all matters discussed need not be maintained when a public body is meeting in closed or

executive session, so long as the requirements of § 84-1410 pertaining specifically to the minute entries necessary for a closed session are met.

f. A county clerk, county attorney and county treasurer acting as a group under § 32-567(3) to make an appointment to fill a vacancy on a county board may not go into closed session for evaluation of the merits of the candidates based upon the express language of § 84-1410(1). Op. Att'y Gen. No. 97050 (September 18, 1997).

g. In Op. Att'y Gen. No. 17-004 (June 5, 2017), the Attorney General indicated that the Public Service Commission may not discuss management and operational issues outside of a duly convened meeting which satisfies all requirements of the Open Meetings Act, except when conducting judicial proceedings. Alternatively, the commission could discuss these issues in closed sessions under limited circumstances or form subcommittees of less than a quorum, which are generally excluded from the act.

h. The Attorney General has indicated informally that developing testimony for an upcoming Legislative hearing is not a proper reason for a state agency to go into closed session. On the other hand, the Attorney General has also indicated informally that discussion of "sensitive medical and financial information" pertaining to specific individuals who applied for admission to a state home could be conducted in a closed session so long as the actual vote on admission was done in an open meeting.

**J. CIRCUMVENTION OF THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT.** Section 84-1410(4) prohibits a person or a public body from circumventing the purpose of the open meetings statutes by failing to invite a portion of its members to a meeting or by designating itself as a subcommittee of the whole body. That section also prohibits the use of any closed session, informal meeting, chance meeting, social gathering, email, fax or other electronic communication for the purpose of circumventing the requirements of the open meetings statutes.

1. This provision was added to the open meetings statutes by LB 43 in 1983. This section was directed at the intentional circumvention of the open meetings statutes rather than inadvertent acts. Government, Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee Hearing on LB 43, 88th Nebraska Legislature, First Session (1983) at 5.

2. 2004 Neb. Laws LB 1179 added emails, faxes and other electronic communications to the list of mediums which could not be used to circumvent the requirements of the Open Meetings Act.

3. Similar language prohibiting the use of virtual conferencing, emails, faxes, or other electronic communications to circumvent any of the public government purposes of the Open Meetings Act is contained in § 84-1411(3).

4. The Attorney General has indicated that intent is a necessary element of the conduct prohibited by § 84-1410(4), and that members of a public body can communicate with other members of that body by electronic means, even if that communication is directed to a quorum of the body, so long as there is no course of communication which becomes sufficiently involved so as to evidence an intent or purpose to circumvent the Open Meetings Act. Op. Att'y Gen. No. 04007 (March 8, 2004).

**K. ACTIONS FOR ENFORCEMENT.** Section 84-1414 sets out various enforcement options available to individuals who believe that the open meetings statutes have been violated.

1. Any motion, resolution, rule, ordinance, or formal action of a public body made or taken in violation of the public meetings statutes shall be declared void by the district court if the suit is commenced within 120 days of the meeting of the public body at which the alleged violation occurred. Any such motion or other action taken in substantial violation of the public meeting statutes shall be voidable by the district court if the suit is commenced after more than 120 days but within one year of the meeting of the public body in which the alleged violation occurred. A suit to void any final action shall be commenced within one year of the action.

2. Under § 84-1414(3), any citizen of this state may commence a suit in the district court of the county in which the public body ordinarily meets or in which the plaintiff resides for the purpose of requiring compliance with or preventing violations of the open meetings statutes, for the purpose of declaring an action of a public body void, or for the purpose of determining the applicability of the open meetings statutes to discussions or decisions of the public body. *City of Elkhorn v. City of Omaha*, 272 Neb. 867, 725 N.W.2d 792 (2007). The court may order payment of reasonable attorney's fees and court costs to a successful plaintiff in a suit brought under § 84-1414(3). Under LB 898 from 2006, it

shall not be a defense to such a suit that the citizen attended the meeting and failed to object to violations at such time.

3. The Attorney General and the county attorney of the county in which the public body ordinarily meets shall enforce the provisions of the open meetings statutes.

4. **History.** The original version of § 84-1414(1), which was a part of LB 325 passed in 1975, simply provided that actions taken in violation of the public meetings statutes should be void. The void/voidable distinction was added by LB 43 in 1983. The apparent intent of that later language was to allow a court to void an action by a public body taken when there was any violation of the open meetings statutes if the action was filed within four months of the meeting in question. After four months, the violation of the open meetings statutes would have to be substantial to allow a court to void the action of the public body. In any event, no action could be brought after one year of the public meeting in question. Floor Debate on LB 43, 88th Nebraska Legislature, First Session, March 22, 1983, at 1892.

5. The legislative history of LB 325 from 1975 indicates that the initial intent of that statute was to have the county attorney responsible for enforcement proceedings involving public bodies at a local level. The Attorney General would be responsible for enforcement against state entities. Floor Debate on LB 325, 84th Nebraska Legislature, First Session, May 14, 1975, at 4620.

6. The Nebraska Supreme Court has indicated that action by a public body which is proper under the open meetings statutes may cure defects in actions previously taken by the same public body. In such an instance, an action by a public body which previously might have been declared void will be declared proper. *Pokorny v. City of Schuyler, supra*. On the other hand, under those circumstances, the original improper meeting itself is still void. *Steenblock v. Elkhorn Township Board*, 245 Neb. 722, 515 N.W.2d 128 (1994). *Pokorny* also indicates that the effect of an invalid public meeting under the open meetings laws is the same as if the meeting had never occurred.

7. A county lacks capacity to maintain an action to declare its official conduct void for noncompliance with the open meetings statutes. *County of York v. Johnson*, 230 Neb. 403, 432 N.W.2d 215 (1988)

8. Reading of a city ordinance in accordance with a city charter constitutes “formal action” of a city council which may be voided in a lawsuit under § 84-1414(1). *City of Elkhorn v. City of Omaha*, 272 Neb. 867, 725 N.W.2d 792 (2007).

9. A number of Nebraska cases deal with waiver of rights under the Open Meetings Act by a failure to make a timely objection to violations of the Act. *Stoetzel & Sons, Inc. v. City of Hastings*, 265 Neb. 637, 658 N.W.2d 636 (2003) (if a person who attends a meeting of a public body believes that copies of documents discussed by the body should be made available to the public at the meeting, a timely objection should be made, or that person waives his or her right to object); *Wasikowski v. Nebraska Quality Jobs Board*, 264 Neb. 403, 648 N.W.2d 756 (2002); *Otey v. State*, 240 Neb. 813, 485 N.W.2d 153 (1992); *Witt v. School District No. 70, Frontier County*, 202 Neb. 63, 273 N.W. 2d 669 (1979) (any person who has notice of a meeting and attends the meeting is required to object specifically to a lack of public notice at the meeting or waive his rights to object on that ground under the open meetings statutes); *Hauser v. Nebraska Police Standards Advisory Council*, 264 Neb. 944, 653 N.W.2d 240 (2002) (if a person present at a meeting observes and fails to object to an alleged open meetings violation in the form of a failure to conduct roll call votes before taking action on questions or motions pending, that person waives his or her right to object at a later date); *Alexander v. School District No. 17 of Thurston County*, 197 Neb. 251, 248 N.W.2d 335 (1976) (where teachers had notice of a termination hearing, appeared, and no objection was made to a failure of the school board to give proper notice under the open meetings statutes, those teachers waived any objection they might have had to violations of the open meetings law). Those cases appear to be legislatively overruled by LB 898 from 2006 which provides that it shall not be a defense to a citizen lawsuit under § 84-1414(3) that the citizen attended the meeting and failed to object at that time.

10. In *Robinson v. Morrill County School District #63*, 299 Neb. 740, 910 N.W.2d 752 (2018), the Nebraska Supreme Court declined to consider the propriety of the school board’s closed session to deliberate on the cancellation of Robinson’s teaching contract following an evidentiary hearing since Robinson failed to object to the closed session or the process followed by the school board in closing the meeting.

11. Actions for relief under the open meetings statutes are tried as equitable cases, given the fact that the relief sought is in the nature of a declaration that particular action taken in violation of the laws is void or voidable. Such cases are also considered as equitable cases on appeal. *Stoetzel & Sons, Inc. v. City of Hastings*, 265 Neb. 637, 658 N.W.2d 636 (2003); *Hauser v. Nebraska Police Standards Advisory Council*, 264 Neb. 944, 653 N.W.2d 240 (2002); *Wolf v. Grubbs*, 17 Neb. App. 292, 759 N.W.2d 499 (Neb. Ct. App. 2009); *Hansmeyer v. Nebraska Public Power District*, 6 Neb. App. 889, 578 N.W.2d 476 (1998), *aff'd*, 256 Neb. 1, 588 N.W.2d 589 (1999).

12. The *Hansmeyer* case also discusses the distinction between "void" and "voidable" under § 84-1414. "Void" means ineffectual and having no legal force or binding effect, while "voidable" means that which may be avoided or declared void, not absolutely void. In *Hansmeyer*, the court considered factors such as whether any purpose would be served or whether decisions were made in secret without public discussion in determining whether a voidable vote by the Nebraska Public Power District should, in fact, be voided.

13. Once a meeting has been declared void pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, the members of the public body involved are prohibited from considering any information which they obtained at the illegal meeting. *Wolf v. Grubbs*, 17 Neb. App. 292, 759 N.W.2d 499 (Neb. Ct. App. 2009); *Alderman v. County of Antelope*, 11 Neb. App. 412, 653 N.W.2d 1 (2002).

14. The decision to award attorney's fees to a "successful plaintiff" in an action under § 84-1414 is discretionary with the trial court. *Hansmeyer v. Nebraska Public Power District*, 6 Neb. App. 889, 578 N.W.2d 476 (1998), *aff'd*, 256 Neb. 1, 588 N.W.2d 589 (1999). The court in *Hansmeyer* also held that the plaintiffs in that case were "successful plaintiffs" who could recover attorney's fees under § 84-1414 because there was a finding that a substantial violation of the open meetings statutes had occurred, and because the public body involved amended its practices to prepare proper agendas after the plaintiffs filed their action. The court reached that conclusion even though it ultimately determined that the improper action of the public body at issue should not be voided. *Wolf v. Grubbs*, 17 Neb. App. 292, 759 N.W.2d 499 (Neb. Ct. App. 2009) also contains a discussion regarding the basis for an

award of attorney's fees in that case, including the court's analysis of why it reduced a fee award on appeal.

15. Voiding an entire meeting is a proper remedy for violations of the Open Meetings Act. *Wolf v. Grubbs*, 17 Neb. App. 292, 759 N.W.2d 499 (Neb. Ct. App. 2009). The court in the *Wolf* case also specifically considered whether violations of the Open Meetings Act were "substantial" violations in determining whether it was appropriate to void actions of a county board when the enforcement lawsuit was filed more than 120 days after the meetings in question.

16. In *Wolf v. Grubbs*, 17 Neb. App. 292, 759 N.W.2d 499 (Neb. Ct. App. 2009) there was no evidence in the record which established that a county board had published notice of its meetings anywhere. The Court of Appeals held that in the absence of contrary evidence, it may be presumed that public officers faithfully performed their official duties. *Id.* In addition, absent evidence showing misconduct or disregard for the law, the regularity of official acts is also presumed. *Id.* In *Wolf*, the court also indicated that the plaintiffs had the burden at all times to show that it was more probable that notices of meetings were not posted than probable that they were.

17. The United States District Court for the District of Nebraska has indicated that it has supplemental jurisdiction over claims under § 84-1414 based upon 28 U.S.C. § 1367(a). *Buzek v. Pawnee County Nebraska*, 207 F. Supp. 2d 961 (D. Neb. 2002).

18. "Citizens," as well as members of the general public and reporters or other representatives of the news media, are the intended beneficiaries of the Open Meetings Act, and have standing to bring an action under that Act. *Schauer v. Grooms*, 280 Neb. 426, 786 N.W.2d 909 (2010). This is true even though individual citizens may not be able to allege a particularized injury as a result of action by a public body or the pecuniary interest in the public body's action which might be necessary for common law standing. *Id.* An action under § 84-1414 is permissible when the ultimate result of the questionable meetings of the public body is annexation. *Id.*

19. The plaintiffs in *Pierce v. Drobny*, 279 Neb. 251, 777 N.W.2d 322 (2010), contended that a local school board held a number of secret meetings without notice or public participation to plan for a special election for the issuance of bonds for a new school. A resolution

authorizing the special election was subsequently passed by the board at a public meeting, and at the special election, voters approved the school bond issue. The plaintiffs sought to void the board's resolution for the special election under the Open Meetings Act rather than filing an election contest. The Nebraska Supreme Court held that an election contest was the exclusive remedy under such circumstances, and that a separate challenge under the Open Meetings Act did not exist once the bond issue was voted upon by the public.

**L. CRIMINAL SANCTIONS.** Section 84-1414(4) provides that any member of a public body who knowingly violates or conspires to violate the Open Meetings Act, or who attends or remains at a meeting knowing that the public body is in violation of any provision of that Act, shall be guilty of a Class IV misdemeanor for a first offense, and a Class III misdemeanor for a second or subsequent offense.

1. The legislative history of LB 325 from 1975 indicates that the criminal sanctions included in this section were originally directed at intentional behavior rather than at inadvertence. Government Committee Hearing on LB 325, 84th Nebraska Legislature, First Session (1975) at 16.

2. The criminal sanctions for violation of the open meetings statutes were first increased as a result of LB 1019 passed in 1992. Also, that same bill in 1992 added language which made knowingly remaining at or attending a meeting in violation of the open meetings statutes a crime. The present language which applies criminal sanctions to those members of a public body who remain at a meeting knowing that the public body is in violation of the open meetings statutes was added by LB 621 in 1994.

3. Under Neb. Rev. Stat. § 28-106 (2016), a Class IV misdemeanor is punishable by a fine of \$100 to \$500 and no imprisonment. In addition, a Class III misdemeanor is punishable by up to 3 months imprisonment or up to a \$500 fine, or both. A Class III misdemeanor has no minimum penalty.

**Board of Education Regular Meeting**  
August 14, 2023 7:00 PM  
Bair Community Schools Central Office  
1326 Park St., Blair NE 68008

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Information concerning the Open Meeting Law, Chapter 84, Article 14 of Nebraska State Statutes, is attached to the online agenda for viewing. The online agenda can be viewed by visiting the Blair Community Schools website at [www.blairschools.org](http://www.blairschools.org). The meeting notice was published in the Washington County Pilot-Tribune & Enterprise on Tuesday, August 8, 2023.

**1. Call to Order**

Mrs. Kari Loseke, President, called the Board of Education Regular Meeting to order at 7:05pm.

**2. Roll Call**

Present Board Members: Steve Callaghan, Denise Cada, Kari Loseke, Deb Parks, Brandi Petersen, Courtney Tabor, and Tim Welch.

**3. Approval of Absent Board Members**

**Motion Passed:** I move to approve the absence of Board Member(s): Ginger Fredericksen passed with a motion by Steve Callaghan and a second by Tim Welch.

Denise Cada	Yes
Steve Callaghan	Yes
Ginger Fredericksen	Absent
Kari Loseke	Yes
Deb Parks	Yes
Brandi Petersen	Yes
Courtney Tabor	Yes
Tim Welch	Yes

**4. Pledge of Allegiance**

Dr. Gilson led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**5. Approval of Emergency Additions to the Agenda – None**

**6. Call for Removal of Consent Agenda Items – None**

**7. Approval of the Consent Agenda**

**Motion Passed:** I move to approve the Consent Agenda as presented passed with a motion by Steve Callaghan and a second by Courtney Tabor.

Denise Cada	Yes
Steve Callaghan	Yes
Ginger Fredericksen	Absent
Kari Loseke	Yes
Deb Parks	Yes
Brandi Petersen	Yes
Courtney Tabor	Yes
Tim Welch	Yes

**7.1. Waiver of reading minutes from previous meeting.**

**7.2. Acceptance of minutes of the previous meetings as published.**

**7.3. Receipt of Communications**

**7.4. Treasurer's Report**

**7.5. Audit of Claims**

## **8. Business**

### **8.1. Items removed from Consent Agenda – None**

### **8.2. Recognitions – None**

### **8.3. Acceptance of Gifts – None**

### **8.4. Consideration of Communications – None**

### **8.5. Comments from The Public – Public comments were heard from six (6) patrons.**

## **8.6. Committee Reports**

### **8.6.1. Policy Committee**

The Policy Committee met on Monday, July 31, 2023 at 12:00pm. A report of the committee meeting was given by Deb Parks.

**Motion Passed:** I move to approve the second and final reading for the revisions and renumbering to the following policies, which reflects their new policy number, 1101-Community Use of School Facilities, 1102-Community Use of School Facilities - Procedures, 500.4-Full-Time & Part-Time Students (Option Enrollment Procedures), 510.3-Extracurricular Activity Discipline, 510.3-Student Organizations, 510.4-Student Government, 510.6-Student Publications, 510.7-Student Performances, 510.8-Student Fundraising, 510.9-Student Activities Funds, 510.11-Interscholastic Activities and Athletics, 510.12-Equal Access Procedure, 510.13-Student Physicals for Athletics, 500.5-Resolution (Option Enrollment), 500.6-Sample Option Enrollment Rejection Letter, 510.1-Student Discipline, 621.20-Assessments - Academic Content Standards, 621.3-Reading Instruction and Improvement, 504.50-Hazing, Initiation, Secret Societies or Gang Activities, 660.00-Special Education, 670.00-Firearms - Weapons, and 203.01-Board Organization Meeting as presented passed motion by Deb Parks and a second by Courtney Tabor.

Denise Cada	Yes
Steve Callaghan	Yes
Ginger Fredericksen	Absent
Kari Loseke	Yes
Deb Parks	Yes
Brandi Petersen	Yes
Courtney Tabor	Yes
Tim Welch	Yes

**Motion Passed:** I move to amend the 2023-24 school calendar as presented passed with a motion by Deb Parks and a second by Steve Callaghan.

Denise Cada	Yes
Steve Callaghan	Yes
Ginger Fredericksen	Absent
Kari Loseke	Yes
Deb Parks	Yes
Brandi Petersen	Yes
Courtney Tabor	Yes
Tim Welch	Yes

### **8.6.2. BG&T Committee**

The BG&T Committee met on Wednesday, August 2, 2023 at 4:00pm. A report of the committee meeting was given by Steve Callaghan.

**Motion Passed:** I move to accept the bid from American Fence Company for repairs at Blair High School in the amount of \$8,277.52 passed with a motion by Steve Callaghan and a second by Tim Welch.

Denise Cada	Yes
Steve Callaghan	Yes
Ginger Fredericksen	Absent
Kari Loseke	Yes
Deb Parks	Yes
Brandi Petersen	Yes
Courtney Tabor	Yes
Tim Welch	Yes

### 8.6.3. Finance Committee

The Finance Committee met on Tuesday, August 8, 2023 at 12:00pm. A report of the committee meeting was given by Brandi Petersen.

**Motion Passed:** I move to approve the addition of Girls Wrestling at Otte Blair Middle School beginning the 2023-24 school year passed with a motion by Brandi Petersen and a second by Deb Parks.

Denise Cada	Yes
Steve Callaghan	Yes
Ginger Fredericksen	Absent
Kari Loseke	Yes
Deb Parks	Yes
Brandi Petersen	Yes
Courtney Tabor	Yes
Tim Welch	Yes

**Motion Passed:** I move to approve adult lunch meal prices of \$2.75 for breakfast and \$4.60 for lunch for the 2023-24 school year passed with a motion by Brandi Petersen and a second by Deb Parks.

Denise Cada	Yes
Steve Callaghan	Yes
Ginger Fredericksen	Absent
Kari Loseke	Yes
Deb Parks	Yes
Brandi Petersen	Yes
Courtney Tabor	Yes
Tim Welch	Yes

**Motion Passed:** I move to approve the purchase of a Veterinary Science Package for Agriculture Education in the amount of \$5,299 passed with a motion by Brandi Petersen and a second by Deb Parks.

Denise Cada	Yes
Steve Callaghan	Yes
Ginger Fredericksen	Absent
Kari Loseke	Yes
Deb Parks	Yes
Brandi Petersen	Yes
Courtney Tabor	Yes
Tim Welch	Yes

**Motion Passed:** I move to approve the Superintendent to enter into a contract agreement with Nannen & Harte Physical Therapy to receive Occupation and Physical Therapy services for the district passed with a motion by Brandi Petersen and a second by Tim Welch.

Denise Cada	Yes
Steve Callaghan	Yes

Ginger Fredericksen	Absent
Kari Loseke	Yes
Deb Parks	Yes
Brandi Petersen	Yes
Courtney Tabor	Yes
Tim Welch	Yes

### **8.7. Arbor Park Elementary Kindergarten Restrooms**

**Motion Passed:** I move to approve the bid from Henton Trenching, Inc., in the amount of \$61,480 for the sewer work related to the Arbor Park Elementary Restroom project passed with a motion by Deb Parks and a second by Steve Callaghan.

Denise Cada	Abstain
Steve Callaghan	Yes
Ginger Fredericksen	Absent
Kari Loseke	Yes
Deb Parks	Yes
Brandi Petersen	No
Courtney Tabor	Yes
Tim Welch	Yes

### **8.8. Approval of New Certified Staff**

### **8.9. Acceptance of Resignations**

### **8.10. Superintendent Report**

### **8.12. Informational Items**

## **9. Adjournment**

**Motion Passed:** I move to adjourn the meeting at 8:39pm passed with a motion by Steve Callaghan and a second by Tim Welch.

Denise Cada	Yes
Steve Callaghan	Yes
Ginger Fredericksen	Absent
Kari Loseke	Yes
Deb Parks	Yes
Brandi Petersen	Yes
Courtney Tabor	Yes
Tim Welch	Yes

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Angie Conety, Secretary Board of Education

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Randall Gilson, Ed.D., Superintendent

# Board of Education Special Meeting

August 24, 2023 5:00 PM

Bair Community Schools Central Office

1326 Park St., Blair NE 68008

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Information concerning the Open Meeting Law, Chapter 84, Article 14 of Nebraska State Statutes, is attached to the online agenda for viewing. The online agenda can be viewed by visiting the Blair Community Schools website at [www.blairschools.org](http://www.blairschools.org). The meeting notice was published in the Washington County Pilot-Tribune & Enterprise on Tuesday, August 8, 2023.

## 1. Call to Order

Mrs. Kari Loseke, President, called the Board of Education Special meeting to order at 5:00pm.

## 2. Roll Call

Present Board Members: Ginger Fredericksen (5:13), Kari Loseke, Brandi Petersen, Deb Parks, Denise Cada, Courtney Tabor, Steve Callaghan and Tim Welch

### 2.1 Approval of Absent Board Members - None

## 3. Pledge of Allegiance

Dr. Randall Gilson led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

## 4. Business

### 4.1. 2022-23 End of the Year Claims

**Motion Passed:** I move to authorize the Administration to pay all claims through August 31, 2023 passed with a motion by Brandi Petersen and a second by Deb Parks.

Denise Cada	Yes
Steve Callaghan	Yes
Ginger Fredericksen	Absent
Kari Loseke	Yes
Deb Parks	Yes
Brandi Petersen	Yes
Courtney Tabor	Yes
Tim Welch	Yes

### 4.2 Activity Fund Transfer

**Motion Passed:** I move to transfer \$25,000 from the General Fund to the Activity Fund to help offset any deficits within the accounts in the Activity Fund passed with a motion by Brandi Petersen and a second by Steve Callaghan.

Denise Cada	Yes
Steve Callaghan	Yes
Ginger Fredericksen	Absent
Kari Loseke	Yes
Deb Parks	Yes
Brandi Petersen	Yes
Courtney Tabor	Yes
Tim Welch	Yes

### 4.3. 2021-22 School District Budget – Transfer to Savings Depreciation Fund

**Motion Passed:** I move to approve the transfer of \$826,000.00 from the 2022-23 General Fund into the Savings Depreciation Account passed with a motion by Brandi Petersen and a second by Deb Parks.

Denise Cada	Yes
Steve Callaghan	Yes
Ginger Fredericksen	Yes
Kari Loseke	Yes
Deb Parks	Yes
Brandi Petersen	Yes
Courtney Tabor	Yes
Tim Welch	Yes

**4.4. 2023-24 Preliminary School District Budget – Present Budget Proposal for Public Hearing**

**Motion Passed:** I move to approve the proposed budget for 2023-24 to be presented for a Public Hearing at the September 12, 2023 Board of Education meeting passed with a motion by Brandi Petersen and a second by Deb Parks.

