

Board of Education Regular Meeting

Monday, November 10, 2025 7:00 PM

Blair Central Office

1326 Park Street

Blair, NE 68008

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

Members of the Student Senate at Arbor Park Elementary 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

• Monday, October 13, 2025 Board of Education regular 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

7.3.1. The Blair Gridiron Club

The Blair Gridiron Club wish to donate an end zone camera to the BHS Football Program. The camera cost is \$3,720.

7.3.2. Blair Walmart

The Blair Walmart would like to donate 4,254 boxes of crayons to the schools, with a total value of \$6,125.76.

7.3.3. Robotics

Novonesis would like to donate \$1,000 to the Blair Robotics program, specifically for entry fees to competitions and new equipment to allow the students to continue to be innovative in their designs.

7.4. Consideration of Communications

7.4.1. 7.45 - Communication - Preschool & Early Childhood Presentation

7.4.2. 7.46 - Communication - 18-21 Program Pioneer Learning

7.4.3. 7.6 - Communication -Board & Superintendent Report

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/Curriculum Committee

The Policy Committee met on Tuesday, October 14, Monday and October 20, 2025. Meeting minutes are attached.

301.03 Succession of Authority to the Superintendent
 205.04 Policy Communication
 300.01 Principles and Objectives of Administration
 1101 Community Use of School Facilities
 1102 Community Use of School Facilities - Procedures

7.6.2. BG&T Committee

The Buildings, Grounds, and Transportation Committee met on Wednesday, October 29, 2025. Meeting minutes are attached.

7.6.3. Finance Committee

The Finance Committee met on Tuesday, November 4, 2025. Meeting minutes are attached.

7.7. Approval of New Teachers

7.8. Acceptance of Resignations

7.9. Superintendent Report

7.10. Informational Items

Monthly Board Reports

- Blair High School
- Otte Middle School
- Arbor Park Elementary
- Deerfield Elementary

7.11. 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.

Recommended Motion: To enter into Closed Session for the protection of public interest on the discussion of collective bargaining and the 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 invite Tom Shearer, Business Manager, to attend.

7.12. Items From Closed Session

8. Adjournment

THE NEBRASKA OPEN MEETINGS ACT
NEB. REV. STAT. §§ 84-1407 through 84-1414

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(1)(a) and (2)(a) require that (1) each 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; and (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.** 2024 Neb. Laws LB 287, § 74 amended § 84-1411 to authorize public bodies to publish notice on newspaper websites and “a statewide website established and maintained as a repository for such notices by a majority of Nebraska newspapers” (i.e., nepublicnotices.com) to satisfy publication requirements in instances when publication in a

newspaper is not feasible. These provisions became operative on April 17, 2024.

a. Until January 1, 2025:

- i. 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 website. Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411(1)(b)(i).
- ii. Governing bodies of cities of the second class or villages and their advisory committees or governing bodies of rural or suburban fire protection districts must either publish notice in a newspaper of general circulation within the public body's jurisdiction and, if available, on the newspaper's website, or post written notice in three conspicuous public places in the city, village or district. The posting locations must remain the same for each meeting. Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411(1)(b)(ii)(A)-(B).
- iii. For all other public bodies, notice shall be given by a method designated by the public body. Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411(1)(b)(iii).
- iv. In case of the newspaper's refusal, neglect, or inability to timely publish the notice, the public body shall (1) post the notice on its website, if available, and (2) post the notice in a conspicuous public place within the body's jurisdiction. The public body shall keep a written record of such posting, which shall be evidence that posting occurred and fulfilled the publication requirement. Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411(1)(b)(iv).
- v. Governing bodies of political subdivisions and their advisory committees may also 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.

b. Beginning January 1, 2025:

- i. Governing bodies of political subdivisions and their advisory committees must give notice by (1) publication in a newspaper of general circulation within the public body's jurisdiction that is finalized for printing prior to the time and date of the meeting, (2) posting on the newspaper's website, if available, and (3) posting on nepublicnotices.com. The newspaper shall place the notice in the newspaper and on the websites. Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411(2)(b)(i)(A).

OR

Give notice by (1) posting on the newspaper's website, if available, and (2) posting on nepublicnotices.com if no edition of a newspaper will be finalized for printing prior to the time and date of the meeting. The newspaper shall place the notice in the newspaper and on the websites. Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411(2)(b)(i)(B).

- ii. Governing bodies of cities of the second class and villages, and their advisory committees, or governing bodies of rural or suburban fire protection districts must give notice by (1) publication in a newspaper of general circulation within the public body's jurisdiction that is finalized for printing prior to the time and date of the meeting, (2) posting on the newspaper's website, if available, and (3) posting on nepublicnotices.com. The newspaper shall place the notice in the newspaper and on the websites. Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411(2)(b)(ii)(A).

OR

Give notice by (1) posting on the newspaper's website, if available, and (2) posting on nepublicnotices.com if no edition of the newspaper will be finalized for printing prior to the time and date of the meeting. The newspaper shall place the notice in the newspaper and on the websites. Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411(2)(b)(ii)(B).

OR

Give notice by posting written notice in three conspicuous places in the city, village or district. Notice must be posted in the same three places for each meeting. Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411(2)(b)(ii)(C).

- iii. For all other public bodies, notice shall be given by a method designated by the public body. Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411(2)(b)(iii).

 - iv. In case of the newspaper's refusal, neglect, or inability to publish the notice, the public body shall (a) post the notice on its website, if available, (2) submit a post on nepublicnotices.com, and (3) post the notice in a conspicuous public place within the public body's jurisdiction. The public body shall keep a written record of such posting, which shall be evidence that posting occurred and fulfilled the publication requirement. Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411(2)(b)(iv).
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(7), 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).
- 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.).
- 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(3) 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) and (2). 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(3)(b)(i)-(iii).

3. Limitation on Number of Virtual Meetings. Except as provided in Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 70-1014(1), 70-1014.02(2) or 79-2204(4), public bodies authorized to conduct virtual conferencing can hold no more than one-half of their meetings by virtual conferencing in a calendar year. The following entities may hold more than one-half of their meetings by virtual conferencing if at least one meeting in a calendar year is not virtual: An organization created under the Interlocal Cooperation Act that sells electricity or natural gas, an organization created under the Municipal Cooperative Financing Act, the governing body of a risk management pool and any advisory committee of the governing body, and any advisory committee of any state entity created in response to the Opioid Prevention and Treatment Act. See § 84-1411(3)(b)(iv). Amended by 2024 Neb. Laws LB 287, § 74 and LB 399, § 4.

4. Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411(9) (enacted 2022 Neb. Laws LB 908) authorizes public bodies not listed in § 84-1411(3)(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(3)(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 pertaining to virtual conferencing.

6. Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411 does not apply to meetings subject to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 70-1034 conducted by the Nebraska Power Review Board or a public power district, a public power and irrigation district, an electric membership association, an electric cooperative company, a municipality having a generation and distribution system, or a registered group of

municipalities. Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411(10), added as a result of 2024 Neb. Laws LB 1370, § 8.

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(6).** In order to hold an emergency meeting under § 84-1411(6), 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(5) 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(8)**. Section 84-1411(8) 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(6), 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(8): (i) reasonable advance publicized notice must be provided pursuant to § 84-1411(1) and (2); (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(5) 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. With the enactment of 2024 Neb. Laws LB 43, § 21, **public bodies must allow members of the public an opportunity to speak at each meeting, except for closed sessions.** This provision became operative on July 19, 2024.

3. 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.

4. 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 Nebraska 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.

Rev. 7/2024

Board of Education Board Meeting

October 13, 2025 7:00 PM

Blair Central Office

1326 Park Street, Blair NE 68008

Information concerning the Open Meeting Law, Chapter 84, Article 14 of Nebraska State Statutes, is posted in the room at a location accessible to members of the public and attached to the online agenda. The meeting notice was published in the Washington County Pilot-Tribune & Enterprise on Tuesday, October 7, 2025.

1. Call to Order

Mrs. Courtney Tabor, Vice President, called the Board of Education Regular meeting to order at 7:00pm.

2. Roll Call

Present Board Members: Denise Cada, Steve Callaghan, Ginger Fredericksen, Nate Larsen, Kari Loseke, Bob Schoby, Melaini Sturm, and Courtney Tabor

2.1. Approval of Absent Board Members - None

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Members of the Otte Blair Middle School Student Senate led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Approval of Emergency Additions to the Agenda - None

5. Call for Removal of Consent Agenda Items - None

6. 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	Yes
Nate Larsen	Yes
Kari Loseke	Yes
Bob Schoby	Yes
Melaini Sturm	Yes
Courtney Tabor	Yes

6.1. Waiver of reading minutes from previous meeting

6.2. Acceptance of minutes of the previous meeting as published

6.3. Receipt of Communications

6.4. Treasurer's Report

6.5. Audit of Claims

7. Business

7.1. Items removed from Consent Agenda - None

7.2. Recognitions

7.3. Acceptance of Gifts

7.3.1. Blair Fine Arts Boosters

Motion Passed: I move to accept the donations from the Blair Fine Arts Boosters for the high school Art Department and high school Show Choir, in the amount of \$10,607.05, as presented passed with a motion by Courtney Tabor and a second by Nate Larsen.

Denise Cada	Yes
Steve Callaghan	Yes
Ginger Fredericksen	Yes
Nate Larsen	Yes
Kari Loseke	Yes
Bob Schoby	Yes
Melaini Sturm	Yes
Courtney Tabor	Yes

7.3.2. Sonic Tools

Motion Passed: I move to accept the donation from Sonic Tools for four 61-piece MCS Socket and Bil Socket Sets valued at \$1,640 passed with a motion by Ginger Fredericksen and a second by Steve Callaghan.

Denise Cada	Yes
Steve Callaghan	Yes
Ginger Fredericksen	Yes
Nate Larsen	Yes
Kari Loseke	Yes
Bob Schoby	Yes
Melaini Sturm	Yes
Courtney Tabor	Yes

7.3.3. Otte Middle School 8th Grade Football

Motion Passed: I move to accept the donation from JW Services, LLC in the amount of \$2,750 for new football pants for the Otte Middle School 8th grade football team passed with a motion by Ginger Fredericksen and a second by Courtney Tabor.

Denise Cada	Yes
Steve Callaghan	Yes
Ginger Fredericksen	Yes
Nate Larsen	Yes
Kari Loseke	Yes
Bob Schoby	Yes
Melaini Sturm	Yes
Courtney Tabor	Yes

7.3.4. Blair FFA Chapter

Motion Passed: I move to accept the donation for the Blair FFA Chapter from the Sam Viersen Foundation in the amount of \$2,500 passed with a motion by Ginger Fredericksen and a second by Courtney Tabor.

Denise Cada	Yes
Steve Callaghan	Yes
Ginger Fredericksen	Yes

Nate Larsen	Yes
Kari Loseke	Yes
Bob Schoby	Yes
Melaini Sturm	Yes
Courtney Tabor	Yes

7.3.5. Blair PTO (Parent-Teacher Organization)

Motion Passed: I move to accept the donation from the Blair PTO in the amount of \$1,000 to be used to help purchase new ice makers for Deerfield and Arbor Park Elementary passed with a motion by Ginger Fredericksen and a second by Melaini Sturm.

Denise Cada	Yes
Steve Callaghan	Yes
Ginger Fredericksen	Yes
Nate Larsen	Yes
Kari Loseke	Yes
Bob Schoby	Yes
Melaini Sturm	Yes
Courtney Tabor	Yes

7.3.6. Cargill/Blair Bear Backers

Motion Passed: I move to accept the donation of \$1,000 from Cargill to the Blair Bear Backers, which will be allocated to the Future Farmers of America. (FFA) program for the Feed a Farmer Initiative passed with a motion by Ginger Fredericksen and a second by Courtney Tabor.

Denise Cada	Yes
Steve Callaghan	Yes
Ginger Fredericksen	Yes
Nate Larsen	Yes
Kari Loseke	Yes
Bob Schoby	Yes
Melaini Sturm	Yes
Courtney Tabor	Yes

7.4. Consideration of Communications

7.4.1. Blair Volleyball Club

The Blair Volleyball Club, represented by Mary Policy, is seeking approval to use the gym facilities at Otte Middle School. The request includes a time for tryouts on Sunday, November 23rd, from 4:00 to 6:00pm. Additionally, the club is requesting access for practice sessions every Sunday from December through mid-March, scheduled from 2:00 to 4:00pm.

Motion Passed: I move to approve the Blair Volleyball Club to use the Otte Blair Middle School gym on the following Sundays: November 23rd from 4:00 to 6:00pm and every Sunday from December through mid-March, from 2:00 to 4:00pm with a facility usage fee of \$7,168 passed with a motion by Ginger Fredericksen and a second by Steve Callaghan.

