

Board of Education Regular Meeting
Monday, April 11, 2022 7:00 PM
HS CONFERENCE ROOM
705 N 9th Street
Arlington, NE 68002

1. OPENING PROCEDURES
 - 1.1. Call Meeting to Order
 - 1.2. Roll Call
 - 1.3. Pledge of Allegiance
 - 1.4. Approval of Regular Meeting Agenda
2. WELCOME TO GUESTS AND PUBLIC FORUM
3. CONSENT AGENDA
 - 3.1. Minutes of the Previous Board Meeting(s)
 - 3.2. Monthly Financial Reports
 - 3.3. Accept Staff Member Resignation
 - Mr. Steven Gubbels
 - 3.4. Approve New Contracts:
 - Cienna Stegeman-Elem SPED
 - Liz Fedde-Elem Guidance
 - Cassandra Rolland-JH/HS Science/Health
 - Nichole Kern-HS Science
 - Landon Walkenhorst-5/6 Grade Classroom
4. CURRICULUM/INSTRUCTION REPORTS
 - 4.1. Science
 - Mr. Kment
 - Mr. Fuchser
 - Mrs. Horner
5. PRINCIPALS' REPORTS
 - 5.1. Mr. Shada's April Report
 - 5.2. Mrs. Morgan's Elementary Report
 - 5.3. Mr. Pfingsten's Secondary Report
6. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT
 - 6.1. Legislative Update
 - 6.2. Construction Update
 - 6.3. NASB Monthly Newsletter
 - 6.4. Report on visit with auditor and business manager transition
 - 6.5. NRCSA Member Update
 - 6.6. Report on NDE Title I Review
7. COMMITTEE AND REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS
 - 7.1. Buildings and Grounds Committee
 - 7.2. Finance Committee
8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- 8.1. Discuss, Consider, and Take Necessary Action to Approve Superintendent Contract Addendum for 2022-2023 as Presented
9. NEW BUSINESS
 - 9.1. Discuss, Consider, and Approve Forming of Ad Hoc Committee for Enrollment Trends and Strategies
 - 9.2. Review Board Policies 5007-5104:
 - 5007-Admission, Foreign Exchange
 - 5008-Attendance
 - 5008-Parent Release Form
 - 5008-Sample Letter to County Attorney re Policy Collaboration
 - 5009-Attendance During Day
 - 5010-Census
 - 5011-Parent-Student Handbook
 - 5012-Military Recruiter
 - 5013-Elementary Class Size Limit and Reduction
 - 5101-Student Discipline Policy
 - 5102-Alternative Education
 - 5103-Extracurricular Activity
 - 5103-Extracurricular Activity Discipline
 - 5104-Drug Policy
 - 9.3. Discuss, Consider, and Take Necessary Action to Approve Building Level Budget Requests for 2022-2023
10. EXECUTIVE SESSION
11. ACTION ON EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS
12. ADJOURNMENT

Board of Education Regular Meeting

Monday, March 7, 2022 7:00 PM Central

1. OPENING PROCEDURES

1.1. Call Meeting to Order

Matt O'Daniel called the meeting to order at 7:00pm

1.2. Roll Call

Board President Matt O'Daniel stated for the record that December and February absences for Shanon Wilmot are excused.

Jason Arp: Present, Chase Kratochvil: Present, Matt O'Daniel: Present, Bruce Scheer: Present, Janet Warner: Present, Shanon Willmott: Present

Also present: Dr. Dawn Lewis, Superintendent, Principals Aaron Pfingsten and Jacqu Morgan Athletic Director James Shada, and recording secretary Jennifer Arp

1.3. Pledge of Allegiance

1.4. Approval of Regular Meeting Agenda

Motion to approve the regular meeting agenda as presented Passed with a motion by Janet Warner and a second by Shanon Willmott.

Jason Arp: Yea, Chase Kratochvil: Yea, Matt O'Daniel: Yea, Bruce Scheer: Yea, Janet Warner: Yea, Shanon Willmott: Yea

2. WELCOME TO GUESTS AND PUBLIC FORUM

Construction update: All things are on date for installation, lockers and cabinets are being installed, carpet in classrooms is finishing installation, and will be ready for final paint and clean up in a few weeks. Outside work- finish up with final grading and dirt work and will come back in April to do seeding and final grading work. June/July for final lockers in the south hallway. Will be under costs and contingencies for the budget for the total project.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion to approve the consent agenda as presented Passed with a motion by Bruce Scheer and a second by Chase Kratochvil.

Jason Arp: Yea, Chase Kratochvil: Yea, Matt O'Daniel: Yea, Bruce Scheer: Yea, Janet Warner: Yea, Shanon Willmott: Yea

3.1. Minutes of the Previous Board Meeting

3.2. Monthly Financial Reports

3.3. Approve New Hires:

School Psychologist--Kristin Stanislav

.75 FTE Music--Gabrielle Morin

3.4. Accept Staff Resignation

Elementary Guidance

Elementary Sped

5th Grade

4. CURRICULUM/INSTRUCTION REPORTS

4.1. Foreign Language- Spanish - Mrs. Elsa Glasford

2nd Grade - Mrs. Morgan Mruz, Mrs. Marcia Kaup

5. PRINCIPALS REPORTS

5.1. Mr. Pfingsten's Secondary Update

5.2. Mr Shada's Activity Update

5.3. Mrs. Morgan Elementary Update

6. SUPERINTENDENTS REPORT

6.1. Review and Discuss ALICAP Summary from Recent Visit

6.2. Review Enrollment Numbers

6.3. Legislative Update

6.4. Report on Hot Lunch Program Funds

We are carrying over to much funds in the Hot Lunch program- needs to be spent on capital improvements to the kitchen or lunch program.

Federal program for free lunch should end this school year- will need to make sure that Free and reduced applications return to being filed out to determine state funding

6.5. NASB Report

6.6. Superintendent Leave Log

Dr. Lewis provided her leave log as of end of Feb- with updating the board on her upcoming leave that will take place over spring break in March

6.7. Preview the New apseagles.org Website:

New website will be up and running Next week- week of March 14th

7. COMMITTEE AND REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

7.1. Negotiations Committee

Negotiations committee meeting met earlier in the month to discuss Non Certified Staff

7.2. Professional Development Sharing

Mrs. Arp and Dr. Lewis attended NASB Finance and Budget Workshop in York 3/1/2022

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1. Review Policies 5000-5006:

5000- Introductory Statement

5001- Admission Requirements

5001- Student Admissions Forms

5002- Disenrollment Under 6

5003- Assignment of Students

5004- Part Time Enrollment

5004- Part Time Enrollment Application

5005- Proof of Residency Form A

5005- Proof of Residency Form B

5005- Resident Students

5006- Option Enrollment Policy

9.2. Discuss, Consider, and Approve Policy 5006 Capacity Resolution for 2022-2023

Board action to set capacities for the 2022 -2023 classroom or section capacities. Projected enrollment was presented for the upcoming year. Suggested to not make any changes for the 2022-2023 capacities. Not increasing in any need for teachers or the need to decrease teachers at this time.

Approve Capacity Resolution Policy 5006 for 2022-2023 Failed with a motion by Matt O'Daniel and a second by Janet Warner.

Chase Kratochvil: Nay, Bruce Scheer: Nay, Janet Warner: Nay, Shanon Willmott: Nay, Jason Arp: Yea, Matt O'Daniel: Yea

Discussion and special meeting will need to be held to finalize numbers for the upcoming year possibility for ad hoc committee will be discussed

Dr. Lewis will speak with legal counsel to decipher our next actions for 22-23 option applicants.

9.3. Discuss, Consider, and Approve Copier Lease with Eakes as Presented

Approve 5-Year Copier Lease with Eakes for \$1805.93 per month Passed with a motion by Shanon Willmott and a second by Janet Warner.

Jason Arp: Yea, Chase Kratochvil: Yea, Matt O'Daniel: Yea, Bruce Scheer: Yea, Janet Warner: Yea, Shanon Willmott: Yea

9.4. Discuss, Consider, and Approve Non-Certificated Staff Increases as Presented

Approve non-certificated staff increases as presented for 2022-2023 Passed with a motion by Janet Warner and a second by Chase Kratochvil.

Jason Arp: Yea, Chase Kratochvil: Yea, Matt O'Daniel: Yea, Bruce Scheer: Yea, Janet Warner: Yea, Shanon Willmott: Yea

9.5. Discuss and Consider Salary Amendment to Superintendent Contract for 2022-2023

contract will have to be posted on our website for 30 days after tonight. Approval will then be an action item for the April Board meeting for final approval and vote.

9.6. Discuss, Consider, and Approve Administrator Contracts for 2022-2023

Principal and Asst Principal Contracts are attached. The amount represents a salary increase of 2% each, for a total package increase of 2.6-2.7%, including insurance and all salary related expenses. Pflingsten (\$113,220), Morgan (\$108,120) and Shada (\$97,410).

Approve Principal Administrator Contracts for Mr. Pflingsten, Mrs. Morgan, and Mr. Shada as presented. Passed with a motion by Matt O'Daniel and a second by Chase Kratochvil.

Jason Arp: Yea, Chase Kratochvil: Yea, Matt O'Daniel: Yea, Bruce Scheer: Yea, Janet Warner: Yea, Shanon Willmott: Yea

9.7. Discuss, Consider and Approve the purchase of SuperKids Curriculum for grades K-2.

Approve purchase of Superkids curriculum for grade K-2 for a total cost of \$45,744 for seven-year subscription Passed with a motion by Janet Warner and a second by Shanon Willmott.

Jason Arp: Yea, Chase Kratochvil: Yea, Matt O'Daniel: Yea, Bruce Scheer: Yea, Janet Warner: Yea, Shanon Willmott: Yea

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION

11. ACTION ON EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS

12. ADJOURNMENT

Matt O'Daniel adjourned the meeting at 9:01 pm

Matt O'Daniel, Board President

Dawn Lewis, Board Secretary

Date

Date

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

HS CONFERENCE ROOM

705 N 9th St

Arlington, NE 68002

Wednesday, March 23, 2022 5:30 PM Central

1. Special Meeting Called to Order and Roll Call

Matt O'Daniel called the meeting to order at 5:43pm

Jason Arp: Present

Chase Kratochvil: Present

Matt O'Daniel: Present

Bruce Scheer: Present

Janet Warner: Present

Shanon Willmott: Present

1.1. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Discuss, Consider, and Take Necessary Action to Approve Option Policy 5006 Capacity for 2022-2023

Discussion is for review of classroom capacities from the March regular board meeting.

Chase clarified his concern from the prior board meeting, wanting to look long term for the capacities for classes and what option enrollment looks like, not just cutting off the option enrollment completely immediately.

Board changed our resolution in 2020 we had run into a grade level that grew so much that we needed to add a section for capacity, needed a policy to determine that the admin had authority to regulate the class sections for each school year (made it a capacity cap at each grade level)

Policy prioritizes option applications to students who have siblings, students that have been here for 2 or more year, and then they go in the order they are received.

No new teachers have been hired on the High School side to accommodate class size- per Aaron Pffingsten. On the Elementary side- Mrs Morgan thought there were 6 new teachers hired to accommodate classroom sizes and capacity- meaning we have grown each grade level in the elementary and the teacher to student ratio was higher than it is now.

Reason for us being here tonight is to decide what our classroom sizes are for the next year 2022-2023 school year, Mr O'Daniel said that the board has a valid concern on the option numbers and the future with numbers for students enrolled... This is a time sensitive matter at this time with the option application and approvals need to be done by April 1, can we keep this as a discussion on our board meeting for all prior meetings and stay up to date on anything that looks like it might be an issue for the district and our numbers. Need to continue to have this conversation regularly with the board meeting.

Suggested to create a committee to look at both the policy and the capacity, this committee would meet multiple times throughout the year prior to March when capacities are set for the upcoming school year(s).

Approve Policy 5006 Option Capacity Resolution for 2022-2023 as discussed, so moved Passed with a motion by Chase Kratochvil and a second by Janet Warner.

Jason Arp: Yea, Chase Kratochvil: Yea, Matt O'Daniel: Yea, Bruce Scheer: Yea, Janet Warner: Yea, Shanon Willmott: Yea

3. Adjourn

Matt O'Daniel meeting adjourned at 6:46pm

Matt O'Daniel, Board President

Dawn Lewis, Board Secretary

Date

Date

**Arlington Public Schools
March 31, 2022**

Fund Name	Starting Balance	Receipts	Disbursements	Interest	Interfund Transfers	Ending Balance
2 Rivers Bank						
General Fund - 864	\$ 229,855.91	\$ 1,117,690.42	\$ 1,149,682.10	\$ 19.32	\$ -	\$ 197,883.55
			\$ -			
Activities - 109	\$ 233,307.48	\$ 31,888.03	\$ 17,551.95	\$ 29.62	\$ -	\$ 247,673.18
Activities Saving - 713	\$ 220.09		\$ -	\$ 0.02	\$ -	\$ 220.11
Activities CD (none for now)	\$ (0.00)	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ (0.00)
					Total Activities:	\$ 247,893.29
Sweep - 956	\$ 1,802,149.00	\$ 211,098.83	\$ 565,369.64	\$ 203.19		\$ 1,448,081.38
		\$ -				
Hot Lunch - 487	\$ 299,281.88	\$ 53,379.79	\$ 37,750.59	\$ 40.98	\$ -	\$ 314,952.06
			\$ -			
Depreciation Fund	\$ 798,926.14		\$ 2,069.69	\$ 114.75	\$ -	\$ 796,971.20
Depreciation CD - 5826	\$ 255,052.04		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 255,052.04
					Total Depreciation:	\$ 1,052,023.24
CD Maturity Date 1/15/21-4/15/22						
2017 Bond Refunding	\$ 424,831.02	\$ 21,890.76	\$ 363,515.00	\$ 46.25	\$ -	\$ 83,253.03
QCPUF	\$ 218,040.11	\$ 23,570.44	\$ -	\$ 23.74		\$ 241,634.29
Spec Bldg Fund	\$ 1,739,259.44	\$ 61,098.21	\$ -	\$ 189.35	\$ -	\$ 1,800,547.00
Sp Bldg CD (none for now)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
	\$ 1,739,259.44				Total Spec Bldg:	\$ 1,800,547.00
Total Special Funds	\$ 3,436,108.75	\$ 106,559.41	\$ 365,584.69	\$ 374.09	\$ -	\$ 3,177,457.56
					\$ -	
Total SF minus CD's	\$ 3,181,056.71					\$ 2,922,405.52

ECK REGISTER FOR April 2022 BOARD MEETING

(Includes special fund checks)

PAYEE NAME	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
American Broadband	Telephone service	\$ 479.54
AKRS Equipment	Trade in on Mower	\$ 3,750.00
Ace Hardware	Aerator for maintenance	\$ 17.97
Allied Appliance	Parts for maintenance	\$ 237.74
AirGas	Welding tank rental	\$ 169.17
Blair Community Schools	OT Agreement	\$ 1,768.00
Bosselman Pump & Pantry	Fuel for van/buses	\$ 2,688.15
Cashwa Distributing	Food Order	\$ 11,600.72
Martin Clausen	Pest Services	\$ 92.64
Tamala Clausen	Bookkeeping services and mileage	\$ 2,904.80
Dietze Music	Music	\$ 48.00
Dietze Music	Mutes for band	\$ 39.60
D B Nebraska	Ignition control (Hotlunch Maintenance)	\$ 239.00
Egan Supply	repairs and supplies maintenance	\$ 7,053.38
Eagle Auto	Van #4 #3 repairs/ oil change/muffler	\$ 2,075.13
Enterprise Publishing	Legals/ minutes/help wanted ads	\$ 964.14
Capital One (Walmart)	supplies	\$ 243.12
EarthGrains	Food Order	\$ 934.74
Fiber Platform	Education Network	\$ 556.43
Fremont Lock Shop	Keys	\$ 206.80
Frontline Technology	Applicant tracking/sub attendance renewal	\$ 2,319.63
5TH Season	lawn/ground care for season 22-23	\$ 4,090.00
Julie French	reimb cocktail sauce for kitchen	\$ 15.86
Jamie Huss	Athletic Trainer services	\$ 3,000.00
Hiland	Milk order	\$ 3,961.55
Hometown Leasing	Copier Lease	\$ 1,723.15
Herff Jones	Valedictorian /Distinguished Scholar awards	\$ 128.45
Jackson Services	Supplies for food service	\$ 230.12
Knudsen's	fuel for buses	\$ 2,378.85
KSB	Legal services	\$ 116.00
LE Learn2Move	PT Svcs	\$ 362.32
Lou's Sports	Track warm ups 21-22 season	\$ 6,122.77
Lincoln Journal Star	Help wanted ad for custodian	\$ 432.33
Menards - Fremont	Maintenance supplies	\$ 204.17
Menards - Fremont	shelving and wastebaskets New addition	\$ 1,682.07
Menards - Fremont	supplies for State Skills competition	\$ 828.05
Methodist Health Fremont	Bus Driver medical	\$ 240.00
Metal Doors and Hardware	repair on doors and bolts	\$ 325.00
NASB	Meeting Registration Lewis/Arp	\$ 195.00
Nebraska Council on Econ	Econ Game Registration	\$ 170.00
NCS Pearson	Q interactive Subtest (School Psch)	\$ 303.27
NSAA District II	District music Contest entries	\$ 480.00
NSBA	Dues Mastny	\$ 65.00
OPPD	Electricity	\$ 8,381.16
Omaha Truck	Parts and repairs for buses	\$ 1,221.73
O'Reilly Auto Parts	Oil Filters and oils for buses	\$ 569.33
Pay Flex	HSA Fee	\$ 100.00
Pegler Sysco	Food Order	\$ 4,125.88
Platte Valley Equipment	Mower/split cost with Activites for ball field	\$ 3,050.00
JW Pepper	Music	\$ 123.53

Resilite	Wrestling Mat (part paid for by boosters)	\$	14,803.56
Really Good Stuff	Boarder trim for elementary	\$	16.58
Ralston Public Schools	2nd Qrt Services Deaf and Blind	\$	15,766.57
James Shada	Mileage for state wrestling	\$	21.85
Staples	10 Key ribbon	\$	17.29
Sapp Bros Petroleum	55 gallon of Duron for buses	\$	561.04
Sherwin Williams	Paint	\$	42.63
Symmetry	Natural Gas	\$	-
Thermo King	Def for buses	\$	197.06
Three B's Saw & tool	router bit for shop/woods	\$	20.00
T & T Electric	bucket truck rental- Maintenance	\$	100.00
Total fire and Security	Replace security camera in hallway	\$	613.99
Think Social Publishing	regulation book	\$	61.31
Two River	Direct Deposit Fee	\$	18.00
Visa (General Supplies)	Various Items for General Fund	\$	2,295.73
US Foods	Food Order Hot Lunch	\$	4,522.94
Village of Arlington	Water	\$	726.65
Waste Connections	Trash Service	\$	543.04
Wex Bank	Fuel for van	\$	64.16

Total Payables (GF checks not mailed until approved by the BOE) **\$ 123,406.69**

HANDPAYABLES (GF Paid and mailed after previous board meeting but before this board meeting)

Airgas	Welding Gas	\$	153.21
Casey's	Fuel for Vans	\$	784.75
Bosselman's	Fuel for buses	\$	693.56
Airgas	Missed bill from November	\$	291.45
Wex Bank	fuel for buses and vans (Shell)	\$	3,381.68
Skills USA	Regisration (needed to go right away)	\$	100.00

Total Handpayables **\$ 5,404.65**

Total General Fund **\$ 128,811.34**

SPECIAL FUNDS (Building, Bond, QCPUF, Dep checks)

Union Bank and Trust	Bond Annual Admin fee	\$	1,036.00
DLR Group	Construct services Jan/Feb	\$	18,980.09
Boyd Jones	Construction New addition	\$	190,617.00
VISA	Projector for new addition	\$	916.64
Total Special Funds		\$	211,549.73