Denise Cada	Yes
Steve Callaghan	Yes
Ginger Fredericksen	Yes
Kari Loseke	Yes
Deb Parks	Yes
Brandi Petersen	Yes
Courtney Tabor	Yes
Tim Welch	Yes

**4.5. Arbor Park Elementary Kindergarten Restrooms**

**Motion Passed:** I move to approve the bid from DR Anderson, in the amount of \$97,500 for work being completed on the Arbor Park Elementary Restrooms project passed with a motion by Steve Callaghan and a second by Courtney Tabor.

Denise Cada	Yes
Steve Callaghan	Yes
Ginger Fredericksen	Yes
Kari Loseke	Yes
Deb Parks	Yes
Brandi Petersen	Yes
Courtney Tabor	Yes
Tim Welch	Yes

**Motion Passed:** I move to approve the bid from Grunwald Mechanical, in the amount of \$99,947 for work being completed on the Arbor Park Elementary Restrooms project passed with a motion by Steve Callaghan and a second by Ginger Fredericksen.

Denise Cada	Yes
Steve Callaghan	Yes
Ginger Fredericksen	Yes
Kari Loseke	Yes
Deb Parks	Yes
Brandi Petersen	Yes
Courtney Tabor	Yes
Tim Welch	Yes

**4.6. Acceptance of Resignation**

**Motion Failed:** I move to accept the resignation of certified staff member, Ben King, failed with a motion by Brandi Petersen and a second by Courtney Tabor.

Denise Cada	No
Steve Callaghan	No

Ginger Fredericksen	No
Kari Loseke	Yes
Deb Parks	No
Brandi Petersen	No
Courtney Tabor	No
Tim Welch	No

#### 4.7. Closed Session

The Board of Education is authorized by state statute to hold closed sessions. Closed sessions may be held when clearly necessary for the protection of the public interest or for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual. Reasons that meet this standard include but are not limited to: (a) strategy sessions with respect to collective bargaining, real estate matters, pending litigation, or litigation which is imminent as evidenced by communication of a claim or threat of litigation to or by the public body; (b) discussion regarding deployment of security personnel or devices; (c) investigative proceedings regarding allegations of criminal misconduct; (d) evaluation of the job performance of a person when necessary to prevent needless injury to the reputation of a person and if such person has not requested a public meeting; and (e) legal advice.

The Board entered into Closed Session for the protection of public interest on the discussion of real estate matters.

**Motion Passed:** I move to enter into closed session at 6:14pm for the protection of public interest on the discussion of real estate matters, and invite Mr. Dr. Randy Gilson, Mr. Brett Schwartz, and Dr. Violet Glasshoff, to be a part of the closed session passed with a motion by Ginger Fredericksen and a second by Deb Parks.

Denise Cada	Yes
Steve Callaghan	Yes
Ginger Fredericksen	Yes
Kari Loseke	Yes
Deb Parks	Yes
Brandi Petersen	Yes
Courtney Tabor	Yes
Tim Welch	Yes

At 7:29pm, the Board came out of Closed Session and reconvened to the Special Board Session.

#### 4.8. Items From Closed Session

No discussion or action items came from the closed session.

#### 5. Adjournment

**Motion Passed:** Motion to adjourn meeting at 7:30pm passed with a motion by Ginger Fredericksen and a second by Deb Parks.

Denise Cada	Yes
Steve Callaghan	Yes
Ginger Fredericksen	Yes
Kari Loseke	Yes
Deb Parks	Yes
Brandi Petersen	Yes
Courtney Tabor	Yes
Tim Welch	Yes

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Angie Conety  
Board Secretary

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Randall Gilson, Ed.D.  
Superintendent

Blair Community Schools  
 Financial Report to the Board of Education  
 Cash-Bank Reconciliation  
 August 31, 2023

8/1/2023 through 8/31/23
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**Book Balance**

Beginning Balance		\$7,008,079.50
Total Receipts		\$1,519,649.47
Total Disbursements		-\$2,759,426.26
Reconciled Book Balance-Ending Balance		<b>\$5,768,302.71</b>

**Bank Balance**

Beginning Balance		\$313,316.42
Deposits	\$2,707,117.43	
Interest	\$81.16	
Total Receipts		\$2,707,198.59
Total Disbursements		-\$2,705,917.50
Bank Balance Ending Balance		\$314,597.51
Less Outstanding Checks/Wires		-\$67,591.96
<b>Reconciled Bank Balance-Ending Balance</b>		<b>\$247,005.55</b>

Reconciled Balance		\$247,005.55
Total Investments		\$5,521,297.16
<b>Total General Fund Balance</b>		<b>\$5,768,302.71</b>

*Leslie Watts*  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Leslie Watts, Board of Education Treasurer

9/1/23  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

Blair Community Schools  
 Financial Report to the Board of Education  
 Building Fund  
 August 31, 2023

8/1/2023 through 8/31/23
-----------------------------

Beginning Balance	\$1,185,161.55
Total Receipts	\$110,070.08
Total Disbursements	-\$23,170.16
<b>Building Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$1,272,061.47</b>

**Bank Balance**

Bank Balance Ending Balance	\$381,410.70
Less Outstanding Checks/Wires	
Reconciled Bank Balance	\$381,410.70
Total Investments	\$890,650.77
<b>Total Building Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$1,272,061.47</b>

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Blair Community Schools  
 Financial Report to the Board of Education  
 Savings Depreciation  
 August 31, 2023

8/1/2023 through 8/31/23
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Beginning Balance	\$1,921,963.23
Total Receipts	\$831,677.52
Total Disbursements	-\$139,950.74
<b>Savings Depreciation Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$2,613,690.01</b>

**Bank Balance**

Bank Balance Ending Balance	\$2,617,888.29
Less Outstanding Checks/Wires	-\$4,198.28
<b>Total Savings Depreciation Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$2,613,690.01</b>

<b>ACTIVITY FUND &amp; STUDENT FEE FUND-CHECKS ISSUED IN AUGUST 2023 TO BE RATIFIED 9/11/2023</b>			
<b>VENDOR</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>ORGANIZATION</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>
JOURNEYED.COM INC.	\$ 250.00	STAFF COMPUTER LIMITED USE FEES	ADOBE LICENSE
CISHIRTS	\$ 593.00	DF/W ADV COUNCIL	DF STAFF SHIRTS
THE SIGN DEPOT	\$ 737.18	AP ADVISORY COUNCIL	AP STAFF SHIRTS
JOURNEYED.COM INC.	\$ 250.00	STAFF COMPUTER LIMITED USE FEES	ADOBE LICENSE
JOURNEYED.COM INC.	\$ 250.00	STAFF COMPUTER LIMITED USE FEES	ADOBE LICENSE
PEPSI CO	\$ 532.07	OBMS STUDENT SENATE	OMS CONCESSION POP
POUNDS PRINTING INC	\$ 432.00	ADULT SPORT PASSES	ALL SPORTS PASSES
SCHUYLER CENTRAL HIGH SCH	\$ 100.00	TRACK-BHS	TRACK ENTRY
MARK HARMAN	\$ 90.00	FOOTBALL	FB OFFICIAL
MIGUELITO MITCHELL	\$ 90.00	FOOTBALL	FB OFFICIAL
ELIJAH MITCHELL	\$ 90.00	FOOTBALL	FB OFFICIAL
LYNN COGHILL	\$ 90.00	FOOTBALL	FB OFFICIAL
LANCE CLARK	\$ 90.00	FOOTBALL	FB OFFICIAL
THOMAS MILLER	\$ 120.00	FOOTBALL	FB OFFICIAL
JACK MAR	\$ 120.00	FOOTBALL	FB OFFICIAL
CHARLES LEWIS	\$ 120.00	FOOTBALL	FB OFFICIAL
KEN MAR	\$ 120.00	FOOTBALL	FB OFFICIAL
RYAN LEWIS	\$ 120.00	FOOTBALL	FB OFFICIAL
ABE'S PORTABLES	\$ 111.70	FOOTBALL	PORTABLE RENTAL
ABE'S PORTABLES	\$ 145.00	FOOTBALL	PORTABLE RENTAL
HAUFF SPORTS	\$ 899.25	FOOTBALL	FB CAMP SHIRTS
JIM BEWLEY	\$ 130.00	GIRLS SOFTBALL	ASSIGNING FEES
RODNEY MARTIN	\$ 135.00	GIRLS SOFTBALL	SB UMPIRE
SHANE FARLEY	\$ 135.00	GIRLS SOFTBALL	SB UMPIRE
SCHUYLER CENTRAL HIGH SCH	\$ 100.00	TRACK-BHS	TRACK ENTRY
HAUFF SPORTS	\$ 2,203.32	VOLLEYBALL	VOLLEYBALL SUPPLIES
MORGAN CASPER	\$ 297.04	F. F. A.	RENTAL CAR- NAT'L FFA
CISHIRTS	\$ 157.50	F. B. L. A.	FBLA SHIRTS
VISA	\$ 108.36	F. B. L. A.	EL VALLARTA
CASHELL SHONKA	\$ 150.00	DANCE TEAM	DANCE TEAM MUSIC
THE SIGN DEPOT	\$ 222.11	DANCE TEAM	DANCE TEAM SHIRTS
THE SIGN DEPOT	\$ 121.08	DANCE TEAM	DANCE TEAM SHIRTS
JOURNEYED.COM INC.	\$ 250.00	STAFF COMPUTER LIMITED USE FEES	ADOBE LICENSE
WASHINGTON COUNTY BANK	\$ 218.82	ALL SPORTS	ACTIVITY FUND DEPOSIT SLIPS
VISA	\$ 553.83	ALL SPORTS	PAYPAL COSTUMES
RSCHOOL TODAY	\$ 595.00	ALL SPORTS	ACTIVITY SCHEDULER
VISA	\$ 2,064.40	ALL SPORTS	NCA
THE SIGN DEPOT	\$ 302.60	SUMMER CAMP-TENNIS	TENNIS SHIRTS
BLAIR FOOTBALL MOMS AND I	\$ 4,100.65	CAMP-FOOTBALL	FB COACHES GEAR
THE SIGN DEPOT	\$ 944.31	CAMP-FOOTBALL	FB CAMP SHIRTS
THE SIGN DEPOT	\$ 1,078.05	CAMP-FOOTBALL	FB CAMP SHIRTS
THE SIGN DEPOT	\$ 1,720.95	CAMP-FOOTBALL	FB CAMP SHIRTS
HAUFF SPORTS	\$ 1,501.98	CAMP-FOOTBALL	FB COACHES GEAR
CISHIRTS	\$ 603.00	CAMP-GIRLS SOCCER	GSOCCER CAMP SHIRTS
VISA	\$ 51.02	CAMP-VOLLEYBALL	CASEYS
VISA	\$ 55.88	CAMP-VOLLEYBALL	CASEYS
VISA	\$ 56.99	CAMP-VOLLEYBALL	CASEYS
VISA	\$ 6.99	CAMP-VOLLEYBALL	WALMART.COM
VISA	\$ 29.94	CAMP-VOLLEYBALL	WALMART.COM
THE SIGN DEPOT	\$ 21.12	CAMP-VOLLEYBALL	VB CAMP SHIRTS
VISA	\$ 8.49	CAMP-VOLLEYBALL	JIMMY JOHNS
VISA	\$ 47.95	CAMP-VOLLEYBALL	COSTCO
VISA	\$ 118.50	CAMP-VOLLEYBALL	HYVEE
VISA	\$ 132.35	CAMP-VOLLEYBALL	SAMS CLUB
VISA	\$ 139.98	CAMP-VOLLEYBALL	JIMMY JOHNS
VISA	\$ 175.31	CAMP-VOLLEYBALL	PAPA JOHNS
UNK VOLLEYBALL	\$ 1,320.00	CAMP-VOLLEYBALL	VB CAMP DUES
DIETZE MUSIC HOUSE	\$ 40.00	BAND INSTRUMENT USEAGE	BAND SUPPLIES
S E SMITH & SONS	\$ 4.19	VOCATIONAL EDUCATION	SHOP SUPPLIES
PROFESSIONAL FORMS INC	\$ 634.80	PE UNIFORMS (STUDENT FEES)	PE SHIRTS-SMALL
PROFESSIONAL FORMS INC	\$ 966.00	PE UNIFORMS (STUDENT FEES)	PE SHIRTS-MEDIUM
PROFESSIONAL FORMS INC	\$ 345.00	PE UNIFORMS (STUDENT FEES)	PE SHIRTS-LARGE
PROFESSIONAL FORMS INC	\$ 207.00	PE UNIFORMS (STUDENT FEES)	PE SHIRTS-XL

VENDOR	TOTAL	ORGANIZATION	DESCRIPTION
PROFESSIONAL FORMS INC	\$ 27.60	PE UNIFORMS (STUDENT FEES)	PE SHIRTS-XXL
PROFESSIONAL FORMS INC	\$ 27.60	PE UNIFORMS (STUDENT FEES)	PE SHIRTS-XXXL
PROFESSIONAL FORMS INC	\$ 460.00	PE UNIFORMS (STUDENT FEES)	7" INSEAM SHORTS-SMALL
PROFESSIONAL FORMS INC	\$ 690.00	PE UNIFORMS (STUDENT FEES)	7" INSEAM SHORTS-MEDIUM
PROFESSIONAL FORMS INC	\$ 345.00	PE UNIFORMS (STUDENT FEES)	7" INSEAM SHORTS-LARGE
PROFESSIONAL FORMS INC	\$ 345.00	PE UNIFORMS (STUDENT FEES)	9" INSEAM SHORTS-SMALL
PROFESSIONAL FORMS INC	\$ 575.00	PE UNIFORMS (STUDENT FEES)	9" INSEAM SHORTS-MEDIUM
PROFESSIONAL FORMS INC	\$ 115.00	PE UNIFORMS (STUDENT FEES)	9" INSEAM SHORTS-LARGE
PROFESSIONAL FORMS INC	\$ 220.86	PE UNIFORMS (STUDENT FEES)	ESTIMATED SHIPPING/HANDLI
GUARDIAN INNOVATIONS LLC	\$ 1,440.00	FOOTBALL	FOOTBALL GUARDIAN CAP XT-
GUARDIAN INNOVATIONS LLC	\$ 50.00	FOOTBALL	ESTIMATED SHIPPING/HANDLI
HAUFF SPORTS	\$ 567.98	GIRLS GOLF	GIRLS GOLF UNIFORMS
RIVER WILDS GOLF CLUB	\$ 2,000.00	GIRLS GOLF	GREEN FEES
HAUFF SPORTS	\$ 115.00	VOLLEYBALL	VB UNIFORMS
CASH	\$ 900.00	FOOTBALL	VARSITY FB STARTUP GATEBOX

**GENERAL FUND CLAIMS 9/11/2023**

VENDOR	AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION
AARON WATTENBACH	\$15.00	EMPLOYEE REIMB-BUS DRIVER LICENSE
ABE'S TRASH SERVICE INC	\$3,623.99	TRASH SERVICES
ACCU-CUT	\$148.00	LIBRARY SUPPLIES (OMS)
AFINIA	\$2,522.00	PERKINS GRANT-EMBLASER (OMS)
AJ'S SERVICE AND REPAIR INC	\$562.63	BUS REPAIRS
ALBIREO ENERGY	\$144.00	HVAC REPAIRS (OMS)
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	\$53,676.84	SUMMER ORDERS-CLASSROOM SUPPLIES, TECHNOLOGY SUPPLIES, LIBRARY BOOKS & SUPPLIES, CUSTODIAL SUPPLIES, SPED SUPPLIES
ANDREW COX	\$93.75	K-5 RECONFIGURATION LIBRARY CONTRACT LABOR
ARBOR FAMILY COUNSELING	\$6,720.00	STUDENT & STAFF COUNSELING SERVICES-1ST QTR
ARBOR SCIENTIFIC	\$536.55	SCIENCE CLASSROOM EQUIPMENT (BHS)
AUL SPECIAL PAY TRUST	\$11,800.00	RETIREE ACCUMULATED SICK LEAVE BENEFIT
BALLARD & TIGHE PUBLISHERS	\$842.80	ENGLISH SECOND LANGUAGE BOOKS
BARBARA VAUGHN	\$1,862.50	K-5 RECONFIGURATION LIBRARY CONTRACT LABOR
BILL BROWN	\$65.00	EMPLOYEE REIMB-BUS DRIVER LICENSE
BLAIR ACE HARDWARE	\$364.38	MAINTENANCE, GROUNDS, BUS BARN SUPPLIES
BLAIR GARDEN CENTER	\$1,279.60	AG ED-POTTING SOIL (BHS)
BLICK ART MATERIALS	\$3,163.77	ART & SPED SUPPLIES (BHS)
BREAKOUT EDU	\$428.00	HAL-ONLINE SOFTWARE SERVICES
C J'S TREE SERVICE	\$4,400.00	TREE REMOVAL (BHS)
CAPITAL BUSINESS SYSTEMS INC	\$2,304.93	COPIER SERVICES
CAREER SAFE	\$1,152.00	VOCATIONAL EDUCATION-OSHA 10-HOUR CONSTRUCTION
CAROLINA BIOLOGICAL SUP CO	\$794.42	SCIENCE CLASSROOM SUPPLIES (BHS)
CENGAGE LEARNING	\$1,112.53	BUSINESS EDUCATION-TEXTBOOKS (BHS)
CENTERVENTION	\$600.00	SKILLS ACADEMY SOFTWARE SUBSCRIPTION
CITY OF BLAIR	\$5,405.04	UTILITY-WATER/SEWER
CORNHUSKER INTERNATIONAL	\$340.00	BUS 16 REPAIRS
CUBBYS INC	\$43.85	SUBURBAN GAS
DAN'S HANDYMAN PLUMBING	\$775.00	PLUMBING (DF,BHS)
DICK'S ELECTRIC	\$1,610.53	ELECTRICAL REPAIR (OMS,BHS)
DIETZE MUSIC HOUSE	\$1,804.15	BAND SUPPLIES & EQUIPMENT
DUNHAM HARDWOODS	\$3,926.26	VOCATIONAL EDUCATION WOODS-SUPPLIES
EAKES OFFICE PLUS	\$117.13	FAX SERVICES- AUG23
EBSCO INDUSTRIES INC.	\$318.99	LIBRARY SUBSCRIPTIONS (BHS)
EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT #5	\$3,000.00	FNDLC MEMBERSHIP FEE 2023-24
EGAN SUPPLY CO	\$114.58	CUSTODIAL SUPPLIES- VACUUM BAGS
ENABLING DEVICES	\$122.90	OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY SUPPLIES
ENTERPRISE PUBLISHING CO INC	\$1,299.34	LEGAL NOTICES, NEWSPAPER SUBSCRIPTION, PUBLIC INFO NOTICE
EVERYDAY SPEECH LLC	\$767.98	SPEECH PATH SOFTWARE (K-5)
EXPANDING EXPRESSION LLC	\$273.90	SPEECH PATH SUPPLIES (K-5)
EXPLORE LEARNING	\$10,510.00	MATH REFLEX SITE LICENSE (K-8)
FAIRWAY OIL CO	\$5,275.34	BUS & VEHICLE FUEL-PROPANE, GAS & DIESAL-AUG23
FASTWYRE BROADBAND CABLE	\$2,223.56	DISTRICT TELEPHONE, INTERNET, CABLE SERVICES
FIREGUARD LLC	\$887.10	FIRE ALARM REPAIRS & FIRE EXTINGUISHER
FLINN SCIENTIFIC INC	\$3,129.22	SCIENCE CLASSROOM SUPPLIES (BHS)
FOLLETT CONTENT SOLUTIONS LLC	\$5,600.17	LIBRARY BOOKS (K-8)
FOLLETT SCHOOL SOLUTIONS LLC	\$5,081.00	LIBRARY SOFTWARE (K-12)
FULL COMPASS SYSTEMS LTD	\$2.57	BAND SUPPLIES
GLOBAL INDUSTRIAL	\$516.62	ART SUPPLIES (AP)
GOPHER SPORT	\$11,116.02	PE CLASSROOM SUPPLIES (K-12)
GRAINGER	\$869.43	CUSTODIAL & MAINTENANCE SUPPLIES
HANNAH PICKELL	\$311.78	PREK PARENT MILEAGE
HEGGERTY	\$319.68	SPECIAL READING SUPPLIES (K-5)
HORWATH LAUNDRY EQUIPMENT	\$552.07	WASHING MACHINE REPAIRS (BHS)
I KNOW IT	\$150.00	SPED SOFTWARE RENEWAL (OMS)
IDEAL PURE WATER	\$305.27	PURIFIED WATER SUPPLIES

VENDOR	AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION
<b>INTRADATA INC</b>	<b>\$460.00</b>	CLASSROOM SUPPLIES (DF)
<b>J &amp; R CONSTRUCTION LLC</b>	<b>\$13,755.00</b>	CONCRETE REPAIRS (S,AP,BHS)
<b>J F AHERN CO</b>	<b>\$1,104.00</b>	FIRE SPRINKLER INSPECTIONS
<b>J W PEPPER &amp; SON INC.</b>	<b>\$1,024.83</b>	VOCAL MUSIC & SUPPLEIS (K-8)
<b>JENNIFER GRENIER</b>	<b>\$10.00</b>	EMPLOYEE REIMB-VOCAL MUSIC SUPPLIES (OMS)
<b>KYLE JOHNSON</b>	<b>\$229.25</b>	EMPLOYEE MILEAGE
<b>LAKESHORE LEARNING MATERIALS</b>	<b>\$25,559.53</b>	CLASSROOM SUPPLIES (K-5)
<b>LEARNING A-Z</b>	<b>\$501.00</b>	SPECIAL READING A-Z LICENCES (K-8)
<b>LEARNING RESOURCES/EDUC INSIGHTS</b>	<b>\$554.93</b>	CLASSROOM SUPPLIES (K-5)
<b>LEARNING WITHOUT TEARS</b>	<b>\$1,948.45</b>	CLASSROOM & OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY SUPPLIES
<b>LESLEY WARD</b>	<b>\$23.84</b>	SIXPENGE-EMPLOYEE MILEAGE
<b>LESSONPIX</b>	<b>\$108.00</b>	SPED SOFTWARE LESSON PIX LICENSES (PREK-5)
<b>LEXIA LEARNING SYSTEMS LLC</b>	<b>\$1,197.00</b>	SOFTWARE LICENSE RENEWAL (AP)
<b>LIFETRACK SERVICES INC</b>	<b>\$2,565.00</b>	SENIOR EXIT SURVEY 24
<b>LINDA BEHRNS</b>	<b>\$362.50</b>	K-5 RECONFIGURATION LIBRARY CONTRACT LABOR
<b>MACGILL &amp; CO</b>	<b>\$2,160.88</b>	NURSE OFFICES SUPPLIES (PREK-12)
<b>MARCIE REED</b>	<b>\$146.72</b>	PARENT MILEAGE
<b>MATHESON TRI-GAS INC</b>	<b>\$1,679.17</b>	WELDING GAS & GLOVE SUPPLIES (BHS)
<b>MAVALUS TAPE</b>	<b>\$312.98</b>	CLASSROOM SUPPLIES (SKILLS ACADEMY, K-5)
<b>MAXINE SCHATZ</b>	<b>\$131.25</b>	K-5 RECONFIGURATION LIBRARY CONTRACT LABOR
<b>MCKINNIS ROOFING INC</b>	<b>\$1,068.60</b>	BHS ROOF REPAIRS
<b>MECHANICAL SYSTEMS INC</b>	<b>\$8,051.80</b>	HVAC REPAIRS (DF,AP,OMS,BHS)
<b>MEYO ENTERPRISES</b>	<b>\$375.00</b>	BHS GYM WINCH REPAIR
<b>MIDWEST ALARM SERVICES</b>	<b>\$505.80</b>	FIRE ALARM SERVICES (BUS BARN, BHS)
<b>MIDWEST SOUND &amp; LIGHTING</b>	<b>\$5,341.99</b>	MICROPHONE & SOUND SYSTEM REPAIRS (BHS)
<b>MIDWEST TECHNOLOGY PRODUCTS</b>	<b>\$1,209.81</b>	VOCATIONAL ED SUPPLIES & TOOLS (BHS)
<b>MOBY MAX</b>	<b>\$175.00</b>	SPED SOFTWARE MOBY MAX-BHS)
<b>MOSS</b>	<b>\$1,657.57</b>	NU TECHNOLOGY CLASS SUPPLIES (OMS)
<b>NACIA</b>	<b>\$250.00</b>	MEMBERSHIP DUES
<b>NANNEN PHYSICAL THERAPY</b>	<b>\$20,833.34</b>	SPED OCCUPATIONAL & PHYSICAL THERAPY CONTRACT SERVICES
<b>NASB</b>	<b>\$258.00</b>	MEMBERHIP DUES & BOARD MEMBER CONFERENCE
<b>NASB ALICAP</b>	<b>\$312,655.00</b>	COMMERICAL INSURANCE-WORK COMP, PROPERTY ,GENERAL, AUTO
<b>NASCO</b>	<b>\$1,767.55</b>	ART & FCS CLASSROOM SUPPLIES (K-12)
<b>NASP INC</b>	<b>\$1,052.00</b>	PE CLASSROOM SUPPLIES (BHS)
<b>NEBR AIR FILTER INC</b>	<b>\$120.24</b>	AP AIR FILTERS
<b>NEBRASKA SCIENTIFIC</b>	<b>\$759.52</b>	SCIENCE CLASSROOM SUPPLIES (BHS)
<b>NEWSBANK</b>	<b>\$5,872.00</b>	LIBRARY SUBSCRIPTIONS (BHS)
<b>NICOLE KNIGHT</b>	<b>\$77.95</b>	EMPLOYEE MILEAGE
<b>OFFICE DEPOT</b>	<b>\$19,656.62</b>	CLASSROOM & OFFICE SUPPLIES, PAPER SUPPLY
<b>OMAHA WORLD HERALD</b>	<b>\$81.50</b>	NEWSPAPER SUBSCRIPTION (OMS)
<b>ONEDER</b>	<b>\$690.00</b>	SPED SOFTWARE ORILEARNING TRANSITION (BHS)
<b>ONESOURCE THE BACKGROUND CK CO</b>	<b>\$593.00</b>	BACKGROUND CHECKS
<b>OREGON LAMINATIONS CO</b>	<b>\$471.75</b>	SPED CLASSROOM SUPPLIES (DF)
<b>OTUS LLC</b>	<b>\$15,000.00</b>	SOFTWARE RENEWAL
<b>OVERDRIVE INC</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>	LIBRARY E-BOOKS SUBSCRIPTION (BHS)
<b>OZOBOT EDU INC</b>	<b>\$420.00</b>	LIBRARY SUPPLIES (DF)
<b>PAINTIN PLACE CERAMICS INC</b>	<b>\$1,025.00</b>	BHS ART SUPPLIES
<b>PEARSON ASSESSMENT</b>	<b>\$2,273.20</b>	SPED PSYCH ASSESSMENT SUPPLIES (K-12)
<b>PERRY GUTHERY HAASE GESSFORD</b>	<b>\$1,353.60</b>	LEGAL SERVICES
<b>PEST SOLUTIONS 365</b>	<b>\$1,168.00</b>	PEST CONTROL (ALL BUILDINGS)
<b>PLANK ROAD PUBLISHING INC</b>	<b>\$144.95</b>	VOCAL MUSIC SOFTWARE SUBSCRIPTION (DF)
<b>POUNDS PRINTING INC</b>	<b>\$980.00</b>	BUSINESS ENVELOPE SUPPLIES
<b>PROFESSIONAL FORMS INC</b>	<b>\$2,042.23</b>	OFFICE OF PRINCIPAL SUPPLIES, BOARD MEMBER POSTERS
<b>REALLY GOOD STUFF LLC</b>	<b>\$1,081.44</b>	CLASSROOM & LIBRARY SUPPLIES (K-5)
<b>REALLY GREAT READING COMPANY</b>	<b>\$27,310.40</b>	SPED TEXTBOOKS & WORKBOOKS (K-5)
<b>RIFTON</b>	<b>\$345.00</b>	OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY SUPPLIES (DF)
<b>ROCHESTER 100 INC</b>	<b>\$307.50</b>	PRESCHOOL & CLASSROOM SUBSCRIPTION & SUPPLIES