Denise Cada	Yes
Steve Callaghan	Yes
Ginger Fredericksen	Yes

Nate Larsen	Yes
Kari Loseke	Yes
Bob Schoby	Yes
Melaini Sturm	Yes
Courtney Tabor	Yes

7.5. Comments from The Public - None

7.6. Committee Reports

7.6.1. Americanism/Policy/Curriculum Committee

The Americanism/Policy/Curriculum Committee met on Monday, September 15, 2025 at 12:00pm. The Policy/Curriculum met on Monday, October 6, 2025 at 12:00pm. Reports from the committee were given by Denise Cada.

Motion Passed: I move to approve the resolution for the Option Enrollment capacities for the 2025-26 school year as presented passed with a motion by Denise Cada and a second by Melaini Sturm.

Denise Cada	Yes
Steve Callaghan	Yes
Ginger Fredericksen	Yes
Nate Larsen	Yes
Kari Loseke	Yes
Bob Schoby	Yes
Melaini Sturm	Yes
Courtney Tabor	Yes

Motion Passed: I move to approve the contract with Arbor Family Counseling for the 2025-26 school year, which provides employees/families with five counseling sessions each year at \$2.20/per employee/per month, along with two sessions for students/families at \$.74 per student/per month and to maintain a cap of three hours per week for additional supplemental counseling at a rate of \$200/hour passed with a motion by Denise Cada and a second by Melaini Sturm.

Denise Cada	Yes
Steve Callaghan	Yes
Ginger Fredericksen	Yes
Nate Larsen	Yes
Kari Loseke	Yes
Bob Schoby	Yes
Melaini Sturm	Yes
Courtney Tabor	Yes

Motion Passed: I move to approve on first reading revisions to policies 301.03-Succession of Authority to the Superintendent, 205.04-Policy Communication, 300.01-Principles and Objectives of Administration, 706.01-Purchasing Procedures, and first reading on new policies 706.01R-Administrative Regulation, and 706.01E1-Cardholder Agreement, 409.1-Professional Memberships, Conferences, and Substitute Coverages, 409.15-Teachers Serving as State Officers in Professional Organizations, and 627.50-National Student Organization Trips passed with a motion by Denise Cada and a second by Melaini Sturm.

Denise Cada	Yes
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Steve Callaghan	Yes
Ginger Fredericksen	Yes
Nate Larsen	Yes
Kari Loseke	Yes
Bob Schoby	Yes
Melaini Sturm	Yes
Courtney Tabor	Yes

7.6.2. BG&T Committee

The Buildings, Grounds, and Transportation Committee met on Tuesday, September 16, 2025 at 12:00pm. A report from the committee was given by Steve Callaghan.

Motion Passed: I move to accept the bid from Bid-Den Glass in the amount of \$6,746 for two automatic door operators at Deerfield Elementary passed with a motion by Steve Callaghan and a second by Melaini Sturm.

Denise Cada	Yes
Steve Callaghan	Yes
Ginger Fredericksen	Yes
Nate Larsen	Yes
Kari Loseke	Yes
Bob Schoby	Yes
Melaini Sturm	Yes
Courtney Tabor	Yes

7.6.3. Finance Committee

The Finance Committee met on Tuesday, August 19, 2025 and Tuesday, October 7, 2025 at 12:00pm. A report from the committee was given by Courtney Tabor.

Motion Passed: I move to enter into Interlocal Agreements with ESU#3 to share the District's contracted Physical Therapist services to provide to Brook Valley School and ESU#2 for a SPED Behavior Program for Student(s) in the amount of \$42,804 for the 2025-26 school year as presented passed with a motion by Courtney Tabor and a second by Bob Schoby.

Denise Cada	Yes
Steve Callaghan	Yes
Ginger Fredericksen	Yes
Nate Larsen	Yes
Kari Loseke	Yes
Bob Schoby	Yes
Melaini Sturm	Yes
Courtney Tabor	Yes

Motion Passed: I move to enter into a consulting services agreement for a period of one-year with Carl Dietz Consulting, LLC in the amount of \$15,000 passed with a motion by Courtney Tabor and a second by Bob Schoby.

Denise Cada	Yes
Steve Callaghan	Yes

Ginger Fredericksen Yes
Nate Larsen Yes
Kari Loseke Yes
Bob Schoby Yes
Melaini Sturm Yes
Courtney Tabor Yes

Motion Passed: I move to enter into a five-year agreement with Papercut for an annual fee of \$4,620, a five-year total of \$23,100 passed with a motion by Courtney Tabor and a second by Bob Schoby.

Denise Cada Yes
Steve Callaghan Yes
Ginger Fredericksen Yes
Nate Larsen Yes
Kari Loseke Yes
Bob Schoby Yes
Melaini Sturm Yes
Courtney Tabor Yes

Motion Passed: I move to approve the purchase of a new steamer for Deerfield Elementary, with a total not exceeding \$30,000, to be funded from the Lunch Fund passed with a motion by Courtney Tabor and a second by Steve Callaghan.

Denise Cada Yes
Steve Callaghan Yes
Ginger Fredericksen Yes
Nate Larsen Yes
Kari Loseke Yes
Bob Schoby Yes
Melaini Sturm Yes
Courtney Tabor Yes

Motion Passed: I move to approve the purchase of a Ventrac machine for \$64,066.90, which will be funded from the Savings Depreciation account passed with a motion by Courtney Tabor and a second by Bob Schoby.

Denise Cada Yes
Steve Callaghan Yes
Ginger Fredericksen Yes
Nate Larsen Yes
Kari Loseke Yes
Bob Schoby Yes
Melaini Sturm Yes
Courtney Tabor Yes

Motion Passed: I move to approve the first and final reading of policy 313.20-Internal Controls as presented passed with a motion by Courtney Tabor and a second by Steve Callaghan.

Denise Cada Yes
Steve Callaghan Yes

Ginger Fredericksen	Yes
Nate Larsen	Yes
Kari Loseke	Yes
Bob Schoby	Yes
Melaini Sturm	Yes
Courtney Tabor	Yes

7.7. Approval of New Teachers – None

7.8. Acceptance of Resignations – None

7.9. Board of Education Goals

Discussion focused on developing Board of Education goals for 2025-26.

7.10. Superintendent Report

7.11. Informational Items

8. Adjournment

Motion Passed: I move to adjourn meeting at 8:18pm passed with a motion by Steve Callaghan and a second by Bob Schoby.

Denise Cada	Yes
Steve Callaghan	Yes
Ginger Fredericksen	Yes
Nate Larsen	Yes
Kari Loseke	Yes
Bob Schoby	Yes
Melaini Sturm	Yes
Courtney Tabor	Yes

Angie Conety
Secretary Board of Education

Randall Gilson, Ed.D.
Superintendent

Blair Community Schools
 Financial Report to the Board of Education
 Cash-Bank Reconciliation
 October 31, 2025

10/01/2025 through 10/31/25

Book Balance

Beginning Balance		\$9,725,382.47
Total Receipts		\$1,922,376.96
Total Disbursements		-\$2,339,612.36
Reconciled Book Balance-Ending Balance		\$9,308,147.07

Bank Balance

Beginning Balance		\$1,034,543.07
Deposits	\$1,903,304.24	
Interest	\$179.32	
Total Receipts		\$1,903,483.56
Total Disbursements		-\$2,420,967.16
Bank Balance Ending Balance		\$517,059.47
Less Outstanding Checks/Wires		-\$9,857.03
Reconciled Bank Balance-Ending Balance		\$507,202.44

Reconciled Balance		\$507,202.44
Total Investments		\$8,800,944.63
Total General Fund Balance		\$9,308,147.07

Leslie Watts

 Leslie Watts, Board of Education Treasurer

11/5/25

 Date

Blair Community Schools
 Financial Report to the Board of Education
 Building Fund
 October 31, 2025

10/01/2025 through 10/31/25

Beginning Balance	\$4,574,353.91
Total Receipts	\$145,776.14
Total Disbursements	-\$13,811.94
Building Fund Balance	\$4,706,318.11

Bank Balance

Bank Balance Ending Balance	\$470,252.59
Less Outstanding Checks/Wires	\$0.00
Reconciled Bank Balance	\$470,252.59
Total Investments	\$4,236,065.52
Total Building Fund Balance	\$4,706,318.11

Blair Community Schools
 Financial Report to the Board of Education
 Savings Depreciation
 October 31, 2025

10/01/2025 through 10/31/25

Beginning Balance	\$2,232,022.59
Total Receipts	\$5,630.56
Total Disbursements	-\$69,369.24
Savings Depreciation Fund Balance	\$2,168,283.91

Bank Balance

Bank Balance Ending Balance	\$2,176,505.41
Less Outstanding Checks/Wires	-\$8,221.50
Total Savings Depreciation Fund Balance	\$2,168,283.91

ACTIVITY FUND & STUDENT FEE FUND-CHECKS ISSUED IN OCOTOBER 2025 TO BE RATIFIED 11/10/2025

VENDOR	TOTAL	ORGANIZATION	DESCRIPTION
LEARNIN THE ROPES	\$950.00	DF/W ADV COUNCIL	JUMP ROPE SHOW DF
VISA	\$252.70	DF/W ADV COUNCIL	CUSTOMINK
TAHER INC	\$475.00	DF/W ADV COUNCIL	DF STAFF BREAKFAST
VISA	\$222.55	AP ADVISORY COUNCIL	CUB HOUSE CUSTOMS
LIZ MOODY	\$151.84	AP ADVISORY COUNCIL	AP SUPPLIES
TAHER INC	\$180.00	AP ADVISORY COUNCIL	AP SALAD BAR
HAUFF SPORTS	\$799.00	JR. HIGH VOLLEYBALL	VB JERSEYS
VISA	\$119.60	8TH GRADE SHOW CHOIR	MUSIC NOTES.COM
DEREK FEY	\$1,000.00	OMS RUNNING CLUB	XC MEET TIMING FEE
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	\$68.31	OBMS STUDENT SENATE	STUDENT SEN SUPPLIES
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	\$262.19	OBMS STUDENT SENATE	CONCESSION SUPPLIES
VISA	\$364.99	OBMS STUDENT SENATE	SAMS CLUB
CASH	\$280.00	CROSS COUNTRY	STATE MEAL MONEY-XC
BOYS TOWN	\$150.00	CROSS COUNTRY	XC ENTRY FEE
TYLER SIECKE	\$149.52	FOOTBALL	EMPLOYEE MILEAGE
CHUCK LEWIS	\$140.00	FOOTBALL	OFFICIAL
RYAN LEWIS	\$140.00	FOOTBALL	OFFICIAL
THOMAS MILLER	\$140.00	FOOTBALL	OFFICIAL
GREGORY MASCHMAN	\$140.00	FOOTBALL	OFFICIAL
ROBERT GILLESPIE	\$140.00	FOOTBALL	OFFICIAL
NATHAN RUMP	\$140.00	FOOTBALL	OFFICIAL
PAUL SORGEN	\$140.00	FOOTBALL	OFFICIAL
GREG RUMP	\$140.00	FOOTBALL	OFFICIAL
BRYAN RUMP	\$140.00	FOOTBALL	OFFICIAL
BRADY RUMP	\$140.00	FOOTBALL	OFFICIAL
CRAIG TARR	\$140.00	FOOTBALL	OFFICIAL
CLIFFTON SHELDON	\$75.00	FOOTBALL	OFFICIAL
JASON KOERNER	\$75.00	FOOTBALL	OFFICIAL
JEREMY HOFF	\$75.00	FOOTBALL	OFFICIAL
TREVOR LOGEMAN	\$75.00	FOOTBALL	OFFICIAL
JEREMY HOFF	\$75.00	FOOTBALL	OFFICIAL
BRADY CAROLL	\$75.00	FOOTBALL	OFFICIAL
ZACHARY HUNNEL	\$75.00	FOOTBALL	OFFICIAL
ANTHONY RANDALL	\$75.00	FOOTBALL	OFFICIAL
PREMIER SPORTS OFFICIALS	\$160.00	FOOTBALL	FB ASSIGNOR
BRYAN GONZALEZ	\$75.00	FOOTBALL	OFFICIAL
BRADY CAROLL	\$75.00	FOOTBALL	OFFICIAL
JORDAN STEWARD	\$75.00	FOOTBALL	OFFICIAL
JACOB MOORE	\$75.00	FOOTBALL	OFFICIAL
BRIAN O'NEAL	\$140.00	FOOTBALL	OFFICIAL
DARWIN ROHDE	\$155.00	GIRLS SOFTBALL	UMPIRE
MATT TITKEMEIER	\$155.00	GIRLS SOFTBALL	UMPIRE
CHARLES PEASINGER	\$75.00	GIRLS SOFTBALL	UMPIRE
JOHN VEJVODA	\$75.00	GIRLS SOFTBALL	UMPIRE
DAVID NELSON	\$75.00	GIRLS SOFTBALL	UMPIRE
BRADLEY LARSEN	\$75.00	GIRLS SOFTBALL	UMPIRE
DAVID CHRISTENSEN	\$80.00	GIRLS SOFTBALL	UMPIRE
RODNEY MARTIN	\$80.00	GIRLS SOFTBALL	UMPIRE
RODNEY MARTIN	\$155.00	GIRLS SOFTBALL	UMPIRE
LUKAS KLUEBER	\$155.00	GIRLS SOFTBALL	UMPIRE
MINDY SCHLECHT	\$152.00	GIRLS SOFTBALL	UMPIRE
BRYAN GONZALEZ	\$153.00	GIRLS SOFTBALL	UMPIRE
J D HOOGESTRAAT	\$156.00	GIRLS SOFTBALL	UMPIRE
FRANK PECHA	\$158.00	GIRLS SOFTBALL	UMPIRE
RON JONES	\$159.00	GIRLS SOFTBALL	UMPIRE