EFINANCE - POWERSCHOOL
DATE: 04/08/2022
TIME: 10:59:15

ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOL
CHECK REGISTER

PAGE NUMBER: 1
VENCHK11
ACCOUNTING PERIOD: 8/22

FUND - 99 - DISBURSEMENT FUND

CHECK NUMBER	CASH ACCT	DATE ISSUED	-----VENDOR-----	ACCT	-----DESCRIPTION-----	AMOUNT
47080	9001	04/08/22	4607 VISA	2610	12 PACK OF 1" BINDERS	51.82
47080	9001	04/08/22	4607 VISA	2610	AMAZON - VOMIT BAGS 24 PA	23.98
47080	9001	04/08/22	4607 VISA	2330	AUTISM EARLY CHILDHOOD TR	20.00
47080	9001	04/08/22	4607 VISA	2431	CAR WASH FOR VAN #3	9.07
47080	9001	04/08/22	4607 VISA	2610	CAR WASH VAN #5	9.07
47080	9001	04/08/22	4607 VISA	2650	DESKTOP POWER SUPPLIES, W	296.91
47080	9001	04/08/22	4607 VISA	2330	ESU7 - EARLY LEARNING GUI	33.46
47080	9001	04/08/22	4607 VISA	2330	ESU7 - EARLY LEARNING GUI	33.46
47080	9001	04/08/22	4607 VISA	2626	FUEL FOR STATE SPEECH - V	48.53
47080	9001	04/08/22	4607 VISA	2580	FUEL FOR VAN	51.51
47080	9001	04/08/22	4607 VISA	2626	FUEL FOR VAN	43.69
47080	9001	04/08/22	4607 VISA	2650	LENOVO N22 REPLACEMENT SC	172.50
47080	9001	04/08/22	4607 VISA	2530	PIONEER LONG DISTANCE PHO	82.04
47080	9001	04/08/22	4607 VISA	2650	REPLACEMENT PROJECTOR	566.63
47080	9001	04/08/22	4607 VISA	2650	REPLACEMENT PROJECTOR	799.99
47080	9001	04/08/22	4607 VISA	2610	TPT - CULTURE PROJECT - G	5.00
47080	9001	04/08/22	4607 VISA	2610	TPT - FINANCIAL LITERACY:	4.00
47080	9001	04/08/22	4607 VISA	2610	TPT - TRANSITION SKILLS C	35.00
47080	9001	04/08/22	4607 VISA	2431	VAN WASH FOR #2	9.07
		TOTAL CHECK				2,295.73
		TOTAL FUND				2,295.73
		TOTAL REPORT				2,295.73

Activity Balances as of 3/31/2022

Source Code:	Account	Beginning Bal	YTD		Balance
			Revenues	Expenditures	
701	One School One Team	\$ 17,175.00	\$0.00	\$15,990.00	\$ 1,185.00
736	Activities Interest	\$ 11,585.69	\$28.80	\$70.41	\$ 11,544.08
702	Always For Kids	\$ 35,086.86	\$18,331.92	\$14,423.53	\$ 38,995.25
703	Art Class	\$ 7,755.70	\$720.00	\$2,172.00	\$ 6,303.70
704	Art Club	\$ 1,329.31	\$427.80	\$125.08	\$ 1,632.03
705	Athletics	\$ (30,708.85)	\$55,683.99	\$55,419.90	\$ (30,444.76)
706	Band	\$ 4,417.41	\$4,663.64	\$3,275.56	\$ 5,805.49
789	Baseball Fund	\$ 3,865.74	\$2,074.72	\$1,878.93	\$ 4,061.53
762	Baylor/ACT	\$ 2,979.09	\$272.00	\$270.00	\$ 2,981.09
708	Book Club	\$ 270.55	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ 270.55
790	Boys Basketball	\$ 1,365.72	\$3,849.00	\$1,067.40	\$ 4,147.32
783	Boys Golf	\$ 1,294.35	\$1,351.00	\$0.00	\$ 2,645.35
709	Cheerleading	\$ 2,747.69	\$3,108.35	\$3,309.73	\$ 2,546.31
734	Class of 2018	\$ 1,453.91	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ 1,453.91
765	Class of 2019	\$ 1,016.13	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ 1,016.13
770	Class of 2020	\$ 428.26	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ 428.26
771	Class of 2021	\$ 458.88	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ 458.88
768	Class of 2022	\$ 5,595.38	\$60.00	\$2,754.16	\$ 2,901.22
772	Class of 2023	\$ 3,331.85	\$1,233.54	\$2,652.10	\$ 1,913.29
773	Class of 2024	\$ 2,007.25	\$3,123.90	\$350.00	\$ 4,781.15
774	Class of 2025	\$ 1,000.00	\$1,375.98	\$0.00	\$ 2,375.98
775	Class of 2026	\$ -	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ -
720	Concessions	\$ (5,061.08)	\$26,323.11	\$23,250.85	\$ (1,988.82)
785	Cross Country	\$ 4,430.69	\$2,764.00	\$4,027.29	\$ 3,167.40
721	Dance Squad	\$ 4,529.22	\$2,375.00	\$2,166.05	\$ 4,738.17
722	Drama	\$ 261.23	\$447.40	\$183.40	\$ 525.23
724	Elem Lounge	\$ (55.16)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ (55.16)
732	Fam Cons Science	\$ 2,084.37	\$1,000.00	\$969.97	\$ 2,114.40
726	FBLA	\$ 13,305.36	\$17,254.87	\$17,670.46	\$ 12,889.77
766	FFA	\$ 14,894.97	\$21,490.14	\$11,600.69	\$ 24,784.42
758	Floor Fund	\$ 427.95	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ 427.95
727	Football	\$ 15,492.07	\$1,509.90	\$7,786.55	\$ 9,215.42
791	Girls Basketball	\$ 1,416.40	\$3,382.00	\$3,879.01	\$ 919.39
784	Girls Golf	\$ 3,206.08	\$1,230.00	\$155.00	\$ 4,281.08
735	Honor Society	\$ 1,083.86	\$180.00	\$0.00	\$ 1,263.86
761	Honors History	\$ 0.09	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ 0.09
744	HS Lounge	\$ 428.80	\$0.00	\$177.63	\$ 251.17
740	Industrial Tech / Woods	\$ 1,805.31	\$2,125.00	\$1,693.16	\$ 2,237.15
739	Library Fund Elem/HS	\$ 2,000.36	\$2,339.09	\$1,830.67	\$ 2,508.78
764	Metro	\$ 47,277.01	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ 47,277.01
792	MS Girls Basketball	\$ (23.96)	\$440.00	\$440.00	\$ (23.96)
723	MS STEM	\$ 142.17	\$0.00	\$82.42	\$ 59.75
737	MS Student Council	\$ 1,542.31	\$603.60	\$74.00	\$ 2,071.91
787	MS Track	\$ 222.12	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ 222.12
756	Pepsi	\$ 2,794.14	\$2,080.38	\$766.68	\$ 4,107.84
742	Quiz Bowl	\$ 1,048.82	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ 1,048.82
728	Reimbursement (genera	\$ 6,771.00	\$382.00	\$32.00	\$ 7,121.00
714	SKILLS	\$ 679.48	\$2,440.00	\$1,304.00	\$ 1,815.48
788	Softball	\$ 804.02	\$2,874.00	\$1,305.00	\$ 2,373.02
746	Spanish Club	\$ 149.97	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ 149.97
794	Sped	\$ 78.35	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$ 228.35
747	Speech	\$ 649.50	\$301.10	\$110.00	\$ 840.60
748	Spring Musical	\$ 6,769.62	\$12,184.25	\$7,372.86	\$ 11,581.01
793	Striv	\$ 400.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ 400.00
749	Student Council	\$ 3,174.72	\$3,618.71	\$1,208.78	\$ 5,584.65
750	Student Vending	\$ 1,454.97	\$0.00	\$51.96	\$ 1,403.01
751	Swing Choir	\$ 2,003.38	\$176.30	\$2,194.68	\$ (15.00)
786	Track Fund	\$ 1,754.47	\$1,814.54	\$1,086.53	\$ 2,482.48
717	Transition	\$ 1,613.51	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ 1,613.51
782	Volleyball	\$ 835.60	\$5,793.68	\$3,215.44	\$ 3,413.84
710	Welding	\$ (405.41)	\$75.12	\$45.12	\$ (375.41)
733	Wrestling	\$ 3,570.02	\$4,934.75	\$3,259.57	\$ 5,245.20
753	Yearbook	\$ 525.09	\$9,120.00	\$2,205.13	\$ 7,439.96
795	Wellness (District)	\$ -	\$5,825.00	\$4,625.00	\$ 1,200.00
796	Elementary Activity	\$ -	\$425.00	\$425.00	\$ -
799	Girls On The Run	\$ 0.00	\$817.50	\$0.00	\$ 817.50
	Totals	\$218,537.34	\$232,781.08	\$208,953.70	\$242,364.72

2022 Science Curriculum Report

Multicultural Aspect

We continue to spend a good amount of time across our courses talking about the history of science and how different theories were discovered by scientists from all over the world including a lot of European scientists throughout the history of our world. With our college and career readiness standards it provides us opportunities to explain how science may be used in many different occupations and areas of people's life. We also talk about the importance of using consistent units in scientific measurements when doing experiments and inquiry type learning. In order for scientists to all communicate in what consistent language they have created the SI unit of measurements as well as other terminology in order to ensure that scientists across our globe as well as industries can all be using the same terminology and speaking the same language. What continues to be going on across our globe right now with Covid-19 also allows for some discussions of how science, viruses and other scientific concepts and processes can be used which contribute to our understanding of science.

What do we want students to learn?

All courses are based on covering the Nebraska State Science Standards. These have adjusted over the last couple of years to include college and career readiness. With those changes we have put even more emphasis to incorporate important life skills that students will need, specifically critical thinking skills, problem solving skills, independent creative thinking processes, and the ability to collaborate and work with others, things that carry over into any field or career that a student may choose beyond their secondary and even college educational experiences. Instruction in all of the science classes is through a variety of means including hands-on learning in a lab setting, computer simulations, or building and creating models.

We have continued to implement new thoughts and ideas concerning how we teach including how we utilize labs, how we assess our students, and what we do with data from our assessments. Through our PLC process we have worked to update our curriculum and ensure that there are no gaps and all of the state standards are being covered through our different courses. We have also discussed how we are going to adjust with students who may not be taking certain courses and opting to take other options to ensure that they are still getting the proper information needed.

As a department we continue to focus on a collaborative smart goal of improving the lower quartile of our students in their classroom performance as well as on their MAPS scores and ACT performance. We hope to improve the scoring of our students and get our lower 25% of students to perform at proficiency on their MAPS test as well as the ACT. This was something that our school had observed as an area for improvement, getting our lower quartile of students

to perform better and have more success in school. The dynamics of our student population are changing as more opt in students come and we see our SPED population continue to increase. This creates challenges for us as teachers that we must adapt to and look at for ways to improve our teaching styles and curriculum.

How do we know students are learning?

Students are given unit assessments as well as semester final exams in order to measure student performance. Another tool to measure student performance is MAPS and NSCAS data, and ACT performance. We continually show growth and improvement in these areas and consistently perform above state standards and out-perform our peers of similar size and student population. We are able to achieve these high scores through the work that we do on a day to day basis and how we check for learning with our students. We utilize for instance homework quizzes and lab quizzes in chemistry and physical science in order to give small snapshots and check for learning sequences within a chapter to ensure students are getting the material before giving a test. There is also a lot of open questioning, lab work observation, collaboration, question and answer sessions, reviews and handing in of assignments. We will continue to strive for better performances hoping to show an increase in scores year over year.

One of the main ways we have looked at improving instruction and continuing to grow as teachers and a department is working within our PLC groups to improve instruction and identify student performance through data collection. With the help of the district we have tracked MAPS scores and progress with students and looked at how they have performed and shown growth throughout the school year. We have developed ways of collecting and analyzing data for assessments in order for us to identify standards in which our students collectively may be performing well on, or struggling with. This allows us to improve, develop and evolve our methods and delivery of instruction as well as possibly go back and revisit concepts that students have demonstrated a poor understanding of. We use Canvas as our online platform to deliver lessons, information and collect grades based on student performance on worksheets, quizzes, and completion of work.

How do we respond when students are not learning?

We have multiple methods of intervention to help students when they are not learning. One of the many great strengths of our school is that we do not allow many students to slip through the cracks and provide them every opportunity to learn material and grow their understanding of concepts across all curriculum. We utilize the after school and lunch GRIP program in which students are referred if they are missing work, needing to make up assignments or having issues with subjects. We also provide times for one on one help before school, after school and throughout the course of the day. Another way we help students learn

is through differentiation by providing students with different forms of delivery of information. We may use power point, hands on learning, putting students in groups or pairs, labs and online activities. We also keep parent logs and contact parents when students may be struggling or falling behind in classes. These are multiple ways to ensure that students are given every opportunity possible to be successful. As a department we all utilize some form of test/quiz retakes and remediation opportunities to allow students who did poorly or clearly showed a lack of understanding to review and reteach the material in some instances in order to show growth.

How do we extend or enrich the learning for students who exceed proficiency?

We provide a chemistry II and Biology II course for students to gain more knowledge and information based on a potential interest of studying these fields or related fields in their post-secondary education. We have also utilized student groups to help students collaborate pairing higher level students with lower level ones in which the higher level student teaches or assists the lower performing student. This is beneficial for both parties as it allows the lower performing student a different angle to learn and allows the higher performing student to get deeper into the material due to the need to teach to the other. There are also some independent projects and activities for students to do once they have finished the class work or assignments.

Other information

During the 2019-2020 school year we went through a textbook adoption process and each class selected a new textbook series that was implemented during the 2020-2021 school year. 7th and 8th grade science selected Amplify. Biology and Anatomy/Physiology selected Pearson. Physical Science, Chemistry, and Physics selected McGraw Hill. All of the textbooks have quality online platforms, which have allowed for increased opportunities for learning as well as the ability to utilize technology in order to deliver lessons, use simulations, create models, evaluate or check for understanding, and deliver assessments to students.

James Shada
April
Board Report

Athletic Banquet

We are excited to have our booster club high school athletic banquet this year!! We will host the banquet on Sunday, May 1st. More details to come on location and start time from the booster club.

NCPA Academic All-State Awards – Winter 2022



NCPA ACADEMIC ALL-STATE AWARDS

Since 2006 this NSAA Award Program has recognized students who meet the criteria for nomination by their school in the season of their activity. Each year the NSAA and the NCPA recognize students during fall, winter and spring seasons who are nominated by their schools for their individual academic excellence, leadership, and significant contributions in their NSAA activity. The criteria are as follows:

1. A nominated student must be a varsity player or organizational leader who has played a significant role on the team or in the organizational activity during the seasons for which nominations are accepted.
2. A nominated student must have a minimum cumulative grade point average, in all curricular subjects, of 93% or 3.7 on a 4.0-point scale or the equivalent.
3. NSAA high schools or their cooperative sponsorship may nominate a maximum of two students per NSAA activity program.

Nebraska Chiropractic Physicians Association (NCPA) Academic All-State Awards winner from Arlington winners were:

Boys Basketball: Colby Grefe, Barrett Nielsen

Girls Basketball: Hailey Brenn, Kate Miller

Speech: Dillon Kim

Spring Events Update

- FFA State Conferences are happening in person in Lincoln! April 6th – 8th
- FBLA at State Leadership Conference are happening in person in Kearney for the first time. April 11th – 13th
- State Skills USA is happening in person in Grand Island! April 7th – 9th

- High School Music Concert: 5/2 at 7:00
- Middle School Music Concert: 4/27 at 7:00
- District Music Competition: 4/22 at Blair, performance times TBA
- High School Honors Night: 4/28 at 7:00 pm
- Track Meet: Jr. High May 6th at 4:00 pm, High School May 5th at 2:00 pm
- Boys Golf Invitational: April 29th at 9:00 am
- Athletic Banquet: May 1st location TBA

April Elementary Principal Report 2022

NCSAS - We are just beginning the journey of testing. Students have been doing a lot of review in the forms of games, class discussions and practice sheets.

Pizza Fractions - Second grade was transformed recently into a fabulous pizzeria where they learned about fractions!! The culminating activity was taking orders from staff members and creating “pizzas” with exact fractional toppings! Great job second grade!



Ellis Island:

5th-grade students worked on research from their heritage in conjunction with what the journey through Ellis Island was like. Students dressed up and brought food from their native country. Students were then subjected to questioning and processes that were common when entering at Ellis Island.



Secondary Principal's Report

April 2022 Board Meeting

Prom

Prom will be held on Saturday, April 23 in the competition gym with post prom to follow at the Two Rivers Bank Arena. Thank you to all of the parents, businesses, community members, teachers, sponsors, and others who have contributed to making this night a fun night for our students.

Testing Calendar

11th Grade - ACT on April 5

10th Grade - PreACT on April 26

9th Grade - MAP Reading on April 5 and 6

MAP Science on April 13 and 14

MAP Math on April 19 and 20

7th and 8th Grade - NSCAS/MAP Science on April 13 and 14

NSCAS Reading on April 20 and 21

NSCAS Math on April 26 and 27

Fundraiser

To support our local Roots to Wings business, teachers wore "Be Kind" shirts if they donated to the cause. We raised over \$500 for Roots to Wings as they expand their operations.

State Leadership Conferences

SkillsUSA - April 7-9

FFA - April 6-8

FBLA - April 11-13

Student Awards

Midland Leaders - Luke Hammang, Trevor Denker, and Kiersten Taylor were awarded as Outstanding High School Leaders by Midland University at a ceremony on April 1.

Congratulations to them for their hard work leading to this recognition.



Other Fun!



ARLINGTON HIGH SCHOOL PRESENTS

FRIDAY MARCH 18 @ 7PM
SATURDAY MARCH 19 @ 2PM
SATURDAY MARCH 19 @ 7PM



THANK YOU **Boyd Jones** FOR HELPING OUR
STUDENTS CONTINUE TO SOAR TO EXCELLENCE!



<http://members.nasbonline.org/index.php/events>

To register for an NASB event, click on the 'My Membership' link, then navigate to the 'Events' dropdown and select 'Register'.
If you do not have an email and password to log in or have forgotten it, please contact NASB at 800-422-4572 for assistance.



YOUR MONTHLY BOARD AGENDA UPDATE VIDEO LINKS

<http://members.nasbonline.org/index.php/news-resources/videos>

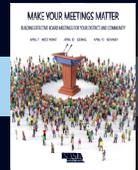
APRIL

THIS
WEEK!

MAKE YOUR MEETINGS MATTER - APRIL 7 - WEST POINT

MAKE YOUR MEETINGS MATTER - APRIL 12 - GERING

MAKE YOUR MEETINGS MATTER - APRIL 13 - KEARNEY



NATIONAL
WALK AT LUNCH DAY



APRIL 27

MAY

LINCOLN MARATHON & HALF MARATHON - MAY 1

Let Matt or Megan know if you're participating or interested in watching as a number of SBMs, school leaders & NASB staff are signed up!

JUNE

ALICAP SUMMER WORKSHOP - JUNE 7 - GERING

NASB VIRTUAL CANDIDATE FORUM - JUNE 7 - 7:00 TO 8:30 PM CT

ALICAP SUMMER WORKSHOP - JUNE 8 - KEARNEY

ALICAP SUMMER WORKSHOP - JUNE 9 - LINCOLN

NASB VIRTUAL CANDIDATE FORUM - JUNE 9 - 12:00 TO 1:30 PM CT

NASB VIRTUAL CANDIDATE FORUM - JUNE 15 - 12:00 TO 1:30 PM CT

NASB MEMBER GOLF OUTING - JUNE 22 - KEARNEY

SCHOOL LEADERS & LAW CONFERENCE - JUNE 22-23 - KEARNEY

OTHER KEY DATES

NASB VIRTUAL CANDIDATE FORUMS - JULY 13 - SEPTEMBER 14 & OCTOBER 5

NASB ORIENTATION - JULY 20 - LINCOLN

AREA MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS - AUGUST THROUGH SEPTEMBER

ANNUAL SPARQ DATA SOLUTIONS TAILGATE PARTY - SEPTEMBER 17 - LINCOLN

FACILITIES & CONSTRUCTION - SEPTEMBER 22 - KEARNEY

LABOR RELATIONS - FALL 2022

STATE EDUCATION CONFERENCE - NOVEMBER 16-18 - OMAHA

NEW BOARD MEMBER WORKSHOPS - DECEMBER - GERING, NORTH PLATTE, KEARNEY, YORK, LA VISTA, NORFOLK

YOUR 2022 PLATINUM AFFILIATES

ALICAP

AMERICAN FIDELITY
a different opinion

Ameritas
Ameritas Investment Corp.
Member FINRA/SIPC

BCDM
architects

Boyd Jones

BVH
ARCHITECTURE

CLARK & ENERSEN

CLV ca CMBA
ARCHITECTS

COMMUNITY
BUILDING SOLUTIONS

crouch
RECREATION

D|A DAVIDSON

filament
ESSENTIAL SERVICES

jmc

PIPER | SANDLER

prm
PUBLIC RISK
MANAGEMENT
INCORPORATED

SPARQ DATA
SOLUTIONS

If your business would like to become an Affiliate Member of NASB for 2022, please visit:

<http://nasbonline.org/registrations/AffiliateMembershipProgram.aspx>



Nebraska Rural Community Schools Association

Member Update

April 6, 2022



Photo Credit: Burwell Public Schools



www.nrca.net



www.twitter.com/NRCSA1980



www.facebook.com/nrcsahome/



NRCSA Calendar

NRCSA Events

NRCSA Golf Tournament

July 26, 2022

Meadowlark Hills Golf Course in Kearney

[More about this event](#)

NRCSA Legislative Forum

February 16, 2023

Cornhusker Hotel in Lincoln

[More about this event](#)

NRCSA Spring Conference

March 23-24, 2023

Crowne Plaza & Younes North Convention Center in Kearney

[More about this event](#)

Committee Meetings

NRCSA Legislative Committee

April 6, 2022

9:30 A.M. (CDT) via Zoom

NRCSA Executive Committee

June 2022

Held in conjunction with Western Nebraska Administrators Meeting

Time and room TBD

2022-23 NRCSA Executive Committee

July, 2022

Held in conjunction with Administrator Days in Kearney

Time and room TBD



NRCSA Search Service

Please let Jack Moles know where superintendent vacancies occur, so that NRC-SA Superintendent Search can make direct contact. We need to hear as soon as possible in anticipation of getting promotional materials specific to that board of education ready. It is critical that Board Presidents have the NRCSA contact information so that if they choose to consider a Superintendent Search Service, NRCSA is one they hopefully will consider.