VENDOR	AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION
<b>S E SMITH &amp; SONS</b>	<b>\$31.27</b>	CLASSROOM & SAFETY SUPPLIES
<b>SAPP BROTHERS</b>	<b>\$720.24</b>	GROUNDS FUEL
<b>SCHOLASTIC MAGAZINES</b>	<b>\$1,088.67</b>	SPED & SCIENCE CLASS SUBSCRIPTIONS (PREK, OMS)
<b>SCHOOL DATEBOOKS INC.</b>	<b>\$1,356.26</b>	STUDENT AGENDAS (AP)
<b>SCHOOL SPECIALTY LLC</b>	<b>\$1,448.65</b>	ART CLASS SUPPLIES, MARKER BOARD (PREK, DF)
<b>SECURITY EQUIPMENT INC</b>	<b>\$28,612.20</b>	ANNUAL SECURITY SYSTEM SERVICES - 2023-24
<b>SPARTAN STORES LLC</b>	<b>\$82.54</b>	OMS FCS SUPPLIES
<b>SPHERO INC</b>	<b>\$667.00</b>	LIBRARY SUPPLIES (AP)
<b>STAPLES BUSINESS ADVANTAGE</b>	<b>\$816.71</b>	OFFICE SUPPLIES & FURNITURE & CLASSROOM SUPPLIES (BHS)
<b>STERICYCLE INC</b>	<b>\$187.97</b>	SHREDDING SERVICES
<b>STRATUS BUILDING SOLUTIONS</b>	<b>\$15,590.00</b>	CUSTODIAL CONTRACT SERVICES-SEPT23
<b>SUPER DUPER PUBLICATIONS</b>	<b>\$299.00</b>	SPEECH PATH SOFTWARE (PREK-5)
<b>TAB AND SLOT LLC</b>	<b>\$2,817.01</b>	WELDING CLASS EQUIPMENT (BHS)
<b>TALBOT LAW OFFICE P.C. LLC</b>	<b>\$280.00</b>	LEGAL SERVICES
<b>TEXTBOOKS AND BEYOND</b>	<b>\$179.92</b>	ENGLISH SECOND LANGUAGE SUPPLIES
<b>THE BOOKWORM INC</b>	<b>\$633.05</b>	LANGUAGE ARTS CLASSROOM BOOKS
<b>THE HOME DEPOT PRO</b>	<b>\$7,775.42</b>	CUSTODIAL SUPPLIES, VOCATIONAL ED SUPPLIES (BHS)
<b>THE OMNI GROUP</b>	<b>\$18.00</b>	403B FEE- AUG 23
<b>THE SIGN DEPOT</b>	<b>\$4,715.97</b>	OFFICE OF PRINCIPAL AND COUNSELING POSTERS
<b>THEMES &amp; VARIATIONS</b>	<b>\$349.90</b>	VOCAL MUSIC SOFTWARE SUBSCRIPTION (K-5)
<b>TOM'S WELL SERVICE</b>	<b>\$9,605.79</b>	REPLACE BOILER PUMP & MOTOR (AP)
<b>TOOLS TO GROW</b>	<b>\$59.99</b>	PREK OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY SUPPLIES
<b>TYPING.COM LLC</b>	<b>\$1,598.00</b>	EDUTYPE LICENSE RENEWAL
<b>ULTRA FOLDERS</b>	<b>\$186.00</b>	BAND SUPPLIES (AP)
<b>UNITE PRIVATE NETWORKS</b>	<b>\$842.24</b>	DISTRICT NETWORK SVCS
<b>US CELLULAR</b>	<b>\$782.82</b>	STUDENT MIFI HOTSPOTS
<b>USI ED &amp; GOVERNMENT SALES</b>	<b>\$1,982.82</b>	LAMINATING SUPPLIES (OMS,BHS)
<b>VEX ROBOTICS</b>	<b>\$4,998.00</b>	PERKINS-SKU EQUIPMENT
<b>WANDA DOLPHIN</b>	<b>\$7.21</b>	EMPLOYEE MILEAGE
<b>WARD'S SCIENCE</b>	<b>\$928.50</b>	SCIENCE CLASSROOM SUPPLIES (OMS)
<b>WEST MUSIC</b>	<b>\$3,214.60</b>	VOCAL MUSIC SUPPLIES & MUSIC (DF)
<b>WESTERN PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES</b>	<b>\$272.80</b>	SPED PSYCH SKU SUPPLIES (K-12)
<b>WOODHOUSE FORD</b>	<b>\$102.37</b>	VAN 7 REPAIRS
<b>WOODRIVER ENERGY LLC</b>	<b>\$797.06</b>	UTILITY - GAS
<b>Summary</b>	<b>\$749,839.84</b>	

**GENERAL FUND-CHECKS ISSUED TO BE RATIFIED 9/11/2023**

VENDOR	TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
VISA	\$4,306.58	AMAZON ORDERS, TRAVEL, DUES, TRAINING & INSERVICE, SUPPLIES, MISC, REPAIRS, MEETINGS, EQUIPMENT, TECHNOLOGY NEEDS, CLASSROOM SUPPLIES & MATERIALS, STAFF APPRECIATION
BENNINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS	\$150.00	MARCHING BAND COMPETITION FEE (BHS)
HOMETOWN SOLUTIONS LLC	\$500.00	REMOVE PLAY EQUIPMENT (S)
NCTC APPLEJACK PARADE	\$10.00	APPLEJACK BAND FEE (OMS)
<b>Summary</b>	<b>\$4,966.58</b>	

**SAVINGS DEPRECIATION FUND-CHECKS ISSUED TO BE RATIFIED 9/11/2023**

VENDOR	TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
VISA	\$1,319.46	STANBURY UNIFORMS-ADD'L BAND UNIFORMS
<b>Summary</b>	<b>\$1,319.46</b>	

VENDOR	AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION
<b>LUNCH FUND CLAIMS 9/11/2023</b>		
VENDOR	TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
THE WALDINGER CORPORATION	\$8,147.54	ICE MACHINE, STEAMER, WARMING CART REPAIRS (BHS,OMS,DF)
TAHER	\$72,004.74	FOOD SERVICE MANAGEMENT EXPENSE - AUGUST23
<b>Summary</b>	<b>\$80,152.28</b>	

**BUILDING FUND CLAIMS 9/11/2023**

VENDOR	TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
ALBIREO ENERGY	\$16,521.80	INTEGRATION OF CONTROL SYSTEM - AUG23
VALUATION SERVICES	\$2,250.00	BUILDING APPRAISAL
HENTON TRENCHING INC	\$61,480.00	RESTROOM PROJECT (AP)
MECHANICAL SYSTEMS INC	\$9,750.00	KITCHEN HEAT PUMP (OMS)
AMI GROUP INC	\$3,430.00	NORTH CARPET ASBESTOS ABATEMENT
WHEELER CONTRACTING INC	\$6,380.00	NORTH ASBESTOS ABATEMENT
GRUNWALD MECHANICAL	\$3,642.00	KRANTZ FIELD CONCESSION SINKS
FLUID MECHANICAL LLC	\$216.00	KRANTZ FIELD CONCESSION SINKS
FLOORS INC	\$34,740.00	BHS CARPET
<b>Summary</b>	<b>\$138,409.80</b>	

**SAVINGS/DEPRECIATION FUND CLAIMS 9/11/2023**

VENDOR	TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
FOLLETT	\$810.94	AP LIBRARY BOOKS
DIETZE	\$3,808.00	BAND SUPPLIES & EQUIPMENT (BHS,OMS,DF)
CCS PRESENTATION SYSTEMS	\$5,648.00	BOARD ROOM SCREEN PROJECTORS
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	\$7,611.88	CTE CURRICULUM, BHS MUSIC CLASS, TECHNOLOGY, BOARD ROOM TABLES
C K SCIENCE	\$1,148.63	AP CURRICULUM
SAVVAS	\$9,044.80	MYVIEW LITERACY BOOKS (AP,DF) & ENVISION MATH (OMS)
<b>Summary</b>	<b>\$28,072.25</b>	

## Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

Monday, August 21, 2023

Call to Order at 12:00pm

Central Office (North School)

**Committee Members Present:** Deb Parks (Chair), Denise Cada and Courtney Tabor

**Others Present:** Dr. Randall Gilson and Angie Conety

### 1. Old Business

#### A. Board & Superintendent Goals

Dr. Gilson will share his goals, Objectives and Key Results (OKR's), with the Board at the September 11, 2023 Regular Board of Education meeting.

#### B. Safety Report

Beginning with the 2023-24 school year, Administrator Mr. Mark Gutschow, will be leading the Safety Team for the district. Dr. Gilson informed he is doing a great job. A safety plan has been formed and a reunification exercise has been practiced with the Safety Team. A reunification drill will be schedule with students and parents after Labor Day.

#### C. Teacher Evaluation

Last month, Dr. Gilson informed the administrators have been working on revisions to the Summative Teacher Evaluation form. Dr. Gilson shared the modified Teacher Evaluation Instrument and is recommending approval of the presented revisions.

A motion may be brought at the September 11, 2023 Board of Education meeting **to approve the revisions as presented to the Summative Teacher Evaluation form.**

### 2. New Business

#### D. District Growth

Dr. Gilson discussed long-term and short-term plans for district growth with the committee.

#### E. TeamMates Banner Request

TeamMates is starting donation level awards and creating a banner to display and show recognition to their contributors. They are requesting approval to display the banner on the gate at Krantz Field and in the high school atrium or gym. The banner will not be completed until early next year and would display the 2023 information throughout 2024.

Dr. Gilson stated this is a fairly common in Nebraska Schools. The program is directly supporting and mentoring Blair Schools students and Dr. Gilson is recommending support for TeamMates and the presented request. In addition, this could promote individuals to become a mentor. The committee agreed and think it is an amazing idea.

#### F. Review of Policies

Review of the following policies with no recommended revisions took place:

- 606.04-Technology and Instructional Materials
- 606.05-Media Centers
- 606.06-Acceptable Use of Computers, Technology and the Internet
- 606.06R2-Publishing Guidelines for Worldwide Web Pages

- 606.06R3-Employee Agreement for Publishing Guidelines for Worldwide Web Pages
- 606.07-District Website
- 606.08-Reproduction of Copyrighted Materials
- 606.08R1-Copyright Compliance Procedures

*Policies with no changes needed, the “Reviewed” date of 09-11-2023, will be reflected on each policy.*

**G. Next Scheduled Policy/Americanism Committee Meeting**

Monday, September 18, 2023 at 12:00pm.

**3. Adjournment**

**A. Adjournment:**

The committee adjourned at 1:22pm.

## MVP CLUB - \$2,000 +

Advance Services  
Good Life Counseling & Support  
Tom & Shelli Schueth  
Wattier's Auto Body  
ASPM Landscapes

## \$1,000-\$1,999 CHAMPIONSHIP CLUB

Marathon Press  
Premier Marketing

*Together We Transform Lives*

# TEAMMATES<sup>SM</sup>

## MENTORING of NORFOLK

## \$500-\$999 COACHES CLUB

Agri-City Insurance – RJ Gall  
Divots Conference Center/Norfolk  
Lodge & Suites  
Elkhorn Rural Public Power District  
Elkhorn Valley Bank & Trust  
Flooring Solutions  
Heritage Financial Services –  
Casey Knake  
Home For Funerals  
Hy-Vee

Insurance Associates  
Johnson's Inc. Plumbing,  
Heating & Air  
Renee Halsey  
Love Signs  
Mutual of Omaha –  
Craig Reiser/Adam Olson  
Norfolk Iron & Metal  
Norfolk Noon Kiwanis Club  
Norfolk Noon Rotary Club

Nucor  
Randy & Lori Oertwich  
Ron & Dottie McKeever  
Runza  
Stonacek Funeral Chapel  
Subway  
Sundance Investments –  
Fred & Sandy Schellpeper  
Wayne & Harriet Studebaker

# 2021

[www.teammates.org](http://www.teammates.org)

**Thank you to United Way and Norfolk Public Schools  
for your continued support!!!**

## \$250-\$499 PLAYERS CLUB

Allied Tour & Travel  
Beckenhauer Construction  
Black Cow Fat Pig Pub & Steak  
Bradford Insurance Agency  
Jeff & Evonne Burkink  
Canham Maytag  
Cornhusker Auto  
Country Clippers Barber & Beauty Shop  
Daycos  
Dinkel Implement  
Larry & Sherry Dinkel  
Early Risers for Christ Prayer Group  
Edward Jones – Paula Pflueger

Faith Regional Health Services  
First National Bank of Omaha  
Foundation Wealth Advisors –  
Christian Ohl  
Jimmy John's Gourmet Sandwiches  
The Granary  
The Meadows  
Mid City Superstore  
Model Electric  
Norfolk Auto Center  
Norfolk Board of Realtors  
Norfolk Elks Lodge  
Norfolk Lions Club

Norfolk Specialties  
Norfolk Transmission & Exhaust Pros  
Eldon & Jane Peters  
Pettitt Plumbing, Heating & A/C  
Ponca Tribe of Nebraska  
Scranton Flooring & Supply  
Sehi & Associates  
State Farm Insurance – Steven Willey  
Warren Garage Door  
Western Roofing Company  
Wetzel & Truex Jewelers  
Winners' Circle

# Building, Grounds, and Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, August 31, 2023  
Call to Order at 4:00pm  
Central Office (North School)

**Committee Members Present:** Steve Callaghan (Chair), Ginger Fredericksen, and Tim Welch  
**Present:** Dr. Randall Gilson, Jeffrey Steinbeck, and Angie Conety

## 1. Old Business

### A. Concrete

Last month, a report was shared with the committee regarding concrete needs from around the district. Dr. Gilson began prioritizing and scheduling the repairs and replacements of the concrete. The following projects have been completed by J&R Concrete of Fremont:

- Arbor Park Elementary Front Entry
- South Early Childhood Center Entry & Sidewalks
- Otte Middle School – Some concrete concerns have been completed.
- Krantz Field – Blair Bear Backers Project

The following concrete projects are being scheduled and we are working to obtain bids:

- Central Office (North)
- Deerfield Elementary
- South Early Childhood Center – discussion on the basketball court and replacement or removal.
- Otte Middle School
- Blair High School

### B. Central Office Projects

The following projects have been started and/or is being completed at the Central Office (North):

- The Blair Board of Education Meeting Room. Painting, new carpet and removal of Asbestos have all taken place. New Tables, chairs, and two (2) large projector screens have been ordered.
- Large Meeting Room. Room 303 at Central Office was formerly a kindergarten classroom. The sink and cabinets that were located in the middle of the room have been removed and new carpet has been installed. This makes it a large meeting room for department meetings, trainings, and such. New tables, chairs and projector have been ordered.
- Medium Meeting Room. Room 101 at Central office was formerly Skills Academy. New carpet has been installed and new table and chairs will be ordered.
- Painting. Consideration of painting both meeting rooms is being considered.

### C. Playground Equipment Project Update

Dr. Gilson shared the new playground equipment, concrete, and rubber surfacing at South Early Childhood Center, Arbor Park Elementary, and Deerfield Elementary has been installed. Arbor Park will be ready for student use on Friday, September 1<sup>st</sup> and South will be ready for student use after Labor Day break. Deerfield is delayed due to webbing protection that was damaged during installation. A replacement has been ordered and the playground will be released for student usage as soon as the webbing is installed.

### D. Mr. Welch's District Wide Concerns

Board Member, Tim Welch, had visited each building and compiled a list of concerns that he shared at last month's BG&T meeting. Some of the concerns are as follows:

- Replacement of damaged concrete. Bids are being worked on for the completion of the concrete needs.

- Removal of plants, flowers, and weeds at Arbor Park Elementary. The flowers have been removed and they will be replacing the area with sod.
- Replacement of ceiling tiles district wide. The ceiling tiles have been replaced with what was in stock, more tiles have been ordered.
- Replacement of flooring.
- Replacement of electrical.
- And other concerns.

Dr. Gilson updated on the progress of the list. Some have been completed and others are being scheduled for completion.

## 2. New Business

### A. Director of Operations Monthly Report – August 2023

Mr. Steinbeck shared a Director of Operations report. The report is attached to the agenda for viewing.

### B. High School Track

There is a significant crack that has emerged on the high school track that covers (5) five lanes on the North endzone side. Lamp Rynearson, who were the engineers that designed the track, have been contacted. The track surface was installed in 2015 and may just need the surface repaired and then resurfaced and repainted. This would be our most cost-effective solution. If the crack is in the asphalt below the rubber mat, we may be looking at a more expensive fix. Mr. Steinbeck reached out to Fisher Tracks in Boone, IA and they should be onsite next week or the week after to assess the cost for repair. We will know more at the next meeting regarding a cost.

### C. Capital Projects and Forecast

A presentation on the district Capital Forecast was shared. The Capital Forecast was created in September 2019 to address two of the goals the School Board established for Dr. Gilson. 1. To provide a short/long term facility and grounds plan to support a quality and safe learning environment for staff and students. 2. To conduct a review and assessment of all programs, district operations, facilities, class sizes, staffing, etc. to ensure the district is utilizing all resources in the most effective and purposeful manner. The Capital Forecast list specified projects that have been completed and future projects that can be completed within the scope of the annual school budget.

### D. Central Office Gym (North)

Mr. Siecke received a quote for \$30,000 for turf to be installed in the Central Office Gym and presented it to the Blair Bear Backers for support. The Bear Backers would like to support the request and donate \$35,000 for an indoor practice area with turf. The turf would be removable in case the gym would be needed to be put back to a regular gym.

A motion may be brought at the September 11, 2023 Board of Education meeting **to approve the donation from the Blair Bear Backers in the amount of \$35,000 for the installation of turf in the Central Office Gym.**

### E. Next Scheduled BG&T Committee Meeting

Tuesday, September 26, 2023 at 4:00pm.

## 3. Adjournment

F. The meeting adjourned at 5:52pm.

## **Director of Operations Report**

### **August 31, 2023**

#### **Carpet**

- The asbestos abatement and carpet in the North board meeting room is complete. The carpet in room 303 meeting room has also been finished.
- We are planning on carpeting an officials room at the high school by the art room. This will be done by district employees with leftover carpet from the classrooms.

#### **HVAC**

- We made it through a very hot week in August that really stressed our systems. We only had one building issue and that was at Otte and will be discussed in the electrical section.
- Arbor has had some minor repairs to the chiller, but nothing major.
- Deerfield has experienced some control system issues with the AC. Their units are in closets by the classrooms. Something caused the control panels to need to be reset in many of the rooms. It may have been a power surge. Mechanical systems worked to keep the units running, but with the control panels not working well the rooms got pretty cold. Control systems got everything reset and running this week.
- Mechanical systems tech showed me that many of our units at Deerfield have not been cleaned and the coils are pretty dirty. I am working with them to get some of the units cleaned. We will start this soon based on the ones that need it the worst. See the picture below.



### Roof leaks

- We have had a few and they have all been addressed. Ceiling tiles have been replaced in the buildings.

- We did have some siding come loose on the roof of Arbor. McKinnis came out and fixed it. See picture below.



### Sprinkler system

- Deerfield sprinkler line was cut when the new playground equipment was installed. We had to turn off the water since the line cut was a main sprinkler feed. The yard is really starting to get stressed without sprinklers and very little moisture. I have met with Doug Wilcox who installed the system and he is going to fix the broken line and get the sprinklers adjusted for the new playground equipment.
- Arbor Park had a valve get stuck on so one set of sprinklers won't shut off. Arbor is currently shut off until the control box can be located and dug out to get repairs. Doug Wilcox will take care of this also. Arbor will also have sod installed by the entrance. There are sprinklers in the area where the flowers were removed.



## Tree Service

- Most of the major tree work in the district is complete. CJ's tree service removed two trees and stumps at Arbor before school started. They also ground a stump in the front yard of North and have removed three ash trees at the high school. They also removed stumps from the trees that were removed at the high school. The two ash trees removed on the south side of the school will be replanted with Autumn Ash trees this fall. The dead evergreen trees at Krantz are currently being removed.

## Phone system

- Phones are still at work in progress. We are getting to building needs, but the process has been slow. This has been the most difficult part of the start of school so far.

## Concrete

- We have completed concrete work at the entrances of Arbor Park and South elementary.