VENDOR	TOTAL	ORGANIZATION	DESCRIPTION
PHIL WISEMAN	\$164.00	GIRLS SOFTBALL	UMPIRE
BRUCE SAUNDERS	\$168.00	GIRLS SOFTBALL	UMPIRE
CASH	\$2,016.00	GIRLS SOFTBALL	MEAL \$
CASH	(\$488.00)	GIRLS SOFTBALL	STATE MEAL MONEY RETURN
LINCOLN SOUTHEAST	\$175.00	GIRLS SOFTBALL	SOFTBALL ENTRY FEE
CASH	\$216.00	GIRLS GOLF	MEAL \$
4 SEASON AWARDS	\$89.25	GIRLS GOLF	GOLF AWARDS
JIM & CONNIE'S BLAIR BAKERY	\$48.54	GIRLS GOLF	GOLF COACH MEALS
JACKIE WARRICK	\$140.00	VOLLEYBALL	OFFICIAL
DAVID RADDATZ	\$140.00	VOLLEYBALL	OFFICIAL
SUSAN BEVERLAND	\$45.00	VOLLEYBALL	OFFICIAL
TAYLOR KLASSEN	\$45.00	VOLLEYBALL	OFFICIAL
DAVE DIBBEN	\$80.00	VOLLEYBALL	OFFICIAL
ANGIE DIEHM	\$80.00	VOLLEYBALL	OFFICIAL
LUKE WILLAMON	\$85.00	VOLLEYBALL	OFFICIAL
ELOISE HIEMKE	\$85.00	VOLLEYBALL	OFFICIAL
MARK KIRLIN	\$105.00	VOLLEYBALL	OFFICIAL
MERRI DIBBEN	\$110.00	VOLLEYBALL	OFFICIAL
DANIEL DIBBEN	\$110.00	VOLLEYBALL	OFFICIAL
ELOISE HIEMKE	\$190.00	VOLLEYBALL	OFFICIAL
CANDYCE MCLEAREN	\$190.00	VOLLEYBALL	OFFICIAL
THOMAS JEFFERSON HIGH SCHOOL	\$100.00	VOLLEYBALL	VB ENTRY FEE
SKILLS USA INC	\$112.00	SKILLS USA	ADVISOR DUES
NEBR WRESTLING CAMP	\$142.50	WRESTLING	COACHES CLINIC
GAME ONE	\$1,486.80	B-CLUB	WEIGHT LIFTING SHIRTS
VISA	\$750.00	BEAR TRACKS	TBP PRODUCTIONS
SPARTAN STORES LLC	\$24.95	NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY	NHS SUPPLIES
NAT'L FFA ORGANIZATION	\$60.00	F. F. A.	FAAJACKET
NAT'L FFA ORGANIZATION	\$60.00	F. F. A.	FAAJACKET
NAT'L FFA ORGANIZATION	\$60.00	F. F. A.	FAAJACKET
NAT'L FFA ORGANIZATION	\$60.00	F. F. A.	FAAJACKET
NAT'L FFA ORGANIZATION	\$60.00	F. F. A.	FAAJACKET
NAT'L FFA ORGANIZATION	\$60.00	F. F. A.	FAAJACKET
NAT'L FFA ORGANIZATION	\$60.00	F. F. A.	FAAJACKET
NAT'L FFA ORGANIZATION	\$65.00	F. F. A.	PATTERN FFA WATERFALL SCA
NAT'L FFA ORGANIZATION	\$32.00	F. F. A.	PATTERN FFA TIE NAVY
NAT'L FFA ORGANIZATION	\$52.00	F. F. A.	ESTIMATED SHIPPING/HANDLI
NEBR MUSIC EDUCATION ASSOCIATION	\$125.00	NSAA DISTRICT MUSIC	ALL STATE AUDITION
NEBR MUSIC EDUCATION ASSOCIATION	\$375.00	NSAA DISTRICT MUSIC	ALL STATE CHOIR
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	\$836.79	MUSICAL	MUSICAL COSTUMES
S E SMITH & SONS	\$1,185.76	MUSICAL	DRAMA SUPPLIES
THE SIGN DEPOT	\$305.00	DANCE TEAM	DANCE TEAM BANNERS
ROBOTICS EDUCATION & COMPETITION	\$600.00	SCIENCE & ROBOTICS CLUB	ROBOTICS COMPETITION
COUNTRY GARDENS BLAIR FLORISTS	\$435.00	HS STUDENT SENATE	HOMECOMING FLOWERS
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	\$26.48	HS STUDENT SENATE	HOCO CROWNS
SKUTT CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL	\$200.00	SHOW CHOIR	SHOW CHOIR ENTRY
BELLEVUE EAST HIGH SCHOOL	\$300.00	SHOW CHOIR	SHOW CHOIR ENTRY
NEBR THESPIANS	\$175.00	THESPIANS	REGISTRATION
TYLER SIECKE	\$141.96	ALL SPORTS	EMPLOYEE MILEAGE
NANONATION INC.	\$900.00	ALL SPORTS	DIGITAL TROPHY/HOF
WASHINGTON COUNTY BANK	\$251.79	ALL SPORTS	ACTIVITY FUND DEPOSIT SLIPS
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	\$156.24	ALL SPORTS	SPORTS SUPPLIES
VISA	\$37.98	ALL SPORTS	OMAHA WORLD HERALD
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	\$85.53	ALL SPORTS	SENIOR FLOWERS
NEBR WRESTLING CAMP	\$142.50	WRESTLING - GIRLS	COACHES CLINIC
POUNDS PRINTING INC	\$105.00	CAMP-VOLLEYBALL	VOLLEYBALL POSTERS

VENDOR	TOTAL	ORGANIZATION	DESCRIPTION
THE SIGN DEPOT	\$303.50	CAMP-VOLLEYBALL	VB SHIRTS
BLAIR COMMUNITY SCHOOLS	\$1,730.00	CAMP-STRENGTH & CONDITIONING	CAMP WORKER-GF PAYROLL REIMBURSE
PEPSI CO	\$1,702.25	BHS CONCESSIONS	CONCESSION SUPPLIES
PEPSI CO	\$747.41	BHS CONCESSIONS	CONCESSION SUPPLIES
PEPSI CO	\$1,113.27	BHS CONCESSIONS	CONCESSION SUPPLIES
SPARTAN STORES LLC	\$11.94	BHS CONCESSIONS	CONCESSION SUPPLIES
VISA	\$266.02	BHS CONCESSIONS	SAMS CLUB
VISA	\$342.78	BHS CONCESSIONS	PRIMA DISTRIBUTION
VISA	\$964.59	BHS CONCESSIONS	SAMS CLUB
VISA	\$1,855.94	BHS CONCESSIONS	SAMS CLUB
JEREMY HOFF	\$80.00	JR HIGH FOOTBALL	OFFICIAL
MICHAEL HAGGE	\$80.00	JR HIGH FOOTBALL	OFFICIAL
CLIFFTON SHELDON	\$80.00	JR HIGH FOOTBALL	OFFICIAL
GWENDOLYN PORTER	\$80.00	JR HIGH FOOTBALL	OFFICIAL
BLAKE HOUGHTALING	\$80.00	JR HIGH FOOTBALL	OFFICIAL
JASON HARTVING	\$80.00	JR HIGH FOOTBALL	OFFICIAL
MICHAEL HAGGE	\$60.00	JR HIGH FOOTBALL	OFFICIAL
JEREMY HOFF	\$60.00	JR HIGH FOOTBALL	OFFICIAL
RICHARD MORRISSY	\$60.00	JR HIGH FOOTBALL	OFFICIAL
KRISTI RASMUSSEN	\$55.00	JR. HIGH VOLLEYBALL	OFFICIAL
JASON KOERNER	\$80.00	JR. HIGH VOLLEYBALL	OFFICIAL
KILEY KASTRUP	\$90.00	JR. HIGH VOLLEYBALL	OFFICIAL
KRISTI RASMUSSEN	\$90.00	JR. HIGH VOLLEYBALL	OFFICIAL
KRISTI RASMUSSEN	\$100.00	JR. HIGH VOLLEYBALL	OFFICIAL
KILEY KASTRUP	\$100.00	JR. HIGH VOLLEYBALL	OFFICIAL
KILEY KASTRUP	\$135.00	JR. HIGH VOLLEYBALL	OFFICIAL
KRISTI RASMUSSEN	\$135.00	JR. HIGH VOLLEYBALL	OFFICIAL
KILEY KASTRUP	\$90.00	JR. HIGH VOLLEYBALL	OFFICIAL
KRISTI RASMUSSEN	\$90.00	JR. HIGH VOLLEYBALL	OFFICIAL
SUSAN KEENEY	\$110.00	JR. HIGH VOLLEYBALL	OFFICIAL
PAPILLION-LAVISTA SOUTH HS	\$110.00	OMS RUNNING CLUB	STATE XC ENTRY
VISA	\$16.36	HOME EC LAB FEES	FAMILY FARE
VISA	\$36.77	HOME EC LAB FEES	WALMART
VISA	\$66.40	HOME EC LAB FEES	WALMART
VISA	\$150.00	HOME EC LAB FEES	WALMART
VISA	\$163.16	HOME EC LAB FEES	WALMART
VISA	\$447.40	HOME EC LAB FEES	WALMART.COM
VISA	\$465.22	HOME EC LAB FEES	COSTCO
MATHESON TRI-GAS INC	\$78.23	VOCATIONAL EDUCATION	WELDING GAS
MARK BOWDER	\$300.00	VOCATIONAL EDUCATION	SCAFFOLDING
S E SMITH & SONS	\$523.20	VOCATIONAL EDUCATION	WOODS CLASS SUPPLIES
NAT'L FFA ORGANIZATION	\$900.00	F. F. A.	NATIONAL FFA REGISTRATION
NEBR FBLA	\$1,317.90	F. B. L. A.	FNLA NFLC HOTEL
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	\$209.64	SHOW CHOIR	SHOW CHOIR COSTUMES