Arapahoe-Holbrook Public Schools
Search Complete



O'Neill Public Schools
Search Complete



Arthur County Schools
Search Complete



Potter-Dix Public Schools
Search Complete



Bayard Public Schools
Application Process Complete
Finalists Selected: **April 4, 2022**
Interviews: **April 8 & 9, 2022**
Contract Start Date: **July 1, 2022**



St Edward Public Schools
Search Complete



Educational Service Unit 11
Search Complete



St Paul Public Schools
Search Complete



Heartland Community Schools
Search Complete



Tri County Public Schools
Search Complete



Leyton Public Schools
Search Complete



Wheeler Central Public Schools
Search Complete



Newman Grove Public Schools
Search Complete

Access the Members area of www.nrcsa.net anytime.

Login: member Password: recess

Thank you to all who helped to make the 2022 NRCSA Spring Conference another memorable event! I am certain that all who attended will agree that the sparkling new Crowne Plaza and Younes North Convention Center in Kearney is an absolute gem for Kearney. Congratulations to Paul Younes and all of his staff for such great accommodations! Our featured speakers, Laurie Smith (Sumner-Eddyville-Miller), the National Rural Teacher of the Year, and Dr. Salome Thomas-El made awesome presentations on the need to form great relationships with students and staff.



Laurie Smith



Dr. Salome Thomas El

For those of you who did not get a chance to fill out a Conference Evaluation Form you may do so electronically through the link below. NRCSA welcomes your input and uses these evaluations to make decisions when presenting future conferences.

[2022 NRCSA Spring Conference Evaluation Form](#)

NRCSA Leadership

Ginger Meyer, President
Chadron Public Schools

Del Dack, Past President.
Paxton Consolidated Schools

Dr. Dawn Lewis, Pres-Elect.
Arlington Public Schools

Jane Davis, Secretary.
Hershey Public Schools

District Representatives:

Eugene Hanks, West
Crawford Public Schools

Dale Hafer, North Central
Ainsworth Community Schools

Dr. Jon Cerny, Northeast
Bancroft-Rosalie Community Schs

Paul Sheffield, Southeast
Exeter-Milligan Public Schools

Jon Davis, South Central
Alma Public Schools

Alan Garey, Southwest
Medicine Valley Schools

Executive Director:

Jack Moles

Lobbyists:

Jon Edwards
Trent P. Nowka
Russell Westerhold

Legislative Co- Chairs:

Randy Page,
Thayer Central Community Schs

Dr. Jason Dolliver
Pender Public Schools

Scholarship & Recognition Co Chairs:

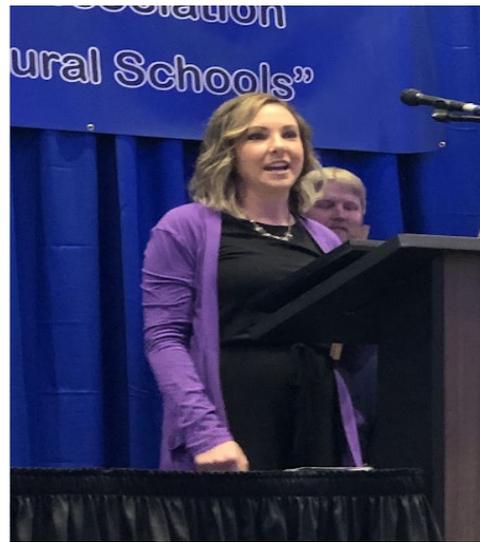
Tim Heckenlively,
Falls City Public Schools

Jim Widdifield
Minden Public Schools

Congratulations to all of our award winners at the Spring Conference. One of the more enjoyable features of the Spring Conference is our recognition of people doing great things in our rural schools. It is always very emotional and surprising as most often these recipients do not even know they have been nominated. The Scholarship and Recognitions Committee does a great job of working with the school district to bring in family and close friends to the awards ceremonies as a surprise to the recipients.



Outstanding Superintendent - Chad Denker, David City Public Schools



Outstanding Principal - Sandy Pohl, Minden Public Schools



Outstanding Elementary Teacher - Patti Meysenburg, East Butler Public Schools



Outstanding Board Member - Bob Sykes, Wilber-Clatonia Public Schools



Outstanding Secondary Teacher - Twila Knehans, Adams Central Public Schools



Outstanding ESU Staff Member - Jamen Hall, Educational Service Unit 6



Gary Fisher Outstanding Music Teacher - Misty Michelman, Sidney Public Schools



The Spring Conference traditionally closes with some prize drawings. A new feature was added a few years ago as a special prize is awarded to the winner of the “Heads or Tails” contest. This year’s winner was George Griffith, Superintendent of HTRS Public Schools. George won a football that was graciously donated by Eric Crouch. The football was obtained by Eric at this year’s Heisman Trophy Awards Ceremony and has over 20 signatures from past Heisman Trophy winners. We thank Eric Crouch, owner of Crouch Recreation, a NRCSA Purple Ribbon Partner!



Outstanding Classified Staff Member - Robert “Ozzo” Osmotherly, Crawford Public Schools

The Music Groups are always a highlight of the Spring Conference. Superintendents nominate their outstanding groups for the opportunity to show off the talents in their rural districts.



The 2022 Legislative Session is nearing its completion. This is a shorter 60-day session. Some bills of interest:



LB 1218—a committee priority bill from the Education Committee, this bill would provide two pieces that would serve to help to address the teacher shortage: (1) eliminate the PRAXIS I test as a requirement for admission to teacher education programs, and (2) provide up to \$5,000 per year for up to five years of teacher loan forgiveness for young teachers.. We are hopeful that Speaker Hilgers will place LB 1218 on the agenda this week.



LB 888—Introduced by Sen. Day, this would require the Holocaust and other forms of genocide to be included in the Multicultural requirements of Rule 10.

LB 1112—Introduced by Sen. McKinney, the bill would establish a 5-credit hour course in computer science as a graduation requirement. The bill passed the first two rounds of debate, but there is hope it could be either defeated or significantly amended before passage. If it is passed there is a common thought that substantial changes may be in order in the interim.

LB 1158—Introduced by Sen. Sanders, this bill would require districts to have a policy which would provide access for parents/guardians to school curriculum materials, including trainings taken by teachers. NRCSA has been involved with other education groups in discussing this with Sen. Day's office since this past fall. The bill that was eventually introduced is not as detailed as what was originally drawn up, but it does contain some concerns. We are not opposed to transparency, but the bill will create more work for local staff. It also includes some penalty provisions that are too severe. We will continue to work with other groups and Sen. Day's office as there is still work to be done.

As always, please let us know if you have any questions about the session. Look for more news and updates as the Legislature moves forward.

[NRCSA ballots for President-Elect and the Southeast District Representative to the Executive Committee have been emailed to the Superintendent/ESU Administrator of our members.](#) Please return the ballots by May 1. The ballots will include the following:

Executive Committee:

President-Elect - This is a Statewide position voted on by all NRCSA members. The elected candidate will serve a three-year term as President-Elect, then President, and then Past President. Candidates must be from a NRCSA member school district and membership in NRCSA must be maintained throughout the length of service. Mark Lenihan, Supt. for Wayne Public Schools is the only nominee who will appear on the ballot. Write in votes are accepted.

Southeast Dist Representative - Paul Sheffield is finishing his first term and is eligible to run for a second term of office. District Representatives serve three-year terms and may serve two consecutive terms. District Representatives are voted on only by members in that NRCSA District. Candidates must be from a NRCSA member school district and membership in NRCSA

must be maintained throughout the length of service. Paul has indicated that he wishes to run for a second term. Paul was the only nominee, thus he will be the only name on the ballot. Write in votes are accepted.

[NRCSA will be seeking volunteers for appointed positions for 2022-23.](#) Interested persons may self nominate or be nominated by another person. If you would like to nominate yourself or nominate someone else please contact Jack Moles. Open positions will be:

Legislative Committee:

Chad Boyer, Superintendent at Wisner-Pilger (Northeast Dist) is completing his second term on the Legislative Committee. Legislative Committee members are appointed by the Executive Committee and serve three-year terms with a limit of two consecutive terms. We currently have one nomination for this position: Aaron Plas, Supt. at Lakeview.

Brian Rottinghaus, Superintendent at Pawnee City (Southeast Dist) is completing his first term on the Legislative Committee and is eligible to be re-appointed for a second term. Brian has indicated that he wishes to be re-appointed.

Todd Rhodes, Superintendent at Gothenburg (South Central Dist) will not be serving in a NRCSA member district next year. He is finishing the first year of his second term. We will need a replacement for the South Central District to complete the final two years of his term. That person would then be eligible to serve two other terms upon completing this term. We currently have two nominations for this position: Jeff Edwards, Supt. at Northwest and Jeremy Braden, Supt. at Doniphan-Trumbull.

Mike Williams, Superintendent at Arcadia (North Central Dist) is retiring. He is finishing the first year of his first term. We will need a replacement for the North Central District to complete the final two years of his term. That person would then be eligible to serve two other terms upon completing this term. We currently have one nomination for this position: Heather Nebesniak, Supt. at Ord.

Lori Liggett, Superintendent at Gordon-Rushville (West District) is leaving that position. She will have two years remaining on her term. We will need a replacement for the West District to complete the final two years of her term. That person would then be eligible to serve two other terms upon completing this term. We currently have one nomination for this position: Trevor Anderson, Supt. at Kimball.

Scholarship & Recognition Committee:

Wade Finley, Superintendent at Litchfield (North Central Dist); Dr. Beth Johnsen, Superintendent at Conestoga (Southeast Dist); and Greg Sjuts, Superintendent at Humphrey (Northeast Dist) are all completing two years of service on the Committee.

Scholarship and Recognition Committee members are appointed by the Executive Committee and serve a term of two years.

Closing the Achievement Gap Research Team:

Randy Schlueter, Superintendent at Tri County (Southeast Dist) is retiring.

Charles Isom, Superintendent at Hemingford (West Dist) is retiring.

Mikal Shalikow, Superintendent at Newman Grove (Northeast District) is moving to a non-NRCSA member district.

Closing the Achievement Gap Research Team members are appointed by the Executive Committee.

[NRCSA was recently asked to share with all of our members about some items that were for sale.](#) Rob Gregory, Supt. at Axtell, asked us to spread the news about lunch tables that they had available. Soon after that, Brent Hollinger, Supt. at Cross County, asked us to advertise a SPED van with a lift that they were making available. We sent both notices to all NRCSA member districts. Shortly after this, they both informed me that the items were all sold.

This is a service that NRCSA enthusiastically provides—we can help to spread the word if you have any items for sale (or to give away). If you have such items, please don't hesitate to contact us. Hopefully we can help!

Darron Arlt, Supt. at Plainview, asked that we share that they have two scoreboards for sale. He said they were

purchased in 2014 and are in perfect condition. They are asking \$13,000 per scoreboard. If interested you can contact Darron at darlt@plainviewschools.org.



[Big Red Leader Tuition Program](#) The Big Red Leader tuition remission program offers reduced tuition rates for Nebraska resident students in P-12 School Leadership programs leading to an endorsement.

[Big Red Leader Website](#)

[Big Red Leadership Flyer](#)

[NRCSA recently developed a corporate sponsorship/partnership program.](#) The program is designed to provide more opportunities for contact with the decision makers in our member school districts, ESUs, and the colleges through increased exposure. We welcome our first corporate sponsors. NRCSA is so very thankful that they have chosen to partner with us.



Purple Ribbon Partners



Cheever Construction

Doug Klute
3425 N 44th St
Lincoln, NE 68504
Phone: (402) 477-6745
dklute@cheeverconstruction.com



Facility Advocates

Dave Raymond
13504 Stevens St, Suite C
Omaha, NE 68137
Phone: (402) 206-8777
draymond@facilityadvocates.com



Crouch Recreation

Nicole Crouch
1309 S 204th St # 330
Elkhorn, NE 68022
Phone: (402) 496-2669
nicole@crouchrec.com



DA Davidson

Paul Grieger
450 Regency Parkway, Suite 400
Omaha, NE 68114
Phone: (402) 392-7984
pgrieger@dadco.com



DLR Group

Emily O'keeffe
6457 Frances St, Suite 200
Omaha, NE 68106
Phone: (402) 393-4100
eokeeffe@dlrgroup.com



First National Capital Markets

Matt Fisher
2223 Second Ave
Kearney, NE 68848
Phone: (308) 380-3831
mfisher@fnni.com



Network For Educator Effectiveness (NEE)

Marc Doss
288 Maguire Blvd
Columbia, MO 65211
Phone: (417) 581-0171
dossm@missouri.edu



Piper Sandler & Co

Jay Spearman
2900 S 70th St, Suite 310
Lincoln, NE 68506
Phone: (402) 432-9268
jay.spearman@psc.com

RENAISSANCE®

Renaissance Learning

Heather Mille

2911 Peach St

Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

Phone: (402) 290-4379

heather.miller@renaissance.com



Wilkins Architecture, Design, Planning

Jacob Sertich

2908 W 39th St, Suite A

Kearney, NE 68845

Phone: (308) 237-5787

jsertich@wilkinsadp.com

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Auburn Public Schools



Mascot: Bulldogs

Enrollment: 846

Location: Auburn, NE

Interesting Fact: Auburn is an incorporation of two towns, Calvert and Sheridan. In 1882 the towns decided to combine and name the community Auburn after Auburn, New York. Auburn is Nebraska's first Tree City USA, an honor they have held since 1976. Auburn Public Schools was organized as a school district in 1889. The original school colors of the high school were scarlet and green.

Superintendent: David Patton



Principals: Marty Hughes, Breanne Poston & Jason Palmer



Board Members: Laura Osborne, Bill Chapin, Beth Kernes Krause, Ryan Jones, Stephen Kennedy, James Paschal & Kellie Fogarty



Programs

Program 1. DOGS Academy Afterschool Program – The DOGS Academy Afterschool Program is a 21st Century Community Learning Centers grant-funded program designed to support the establishment of community learning centers. The program’s goals are to improve overall student success and learning performance in one or more academic areas through academic support and enrichment activities, increase student social benefits and positive behavioral changes, and increase active and meaningful family and community engagement in supporting the education of students. DOGS Academy is located at Calvert Elementary and serves students from kindergarten through 5th grade. The program is available for families from 3:15 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. each day and from 1:15 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. when early dismissal occurs. Approximately 50 students attend the program each day. DOGS Academy is open during the summer months for families from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Students attending DOGS academy are involved in various fun, engaging educational activities each day. Members of different high school clubs such as FBLA and Art Club are also involved in providing enrichment opportunities for students. The program is free to families who have students enrolled in Auburn Public Schools.

Program 2. Reality Check - Reality Check is a joint project between Auburn Public Schools, Auburn Development Council, and local businesses. It is a simulation designed to provide students with an opportunity to help them understand what it means to have a job and live within a budget. The engaging project assigns students a career path, wages, marital status, and dependents. During a 90-minute block, students are instructed to stop at various booths hosted by local businesses to complete a budget worksheet. Booths include banks, groceries, housing, insurance, doctor, utilities, car dealership, child care, clothing, communications, furniture, entertainment, and charitable contributions. The goal is for students to make smart financial decisions to have money left in their bank accounts at the end of the activity.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Stapleton Public Schools



Mascot: Broncos

Enrollment: 195

Location: Stapleton, NE

Interesting Fact: The first school district at Stapleton was organized in October 1912, as District No. 31. Classes were conducted in the Legion Hall on the north edge of town. By December, enrollment had increased to 65 students with two teachers in one large room. After the Christmas and New Year vacation, classes were moved into a residence while a permanent brick building was constructed. There were three teachers for the remainder of the term and eight graduated from eighth grade on May 30, 1913. The first Stapleton High School teams were called the Jack Rabbits.

Superintendent: Brian Redinger

Principal: Kris Walker

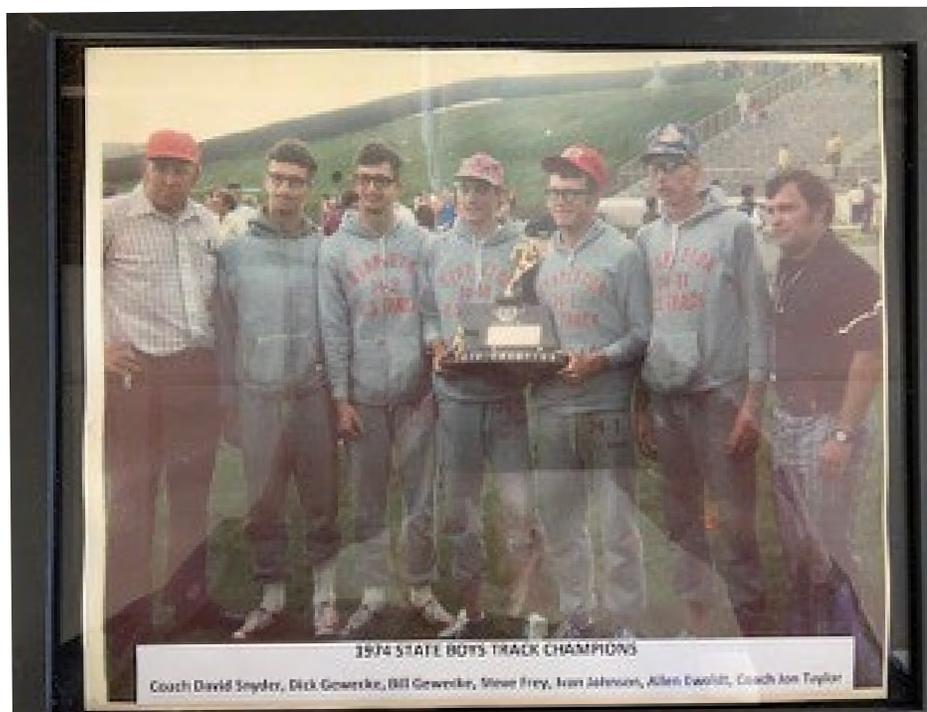
Board Members: President: Kristy Opela, Vice-President: Steve Schaeffer, Secretary: Kim Kramer, Treasurer: Frank Kramer, Rich Burnside, Rex Walz

Programs

Program 1. One Act - Stapleton enjoys a rich tradition of Success in One-Act. The Broncos were State Champions in 1986, 1991, and 1992 and State Runners-Up in 1988 and 2020. They have qualified for the state competition numerous times, the latest being in 2021.



Program 2. Track - The Broncos also have a proud history in Boys and Girls Track. The boys were State Champions in 1974, while the boys and girls teams were State Runners-Up in 1984.



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Peru State College



Mascot: Bobcats

Enrollment: 2000 (overall), 240 enrolled in the College of Education

Location: Peru, NE (TJ Majors, Jindra, & Hoyt buildings)



University President: Dr. Michael Evans



Dean of the College of Education: Dr. Dwayne Chism



Programs

Program 1. C.A.R.E (Collaborating to Assist with the Retention of Educators) Program

This program was brought together by Dr. Kelly Kingsley (lead), the Dean of Education, and several School of Education faculty. This program is in its first pilot year and is designed to provide mentoring and resource support to first-year Peru State graduates teaching in the field or looking for employment. Peru is dedicated to supporting the teacher shortage seen across the state, and the CARE program attempts to ensure quality teachers remain in the field. The CARE's services include cohort networking, coaching/mentoring calls, job application/job search assistance, goal planning, and workshops. The formation of the CARE program was a collaborative discussion that included the input of the ESU 4 and its principals.

Program 2. The Peru Student Education Association (PSEA) celebrated the birthday of author Dr. Seuss by hosting area children and the public on the Peru State College campus Thursday, March 24th, and Friday, March 25th, for four theatrical presentations of some of Seuss's most famous works.

Peru State's annual Dr. Seuss Day, which began in 1995, is free to the public and continues to be a popular event for schools and the community. Over seven hundred Head Start and pre-Kindergarten through fourth-grade students from 9 area schools attended the event this year. In addition to the theatrical production, students take a "Reader's Oath," and each child in attendance receives a "book bundle" donated from PSEA members.