South broken cement below



South repair below



South broken cement below



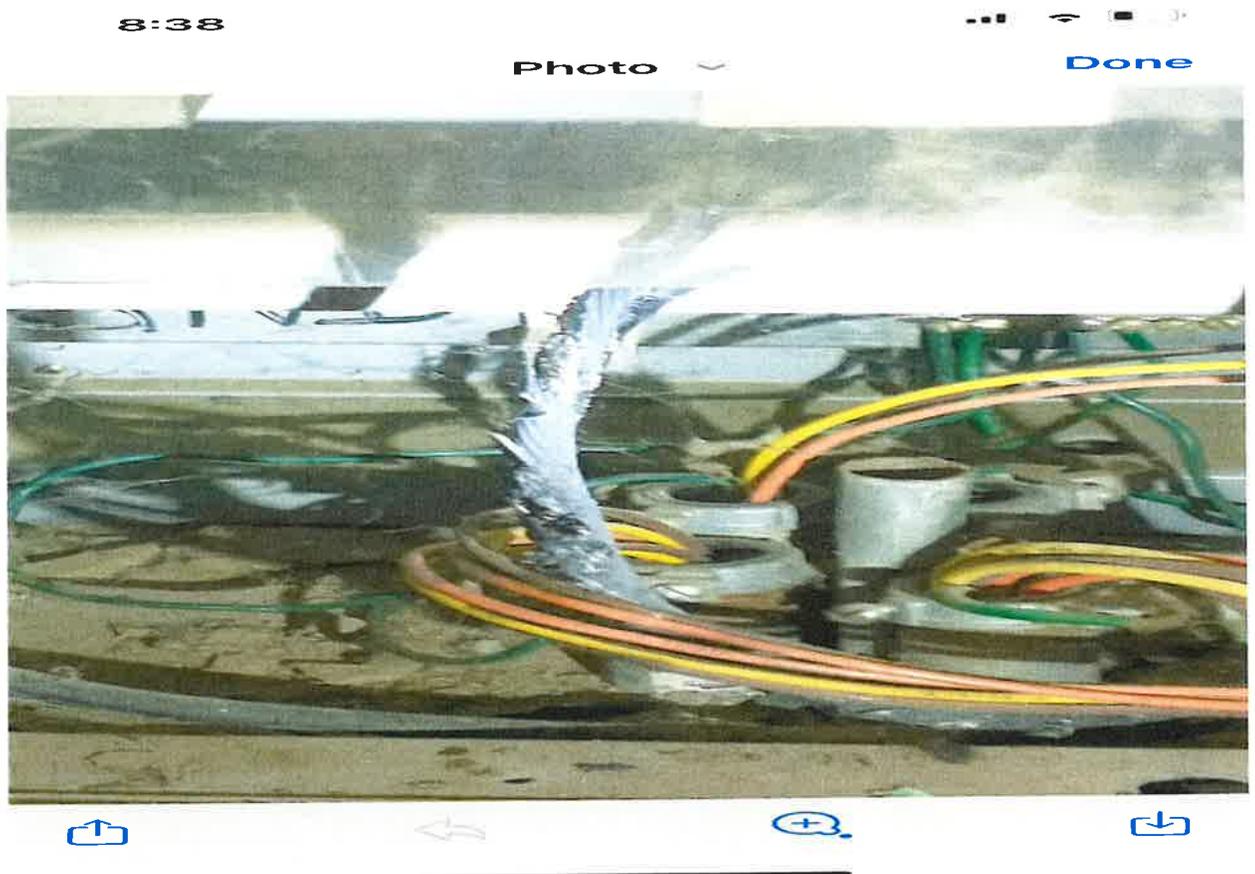
South repair below



- More work will be done at Otte and Deerfield in the future. Their entrances are needing some work also.

## Electrical

- We had a major electrical meltdown at Otte middle school on August 23rd. I was notified of the air conditioning going down at about 3pm that day. Rick Brant and I stopped over there to see what was happening. We also had a tech from Mechanical Services in the area and he came over and helped us. We were able to determine that the air conditioning was not running due to an electrical service problem. We then called Dick's Electric and they came to Otte to look at the problem. They found a major wire feeding the system had melted. Looking into it further they found a loose lug that secures the wire. With the connection being loose it created heat on the wire. The wire eventually melted and tripped a breaker. Dick's was able to repair the melted wire temporarily and will need to come in and do a full repair at a later date. I have that scheduled with Dick's for September 29th when we are out of school and they can shut power off to do the repair. I have attached some pictures below to show the damage from the meltdown.





### Mower needs

- I am going to get some bids on a new John Deere mower. Our two newest mowers were purchased in 2010 and 2011. They have about 4200 hours on them. I will get bids and work with Tom Shearer on this.

### Plumbing

- We had an ice machine and sinks installed at the concession stand. They are working well and were operational for the first football game. There has also been some minor work done through the buildings, but nothing major.



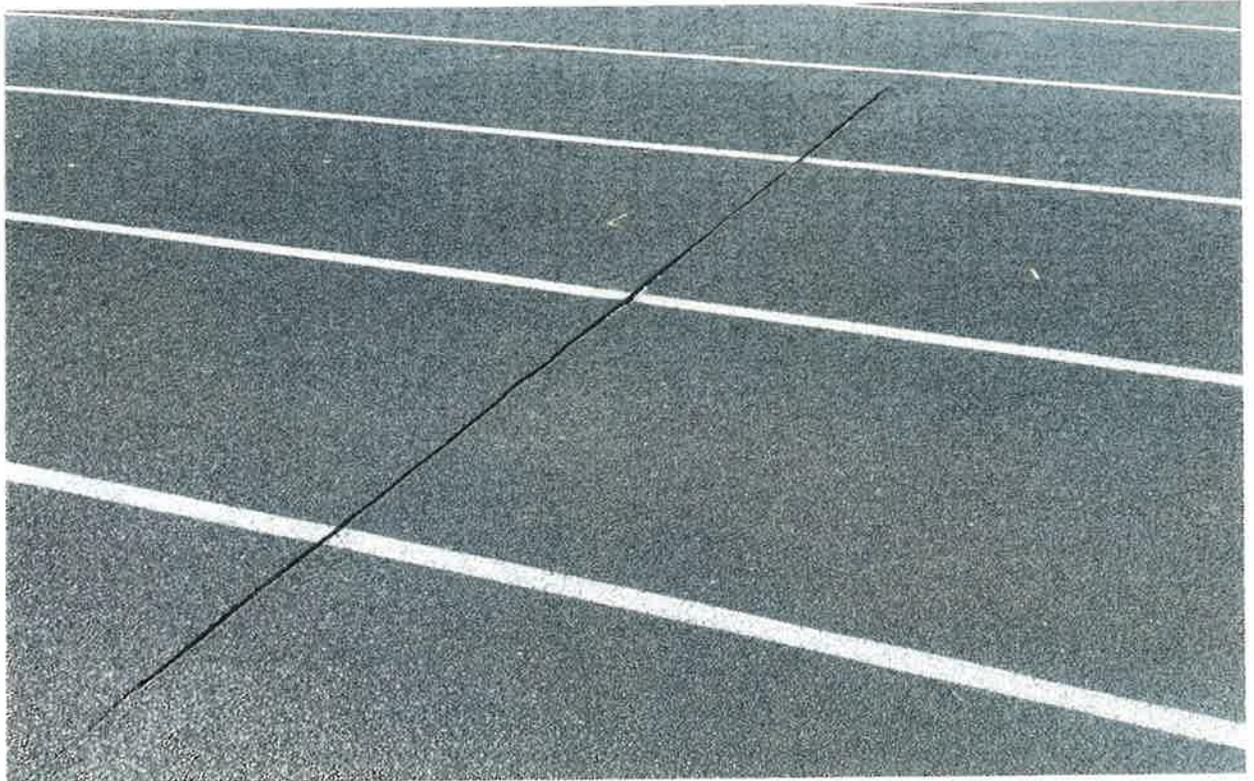
### Extermination

- Pest Solutions from Omaha has been hired to do our pest control in all of our district buildings. They have already been out and started their service. We also have had a pretty significant wasp problem at Deerfield and from what I have been told it has been going on for years. I hired Pest Solutions to come out and look at what is letting the wasps in to the cafeteria and the library at Deerfield. On the North side there are two area of roofing that are metal and there are openings on the flashing that covers the metal that wasps are entering. Pest Solutions found two large nests the size of a brick and they used a powder to kill the wasps and removed the nest. I will have the holes filled this fall when the temperatures are cooler and we can work up there. This will be done by our district employees.

### Track Repair

- We have a crack in the track surface that covers about 5 lanes on the North endzone side. I have reached out to Fisher track to look at the crack and see what we need to do before winter.

- The track surface was installed in 2015 and may just need the surface repaired and then resurfaced and repainted in the near future. This is our most cost effective solution.
- If the crack is in the asphalt below the rubber mat we may need a more expensive fix.
- The picture below is of the crack that needs fixed.



### Camera System

- I'm working with Sei on getting bids on some camera system needs. We have a bid for cameras in the high school cafeteria and one camera on the HS stadium press box. I would like them to add a camera on the concession stand and possibly one inside the concession stand. I will get that bid to this committee as soon as Sei gets it updated.
- I will also be looking at adding a doorbell to the North admin building door on the West side. With the parking there, many people without keys have been coming to that door.

### South Elementary fence needs

- The fence on the north side of the playground at South elementary is in pretty bad shape. I would like to look at having it fenced to match the rest of the playground at South.
- Today I noticed a broken post and fence on the ground. Kelvin was able to use T-posts to temporarily repair the fence. Pictures are below.





South Storage Shed

- South needs storage for pre-school playground equipment. I have ordered an 8X12 shed to be delivered and installed for \$3200. I worked with Megan Harding and Steve Ray on this and will get it installed in about a week. Here is a picture below:



### Surplus Auction

- Next week I will start moving surplus out of the North gym and we will begin to organize it for an auction. I am hoping to have the auction going by the end of September.

## Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September 7, 2023

Call to Order at 12:00pm

Central Office (North School)

**Committee Members Present:** Brandi Petersen (Chair), and Kari Loseke

**Also Present:** Dr. Randall Gilson, Tom Shearer, Andy Forney

### 1. Old Business

#### A. Athletic Aide Position

Mr. Tyler Siecke, Activities Director, had previously submitted a proposal to add an Athletic Aide position. This would be for additional activity event supervision for lower-level events. Mr. Siecke estimated the total would be \$5,950 for the remainder of the 2023-24 school year. The committee agreed to the proposal to pay these staffed positions the \$35 extracurricular pay rate already in the negotiated agreement.

#### B. 2023-24 Budget

The 2023-24 budget notices for a Public Hearings were published in the Washington County Enterprise, Tuesday, September 5, 2023. The Public Hearings are both scheduled for September 11, 2023 at 7:00pm, just ahead of the Regular Board meeting. Mr. Shearer inquired what information, if any, will the committee want available to present if necessary for the public hearing.

Mr. Shearer covered the remaining budget timeline, including the possibility of a Special Board Meeting on Monday, September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023 to approve the budget and tax resolution should the board decide not to do so at the September 11, 2023 Regular Board meeting.

#### C. Capital Forecast

Dr. Gilson discussed a list of potential capital needs including concrete work throughout the district including South's outdoor basketball/tennis court, office relocation at Arbor Park, possible expansion at Deerfield, gym floorings, boilers and Krantz Track resurfacing.

### 2. New Business

#### A. Possible Bond Refinance

Mr. Andy Forney, D.A. Davidson, was present to share a bond refinance strategy they have been using to save school districts money. Mr. Cody Wickham, D.A. Davidson, had shared this opportunity with Dr. Gilson and Mr. Shearer earlier in the previous week. The Blair School District is eligible for this strategy since it issued taxable bonds with low interest yields. The strategy is to reissue bonds at the higher current market interest rates, but reduce the amount of principal owed. Mr. Forney shared that there might be some investor banks who may have a desire to remove our low yielding bonds from their portfolio and increase their cash liquidity would consider the buy back while giving the district a premium for bonds (as example, investors willing to receive \$0.75 on the \$1.00). Mr. Forney provided the committee an example of district savings, should the district receive 100% participation from current bond holders. The district would not likely to receive 100%, but thought there could be enough savings to explore this strategy. This strategy if successful could open up additional savings opportunities down the road with future bond refinances since the district would end up with higher interest rates in the event interest rates come down again.

The committee was intrigued at the proposal, but was not ready to take action at this time. More discussion to come.

**B. Monthly Financials – August 2023**

Mr. Shearer provided a financial recap of the monthly financials.

**C. Construction Class Tools Proposal**

Mr. Edward Mills, High School CTE Department Teacher, and Ms. Tammy Holcomb, High School Principal, shared a quote from DeWalt for \$18,213.87 for tools needed for the construction class. Mr. Mills had shared that district would pay the full amount and then Future Builders of America will reimburse \$10,000 that they allotted for tools at this time. The committee decided the proposal needs to wait until it fully understands the full financial commitment that Future Builders of America is willing to agree to.

**D. The District’s Meraki Switch**

Mrs. Wanda Dolphin, District IT Coordinator, informed Dr. Gilson and Mr. Shearer that the district’s Meraki Switch 5-year renewal is due. The Meraki Switches are the core components to our network and gives us access to the internet, phones, etc. We have a total of 38 physical devices and Meraki is the vendor who Mrs. Dolphin contacts for support. All wall jacks, wireless access points, and printers are connected to a switch. From there, these switches connect out to American Broadband. Mrs. Dolphin has received a quote from Cambium Data-Meraki 5-year for \$71,212.42 and is working on obtaining another quote. The original was part of a District Technology upgrade paid out of the last 2019 Bond proceeds.

A motion may be brought at the September 11, 2023 Board of Education meeting to **approve** a quote from Cambium Data for a 5-year Meraki hardware switch license renewal in the amount of \$71,212.42 to be paid from the Savings Depreciation Fund.

**E. Labor Negotiations for 2024-25 & 2025-26 Contract Years**

Mr. Shearer informed the district is in its final year of the current Negotiated Agreement. The negotiation process should begin prior to October 31, 2023. Mr. Shearer shared that a Labor Relations conference is going to be held at Embassy Suites in Lincoln on October 4-5, 2023. Board members interested in attending should notify Ms. Angie Conety.

**F. 2022-23 Audit**

Mr. Shearer informed the district’s auditors, Dana F. Cole & Company, LLP, have scheduled their fieldwork/audit for Wednesday, October 11<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

**G. Next Scheduled Finance Committee Meeting**

Thursday, September 28, 2023 at 12pm.

**3. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:52pm.

August-23

**Blair Community Schools Budget Comparison Receipts**

Description	Code	2022-2023				2021-2022			
		Mon Rec	YTD Rec	Budget	%	Mon Rec	YTD Rec	Budget	%
<b>Local Receipts</b>									
Local Property Taxes	11100	\$1,075,171	\$18,422,010	\$17,470,198	105.4%	\$1,037,496	\$18,069,373	\$17,213,691	105.0%
Property Tax Interest & Penalties	11140	\$878	\$39,434	\$37,000	106.6%	\$1,176	\$34,376	\$40,000	85.9%
Carline Tax	11115	\$0	\$1,153	\$8,500	13.6%	\$0	\$8,374	\$9,000	93.0%
OPPD In Lieu	11120	\$516	\$245,406	\$220,000	111.5%	\$516	\$224,859	\$220,000	102.2%
Motor Vehicle Tax	11125	\$152,922	\$1,771,948	\$1,700,000	104.2%	\$145,111	\$1,735,818	\$1,735,000	100.0%
Tuition ESU#3 (PT Contract)	11315	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
Tuition Other Districts (SPED)	11323	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
Tuition for Summer School	11312	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
Tuition for Preschool	11370	\$0	\$50,953	\$40,000	127.4%	\$100	\$52,260	\$20,000	261.3%
Transportation School Districts	11423	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$250	\$250	100.0%
Transportation Private Sources	11440	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
Interest	11510	\$81	\$41,544	\$14,000	296.7%	\$314	\$13,142	\$20,000	65.7%
Local License Fee	11911	\$0	\$6,340	\$7,000	90.6%	\$0	\$6,545	\$7,000	93.5%
Police Court Fines	11921	\$0	\$968	\$600	161.3%	\$0	\$325	\$1,000	32.5%
Community Service Fees	11800	\$0	\$0	\$1,800	0.0%	\$3,886	\$3,886	\$1,800	215.9%
Rentals - Facilities and Equip	11910	\$1,800	\$8,740	\$4,000	218.5%	\$0	\$10,738	\$4,000	268.5%
Contributions/Donations	11920	\$887	\$7,599	\$4,000	190.0%	\$200	\$3,652	\$5,000	73.0%
Grant - Corporate/Private Interest	11925	\$0	\$17,164	\$0	100.0%	\$37,700	\$107,279	\$0	100.0%
Misc Revenue-Local Government	11960	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
Other Local Receipts	11990	\$0	\$385	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$140	\$0	100.0%
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$1,232,255</b>	<b>\$20,613,645</b>	<b>\$19,507,098</b>	<b>105.7%</b>	<b>\$1,226,500</b>	<b>\$20,271,017</b>	<b>\$19,276,741</b>	<b>105.2%</b>
<b>Intermediate Source</b>									
County Fines & Licenses	12110	\$0	\$114,150	\$107,000	106.7%	\$0	\$107,026	\$110,000	97.3%
ESU #3 Receipts	12210	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$114,150</b>	<b>\$107,000</b>	<b>106.7%</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$107,026</b>	<b>\$110,000</b>	<b>97.3%</b>
<b>State Source</b>									
State Aid	13110	\$0	\$438,874	\$438,874	100.0%	\$0	\$456,255	\$456,255	100.0%
Special Education	13120	\$0	\$1,268,820	\$1,310,000	96.9%	\$0	\$1,213,297	\$1,310,000	92.6%
SPED Sch Age Transportation	13125	\$0	\$100,850	\$120,000	84.0%	\$0	\$120,885	\$140,000	86.3%
Homestead Exemption	13130	\$75,958	\$469,808	\$425,000	110.5%	\$71,833	\$439,536	\$417,000	105.4%
Payments for Hi Ability	13535	\$0	\$10,436	\$9,740	107.1%	\$0	\$9,740	\$9,470	102.9%
Flex Funding: Before Age 5	13165	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
Flex Funding: School Age	13166	\$0	\$0	\$8,000	0.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
Pro-Rate Motor Vehicles	13180	\$11,406	\$50,424	\$41,000	123.0%	\$11,022	\$44,029	\$39,000	112.9%
State Apportionment	13400	\$0	\$429,646	\$310,000	138.6%	\$0	\$306,193	\$335,000	91.4%
Property Tax Credit	13131	\$0	\$1,154,526	\$1,000,000	115.5%	\$0	\$1,049,888	\$924,000	113.6%
Personal Property Tax Credit	13132	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$23,000	0.0%

August-23

**Blair Community Schools Budget Comparison Receipts**

Description	Code	2022-2023				2021-2022			
		Mon Rec	YTD Rec	Budget	%	Mon Rec	YTD Rec	Budget	%
Education Innovation Grant	13575	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
Teacher Training Grants	13551	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
State Field Trip Grant (NAC)	13590	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
NDEQ Transportation Grant	13500	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
Early Childhood Grant	13540	\$0	\$63,927	\$63,560	100.6%	\$0	\$81,471	\$81,838	99.6%
SixPence Early Childhood Grant	13541	\$0	\$65,977	\$105,558	62.5%	\$27,002	\$41,852	\$0	100.0%
NDEQ Transportation Grant	13599	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
Other	13990	\$0	\$780	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$1,050	\$0	100.0%
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$87,364</b>	<b>\$4,054,067</b>	<b>\$3,831,732</b>	<b>105.8%</b>	<b>\$109,857</b>	<b>\$3,764,196</b>	<b>\$3,735,563</b>	<b>100.8%</b>
<b>Federal Sources</b>									
IDEA Part B, Peak Grant	14418	\$900	\$2,551	\$0	100.0%	\$1,380	\$1,380	\$0	100.0%
Title I Current	14505	\$170,696	\$188,396	\$193,496	97.4%	\$0	\$167,137	\$171,254	97.6%
Title I - Accountability	14506	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
Title II Part A	14509	\$0	\$49,709	\$49,826	99.8%	\$0	\$50,415	\$45,021	112.0%
Title IV	14969	\$12,169	\$12,169	\$12,169	100.0%	\$0	\$10,682	\$11,098	96.3%
IDEA PART B (611) ARP	14421	\$0	\$12,535	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$76,052	\$0	100.0%
IDEA PRESCHOOL (619) ARP	14422	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$7,059	\$0	100.0%
IDEA BASE AGE 0-3/3-5	14512	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
IDEA 619 Ages 3-4	14516	\$0	\$0	\$12,290	0.0%	\$0	\$11,954	\$11,775	101.5%
IDEA Part B (611) Base Allocation	14518	\$0	\$64,737	\$450,230	14.4%	\$0	\$504,490	\$426,982	118.2%
IDEA Part B Proportionate Share	14521	\$0	\$0	\$4,530	0.0%	\$0	\$5,602	\$0	100.0%
MIPS	14708	\$0	\$59,550	\$30,000	198.5%	\$0	\$33,360	\$26,500	125.9%
MEDICAID ADMIN	14709	\$0	\$21,170	\$26,000	81.4%	\$0	\$22,555	\$29,000	77.8%
Forest Reserve: De Soto	14707	\$0	\$14,812	\$13,500	109.7%	\$0	\$13,237	\$13,500	98.1%
Perkins Grant	14525	\$0	\$0	\$20,216	0.0%	\$19,630	\$19,630	\$19,630	100.0%
Title III NCLB-LEP	14527	\$0	\$456	\$3,108	14.7%	\$0	\$0	\$1,818	0.0%
Head Start	14309	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$5,233	\$34,068	15.4%
Disaster Aid (FEMA-Covid19)	14995	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$19,840	\$0	100.0%
ESSER Grant (Covid19)	14996	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
ESSER II Grant (Covid19)	14997	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$150,809	\$150,809	100.0%
ESSER III Grant (Covid19)	14998	\$0	\$156,298	\$551,685	28.3%	\$0	\$0	\$1,219,616	0.0%
Other Fed Categorical	14530	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$183,765</b>	<b>\$582,383</b>	<b>\$1,367,050</b>	<b>42.6%</b>	<b>\$21,010</b>	<b>\$1,099,436</b>	<b>\$2,161,071</b>	<b>50.9%</b>
<b>Non Revenue Receipts</b>									
Insurance Adjustment	15301	\$0	\$13,408	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$5,757	\$0	100.0%
Transfer of Funds In	15200	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
Refunds from Prior Years Expense	11980	\$10,699	\$25,561	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$3,612	\$0	100.0%
Other Non-Revenue Rec	15690	\$0	\$1,482	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$5,550	\$6,502	85.4%

August-23

**Blair Community Schools Budget Comparison Receipts**

Description	Code	2022-2023				2021-2022			
		Mon Rec	YTD Rec	Budget	%	Mon Rec	YTD Rec	Budget	%
<b>Total</b>		\$10,699	\$40,451	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$14,920	\$6,502	229.5%
<b>Non Program Receipts</b>									
Sale of Property	15300	\$0	\$23,666	\$0	100.0%	\$321	\$371	\$0	100.0%
<b>Total</b>		\$0	\$23,666	\$0	100.0%	\$321	\$371	\$0	100.0%
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>		<b>\$1,514,084</b>	<b>\$25,428,363</b>	<b>\$24,812,880</b>	<b>102.5%</b>	<b>\$1,357,688</b>	<b>\$25,256,966</b>	<b>\$25,289,877</b>	<b>99.9%</b>

Period: 12  
 Month: AUGUST  
 Year: 2022-2023

Receipts to be Collected	\$24,812,880	\$25,289,877
Local Property Taxes-State Budge 11101	\$1,567,515	\$118,990
Cash Balance Estimated on Budget	\$5,226,297	\$5,538,544
County Treasurer Balance Estimated on Budget	\$5,997,351	\$6,093,496
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<u><u>\$37,604,043</u></u>	<u><u>\$37,040,907</u></u>