GENERAL FUND CLAIMS - 11/10/2025

VENDOR	AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION
ABE'S TRASH SERVICE INC	\$3,566.15	TRASH SERVICES
ACELLUS EDUCATIONAL SERVICES LLC	\$7,268.00	ONLINE LEARNING PROGRAM- 2024-25 EXPENSE & SUMMER SCHOOL
ADAMS PIANO SERVICE	\$125.00	BHS PIANO TUNING
AE SUPPLY	\$1,027.00	PLUMBING SUPPLIES
AJ'S SERVICE AND REPAIR INC	\$3,889.00	BUS REPAIRS & INSPECTIONS
ALBIREO ENERGY	\$380.00	OMS HVAC REPAIRS
ALLIED APPLIANCE	\$95.00	FCS CLASSROOM REFRIGERATOR REPAIRS
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	\$2,313.10	PRESCHOOL SUPPLIES, OFFICE SUPPLIES, CLASSROOM SUPPLIES, TECHNOLOGY SUPPLIES, SPED SUPPLIES, CUSTODIAL SUPPLIES, LIBRARY BOOKS
ANNE CHRANS	\$245.36	EMPLOYEE REIMBURSE- SPED PRAXIS EXAM & SIXPENCE GRANT SUPPLIES
ARBOR FAMILY COUNSELING	\$750.00	ONSITE COUNSELING SERVICES- SEPT25
BALLS OUT MOTORS LLC	\$21.39	GROUNDS MOWER REPAIR
BIG DAY CELEBRATION	\$145.00	WELCOME BACK SIGNS- ARBOR PARK
BIL-DEN GLASS	\$1,684.80	DOOR REPAIRS (DF, BHS)
BLAIR ACE HARDWARE	\$97.68	MAINTENANCE & CUSTODIAL SUPPLIES
BLICK ART MATERIALS	\$472.86	BHS ART SUPPLIES
BOMGAARS	\$38.99	GROUNDS SUPPLIES
BRIDGETTE OLSON	\$37.59	EMPLOYEE MILEAGE
CAPITAL BUSINESS SYSTEMS INC	\$2,418.76	COPIER SERVICES & LEASE
CAROLINA BIOLOGICAL SUP CO	\$129.80	SCIENCE CLASSROOM SUPPLIES
CARQUEST AUTO PARTS	\$150.34	GROUNDS SUPPLIES
CHRIS SCHULER	\$675.00	EMPLOYEE TUITION ASSISTANCE REIMBURSEMENT
CISSY JENNINGS	\$1,519.56	PARENT MILEAGE
CITY OF BLAIR	\$4,155.31	UTILITY - WATER/SEWER
COLORADO/WEST EQUIPMENT INC	\$261.77	SPED TRANSPORTATION HOUDINI VEST
CONTROL SERVICES INC	\$2,385.80	HVAC CONTROL REPAIRS (AP, BHS)
CORNHUSKER INTERNATIONAL TRUCKS	\$2,626.11	BUS REPAIRS
CPI TELECOM	\$450.00	PHONE SYSTEM REPAIRS
DANA F COLE & CO LLP	\$14,320.00	2024-25 FINANCIAL AUDIT & AFR (80% OF THE TOTAL FEE)
DICK'S ELECTRIC	\$2,269.01	MAINTENANCE ELECTRICAL REPAIRS
DIETZE MUSIC HOUSE	\$348.05	BAND & CHOIR MUSIC, AP BAND INSTRUMENT REPAIRS
EBSCO INDUSTRIES INC.	\$319.00	LIBRARY BOOKS
ECHO GROUP INC.	\$1,096.90	MAINTENANCE SUPPLIES
EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT #3	\$54,980.98	SPED CONTRACT SERVICES (VISION, SLP, EC COORDINATOR, SCHOOL PSYCH) & BROOKE VALLEY SPED STUDENT TUITION
ENTERPRISE PUBLISHING CO INC	\$1,972.88	LEGAL NOTICE ADVERTISING (AUG-OCT)
EWELL EDUCATIONAL SERVICES	\$540.00	CTE GRANT ONLINE AET SUBSCRIPTION
FAIRWAY OIL CO	\$9,329.55	BUS & VEHICLE FUEL
FIREGUARD LLC	\$1,438.30	FIRE ALARM SERVICES (OMS,BHS)
FIRST WIRELESS INC	\$140.00	SCHOOL SAFETY - WALKIE TALKIES
FOLLETT SCHOOL SOLUTIONS LLC	\$1,394.67	BHS LIBRARY SUBSCRIPTIONS
GOODWILL INDUSTRIES INC	\$21,475.00	SPED WORK EXPERIENCE
GRAINGER	\$61.07	CUSTODIAL SUPPLIES & SPED BRAILLE SIGN
GREATER OMAHA CHAMBER	\$500.00	ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES
GRUNWALD MECHANICAL	\$8,871.02	PLUMBING REPAIRS (AP, OMS, BHS)
HEARTLAND FOUNDATION	\$5,170.00	SPED TUITION - OCT25
IDEAL PURE WATER	\$484.69	PURIFIED DRINKING WATER SUPPLIES
J F AHERN CO	\$8,134.00	FIRE SPRINKLER INSPECTIONS, REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE (OMS, BHS)
J W FLOORING INC	\$1,400.00	BHS FLOOR REPAIRS
JENSEN WELL CO INC	\$4,284.80	PRACTICE FIELD WELL REPAIRS
JESSICA KOEHN	\$44.80	EMPLOYEE MILEAGE
JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL	\$16.03	GROUNDS EQUIPMENT REPAIRS
JOURNEYED.COM INC.	\$6,539.40	MICROSOFT OFFICE SOFTWARE
KYLIE CHUDOMELKA	\$1,782.20	PARENT MILEAGE
LARRY'S BOILER SERVICE	\$15,229.12	BOILER REPAIRS
LESLY WARD	\$83.30	SIXPENCE- EMPLOYEE MILEAGE
MARCIE REED	\$1,646.40	PARENT MILEAGE
MATHESON TRI-GAS INC	\$919.49	AIR FILTER SUPPLIES
MCKINNIS ROOFING INC	\$533.37	ROOF REPAIRS (S)
MECHANICAL SYSTEMS INC	\$25,782.34	HVAC REPAIRS (S, DF, AP, OMS, BHS, N)
MEMORIAL COMMUNITY HOSPITAL	\$358.00	BUS DRIVER PHYSICALS
NANNEN PHYSICAL THERAPY	\$20,833.26	CONTRACTED PHYSICAL & OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY SERVICES
NCSA	\$1,456.00	EMPLOYEE TRAININGS - ADMIN DAYS (OMS), MEMBERSHIP DUES
NEBR AIR FILTER INC	\$100.44	AIR FILTER SUPPLIES
NEBR COUNCIL ON ECONOMIC ED	\$144.00	STOCK MARKET GAME FEES (BHS)
NEBR FFA ASSOCIATION	\$40.00	AG ED SYMPOSIUM TRAINING
NEBR SAFETY CENTER	\$325.00	BUS DRIVER TRAINING
NEBRASKA SCIENTIFIC	\$394.64	SCIENCE CLASSROOM SUPPLIES- COW EYEBALLS (OMS)

OFFICE DEPOT	\$3,477.47	PRESCHOOL SUPPLIES, CLASSROOM SUPPLIES, OFFICE SUPPLIES, PAPER SUPPLIES
OMAHA PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT	\$32,404.39	UTILITY - ELECTRICITY
ONE SOURCE BACKGROUND CHECK COMPANY	\$333.80	BACKGROUND CHECKS
PATRICIA CONRADSON	\$16.25	EMPLOYEE REIMB- BUS DRIVER CDL FEE
PERRY GUTHERY HAASE GESSFORD	\$2,314.80	LEGAL SERVICES
POUNDS PRINTING INC	\$3,119.21	CENSUS SUPPLIES
PROFESSIONAL FORMS INC	\$67.14	BUSINESS CARDS
PURPLE COMMUNICATIONS INC.	\$312.74	HEARING IMPAIRED TRANSLATING
QUADIENT FINANCE USA INC	\$1,000.00	POSTAGE
QUADIENT LEASING USA INC	\$359.94	POSTAGE MACHINE LEASE
S E SMITH & SONS	\$1,348.16	MAINTENANCE SUPPLIES & WALL DIVIDER SUPPLIES
SAPP BROTHERS	\$423.91	GROUPS EQUIPMENT FUEL
SCHOLASTIC MAGAZINES	\$171.88	AP KINDERGARTEN MAGAZINES
SCHOOL DATEBOOKS INC.	\$684.92	STUDENT AGENDAS (DF)
SECURITY EQUIPMENT INC	\$976.50	SECURITY SYSTEM REPAIRS (AP, OMS, BHS)
SHOTWELL GLASS	\$286.14	PRESS BOX REPAIRS
SPARTAN STORES LLC	\$404.22	SPED SUPPLIES & PBIS SUPPLIES
STAPLES BUSINESS ADVANTAGE	\$83.80	PRINT CENTER SUPPLIES
STERICYCLE INC	\$3,413.04	SHREDDING SERVICES
STRATUS BUILDING SOLUTIONS	\$20,236.00	CONTRACTED CUSTODIAL SERVICES- NOV25
TAHER INC	\$3,456.89	PRESCHOOL SNACKS, SIXPENCE FAMILY ENGAGEMENT, COMMITTEE MEETINGS
TAMMY HOLCOMB	\$46.20	EMPLOYEE MILEAGE
TEACHING STRATEGIES LLC	\$3,985.00	PRESCHOOL TRAINING WEBINAR- IMPLEMENTING STUDIES
THE HOME DEPOT PRO	\$8,423.73	CUSTODIAL SUPPLIES & EQUIPMENT
UNITE PRIVATE NETWORKS LLC	\$839.11	DISTRICT NETWORK SERVICES - NOV25
US CELLULAR	\$218.95	MIFI INTERNET SERVICES
US POSTAL SERVICE	\$370.00	PO BOX RENTAL
USU/TAESE	\$300.00	SPED TRAINING - 2025 TRI STATE CONFERENCE
VERIZON	\$90.10	ATHLETIC IPAD WIFI SERVICES, WIRELESS DEVICE
WASHINGTON CO EXTENSION OFFICE	\$35.00	SCIENCE CLASSROOM SUPPLIES - EGG EMBRYOLOGY
WOODCRAFT SUPPLY LLC	\$328.94	WOODS CLASS SUPPLIES
WOODRIVER ENERGY LLC	\$2,108.06	UTILITY - GAS
Summary	\$343,323.37	

GENERAL FUND-CHECKS ISSUED TO BE RATIFIED 11/10/2025

VENDOR	TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
PERRY GUTHERY HAASE GESSFORD	\$2,602.60	LEGAL FEES CORRECTED AMOUNT OWED
VISA	\$3,936.84	OFFICE SUPPLIES, SIXPENCE GRANT SKINNY BONES FAMILY ENGAGEMENT, E-BOOKS, TRAVEL COSTS FOR TRAINING, BUS DRIVER LICENSES, ONLINE SUBSCRIPTIONS, SPELLING BEE, SIXPENCE SUPPLIES, ORGANIZATION MEMBERSHIPS, SAMS CLUB MEMBERSHIP, MEETING EXPENSES, CREDIT CARD FEES
Summary	\$3,936.84	

GENERAL FUND-OCTOBER 2025 PAYROLL & BENEFITS TO BE RATIFIED 11/10/2025

GROSS PAYROLL	\$1,517,621.18	GROSS SALARY & WAGES
NET PAYROLL - DIRECT DEPOSITS	\$1,082,259.96	NET PAY CHECKS- DIRECT DEPOSIT TOTALS
NET PAYROLL - MANUAL CHECKS	\$1,498.86	NET PAY CHECKS - MANUAL CHECK TOTALS
NEBRASKA REVENUE NEB EPAY.	\$54,439.05	NE STATE W/H
OMNI FINANCIAL1 CORP COLL	\$6,508.66	P/R DEDUCTION - 403(B) INVESTMENTS
OUTGOING WIRE TO US TREASURY	\$358,789.39	FEDERAL W/H, FICA W/H & FICA TAXES
RETIREMENT	\$229,270.57	RETIREMENT DEDUCTION & BENEFIT
VISION SERVICE PLAN INSURANCE CO	\$1,729.98	P/R DEDUCTION - VISION INSURANCE
NATIONAL INSURANCE SERVICES OF WI	\$6,127.36	EMPLOYEE LTD & LIFE INSURANCE BENEFITS
SECTION 125	\$6,911.94	P/R DEDUCTION - FLEX PLAN CONTRIBUTIONS
BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD	\$292,645.75	EMPLOYEE HEALTH & DENTAL INSURANCE
CREDIT MANAGEMENT SERVICES	\$512.43	P/R DEDUCTION - GARNISHMENT
CREDIT MANAGEMENT SERVICES	\$15.04	P/R DEDUCTION - GARNISHMENT
NE DEPT OF REVENUE	\$150.00	P/R DEDUCTION - GARNISHMENT
NORTHERN RESTORATION	\$417.50	P/R DEDUCTION - GARNISHMENT
ERIN MCCARTNEY	\$185.00	P/R DEDUCTION - GARNISHMENT

BOND FUND CLAIMS 11/10/2025

VENDOR	TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
BOK FINANCIAL	\$15,265.00	BOND DEBT SERVICE - INTEREST, PAYING AGENT FEE
Summary	\$15,265.00	

LUNCH FUND CLAIMS 11/10/2025

VENDOR	TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
S & S PUMPING SERVICE	\$200.00	PUMP GREASE TRAP (BHS)
HOME TOWN REPAIR SERVICES	\$1,721.75	DISHWASHER, HOT CART, OVEN REPAIRS (AP,OMS,BHS)
TAHER	\$123,523.74	FOOD SERVICE MANAGEMENT - SEPT25
Summary	\$125,445.49	

BUILDING FUND CLAIMS 11/10/2025

VENDOR	TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
MECHANICAL SYSTEMS	\$11,258.00	NEW HEAT PUMP (DF)
ALBIREO ENERGY	\$1,683.52	REPLACE HP CONTROLS (DF)
Summary	\$12,941.52	

SAVINGS/DEPRECIATION FUND CLAIMS 11/10/2025

VENDOR	TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
TYS OUTDOOR POWER & SERVICE	\$61,389.10	NEW GROUNDS MOWER AND SNOW PLOW
Summary	\$61,389.10	

Policy/Curriculum Committee Meeting Minutes

Monday, October 20, 2025

Call to Order at 12:00pm

Central Office

Committee Members Present: Denise Cada (Chair), Melaini Sturm, and Ginger Fredericksen (Zoom)

Others Present: Dr. Randall Gilson, Courtney Tabor, Trina Yale, Mark Gutschow, and Angie Conety

1. Old Business

A. Review of Policies for Second and Final Reading

With no recommended changes since the approval of the first reading of the following policies, the committee will recommend a second and final reading of the revisions.