Dr. Darolyn Seay is the faculty advisor for the Peru Student Education Association, which is one of the largest chapters of the Student Education Association of Nebraska (SEAN). She advised this year's group through a fantastic production that was lively and interactive for students. It was a showcase of the many talents of future teacher educators in the School of Education and an opportunity for its aspiring educators to see the positive impact they can have on students' lives.



Board of Education meeting visits. Beginning in December, 2019, I started attending Board of Education meetings in member school districts. Since then, I have attended 57 such meetings. I have really enjoyed this and am willing to attend Board meetings when I can. I take a few minutes to cover NRCSA news and offerings, as well as some legislative news. When I am going to be in a specific area on Board meeting days I may send out a notice to near-by Superintendents to make an offer to visit. I'd like to be able to schedule two or three in the same evening if I can.

On March 14 I attended the meetings at Auburn and ESU 4 and on March 21 at ESU 8 and Chambers. On Monday, April 11 I will attend BOE meetings at Elm Creek, Amherst, and S-E-M. If you would be interested in me attending a future Board meeting, please contact me to start the arrangements. I would also be willing to "attend" your Board meetings via Zoom if you preferred. I would still only do one at a time but would be able to do several in the same evening. Let me know and we will try to make the connection.



On Monday, March 14 I attended the Board of Ed meeting at Chambers. Thanks to Supt. Frank Jesse and the Chambers BOE for hosting me. Thanks also to the ESU 8 BOE and Administrator Cory Dahl for having me that evening.

UNL Tuition Discount

We have a new tuition discount program aimed at better serving folks from rural districts who are seeking school leadership degrees (MEd – principalship, EdD – superintendency) or endorsements. The program provides a 15% tuition discount for educators who serve in NRCSA member districts or are in an area classified

by NCES as rural or town. We think this is a small but important step toward helping rural schools be intentional about growing their own leaders.

If interested, please contact Dr. Nick Pace at nick.pace@unl.edu.

Graduate School Library Programs in Nebraska (from Dr. Sara Churchill, Ed.D., UNO; and Judy Henning, Ed.D., UNK)

Today's school librarians are not just managers of a collection of resources, but also educational leaders who collaborate with the classroom teachers on a daily basis and teach essential information evaluation and research skills to students. In fact, many administrators include librarians on the school improvement team because of their overall curricular knowledge of the school. In some schools, librarians are the school's technology leaders facilitating the use of technology for the classroom teachers. Research demonstrates that school librarians are instructional leaders who are instrumental in increasing student academic achievement.

In Nebraska, there are two institutions that offer graduate programs of study for teachers who want to add the PreK-12 school librarian endorsement to their NDE teaching certificate. The University of Nebraska Omaha and University of Nebraska at Kearney both offer Nationally Recognized School Library programs that meet national and state standards for developing high-quality, digital-age librarians. The coursework includes a focus on the many roles of today's school librarians from how to teach information evaluation and research skills to how to assess curriculum materials for every subject area to promotion of reading and technology integration. Both programs offer fully online coursework on a schedule that is flexible for the needs of today's practicing educators.

Strong educators who love reading and serving both students and staff are excellent candidates for school library positions. Certified teachers who take two graduate library courses (6 credit hours) in a calendar year are eligible to serve in a school library position, without a full or provisional endorsement. This allows administrators to "grow their own" school librarian and meet the Nebraska Department of Education requirements for accreditation.

Both institutions offer their students the opportunity to complete a master's program along with their school

library endorsement. This can benefit local districts by fostering experience and creating highly-qualified teachers within our schools. Since the school library endorsement is a 30-credit hour endorsement, earning a master's degree typically only requires two additional classes. Students in either program can also take 2-3 additional graduate technology courses to qualify for a supplemental NDE endorsement in PreK-12 Instructional Technology Leadership.

Because there is a shortage of school librarians in Nebraska, graduate students pursuing a school librarian endorsement are eligible to apply each spring for the Enhancing Excellence in Teaching Program (EETP). EETP is a forgivable loan program from the Nebraska Department of Education that pays partial tuition for classes towards an endorsement in a shortage area or towards an advanced degree. Graduate students who are eligible may apply for up to \$175 per credit hour for a maximum of \$3,000 per year. Students may reapply each year for up to five years. See the [Nebraska Department of Education EETP Information website](#) for additional information.

There are many supports available to administrators who are looking for a dynamic, high-quality school librarian. Dr. Judy Henning, Assistant Professor of Teacher Education, is the administrator of UNK's program. Dr. Sara Churchill, Assistant Professor of Teacher Education, is the coordinator of UNO's program. Drs. Henning and Churchill are eager to help administrators fill this valuable position. They can help take some of the burden of finding a school librarian off of administrators. Their expertise can guide potential candidates through the admissions process, help them navigate the program choices and endorsement requirements, and provide institutional verification to NDE once a program is completed. Additionally, the School Library programs serve as two of the biggest networks for the profession in the state. Informing candidates about open positions, both now and in the future, is something that occurs regularly. UNO operates a school library mailing list that reaches hundreds of school librarians across the state and beyond.

Both Dr. Henning and Dr. Churchill are available to discuss how you can "grow your own" school librarian, help answer questions about EETP or endorsement requirements, as well as connect you with quality candidates and even facilitate access to professional development in the area of school librarianship. Please consider reaching out to either program coordinator to discuss how we can help support you in filling this high-impact position.

Sara Churchill, Ed.D., UNO
402-554-3485. schurchill@unomaha.edu

Judy Henning, Ed.D., UNK
308-627-6807. henningja@unk.edu

[Data for SL Revisions](#)

[Chadron State College Special Education Para-to-Teacher Program Initiative.](#)

Purpose: This "Grow Your Own" Special Education Teacher program is designed to provide school districts with the opportunity to cultivate and participate in the training of their para-professionals who wish to continue their education to become special education teachers.

Who: Any individual who holds a minimum of an Associate's Degree (or equivalent credit hours) from an accredited higher education institution, and who is employed as a para-professional within a school district. What: Chadron State will provide required course work and enrichment activities via online, face-to-face (via Zoom), and on the job experiential learning, leading to a Bachelor's in Education Degree, and a Nebraska Teaching Certificate with an endorsement in Special Education (grades PK-12). With administrator input, program course work will be tailored to best fit your district practices and expectations. Each course will be offered in an 8-week format, with 12-13 credit hours to be completed each 16 week semester.

How: Program participants will be advised, monitored, and supported by CSC faculty/staff, and a CSC Education Program liaison is specifically assigned to facilitate their progress. District para-professionals may enter the program at any time in the academic year.

When: once participants reach their senior academic year they will embark on completing their capstone course work, via online and Zoom class sessions. This course work has been pared down considerably with the understanding and assumption that these student teachers will be learning "on-the-job". For example, one section covers classroom management practices. Clearly, one can argue and attest that these student teacher interns are learning more about managing a classroom from being mentored by veteran teachers within your school, and observing them in action. This is the belief and learning approach embraced during this senior year. However, to ensure and assess concept learning, Chadron State faculty will be meeting with your student teacher cohort twice per week for 1.5 hours, via Zoom

conferencing technology.

Graduation: At the completion of this program students/candidates graduate from Chadron State College, and apply for teaching licensure resulting in a valid initial teaching certificate with and endorsement in PK-12 Special Education. Chadron State's education program is nationally and State accredited. As such, interstate certification reciprocity is not a problem.

Things for your consideration:

- 1) To qualify for this program participants must hold at least an Associate's Degree or the equivalent in college credit hours. *(CSC will work with those applicants to provide them with the needed coursework leading up to program entry).*
- 2) Districts must agree to maintain para-professional employment throughout the course of the program—including during the student teaching experience.

Please contact Dr. Adam Fette for more program information, at afette@csc.edu.

[The UNL Department of Educational Psychology has received a grant from the Swanson Foundation which allows them to offer mental health services to rural schools.](#)

From Dr. Michael Scheel, Chair of the UNL Department of Educational Psychology:

The UNL Department of Educational Psychology would like to offer counseling and psychological services, as well as consultation services to the schools and communities of Southeast Nebraska. We run a mental health counseling and therapy clinic and we are offering counseling and consultation services to teachers, administrators, students, and community members of Southeast Nebraska. Services will be provided through remote and confidential means (i.e., Zoom conferencing). We are hoping that schools, families, and individuals contact us to schedule an appointment for a telehealth counseling or consultation session.

We have recently learned that a donor will support our work with individuals living in rural Southeast NE by paying all fees for services. Thus, whoever seeks out our services will simply have to indicate they live in Southeast Nebraska, and any services we provide will be paid for through the UNL Foundation. Individual,

couple, and family counseling will be provided without financial expense. Additionally, we can provide teachers, school administrators, school counselors, and school social workers consultation services for students of their schools without charge.

We are very excited to enter a partnership with schools and communities of SE Nebraska to promote mental health and well-being. We are aware of the mental health counseling disparities that exist in Nebraska rural areas, and our department, our College of Education and Human Sciences, and UNL are highly interested in offering our expertise and resources with the goal of enhancing the well-being of SE Nebraska individuals, schools, and communities. We are a group comprised of licensed psychologists and psychology graduate students who regularly provide services through our clinic to the Lincoln community. We are seeking to reach beyond Lincoln to connect more with surrounding rural areas. We also are acutely aware of the importance of addressing mental health concerns right now as we all are experiencing the stress of going through the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Counseling and School Psychology Clinic is a training clinic in which graduate students in counseling and school psychology work with clients under the supervision of licensed psychologists. Services are available to all on a sliding scale. For clients from SE Nebraska communities, services will be paid for through UNL Foundation funds supplied by a donor who cares deeply about the welfare of schools and communities in SE Nebraska. Counseling services are offered to improve well-being, improve academic and behavioral issues, stabilize mood, manage stress, and improve life-adjustment issues.

For more information, please visit our clinic website:

<https://cehs.unl.edu/edpsych/clinic/>

[A common theme from some of the decision makers on the state level is that “out of control” local spending is to blame for the property tax problem.](#) NRCSA, along with many other educational entities, maintains that we do not have a school spending issue, but instead have a school funding issue. Attached are two reports, one from NRCSA, the other from Open Sky, that discuss the myth of “out of control” school spending. It is my hope that administrators and Board of Education members will read, then use these reports to counter those claims. When you do please tell your district’s story as that is the most powerful way to get this message across.

[NRCSA Spending Study](#)

[A Look at School Spending in NE from Open Sky](#)

[We urge you to consider making use of the NRCSA Partner OneCard](#) as a tool for you in managing school expenditures, both large and small. Certainly, the card can help reduce/eliminate any issues relative to unverified cash expenditures. You decide who uses it, can get cards for each of those users, keep all cards wherever you wish, determine the amount to load it with, and how long the time frame of use is. It is a terrific management tool and clearly identifies each expenditure/name/date/amount. Whether small purchases or very large purchases, the card is a terrific tool. NRCSA owns the state contract, so liability for misuse falls to NRCSA, not the district user. We have only had three circumstances of fraud and all three have been the theft of the card number information, not any district employee misuse. Great job by all participating districts in protecting the card and program! Don’t forget, the NRCSA rebate from the transaction fee paid by businesses that choose to accept plastic is used for scholarship, awards, and special needs. For 2020-21, the rebate was over \$16,000 to NRCSA, showing that use is increasing, and large purchases are being included. WIN, WIN, WN!!

If you are considering joining the program and need more information, please contact Jack Moles (jmoles@nrca.net) or Jeff Bundy (jbundy@nrca.net).

[NRCSA had a very successful year last year in assisting Boards of Education in choosing their next Superintendent of Schools.](#) NRCSA has again been busy this year, assisting twelve districts (Arapahoe, Arthur County, Bayard, Heartland, Leyton, Newman

Grove, O’Neill, Potter-Dix, St. Paul, St. Edward, Tri-County, Wheeler Central) and one ESU (ESU 11) in identifying their next leader.

As we continue with the current school year, some Boards of Education may be faced with the prospects of considering new leadership for their districts for next year. If your district finds a need to locate your next school leader, please be sure to keep the NRCSA Superintendent Search Service in mind. For more information you can contact Executive Director Jack Moles at jmoles@nrca.net or by phone at 402-335-7732.

It is a common practice for many Boards of Education and the Superintendent to conduct short and long-term planning. NRCSA does provide a quality service using experienced consultants. If you are interested in more information, please contact Executive Director Jack Moles.



SYRACUSE-DUNBAR-AVOCA is currently using the NRCSA Planning Service. NRCSA Consultants Rob Hanger and Fred Helmink are assisting the district with its planning.

[NRCSA Search Service Experience](#)

[NRCSA Planning Support Brochure](#)

[Global Teletherapy is a group with which NRCSA has had a long relationship.](#) As a nationally renowned K-12 service provider, Global Teletherapy offers virtual mental-health, speech, occupational, physical therapy services, and psychoeducational assessments to students across the nation.

Currently serving approximately 100 schools in over 30 states around the U.S. with over 500 therapists,

Global Teletherapy is prepared to help districts that find themselves short of the needed personnel to provide these services.. To learn more about Global Teletherapy's caring therapists and reliable virtual platform please [click here](#).

Grant Opportunity

The [National Signature Project Award](#) is awarded annually to an outstanding and innovative classroom project that exemplifies the very best in rural, place-based education. The National Signature Project Award is open to any rural classroom teacher in the United States, and it is jointly funded by the Rural Schools Collaborative (RSC) and the National Rural Education Association (NREA). [Applications](#) are currently being accepted from any rural teacher in the United States!



From Dr. Jon Habben, NREA Past President:

I am now in the final office for NREA and it's Executive Committee as Past President. I have also been asked to return to a previous position, as Treasurer, for the Association foundation, appointed for at least two years. I have met many terrific and engaged rural leaders across the country in many years of committee work and leadership work. I would strongly encourage Any NRCSA leader to try to do the same with NREA!

Joining NREA is the strongest statement and source of additional information just like schools join NRCSA. Make a difference, be an involved NRCSA member and join the NREA to represent specifically rural at the national level as well.

[Legislative Corps 3-25-22](#)



From the NREA:

Below is a link to a fifty minute recording of a webinar **Understanding Medicaid in Schools** from the NREA.

[Understanding Medicaid in Schools](#)

[Medicaid in Schools Powerpoint](#)

U.S. Education Secretary Miguel Cardona Calls on States, Districts, & Higher Ed Institutions to Address Nationwide Teacher Shortage & Bolster Student Recovery with American Rescue Plan Funds.

[U.S. Department of Education Press Release](#)

In addition to the maximum award of \$2,500, The Rural Schools Collaborative and National Rural Education Association will compensate both the awardee's travel and registration fees for their attendance to The 2022 National Forum to Advance Rural Education - happening in Green Bay, Wisconsin October 20-21, 2022.

Place-based education gives meaning to learning, strengthens the bonds between school and community, and instills pride in the cultures and histories of rural places and small towns. We hope you will consider submitting an application to this program.

The grant application deadline is **FRIDAY, APRIL 29, 2022 by 11:59 P.M.**

I. Policy Intelligence and Education News

President's FY 2023 budget was just released – We'll send around our analysis as soon as we've had a chance to read and digest the budget materials. Budget materials are at these links:

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) "[FY 2023 President's Budget](#)" document has separate articles for major agencies. The Department of Education starts on page 57, the Department of Health and Human Services starts on page 65, and the Department of Labor starts on page 85. The official budget materials generally compare the 2023 request to the 2021 funding level; this budget request was not updated to reflect the 2022 funding signed into law two weeks ago.

The Department of Education's own budget summary document is posted here. ED is working to update its tables to reflect the enacted FY 2022 level; the FY 2022 levels in this document reflect the continuing resolution that was in effect until earlier this month and not the levels just signed into law.

Key education funding notes so far:

The Department of Education (ED) receives \$88.3 billion in discretionary funding, which is a \$12.9 billion (17%) increase over the 2022 net enacted level. The budget request was not updated to reflect the 2022 funding signed into law two weeks ago so the OMB material's talk about two-year funding increases from the 2021 level.

The President's budget did not intend to cut any education programs, but I'm told that there are "artificial cuts" to 34 ED programs that the Administration intended to increase but that received more in 2022 than the Administration anticipated, thus creating a decrease between 2022 enacted and the 2023 request. The Administration supports the higher of the two levels and does not intend to push for a 2023 requested level that inadvertently is lower than 2022 enacted.

In addition to the \$88.3 billion in discretionary funding, the President's budget will include new mandatory funding requests. They are not the same as the mandatory requests last year for the programs that were included in the Build Back Better agenda, which the Administration still supports but that are not incorporated into ED's FY 2023 request levels.

The House Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations Subcommittee will hold a hearing on the FY 2023 budget request on Thursday, March 31, at 10:00am ET.

Department of Education (ED) briefing on President's FY 2023 education budget today at 3pm - The Department of Education will hold a briefing on the education budget request today at 3:00 p.m. in Barnard Auditorium of ED's headquarters building at 400 Maryland Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC, 20202. Reservations are not required.

Details on access from ED's briefing announcement

For security purposes, attendees are reminded to bring a photo ID and a business card. As in past years, attendees are requested to enter the Department on the C Street side of the building (across from the McDonald's), go through the magnetometers, and show their photo ID to the guards. However, instead of signing-in at the Front Desk, attendees will be directed to the auditorium's back doors, where they will be asked to submit a business card or record name, organization, and contact information on a sign-in sheet. At this point, the budget book and any other briefing materials will be distributed.

Contact Information

NRCSA

Jack Moles, Executive Director
(402) 335-7732
jmoles@nrcea.net

Jeff Bundy, Administrative Aide
(402) 202-6028
jbundy@nrcea.net

Legislative Contacts

U.S. Senators

[Deb Fischer](#)

[Ben Sasse](#)

U.S. House of Representatives

[Don Bacon](#)

[Jeff Fortenberry](#)

[Adrian Smith](#)

Nebraska Governor

[Pete Ricketts](#)

NE State Senators

[Raymond Aguilar, Dist 35](#)

[Joni Albrecht, Dist 17](#)

[John Arch, Dist 14](#)

[Carol Blood, Dist 3](#)

[Eliot Bostar, Dist 29](#)

[Bruce Bostelman, Dist 23](#)

[Tom Brandt, Dist 32](#)

[Tom Brewer, Dist 43](#)

[Tom Briese, Dist 41](#)

[John Cavanaugh, Dist 9](#)

[Machaela Cavanaugh, Dist 6](#)

[Robert Clements, Dist 2](#)

[Jen Day, Dist 49](#)

[Wendy DeBoer, Dist 10](#)

[Myron Dorn, Dist 30](#)

[Steve Erdman, Dist 47](#)

[Mike Flood, Dist 19](#)

[Curt Friesen, Dist 34](#)

[Suzanne Geist, Dist 25](#)

[Tim Gragert, Dist 40](#)

[Michael Groene, Dist 42](#)

[Steve Halloran, Dist 33](#)

[Ben Hansen, Dist 16](#)

[Matt Hansen, Dist 26](#)

[Mike Hilgers, Dist 21](#)

[Robert Hilkemann, Dist 4](#)

[Dan Hughes, Dist 44](#)

[Megan Hunt, Dist 8](#)

[Mark Kolterman, Dist 24](#)

[Steve Lathrop, Dist 12](#)

[Brett Lindstrom, Dist 18](#)

[Lou Ann Linehan, Dist 39](#)

[John Lowe Sr., Dist 37](#)

[John McCollister, Dist 20](#)

[Mike McDonnell, Dist 5](#)

[Terrell McKinney, Dist 5](#)

[Adam Morfeld, Dist 46](#)

[Mike Moser, Dist 22](#)

[Dave Murman, Dist 38](#)

[Rich Pahls, Dist 31](#)

[Patty Pansing Brooks, Dist 28](#)

[Rita Sanders, Dist 45](#)

[Julie Slama, Dist 1](#)

[John Stinner, Dist 48](#)

[Tony Vargas, Dist 7](#)

[Lynne Walz, Dist 15](#)

[Justin Wayne, Dist 13](#)

[Matt Williams, Dist 36](#)

[Anna Wishart, Dist 27](#)



NRCSA Programs

[Global Speech Teletherapy](#)

[Planning Support Service](#)

[Scholarship and Awards Programs](#)

[Superintendent Search Service](#)

[USBank OneCard Program](#)

ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
AMENDMENT TO CONTRACT OF EMPLOYMENT
WITH SUPERINTENDENT

Section 2
Compensation and Benefits

A. Compensation: In consideration of a salary package of One Hundred Fifty-Six Thousand, Sixty Dollars (\$156,060) annually, said compensation to be paid in twelve equal monthly installments, with the first such installment to be payable on July 20, 2022, and each subsequent installment shall be paid on or before the 20th day of each month thereafter during the term of this agreement. Salary payments shall be subject to state and federal withholding required by law, including without limitation retirement contributions, FICA, FUTA, Medicare, and state or federal unemployment contributions. The Board retains the right to adjust the Superintendent's monthly salary upward during the term of this Contract, as an amendment hereto, without such adjustment constituting a new contract or extending the length of this Contract. The Superintendent's salary shall not be reduced during the term of this Contract.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Contract on the dates indicated below.