**Blair Community Schools Budget Comparison Expenditures**

		2022-2023				2021-2022			
Program Name	Month Exp	YTD Exp	Budget	%	Month Exp	YTD Exp	Budget	%	
201100	Regular Instruction	\$1,377,655	\$12,446,969	\$12,521,159	99.4%	\$1,275,456	\$11,808,542	\$12,041,717	98.1%
201125	Regular Instruction - FLEX	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$24,470	0.0%
201150	Instruction - Limited English Programs	\$5,133	\$104,538	\$109,213	95.7%	\$8,786	\$105,376	\$108,383	97.2%
201160	Instruction - Poverty Programs	\$54,318	\$575,781	\$530,225	108.6%	\$56,050	\$473,878	\$481,039	98.5%
	Subtotal REGULAR INSTRUCTION	\$1,437,106	\$13,127,288	\$13,160,597	99.7%	\$1,340,291	\$12,387,796	\$12,655,610	97.9%
201200	Special Education	\$174,836	\$2,698,626	\$2,875,420	93.9%	\$150,770	\$2,687,796	\$2,740,236	98.1%
202141	Special Education (Psychology)	\$35,387	\$386,234	\$418,318	92.3%	\$25,958	\$260,188	\$291,953	89.1%
202151	Special Education (Speech Path)	\$19,039	\$239,469	\$195,922	122.2%	\$22,065	\$246,691	\$254,172	97.1%
202161	Special Education (Occup Therapy)	\$14,229	\$122,690	\$128,082	95.8%	\$8,397	\$75,767	\$97,766	77.5%
202171	Special Education (Physical Therapy)	\$5,208	\$5,373	\$569	944.4%	\$0	\$1,022	\$1,121	91.2%
202181	Special Education (Vision Services)	\$0	\$77,224	\$85,000	90.9%	\$0	\$63,603	\$81,600	77.9%
	Subtotal SPED - SCHOOL AGE	\$248,699	\$3,529,616	\$3,703,311	95.3%	\$207,190	\$3,335,068	\$3,466,848	96.2%
201190	Early Childhood Education	\$430	\$32,266	\$1,200	2688.8%	\$0	\$135	\$7,200	1.9%
201291	Preschool - SPED - Ages 3-5	\$4,542	\$171,133	\$344,508	49.7%	\$32,429	\$271,011	\$259,903	104.3%
201292	Preschool - SPED - Ages 0-2	\$0	\$0	\$200	0.0%	\$0	\$100	\$200	50.1%
202142	Preschool - Psych - Ages 3-5	-\$60	\$263	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
202152	Preschool - Speech Path - Ages 3-5	-\$105	\$8,097	\$2,242	361.2%	\$201	\$2,332	\$1,111	209.9%
202153	Preschool - Speech Path - Ages 0-2	-\$60	\$32,671	\$40,420	80.8%	\$642	\$41,565	\$44,040	94.4%
202162	Preschool - Occup Therapy - Ages 3-5	\$4,618	\$25,980	\$24,200	107.4%	\$1,762	\$14,456	\$20	72278.5%
202163	Preschool - Occup Therapy - Ages 0-2	\$5,244	\$27,369	\$24,380	112.3%	\$3,383	\$16,007	\$200	8003.7%
202172	Preschool - Physical Therapy - Ages 3-5	\$5,979	\$36,571	\$40,576	90.1%	\$3,244	\$12,700	\$39,866	31.9%
202173	Preschool - Physical Therapy - Ages 0-2	\$7,395	\$38,242	\$40,701	94.0%	\$4,212	\$13,924	\$40,291	34.6%
202182	Preschool - Vision Services - Ages 3-5	\$0	\$16,579	\$20,000	82.9%	\$0	\$13,536	\$15,300	88.5%
202183	Preschool - Vision Services - Ages 0-2	\$0	\$8,290	\$14,000	59.2%	\$0	\$6,048	\$15,300	39.5%
	Subtotal PRESCHOOL (non-reimbursed)	\$27,984	\$397,461	\$552,426	71.9%	\$45,872	\$391,813	\$423,431	92.5%
202610	Operation of Plant	\$120,497	\$1,491,625	\$1,392,281	107.1%	\$109,907	\$1,348,586	\$1,162,869	116.0%
202620	Maintenance of Plant	\$50,879	\$391,860	\$280,425	139.7%	\$47,389	\$312,953	\$270,451	115.7%
202630	Grounds Maintenance	\$20,881	\$166,482	\$142,931	116.5%	\$27,590	\$155,641	\$138,407	112.5%
202640	Equipment Maintenance	\$8,583	\$29,452	\$11,200	263.0%	\$16,821	\$41,598	\$13,200	315.1%
202650	Non-Student Vehicle Maint & Purch	\$50,097	\$65,334	\$68,869	94.9%	\$30,681	\$42,033	\$63,036	66.7%
202660	Security	\$140	\$90,293	\$84,200	107.2%	\$6,869	\$81,003	\$76,200	106.3%
202670	Safety	\$12,807	\$66,378	\$52,484	126.5%	\$13,293	\$55,730	\$54,334	102.6%
202680	Operation/Maintenance of Plant-Other	\$0	\$3,900	\$3,000	130.0%	\$0	\$3,575	\$3,000	119.2%
	Subtotal MAINTENANCE COSTS	\$263,885	\$2,305,324	\$2,035,389	113.3%	\$252,551	\$2,041,119	\$1,781,497	114.6%
202710	Reg Pupil Transportation-Operating	\$303,287	\$629,929	\$342,126	184.1%	\$4,980	\$327,992	\$301,413	108.8%
202712	SPED Transportation-Operating	\$80	\$55,925	\$151,221	37.0%	\$181	\$105,019	\$140,893	74.5%
202713	SPED Transport-Preschool-Operating	\$0	\$472	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
202720	Reg Pupil Transportation-Monitoring	\$5,202	\$110,810	\$2,095	5289.3%	\$0	\$1,125	\$0	100.0%
202722	SPED Transportation-Monitoring	\$1,867	\$78,231	\$47,227	165.6%	\$19	\$38,890	\$60,068	64.7%
202730	Reg Pupil Transportation-Maintenance	\$4,911	\$92,564	\$379,914	24.4%	\$140,676	\$199,426	\$368,654	54.1%
202732	SPED Transportation-Maintenance	\$1,200	\$16,143	\$30,893	52.3%	\$99,985	\$124,786	\$26,028	479.4%
202790	Reg Pupil Transportation-Other	\$33	\$754	\$120,159	0.6%	\$9,930	\$119,747	\$114,931	104.2%
202792	SPED Transportation-Other	\$0	\$4,872	\$47,290	10.3%	\$3,375	\$53,818	\$55,093	97.7%
202793	SPED Transportation-Other Preschool	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%

**Blair Community Schools Budget Comparison Expenditures**

		2022-2023				2021-2022			
Program Name	Month Exp	YTD Exp	Budget	%	Month Exp	YTD Exp	Budget	%	
<b>Subtotal STUDENT TRANSPORTATION</b>	<b>\$316,580</b>	<b>\$989,699</b>	<b>\$1,120,925</b>	<b>88.3%</b>	<b>\$259,146</b>	<b>\$970,803</b>	<b>\$1,067,081</b>	<b>91.0%</b>	
202110 Attendance & Social Work Services	\$3,676	\$33,447	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	
202120 Guidance Services	\$37,609	\$467,663	\$489,740	95.5%	\$40,003	\$483,117	\$494,451	97.7%	
202130 Health Services	\$14,561	\$235,599	\$241,264	97.7%	\$10,938	\$230,483	\$213,327	108.0%	
202140 Psych Services	\$0	\$4,736	\$25,000	18.9%	\$0	\$2,224	\$21,500	10.3%	
202190 Other Pupil Supp Services	\$15,234	\$130,647	\$133,080	98.2%	\$66,595	\$159,603	\$116,201	137.4%	
202210 Improvement of Instruction	\$9,556	\$72,098	\$132,911	54.2%	\$9,105	\$133,194	\$132,244	100.7%	
202212 Curriculum & Assessment	\$9,354	\$13,489	\$46,838	28.8%	\$7,834	\$33,616	\$9,846	341.4%	
202213 Instructional Staff Training/Development	\$1,955	\$41,687	\$64,901	64.2%	\$4,970	\$31,476	\$29,766	105.7%	
202211 School Improvement	\$0	\$0	\$1,410	0.0%	-\$56	\$2,175	\$0	100.0%	
202214 Implementation of Standards	\$0	\$2,781	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	
202220 Library Services	\$42,036	\$555,389	\$597,778	92.9%	\$59,105	\$567,943	\$580,895	97.8%	
202230 Instruction-Related Technology	\$38,164	\$236,933	\$325,131	72.9%	\$55,580	\$262,082	\$319,687	82.0%	
202223 Audio-Visual Services	\$2,859	\$10,750	\$7,300	147.3%	\$448	\$7,706	\$7,300	105.6%	
202240 Academic Student Assessment	\$0	\$32,653	\$45,121	72.4%	\$7,363	\$42,527	\$31,018	137.1%	
202310 Board of Education	\$3,718	\$36,532	\$40,799	89.5%	\$1,027	\$38,960	\$41,198	94.6%	
202320 Executive Admin Services	\$56,975	\$376,127	\$365,379	102.9%	\$24,230	\$298,737	\$296,121	100.9%	
202330 Legal Services	\$490	\$12,591	\$17,500	71.9%	\$225	\$18,675	\$14,000	133.4%	
202410 Office of Principal	\$97,780	\$1,339,315	\$1,355,457	98.8%	\$99,194	\$1,353,022	\$1,330,479	101.7%	
202490 School Administration - Other	\$0	\$10,001	\$10,700	93.5%	\$0	\$7,620	\$10,100	75.4%	
202510 Gen Business Support	\$29,695	\$393,534	\$384,872	102.3%	\$25,862	\$351,923	\$456,845	77.0%	
202520 Warehousing & Distribution	\$0	\$554	\$1	55418.0%	\$0	\$2,631	\$1	263138.0%	
202530 Printing, Publishing, Duplicating Services	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	
202540 Planning, R&D, & Evaluation Services	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	
202560 Public Information Services	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$399	\$0	100.0%	
202570 Personnel Services	\$0	\$2,478	\$3,000	82.6%	\$0	\$8,929	\$2,000	446.4%	
202580 Technology-Administration Services	\$0	\$9,635	\$3,750	256.9%	\$2,202	\$6,331	\$4,550	139.1%	
202900 Other Support Services	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	
203300 Community Services	\$496	\$946	\$2,015	47.0%	\$1,655	\$2,756	\$0	100.0%	
203400 Corporate/Private Interest Grants	\$0	\$7,742	\$0	100.0%	\$37,700	\$91,667	\$0	100.0%	
203535 High Ability Learners Grant	\$0	\$10,436	\$10,130	103.0%	\$0	\$9,740	\$9,470	102.9%	
203540 State Early Childhood Grant	\$7,889	\$64,012	\$63,560	100.7%	\$7,643	\$84,437	\$81,838	103.2%	
203541 Sixpence Early Childhood Grant	\$5,400	\$68,256	\$105,558	64.7%	\$13,105	\$59,891	\$0	100.0%	
203599 State Categorical Grants-NDEQ Grant	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	
201300 Summer School	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	
206019 COVID19 RELATED EXPENSES	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	
208000 Activity Fund Transfers	\$25,000	\$55,000	\$30,000	183.3%	\$73,000	\$73,000	\$30,000	243.3%	
209000 NON-PROGRAM EXPEND	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	
<b>FEDERAL PROGRAMS</b>									
206200 Title I	\$8,406	\$208,246	\$255,491	81.5%	\$1,650	\$229,211	\$227,373	100.8%	
206210 Title I Accountability	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	
206310 Title IIA	\$0	\$49,709	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	
206404 IDEA 611 BIRTH TO	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	
206406 IDEA 619 AGES 3-4	\$0	\$12,290	\$12,290	100.0%	\$0	\$11,954	\$11,775	101.5%	
206408 IDEA - SPED BASE-EP	\$36,565	\$453,299	\$450,230	100.7%	\$20,664	\$433,220	\$426,982	101.5%	
206412 IDEA - Part B Proportionalte Share	\$0	\$4,350	\$4,350	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	

August-23

**Blair Community Schools Budget Comparison Expenditures**

		2022-2023				2021-2022			
Program Name	Month Exp	YTD Exp	Budget	%	Month Exp	YTD Exp	Budget	%	
206415	IDEA SPECIAL PROJECTS	\$0	\$320	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
206418	IDEA PART B PEAK PROJECTS	\$900	\$4,309	\$0	100.0%	\$1,380	\$1,380	\$0	100.0%
206421	IDEA PART-B (611) ARP BASE & ENROLL	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$4,062	\$88,587	\$0	100.0%
206422	IDEA PRESCHOOL (619) ARP	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$7,059	\$0	100.0%
206700	PERKINS GRANT	\$510	\$20,726	\$20,216	102.5%	\$0	\$1,360	\$19,630	6.9%
206925	Title III	\$0	\$2,590	\$3,108	83.3%	\$0	\$456	\$1,818	25.1%
206940	HEAD START	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$5,233	\$34,068	15.4%
206990	FEDERAL CATEGORICAL GRANTS	\$0	\$77,900	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$4,689	\$0	100.0%
206998	ARP - ESSER III GRANT	\$16,346	\$369,757	\$551,685	67.0%	\$26,714	\$379,822	\$1,219,616	31.1%
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$2,759,426</b>	<b>\$25,777,915</b>	<b>\$26,373,212</b>	<b>97.7%</b>	<b>\$2,707,248</b>	<b>\$24,654,434</b>	<b>\$25,568,566</b>	<b>96.4%</b>

Period: 12 (AUGUST)

Year: 2022-2023

Total Budget of Disbursements	\$26,373,212	\$25,568,566
Debt Service (Spending Authority Adjustment)	\$9,709,723	\$9,362,547
Necessary Cash Reserve	\$1,521,108	\$2,109,794
<b>Total Requirements</b>	<b>\$37,604,043</b>	<b>\$37,040,907</b>



August 25, 2023

Dear Nebraska School Superintendent:

In the past few days, I have heard a few comments as to advice the Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) is providing to school districts. This message is being sent to all Nebraska public school superintendents to clarify guidance provided by the NDE regarding local taxing authority as it relates to the preparation of your local school district budgets. I want to ensure that there is no question as to the guidance my office is providing to you, your staff, and local school board members.

I understand that determining your district property tax requirement is a complex process. The process should balance the needs of the school district while considering the desire for property tax relief as expressed through the passage of the School District Property Tax Limitation Act in LB 243.

Districts are not required to tax to protect their property tax authority for future years, as unused authority is also added to the base for the district when calculating future years authority. That is the extent of the technical advice in this letter.

In short, the NDE does not want you to tax for more money than you need to operate your school district in a high-quality manner. The NDE does want you to work locally to determine what the appropriate amount should be.

It continues to be the NDE's position that districts should be fiscally responsible while meeting the needs of the district within the limits allowed by state statute. The NDE is committed to providing guidance and helping districts to understand the new requirements and how they apply to each district's specific situation.

If you have questions, please reach out to our school finance team at 402-471-4320 or 402-450-1418.

Sincerely,

Brian L. Maher, Ed.D.  
Commissioner of Education



# Customer Quotation

**To:**

BLAIR PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
 800 IOWA ST  
 BLAIR NE 68008-1753

**Information**

Date 08/21/2023  
 Customer Account Number 840061535  
 Grainger Quote Number 48419928  
 Customer Job Number  
 Contract Number  
 Grainger Representative Unassigned  
 Phone Number  
 Fax Number  
 Email  
 Grainger Tax ID 36-1150280

Item	Description Manufacturer Name & Model	Cat. Pg. #	Qty	\$ Quote	Ext. Price	Start Date	Exp. Date
165GC3	Cordless Circ Saw Kit,7-1/4 in Blade Dia DEWALT DCS570P1/DCB205 Country of Origin: Multiple		6	544.29	3,265.74	08/21/2023	12/31/2023
19T226	Folding Utility Knife,6 In DEWALT DWHT10035L Country of Origin: Multiple		37	9.88*	365.56	----	----
1CMU6	Twin Step ladder,Fiberglass,IA,8ft,F M1500 LOUISVILLE FM1508 Country of Origin: Mexico		2	243.29	486.58	08/21/2023	12/31/2023
20UH16	Screwdriver Bit Set,40 Pieces,1/4" Shank DEWALT DWA2T40IR Country of Origin: Vietnam		9	40.71*	366.39	----	----
21CK34	Plate Level,Aluminum,6 to 10 ft L,3 Vial STABILA 35610 Country of Origin: Germany		1	326.22	326.22	08/21/2023	12/31/2023
24A360	Marking Chalk Refill,Waterproof,Red,5 lb DEWALT 47-827 Country of Origin: China		2	21.85	43.70	08/21/2023	12/31/2023

**\*Price quoted is either your earned price or contract price. This price may be subject to change without notice.**

All orders are subject to the terms and conditions in your current contract with Grainger or to Grainger's current Terms of Sale as set forth on Grainger.com

Thank You!  
 Visit us at [grainger.com](http://grainger.com)



# Customer Quotation

## Information

Date 08/21/2023  
 Customer Account Number 840061535  
 Grainger Quote Number 48419928

Item	Description Manufacturer Name & Model	Cat. Pg. #	Qty	\$ Quote	Ext. Price	Start Date	Exp. Date
30PL22	Nail Gun,Finish Nail Head,Pistol,20VDC DEWALT DCN692M1 Country of Origin: Mexico		2	518.84*	1,037.68	----	----
39RW11	Blower,20.0V,Includes Blower Nozzle DEWALT DCE100B Country of Origin: China		1	172.36	172.36	08/21/2023	12/31/2023
3MF72	Circular Saw Blade,Blade Dia. 12 in. DEWALT DW3123 Country of Origin: China		2	61.59	123.18	08/21/2023	12/31/2023
400A09	Nail Gun,Brad Nail Head,Pistol,20VDC DEWALT DCN650D1 Country of Origin: Mexico		2	502.56*	1,005.12	----	----
43NF72	Cordless Hammer Drill,20.0V,w/Battery DEWALT DCD996P2 / DCB205 Country of Origin: Multiple		2	550.31	1,100.62	08/21/2023	12/31/2023
49XH41	Chalk Line Reel, Yellow and Black DEWALT DWHT47372 Country of Origin: Multiple		37	11.06	409.22	08/21/2023	12/31/2023
49XH57	Hammer,Rip Claw,20 oz.,14 L DEWALT DWHT51054 Country of Origin: Taiwan		37	30.53*	1,129.61	----	----
4MRX4	Rafter Angle Square,7 In,Aluminum WESTWARD 4MRX4 Country of Origin: China		36	5.17	186.12	08/21/2023	12/31/2023
52LC92	Hard Hat,Type 1, Class E,White CONDOR 52LC92 Country of Origin: Multiple		36	6.30	226.80	08/21/2023	12/31/2023
55EF27	Circular Saw Blade,Blade Dia.7-1/4",PK10 DEWALT DWA171440B10 Country of Origin: China		1	173.25	173.25	08/21/2023	12/31/2023

Thank You!  
 Visit us at [grainger.com](http://grainger.com)



# Customer Quotation

## Information

Date 08/21/2023  
 Customer Account Number 840061535  
 Grainger Quote Number 48419928

Item	Description Manufacturer Name & Model	Cat. Pg. #	Qty	\$ Quote	Ext. Price	Start Date	Exp. Date
5HL16	Tape Measure,1-1/4 Inx25 ft,Yellow/Black STANLEY 33-725 Country of Origin: USA		37	24.73*	915.01	----	----
60FG22	Cordless Nailer Kit,20.0V DEWALT DCN45RND1 Country of Origin: Mexico		3	519.44*	1,558.32	----	----
6GRL3	Nail Pullers,Nail Puller,8 In. L,4 In. W STANLEY 55-113 Country of Origin: Taiwan		37	9.43*	348.91	----	----
6XVY3	Miter Saw Stand,44 to 100 In L,Cap 500lb DEWALT DWX724 Country of Origin: China		2	296.57	593.14	08/21/2023	12/31/2023
6YG80	Twin Stepladder,Fiberglass,IA,6ft,T6 200 WERNER T6206 Country of Origin: Mexico		2	175.07	350.14	08/21/2023	12/31/2023
787PH2	Carpenter Pencil,Medium Graphite IRWIN 66300 Country of Origin: Indonesia		37	0.57*	21.09	----	----
796P72	Cordless Miter Saw,12" Blade dia.,9.0Ah DEWALT DCS781B Country of Origin: Taiwan		2	831.81	1,663.62	08/21/2023	12/31/2023
801A91	Cordless Impact Driver Kit,1/4" Drive DEWALT DCF845D1E1 Country of Origin: Mexico		9	260.61	2,345.49	08/21/2023	12/31/2023
Total \$					18,213.87		

Thank You!  
 Visit us at [grainger.com](http://grainger.com)



**CambiumData**  
YOUR TECHNOLOGY ADVANTAGE

Phone: 402-514-3200

Email: [robin@cambiumdata.com](mailto:robin@cambiumdata.com)

Web: [www.cambiumdata.com](http://www.cambiumdata.com)

We have prepared a quote for you

## 5YR Meraki Hardware License Renewal

Quote #017542 v1

Prepared for  
**Blair Community Schools**

Prepared by  
**Robin Laird**



PO#:74303705 Confirmation#:130923798

**Hardware**

Qty	Item	Description	List Price	Unit Price	Ext. Price
		<b>Coverage: 28-NOV-2023 to 27-NOV-2028</b>			
1	LIC-MS120-8-5YR	<b>Meraki MS120-8 Enterprise License</b>	\$176.62	\$167.79	\$167.79
1	LIC-MS120-8FP-5YR	<b>MERAKI MS120-8FP ENTERPRISE LICENSE AND SUPPORT, 5YR</b>	\$290.01	\$275.51	\$275.51
1	LIC-MS220-8P-5YR	<b>Cisco Meraki Enterprise - subscription license - 1 switch</b>	\$309.08	\$293.63	\$293.63
3	LIC-MS225-24-5YR	<b>MERAKI MS225-24 ENTERPRISE LICENSE AND SUPPORT, 5YR</b>	\$1,163.06	\$1,104.91	\$3,314.73
4	LIC-MS225-24P-5YR	<b>Meraki MS225-24P Enterprise License and Support, 5YR</b>	\$1,347.70	\$1,280.32	\$5,121.28
15	LIC-MS225-48-5YR	<b>MERAKI MS225-48 ENTERPRISE LICENSE AND SUPPORT, 5YR</b>	\$1,603.59	\$1,523.41	\$22,851.15
14	LIC-MS225-48FP-5Y	<b>MERAKI MS225-48FP ENTERPRISE LICENSE AND SUPPORT, 5YR</b>	\$2,163.55	\$2,055.37	\$28,775.18
3	LIC-MS425-16-5YR	<b>MERAKI MS425-16 ENTERPRISE LICENSE AND SUPPORT, 5YR</b>	\$3,653.74	\$3,471.05	\$10,413.15
List Price Subtotal:			<b>\$74,960.46</b>	Subtotal:	<b>\$71,212.42</b>



## 5YR Meraki Hardware License Renewal

**Quote Information:**

Quote #: 017542  
Version: 1  
Delivery Date: 09/05/2023  
Expiration Date: 09/30/2023

**Prepared for:**

Blair Community Schools  
140 South 16th Street  
Blair, NE 68008  
Jeffrey Steinbeck  
jeffrey.steinbeck@blairschools.org  
(402) 426-2610

**Prepared by:**

Omaha  
Robin Laird  
(402) 514-3202  
Fax 402-939-0579  
robin@cambiumdata.com

Quote Summary		Amount
	Hardware	\$71,212.42
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$71,212.42</b>

Taxes, shipping, handling and other fees may apply. We reserve the right to cancel orders arising from pricing or other errors.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

# NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING AND BUDGET SUMMARY

Blair Community Schools (89-0001) in Washington County, Nebraska

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given, in compliance with the provisions of State Statute Sections 13-501 to 13-513, that the governing body will meet on the 11th day of September, 2023 at 7:00 o'clock, P.M., at School District Central Office (formerly North School), 1326 Park St, Blair, NE 68008 for the purpose of hearing support, opposition, criticism, suggestions or observations of taxpayers relating to the following proposed budget and to consider amendments relative thereto. The budget detail is available at the office of the Clerk/Secretary during regular business hours. For more information on statewide receipts and expenditures, and to compare cost per pupil and performance to other school districts, go to: <https://nep.education.ne.gov>

FUNDS	Actual Disbursements & Transfers	Actual/Estimated Disbursements & Transfers	Budgeted Disbursements & Transfers	Necessary Cash Reserve (4)	Total Available Resources Before Property Taxes (5)	Total Personal and Real Property Tax Requirement (7)
	2021-2022 (1)	2022-2023 (2)	2023-2024 (3)			
General	\$ 24,653,109.00	\$ 25,809,766.00	\$ 36,682,855.00	\$ 1,596,686.00	\$ 21,885,364.00	\$ 16,559,775.00
Depreciation	\$ 519,384.00	\$ 975,030.00	\$ 3,501,092.00		\$ 3,501,092.00	
Employee Benefit	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,441.00	\$ -	\$ 4,441.00	
Contingency	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	
Activities	\$ 521,097.00	\$ 635,375.00	\$ 1,093,358.00	\$ -	\$ 1,093,358.00	
School Nutrition	\$ 1,452,120.00	\$ 1,039,284.00	\$ 2,391,476.00	\$ -	\$ 2,391,476.00	
Bond	\$ 1,980,190.00	\$ 2,095,303.00	\$ 13,979,728.00	\$ 985,112.00	\$ 12,985,112.00	\$ 1,999,725.00
Special Building	\$ 2,641,377.00	\$ 1,573,988.00	\$ 5,474,337.00		\$ 1,826,325.00	\$ 3,684,861.00
Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking	\$ 63,950.00	\$ 62,270.00	\$ 3,953.00	\$ -	\$ 3,953.00	\$ -
Cooperative	\$ 48,895.00	\$ 28,594.00	\$ 100,000.00	\$ -	\$ 100,000.00	
Student Fee	\$ 117,397.00	\$ 177,886.00	\$ 374,121.00	\$ -	\$ 374,121.00	
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 31,997,519.00</b>	<b>\$ 32,397,496.00</b>	<b>\$ 63,605,361.00</b>	<b>\$ 2,581,798.00</b>	<b>\$ 44,165,242.00</b>	<b>\$ 22,244,361.00</b>

	Bond Purposes	Non-Bond Purposes	Total
Breakdown of Property Tax	\$ 1,999,725.00	\$ 20,244,636.00	\$ 22,244,361.00

2023-2024  
**STATE OF NEBRASKA**  
**SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET FORM**

**DRAFT**

County-District #: 89-0001      Class #: 111  
 Blair Community Schools  
 TO THE COUNTY BOARD AND COUNTY CLERK OF  
 Washington County

This budget is for the Period **SEPTEMBER 1, 2023 through AUGUST 31, 2024**

**Upon Filing, The School Certifies the Information Submitted on this Form to be Correct:**

AMOUNT OF PERSONAL AND REAL PROPERTY TAX REQUIRED FOR:	Principal and Interest on Bonds	All Other Purposes	TOTAL
	General Fund	\$ -	\$ 16,559,775.00
Bond Fund(s) [If More Than 1 Bond Fund - Total All Together]	\$ 1,999,725.00		\$ 1,999,725.00
Special Building Fund	\$ -	\$ 3,684,861.00	\$ 3,684,861.00
Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Total All Funds</b>	<b>\$ 1,999,725.00</b>	<b>\$ 20,244,636.00</b>	<b>\$ 22,244,361.00</b>

Outstanding Bonded Indebtedness as of September 1, 2023  
*(Include Bond Fund(s) and Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Fund)*

\$ 19,060,000.00	Principal
\$ 2,265,292.00	Interest
\$ 21,325,292.00	<b>Total Outstanding Bonded Indebtedness</b>

<b>Total Certified Valuation (All Counties)</b>	\$ 2,632,040,875
---	------------------

*(Certification of Valuation(s) from County Assessor **MUST** be attached)*

**Report of Joint Public Agency & Interlocal Agreements**

Was this Subdivision involved in any Interlocal Agreements or Joint Public Agencies for the reporting period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023?