- 301.03-Succession of Authority to the Superintendent
- 205.04-Policy Communication
- 300.01-Principles and Objectives of Administration

A motion may be brought at the November 10, 2025 Board of Education meeting **to approve on second and final reading revisions to policies 301.03-Succession of Authority to the Superintendent, 205.04-Policy Communication, and 300.01-Principles and Objectives of Administration.**

B. Review of Policies

The following policies were presented at the October 13th Board meeting and were approved for a first reading. Ongoing discussions and revisions to the policies took place.

- 706.01-Purchasing Procedures (revised)
- 706.01R-Administrative Regulation (new)
- 706.01E1-Cardholder Agreement (new)
- 409.1-Professional Memberships, Conferences, and Substitute Coverages (new)
- 409.15-Teachers Serving as State Officers in Professional Organizations (new)
- 627.50-National Student Organization Trips (new)

The Board of Education is conducting an internal audit and these policies focus on current purchasing procedures for compliance and accountability. The policies will be reviewed by the Finance Committee before being presented for approval for a second and final reading at a later date.

C. Facility Use Handbook

Dr. Gilson presented a draft of the Facility Use Handbook, developed from feedback from previous discussions. The handbook outlines the policies, procedures, and expectations for community use of Blair Community Schools facilities. It is intended to ensure fairness, transparency, and fiscal responsibility while promoting positive partnerships between the district and community organizations.

Policies for continuous review:

- 1101-Community Use of School Facilities
- 1102-Community Use of School Facilities - Procedures

Overview from discussion:

- Define Individual Roles
- Application Process
- Insurance
- Background Checks
- Deposits
- Fee Structure
- Feeder Program Definition (When there is no charge for our students to participate.)
- Comparison to Other Districts

D. Class Sizes Per Building

Continued review of the high school to place focusing on staffing, class sizes, and schedules to ensure efficiency and equity. Mrs. Yale will present similar information regarding the middle school at the next policy meeting.

2. New Business

E. Otte Middle School Principal, Trina Yale

Trina Yale, the principal of Otte Middle School, and Mark Gutschow, the assistant principal of Blair High School, shared how Mrs. Yale's transition has been going in her first year as the middle school principal. The discussion focused on student behavior, office referrals, parent interactions, and teacher collaboration. Mr. Gutschow will be working with Mrs. Yale to prepare 8th graders for the responsibilities they will encounter in 9th grade, such as attendance, discipline, and graduation credits. Mr. Gutschow plans to visit the students in April/May to discuss the high school expectations and transitions.

F. Out-of-State Tuition

The district recently received a request for an open enrollment for an out-of-state student. Right now, Blair schools does not permit out-of-state open enrollment requests. According to state statute §79-215, a school board may admit nonresident students from another state if they pay tuition at a rate set by the board. This would require the creation of a board policy detailing the fee structure. Currently, open enrollment is limited to in-state students and is tuition free. The committee does not recommend any changes to our procedures and does not recommend accepting out-of-state open enrollment requests at this time.

G. Background Checks

The committee is currently discussing the implementation of mandatory background checks for organizations utilizing Blair Schools facilities, focusing on determining the best course of action.

H. Next Scheduled Policy Committee Meeting

Tuesday, October 28, 2025 at 12:00pm.

3. Adjournment

I. Adjournment:

The committee adjourned at 2:02pm.

Policy/Curriculum Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 14, 2025

Call to Order at 12:00pm

Central Office

Committee Members Present: Denise Cada (Chair), Melaini Sturm, and Ginger Fredericksen (Zoom)

Others Present: Dr. Randall Gilson, Courtney Tabor, and Angie Conety

1. Old Business

A. Policies 1101-Community Use of School Facilities and 1102-Community Use of School Facilities - Procedures

The committee is actively discussing board policies related to the use of school facilities and the associated fee structure. During their last meeting, they acknowledged the need for revisions to the policies and planned to continue discussions over the coming months.

Items being focused on for improvements and consideration:

- Definitions of non-profit/feeder programs.
- Priority of facility usage based on specific programs or groups.
- Design a fee structure that accommodates all participants to endure fairness, transparency, and fiscal responsibility.
- Improvements to the application process, including required documents and insurance policy details.
- Creation and implementation of a Facility Use Handbook that outlines the policies, procedures, and expectations.
- Implementation of required background checks.
- Roles and responsibilities for administrators concerning the usage of facilities.
- Required deposit or application fee.
- Establish rules for facility usage.

Dr. Gilson will prepare and present a Facility Use Handbook for review, discussion and revisions at the next meeting.

2. New Business

B. Class Sizes Per Building

Dr. Gilson will provide information on class sizes and schedules starting with the high school, followed by the middle school, K-5, and finishing with the preschool. The review of the high school has begun focusing on class sizes and staff scheduling to ensure efficiency and equity.

C. Next Scheduled Policy Committee Meeting

Monday, October 20, 2025 at 12:00pm.

3. Adjournment

D. Adjournment:

The committee adjourned at 2:02pm.

79-215. Students; admission; tuition, when required; preliminary and advanced enrollment; department; duties.

(1) Except as otherwise provided in this section, a student is a resident of the school district where he or she resides and shall be admitted to any such school district upon request without charge.

(2) A school board shall admit a student upon request without charge if at least one of the student's parents resides in the school district.

(3) A school board shall admit any homeless student upon request without charge if the district is the district in which the student (a) is currently located, (b) attended when permanently housed, or (c) was last enrolled.

(4) A school board may allow a student whose residency in the district ceases during a school year to continue attending school in such district for the remainder of that school year.

(5) A school board may admit nonresident students to the school district pursuant to a contract with the district where the student is a resident and shall collect tuition pursuant to the contract.

(6) A school board may admit nonresident students to the school district pursuant to the enrollment option program as authorized by sections 79-232 to 79-246, and such admission shall be without charge.

(7) In order to carry out the provisions of section 79-2201, a school board shall permit children of military families to enroll preliminarily in a school district if a parent presents evidence of military orders that the military family will be stationed in this state during the current or following school year. Such preliminary enrollment and any advanced enrollment policies related to a child of a military family shall also apply if such child has an individualized family service plan, has an individualized education program under the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq., receives special accommodations or services under section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. 794, or receives special education as defined in section 79-1125. A student of a military family shall be admitted to the school district without charge upon arrival in Nebraska if the requirements of this section are met.

(8) A school board may admit a student who is a resident of another state to the school district and collect tuition in advance at a rate determined by the school board.

(9) When a student as a ward of the state or as a ward of any court (a) has been placed in a school district other than the district in which he or she resided at the time he or she became a ward and such ward does not reside in a foster family home licensed or approved by the Department of Health and Human Services or a foster home maintained or used pursuant to section 83-108.04 or (b) has been placed in any institution which maintains a special education program which has been approved by the State Department of Education and such institution is not owned or operated by the district in which he or she resided at the time he or she became a ward, the cost of his or her education and the required transportation costs associated with the student's education shall be paid by the state, but not in advance, to the receiving school district or approved institution under rules and regulations prescribed by the Department of Health and Human Services and the student shall remain a resident of the district in which he or she resided at the time he or she became a ward. Any student who is a ward of the state or a ward of any court who resides in a foster family home licensed or approved by the Department of Health and Human Services or a foster home maintained or used pursuant to section 83-108.04 shall be deemed a resident of the district in which he or she resided at the time he or she became a foster child, unless it is determined under section 43-1311 or 43-1312 that he or she will not attend such district in which case he or she shall be deemed a resident of the district in which the foster family home or foster home is located.

(10)(a) When a student is not a ward of the state or a ward of any court and is residing in a residential setting located in Nebraska for reasons other than to receive an education and the residential setting is operated by a service provider which is certified or licensed by the Department of Health and Human Services or is enrolled in the medical assistance program established pursuant to the Medical Assistance Act and Title XIX or XXI of the federal Social Security Act, as amended, the student shall remain a resident of the district in which he or she resided immediately prior to residing in such residential setting. The resident district for a student who is not a ward of the state or a ward of any court does not change when the student moves from one residential setting to another.

(b) If a student is residing in a residential setting as described in subdivision (10)(a) of this section and such residential setting does not maintain an interim-program school as defined in section 79-1119.01 or an approved or accredited school, the resident school district shall contract with the district in which such residential setting is located for the provision of all educational services, including

all special education services and support services as defined in section 79-1125.01, unless a parent or guardian and the resident school district agree that an appropriate education will be provided by the resident school district while the student is residing in such residential setting. If the resident school district is required to contract, the district in which such residential setting is located shall contract with the resident district and provide all educational services, including all special education services, to the student. If the two districts cannot agree on the amount of the contract, the State Department of Education shall determine the amount to be paid by the resident district to the district in which such residential setting is located based on the needs of the student, approved special education rates, the department's general experience with special education budgets, and the cost per student in the district in which such residential setting is located. Once the contract has been entered into, all legal responsibility for special education and related services shall be transferred to the school district in which the residential setting is located.

(c) If a student is residing in a residential setting as described in subdivision (10)(a) of this section and such residential setting maintains an interim-program school as defined in section 79-1119.01 or an approved or accredited school, the department shall reimburse such residential setting for the provision of all educational services, including all special education services and support services, with the amount of payment for all educational services determined pursuant to the average per pupil cost of the service agency as defined in section 79-1116. The resident school district shall retain responsibility for such student's individualized education plan, if any. The educational services may be provided through (i) such interim-program school or approved or accredited school, (ii) a contract between the residential setting and the school district in which such residential setting is located, (iii) a contract between the residential setting and another service agency as defined in section 79-1124, or (iv) a combination of such educational service providers.

(d) If a school district pays a school district in which a residential setting is located for educational services provided pursuant to subdivision (10)(b) of this section and it is later determined that a different school district was the resident school district for such student at the time such educational services were provided, the school district that was later determined to be the resident school district shall reimburse the school district that initially paid for the educational services one hundred ten percent of the amount paid.

(e) A student residing in a residential setting described in this subsection shall be defined as a student with a handicap pursuant to Article VII, section 11, of the Constitution of Nebraska, and as such the state and any political subdivision may

contract with institutions not wholly owned or controlled by the state or any political subdivision to provide the educational services to the student if such educational services are nonsectarian in nature.

(11) A school board shall admit a student upon request without charge for part-time enrollment for purposes of participating in extracurricular activities in accordance with section 79-2,136 if (a) the student is also enrolled in a private, denominational, or parochial school or in a school which elects pursuant to section 79-1601 not to meet accreditation or approval requirements and (b) either (i) the school district where such student or such student's parent resides does not offer the extracurricular activity in which the student desires to participate and the school district which the student is requesting to attend is the closest school district to the residence of such student or such student's parent that offers such extracurricular activity or (ii) the school district where such student or such student's parent resides does offer the extracurricular activity in which the student desires to participate but the school district the student is requesting to attend includes the closest school to the residence of such student or such student's parent that offers such extracurricular activity.

(12) A school board shall ensure that any preliminary or advanced enrollment policies of a school district that apply to a student enrolling in such school also apply to a student enrolling in such school that has an individualized family service plan, has an individualized education program under the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq., receives special accommodations or services under section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. 794, or receives special education as defined in section 79-1125.

(13) In the case of any individual eighteen years of age or younger who is a ward of the state or any court and who is placed in a county detention home established under section 43-2,110, the cost of his or her education shall be paid by the state, regardless of the district in which he or she resided at the time he or she became a ward, to the agency or institution which: (a) Is selected by the county board with jurisdiction over such detention home; (b) has agreed or contracted with such county board to provide educational services; and (c) has been approved by the State Department of Education pursuant to rules and regulations prescribed by the State Board of Education.

(14) No tuition shall be charged for students who may be by law allowed to attend the school without charge.

(15) The State Department of Education shall establish procedures and criteria for collecting enrollment, admission, and related information needed for any student to attend a school district in this state which shall include, but not be limited to, having an adult with legal or actual charge or control of a student provide through electronic means or other means specified by the department the name of the student, the name of the adult with legal or actual charge or control of the student, the address where the student is or will be residing, and information on how and where the adult may generally be reached during the school day.

(16) The department may adopt and promulgate rules and regulations to carry out the provisions of this section.