WASHINGTON COUNTY SCHOOL
DISTRICT 89-0024, a/k/a ARLINGTON
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Dawn Lewis, Superintendent

By: _____
President, Board of Education

Dated: _____

By: _____
Vice President, Board of Education

Dated: _____

Students

Parent-Student Handbook

Each year the Board of Education shall adopt a Parent-Student Handbook. The rules, procedures, and practices adopted in the Parent-Student Handbook shall have the effect of Board Policy.

Date of Adoption: April 14, 2008

Reviewed: April 11, 2016; March 11, 2019

StudentsMilitary Recruiters

The District will provide access to routine directory information to each student in a high school grade upon a request made by a military recruiter, unless the student's parent or guardian has submitted a written request that the student's information not be shared with a military recruiter. The District will provide military recruiters with the same access to a student in a high school grade as the District provides to postsecondary educational institutions or to prospective employers of such students.

If a parent or guardian does not want his or her student's information to be provided to a military recruiter, the parent must submit a written request to the Superintendent.

Legal Reference: LB 575 (2019)

Date of Adoption: August 12, 2019

StudentsElementary Class Size Limit and Reduction

The board of education recognizes that classroom environment is most effective when class sizes remain manageable for teachers. Furthermore, research indicates students learn better in smaller class sizes. The Superintendent and Elementary Principal are authorized to take action on the addition or elimination of sections of elementary classes if the following conditions exist:

Enrollment exceeds or falls below the following grade level limits per section:

Pre-School: Currently Regulated by the Office of Early Childhood

Kindergarten: 22 students per section

First Grade: 22 students per section

Second Grade: 23 students per section

Third Grade: 24 students per section

Fourth Grade: 24 students per section

Fifth Grade: 25 students per section

Sixth Grade: 25 students per section

Class sizes will be reviewed for section size during the enrollment periods during the summer and beginning of second semester.

If section sizes are within one student of needing an additional section, consideration will be given to Special Education points per classroom section, to determine if the additional section is necessary.

SPED Points Assignment by Verification Area:

- Articulation/Speech Support (1 point)
- Specific Learning Disability in a single content area; requires in-class support or minimal pull-out time (2 points)
- Alternate curriculum in at least one content area (developmental delay or multiple SLD verifications) (3 points)
- Intellectual Disability or Other Health Impairment Verification; requires alternative curriculum in all core areas (4 points)

Date of First Reading: February 10, 2020

Date of Adoption: March 9, 2020 : August 24, 2020

StudentsStudent Discipline

- A. Development of Uniform Discipline System. It shall be the responsibility of the Superintendent to develop and maintain a system of uniform discipline. The discipline which may be imposed includes actions which are determined to be reasonably necessary to aid the student, to further school purposes, or to prevent interference with the educational process, such as (without limitation) counseling and warning students, parent contacts and parent conferences, rearrangement of schedules, requirements that a student remain in school after regular hours to do additional work, restriction of extracurricular activity, or requirements that a student receive counseling upon written consent of the parent or guardian, or in-school suspension. The discipline may also include out-of-school suspension (short-term or long-term) and expulsion.
1. Short-Term Suspension: Students may be excluded by the Principal or the Principal's designee from school or any school function for a period of up to five school days (short-term suspension) on the following grounds:
 - a. Conduct that constitutes grounds for expulsion, whether the conduct occurs on or off school grounds; or
 - b. Other violations of rules and standards of behavior adopted by the Board of Education or the administrative or teaching staff of the school, which occur on or off school grounds, if such conduct interferes with school purposes or there is a nexus between such conduct and school.

The following process will apply to short-term suspensions:

- a. The Principal or the Principal's designee will make a reasonable investigation of the facts and circumstances. A short-term suspension will be made upon a determination that the suspension is necessary to help any student, to further school purposes, or to prevent an interference with school purposes.
- b. Prior to commencement of the short-term suspension, the student will be given oral or written notice of the charges against the student. The student will be advised of what the student is accused of having done, an explanation of the evidence the authorities have, and be afforded an opportunity to explain the student's version of the facts.
- c. Within 24 hours or such additional time as is reasonably necessary following the suspension, the Principal or administrator will send a written statement to the student and the student's parent or guardian describing the student's conduct, misconduct or violation of the rule or standard and the reasons for the action taken.
- d. An opportunity will be given to the student, and the student's parent or guardian, to have a conference with the Principal or administrator ordering the short-term suspension before or at the time the student returns to school. The Principal or administrator shall determine who in addition to the parent or guardian is to attend the conference.

- e. A student who is on a short-term suspension shall not be permitted to be on school grounds without the express permission of the Principal.
2. Long-Term Suspension: A long-term suspension means an exclusion from school and any school functions for a period of more than five school days but less than twenty school days. A student who is on a long-term suspension shall not be permitted to be on school grounds without the express permission of the Principal. A notice will be given to the student and the parents/guardian when the Principal recommends a long-term suspension. The notice will include a description of the procedures for long-term suspension; the procedures will be those set forth in the Student Discipline Act.
 3. Expulsion:
 - a. Meaning of Expulsion. Expulsion means exclusion from attendance in all schools, grounds and activities of or within the system for a period not to exceed the remainder of the semester in which it took effect unless the misconduct occurred (a) within ten school days prior to the end of the first semester, in which case the expulsion shall remain in effect through the second semester, or (b) within ten school days prior to the end of the second semester, in which case the expulsion shall remain in effect for summer school and the first semester of the following school year, or (c) unless the expulsion is for conduct specified in these rules or in law as permitting or requiring a longer removal, in which case the expulsion shall remain in effect for the period specified therein. Such action may be modified or terminated by the school district at any time during the expulsion period. A student who has been expelled shall not be permitted to be on school grounds without the express permission of the Principal. A notice will be given to the student and the parents/guardian when the Principal recommends an expulsion. The notice will include a description of the procedures for expulsion; the procedures will be those set forth in the Student Discipline Act.
 - b. Suspensions Pending Hearing. When a notice of intent to discipline a student by long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment is filed with the superintendent, the student may be suspended by the principal until the date the long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment takes effect if no hearing is requested or, if a hearing is requested, the date the hearing examiner makes the report of his or her findings and a recommendation of the action to be taken to the superintendent, if the principal determines that the student must be suspended immediately to prevent or substantially reduce the risk of (a) interference with an educational function or school purpose or (b) a personal injury to the student himself or herself, other students, school employees, or school volunteers.
 - c. Summer Review. Any expulsion that will remain in effect during the first semester of the following school year will be automatically scheduled for review before the beginning of the school year in accordance with law.

- d. Alternative Education: Students who are expelled may be provided an alternative education program that will enable the student to continue academic work for credit toward graduation. In the event an alternative education program is not provided, a conference will be held with the parent, student, the Principal or another school representative assigned by the Principal, and a representative of a community organization that assists young people or that is involved with juvenile justice to develop a plan for the student in accordance with law.
 - e. Suspension of Enforcement of an Expulsion: Enforcement of an expulsion action may be suspended (i.e., “stayed”) for a period of not more than one full semester in addition to the balance of the semester in which the expulsion takes effect. As a condition of such suspended action, the student and parents will be required to sign a discipline agreement.
 - f. Students Subject to Juvenile or Court Probation. Prior to the readmission to school of any student who is less than nineteen years of age and who is subject to the supervision of a juvenile probation officer or an adult probation officer pursuant to the order of the District Court, County Court, or Juvenile Court, who chooses to meet conditions of probation by attending school, and who has previously been expelled from school, the Principal or the Principal’s designee shall meet with the student’s probation officer and assist in developing conditions of probation that will provide specific guidelines for behavior and consequences for misbehavior at school (including conduct on school grounds and conduct during an educational function or event off school grounds) as well as educational objectives that must be achieved. If the guidelines, consequences, and objectives provided by the Principal or the Principal’s designee are agreed to by the probation officer and the student, and the court permits the student to return to school under the agreed to conditions, the student may be permitted to return to school. The student may with proper consent, upon such return, be evaluated by the school for possible disabilities and may be referred for evaluation for possible placement in a special education program. The student may be expelled or otherwise disciplined for subsequent conduct as provided in Board policy and state statute.
4. Emergency Exclusion: A student may be excluded from school in the following circumstances:
- a. If the student has a dangerous communicable disease transmissible through normal school contacts and poses an imminent threat to the health or safety of the school community; or
 - b. If the student’s conduct presents a clear threat to the physical safety of himself, herself, or others, or is so extremely disruptive as to make temporary removal necessary to preserve the rights of other students to pursue an education.

Any emergency exclusion shall be based upon a clear factual situation warranting it and shall last no longer than is necessary to avoid the dangers described above.

If the emergency exclusion will be for five school days or less, the procedures for a short-term suspension shall be followed. If the Superintendent or his or her designee determines that an emergency exclusion shall extend beyond five days, a hearing is to be held and a final determination made within ten school days after the initial date of exclusion. Such procedures shall substantially comply with the procedures set forth in this policy for a long-term suspension or expulsion, and be modified only to the extent necessary to accomplish the hearing and determination within this shorter time period.

5. Other Forms of Student Discipline: Administrative and teaching personnel may also take actions regarding student behavior, other than removal of students from school, which are reasonably necessary to aid the student, further school purposes, or prevent interference with the educational process. Such actions may include, but are not limited to, counseling of students, parent conferences, rearrangement of schedules, requirements that a student remain in school after regular hours to do additional work, restriction of extracurricular activity, or requirements that a student receive counseling, psychological evaluation, or psychiatric evaluation upon the written consent of a parent or guardian to such counseling or evaluation. The actions may also include in-school suspensions. When in-school suspensions, after-school assignments, or other disciplinary measures are assigned, the student is responsible for complying with such disciplinary measures. A failure to serve such assigned discipline as directed will serve as grounds for further discipline, up to expulsion from school.

- B. Student Conduct Expectations. Students are not to engage in conduct which causes or which creates a reasonable likelihood that it will cause a substantial disruption in or material interference with any school function, activity or purpose or interfere with the health, safety, well being or rights of other students, staff or visitors.

- C. Grounds for Short-Term Suspension, Long-Term Suspension, Expulsion or Mandatory Reassignment. The following conduct has been determined by the Board of Education to have the potential to seriously affect the health, safety or welfare of students, staff and other persons or to otherwise seriously interfere with the educational process. Such conduct constitutes grounds for long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment, and any other lesser forms of discipline. The conduct is subject to the consequence of long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment where it occurs on school grounds, in a vehicle owned, leased, or contracted by the school and being used for a school purpose or in a vehicle being driven for a school purpose by a school employee or an employee's designee, or at a school-sponsored activity or athletic event.
 1. Willfully disobeying any reasonable written or oral request of a school staff member, or the voicing of disrespect to those in authority.
 2. Use of violence, force, coercion, threat, intimidation, harassment, or similar conduct in a manner that constitutes a substantial interference with school

- purposes or making any communication that a reasonable recipient would interpret as a serious expression of an intent to harm or cause injury to another.
3. Willfully causing or attempting to cause substantial damage to property, stealing or attempting to steal property of substantial value, repeated damage or theft involving property, or setting or attempting to set a fire of any magnitude.
 4. Causing or attempting to cause personal injury to any person, including any school employee, school volunteer, or student. Personal injury caused by accident, self-defense, or other action undertaken on the reasonable belief that it was necessary to protect some other person shall not constitute a violation of this subdivision.
 5. Threatening or intimidating any student for the purpose of or with the intent of obtaining money or anything of value from such student or making a threat which causes or may be expected to cause a disruption to school operations.
 6. Knowingly possessing, handling, or transmitting any object or material that is ordinarily or generally considered a weapon or that has the appearance of a weapon or bringing or possessing any explosive device, including fireworks.
 7. Engaging in selling, using, possessing or dispensing of alcohol, tobacco, narcotics, drugs, controlled substance, or an inhalant; being under the influence of any of the above; possession of drug paraphernalia, or the selling, using, possessing, or dispensing of an imitation controlled substance as defined in section 28-401 of the Nebraska statutes, or material represented to be alcohol, narcotics, drugs, a controlled substance or inhalant. Tobacco means any tobacco product (including but not limited to cigarettes, cigars, and chewing tobacco), vapor products (such as e-cigarettes), electronic nicotine delivery systems, alternative nicotine products, tobacco product look-alikes, and products intended to replicate tobacco products either by appearance or effect. Use of a controlled substance in the manner prescribed for the student by the student's physician is not a violation. The term "under the influence" has a less strict meaning than it does under criminal law; for school purposes, the term means any level of impairment and includes even the odor of alcohol or illegal substances on the breath or person of a student; also, it includes being impaired by reason of the abuse of any material used as a stimulant.
 8. Public indecency or sexual conduct.
 9. Engaging in bullying, which includes any ongoing pattern of physical, verbal, or electronic abuse on school grounds, in a vehicle owned, leased, or contracted by a school being used for a school purpose by a school employee or a school employee's designee, or at school-sponsored activities or school-sponsored athletic events.
 10. Sexually assaulting or attempting to sexually assault any person. This conduct may result in an expulsion regardless of the time or location of the offense if a complaint alleging such conduct is filed in a court of competent jurisdiction.
 11. Engaging in any activity forbidden by law which constitutes a danger to other students or interferes with school purposes. This conduct may result in an expulsion regardless of the time or location of the offense if the conduct creates or had the potential to create a substantial interference with school purposes, such as the use of the telephone or internet off-school grounds to threaten.

12. A repeated violation of any rules established by the school district or school officials if such violations constitute a substantial interference with school purposes.
13. Truancy or failure to attend assigned classes or assigned activities; or tardiness to school, assigned classes or assigned activities.
14. The use of language, written or oral, or conduct, including gestures, which is profane or abusive to students or staff members. Profane or abusive language or conduct includes, but is not limited to, that which is commonly understood and intended to be derogatory toward a group or individual based upon race, gender, disability, national origin, or religion.
15. Dressing or grooming in a manner which is dangerous to the student's health and safety or a danger to the health and safety of others or repeated violations of the student dress and grooming standards; dressing, grooming, or engaging in speech that is lewd or indecent, vulgar or plainly offensive; dressing, grooming, or engaging in speech that school officials reasonably conclude will materially and substantially disrupt the work and discipline of the school; dressing, grooming, or engaging in speech that a reasonable observer would interpret as advocating illegal drug use.
16. Willfully violating the behavioral expectations for riding school buses or vehicles.
17. A student who engages in the following conduct shall be expelled for the remainder of the school year in which it took effect if the misconduct occurs during the first semester, and if the expulsion for such conduct takes place during the second semester, the expulsion shall remain in effect for the first semester of the following school year, with the condition that such action may be modified or terminated by the school district during the expulsion period on such terms as the administration may establish:
 - a. The knowing and intentional use of force in causing or attempting to cause personal injury to a school employee, school volunteer, or student, except if caused by accident, self-defense, or on the reasonable belief that the force used was necessary to protect some other person and the extent of force used was reasonably believed to be necessary, or
 - b. The knowing and intentional possession, use, or transmission of a dangerous weapon other than a firearm.
18. Knowingly and intentionally possessing, using, or transmitting a firearm on school grounds, in a school-owned or utilized vehicle, or during an educational function or event off school grounds, or at a school-sponsored activity or athletic event. This conduct shall result in an expulsion for one calendar year. "Firearm" means a firearm as defined in 18 U.S.C. 921, as that statute existed on January 1, 1995. That statute includes the following statement: "The term 'firearm' means (a) any weapon (including a starter gun) which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive; (b) the frame or receiver of any such weapon; (c) any firearm muffler or firearm silencer; or (d) any destructive device." The Superintendent may modify such one year expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis, provided that such modification is in writing.

Bringing a firearm or other dangerous weapon to school for any reason is discouraged; however, a student will not be subject to disciplinary action if the item is brought or possessed under the following conditions:

- a. Prior written permission to bring the firearm or other dangerous weapon to school is obtained from the student's teacher, building administrator and parent.
- b. The purpose of having the firearm or other dangerous weapon in school is for a legitimate educational function.
- c. A plan for its transportation into and from the school, its storage while in the school building and how it will be displayed must be developed with the prior written approval by the teacher and building administrator. Such plan shall require that such item will be in the possession of an adult staff member at all times except for such limited time as is necessary to fulfill the educational function.
- d. The firearm or other dangerous weapon shall be in an inoperable condition while it is on school grounds.

For purposes of this policy, the term “dangerous weapon” includes any personal safety or security device (such as tasers, mace and pepper spray). If a student desires to carry or possess a personal safety or security device, the student must obtain prior approval from the building principal before bringing such device on school grounds. If a student obtains prior approval from the building principal, the student must store the device during the school day in the student’s locker, in the main office or in another secure location designated by the building principal. A student shall not carry a personal safety or security device during the school day.

D. Additional Student Conduct Expectations and Grounds for Discipline. The following additional student conduct expectations are established. Failure to comply with such rules is grounds for disciplinary action. When such conduct occurs on school grounds, in a vehicle owned, leased, or contracted by a school being used for a school purpose or in a vehicle being driven for a school purpose by a school employee or by his or her designee, or at a school-sponsored activity or athletic event, the conduct is grounds for long-term suspension, expulsion or mandatory reassignment.

1. Student Appearance: Students are expected to dress in a way that is appropriate for the school setting. Students should not dress in a manner that is dangerous to the health and safety of anyone or interferes with the learning environment or teaching process in our school. Following is a list of examples of attire that will not be considered appropriate, such list is not exclusive and other forms of attire deemed inappropriate by the administration may be deemed inappropriate for the school setting:
 - a. Clothing that shows an inappropriate amount of bare skin or underwear (midriffs, spaghetti straps, sagging pants) or clothing that is too tight, revealing or baggy, or tops and bottoms that do not overlap or any material that is sheer or lightweight enough to be seen through, or otherwise of an appropriate size and fit so as to be revealing or drag on the ground.
 - b. Shorts, skirts, or skorts that do not reach mid-thigh or longer.

- c. Clothing or jewelry that advertises or promotes beer, alcohol, tobacco, or illegal drugs.
- d. Clothing or jewelry that could be used as a weapon (chains, spiked apparel) or that would encourage “horse-play” or that would damage property (e.g. cleats).
- e. Head wear including hats, caps, bandannas, and scarves.
- f. Clothing or jewelry which exhibits nudity, makes sexual references or carries lewd, indecent, or vulgar double meaning.
- g. Clothing or jewelry that is gang related.
- h. Visible body piercing (other than ears).

Consideration will be made for students who wear special clothing as required by religious beliefs, disability, or to convey a particularized message protected by law. The final decision regarding attire and grooming will be made by the Principal or Superintendent. In the event a student is uncertain as to whether a particular item or method of grooming is consistent with the school’s guidelines, the student should contact the Principal for approval, and may also review such additional posting of prohibited items or grooming which may be available in the Principal’s office.

Coaches, sponsors or teachers may have additional requirements for students who are in special lab classes, students who are participants in performing groups or students who are representing the school as part of an extracurricular activity program.

On a first offense of the dress code, the student may call home for proper apparel. If clothes cannot be brought to school, the student will be assigned to in-school suspension for the remainder of the day. Students will not be allowed to leave campus to change clothes. Continual violations of the dress code will result in more stringent disciplinary actions, up to expulsion. Further, in the event the dress code violation is determined to also violate other student conduct rules (e.g., public indecency, insubordination, expression of profanity, and the like), a first offense of the dress code may result in more stringent discipline, up to expulsion.

2. Academic Integrity.

- a. Policy Statement: Students are expected to abide by the standards of academic integrity established by their teachers and school administration. Standards of academic integrity are established in order for students to learn as much as possible from instruction, for students to be given grades which accurately reflect the student’s level of learning and progress, to provide a level playing field for all students, and to develop appropriate values.

Cheating and plagiarism violate the standards of academic integrity. Sanctions will be imposed against students who engage in such conduct.

- b. Definitions: The following definitions provide a guide to the standards of academic integrity:
- (1) “Cheating” means intentionally misrepresenting the source, nature, or other conditions of academic work so as to accrue undeserved credit, or to cooperate with someone else in such misrepresentation. Such misrepresentations may, but need not necessarily, involve the work of others. Cheating includes, but is not limited to:
 - (a) Tests (includes tests, quizzes and other examinations or academic performances):
 - (i) Advance Information: Obtaining, reviewing or sharing copies of tests or information about a test before these are distributed for student use by the instructor. For example, a student engages in cheating if, after having taken a test, the student informs other students in a later section of the questions that appear on the test.
 - (ii) Use of Unauthorized Materials: Using notes, textbooks, pre-programmed formulae in calculators, or other unauthorized material, devices or information while taking a test except as expressly permitted. For example, except for “open book” tests, a student engages in cheating if the student looks at personal notes or the textbook during the test.
 - (iii) Use of Other Student Answers: Copying or looking at another student’s answers or work, or sharing answers or work with another student, when taking a test, except as expressly permitted. For example, a student engages in cheating if the student looks at another student’s paper during a test. A student also engages in cheating if the student tells another student answers during a test or while exiting the testing room, or knowingly allows another student to look at the student’s answers on the test paper.
 - (iv) Use of Other Student to Take Test. Having another person take one's place for a test, or taking a test for another student, without the specific knowledge and permission of the instructor.
 - (v) Misrepresenting Need to Delay Test. Presenting false or incomplete information in order to postpone or avoid the taking of a test. For example, a student engages in cheating if the student misses class on the day of a test, claiming to be sick, when the student’s real reason for missing class was because the student was not prepared for the test.