YES       NO

*If YES, Please submit Interlocal Agreement Report by September 30th.*

**County Clerk's Use Only**

**Report of Trade Names, Corporate Names & Business Names**

Did the subdivision operate under a separate Trade Name, Corporate Name, or other Business Name during the period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023?

YES       NO

*If YES, Please submit Trade Name Report by September 30th.*

Has your School District held a successful election to override the levy limits provided in Statute 77-3442, which is in effect for 2023-2024 school fiscal year?

YES       NO

**APA Contact Information**

Auditor of Public Accounts  
 PO Box 98917  
 Lincoln, NE 68509  
**Telephone:** (402) 471-2111      **FAX:** (402) 471-3301  
**Website:** [auditors.nebraska.gov](http://auditors.nebraska.gov)  
**Questions - E-Mail:** [Jeff.Schreier@nebraska.gov](mailto:Jeff.Schreier@nebraska.gov)

**Submission Information**

**Budget Due by 9-30-2023**

**Submit budget to:**

1. Auditor of Public Accounts -Electronically on Website or Mail
2. County Board (SEC. 13-508), C/O County Clerk
3. Nebraska Dept. of Education -Upload to NDE Portal only

**DRAFT**

2023-2024 BUDGET ADOPTED									
	TOTAL BEGINNING BALANCE (Column 1)	TOTAL AVAILABLE RESOURCES BEFORE PROPERTY TAXES (Including Beginning Balances) (Column 2)	PERSONAL AND REAL PROPERTY TAXES (Column 3)	TOTAL RESOURCES AVAILABLE (Col 2 + Col 3) (Column 4)	TOTAL BUDGET OF DISBURSEMENTS & TRANSFERS - SPECIAL EDUCATION (Column 5)	TOTAL BUDGET OF DISBURSEMENTS & TRANSFERS - NON-SPECIAL EDUCATION (Column 6)	TOTAL BUDGET OF DISBURSEMENTS & TRANSFERS (Col 5 + Col 6) (Column 7)	NECESSARY CASH RESERVE (Column 8)	TOTAL REQUIREMENTS (Col 7 + Col 8) (Column 9)
General	11,711,284.00	21,885,364.00	16,394,177.00	38,279,541.00	4,128,953.00	32,553,902.00	36,682,855.00	1,596,686.00	38,279,541.00
Depreciation	2,645,092.00	3,501,092.00		3,501,092.00			3,501,092.00		3,501,092.00
Employee Benefit	4,437.00	4,441.00		4,441.00			4,441.00	-	4,441.00
Contingency	-	-		-			-		-
Activities	422,958.00	1,093,358.00		1,093,358.00			1,093,358.00	-	1,093,358.00
School Nutrition	1,118,338.00	2,391,476.00		2,391,476.00			2,391,476.00	-	2,391,476.00
Bond	950,912.00	12,985,112.00	1,979,728.00	14,964,840.00			13,979,728.00	985,112.00	14,964,840.00
Special Building	1,787,225.00	1,826,325.00	3,648,012.00	5,474,337.00			5,474,337.00		5,474,337.00
Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking	3,853.00	3,953.00		3,953.00			3,953.00	-	3,953.00
Cooperative	-	100,000.00		100,000.00			100,000.00	-	100,000.00
Student Fee	214,121.00	374,121.00		374,121.00			374,121.00	-	374,121.00
				-					-
<b>TOTAL ALL FUNDS</b>	<b>18,858,220.00</b>	<b>44,165,242.00</b>	<b>22,021,917.00</b>	<b>66,187,159.00</b>	<b>4,128,953.00</b>	<b>32,553,902.00</b>	<b>63,605,361.00</b>	<b>2,581,798.00</b>	<b>66,187,159.00</b>

PERSONAL AND REAL PROPERTY TAX RECAP	General Fund	Bond Fund(s) [Total Of All Bond Funds]	Special Building Fund	Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Fund
	PERSONAL AND REAL PROPERTY TAXES FROM COLUMN 3 (Line A)	16,394,177.00	1,979,728.00	3,648,012.00
COUNTY TREASURER'S COMMISSION 1% OF TAXES COLLECTED (Line B)	165,598.00	19,997.00	36,849.00	-
TOTAL PERSONAL AND REAL PROPERTY TAXES (Line A + Line B) (Line C)	16,559,775.00	1,999,725.00	3,684,861.00	-

CERTIFIED STATE AID	MOTOR VEHICLE TAXES
\$ 3,752,253.00	\$ 1,750,000.00

COUNTY TREASURER'S BALANCE, 9-1-2023			
6,192,422.00	950,912.00	567,539.00	3,301.00

DRAFT

2022-2023 ACTUAL/ESTIMATED								
	TOTAL BEGINNING BALANCE (Column 1)	TOTAL AVAILABLE RESOURCES BEFORE PROPERTY TAXES (Including Beginning Balances) (Column 2)	PERSONAL AND REAL PROPERTY TAXES (Column 3)	TOTAL RESOURCES AVAILABLE (Col 2 + Col 3) (Column 4)	TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS & TRANSFERS - SPECIAL EDUCATION (Column 5)	TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS & TRANSFERS - NON-SPECIAL EDUCATION (Column 6)	TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS & TRANSFERS (Col 5 + Col 6) (Column 7)	TOTAL ENDING BALANCE (Col 4 - Col 7) (Column 8)
General	11,512,840.00	18,978,210.00	18,542,840.00	37,521,050.00	4,015,936.00	21,793,830.00	25,809,766.00	11,711,284.00
Depreciation	2,751,328.00	3,620,122.00		3,620,122.00			975,030.00	2,645,092.00
Employee Benefit	4,433.00	4,437.00		4,437.00			-	4,437.00
Contingency	-	-		-			-	-
Activities	374,343.00	1,058,333.00		1,058,333.00			635,375.00	422,958.00
School Nutrition	971,691.00	2,157,622.00		2,157,622.00			1,039,284.00	1,118,338.00
Bond	1,042,962.00	1,235,095.00	1,811,120.00	3,046,215.00			2,095,303.00	950,912.00
Special Building	1,406,192.00	1,599,014.00	1,762,199.00	3,361,213.00			1,573,988.00	1,787,225.00
Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking	63,392.00	63,531.00	2,592.00	66,123.00			62,270.00	3,853.00
Cooperative	-	28,594.00		28,594.00			28,594.00	-
Student Fee	231,915.00	392,007.00		392,007.00			177,886.00	214,121.00
				-				-
<b>TOTAL ALL FUNDS</b>	<b>18,359,096.00</b>	<b>29,136,965.00</b>	<b>22,118,751.00</b>	<b>51,255,716.00</b>	<b>4,015,936.00</b>	<b>21,793,830.00</b>	<b>32,397,496.00</b>	<b>18,858,220.00</b>

NOTE: Total Disbursements and Transfers (Column 7) is the sum of Column 5 and Column 6 for the General Fund only. For all other funds, numbers will pull automatically from the Worksheets.

<b>MOTOR VEHICLE TAXES</b>
<b>\$ 1,764,137.00</b>

DRAFT

2021-2022 ACTUAL								
	TOTAL BEGINNING BALANCE (Column 1)	TOTAL AVAILABLE RESOURCES BEFORE PROPERTY TAXES (Including Beginning Balances) (Column 2)	PERSONAL AND REAL PROPERTY TAXES (Column 3)	TOTAL RESOURCES AVAILABLE (Col 2 + Col 3) (Column 4)	TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS & TRANSFERS - SPECIAL EDUCATION (Column 5)	TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS & TRANSFERS - NON-SPECIAL EDUCATION (Column 6)	TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS & TRANSFERS (Col 5 + Col 6) (Column 7)	TOTAL ENDING BALANCE (Col 4 - Col 7) (Column 8)
General	11,400,131.00	18,612,757.00	17,553,192.00	36,165,949.00	4,019,334.00	20,633,775.00	24,653,109.00	11,512,840.00
Depreciation	2,483,894.00	3,270,712.00		3,270,712.00			519,384.00	2,751,328.00
Employee Benefit	4,431.00	4,433.00		4,433.00			-	4,433.00
Contingency	-	-		-			-	-
Activities	336,549.00	895,440.00		895,440.00			521,097.00	374,343.00
School Lunch	618,170.00	2,423,811.00		2,423,811.00			1,452,120.00	971,691.00
Bond	962,112.00	1,153,953.00	1,869,199.00	3,023,152.00			1,980,190.00	1,042,962.00
Special Building	1,530,887.00	2,123,719.00	1,923,850.00	4,047,569.00			2,641,377.00	1,406,192.00
Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking	66,940.00	72,551.00	54,791.00	127,342.00			63,950.00	63,392.00
Cooperative	-	48,895.00		48,895.00			48,895.00	-
Student Fee	182,174.00	349,312.00		349,312.00			117,397.00	231,915.00
				-				-
<b>TOTAL ALL FUNDS</b>	<b>\$ 17,585,288.00</b>	<b>28,955,583.00</b>	<b>21,401,032.00</b>	<b>50,356,615.00</b>	<b>4,019,334.00</b>	<b>20,633,775.00</b>	<b>31,997,519.00</b>	<b>18,359,096.00</b>

NOTE: Total Disbursements and Transfers (Column 7) is the sum of Column 5 and Column 6 for the General Fund only. For all other funds, numbers will pull automatically from the Worksheets.

MOTOR VEHICLE TAXES
\$ 1,757,723.00

DRAFT

CORRESPONDENCE INFORMATION

ENTITY OFFICIAL ADDRESS

If no official address, please provide address where correspondence should be sent

NAME BLAIR COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
ADDRESS PO BOX 288; 1326 PARK ST
CITY & ZIP CODE BLAIR, NE 68008-0288
TELEPHONE 402-426-2610
WEBSITE www.blairschools.org

Table with 3 columns: BOARD CHAIRPERSON, CLERK/TREASURER/SUPERINTENDENT/OTHER, PREPARER. Rows include Name, Title/Firm Name, Telephone, and Email Address for Kari Loseke, Dr. Randall Gilson, and Tom Shearer.

For Questions on this form, who should we contact (please check one): Contact will be via email if supplied.

- Board Chairperson
Clerk / Treasurer / Superintendent / Other
Preparer (checked)

**DRAFT**

Blair Community Schools

**2023-2024 ALLOWABLE GROWTH PERCENTAGE COMPUTATION FORM**

**CALCULATION OF ALLOWABLE GROWTH PERCENTAGE**

**Prior Year Non-Bond Property Tax Request** (1) \$ 22,610,734.00  
*(Total Personal and Real Property Tax Required for All Other Purposes from prior year budget - Cover Page)*

**Base Limitation Percentage Increase (2%)** 2.00 % (2)

**Real Growth Percentage Increase**  
147,338,862.00 / 2,070,129,356.00 = 7.12 % (3)  
2023 Real Growth Value per Assessor      Prior Year Total Real Property Valuation per Assessor

**Total Allowable Growth Percentage Increase (Line 2 + Line 3)** (4) 9.12 %

**Allowable Dollar Amount of Increase to Property Tax Request (Line 1 x Line 4)** (5) \$ 2,062,098.94

**TOTAL PROPERTY TAX REQUEST (Line 1 + Line 5)** (6) \$ 24,672,832.94  
*(Without needing to attend Joint Public Hearing, or be included on postcard notification)*

**ACTUAL PROPERTY TAX REQUEST**

**2023-2024 ACTUAL Non-Bond Property Tax Request** (7) \$ 20,244,636.00  
*(Total Personal and Real Property Tax Required for All Other Purposes from Cover Page)*

**Property Tax Request is within allowable growth percentage. Political subdivision is NOT required to complete postcard notification requirements, or participate in the joint public hearing.**

If line (7) is **greater than** line (6), your political subdivision **is required** to participate in the joint public hearing, and complete the postcard notification requirements of §77-1633. You must provide the required information to the County Assessor electronically by September 4th. You are not required to hold the Special Hearing to Set the Final Tax Request outlined in §77-1632. The joint public hearing is completed in lieu of this hearing.

If line (7) is **less than** line (6), your political subdivision **is not required** to participate in the joint public hearing, or complete the postcard notification requirements of §77-1633. You are required to hold the Special Hearing to Set the Final Tax Request outlined in §77-1632.

**SCHEDULE A GENERAL FUND LID EXCLUSIONS**

**DRAFT**

County-District #

89-0001

Blair Community Schools

Line No.		2023-2024 Amount Budgeted To Spend
1	Repairs to Infrastructure Damaged by a Natural Disaster: (List repair)	
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9	<b>Total Repairs to Infrastructure Damaged by a Natural Disaster</b> (Lines 1 through 8)	\$ -
10	<b>Judgments:</b> (List the types of judgments obtained against your School District to the extent such judgment is not paid by liability insurance)	
11		
12		
13		
14		
15		
16		
17	<b>Total Judgments</b> (Lines 11 through 16)	\$ -
18	<b>Distance Education Courses</b>	
19	<b>Amounts eligible as exclusion for Voluntary Termination Agreements</b>	
20	<b>Retirement Contribution Increase</b>	\$ 389,695.00
21	<b>Native American Impact Aid</b>	
22	<b>Total General Fund Lid Exclusions - To LC-2 Form</b> (Line 9 + Line 17 to 21)	\$ 389,695.00

# DRAFT

Blair Community Schools  
Schedule B - Levies

## Levy Limit Compliance

NOTE: The Schedule portion below is to determine if the School District has met the levy limitations.

Line No		General Fund (Column A)	Bond Funds (Column B)	Special Building Funds (Column C)	Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Funds (Column D)
1	Total Personal and Real Property Taxes -Cover Page	16,559,775.00	1,999,725.00	3,684,861.00	-
2	Exclusions:				
3	Bonded indebtedness secured by a levy on property (Includes Co. Treasurer Comm.)	-	1,999,725.00		-
4	Judgments not paid by liability insurance	-			
5	Voluntary termination agreements with certificated staff / employees occurring prior to 9/1/17	-			
6	Voluntary termination agreements with certificated Teachers 9/1/17 and after	-			
7					
8					
9					
10					
11					
12	<b>Total Exclusions (Line 3 + Line 11)</b>	-	1,999,725.00	-	-
13	Total Personal and Real Property Tax Requirement Subject to the Levy Limitation (Line 1 minus Line 12)	16,559,775.00	-	3,684,861.00	-
14	Assessed Valuation	2,632,040,875	2,632,040,875	2,632,040,875	2,632,040,875
15	Levy Subject to Limitation ((Line 13 / Line 14) x 100)	0.629161	0.000000	0.140000	0.000000
16	<b>Total Levy for Compliance</b>	0.769161			

**Property Tax Request MUST also be within the School District's Property Tax Request Authority.**

If the **total** levy on Line 16 is \$1.05, or less, the levy limitation per State Statute Section 77-3442 has been met.

If Total of Line 16 is greater than \$1.05 and you **did not** hold a successful election to override the levy, you are in violation of the levy lid. The school district **must reduce property taxes** to meet the levy limitation.

If Total of Line 16 is greater than \$1.05 and you **held** a successful election to override the levy, which is in effect for the you must **attach a copy of the election ballot and the certified election returns** to your budget.

**Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Fund levy.** A district may only exceed the maximum levy of five and one-fifth cents per one hundred dollars of taxable valuation in any year if (i) the taxable valuation of the district is lower than the taxable valuation in the year in which the district last issued capital purpose undertaking bonds or (ii) such maximum levy is insufficient to meet the annual principal and interest obligations for all capital purpose undertaking bonds. Projects beginning after April 19, 2016 can only have a maximum levy of three cents per one hundred dollars of taxable valuation in any year. (Statute 79-10,110 & 79-10,110.02).

**Special Building Fund levy.** Limit on Building Fund levy of 14 cents (Statute 79-10,120)

**REMINDER:** School districts that have combined levies greater than \$1.20 or the combined levies that exceeded the maximum levy approved at a special election may be subject to petitions for the free holding of territory. Combined levies do not include levies for bonded indebtedness approved by the voters of a school district or levies for the refinancing of such bonded indebtedness.

**Voluntary Termination Exclusions**

Line 5 Amounts to pay for current and future sums agreed to be paid by a school district to certificated employees in exchange for a voluntary termination of employment occurring prior to 9/1/17

Line 6 Amount levied by school district at maximum levy to pay for current and future qualified voluntary termination incentives for certificated teachers pursuant to statute. Payments cannot exceed \$35,000, must be paid within 5 years, will result in savings to the school, were not included in a collective bargaining agreement

Line 7 Amounts levied by school district at maximum levy to pay for 50% of the current and future sums agreed to be paid to certificated employees in exchange for voluntary termination between 9/1/18 to 8/31/19 as a result of collective bargaining agreement in force on 9/1/17

## Levies Expected to be Set by County

NOTE: The Schedule portion below is to assist with the Levy setting process.

Fund	Property Taxes	Valuation	Expected Levy
------	----------------	-----------	---------------

General Fund	\$ 16,559,775.00	\$ 2,632,040,875	0.629161
Special Building Fund	\$ 3,684,861.00	\$ 2,632,040,875	0.140000
Bond Fund	\$ 1,999,725.00	\$ 2,632,040,875	0.075976
Bond Fund	\$ -	\$ 2,632,040,875	0.000000
Bond Fund	\$ -	\$ 2,632,040,875	0.000000
QCPUF Fund	\$ -	\$ 2,632,040,875	0.000000
QCPUF Fund	\$ -	\$ 2,632,040,875	0.000000
	\$ -	\$ 2,632,040,875	0.000000
	\$ -	\$ 2,632,040,875	0.000000
	\$ -	\$ 2,632,040,875	0.000000
	\$ -	\$ 2,632,040,875	0.000000
	\$ -	\$ 2,632,040,875	0.000000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 22,244,361.00</b>		<b>\$ 0.845137</b>

*Must agree to Cover*

DRAFT

**Superintendent Pay Transparency Notice—Proposed Contract - Dr. Randall Gilson**

Notice is hereby given that Blair Community Schools has approval of a proposed superintendent employment contract/contract amendment on its agenda for the board meeting to be held on June 12, 2023 at 7:00 pm at the Blair Public Library, 2233 Civic Drive in Blair, Nebraska.

After the 2023/24 school year, how many years remain on the contract:  
(Column F must be completed if additional years remain on contract.)

1
---

The estimated costs to the district for the 2023/24 year and future years are listed below:

	2023/24 Base Pay, Additional Compensation & Benefits	Future Base Pay, Additional Compensation & Benefits per Contract	TOTAL CONTRACT COST
<b>Base Pay for the Total FTE</b>	\$ 185,400.00	\$ 185,400.00	\$ 370,800.00
<b>Compensation for activities outside of the regular salary:</b>			
• <i>Extended contracts / Activities outside of regular salary</i>			\$ -
• <i>Bonus/Incentive/Performance Pay</i>			\$ -
• <i>Stipends</i>			\$ -
• <i>All other costs not mentioned above</i>			\$ -
<b>Benefits and Payroll Costs Paid by district:</b>			
• <i>Insurances (Health, Dental, Life, Long Term Disability)</i>	\$ 603.00	\$ 603.00	\$ 1,206.00
• <i>Cafeteria Plan Stipend</i>			\$ -
• <i>Cash in lieu of insurance</i>	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
• <i>Employee's share of retirement, deferred compensation, FICA and Medicare <b>if paid by the district</b></i>			\$ -
• <i>District's share of retirement, FICA and Medicare</i>	\$ 30,202.00	\$ 30,202.00	\$ 60,404.00
• <i>IRS value of housing allowance</i>			\$ -
• <i>IRS value of vehicle allowance</i>			\$ -
• <i>Additional leave days</i>			\$ -
• <i>Annuities</i>			\$ -
• <i>Service credit purchase</i>			\$ -
• <i>Association / Membership dues</i>	\$ 2,800.00	\$ 2,800.00	\$ 5,600.00
• <i>Cell Phone/Internet reimbursement</i>	\$ 960.00	\$ 960.00	\$ 1,920.00
• <i>Relocation reimbursement</i>			\$ -
• <i>Travel allowance/reimbursement</i>	\$ 3,600.00	\$ 3,600.00	\$ 7,200.00
• <i>Mileage Allowance</i>			\$ -
• <i>Educational tuition assistance</i>			\$ -
• <i>All other benefit costs not mentioned above</i>			\$ -
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>\$ 228,565.00</b>	<b>\$ 228,565.00</b>	<b>\$ 457,130.00</b>

**CERTIFICATION OF TAXABLE VALUE FOR SCHOOL DISTRICTS  
TAX YEAR 2023**

*{certification required on or before August 20<sup>th</sup> of each year}*

TAXABLE VALUE LOCATED IN THE COUNTY OF WASHINGTON

Name of School District	Class of School	Base School Code	Unified/ Learning Comm. Code	School District Taxable Value	School District Real Growth Value *	School District Prior Year Total Real Property Valuation	Real Growth Percentage <sup>a</sup>
BLAIR SCHOOL 1	3	89-0001		2,632,040,875	147,338,862	2,070,129,356	7.12

\* Real Growth Value is determined pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 77-1631 which includes (i) improvements to real property as a result of new construction and additions to existing buildings, (ii) any other improvements to real property which increase the value of such property, (iii) annexation of real property by the political subdivision, and (iv) a change in the use of real property; and (v) the annual increase in the excess value for any tax increment financing project located in the political subdivision, if applicable.

<sup>a</sup> Real Growth Percentage is determined pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 77-1631 and is equal to the school district's Real Growth Value divided by the school district's total real property valuation from the prior year.

I ROBIN ANDREASEN, WASHINGTON County Assessor hereby certify that the valuation listed herein is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the true and accurate taxable valuation for the current year, pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 13-509.

*Robin R. Andreasen*

(signature of county assessor)

8/11/23

(date)

CC: County Clerk, WASHINGTON County  
 CC: County Clerk where school district is headquartered, if different county, \_\_\_\_\_ County

- Reminders to School District: 1) A copy of the Certification of Value must be attached to the budget document and 2) Property Tax Request excludes the amount of principal or interest on bonds issued or authorized to be issued by a school district. Laws 2023, LB727, § 49.





## Notice of Special Hearing To Set Final Tax Request

Blair Community Schools (89-0001) in Washington County, Nebraska

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given, in compliance with the provisions of State Statute Section 77-1632, that the governing body will meet on the 11th day of, September 2023 at 7:00 o'clock P.M. immediately following the Budget Hearing, at School District Central Office (formerly North School), 1326 Park St, Blair, NE 68008 for the purpose of hearing support, opposition, criticism, suggestions or observations of taxpayers relating to setting the final tax request.