Source:Laws 1881, c. 78, subdivision V, § 4, p. 352; Laws 1883, c. 72, § 11, p. 293; Laws 1901, c. 63, § 10, p. 440; R.S.1913, § 6784; Laws 1921, c. 64, § 1, p. 250; C.S.1922, § 6325; Laws 1927, c. 88, § 1, p. 257; C.S.1929, § 79-504; R.S.1943, § 79-504; Laws 1947, c. 273, § 1, p. 877; Laws 1949, c. 256, § 84, p. 720; Laws 1972, LB 1219, § 1; Laws 1974, LB 43, § 1; Laws 1979, LB 128, § 1; Laws 1980, LB 770, § 1; Laws 1980, LB 839, § 1; Laws 1982, LB 642, § 1; Laws 1984, LB 286, § 1; Laws 1984, LB 768, § 1; Laws 1985, LB 592, § 1; Laws 1985, LB 725, § 1; Laws 1991, LB 511, § 29; Laws 1992, LB 245, § 34; Laws 1992, Third Spec. Sess., LB 3, § 1; Laws 1994, LB 858, § 5; R.S.1943, (1994), § 79-445; Laws 1996, LB 900, § 19; Laws 1996, LB 1044, § 814; Laws 1997, LB 307, § 212; Laws 2000, LB 1243, § 2; Laws 2001, LB 797, § 5; Laws 2002, LB 1105, § 503; Laws 2006, LB 1248, § 87; Laws 2008, LB1014, § 68; Laws 2010, LB1071, § 3; Laws 2010, LB1087, § 1; Laws 2015, LB525, § 4; Laws 2016, LB1067, § 11; Laws 2019, LB115, § 1; Laws 2025, LB143, § 1; Laws 2025, LB306, § 1.

Note: The Revisor of Statutes has pursuant to section 49-769 correlated LB143, section 1, with LB306, section 1, to reflect all amendments.

Note: Changes made by LB143 became effective September 3, 2025. Changes made by LB306 became operative September 3, 2025.

Cross References

Medical Assistance Act, see section 68-901.

Annotations

The permissive language in subsection (8) of this section pertaining to a "request by a parent or legal guardian" does not affect a student's residency determination and does not narrow the scope of the section to the minor students only. *Jefferson Cty. Bd. of Ed. v. York Cty. Bd. of Ed.*, 270 Neb. 407, 703 N.W.2d 257 (2005).

Pursuant to subsection (2) (now subsection (7)) of this section, the unambiguous language of this section obligates the state to pay the cost of both regular and special education received by state wards placed in Boys Town schools. Subsection (2) of this section does not violate Neb. Const. Art. VII, section 11. *Father Flanagan's Boys Home v. Dept. of Soc. Servs.*, 255 Neb. 303, 583 N.W.2d 774 (1998).

Domicile of child normally follows that of parent who has custody by virtue of decree of divorce. *State ex rel. Frasier v. Whaley*, 194 Neb. 703, 234 N.W.2d 909 (1975).

Cited in determining whether tuition had been paid for two or more consecutive years. *Pischel v. Kreycik*, 184 Neb. 332, 167 N.W.2d 388 (1969).

Agreement on part of parents to pay high school tuition will not be implied. *School District No. 15 of Furnas County v. Wilson*, 101 Neb. 683, 164 N.W. 709 (1917).

Nonresident pupil must pay tuition. *State ex rel. Vale v. School Dist. of City of Superior*, 55 Neb. 317, 75 N.W. 855 (1898).

Child, for school purposes, may have separate residence from parent. *Mizner v. School Dist. No. 11 of Sherman County*, 2 Neb. Unof. 238, 96 N.W. 128 (1901).

Buildings, Grounds, and Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 29, 2025

Call to Order at 12:00pm

Central Office

Committee Members Present: Steve Callaghan (Chair), Denise Cada, and Nate Larsen

Also Present: Dr. Randall Gilson, Jeffrey Steinbeck, Tyler Siecke, and Angie Conety

1. Old Business

A. Transportation

In August 2025, Mr. Siecke provided an update on the district's vehicle fleet noting the most urgent need is for Ford Transit vans due to a vehicle shortage caused by 6-8 elementary students currently needing out-of-district program placements. The current vans, which are from 2012, have high mileage ranging from 110,000 to over 200,000 miles. To address this issue, Mr. Siecke is proposing the purchase of two 10-passenger Ford Transit vans, each costing \$64,291, total cost \$128,582.

The committee is aware that the state reimburses mileage and driver costs for special education transportation, but wondered if there was any equipment reimbursement. This will be brought to the Finance Committee for Tom Shearer to address for clarification. In addition, the committee requested Mr. Siecke check on pricing for a Suburban in addition to the proposed vans and report back to the committee.

A motion may be brought at the November 10, 2025 Board of Education meeting **to approve the purchase of two 10-passenger Ford Transit vans in the amount of \$128,582 to be funded by the District's Depreciation Fund.**

B. Food Service Request for Painting the High School

In May 2025, Becca Stambaugh, Food Service Director with Taher, requested that the high school kitchen be painted bright white so Taher could do new signage. The existing epoxy paint is flaking and will require sanding and three new coats of paint. Mr. Steinbeck provided a quote of \$11,639 for the project, but the committee decided not to recommend proceeding at that time.

Mr. Steinbeck received an additional request from Mrs. Stambaugh highlighting concerns about the chipping paint in the lunch area as it complicates cleaning efforts as it tends to come off during cleanings. The patches missing paint create an unprofessional environment for students and hinder the proper display of promotional signage for events, as frames do not adhere properly.

Previously, DGR Painting looked at this when Ms. Stambaugh first requested that the High School kitchen be repainted and provided a quote of \$11,639 to complete the painting project.

Dr. Gilson informed board member building tours will be scheduled in November with Architect Eileen Korth to conduct a comprehensive assessment of the buildings' needs.

C. High School Auditorium Rigging Upgrades

Mr. Steinbeck met with Jerry Onik from Heartland Scenic Sound to discuss upgrading the high school auditorium's system that holds the lights and curtains. In June 2020, the board approved the purchase of a new curtain system, however it became clear at that time the entire structure needed to be replaced prior to the installation of a curtain system. The estimated cost for installing electric motors for the rigging system is around \$450,000-\$600,000. Jeff Lindquist from Heartland Scenic Sound, who initially

worked with Tom Anderson in 2020 on this project, will begin working on a design and a budget for the new system.

D. Bus Barn Internet

The internet connection at the bus barn has not been working well. It currently is relying on a signal beamed from a pole above the high school to the north side of the bus barn and from there it is beamed to the BCAT Building. Mr. Macholan and Mr. Steinbeck met with Heath Warrick from Dick's Electric to look at trenching or boring a line from Otte Middle School (OMS) to the bus barn for a more stable internet connection. A quote was received and Dick's Electric informed that boring would be the cheapest route and a local contractor could do the work. The cost for boring and cable installation from OMS to the bus barn is priced at \$16,385.

A motion may be brought at the November 10, 2025 Board of Education meeting **to approve a quote from Dick's Electric for \$16,385 to complete the work of boring and cable installation from Otte Middle School to the bus barn for more stable internet connection.**

2. New Business

E. Director of Operations Monthly Report – October 2025

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

F. Facility Usage Handbook

Dr. Gilson presented a draft of the Facility Usage Handbook for review, which the Policy Committee has been developing. They have been working on clarifying fee structures, and defining roles and responsibilities.

G. BCAT Building Sidewalk

Mr. Steinbeck received a request from the high school for the installation of a sidewalk to the BCAT Building. Currently, there is no sidewalk leading directly to and from the BCAT Building and all students enrolled in classes there are asked to walk to and from the building, which creates increased student foot traffic and safety and accessibility issues. There is a sidewalk that goes along the east side of the apartment complex most of the way to Iowa Street but would need to be finished. The committee would like Mr. Steinbeck to research the most logical walking route and present it for further discussions.

H. High School Teachers Lounge

The floor tile in the high school teachers lounge needs to be replaced due to significant damage, with loose and broken tiles. A recent trip incident occurred and Mr. Steinbeck has temporarily covered the damaged tile with a mat to reduce the trip hazard. Mr. Steinbeck will work on getting a cost for the repair and share back with the committee.

I. High School Locker Room Door

A high school locker room door is broken and needs to be replaced. The current door has been previously fixed with a metal plate but it is now broken again and it will not close or lock. BilDen provided a bid of \$997.80 for a new metal door, and the committee agreed to proceed with the replacement.

J. Greenhouse Audit

The high school greenhouse recently underwent an audit, which Mr. Steinbeck presented to the committee. The main finding was that while the greenhouse needs renovations, the structure itself is

sound. Mr. Hemme, the agriculture teacher, raised concerns about some electrical components and Mr. Steinbeck will arrange for Dick's Electric take a look at the issues.

K. Software Unlimited

Dr. Gilson informed he is exploring Software Unlimited, an accounting system that specializes in creating comprehensive and affordable school accounting solutions tailored to meet reporting requirements. The system is widely used in Nebraska and the Midwest and is easy-to-use, flexible, and cost-effective. Currently, the district is using eFinance through ESU#3 for financial and human resources operations. Dr. Gilson will prepare a presentation comparing current and proposed electronic finance systems, including cost and functionality, and share it with the Finance Committee.

L. GAF Materials

McKinnis Roofing began warranty work on the high school last week, working with GAF Materials to maximize coverage for roof repairs under warranty. Any items not covered by the warranty have been submitted to ALICAP, the districts insurance company.

M. ACP & 18-21 Program Discussion

Dr. Gilson provided an overview of the costs, staffing, and caseloads associated with the special education and ACP programs.

N. Next Scheduled BG&T Committee Meeting

Monday, November 24, 2025 at 12:00pm.

3. Adjournment

O. The meeting adjourned at 1:53 pm.

Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 4, 2025

Call to Order at 12:00pm

Central Office

Committee Members Present: Courtney Tabor (Chair), Kari Loseke, and Bob Schoby

Also Present: Dr. Randall Gilson, Tom Shearer, Jordan Bouvia, Liz Nickerson, and Angie Conety (Zoom)

1. Old Business

A. Board Audit of Finances

The Board is conducting an Audit of Finance to strengthen internal controls, improve transparency, and align with the best fiscal practices. Mr. Shearer presented the current Amazon bill and credit card purchases for review.

B. Interlocal Agreements 2025-26

A special education student who previously attended the districts Skills Academy moved away and has returned. Since the Skills Academy dissolved due to staff retention issues, the student requires outside support services from ESU#2. Mr. Shearer shared the following interlocal agreement for Board Action:

1. ESU#2 – SPED Behavior Program for Student(s).

A motion may be brought at the November 10, 2025 Board of Education meeting **to enter into Interlocal Agreement with ESU#2 for a SPED Behavior Program for Student(s) in the maximum amount of \$42,804 for the 2025-26 school year as presented**

C. Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) Audit Review

Blair Community Schools was under a Fiscal Monitoring Review by the NDE as a requirement to remain in compliance with Federal Regulations. The desk review covered all 2023-2024 discretionary and non-discretionary grants as well as all years for ARP, ESSER II, and ESSER III.

Mr. Shearer was able to close out the review ticket after providing NDE the new Internal Controls Policy-313.20 the Board adopted at the October Board meeting.

D. 2024-2025 Special Education (SPED) Final Financial Report (FFR), Annual Financial Report (AFR), and Audit Report

Mr. Shearer submitted the 2024-2025 SPED FFR on October 30, 2025 and the AFR on October 31, 2025. The District Auditors, Dana F. Cole, have until November 5, 2025 to submit the Audit Report.

E. 2025-26 Certified Valuation

Mr. Shearer presented the results and analysis of the 2025 Certified Valuation that was provided to the Nebraska Department of Revenue Property Assessment Division.

F. Labor Negotiations

Labor Negotiations began October 30, 2025. The next session is scheduled for November 17, 2025. A closed session is scheduled at the November 10, 2025 Board meeting on October 10, 2025 for the discussion of collective bargaining.

A letter was received from Tracy Bye, President of the Blair Education Association (BEA), requesting that Blair Community Schools Board of Education formally recognize the BEA as the exclusive bargaining agent for the district's non-supervisory certificated staff for the 2027-28 contract year.

A motion may be brought at the November 10, 2025 Board of Education meeting to **recognize the Blair Education Association as the exclusive bargaining agent for the district's non-supervisory certificated staff for the 2027-28 contract year.**

2. New Business

G. Accounting Software

Dr. Gilson recommends the district either change to a new accounting system or explore if the current eFinance system is being fully used. He has been in discussion with Software Unlimited and Tyler Technologies. Software Unlimited provided a Zoom to district staff on October 28, 2025. In addition, Mr. Shearer consulted with ESU#3 on October 23rd about how eFinance is financed, ESU#3's technology and finance software support, and ways the district could better use eFinance.