- (b) Papers (includes papers, essays, lab projects, and other similar academic work):
- i) Use of Another's Paper: Copying another student's paper, using a paper from an essay writing service, or allowing another student to copy a paper, without the specific knowledge and permission of the instructor.
 - (ii) Re-use of One's Own Papers: Using a substantial portion of a piece of work previously submitted for another course or program to meet the requirements of the present course or program without notifying the instructor to whom the work is presented.
 - (iii) Assistance from Others: Having another person assist with the paper to such an extent that the work does not truly reflect the student's work. For example, a student engages in cheating if the student has a draft essay reviewed by the student's parent or sibling, and the essay is substantially re-written by the student's parent or sibling. Assistance from home is encouraged, but the work must remain the student's.
 - (iv) Failure to Contribute to Group Projects. Accepting credit for a group project in which the student failed to contribute a fair share of the work.
 - (v) Misrepresenting Need to Delay Paper. Presenting false or incomplete information in order to postpone or avoid turning in a paper when due. For example, a student engages in cheating if the student misses class on the day a paper is due, claiming to be sick, when the student's real reason for missing class was because the student had not finished the paper.
- (c) Alteration of Assigned Grades. Any unauthorized alteration of assigned grades by a student in the teacher's grade book or the school records is a serious form of cheating.
- (2) "Plagiarism" means to take and present as one's own a material portion of the ideas or words of another or to present as one's own an idea or work derived from an existing source without full and proper credit to the source of the ideas, words, or works. Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to:
- (a) Failure to Credit Sources: Copying work (words, sentences, and paragraphs or illustrations or models) directly from the work of another without proper credit. Academic work frequently involves use of outside sources. To avoid plagiarism, the student must either place the work in quotations or give a citation to the outside source.

- (b) Falsely Presenting Work as One's Own: Presenting work prepared by another in final or draft form as one's own without citing the source, such as the use of purchased research papers or use of another student's paper.
- (3) "Contributing" to academic integrity violations means to participate in or assist another in cheating or plagiarism. It includes but is not limited to allowing another student to look at your test answers, to copy your papers or lab projects, and to fail to report a known act of cheating or plagiarism to the instructor or administration.
- c. Sanctions: The following sanctions will occur when a student engages in cheating, plagiarism, or contributing to an academic integrity offense:
- (1) Academic Sanction. The instructor will refuse to accept the student's work in which the academic integrity offense took place, assign a grade of "F" or zero for the work, and require the student to complete a test or project in place of the work within such time and under such conditions as the instructor may determine appropriate. In the event the student completes the replacement test or project at a level meeting minimum performance standards, the instructor will assign a grade which the instructor determines to be appropriate for the work.
- (2) Report to Parents and Administration. The instructor will notify the Principal of the offense and the instructor or Principal will notify the student's parents or guardian.
- (3) Student Discipline Sanctions. Academic integrity offenses are a violation of school rules. The Principal may recommend sanctions in addition to those assigned by the instructor, up to and including suspension or expulsion. Such additional sanctions will be given strong consideration where a student has engaged in serious or repeated academic integrity offense or other rule violations, and where the academic sanction is otherwise not a sufficient remedy, such as for offenses involving altering assigned grades or contributing to academic integrity violations.

3. Electronic Devices

- a. Philosophy and Purpose. The District strongly discourages students from bringing and/or using electronic devices at school. The use of electronic devices can be disruptive to the educational process and are items that are frequently lost or stolen. In order to maintain a secure and orderly learning environment, and to promote respect and courtesy regarding the use of electronic devices, the District hereby establishes the following rules and regulations governing student use of electronic devices, and procedures to address student misuse of electronic devices.
- b. Definitions.
 - (1) “Electronic devices” include, but are not limited to, cell phones, Mp3 players, iPods, personal digital assistants (PDAs), compact disc players, portable game consoles, cameras, digital scanners, lap top computers, and other electronic or battery powered instruments which transmit voice, text, or data from one person to another.
 - (2) “Sexting” means generating, sending or receiving, encouraging others to send or receive, or showing others, through an electronic device, a text message, photograph, video or other medium that:
 - (i) Displays sexual content, including erotic nudity, any display of genitalia, unclothed female breasts, or unclothed buttocks, or any sexually explicit conduct as defined at Neb. Rev. Stat. § 28-1463.02; or
 - (ii) Sexually exploits a person, whether or not such person has given consent to creation or distribution of the message, photograph or video by permitting, allowing, encouraging, disseminating, distributing, or forcing such student or other person to engage in sexually explicit, obscene or pornographic photography, films, or depictions; or,
 - (iii) Displays a sexually explicit message for sexual gratification, flirtation or provocation, or to request or arrange a sexual encounter.
- c. Possession and Use of Electronic Devices.
 - (1) Students are not permitted to possess or use any electronic devices during class time or during passing time except as otherwise provided by this policy. Cell phone usage is strictly prohibited during any class period; including voice usage, digital imaging, or text messaging.
 - (2) Students are permitted to possess and use electronic devices before school hours, at lunch time, and after school hours, provided that the student not commit any abusive use of the device (see paragraph (d)(1). Administrators have the discretion to prohibit student possession or use of electronic devices on school grounds during these times in the event the administration determines such

further restrictions are appropriate; an announcement will be given in the event of such a change in permitted use.

- (3) Electronic devices may be used during class time when specifically approved by the teacher or a school administrator in conjunction with appropriate and authorized class or school activities or events (i.e., student use of a camera during a photography class; student use of a lap top computer for a class presentation).
- (4) Students may use electronic devices during class time when authorized pursuant to an Individual Education Plan (IEP), a Section 504 Accommodation Plan, or a Health Care Plan, or pursuant to a plan developed with the student's parent when the student has a compelling need to have the device (e.g., a student whose parent is in the hospital could be allowed limited use of the cell phone for family contacts, so the family can give the student updates on the parent's condition).

d. Violations

- (1) Prohibited Use of Electronic Devices: Students shall not use electronic devices for: (a) activities which disrupt the educational environment; (b) illegal activities in violation of state or federal laws or regulations; (c) unethical activities, such as cheating on assignments or tests; (d) immoral or pornographic activities; (e) activities in violation of Board or school policies and procedures relating to student conduct and harassment; (f) recording others (photographs, videotaping, sound recording, etc.) or otherwise transmitting images and/or sounds of another person or persons without direct administrative approval and consent of the person(s) being recorded, other than recording of persons participating in school activities that are open to the public; (g) "sexting;" or (h) activities which invade the privacy of others. Such student misuses will be dealt with as serious school violations, and immediate and appropriate disciplinary action will be imposed, including, but not limited to, suspension and expulsion from school.
- (2) Disposition of Confiscated Electronic Devices: Electronic devices possessed or used in violation of this policy may be confiscated by school personnel and returned to the student or parent/guardian at an appropriate time. If an electronic device is confiscated, the electronic device shall be taken to the school's main office to be identified, placed in a secure area, and returned to the student and/or the student's parent/guardian in a consistent and orderly way.
 - (i) First Violation: Depending upon the nature of the violation and the imposition of other appropriate disciplinary action, consequences at a minimum may include a relinquishment of the electronic device to the school administration and a conference between the student and school principal or assistant principal. The electronic device shall remain in

the possession of the school administration until such time as the student personally comes to the school's main office and retrieves the electronic device.

- (ii) **Second Violation:** Depending upon the nature of the violation and the imposition of other appropriate disciplinary action, consequences at a minimum may include a relinquishment of the electronic device to the school administration and a conference between the student and his/her parent/guardian and the school principal or assistant principal. The electronic device shall remain in the possession of the school administration until such time as the student's parent/guardian personally comes to the school's main office and retrieves the electronic device.
 - (iii) **Third Violation:** Depending upon the nature of the violation and the imposition of other appropriate disciplinary action, consequences at a minimum may include a relinquishment of the electronic device to the school administration, a conference between the student and his/her parent/guardian and the school principal or assistant principal, and suspension of the student from school. The electronic device shall remain in the possession of the school administration until such time as the student's parent/guardian personally comes to the school's main office and retrieves the electronic device.
- (3) Penalties for Prohibited Use of Electronic Devices: Students who receive a "sexting" message are to report the matter to a school administrator and then delete such message from their electronic device. Students shall not participate in sexting or have any "sexting" message on their electronic devices regardless of when the message was received while on school grounds or at a school activity. Students who violate the prohibitions of this policy shall be subject to the imposition of appropriate disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion, provided that at a minimum the following penalties shall be imposed:
- (i) Students found in possession of a "sexting" message shall be subject to a one (1) day suspension from school.
 - (ii) Students who send or encourage another to send a "sexting" message shall be subject to a five (5) day suspension from school.
- (4) Reporting to Law Enforcement: Violations of this policy regarding the prohibited use of electronic devices that may constitute a violation of federal or state laws and regulations, including, but not limited to, the Nebraska Child Protection Act or the Nebraska Child Pornography Prevention Act shall be reported to appropriate legal authorities and law enforcement.

- e. Responsibility for Electronic Devices. Students or their parents/guardians are expected to claim a confiscated electronic device within ten (10) days of the date it was relinquished. The school shall not be responsible, financially or otherwise, for any unclaimed electronic devices. By bringing such devices to school, students and parents authorize the school to dispose of unclaimed devices at the end of each semester. The District is not responsible for the security and safekeeping of students' electronic devices and is not financially responsible for any damage, destruction, or loss of electronic devices.
- E. Inappropriate Public Displays of Affection (IPDA): Students are not to engage in inappropriate public displays of affection on school property or at school activities. Such conduct includes kissing, touching, fondling or other displays of affection that would be reasonably considered to be embarrassing or a distraction to others. Students will face the following consequences for IPDA:
1. 1st Offense: Student will be confronted and directed to cease.
 2. 2nd Offense: Student will be confronted, directed to cease, and parents will be notified.
 3. 3rd Offense: Student will be suspended from school for a minimum of 1 day, and parents and student will need to meet with Administrator(s) and/or counselor.
- If this type of behavior continues, or if the IPDA is lewd or constitutes sexual conduct, the student could face long-term suspension or expulsion.
- F. Specific Rule Items: The following conduct may result in disciplinary action which, in the repeated violations, may result in discipline up to expulsion:
1. Students are not given locker passes, restroom passes or telephone passes to leave a classroom or study hall unless special circumstances arise.
 2. Students in the hallway during class time must have a pass with them.
 3. Gum, candy, seeds, etc. are not allowed in the school building or classrooms. The pop machine is closed until after school and pop is to be drunk outside.
 4. Students are expected to bring all books and necessary materials to class. This includes study halls.
 5. Assignments for all classes are due as assigned by the teacher.
 6. Students are not to operate the mini-blinds or the windows.
 7. Classes are ended by the teacher. Students are not to begin to pack up or leave the class until the dismissal bell has rung or the teacher has dismissed the class.
 8. Students are to be in their seats and ready for class on the tardy bell.
 9. Special classes such as Industrial Technology, Art, P.E., and computer courses will have other safety or clean-up rules that will be explained to students by that teacher which must be followed.
 10. Students are not to bring "nuisance items" to school. A nuisance item is something that is not required for educational purposes and which would cause a distraction to the student or others.
 11. Students are to stand back from the entry steps and doors in the mornings before school and at noon before the bell so that others may pass in and out of the entry doors.
 12. Snow handling is prohibited.

G. Law Violations

1. Any act of a student which is a basis for expulsion and which the principal or designee knows or suspects is a violation of the Nebraska Criminal Code will be reported to law enforcement as soon as possible. Conduct to be reported for law enforcement referral includes conduct that may constitute a felony, conduct which may constitute a threat to the safety or well-being of students or others in school programs and activities, and conduct that the legal system is better equipped to address than school officials. Conduct that does not need to be reported for law enforcement referral includes typical adolescent behavior that can be addressed by school administrators without the involvement of law enforcement. In making the decision of whether to report, consideration should be given to the student's maturity, mental capacity, and behavioral disorders, where applicable. When appropriate, it shall be the responsibility of the referring administrator to contact the student's parent of the fact that the referral to legal authorities has been or will be made.
The foregoing reporting standards shall be reviewed annually by the school board on or before August 1 of each year, be annually reviewed in collaboration with the County Attorney each year, be distributed to each student and his or her parent or guardian at the beginning of each school year, or at the time of enrollment if during the school year, and shall be posted in conspicuous places in each school during the school year.
2. When a principal or other school official releases a minor student to a peace officer (e.g., police officer, sheriff, and all other persons with similar authority to make arrests) for the purpose of removing the minor from the school premises, the principal or other school official shall take immediate steps to notify the parent, guardian, or responsible relative of the minor regarding the release of the minor to the officer and regarding the place to which the minor is reportedly being taken, except when a minor has been taken into custody as a victim of suspected child abuse, in which case the principal or other school official shall provide the peace officer with the address and telephone number of the minor's parents or guardian.

Legal Reference: Neb. Rev. Stat. Sections 79-254 to 79-296

Date of Adoption: August 24, 2020

StudentsAlternative Education Programs or Plans For Expelled Students

In the event action is being taken to expel a student from this school district, the Administration shall select one of the following described educational options to be made available to the expelled student during the period of expulsion, to-wit: (1) An alternative school, class, or educational program (hereinafter referred to as an "alternative program"); or (2) The development of a plan of behavior modification, educational objects, and financial resources and community programs available to meet the behavioral and educational objects, and monthly reviews to assess the student's progress toward meeting the specified goals and objects. The superintendent or superintendent's designee shall make known to the expelled student which of the alternative educational options the administration has selected for the student's expulsion. Such information shall be made known to the expelled student on or before the date the expulsion becomes effective. An expulsion becomes effective, as to a student who has been given a written notice of a recommendation to expel, on the earliest of the following dates: (1) if the student, parent, or guardian has not requested a hearing, the sixth school day following receipt of the notice of the recommendation to expel, (2) if the student has requested a hearing, the date the student, parent, or guardian receives notice of the determination of the superintendent or superintendent's designee to expel the student, or (3) such other date as may be mutually agreed by the student, parent, or guardian and the administration.

A. ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM:

The approved alternative programs are: (1) community-based programs, (2) home-based programs, (3) specialized tutorial experiences, (4) on-line programs and (5) distance-learning. The Board of Education may, from time to time, approve other alternative programs and may approve specific alternative programs and may enter into contracts for the provision of such specific alternative programs. To the extent that the alternative programs are to be provided on-site, the individuals responsible for providing such on-site alternative program shall hold a valid Nebraska Teaching or Administrative Certificate. To the extent that the alternative program is to be community-based or off-site, such alternative program shall be planned in cooperation with and monitored or supervised by a school district staff member who holds a Nebraska Teaching or Administrative Certificate. Alternative programs may be conducted at times other than the regular school day.

The superintendent or superintendent's designee shall determine which alternative programs shall be made available to each specific expelled student based on a consideration of the interests of the school district and the student's educational and behavioral objectives and needs, as determined in the discretion of the superintendent or the superintendent's designee. If a parent or guardian refuses to participate or have their expelled child participate in the alternative programs made available, the district shall have no further obligation with regard to the provision of an alternative program. The superintendent or superintendent's designee shall establish a specific date or time within which the parent or guardian shall be required to state in writing an agreement to participate in the alternative program. As a condition of participation in alternative programs which involve the payment of tuition or other similar expenses, the student, parent, or

guardian may be required, as a condition of such alternative program being available, to agree in writing to pay the tuition or other similar costs for such program in the event the expelled student fails to successfully complete the program.

The standards of student behavior and cooperation required of students in the regular programs of this school district shall also be required of expelled students throughout the entire time period of the alternative program. Additional standards may be established in each specific program and for each specific expelled student. If the expelled student fails to meet the required standards of student behavior or cooperation, the student may be further disciplined by disciplinary punishment up to and including expulsion for an additional period of time beyond that being served by the expelled student. Further, if the expelled student fails to meet any of the conditions of the learning program, the district may, by action of the superintendent or superintendent's designee, terminate the alternative program for the expelled student. A due process hearing substantially in compliance with the statutory provisions for suspension and expulsion of students shall be made available, unless waived by the parent or legal guardian.

Upon preapproval by the superintendent or the superintendent's designee, academic credit towards graduation or advancement in grade level shall be available to students participating in alternative programs for expelled students. The academic credits to be awarded shall be equal to the same academic credit a student in the school district's regular educational program would earn for completion of a similar educational program, as determined in the discretion of the superintendent or superintendent's designee. Such academic credits shall not be earned unless the expelled student has successfully completed the conditions of the alternative program, as determined by the teacher and the superintendent or superintendent's designee. The superintendent or superintendent's designee shall determine whether or to what extent such academic credits should be assigned to subject area or other specific graduation or advancement requirements. The achievement mark (i.e., grades) assigned for such academic credits shall not be available to the advantage of the expelled student for honor roll, class rank, or other academic honors or recognition.

B. EDUCATION PLAN PROGRAM:

If the administration elects not to provide an alternative education program outlined in subparagraph A. above, the following procedures shall be followed prior to expelling a student unless the expulsion was required by subsection (4) of the Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-283; said procedures being as follows, to wit:

(1) A conference shall be called by a school administrator and held to assist the district in the development of a plan with the participation of a parent or a legal guardian, the student, a school representative, and a representative of either a community organization with a mission of assisting young people or a representative of an agency involved with juvenile justice.

(2) The plan shall be in writing and adopted by a school administrator and presented to the student and the parent or legal guardian.

(3) The plan shall:

- (a) Specify guidelines and consequences for behaviors which have been identified as preventing the student from achieving the desired benefits from the educational opportunities provided,
- (b) Identify educational objectives that must be achieved in order to receive credits toward graduation,
- (c) Specify the financial resources of the community programs available to meet both the educational and behavioral objects identified, and
- d) Require the student to attend monthly reviews in order to assess the student's progress toward meeting the specified goals and objectives.

The school district shall submit such plan on the form "Section 79-266(2) Plan" attached to this policy as Appendix "1".

Legal Reference: Neb. Rev. Stat. §79-266

Date of Adoption: April 14, 2008

Readopted: June 9, 2008

Reviewed: September 10, 2012; October 10, 2016; March 11, 2019

APPENDIX "1"

SECTION 79-266(2) PLAN

Student: _____

Date and Participants: _____
(List parent or legal guardian, school representative, and community or agency representative)**(a) Guidelines and Consequences for Behaviors**

The student has been recommended for expulsion for conduct as specified in correspondence and memoranda recently provided to the student and the student's parents. This conduct has had the effect of preventing the student from achieving the desired benefits from the educational opportunities provided. The student is expected to conform his conduct to the school rules for which he has been recommended for expulsion and all other established school rules. Further disciplinary measures, including possible future expulsions, can result from future violations of such behavioral guidelines and expectations.

(b) Educational Objectives

In order to graduate, the student needs to receive the credits listed in Attachment "A", subject to future modifications in graduation requirements.

(c) Financial Resources and Community Programs Available

The financial resources and community programs available to meet the educational and behavioral objectives identified in this plan include school resources (e.g., upon return from the recommended expulsion, counseling with the school counselor, and meetings with the school administration and teachers) and community organizations which assist young people (e.g., civic organizations, local college and university programs, and community college programs).

(d) Monthly Reviews & Other

During the period of the expulsion, the student shall be required to attend monthly reviews with the Principal or designee to assess the student's progress toward meeting the specified goals and objectives. The student shall be responsible for contacting the named school official to schedule the monthly meetings. (Attach separate sheet for any additional information or terms of plan).

Dated this _____ day of _____, 200__, adopted by the school administrator after a conference held to assist the district in the development of the plan with the participation of a parent or legal guardian, the student, a school representative, and a representative of either a community organization with a mission of assisting young people or a representative of an agency involved in juvenile justice, and presented to the student and parent or legal guardian at the conference prior to the student being expelled in accordance with law.

Adopted by _____
[Administrator]

Attachments: Attachment "A" (academic credits needed to graduate or other, if applicable)

Students

Extracurricular Activity

Section 1 Extracurricular Activity Philosophy

Extracurricular activity programs enrich the curriculum of the school by making available a wide variety of activities in which a student can participate. Extracurricular activity programs are considered an integral part of the school's program of education that provides experiences that will help students physically, mentally and emotionally.