	2022-2023	2023-2024	Change
Property Valuations	2,283,912,458	2,632,040,875	15%

### 2022-2023 Budget Information

### 2023-2024 Budget Information

Fund	2022-2023 Operating Budget	2022-2023 Property Tax Request	2022 Tax Rate	Property Tax Rate (2022-2023 Request Divided By 2023 Valuation)	2023-2024 Operating Budget	2023-2024 Proposed Property Tax Request	Proposed 2023 Tax Rate	Change in Tax Rate	Change in Operating Budget
<b>General Fund</b>	36,082,935.00	20,669,407.00	0.905000	0.785300	36,682,855.00	16,559,775.00	0.629161	-30%	2%
<b>Bond Fund(s) K - 12</b>	1,981,504.00	2,000,509.00	0.087591	0.076006	13,979,728.00	1,999,725.00	0.075976	-13%	606%
<b>Bond Fund(s) K - 8</b>			0.000000	0.000000			0.000000	#DIV/0!	0
<b>Bond Fund(s) 9 - 12</b>			0.000000	0.000000			0.000000	#DIV/0!	0
<b>Bond Fund</b>			0.000000	0.000000			0.000000	#DIV/0!	0
<b>Special Building Fund</b>	3,749,593.00	1,941,327.00	0.085000	0.073757	5,474,337.00	3,684,861.00	0.140000	65%	46%
<b>Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Fund K - 12</b>	1,566,172.00	-	0.000000	0.000000	3,953.00	-	0.000000	#DIV/0!	-100%
<b>Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Fund K - 8</b>			0.000000	0.000000			0.000000	#DIV/0!	0
<b>Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Fund 9 - 12</b>			0.000000	0.000000			0.000000	#DIV/0!	0
<b>Total</b>	43,380,204.00	24,611,243.00	1.077591	0.935063	56,140,873.00	22,244,361.00	0.845137	-22%	29%

**RESOLUTION SETTING THE PROPERTY TAX REQUEST**

**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

WHEREAS, Nebraska Revised Statute 77-1632 and 77-1633 provides that the Governing Body of Blair Community Schools passes by a majority vote a resolution or ordinance setting the tax request; and

WHEREAS, a special public hearing was held as required by law to hear and consider comments concerning the property tax request;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Governing Body of Blair Community Schools resolves that:

- 1. The 2023-2024 property tax request be set at:

General Fund:	\$ 16,559,775.00
Bond Fund:	\$ 1,999,725.00
Special Building Fund:	\$ 3,684,861.00
Qualified Capital Purpose	\$ -
Undertaking Fund:	

- 2. The total assessed value of property differs from last year’s total assessed value by 15.24 percent.
- 3. The tax rate which would levy the same amount of property taxes as last year, when multiplied by the new total assessed value of property would be 0.935063 per \$100 of assessed value.
- 4. Blair Community Schools proposes to adopt a property tax request that will cause its tax rate to be 0.845137 per \$100 of assessed value.
- 5. Based on the proposed property tax request and changes in other revenue, the total operating budget of Blair Community Schools will increase (or decrease) last year’s budget by 29.42 percent.
- 6. A copy of this resolution be certified and forwarded to the County Clerk on or before October 15, 2023.

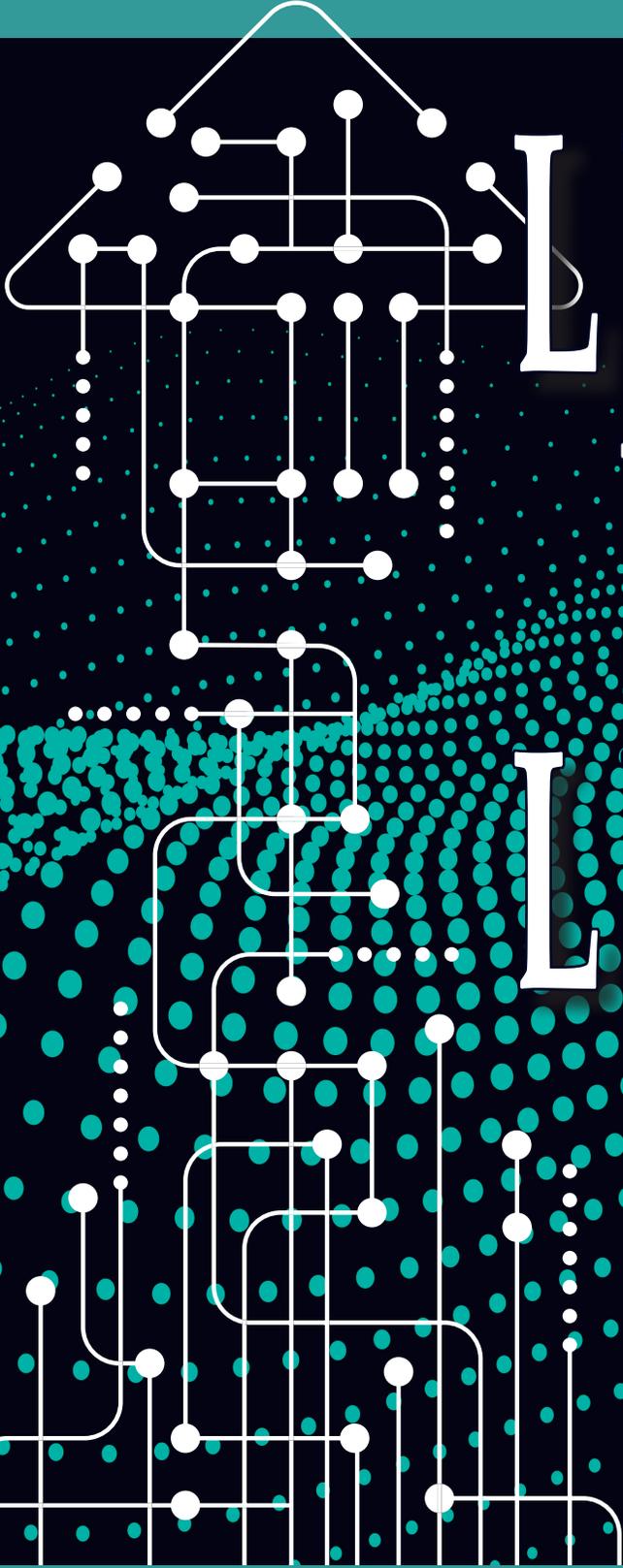
Motion by \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ to adopt Resolution.

Roll Call Vote as Follows:

Deb Parks	YES	NO
Steve Callaghan	YES	NO
Denise Cada	YES	NO
Ginger Fredericksen	YES	NO
Kari Loseke	YES	NO
Brandi Petersen	YES	NO
Courtney Tabor	YES	NO
Tim Welch	YES	NO

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of September, 2023

2023 STATE EDUCATION CONFERENCE  
NOVEMBER 15-17  
CHI HEALTH CENTER - DOWNTOWN OMAHA



# LEARNERS LEADING LEARNERS



Co-Sponsored by the Nebraska Association of School Boards  
and the Nebraska Association of School Administrators



# REGISTRATION & RESERVATIONS

REGISTRATION FOR THE 2023 STATE EDUCATION CONFERENCE WILL OPEN WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2023

To register, go to [www.NASBOnline.org](http://www.NASBOnline.org)

Log in using your email and password, and click the 'Events' tab to register.



Registration fees for the conference are as follows:

REGISTER SEPTEMBER 13 THROUGH NOVEMBER 3	<b>\$325</b>	REGISTER NOVEMBER 4 THROUGH ON SITE	<b>\$375</b>
PRE-CONFERENCE REGISTRATION	<b>\$100</b>		
CANCELLATION FEE (PRIOR TO 11/4)	<b>\$150</b>	(No refunds after the registration deadline)	

# HOTEL RESERVATIONS

TO RESERVE ACCOMMODATIONS AT THE CONFERENCE HOTELS YOU MUST FIRST REGISTER FOR THE CONFERENCE AS DESCRIBED ABOVE.

To qualify for a room, you must first register for the Conference.

Once your conference registration is complete, you will receive an email with your NASB Registration code and a Conference Hotel reservation link. The code will not be activated until 10:00 AM CT, Wednesday, September 27, 2023

SUBMIT YOUR CONFERENCE HOTEL ROOM REQUEST WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2023.

THE OMAHA CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU WILL ACT AS THE HOUSING AGENT FOR ALL PROPERTIES.

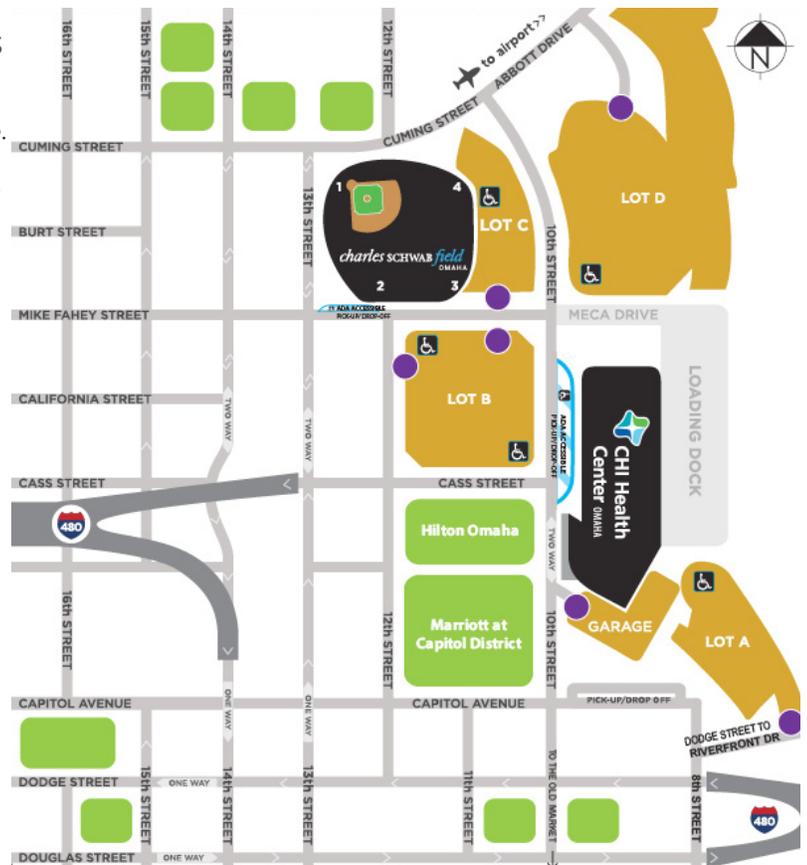
Hilton Omaha - 1001 Cass Street  
\$151 per night

**ROOM REQUESTS WILL BE ACCEPTED UNTIL OCTOBER 15, OR UNTIL FULL**

Omaha Marriott Downtown - 222 North 10th Street  
\$169 per night

**ROOM REQUESTS WILL BE ACCEPTED UNTIL OCTOBER 24, OR UNTIL FULL**

A RESERVATION AT ONE OF THE ABOVE IS NOT REQUIRED TO ATTEND THE STATE EDUCATION CONFERENCE



ADA ACCESSIBLE/PARKING    
 GENERAL PARKING    
 HOTELS    
 LOT ENTRANCES

# SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE / PRE-CONFERENCE SESSIONS

## WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15

Pre-Conference Sessions  
1:00 to 4:00 PM

Exhibitor Reception  
4:00 to 5:30 PM

## THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16

Board Member/Mentor Collaboration  
7:15 to 8:15 AM

Opening Keynote Speaker  
8:15 to 9:30 AM

A - Breakout Sessions  
9:45 to 10:45 AM

B - Breakout Sessions  
11:15 AM to 12:15 PM

Thursday Luncheon Keynote Speaker  
12:30 to 2:00 PM

C - Breakout Sessions  
2:15 to 3:15 PM

D - Breakout Sessions  
3:30 to 4:30 PM

## FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17

Classroom Showcase  
8:00 to 11:30 AM

NASB Delegate Assembly  
8:00 to 9:30 AM

NASA Membership Meeting  
8:00 to 9:30 AM

E - Breakout Sessions  
9:15 to 10:15 AM

F - Breakout Sessions  
10:30 to 11:30 AM

Friday Luncheon Keynote Speaker  
11:45 AM to 1:15 PM

## PRE-CONFERENCE SESSIONS WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15 - 1:00 TO 4:00 PM

### SPEAK OUT, REACH OUT!

Boards are facing a sense of urgency due to the ever increasing need to engage parents and community. Boards provide a platform for parents and patrons to speak out through public comment but how does a board reach out through appropriate measures to ensure parents and patrons feel heard? Beyond the board meeting how do boards reach out and maintain a continuous dialogue with parents and community? Join us for a robust session that will include current challenges related to public comment policy and procedures, purposeful parent-community engagement, and mock scenarios to provide practical strategies.

**PRESENTERS: Marcia Herring, Caden Frank & Kari Stephens - NASB  
Dana Wiseman & James Jones - Sutton Public Schools  
Mike Hart & Brandon Desh - District OR1 Public Schools  
Justin Knight - Perry Law Firm**

### EDUCATOR WORKFORCE: STRATEGIES TO ATTRACT, DEVELOP, AND RETAIN A HIGH-QUALITY STAFF

National and state educator workforce data is important to solving issues that face Nebraska. You will hear Nebraska's story through data, be introduced to the national publication "5 Shifts to Address the National Educator Shortage", and share strategies that work to alleviate workforce challenges in our schools. Millard Public Schools representatives will share information about their homegrown programs that help them attract, develop, and retain teachers and administrators. A panel of administrators will share their journey toward implementing payment of student teachers including how they plan to fund the program in the future. Attendees will also learn about the NexGen Leadership Academy at UNK and how it provides a model for university and PK-12 school district partnerships to develop system-wide capacity and create a leadership and principal pipeline program.

**PRESENTERS: John Schwartz, Kevin Clark & Kim Saum-Mills - Millard Public Schools;  
Dan Schnoes - ESU #3; Andy Rikli - Papillion LaVista Community Schools;  
Jami Jo Thompson - Norfolk Public Schools; Jeff Rippe - Bellevue Public Schools;  
Jason Brown - Bertrand Community School; Charles Wakefield - Omaha  
Public Schools; Sara Skretta - UNL; Mike Teahon, Chelsea Feusner & Aprille  
Phillips - UNK**

**SUPERINTENDENT OF THE YEAR WILL BE RECOGNIZED AT THE THURSDAY LUNCHEON**

**NASB DELEGATE ASSEMBLY - FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17 - 8:00 TO 9:30 AM**

**NASA MEMBERSHIP MEETING - FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17 - 8:00 TO 9:30 AM**

**SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER OF THE YEAR WILL BE PRESENTED AT THE FRIDAY LUNCHEON**

**TO REGISTER FOR THE CONFERENCE VISIT [WWW.NASBONLINE.ORG](http://WWW.NASBONLINE.ORG)**



## BETTER TOGETHER PRINCESS SARAH

**THURSDAY MORNING OPENING SPEAKER - 8:15 TO 9:30 AM**

Princess Sarah has an extraordinary journey that has been featured on CNN, GMA, and BBC, among numerous other media outlets. She shares the story of reuniting with her birth father in "A Princess Found: An American Family, an African Chiefdom, and the Daughter Who Connected Them All". "A Princess Found" is now being adapted into a major motion picture for Disney Studios. Princess Sarah is a real-life Princess of Sierra Leone. In addition, she is a humanitarian, author, and speaker on building a culture of belonging. She uses her personal story of being adopted and growing up in a bi-racial family to illustrate understanding cultural differences.



## THE MASTERPIECE IN YOU RICHARD HIGHT

**THURSDAY LUNCHEON SPEAKER - 12:30 TO 2:00 PM**

Internationally-known artist and keynote speaker Richard Hight hails from a military family with roots deep in the red dirt of Oklahoma. Overcoming challenges faced at a young age led to valuable lessons learned about focusing on strengths and recognizing possibilities, not limitations. His artistic gift allowed him to express his ideas, and his successes built his confidence. From this his mission emerged —Vision, Focus, Grit! Richard's impressionist approach to painting equips him to successfully communicate with his audience. When he performs for groups, he wants the audience to focus on the artistic process, not the finished canvas: he shows that trusting creative impulses can yield surprising and beautiful results. With his often humorous storytelling, he has entertained diverse audiences around the world. The vivid colors he selects, the broad flourishes that coalesce into a stunning image, and the passion Richard possesses: all of these harmonize into an imaginative encounter that inspires and compels those present. Richard is sure to ignite an artistic mindset in innovative leaders. Some events you attend - This one, you experience!



## LEARNING FROM OUR NEW LEADERS GOVERNOR JIM PILLEN & COMMISSIONER BRIAN MAHER

**FRIDAY LUNCHEON SPEAKER - 11:45 AM TO 1:15 PM**

We are happy to welcome our new 2023 Nebraska leadership! Governor Jim Pillen will reflect on his first year along with vision and priorities for K-12 education moving forward. You will also have an opportunity to hear Brian Maher, Commissioner of Education, share his thoughts on education in our state and bring you up to speed on things at the Nebraska Department of Education.



# BREAKOUT SESSIONS & TRACKS



BOARDSMANSHIP



CAREER & COLLEGE READINESS



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



CURRICULUM



ESU



FACILITIES



LEGAL & POLICY



LEGISLATIVE & ADVOCACY



MANAGEMENT/ADMINISTRATION



NEW BOARD MEMBER



SAFETY



STUDENTS/EARLY CHILDHOOD



TECHNOLOGY



WELLNESS

# A

## A - BREAKOUT SESSIONS THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16 - 9:45 TO 10:45 AM



### A1 A SESSION LIKE NO OTHER

Despite an unprecedented filibuster resulting in the creation of large omnibus packages, the legislature passed several bills impacting K-12 education. From student discipline in the classroom to budget considerations in the board room, learn about all the bills districts will navigate. With an eye to 2024, Colby and Mike will breakdown the issues that will dominate the upcoming session.

**PRESENTERS: Colby Coash - NASB; Mike Dulaney - NCSA**



### A2 ACCREDITATION 101: UNDERSTANDING THE MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS AND FLEXIBILITIES OF RULE 10

Whether you are a veteran administrator or new to the role, a Rule 10 review from the Office of Accountability, Accreditation and Program Approval can increase your confidence when building schedules, hiring teachers, and completing the annual Assurance Statement. This session will cover both the non-negotiables and built-in flexibilities of Nebraska's Rule 10: Regulations and Procedures for the Accreditation of Schools. NDE staff will also provide time for questions on current trends and challenges when reporting for compliance.

**PRESENTER: Brad Dirksen - NDE**



### A3 IS MY DISTRICT DOING SOMETHING WRONG WITH SPECIAL EDUCATION?

It starts off with an angry phone call from a parent and now your Superintendent received notice that the Nebraska Department of Education has placed your district under corrective action in response to a special education complaint. Is your District alone? NDE investigated 35 cases during the 2022-2023 school year. In this session, attorneys from the Perry Law Firm will discuss the state complaint process for special education, the implications of corrective action, and how to avoid corrective action by implementing appropriate policies and procedures. This presentation will cover discipline for students with disabilities, accommodations, service logs, behavior intervention plans, and more!

**PRESENTERS: Haleigh Carlson & Greg Perry - Perry Law Firm**



**TO REGISTER FOR THE CONFERENCE VISIT [WWW.NASBONLINE.ORG](http://WWW.NASBONLINE.ORG)**

# THURSDAY BREAKOUT SESSIONS



## **A4** AT THE BOARD TABLE – BEFORE, DURING, AND AFTER THE MEETING

Learn how the board can maximize time to ensure the regular board meeting agenda, utilization of best practice protocols and procedures, and how a collaborative culture between board members communicates a positive message to staff, parents, and patrons. The importance of integrating these components determines the board's effectiveness and the quality of education the district is providing. Join us to learn how to purposefully prepare for a board meeting that reflects cohesive board-superintendent leadership.

**PRESENTERS: Marcia Herring & Stacie Higgins - NASB**



## **A5** HOT TOPICS IN SCHOOL LAW

The (questionably) dynamic duo is back again this year to tell you all about recent updates in school law, including important court cases, new laws and legislation, and the legal issues boards and administrators should know about! Bring your questions, concerns, and lawyer jokes.

**PRESENTERS: Steve Williams & Bobby Truhe - KSB School Law**



## **A6** EDUCATOR SHORTAGE: IT'S TIME FOR ACTION!

The educator workforce shortage crisis is affecting schools and students across Nebraska. In this interactive session we will use the Nebraska Educator Shortage Summit Action Plan and AASPA's *"5 Shifts to Address the National Educator Shortage"* to discuss innovative ideas and recommendations for change at the local and state levels. You will also develop an action plan framework to address educator workforce challenges specific to your district. Join us as we exchange ideas, discuss strategies and implementation processes to continue the work of making sure all Nebraska districts have high quality educational leaders, teachers, and staff.

**PRESENTER: Sara Skretta - UNL**



## **A7** PUBLIC COMMENT: LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS UNDER THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT

In this session, we will walk through public comment as prescribed by the Open Meetings Act. Then, we will discuss real-world examples and how boards should handle both simple and complicated scenarios under the Open Meetings Act including complaints about staff members, discussions about student discipline matters, and threats of litigation.

**PRESENTER: Justin Knight - Perry Law Firm**



## **A8** DEVELOPING AND DEMONSTRATING LEARNING WITH TECHNOLOGY

The Westside Community Schools has a long history of using technology in instruction. This session will highlight examples of learning-focused iPad use with and by students in our current K-12 1:1 environment.

**PRESENTERS: Paul Lindgren & Matthew Lee - Westside Community Schools**



## **A9** BOARD AND COMMUNITY CULTURE IN CHALLENGING TIMES

In this session a panel of board members from across Nebraska will discuss the importance of a positive culture on school boards and in communities in these polarized times. The panel will share what has worked, what has caused challenges to success and strategies that have been implemented to improve the culture in their school and community.

**PRESENTERS: Keith Rohwer & Cinde Wendell - NCSA**



## **A10** MASTERING CHALLENGES TO IMPROVE LEARNING FACILITIES

After an extremely close second-attempt bond election ("One Vote Wonder!"), it was time to really get creative with our building projects. In order to accommodate the build of our new High School, teachers transitioned to a modified, alternate block schedule and students spent the 2022-2023 school year learning in a variety of creative locations across our community. Once the HS project phase was complete, it was time to start on construction and renovations for the Elementary School. We will share what worked, what had to be modified, and how our strong project partnerships resulted in success. Attend this session to not only learn about our construction project, but also how we used this exciting time to continue building support from our communities!

**PRESENTER: Jeremy Christiansen & Dustin Thompson - Laurel-Concord-Coleridge; Steve Thiele & Ashley Abramson - Hausmann Construction; Bob Soukup - CWP Architects; Cody Wickham - D.A. Davidson**

## B

## B - BREAKOUT SESSIONS THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16 - 11:15 AM TO 12:15 PM



### **B1** THE NSAA IN ACTION

The NSAA will discuss the legislative process and current initiatives that support and assist NSAA member schools in day-to-day operations.

**PRESENTER: Jennifer Schwartz – NSAA**



### **B2** ONE DISTRICT'S CUSTOMIZED TIERED APPROACH TO SUPPORTING STUDENT AND STAFF MENTAL WELLNESS



The Ord Public Schools has a unique custom developed approach to supporting student and staff mental wellness by offering tiered levels of support. This includes three Guidance Counselors for the K-12 district, a contracted Licensed Mental Health Practitioner in district part-time, and unlimited counseling and wellness sessions both online and in-person through a contracted prepaid partnership with Wholeness Healing. The unlimited counseling available to all students and staff has been highly impactful with helping to support both students and staff that find themselves in need of support. We would like to share with other districts how we were able to achieve this financially, and with scheduling. This system has been four years in the making, but knowing what we know now, other districts can learn from our template and follow some well-designed steps to make it happen in their districts.

**PRESENTER: Heather Nebesniak - Ord Public Schools**



### **B3** HOW MUCH CAN I REALLY KNOW? PERSONNEL MATTERS FOR SCHOOL BOARDS



This session will walk through the Nebraska Teacher Tenure Act and discuss the board's role in a personnel matter.

**PRESENTER: Josh Schauer & Greg Perry - Perry Law Firm**



### **B4** EFFECTIVE STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

A high-quality education does not stop after the last bell. The best education uses all of the contributions of a wide variety of stakeholders to support students. Yet, how do we communicate the many different efforts of education to our stakeholders? Moreover, how do we build commitment from our community for district initiatives? Join the Board Leadership Team as we explore the effective engagement of stakeholders and how to build meaningful relationships between the district and community.

**PRESENTERS: Marcia Herring, Caden Frank & Kari Stephens - NASB**



### **B5** KSB GOES TO HOLLYWOOD: PUBLIC COMMENT IN ACTION!

Public comment, our favorite topic! What, exactly, is permissible? What does a patron have to disclose before speaking? Is repetition permitted? What if they want to talk about students or staff members--we can stop that, right? This session will be interactive and display the horrible acting chops of the attorneys from KSB. We'll actually demonstrate and talk through how we recommend boards and administrators handle tricky situations dealing with public comment at board meetings (and a few bonus scenes board members deal with all the time).