Cost differences are as follows: eFinance is \$30,000/year, Software Unlimited is \$12,000-\$15,000/year, and Tyler Technologies is \$80,000/year. Efinance is paid through ESU#3's general support. Software Unlimited could be financed through the Personalized Service Funds at ESU#3 if enough funds are available. Tyler Technologies is now an option for ESU#3 general support, but its extra cost would reduce Personalized Service Funds available to the district.

Software Unlimited is widely used in Nebraska (about 65% of districts), offers a 60-day implementation, free annual training, strong regional support, user-friendly tools for small districts, user remote access, and assigns a personal coordinator during conversion. Tyler Technologies is a national system with higher costs and a 12-month implementation. ESU#3 eFinance contract runs through July 1, 2027. The district has used eFinance since 2002. Software Unlimited would only bring over the current year data. Historical data in Efinance would not be supported by Software Unlimited. The district would have to figure out how to house and gain access to its data should a software change occur.

The concern with eFinance is that it appears to lack integration with limited visibility for principals. No final decision has been made; the committee is exploring alternatives to enhance transparency and budget oversight. The committee recommends district staff do an onsite visit with another School District that uses Software Unlimited. The committee views Tyler Technologies as too expensive for the district.

Mr. Shearer admits there is no easy time to change software. If any transition occurs, Mr. Shearer advised it should avoid the start and end of a school year and wait until after January to allow uninterrupted W-2/1099 processing.

H. Monthly Financials – October 2025 2025

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

- General Fund, Tax Collections Analysis, Cash Flow Forecasts, Activity Fund, and Lunch Fund.

I. Gridiron Club Donation

Mr. Siecke reported the Blair Gridiron Club, operating under the Blair Bear Backers 501(c) umbrella, purchased an end zone camera for the BHS Football Program at a cost of \$3,750. The Board will be asked to accept this gift for approval at the November 10th Board meeting.

J. Swim Team Fees

Participants in the 2025-26 Swim Team Coop with Fremont Public Schools must now pay the full deposit student fee not to exceed amount of \$2,500 before practices begin on November 17, 2025. Students not be able to participate in practice and meets until the \$2,500 is paid. The Student Fee is pay to play, but the actual amount owed to Fremont Public Schools will be unknown until the following summer. The District will refund or credit any difference if actual costs for the season are less than \$2,500 but final costs.

Previously, the District requested an estimated deposit of \$1,250, but last year's costs exceeded that amount, so the District will now collect the maximum upfront to avoid unexpected shortfalls. Due to some swimmers not paying last year, fees will be collected upfront. The 2024-25 past due balance must also be settled or those students will be ineligible to participate. Mr. Siecke provided invoices to the parents on November 3, 2025.

K. 2026-27 EHA Health & Dental Insurance Rates

The EHA Board of Directors approved a 7.25% overall rate increase for the 2026-27 school year on October 29, 2025; Mr. Shearer estimates this will cost the district an additional \$250,000.

L. Van(s) Purchase

Mr. Tyler Siecke proposed purchasing two more 10-passenger Ford Transit vans from Woodhouse Ford at the BG&T Committee meeting. The committee asked for information to be taken to the Finance Committee about how SPED reimbursements would apply if the vans are used for both SPED routes and activity driving.

Mr. Shearer explained that in the year of purchase the district must choose whether to report the vehicle on the SPED FFR report using the Mileage Method, Actual Method, or Depreciation Method. The Mileage Method reimburses SPED miles at the federal rate (currently \$0.70/mile). The mileage reimbursement rate covers depreciation, fuel, and maintenance. Given the expected mix of SPED and activity mileage, the committee concluded that keeping a detailed mileage log and using the Mileage Method would be best for these purchases.

M. Robotics Coach

Currently, the Co-Curricular schedule of the Negotiated Agreement does not have a Robotics Coach listed. It was reported the coach spends up to six hours a week outside of class mentoring students on their robots. They attend four competitions first semester and up to six more second semester. Most competitions are on Saturdays and some starting on Fridays. The committee is requesting additional information before making any formal recommendations.

N. Next Scheduled Finance Committee Meeting

Tuesday, December 2, 2025 at 12:00pm.

3. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:55pm.

October-25

Blair Community Schools Budget Comparison Receipts

Description	Code	2025-2026				2024-2025			
		Mon Rec	YTD Rec	Budget	%	Mon Rec	YTD Rec	Budget	%
Local Receipts									
Local Property Taxes	11100	\$1,319,613	\$3,224,428	\$11,424,788	28.2%	\$354,712	\$5,054,229	\$15,926,345	31.7%
Property Tax Interest & Penalties	11140	\$2,905	\$3,745	\$38,000	9.9%	\$1,779	\$3,105	\$32,000	9.7%
Carline Tax	11115	\$0	\$650	\$5,200	12.5%	\$0	\$526	\$5,600	9.4%
OPPD In Lieu	11120	\$0	\$0	\$260,000	0.0%	\$0	\$0	\$225,000	0.0%
Motor Vehicle Tax	11125	\$163,709	\$334,904	\$1,900,000	17.6%	\$153,095	\$318,115	\$1,775,000	17.9%
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	\$10,207	\$23,783	\$60,000	39.6%	\$11,335	\$18,835	\$50,900	37.0%
Transportation School Districts	11423	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
Transportation Private Sources	11440	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
Interest	11510	\$26,301	\$51,824	\$245,000	21.2%	\$22,809	\$41,631	\$80,000	52.0%
Local License Fee	11911	\$0	\$0	\$6,800	0.0%	\$3,150	\$3,150	\$6,500	48.5%
Police Court Fines	11921	\$75	\$75	\$1,500	5.0%	\$50	\$100	\$900	11.1%
Community Service Fees	11800	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$2,000	0.0%
Rentals - Facilities and Equip	11910	\$768	\$6,768	\$6,300	107.4%	\$0	\$0	\$5,000	0.0%
Contributions/Donations	11920	\$0	\$808	\$4,000	20.2%	\$30	\$70	\$3,000	2.3%
Grant - Corporate/Private Interest	11925	\$0	\$1,800	\$2,000	90.0%	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$0	100.0%
Misc Revenue-Other School Districts	11951	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
Misc Revenue-Local Government	11960	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
Other Local Receipts	11990	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
Total		\$1,523,578	\$3,648,786	\$13,953,588	26.1%	\$551,959	\$5,444,762	\$18,112,245	30.1%
Intermediate Source									
County Fines & Licenses	12110	\$0	\$0	\$160,000	0.0%	\$0	\$0	\$110,000	0.0%
ESU #3 Receipts	12210	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
Total		\$0	\$0	\$160,000	0.0%	\$0	\$0	\$110,000	0.0%
State Source									
State Aid	13110	\$372,164	\$744,328	\$3,721,641	20.0%	\$359,127	\$718,254	\$3,591,273	20.0%
Special Education	13120	\$0	\$0	\$2,728,431	0.0%	\$0	\$0	\$2,670,000	0.0%
SPED Sch Age Transportation	13125	\$0	\$0	\$110,000	0.0%	\$0	\$0	\$116,000	0.0%
Homestead Exemption	13130	\$0	\$0	\$468,000	0.0%	\$0	\$0	\$400,000	0.0%
Payments for Hi Ability	13535	\$17,194	\$17,194	\$15,000	114.6%	\$0	\$0	\$12,000	0.0%
Flex Funding: Before Age 5	13165	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
Flex Funding: School Age	13166	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
Pro-Rate Motor Vehicles	13180	\$0	\$0	\$37,700	0.0%	\$0	\$0	\$42,000	0.0%
State Apportionment	13400	\$0	\$0	\$639,000	0.0%	\$0	\$0	\$400,000	0.0%
Property Tax Credit	13131	\$0	\$0	\$6,150,000	0.0%	\$0	\$0	\$1,100,000	0.0%
Personal Property Tax Credit	13132	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%

October-25

Blair Community Schools Budget Comparison Receipts

Description	Code	2025-2026				2024-2025			
		Mon Rec	YTD Rec	Budget	%	Mon Rec	YTD Rec	Budget	%
Education Innovation Grant	13575	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
CTE Grants	13551	\$0	\$8,147	\$8,732	93.3%	\$0	\$0	\$8,147	0.0%
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	\$0	\$74,116	0.0%	\$0	\$0	\$69,466	0.0%
SixPence Early Childhood Grant	13541	\$0	\$0	\$89,600	0.0%	\$0	\$36,241	\$85,000	42.6%
Other State Categorical Grants	13599	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
Other State Receipts	13990	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
Total		\$392,358	\$772,669	\$14,042,220	5.5%	\$359,127	\$754,495	\$8,493,886	8.9%
Federal Sources									
IDEA Part B, Peak Grant	14418	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
Title I Current	14505	\$0	\$0	\$175,743	0.0%	\$0	\$0	\$194,722	0.0%
Title I - Accountability	14506	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
Title II Part A	14509	\$0	\$0	\$47,182	0.0%	\$44,263	\$44,263	\$51,787	85.5%
Title IV	14969	\$0	\$0	\$12,008	0.0%	\$0	\$0	\$12,967	0.0%
IDEA PART B (611) ARP	14421	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
IDEA PRESCHOOL (619) ARP	14422	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$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	\$12,459	0.0%	\$0	\$12,503	\$12,470	100.3%
IDEA Part B (611) Base Allocation	14518	\$0	\$0	\$447,265	0.0%	\$0	\$470,581	\$470,415	100.0%
IDEA Part B Proportionate Share	14521	\$0	\$0	\$9,158	0.0%	\$0	\$8,160	\$8,001	102.0%
IDEA Special Projects	14523	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
MIPS	14708	\$6,441	\$6,441	\$40,900	15.7%	\$0	\$7,989	\$55,000	14.5%
MEDICAID ADMIN	14709	\$0	\$1,742	\$8,500	20.5%	\$2,771	\$2,771	\$14,000	19.8%
Forest Reserve: De Soto	14707	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$13,800	0.0%
Other Federal Non-Category Funds	14524	\$0	\$13,273	\$13,800	96.2%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
Perkins Grant	14525	\$0	\$0	\$18,562	0.0%	\$18,451	\$18,451	\$20,643	89.4%
Title III NCLB-LEP	14527	\$0	\$1,469	\$3,000	49.0%	\$0	\$0	\$3,000	0.0%
Head Start	14309	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
Disaster Aid (FEMA-Covid19)	14995	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$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	\$0	\$0	100.0%
ESSER III Grant (Covid19)	14998	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$749,580	0.0%
Other Fed Categorical	14530	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
Total		\$6,441	\$22,925	\$788,577	2.9%	\$65,485	\$564,718	\$1,606,385	35.2%
Non Revenue Receipts									
Insurance Adjustment	15301	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
Transfer of Funds In	15200	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
Refunds from Prior Years Expenses	11980	\$0	\$273	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$2,949	\$0	100.0%

October-25

Blair Community Schools Budget Comparison Receipts

Description	Code	2025-2026				2024-2025			
		Mon Rec	YTD Rec	Budget	%	Mon Rec	YTD Rec	Budget	%
Other Non-Revenue Rec	15690	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$8	\$8	\$0	100.0%
Total		\$0	\$273	\$0	100.0%	\$8	\$2,957	\$0	0.0%
Non Program Receipts									
Sale of Property	15300	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$567	\$2,693	\$0	100.0%
Total		\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$567	\$2,693	\$0	100.0%
GRAND TOTAL		\$1,922,377	\$4,444,653	\$28,944,385	15.4%	\$977,146	\$6,769,625	\$28,322,516	23.9%

Period: 2
 Month: OCTOBER
 Year: 2025-2026

Receipts to be Collected	\$28,944,385	\$28,322,516
Local Property Taxes-State Budget 11101	\$45,463	\$421,119
Cash Balance Estimated on Budget	\$9,427,575	\$7,197,362
County Treasurer Balance Estimated on Budget	\$3,671,752	\$4,836,483
Total Receipts	\$42,089,175	\$40,777,480