The element of competition and winning, though it exists, is controlled to the point it does not determine the nature or success of the program. This is considered to be educationally and psychologically sound because of the training it offers for living in a competitive society. Students are stimulated to want to win and excel, but the principles of good sportsmanship prevail at all times to enhance the educational values of contests. Participation in activities, both as a competitor and as a student spectator, is an integral part of the students' educational experiences. Such participation is a privilege that carries with it responsibilities to the school, team, student body, community and the students themselves. In their play and their conduct, students are representing all of these groups. Such experiences contribute to the knowledge, skill and emotional patterns that they possess, thereby making them better individuals and citizens.

Safety

The District's philosophy is to maintain an activities program which recognizes the importance of the safety of the participants. To ensure safety, participants are required to become fully familiar with the dangers and safety measures established for the activity in which they participate, to adhere to all safety instructions for the activity in which they participate, to inform their coach or sponsor when they are injured or have health problems that require their activities be restricted, and to exercise common-sense.

Warning for Participants and Parents

The purpose of this warning is to bring your attention to the existence of potential dangers associated with athletic injuries. Participation in any intramural or athletic activity may involve injury of some type. The severity of such injury can range from minor cuts, bruises, sprains and muscle strains to more serious injuries to the body's bones, joints, ligaments, tendons, or muscles, to catastrophic injuries to the head, neck and spinal cord. On rare occasions, injuries can be so severe as to result in total disability, paralysis or death. Even with appropriate coaching, appropriate safety instruction, appropriate protective equipment and strict observance of the rules, injuries are still a possibility.

Section 2 Extracurricular Activity Code of Conduct

Purpose of the Code of Conduct. Participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege. The privilege carries with it responsibilities to the school, team, student body, and the community. Participants are not only representing themselves, but also their school and community in all of their actions. Others judge our school on the student participants' conduct and attitudes, and how they contribute to our school spirit and community image.

The student participants' performance and devotion to high ideals and values make their school and community proud. Consequently, participation is dependent upon adherence to this Code of Conduct and the school district's policies, procedures and rules.

Scope of the Code of Conduct.

Activities Subject to the Code of Conduct: The Code of Conduct applies to all extracurricular activities. Extracurricular activities means student activities or organizations which are supervised or administered by the school district which do not count toward graduation or grade advancement and in which participation is not otherwise required by the school.

Extracurricular activities include but are not limited to: all sports, cheerleading, dance team, Skills USA, FFA, Quiz Bowl, Pep Band, vocal, band, speech and drama, One-Act, FBLA, Spanish Club, Art Club, Student Council, National Honor Society, school sponsored dance and other school sponsored organizations and activities. The Code of Conduct also applies to participation in school sponsored activities such as school dances and royalty for such activities.

A participant means a student who participates in, has participated in, or will participate in an extracurricular activity.

When: The Code of Conduct rules apply to conduct which occurs at any time during the school year, and also includes the time frame which begins with the official starting day of the fall sport season established by the NSAA and extends to the last day of the spring sport season established by the NSAA, whether or not the student is a participant in an activity at the time of such conduct.

The rules also apply when a student is participating or scheduled to participate in an extracurricular activity that is held outside the school year or the NSAA season. For example, if an FBLA student plans to participate in a conference in July and commits a Code of Conduct infraction in June, the student may be suspended from participating in the conference. Conduct during the summer months may also affect a student's participation under the team selection and playing time guidelines.

Where: The Code of Conduct rules apply regardless of whether the conduct occurs on and off school grounds. If the conduct occurs on school grounds, at a school function or event, or in a school vehicle, the student may also be subject to further discipline under the general student code of conduct. A student who is suspended or expelled from school shall not be permitted to participate in activities during the period of the suspension or expulsion, and may also receive an extended activity suspension.

Grounds for Extracurricular Activity Discipline. Students who participate in extracurricular activities are expected to demonstrate cooperation, patience, pride, character, self respect, self-discipline, teamwork, sportsmanship, and respect for authority. The following conduct rules have been determined by the Board of Education to be reasonably necessary to aid students, further school purposes, and prevent interference with the educational process. Such conduct constitutes grounds for suspension from participation in extracurricular activities and grounds for other restrictions or disciplinary measures related to extracurricular activity participation:

1. Willfully disobeying any reasonable written or oral request of a school staff member, or the voicing of disrespect to those in authority.
2. Use of violence, force, coercion, threat, intimidation, bullying, harassment or similar conduct in a manner that constitutes a substantial interference with school or extracurricular activity purposes or making any communication that a reasonable person would interpret as a serious expression of an intent to harm or cause injury to another.
3. Willfully causing or attempting to cause substantial damage to property, stealing or attempting to steal property, repeated damage or theft involving property or setting or attempting to set a fire of any magnitude.
4. Causing or attempting to cause personal injury to any person, including a school employee, school volunteer, or student. Personal injury caused by accident, self-defense, or other action undertaken on the reasonable belief that it was necessary to protect another person shall not constitute a violation.
5. Threatening or intimidating any student for the purpose of, or with the intent of, obtaining money or anything of value from a student or making a threat which causes or may be expected to cause a disruption to school operations.
6. Knowingly possessing, handling, or transmitting any object or material that is ordinarily or generally considered a weapon or that has the appearance of a weapon, or bringing or possessing any explosive device, including fireworks, on school grounds or at a school function or event, or in a manner that is unlawful or contrary to school activity rules.
7. Selling, using, possessing or dispensing alcohol, tobacco, narcotics, drugs, a controlled substance, or an inhalant; being under the influence of any of the above; possession of drug paraphernalia, or the selling, using, possessing, or dispensing of an imitation controlled substance as defined in section 28-401 of the Nebraska statutes, or material represented to be alcohol, narcotics, drugs, a controlled substance or inhalant. (Note: Refer to “Drug and Alcohol Violations” for further information).
8. Public indecency.

9. Sexual assault or attempting to sexually assault any person. Engaging in sexual conduct, even if consensual, on school grounds or at a school function or event.
10. Engaging in any activity forbidden by law which constitutes a danger to other students, interferes with school purposes or an extracurricular activity, or reflects a lack of high ideals.
11. Repeated violation of any of the school rules.
12. Truancy or failure to attend assigned classes or assigned activities; or tardiness to school, assigned classes or assigned activities.
13. The use of language, written or oral, or conduct, including gestures, which is profane or abusive to a school employee, school volunteer, or student. Profane or abusive language or conduct includes, but is not limited to, that which is commonly understood and intended to be derogatory toward a group or individual based upon race, gender, national origin, or religion.
14. Dressing or grooming in a manner which is dangerous to the student's health and safety or a danger to the health and safety of others or repeated violations of dress and grooming standards; dressing, grooming, or engaging in speech that is lewd or indecent, vulgar or plainly offensive; dressing, grooming, or engaging in speech that school officials reasonably conclude will materially and substantially disrupt the work and discipline of the school or of an extracurricular activity; dressing, grooming, or engaging in speech that a reasonable observer would interpret as advocating illegal drug use.
15. Willfully violating the behavioral expectations for those students riding Arlington Public School buses or vehicles used for activity purposes.
16. Failure to report for the activity at the beginning of the season. Reporting for one activity may count as reporting on time if there is a change in activity within the season approved by the coach or the supervisor.
17. Failure to participate in regularly scheduled classes on the day of an extracurricular activity or event.
18. Failure to attend scheduled practices and meetings. If circumstances arise to prevent the participant's attendance, the validity of the reason will be determined by the coach or sponsor. Every reasonable effort should be made to notify the coach or sponsor prior to any missed practice or meeting.
19. All other reasonable rules or regulations adopted by the coach or sponsor of an extracurricular activity shall be followed, provided that participants shall be advised by the coach or sponsor of such rules and regulations by written handouts or posting on bulletin boards prior to the violation of the rule or regulation.
20. Failure to comply with any rule established by the Nebraska School Activities Association, including, but not limited to, the rules relating to eligibility.

All terms used in the Code of Conduct have a less strict meaning than under criminal law and are subject to reasonable interpretation by school officials.

Drug and Alcohol Violations.**Meaning of Terms.**

Use or consume includes any level of consumption or use. Use of a controlled substance in the manner prescribed for the student by the student's physician is not a violation.

Under the influence means any level of impairment and includes even the odor of alcohol on the breath or person of a student, or the odor of an illicit drug on the student. Also, it includes being impaired by reason of the abuse of any material used as a stimulant.

Possession includes having control of the substance and also includes being in the same area where the substance is present and no responsible adult present and responsible for the substance. Possession includes situations where, for example:

- (1) Alcohol is in a vehicle in which the student is present. The student is considered to be in possession if the student is aware that the alcohol is in the vehicle, even though the student has not touched or consumed the alcohol; and
- (2) Alcohol is present at a party attended by the student. The student is considered to be in possession if the student is aware that alcohol is at the party and fails to immediately leave the party, even though the student has not touched or consumed the alcohol.

In these situations, a violation would not exist if the alcohol is in the control of a parent or guardian or other responsible adult (age 21 or older) such that students are not allowed to access the alcohol. A violation would also not exist if the student did not know or have a reasonable basis to know that alcohol would be present, and the student leaves the location where the alcohol is present as soon the student could safely do so. (Students are expected to leave immediately, but are not to do so in a manner that would endanger them. For example, you are not to leave in a car being driven by a person who has been drinking just to get away from the alcohol party immediately when there is no other way to get home. Instead, you should call for a safe ride home and, while waiting, clearly distance yourself from the alcohol).

Consequences.

Students may be suspended from practices or participation in interscholastic competition or participation in co-curricular activities for violations of the Code of Conduct. The period of suspension or other discipline for such offenses shall be determined by the school administration.

The disciplinary consequence will be determined based on consideration of the seriousness of the offense, any prior violations, the student's compliance with the self-reporting obligations, the student's level of cooperation and willingness to resolve the matter, and the student's demonstration of a commitment to not commit future violations.

Because of the significance of drug and alcohol violations on the student participants, other students and the school, the following consequences are established for such violations:

Drugs and Alcohol.

An activity participant who violates the drug or alcohol rules (other than steroids) shall be prohibited from participating in any extracurricular activity for the following minimum periods:

First Offense:

Situation 1: Five-week suspension from participating in all co-curricular activities, events, and/or contests.

Situation 2: Three-week suspension from participating in all co-curricular activities, events, and/or contests for a student that can provide proof of non-consumption through valid test(s) administered by a law enforcement official at the scene.

Self Report (1st Offense Only): Anyone that self-reports will receive a two-week reduction in their suspension period for being honest and taking responsibility for their actions. The self-report must happen in a timely manner in which the student reports prior to the administration starting their formal investigation.

Second Offense:

A second violation of our Activity Code is considered serious and results in a suspension from participating in all co-curricular activities, events, and/or contests for the remainder of the school year.

Steroid Offenses. A student who possesses, dispenses, delivers, or administers anabolic steroids shall be prohibited from participating in any extracurricular activity for the following minimum periods:

1. First Violation: Five (5) weeks.
2. Second or Any Subsequent Offense: One calendar year.

Letters and Post-Season Honors. A student who commits a Code of Conduct violation is:

1. Not eligible to letter or to receive honors during the sport or activity in which they are participating at the time of the offense and/or in sports or activities in which they have been suspended due to a code violation. The coach/sponsor, with the Athletic Director's approval, may make an exception where the student has self-reported or otherwise demonstrated excellence in character allowing for such honors.

Determining a Violation Has Occurred. A violation of the Code of Conduct will be determined to have occurred based on any of the following criteria:

1. When a student is cited by law enforcement and school officials have a reasonable basis for determining that grounds for the issuance of the citation exist.

2. When a student is convicted of a criminal offense. Conviction includes, without limitation, a plea of no contest and an adjudication of delinquency by the juvenile court.
3. When a student admits to violating one of the standards of the Code of Conduct.
4. When a student is accused by another person of violating one of the standards of the Code of Conduct and school officials determine that such information is reliable.
5. When school officials otherwise find sufficient evidence to support a determination that a violation has occurred.

Procedures for Extracurricular Discipline. The following procedures are established for suspensions from participation in extracurricular activities:

1. Investigation. The school official(s) considering the suspension will conduct a reasonable investigation of the facts and circumstances and determine whether the suspension will help the student or other students, further school purposes, or prevent an interference with a school purpose.
2. Meeting. Prior to commencement of the suspension, the school official considering the suspension or their designee will provide the student an opportunity to give the student's side of the story. The meeting for this purpose may be held in person or via a telephone conference.
 - a. The student will be given oral or written notice of what the student is accused of having done, an explanation of the evidence the school has, and the opportunity to explain the student's version. Detail is not required where the activity participant has made a self-report or otherwise admits the conduct. Names of informants may be kept confidential where determined to be appropriate.
 - b. The suspension may be imposed prior to the meeting if the meeting can not reasonably be held before the suspension is to begin. In that case the meeting will occur as soon as reasonably practicable. The student is responsible for cooperating in the scheduling of the meeting.
3. Notice Letter. Within two school days (two business days if school is not in session), or such additional time as is reasonably necessary following the suspension, the Athletic Director or the Athletic Director's designee will send a written statement to the student and the student's parents or guardian. The statement will describe the student's conduct violation and the discipline imposed. The student and parents or guardian will be informed of the opportunity to request a hearing.
4. Informal Hearing Before Superintendent. The student or student's parent/guardian may request an informal hearing before the Superintendent. The Superintendent may designate the Athletic Director or another administrator not responsible for the suspension decision as the Superintendent's designee to conduct the hearing and make a decision.

- a. A form to request such a hearing must be signed by the parent or guardian. A form will be provided with the notice letter or otherwise be made available by request from the Principal's office.
- b. The request for a hearing must be received by the Superintendent's office within five days of receipt of the notice letter.
- c. If a hearing is requested:
 - i. The hearing will be held within ten calendar days of receipt of the request; subject to extension for good cause as determined by the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee.
 - ii. The Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee will notify the participants of the time and place of the hearing a reasonable time in advance to allow preparation for the hearing.
 - iii. Upon conclusion of the hearing, a written decision will be rendered within five school days (ten calendar days if school is not in session). The written decision will be mailed or otherwise delivered to the participant, parents or guardian.
 - iv. A record of the hearing (copies of documents provided at the hearing and a tape recording or other recordation of the informal hearing) will be kept by the school if requested sufficiently in advance of the hearing by the parent/guardian.
5. No Stay of Penalty. There will be no stay of the penalty imposed pending completion of the due process procedures
6. Opportunity for Informal Resolution. These due process procedures do not prevent the student or parent/guardian from discussing and settling the matter with the appropriate school officials at any stage.

Section 3 Attendance

Student participants are expected to apply themselves academically by following these expectations:

1. Attend school regularly and show evidence of sincere effort towards scholastic achievement.
2. Be on time for all scheduled practices, contests and departure for contests. In the event a participant is unable to attend a practice or contests he/she should contact the coach or sponsor in advance.
3. Attendance, for the entire day, is required to be eligible for the contest that day. Arrangements in advance for extenuating circumstances, such as doctor/dentist appointments, funerals or other activities, can be made with the building Principal or Activities Director in writing. Every attempt should be made to be in attendance the day of a contest. Sleeping in to rest up for the game will not be considered an extenuating circumstance, nor will going home ill and then returning to play in the contest later that day.
4. Attendance, for the three periods prior to practice time, is required to be eligible to practice that day. Arrangements in advance for extenuating circumstances, such as doctor/dentist appointments, funerals or other activities, can be made with

the building Principal or Activities Director in writing. Every attempt should be made to be in attendance. Sleeping in will not be considered an extenuating circumstance, nor will going home ill and then returning for practice that day.

5. Appearance: Participants will dress appropriately for the activity in which they are involved and will at all times maintain a neat, clean and well groomed appearance.

Section 4 Academic Standards

All students at Arlington Junior-Senior High must maintain passing grades to be eligible to participate in co-curricular activities. This is determined on a weekly basis. A student's eligibility will be determined by their cumulative progress at the given time in the semester. Dances are considered co-curricular.

Students (grades 9-12) are subject to eligibility rules established by the NSAA: "to be eligible a student shall have earned 20 semester hours of school work for the immediate preceding semester." In addition, all students at Arlington Junior-Senior High must maintain passing grades to be eligible to participate in co-curricular activities. This is reported on a weekly basis. Following are the academic eligibility guidelines:

1. A student who is reported failing one class will have a one-week probationary period to revise the course grade to a passing mark. If after the one-week probationary period the student is still failing the class, he/she will be ruled ineligible for participation in all extracurricular activities. The suspension period will be until the first Tuesday it is determined the student is receiving a passing grade in all classes.
2. A student who is reported failing two or more classes will be immediately ruled academically ineligible for participation in all co-curricular activities. The eligibility period will be until the first Tuesday it is determined the student is receiving a passing grade in all classes.
3. Teachers who submit names to the ineligibility list will be responsible for initially contacting parents about the student's status.

Parents and staff should work together to develop a plan for student improvement.

*Note: A student ruled academically ineligible will be allowed to practice during the suspension period. Ineligible students will not be excused from classes to attend an activity held during the school day.

Legal Source: Neb. Rev. Stat. Sections 79-254 to 79-296

Date of Adoption: October 10, 2016; March 11, 2019

Students

Extracurricular Activity

Section 1 Extracurricular Activity Philosophy

Extracurricular activity programs enrich the curriculum of the school by making available a wide variety of activities in which a student can participate. Extracurricular activity programs are considered an integral part of the school's program of education that provide experiences that will help students physically, mentally and emotionally.

The element of competition and winning, though it exists, is controlled to the point it does not determine the nature or success of the program. This is considered to be educationally and psychologically sound because of the training it offers for living in a competitive society. Students are stimulated to want to win and excel, but the principles of good sportsmanship prevail at all times to enhance the educational values of contests. Participation in activities, both as a competitor and as a student spectator, is an integral part of the students' educational experiences. Such participation is a privilege that carries with it responsibilities to the school, team, student body, community and the students themselves. In their play and their conduct, students are representing all of these groups. Such experiences contribute to the knowledge, skill and emotional patterns that they possess, thereby making them better individuals and citizens.

Safety

The District's philosophy is to maintain an activities program which recognizes the importance of the safety of the participants. To ensure safety, participants are required to become fully familiar with the dangers and safety measures established for the activity in which they participate, to adhere to all safety instructions for the activity in which they participate, to inform their coach or sponsor when they are injured or have health problems that require their activities be restricted, and to exercise common-sense.

Warning for Participants and Parents

The purpose of this warning is to bring your attention to the existence of potential dangers associated with athletic injuries. Participation in any intramural or athletic activity may involve injury of some type. The severity of such injury can range from minor cuts, bruises, sprains and muscle strains to more serious injuries to the body's bones, joints, ligaments, tendons, or muscles, to catastrophic injuries to the head, neck and spinal cord. On rare occasions, injuries can be so severe as to result in total disability, paralysis or death. Even with appropriate coaching, appropriate safety instruction, appropriate protective equipment and strict observance of the rules, injuries are still a possibility.

Section 2 Extracurricular Activity Code of Conduct

Purpose of the Code of Conduct. Participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege. The privilege carries with it responsibilities to the school, team, student body, and the community. Participants are not only representing themselves, but also their school and community in all of their actions. Others judge our school on the student participants' conduct and attitudes, and how they contribute to our school spirit and community image.

The student participants' performance and devotion to high ideals and values make their school and community proud. Consequently, participation is dependent upon adherence to this Code of Conduct and the school district's policies, procedures and rules.

Scope of the Code of Conduct.

Activities Subject to the Code of Conduct: The Code of Conduct applies to all extracurricular activities. Extracurricular activities means student activities or organizations which are supervised or administered by the school district which do not count toward graduation or grade advancement and in which participation is not otherwise required by the school.

Extracurricular activities include but are not limited to: all sports, cheerleading, dance team, Pep Club, Pep Band, vocal, band, speech and drama, One-Act, FBLA, FCCLA, Spanish Club, Art Club, Student Council, Student Advisory Board, National Honor Society, and other school sponsored organizations and activities. The Code of Conduct also applies to participation in school sponsored activities such as school dances and royalty for such activities.

A participant means a student who participates in, has participated in, or will participate in an extracurricular activity.

When: The Code of Conduct rules apply to conduct which occurs at any time during the school year, and also includes the time frame which begins with the official starting day of the fall sport season established by the NSAA and extends to the last day of the spring sport season established by the NSAA, whether or not the student is a participant in an activity at the time of such conduct.

The rules also apply when a student is participating or scheduled to participate in an extracurricular activity that is held outside the school year or the NSAA season. For example, if an FBLA or FCCLA student plans to participate in a conference in July and commits a Code of Conduct infraction in June, the student may be suspended from participating in the conference. Conduct during the summer months may also affect a student's participation under the team selection and playing time guidelines.

Where: The Code of Conduct rules apply regardless of whether the conduct occurs on or off school grounds. If the conduct occurs on school grounds, at a school function or event, or in a school vehicle, the student may also be subject to further discipline under

the general student code of conduct. A student who is suspended or expelled from school shall not be permitted to participate in activities during the period of the suspension or expulsion, and may also receive an extended activity suspension.