**PRESENTERS: Bobby Truhe, Karen Haase, Steve Williams, Coady Pruett, Jordan Johnson & Sara Hento - KSB School Law**



### **B6** LEAD NEBRASKA: LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT TO ADDRESS ED PIPELINE SHORTAGES FOR ADMINISTRATOR CANDIDATES



ESU 6, in partnership with UNL Educational Administration and NCSA, have implemented an innovative program to address Ed leadership shortage challenges. The grant focuses on developing teacher leaders and fostering readiness for pursuing educational leadership through Ed Ad program pathways. Content was delivered through a series of seminars focusing on foundational skills of school leadership. Learn how ESU 6 and UNL are partnering to promote the next generation of Nebraska Ed Leaders!

**PRESENTERS: Scott Sturgeon & Nick Pace - UNL; John Skretta - ESU 6**

# THURSDAY BREAKOUT SESSIONS



## **B7** BOARD MEMBERS, SOCIAL MEDIA AND FREE SPEECH

Social media has become such a prevalent communication platform in today's society. Questions can and do arise with whether an elected public official's social media site is purely personal or has spilled over to the public domain. In this session, we will discuss some of these issues and how courts are addressing this. We will also discuss other communication media, including emails, text messages and the like.

**PRESENTERS: Derek Aldridge & Josh Schauer - Perry Law Firm**



## **B8** WOOD RIVER RURAL SCHOOLS RESPONDS TO HEALTH CARE WORKER DEMAND WITH CNA PROGRAM

To help meet demand for medical field workers, Wood River Rural Schools has established a Certified Nursing Assistant program. This was a collaboration with Central Community College, the Wood River community, and generous local donors. With this in-school opportunity, students are prepared for high demand, high pay, high skill careers in medical care. For those students who have a career interest in medicine, becoming a CNA gives them a valuable experience that opens many doors in their future. Join Shelby Allan, WRRSD School Nurse, plus past and current students as they discuss the ins and outs of this program.

**PRESENTER: Shelby Allan & Terry Zessin - Wood River Rural Schools**



## **B9** WHEN YOUR SCHOOL'S SAFETY IS UNDER ATTACK...WHAT I WISH I WOULD HAVE KNOWN PRIOR



We often say "it will never happen to us." We all have safety teams, crisis teams, and threat assessment teams...but things still happen. There is only so much the pieces of training and manuals can provide when a crisis strikes. This session will provide all the things I learned and wish I would have known prior to an incident that we all thought "would never happen to us."

**PRESENTER: Stephanie Kaczor - Riverside Public Schools**



## **B10** DIGITAL WISE PARENTING TO CREATE DIGITALLY FIT STUDENTS



What do adults need to be aware of when devices are a big part of children's lives? The core of many of the issues seen in schools originate from digital platforms, apps, and media. Exposure to digital nuances impact all of us on a behavioral, mental, and emotional level. Developing our digital wisdom will make us more mindful of the best practices to assist students with better digital: citizenship, literacy, privacy, and navigation within the virtual world to be safer and more secure in the real world. We will discuss: platform pressures, synthetic media, emotional exploitation, and digital fitness. Digital parent academies are needed to give them the tools to build a child's digital wisdom framework for safe platform participation.

**PRESENTER: Jay Martin - NDE**



**LEARNERS LEADING LEARNERS**

# THURSDAY BREAKOUT SESSIONS

## SUPERINTENDENT OF THE YEAR WILL BE RECOGNIZED AT THE THURSDAY LUNCHEON



### Previous Winners Include:

2024 - ANDY RIKLI, PAPILLION LA VISTA  
2023 - MARK LENIHAN, WAYNE  
2022 - TERRY HAACK, BENNINGTON  
2021 - JIM SUTFIN, MILLARD  
2020 - MARK ADLER, RALSTON  
2019 - MIKE TEAHON, GOTHENBURG  
2018 - JOHN SKRETTA, NORRIS  
2017 - CAROLINE WINCHESTER, CHADRON  
2016 - JAY BELLAR, BATTLE CREEK  
2015 - BRIAN MAHER, KEARNEY  
2014 - STEVE BAKER, ELKHORN  
2013 - KEVIN RILEY, GRETNA

2012 - BILL MOWINKEL, GRAND ISLAND NW  
2011 - MIKE CUNNING, HERSHEY  
2010 - KEITH LUTZ, MILLARD  
2009 - STEVE RECTOR, SOUTH SIOUX CITY  
2008 - LARRY RAMAEKERS, AURORA  
2007 - ROGER BREED, ELKHORN  
2006 - RICHARD EISENHAUER, LEXINGTON  
2005 - ROY BAKER, NORRIS  
2004 - DAN ERNST, WAVERLY  
2003 - RANDY NELSON, NORFOLK  
2002 - PHILIP SCHOO, LINCOLN  
2001 - KEITH ROHWER, NEBRASKA CITY

2000 - STEVE, JOEL, BEATRICE  
1999 - KENNETH ANDERSON, HASTINGS  
1998 - KEN BIRD, WESTSIDE  
1997 - RICK BLACK, CONESTOGA  
1996 - GARY HAMMACK, KEARNEY  
1995 - MARTIN PETERSEN, ALLIANCE  
1994 - VANDLE PHILLIPS, SOUTH SIOUX CITY  
1993 - FRED BELLUM, COLUMBUS  
1992 - GLENN LARSEN, ADAMS CENTRAL  
1991 - NORBERT SCHUERMAN, OMAHA  
1990 - DOUG CHRISTENSEN, NORTH PLATTE  
1989 - DONALD STROH, MILLARD



## C - BREAKOUT SESSIONS THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16 - 2:15 TO 3:15 PM



### C1 STUDENT VOICES

Students from Nebraska high schools share their perspectives on issues that are important to the leaders of tomorrow.



### C2 ADDRESSING DIVERSE POPULATIONS IN RURAL DISTRICTS TO ENSURE QUALITY EDUCATION IN GRADES PK-12



Lexington Public Schools will share how it is addressing the needs of the whole child in a rural district with a diverse population and student needs. From programs that support EL/Migrant populations to students experiencing poverty and trauma, LPS representatives will share some of the programs and approaches they have implemented to ensure all students are prepared to learn and succeed.

**PRESENTERS: John Hakonson, Angie Kovarik, Annette Fitzgerald - Lexington Public Schools**



### C3 ATHLETICS, ACTIVITIES, AND THE LAW

School athletics and activities present unique legal challenges. From name image and likeness (NIL) to transgender participation, these are hot button issues that impact all schools. In this session, we will discuss those matters along with important topics such as Title IX, booster club funds, and activities discipline. These are emerging areas of the law that are constantly impacted by court decisions and legislative activities, and it is important to stay ahead of the game (pun intended) on these topics.

**PRESENTERS: Josh Schauer & Derek Aldridge - Perry Law Firm**



### C4 WALKING ALONGSIDE THE BOARD THROUGH SUPERINTENDENT EVALUATION AND BOARD SELF-ASSESSMENT

Evaluating the superintendent is one of the primary functions of the board. Eliminate the obstacles that distract the board from administering an efficient and effective evaluation process. Are you allowing the superintendent to complete a self-assessment and do all board members participate in the evaluation of the superintendent? Join us to discuss the importance of the evaluation tool, protocols, and procedures for administering a fair and professional evaluation, plus adoption of goals to support superintendent accountability for growth of the district and his/her professional leadership.

**PRESENTERS: Marcia Herring & Katie Corfield - NASB**

**TO REGISTER FOR THE CONFERENCE VISIT [WWW.NASBONLINE.ORG](http://WWW.NASBONLINE.ORG)**



## C5 PERSONNEL MATTERS: FACT, FICTION, AND FUNCTION

Quality staff members make all the difference, and boards and administrators appropriately spend a lot of time, energy, and money ensuring students receive a top-notch education from excellent educators. It doesn't always work out that each educator is a fit for each school, and vice-versa. This presentation will make sure everyone understands their role and responsibilities during personnel cases, from the evaluation process through the school board hearing, focusing on key elements that prove difficult or frustrating every time. Whether you've been through it or not, there's always more to know!

**PRESENTERS: Karen Haase, Steve Williams & Jordan Johnson - KSB School Law**



## C6 RETAINING & HIRING MUSIC TEACHERS IN SMALL SCHOOLS

Music education is an integral part of a student's physical, mental, and emotional health. There is a concern across the state that small schools (especially those in more rural areas) are not filling their music positions. NSBA (Nebraska State Bandmasters Association), along with some administrators from across the state are going to share the efforts that are being made to prevent their small schools from being a "stepping stone" job and instead make it a "forever" job where their music teacher(s) can build a program and have a desire to stay.

**PRESENTERS: Emiley Bond - Nebraska State Bandmaster Association; Anna Sake - Palmer Public Schools**



## C7 WHAT HAPPENS IN CLOSED SESSION, STAYS IN CLOSED SESSION?

Closed session can be a very complicated area of the law. In this session, we will walk through the legal requirements and case studies involving entering into closed session, discussions during closed session, "leaks" from closed session, and other legal and practical issues that may arise during (or after) closed session. We will also discuss how to make the proper motion to enter into closed session, how to exit closed session, and how closed session entrance and exit should appear in minutes.

**PRESENTER: Justin Knight - Perry Law Firm**



## C8 REFRAMING THE FOUR-DAY WEEK DEBATE: STUDENT ENRICHMENT AND SUPPORTING THE PROFESSION

The move to a four-day school week and implementation of Optional Enrichment Fridays has realized some positive outcomes for both students and teachers! Our district's innovative approach to providing enrichment opportunities for students, meeting the needs of families, and tackling dwindling enrollment is now in its fifth year. This session provides an overview of implementing a radical change through the lenses of current research, community consultation, student engagement, and district leadership. The lessons learned in the process and plans for the future will be presented.

**PRESENTER: Evelyn Browne - Banner County School**



## C9 LIKE FREE, BUT STILL HIGH QUALITY?

The current reality in education is; tight budgets, staff shortages, unfunded mandates, and expensive materials. ESU 5 has looked at Open Education Resources (materials FREELY available online). We have vetted these units for quality and have put together a coherent K-12 science curriculum from these FREE units. Most of our units are already ranked "high quality." Interested in getting access to our FREE, vetted curriculum for your school? Come to this session and you will leave with FREE access to the units we have collected as well as our suggested scope and sequence for implementation.

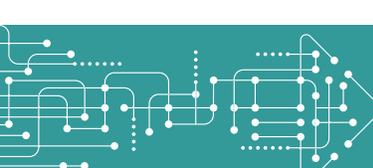
**PRESENTER: Annette Weise - ESU 5**



## C10 ESU BOARD MEMBER UPDATE

Attend this session for a review of events from the past year and a preview of the programs of interest to ESUs across the state.

**MODERATOR: Jim Luebbe - NASB**



## D

## D - BREAKOUT SESSIONS THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16 - 3:30 TO 4:30 PM



### **D1** WHO WILL BE YOUR DISTRICT'S NEXT SUPERINTENDENT?

Are you concerned about hiring a high-quality superintendent should your current superintendent resign? If so, then the Nebraska Association of Professors of School Leadership (NAPSL) would like to partner with you in developing solutions that will ensure future high-quality leaders for our Nebraska schools. During this session, NAPSL will facilitate conversations focused on Nebraska school leaders. The session will review Nebraska's history of superintendents along with examining how future Nebraska superintendents must be more diverse to keep up with demand. Board members and superintendents are encouraged to attend.

**PRESENTERS: Michael Sieh - Wayne State College; Kevin Riley - UNO; Shavonna Holman - UNL**



### **D2** EHA BENEFITS UPDATE

Overview of the health and dental plans available to EHA schools, member engagement programs, and an opportunity to address your benefit questions.

**PRESENTERS: Brett Young - BCBS; Greg Long - EHA**



### **D3** SCHOOL LAW JEOPARDY FOR BOARD PRESIDENTS

This session is targeted to current and aspiring school board presidents. From preparing agendas, managing public comment, and serving as the "chair" of the board, we will walk through a board president's legal "dos" and "donts."

**PRESENTER: Justin Knight & Josh Schauer - Perry Law Firm**



### **D4** DIGITIZING AND STREAMLINING YOUR BOARD MEETINGS AND STAFF NEGOTIATIONS

The days of using paper and manual calculations are slowly coming to an end. In this session, you will learn the features and benefits of the Sparq Meetings and Negotiations platforms; some of our tips and tricks for becoming more proficient and efficient; and what new changes have been added that make your life easier.

**PRESENTERS: Nicole Kobus & Darion Miller - Sparq Data Solutions**



### **D5** DUELING PIANOS, SCHOOL LAW STYLE

You've got the requests; they've got the keys. Jim and Karen will have some pre-planned topics to cover, and then they will open it up for requests! From personnel/student issues to the First Amendment, anything goes. Bring your questions and requests, and Karen and Jim will keep it 100 (or at least PG-13).

**PRESENTERS: Jim Gessford - Perry Law Firm; Karen Haase - KSB School Law**



### **D6** WHY DO SCHOOL BOARDS NEED TO PAY ATTENTION TO BIRTH TO FIVE?

You can't care about children's reading proficiency, academic success, and high school graduation rates without caring about quality early childhood education. The foundation for all future learning is built during children's earliest years. Yet, Nebraska does not have enough programs. Get insights from a new survey that shows Nebraska voters want early education supported like K-12 and higher education. Hear from school leaders about how they are leveraging funding sources and partnerships to build a birth-through-third grade continuum. Also learn how We Care for Kids can help.

**PRESENTER: Kara Ficke - We Care For Kids**



### **D7** HELPING HANDS

The North Platte Public School district's Helping Hands program is designed to have one college-aged student come into the classroom to serve as a positive mentor/role model to students with behavior needs. The Helper will support the student in the classroom by helping to keep the student on task, assist the student with coping skills, follow and implement Behavior Improvement Plans, and help identify the good things the student does during their time with them. The college students have received training from local Licensed Mental Health Providers.

**PRESENTERS: Todd Rhodes & Brandy Buscher - North Platte Public Schools**

# FRIDAY BREAKOUT SESSIONS



## CLASSROOM SHOWCASE FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17 - 8:00 TO 11:30 AM



## NASB DELEGATE ASSEMBLY FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17 - 8:00 TO 9:30 AM



## NASA MEMBERSHIP MEETING FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17 - 8:00 TO 9:30 AM



## E - BREAKOUT SESSIONS FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17 - 9:15 TO 10:15 AM



### E1 LOCAL VETERANS' HISTORY PROJECT

The Congressional Veterans History Project 2000 was designed to record the memories of WWII Veterans across the Nation. Unfortunately, most schools are still unfamiliar with this project and these memories are lost. Using the interview questionnaire from the CVHP our High School has interviewed around 60 area veterans who served in WWII to the present day. What we have learned is our students and veterans develop a unique relationship and learning opportunity. Students develop these skills: organizing, greeting, interviewing, listening, recording, writing, summarizing, and thanking. Skills that reach across the curriculum. Veterans benefit by seeing our community's youth being attentive and appreciative of the sacrifices service requires.

**PRESENTERS: Lance Swanson - South Sioux City Community Schools; Dwight Freiberg & Steve Shadle - Siouxland Freedom Park**



### E2 BOARD COMMITTEES - HOW TO EFFECTIVELY UTILIZE COMMITTEES

One Board's journey from near non-existent committee meetings to routine committee meeting utilization. Learn about the effect on board cohesiveness and communication, Board/Superintendent relations, community engagement and the evolution to more effective and efficient Board meetings.

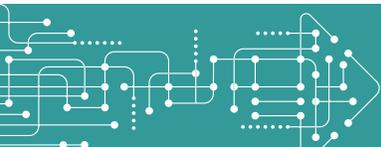
**PRESENTER: Alicia Beavers - Elm Creek Public Schools**



### E3 HOT TOPICS IN SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION AND FINANCING

In this session, we will discuss some of the basics of the statutory requirements for school districts contemplating facility construction projects. We will also discuss considerations of financing, including bond issue elections, assistance in this approach for school districts and the dos and don'ts for school districts. Finally, we will discuss some pitfalls that can occur in school construction.

**PRESENTER: Derek Aldridge - Perry Law Firm**





## **E4 ACCESS TO OVERALL WELL-BEING**



ESU 2 Team ACCESS (All Children Celebrated Educated Safe & Successful) is a program to support students, families, and districts by expanding services and programs that aim to address overall well-being. Team Access was created as a single entry point for our school districts to access our social support services. Our goal is to work together behind the scenes, to make it easier for schools to navigate our many social support programs. The presentation will review how ESU 2 Team ACCESS staff help coordinate services, provide educator training, and support through small group instruction or mental health counseling.

**PRESENTERS: Taira Masek & Megan Reese - ESU 2**



## **E5 PAIN IN THE APP, V. 9.0**



It's hard to believe it, but this annual favorite is now a 3rd grader! We will take board members and administrators through the most relevant and recent cases with information related to the intersection of schools and student use of technology and social media.

**PRESENTERS: Karen Haase & Sara Hento - KSB School Law**



## **E6 RECOGNITION: IT'S MORE THAN JUST A THANK YOU**

Workplace wellbeing is a hot topic in many school districts. Terms such as "self-care" are casually thrown around, but what is the right way to show meaningful appreciation to staff members? According to a recent Gallup survey, only 31% of U.S. teachers report feeling engaged at work. This means, almost 70% of teachers are going to work burned out or feeling depleted. In this session, attendees will learn the best practices in workplace recognition, strengths-based leadership, and engagement.

**PRESENTER: Hannah Miller - TeamMates Mentoring**



## **E7 ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) & REMOTE LEARNING ISSUES - WHERE ARE WE HEADED?**

Social media and Artificial Intelligence (AI) technology are changing the global framework of public education at a faster pace than ever before in history. From AI software programs designed to modify instructional delivery to meet each individual student's needs, to now, students using AI to complete their homework. Are we set for teacher email signature lines like "I'm teleworking on Mondays and Wednesdays," now common place in the private sector? We will explore the parameters of where public education is heading.

**PRESENTERS: Jim Gessford & Justin Knight - Perry Law Firm**



## **E8 MISSION: MENTAL HEALTH**

Mission: Mental Health is an original mental health initiative that was implemented at Lakeview Community Schools during the school year. Administrators and school counselors worked together to create this initiative to help prevent staff burnout and boost staff morale throughout the district. The initiative provided quarterly incentivized challenges to help staff members focus on taking care of themselves, checking in on their coworkers, and bringing awareness to mental health. The initiative was supported by community businesses with donations as incentives for staff. Mission: Mental Health was positively viewed by staff members, improved culture, and promoted mental health wellness.

**PRESENTERS: Aaron Plas - Bennington Public Schools; Mollie Rambour, Paige Rambour & Miranda Hellbusch - Lakeview Community Schools**



# F

## F - BREAKOUT SESSIONS FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17 - 10:30 TO 11:30 AM



### F1 WELLNESS 4ALL MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM

Attendees will learn about the impactful Wellness 4ALL mental health program that began in 2017 at Educational Service Unit 5 (ESU5). Fast forward six years, the program supports all 10 districts in ESU5, and an additional three districts outside of ESU5.

**PRESENTERS: Jen McNally, Brenda McNiff & Jamie Mapp - ESU 5**



### F2 ADDRESSING THE SUBSTITUTE TEACHER SHORTAGE, SERVING DIVERSE LEARNERS

Since December 2020, Central Community College has helped metro and rural schools address the critical substitute teacher shortage. Come and learn how CCC quickly responded by creating an accessible, engaging, informative human relations course. More than just a training, the course's design helps students gain a basic understanding of cultures' contributions to our pluralistic society as well as provide beginning strategies to advocate for human dignity and individual rights. Presenters will share a course outline and student stories of growth. The course is offered most every month and has been delivered to over 1,500 students and substitute candidates.

**PRESENTER: Abie Ott - Central Community College**



### F3 NEGOTIATIONS FOR BOARD MEMBERS

Negotiations is one of the most important functions of a school board. In fact, "personnel" is the largest item of a school district's budget. This session will walk through the statutory requirements for negotiations. We will also give boards an update on negotiations "hot topics" and ideas for the 2023-2024 negotiations season.

**PRESENTER: Justin Knight - Perry Law Firm**



### F4 CHECKING THE PULSE OF YOUR DISTRICT

Over the past 3 years education has changed. Boards, administrators, teachers, and students have handled situations and issues no one thought possible. So how is your district doing? How are you: Board Member? Superintendent? How are your Administrators? Staff Members? Students? Research shows that engaging all stakeholders is one way to "check the pulse of the district," grow student success, keep teachers, and gauge well-being of the school district. This session will address the importance of stakeholder engagement to help districts continue to better their climate and culture and grow student success.

**PRESENTERS: Kari Stephens & Marcia Herring - NASB**



### F5 PICKING YOUR OWN CONTRACTOR

Do you have a new construction project or a large renovation coming up? Do you need some construction management input before finalizing your design? Do you want the opportunity to select your construction manager based on experience and quality rather than just the lowest responsible bidder? Steve Williams and Coady Pruett will discuss the construction management at risk option for school districts, including when you can use a CM, the selection process, advantages, and how to avoid pitfalls. Any school board members or administrators who are thinking about an upcoming construction project or renovation should attend this session.

**PRESENTERS: Steve Williams & Coady Pruett - KSB School Law**



### F6 ORIENTATION AND MENTORING...STARTING OFF ON THE RIGHT FOOT

As board members, new or old, are there expectations for you as a board member that have been shared by board leadership or by the superintendent/administrator? Do you know where to access policies, staff information, board meeting minutes/agendas? Is there training you need to attend? What are the goals of the board? This session will provide a practical template for Board Orientation and Mentoring for school district or ESU boards. Please join us for this practical learning session, to enhance your school board member onboarding process.

**PRESENTER: Larianne Polk - ESU 7**

# FRIDAY BREAKOUT SESSIONS



## **F7 WE DON'T HAVE A POLICY ON TRANSGENDER STUDENTS, BUT SHOULD WE?**

The law and guidance surrounding transgender students is changing faster than ever before. In this presentation, attorneys from the Perry Law Firm will address the current status of the law concerning transgender students and will address when, if ever, your board should consider adopting a policy regarding the rights and privileges of transgender students.

**PRESENTERS: Greg Perry & Haleigh Carlson - Perry Law Firm**



## **F8 A LISTENING SESSION WITH MEMBERS OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Share your thoughts on statewide education policy with members of the State Board of Education. State Board members are particularly interested in what is currently affecting local school boards and districts, and the solutions you have to offer for these issues. Topics may include school accountability, accreditation, and approval; educator certification; and statewide assessment, among others. Attending this session is a great opportunity for you to have your voice heard among members of the State Board of Education.

**PRESENTERS: Ryan Foor - NDE; Patti Gubbels - State Board of Education**



# ANN MACTIER - SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER OF THE YEAR WILL BE PRESENTED AT THE FRIDAY LUNCHEON

**Previous Winners Include:**

2022 - MARCIA MAHON, SOUTH SIOUX CITY  
2021 - STEVE KOCH, HERSHEY  
2020 - MARIAN HOLSTEIN, WINNEBAGO  
2019 - VALERIE FISHER, PAPPILLON-LA VISTA  
2018 - KATHY DANER, LINCOLN  
2017 - BONNIE HINKLE, GRAND ISLAND  
2016 - TERRI HAYNES, CHADRON

2015 - LINDA RICHARDS, RALSTON  
2014 - BRAD KRIVOHLAVEK, NORFOLK  
2013 - PATTY BENTZINGER, NORRIS  
2012 - KATHY BARTEK, FALLS CITY  
2011 - JULIE AGARD, KEARNEY  
2010 - KIM FASSE, ELKHORN  
2009 - RON PEARSON, ESU #3

2008 - SANDRA JENSEN, OMAHA  
2007 - JOHN HANSEN, BELLEVUE  
2006 - FRED TAFOYA, PAPPILLON-LA VISTA  
2005 - WAYNE ERICKSON, WISNER-PILGER  
2004 - ANN MACTIER, OMAHA

## REGISTERING FOR THE CONFERENCE

REGISTRATION FOR THE 2023 STATE EDUCATION CONFERENCE WILL OPEN WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2023

To register, go to the NASB website at [www.NASBonline.org](http://www.NASBonline.org) and log in using your email and password, and click the State Education Conference link.

AS YOU REGISTER, BE SURE TO MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND THE EXHIBITOR RECEPTION FROM 4:00 TO 5:30 PM ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15. IF YOU HAVE SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS DUE TO A MEDICAL CONDITION, CONTACT ABI CARLSON AT 800-422-4572 TO ARRANGE ALTERNATIVE MENUS.



**TO REGISTER FOR THE CONFERENCE VISIT [WWW.NASBONLINE.ORG](http://WWW.NASBONLINE.ORG)**



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NOVEMBER 15-17  
CHI HEALTH CENTER - DOWNTOWN OMAHA

# LEARNERS LEADING LEARNERS



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and the Nebraska Association of School Administrators