Blair Community Schools Budget Comparison Expenditures

		2025-2026				2024-2025			
Program Name	Month Exp	YTD Exp	Budget	%	Month Exp	YTD Exp	Budget	%	
201100	Regular Instruction	\$1,111,572	\$2,428,789	\$14,178,690	17.1%	\$1,079,792	\$2,350,609	\$14,209,594	16.5%
201125	Regular Instruction - FLEX	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
201150	Instruction - Limited English Programs	\$10,061	\$19,418	\$113,607	17.1%	\$9,551	\$15,152	\$56,038	27.0%
201160	Instruction - Poverty Programs	\$76,550	\$166,360	\$745,432	22.3%	\$54,584	\$120,047	\$736,949	16.3%
	Subtotal REGULAR INSTRUCTION	\$1,198,182	\$2,614,567	\$15,037,729	17.4%	\$1,143,927	\$2,485,807	\$15,002,581	16.6%
201200	Special Education	\$312,907	\$575,455	\$3,284,740	17.5%	\$317,845	\$567,342	\$3,216,914	17.6%
202141	Special Education (Psychology)	\$7,535	\$24,024	\$199,847	12.0%	\$15,834	\$31,769	\$246,443	12.9%
202151	Special Education (Speech Path)	\$22,831	\$45,268	\$301,288	15.0%	\$26,881	\$51,702	\$281,789	18.3%
202161	Special Education (Occup Therapy)	\$5,227	\$11,243	\$63,184	17.8%	\$5,636	\$12,245	\$65,123	18.8%
202171	Special Education (Physical Therapy)	\$5,208	\$10,515	\$62,850	16.7%	\$5,208	\$10,417	\$62,925	16.6%
202181	Special Education (Vision Services)	\$0	\$0	\$110,000	0.0%	\$0	\$109	\$110,000	0.1%
	Subtotal SPED - SCHOOL AGE	\$353,708	\$666,506	\$4,021,908	16.6%	\$371,405	\$673,584	\$3,983,195	16.9%
201190	Early Childhood Education	\$2,620	\$19,378	\$38,678	50.1%	\$3,434	\$11,643	\$2,206	527.7%
201195	Early Childhood Education - FLEX	\$1,993	\$1,993	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
201291	Preschool - SPED - Ages 3-5	\$14,224	\$41,528	\$308,423	13.5%	\$22,697	\$45,649	\$99,911	45.7%
201292	Preschool - SPED - Ages 0-2	\$0	\$0	\$200	0.0%	\$0	\$0	\$200	0.0%
202142	Preschool - Psych - Ages 3-5	\$4,378	\$8,757	\$52,383	16.7%	\$4,059	\$8,214	\$0	100.0%
202143	Preschool - Psych - Ages 0-2	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
202152	Preschool - Speech Path - Ages 3-5	\$0	\$102	\$50,420	0.2%	\$224	\$430	\$845	50.9%
202153	Preschool - Speech Path - Ages 0-2	\$481	\$481	\$51,244	0.9%	\$51	\$1,417	\$51,330	2.8%
202162	Preschool - Occup Therapy - Ages 3-5	\$2,604	\$5,208	\$31,270	16.7%	\$2,604	\$5,208	\$31,270	16.7%
202163	Preschool - Occup Therapy - Ages 0-2	\$2,641	\$5,245	\$31,450	16.7%	\$2,604	\$5,208	\$31,450	16.6%
202172	Preschool - Physical Therapy - Ages 3-5	\$2,604	\$5,208	\$31,325	16.6%	\$2,604	\$5,208	\$31,325	16.6%
202173	Preschool - Physical Therapy - Ages 0-2	\$2,604	\$5,327	\$31,450	16.9%	\$2,604	\$5,208	\$31,450	16.6%
202182	Preschool - Vision Services - Ages 3-5	\$0	\$0	\$14,000	0.0%	\$0	\$0	\$14,000	0.0%
202183	Preschool - Vision Services - Ages 0-2	\$0	\$0	\$14,000	0.0%	\$0	\$0	\$14,000	0.0%
	Subtotal PRESCHOOL (non-reimbursed)	\$34,149	\$93,227	\$654,844	14.2%	\$40,882	\$88,187	\$307,987	28.6%
202610	Operation of Plant	\$123,477	\$372,674	\$1,622,008	23.0%	\$118,233	\$361,609	\$1,598,697	22.6%
202620	Maintenance of Plant	\$56,779	\$117,711	\$647,206	18.2%	\$62,656	\$122,274	\$572,035	21.4%
202630	Grounds Maintenance	\$13,651	\$37,472	\$141,930	26.4%	\$11,150	\$23,875	\$124,205	19.2%
202640	Equipment Maintenance	\$1,225	\$1,712	\$103,114	1.7%	\$852	\$1,079	\$95,150	1.1%
202650	Non-Student Vehicle Maint & Purch	\$938	\$2,990	\$32,912	9.1%	\$441	\$2,387	\$68,483	3.5%
202660	Security	\$10,326	\$57,476	\$98,200	58.5%	\$6,345	\$48,566	\$89,200	54.4%
202670	Safety	\$3,275	\$5,822	\$102,783	5.7%	\$11,564	\$22,879	\$93,209	24.5%
202680	Operation/Maintenance of Plant-Other	\$0	\$385	\$4,800	8.0%	\$0	\$0	\$4,250	0.0%
	Subtotal MAINTENANCE COSTS	\$209,670	\$596,242	\$2,752,953	21.7%	\$211,241	\$582,669	\$2,645,229	22.0%
202710	Reg Pupil Transportation-Operating	\$52,639	\$77,823	\$627,072	12.4%	\$45,187	\$75,867	\$598,272	12.7%
202712	SPED Transportation-Operating	\$12,060	\$18,311	\$118,219	15.5%	\$10,000	\$16,136	\$114,604	14.1%
202713	SPED Transport-Preschool-Operating	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
202720	Reg Pupil Transportation-Monitoring	\$5,830	\$12,480	\$75,927	16.4%	\$5,564	\$13,267	\$70,957	18.7%
202722	SPED Transportation-Monitoring	\$7,042	\$10,350	\$67,231	15.4%	\$8,575	\$12,400	\$62,332	19.9%
202730	Reg Pupil Transportation-Maintenance	\$5,972	\$44,589	\$93,353	47.8%	\$2,057	\$43,101	\$90,889	47.4%
202732	SPED Transportation-Maintenance	\$1,697	\$17,278	\$29,585	58.4%	\$3,024	\$18,851	\$31,993	58.9%
202790	Reg Pupil Transportation-Other	\$32	\$64	\$0	100.0%	\$32	\$64	\$500	12.8%

Blair Community Schools Budget Comparison Expenditures

Program Name	2025-2026				2024-2025			
	Month Exp	YTD Exp	Budget	%	Month Exp	YTD Exp	Budget	%
202792 SPED Transportation-Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
202793 SPED Transportation-Other Preschool	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
Subtotal STUDENT TRANSPORTATION	\$85,272	\$180,896	\$1,011,386	17.9%	\$74,439	\$179,687	\$969,548	18.5%
202110 Attendance & Social Work Services	\$4,119	\$8,238	\$49,438	16.7%	\$3,956	\$7,910	\$47,488	16.7%
202120 Guidance Services	\$36,454	\$91,261	\$507,704	18.0%	\$40,718	\$86,737	\$491,571	17.6%
202130 Health Services	\$29,335	\$60,261	\$267,557	22.5%	\$27,354	\$50,327	\$264,946	19.0%
202140 Psych Services	\$13,073	\$13,073	\$32,000	40.9%	\$0	\$6,922	\$28,000	24.7%
202190 Other Pupil Supp Services	\$7,605	\$18,331	\$98,550	18.6%	\$7,501	\$13,669	\$171,712	8.0%
202210 Improvement of Instruction	\$9,537	\$22,928	\$158,822	14.4%	\$9,790	\$19,396	\$142,329	13.6%
202212 Curriculum & Assessment	\$0	\$1,954	\$6,119	31.9%	\$0	\$520	\$22,037	2.4%
202213 Instructional Staff Training/Development	\$0	\$1,859	\$36,019	5.2%	\$1,571	\$3,131	\$43,749	7.2%
202211 School Improvement	\$0	\$0	\$1,610	0.0%	\$92	\$92	\$0	100.0%
202214 Implementation of Standards	\$0	\$642	\$4,632	13.9%	\$0	\$50	\$5,249	0.9%
202220 Library Services	\$40,636	\$105,590	\$535,099	19.7%	\$37,935	\$101,874	\$546,750	18.6%
202230 Instruction-Related Technology	\$15,412	\$39,946	\$359,144	11.1%	\$14,757	\$36,392	\$316,644	11.5%
202223 Audio-Visual Services	\$2,140	\$3,547	\$15,975	22.2%	\$2,953	\$6,459	\$5,800	111.4%
202240 Academic Student Assessment	\$0	\$39,397	\$48,000	82.1%	\$28,965	\$44,715	\$76,654	58.3%
202290 Support Services - Other	\$0	\$0	\$1,788	0.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
202310 Board of Education	\$1,469	\$3,502	\$47,356	7.4%	\$1,287	\$2,578	\$59,608	4.3%
202320 Executive Admin Services	\$28,674	\$58,981	\$366,117	16.1%	\$61,631	\$124,296	\$673,141	18.5%
202330 Legal Services	\$4,039	\$4,039	\$20,000	20.2%	\$683	\$683	\$18,000	3.8%
202410 Office of Principal	\$124,359	\$247,079	\$1,447,939	17.1%	\$126,461	\$258,587	\$1,426,894	18.1%
202490 School Administration - Other	\$2,790	\$2,790	\$9,450	29.5%	\$0	\$0	\$10,880	0.0%
202510 Gen Business Support	\$30,992	\$106,719	\$458,743	23.3%	\$31,719	\$106,052	\$437,507	24.2%
202520 Warehousing & Distribution	\$0	\$0	\$500	0.0%	\$0	\$0	\$300	0.0%
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	\$897	\$1,794	\$4,895	36.7%	\$1,445	\$2,291	\$0	100.0%
202570 Personnel Services	\$17,988	\$19,000	\$18,001	105.6%	\$2,475	\$2,475	\$2,500	99.0%
202580 Technology-Administration Services	\$3,100	\$3,100	\$5,700	54.4%	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$15,000	20.0%
202900 Other Support Services	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
203300 Community Services	\$0	\$118	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$40	\$0	100.0%
203400 Corporate/Private Interest Grants	\$2,097	\$2,097	\$2,000	104.9%	-\$500	\$5,833	\$0	100.0%
203535 High Ability Learners Grant	\$0	\$0	\$15,000	0.0%	\$7,008	\$8,742	\$11,734	74.5%
203540 State Early Childhood Grant	\$5,489	\$10,507	\$74,116	14.2%	\$7,884	\$13,935	\$69,466	20.1%
203541 Sixpence Early Childhood Grant	\$10,171	\$18,212	\$89,600	20.3%	\$7,432	\$17,792	\$84,985	20.9%
203551 Extended Learning Opportunity Grant	\$0	\$0	\$8,732	0.0%	\$792	\$792	\$8,147	9.7%
203590 Career Education Grant	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
203599 State Categorical Grants-NDEQ Grant	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$33,886	\$0	100.0%
201300 Summer School	\$0	\$0	\$5,044	0.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
208000 Activity Fund Transfers	\$0	\$0	\$90,000	0.0%	\$0	\$0	\$80,000	0.0%
209000 NON-PROGRAM EXPEND	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
FEDERAL PROGRAMS			\$0					
206200 Title I	\$6,724	\$13,447	\$234,933	5.7%	\$28,997	\$57,985	\$207,689	27.9%
206210 Title I Accountability	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
206310 Title IIA	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$51,787	0.0%

Blair Community Schools Budget Comparison Expenditures

Program Name	2025-2026				2024-2025			
	Month Exp	YTD Exp	Budget	%	Month Exp	YTD Exp	Budget	%
206404 IDEA 611 BIRTH TO	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
206406 IDEA 619 AGES 3-4	\$0	\$0	\$12,459	0.0%	\$5,840	\$12,470	\$12,470	100.0%
206408 IDEA - SPED BASE-EP	\$61,530	\$115,437	\$447,265	25.8%	\$28,382	\$60,281	\$470,415	12.8%
206410 IDEA - SPED Preschool	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
206412 IDEA - Part B Proportionalte Share	\$0	\$0	\$9,158	0.0%	\$3,977	\$8,001	\$8,001	100.0%
206415 IDEA SPECIAL PROJECTS	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
206418 IDEA PART B PEAK PROJECTS	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
206421 IDEA PART-B (611) ARP BASE & ENROLL	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
206422 IDEA PRESCHOOL (619) ARP	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
206700 PERKINS GRANT	\$0	\$0	\$18,562	0.0%	\$249	\$249	\$20,643	1.2%
206925 Title III	\$0	\$0	\$3,000	0.0%	\$0	\$0	\$3,000	0.0%
206690 OTHER FEDERAL NON CATEGORY GRANT:	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
206990 FEDERAL CATEGORICAL GRANTS	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
206998 ARP - ESSER III GRANT	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
TOTAL	\$2,339,612	\$5,165,288	\$28,989,848	17.8%	\$2,336,248	\$5,108,096	\$28,743,635	17.8%

Period: 2 (OCTOBER)

Year: 2025-2026

Total Budget of Disbursements	\$28,989,848	\$28,743,635
Debt Service (Spending Authority Adjustment)	\$9,885,971	\$9,329,805
Necessary Cash Reserve	\$3,213,356	\$2,704,040
Total Requirements	\$42,089,175	\$40,777,480