Grounds for Extracurricular Activity Discipline. Students who participate in extracurricular activities are expected to demonstrate cooperation, patience, pride, character, self respect, self-discipline, teamwork, sportsmanship, and respect for authority. The following conduct rules have been determined by the Board of Education to be reasonably necessary to aid students, further school purposes, and prevent interference with the educational process. Such conduct constitutes grounds for suspension from participation in extracurricular activities and grounds for other restrictions or disciplinary measures related to extracurricular activity participation:

1. Willfully disobeying any reasonable written or oral request of a school staff member, or the voicing of disrespect to those in authority.
2. Use of violence, force, coercion, threat, intimidation, bullying, harassment or similar conduct in a manner that constitutes a substantial interference with school or extracurricular activity purposes or making any communication that a reasonable person would interpret as a serious expression of an intent to harm or cause injury to another.
3. Willfully causing or attempting to cause substantial damage to property, stealing or attempting to steal property, repeated damage or theft involving property or setting or attempting to set a fire of any magnitude.
4. Causing or attempting to cause personal injury to any person, including a school employee, school volunteer, or student. Personal injury caused by accident, self-defense, or other action undertaken on the reasonable belief that it was necessary to protect another person shall not constitute a violation.
5. Threatening or intimidating any student for the purpose of, or with the intent of, obtaining money or anything of value from a student or making a threat which causes or may be expected to cause a disruption to school operations.
6. Knowingly possessing, handling, or transmitting any object or material that is ordinarily or generally considered a weapon (including personal safety or security devices, such as tasers, mace and pepper spray, unless a District administrator gives prior approval) or that has the appearance of a weapon, or bringing or possessing any explosive device, including fireworks, on school grounds or at a school function or event, or in a manner that is unlawful or contrary to school activity rules.
7. Engaging in selling, using, possessing or dispensing of alcohol, tobacco, narcotics, drugs, controlled substance, or an inhalant; being under the influence of any of the above; possession of drug paraphernalia, or the selling, using, possessing, or dispensing of an imitation controlled substance as defined in section 28-401 of the Nebraska statutes, or material represented to be alcohol, narcotics, drugs, a controlled substance or inhalant. Tobacco means any tobacco product (including but not limited to cigarettes, cigars, and chewing tobacco), vapor products (such as e-cigarettes), electronic nicotine delivery systems, alternative nicotine products, tobacco product look-alikes, and products intended

to replicate tobacco products either by appearance or effect. Use of a controlled substance in the manner prescribed for the student by the student's physician is not a violation. The term "under the influence" has a less strict meaning than it does under criminal law; for school purposes, the term means any level of impairment and includes even the odor of alcohol or illegal substances on the breath or person of a student; also, it includes being impaired by reason of the abuse of any material used as a stimulant.

8. Public indecency.
9. Sexual assault or attempting to sexually assault any person. Engaging in sexual conduct, even if consensual, on school grounds or at a school function or event.
10. Engaging in any activity forbidden by law which constitutes a danger to other students, interferes with school purposes or an extracurricular activity, or reflects a lack of high ideals.
11. Repeated violation of any of the school rules.
12. Truancy or failure to attend assigned classes or assigned activities; or tardiness to school, assigned classes or assigned activities.
13. The use of language, written or oral, or conduct, including gestures, which is profane or abusive to a school employee, school volunteer, or student. Profane or abusive language or conduct includes, but is not limited to, that which is commonly understood and intended to be derogatory toward a group or individual based upon race, gender, national origin, or religion.
14. Dressing or grooming in a manner which is dangerous to the student's health and safety or a danger to the health and safety of others or repeated violations of dress and grooming standards; dressing, grooming, or engaging in speech that is lewd or indecent, vulgar or plainly offensive; dressing, grooming, or engaging in speech that school officials reasonably conclude will materially and substantially disrupt the work and discipline of the school or of an extracurricular activity; dressing, grooming, or engaging in speech that a reasonable observer would interpret as advocating illegal drug use.
15. Willfully violating the behavioral expectations for those students riding [Name] Public Schools buses or vehicles used for activity purposes.
16. Failure to report for the activity at the beginning of the season. Reporting for one activity may count as reporting on time if there is a change in activity within the season approved by the coach or the supervisor.
17. Failure to participate in regularly scheduled classes on the day of an extracurricular activity or event.
18. Failure to attend scheduled practices and meetings. If circumstances arise to prevent the participant's attendance, the validity of the reason will be determined by the coach or sponsor. Every reasonable effort should be made to notify the coach or sponsor prior to any missed practice or meeting.
19. All other reasonable rules or regulations adopted by the coach or sponsor of an extracurricular activity shall be followed, provided that participants shall be advised by the coach or sponsor of such rules and regulations in writing.
20. Failure to comply with any rule established by the Nebraska School Activities Association, including, but not limited to, the rules relating to eligibility.

All terms used in the Code of Conduct have a less strict meaning than under criminal law and are subject to reasonable interpretation by school officials.

Drug and Alcohol Violations.

Meaning of Terms.

Use or consume includes any level of consumption or use. Use of a controlled substance in the manner prescribed for the student by the student's physician is not a violation.

Under the influence means any level of impairment and includes even the odor of alcohol on the breath or person of a student, or the odor of an illicit drug on the student. Also, it includes being impaired by reason of the abuse of any material used as a stimulant.

Possession includes having control of the substance and also includes being in the same area where the substance is present and no responsible adult present and responsible for the substance. Possession includes situations where, for example:

- (1) Alcohol is in a vehicle in which the student is present. The student is considered to be in possession if the student is aware that the alcohol is in the vehicle, even though the student has not touched or consumed the alcohol; and
- (2) Alcohol is present at a party attended by the student. The student is considered to be in possession if the student is aware that alcohol is at the party and fails to immediately leave the party, even though the student has not touched or consumed the alcohol.

In these situations, a violation would not exist if the alcohol is in the control of a parent or guardian or other responsible adult (age 21 or older) such that students are not allowed to access the alcohol. A violation would also not exist if the student did not know or have a reasonable basis to know that alcohol would be present, and the student leaves the location where the alcohol is present as soon the student could safely do so. (Students are expected to leave immediately, but are not to do so in a manner that would endanger them. For example, you are not to leave in a car being driven by a person who has been drinking just to get away from the alcohol party immediately when there is no other way to get home. Instead, you should call for a safe ride home and, while waiting, clearly distance yourself from the alcohol).

Consequences.

Students may be suspended from practices or participation in interscholastic competition or participation in co-curricular activities for violations of the Code of Conduct. The period of suspension or other discipline for such offenses shall be determined by the school administration.

The disciplinary consequence will be determined based on consideration of the seriousness of the offense, any prior violations, the student's compliance with the self-reporting obligations, the student's level of cooperation and willingness to resolve the matter, and the student's demonstration of a commitment to not commit future violations.

Because of the significance of drug and alcohol violations on the student participants, other students and the school, the following consequences are established for such violations:

Drugs and Alcohol.

An activity participant who violates the drug or alcohol rules (other than steroids) shall be prohibited from participating in any extracurricular activity for the following minimum periods:

1. First Violation: 45 days.
2. Second or Any Subsequent Offense: One calendar year.
3. Reduction for Self-Reporting: If the student has self-reported, the first violation shall be reduced to 21 days for the first violation. A commensurate reduction (approximately one-half, as determined by the administration) for a second or subsequent violation shall be given for self-reporting.
4. Reduction for Participation in Chemical Dependency Program: If the student and parents agree to participate in a school-approved program for chemical dependency, the consequence will be reduced to only the next activity in which the student was to participate (including at least one contest) in the case of a first violation, and to a commensurate reduction (approximately 80%, as determined by the administration, for a second or subsequent violation).

The program must be administered by a certified alcohol and drug abuse counselor and be approved by the school authorities. The student will need to successfully complete the approved chemical dependency program. Proof of successful completion of program must be submitted in writing to the Activities Director. Failure to participate and successfully complete the approved chemical dependency program may cause the participating student to be suspended from extracurricular activities for one calendar year. All costs associated with the program are to be borne by the student/parent or guardian.

5. More Serious Violations: In the event of more serious drug or alcohol violations, such as students engaging in use of especially serious drug offenses (cocaine, meth, etc.) or procuring alcohol for minors, the consequence of the violation is not limited by the foregoing, and may be established in the good discretion of the administration.

Steroid Offenses. A student who possesses, dispenses, delivers, or administers anabolic steroids shall be prohibited from participating in any extracurricular activity for the following minimum periods:

1. First Violation: 30 consecutive days.
2. Second or Any Subsequent Offense: One calendar year.

When Suspensions Begin. All suspensions begin with the next scheduled activity in which the student is a participant, after the determination by school officials of the sanction to be imposed; provided that the school officials shall have the discretion to establish a time period for the suspension that makes the suspension have a real consequence for the student. During a suspension, participants may be required or

permitted to practice at the sole discretion of the coach or activity sponsor. Suspensions in the Spring will be carried over to the Fall when the suspension has not been fully served or when determined appropriate for the suspension to have a real consequence for the student.

Letters and Post-Season Honors. A student who commits a Code of Conduct violation is:

1. Eligible to letter, provided the student meets the criteria of the coach or sponsor.
2. Not eligible to receive honors during the sport or activity in which they are participating at the time of the offense and/or in sports or activities in which they have been suspended due to a code violation. The coach/sponsor, with the Athletic Director's approval, may make an exception where the student has self-reported or otherwise demonstrated excellence in character allowing for such honors.

Self-Reporting. A student who violates the Code of Conduct must self-report. The self-report must be made to: the principal, athletic director, or the head coach or sponsor of an activity in which the student participates. The student's parent or guardian may initiate the self-reporting process, but the student will be later required to give a written statement of the self-report. The self-report must be made the earlier of: (1) before the end of the next school day after the conduct occurred and (2) before participation in an extracurricular or co-curricular activity.

In making a self-report, the student must identify the events that took place, what conduct the student engaged in, and any witnesses to the student's conduct, and will be required to put this information in a written statement. In the event the student has received a criminal citation, charge, or ticket, and proclaims innocence of a violation, the student will be required to self-report such offense and provide information as to why they should be found innocent, not as it relates to the criminal offense, but as it relates to the Code of Conduct.

All students are expected to be honest and forthright with school officials. In the event the coach or activity sponsor or any school administrator asks a student participant for information pertaining to compliance (or lack of compliance) by the student or other student participants with the Code of Conduct or eligibility conditions for participation in activities, the student is expected to fully, completely, and honestly provide the information. Students may be disciplined for a failure to be honest and forthright.

Determining a Violation Has Occurred. A violation of the Code of Conduct will be determined to have occurred based on any of the following criteria:

1. When a student is cited by law enforcement and school officials have a reasonable basis for determining that grounds for the issuance of the citation exist.
2. When a student is convicted of a criminal offense. Conviction includes, without limitation, a plea of no contest and an adjudication of delinquency by the juvenile court.
3. When a student admits to violating one of the standards of the Code of Conduct.

4. When a student is accused by another person of violating one of the standards of the Code of Conduct and school officials determine that such information is reliable.
5. When school officials otherwise find sufficient evidence to support a determination that a violation has occurred.

Procedures for Extracurricular Discipline. The following procedures are established for suspensions from participation in extracurricular activities:

1. Investigation. The school official(s) considering the suspension will conduct a reasonable investigation of the facts and circumstances and determine whether the suspension will help the student or other students, further school purposes, or prevent an interference with a school purpose.
2. Meeting. Prior to commencement of the suspension, the school official considering the suspension or their designee will provide the student an opportunity to give the student's side of the story. The meeting for this purpose may be held in person or via a telephone conference.
 - a. The student will be given oral or written notice of what the student is accused of having done, an explanation of the evidence the school has, and the opportunity to explain the student's version. Detail is not required where the activity participant has made a self-report or otherwise admits the conduct. Names of informants may be kept confidential where determined to be appropriate.
 - b. The suspension may be imposed prior to the meeting if the meeting can not reasonably be held before the suspension is to begin. In that case the meeting will occur as soon as reasonably practicable. The student is responsible for cooperating in the scheduling of the meeting.
3. Notice Letter. Within two school days (two business days if school is not in session), or such additional time as is reasonably necessary following the suspension, the Athletic Director or the Athletic Director's designee will send a written statement to the student and the student's parents or guardian. The statement will describe the student's conduct violation and the discipline imposed. The student and parents or guardian will be informed of the opportunity to request a hearing.
4. Informal Hearing Before Superintendent. The student or student's parent/guardian may request an informal hearing before the Superintendent. The Superintendent may designate the Athletic Director or another administrator not responsible for the suspension decision as the Superintendent's designee to conduct the hearing and make a decision.
 - a. A form to request such a hearing must be signed by the parent or guardian. A form will be provided with the notice letter or otherwise be made available by request from the Principal's office.
 - b. The request for a hearing must be received by the Superintendent's office within five days of receipt of the notice letter.
 - c. If a hearing is requested:

- i. The hearing will be held within ten calendar days of receipt of the request; subject to extension for good cause as determined by the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee.
 - ii. The Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee will notify the participants of the time and place of the hearing a reasonable time in advance to allow preparation for the hearing.
 - iii. Upon conclusion of the hearing, a written decision will be rendered within five school days (ten calendar days if school is not in session). The written decision will be mailed or otherwise delivered to the participant, parents or guardian.
 - iv. A record of the hearing (copies of documents provided at the hearing and a tape recording or other recordation of the informal hearing) will be kept by the school if requested sufficiently in advance of the hearing by the parent/guardian.
5. No Stay of Penalty. There will be no stay of the penalty imposed pending completion of the due process procedures
6. Opportunity for Informal Resolution. These due process procedures do not prevent the student or parent/guardian from discussing and settling the matter with the appropriate school officials at any stage.

Section 3 Attendance

Student participants are expected to meet the following attendance expectations:

1. Attend school regularly. Students who have "excessive absences" as determined under the school's attendance policy are ineligible to participate in extracurricular activity contests or performances. Students who have four or more unexcused absences in the semester of participation will be ineligible to participate in extracurricular activity contests or performances.
2. Be on time for all scheduled practices, contests and departure for contests. In the event a participant is unable to attend a practice or contests the participant should contact the coach or sponsor in advance.
3. On the day of a contest, performance or other activity, be in attendance for the full day. A student who is not in attendance the full day is ineligible for the contest, performance, or activity.

Exceptions may be made for extenuating circumstances, such as doctor/dentist appointments or family emergencies. The exception must be approved by the Principal or Athletic Director.

Every attempt should be made to be in attendance the day of a contest. Sleeping in to rest up for the game will not be considered an extenuating circumstance, nor will going home ill and then returning to play in the contest later that day.

Section 4 Academic Standards

Participation in extracurricular school activities is encouraged and desirable for all students. At the same time, the primary mission and responsibility for each student is to establish a firm academic foundation. A student participating in extracurricular school activities must show evidence of sincere effort towards scholastic achievement. To be eligible for participation in extracurricular activities, students must:

1. Be enrolled in at least 25 credit hours in the semester of participation.
2. Maintain passing grades in all courses. A student who is not passing one or more classes at progress reporting times will be ineligible to participate in extracurricular activity contests or performances if the grade remains below passing one week after progress reporting time. The student will remain ineligible until the student is passing all classes.
3. Maintain an overall “C” average to participate in extracurricular activities, except school dances.
4. Academic requirements do not apply to:
 - (A) Instructional field trips which are a part of the scheduled course learning experience; or
 - (B) Activities or events which are a part of the student’s grade requirements.

Legal Reference: Neb. Rev. Stat. Sections 79-254 to 79-296

Date of Adoption: [Insert Date]

StudentsDrug and Substance Use and Prevention**Drug-Free Schools**

The District shall implement regulations and practices which will ensure compliance with the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act and all regulations and rules promulgated pursuant thereto. The District's safe and drug-free schools program is established in accordance with principles of effectiveness as required by law to respond to such harmful effects.

Education and Prevention

The District promotes comprehensive, age appropriate, developmentally based drug and alcohol education and prevention programs, which will include in the curriculum the teaching of both proper and incorrect use of drugs and alcohol for all students in all grades of this School District.

Further, the District will have proper in-service orientation and training for all employed staff.

Standards of Conduct; Notice to Students and Parents

Students are to be provided a copy of the standards of conduct for student behavior in the District which prohibit the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol on school premises or as a part of any of the school's activities. It shall be the further policy of the District to keep a file showing receipt of standards of conduct and a statement of disciplinary sanctions that may be taken for violations of such standards of conduct. The receipt shall be signed by both student and parent or guardian and returned to the respective Principal. It shall contain in prominent letters the following language:

"RECEIPT SHALL SERVE TO DEMONSTRATE THAT YOU AS PARENT OR GUARDIAN OF A STUDENT ATTENDING [NAME] PUBLIC SCHOOLS HAVE RECEIVED NOTICE OF THE STANDARDS OF CONDUCT OF THIS DISTRICT EXPECTED OF STUDENTS CONCERNING THE ABSOLUTE PROHIBITION AGAINST THE UNLAWFUL POSSESSION, USE, OR DISTRIBUTION OF ILLICIT DRUGS AND ALCOHOL ON SCHOOL PREMISES OR AS A PART OF ANY OF THE SCHOOL'S ACTIVITIES AS DESCRIBED IN BOARD POLICY OR ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION. THIS NOTICE IS BEING PROVIDED TO YOU PURSUANT TO P.L. 101-226 AND 34 C.F.R. PART 86, BOTH FEDERAL LEGAL REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DISTRICT TO OBTAIN ANY FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE. YOUR SIGNATURE ON THIS RECEIPT ACKNOWLEDGES THAT YOU AND YOUR CHILD OR CHILDREN WHO ARE STUDENTS ATTENDING THIS DISTRICT FULLY UNDERSTAND THE DISTRICT'S POSITION ABSOLUTELY PROHIBITING THE UNLAWFUL POSSESSION, USE, OR DISTRIBUTION OF ILLICIT DRUGS AND ALCOHOL ON SCHOOL PREMISES OR AS A PART OF THE SCHOOL'S ACTIVITIES AS HEREIN ABOVE DESCRIBED AND THAT COMPLIANCE WITH THESE STANDARDS IS MANDATORY. ANY NON-COMPLIANCE WITH THESE STANDARDS CAN AND WILL RESULT IN PUNITIVE MEASURES BEING

TAKEN AGAINST ANY STUDENT FAILING TO COMPLY WITH THESE STANDARDS."

Drug and Alcohol Education and Prevention Program of the District Pursuant to the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Laws and Regulations

Students are to be provided an age appropriate, developmentally based drug and alcohol education and prevention program. The program educates on the adverse effects of the use of illicit drugs and alcohol, with the primary objective being the prevention of illicit drug and alcohol use by students.

Drug and Alcohol Counseling, Rehabilitation and Re-entry Programs

Students are to be provided information concerning available drug and alcohol counseling, rehabilitation, and re-entry programs within sixty miles of the administrative offices of the District or, where no such services are found, within the State of Nebraska. Information concerning such resources shall be presented to all of the students of the District upon request by the counselor.

In the event of disciplinary proceedings against any student for any District policy pertaining to the prohibition against the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol, appropriate school personnel shall confer with any such student and his or her parents or guardian concerning available drug and alcohol counseling, rehabilitation, and re-entry programs that appropriate school personnel shall consider to be of benefit to any such student and his or her parent or parents or guardian.

Safe and Drug-Free Schools-- Parental Notice of Right to Withdraw

Parents will be notified that, if upon receipt of information regarding the content of safe and drug free school programs and activities other than classroom instruction a parent objects to the participation of their child in such programs and activities, the parent may notify the School District of such objection in writing. Upon the receipt of such notice the student will be withdrawn from the program or activity to which parental objection has been made.

Standards of Student Conduct Pertaining to the Possession, Use, or Distribution of Illicit Drugs, Alcohol or Tobacco.

These standards are in addition to standards of student conduct elsewhere adopted by board policy or administrative regulation. The District's standards prohibit the possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs, alcohol or tobacco (including electronic nicotine delivery systems) on school premises, in school vehicles, or as a part of any of the school's activities on or off school premises. Conduct prohibited at places and activities as hereinabove described shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. Possession, use distribution or being under the influence of any controlled substance, including but not limited to marijuana, any narcotic drug, any hallucinogen, any stimulant, or any depressant.
2. Possession of any prescription drug in an unlawful fashion.
3. Possession, use, distribution or being under the influence of alcohol.

4. Possession, use, distribution, or being under the influence of any abusable glue or aerosol paint or any other chemical substance for inhalation, including but not limited to lighter fluid, whiteout, and reproduction fluid, when such activity constitutes a substantial interference with school purposes.
5. Possession, use, or distribution of any look-alike drug or look-alike controlled substance when such activity constitutes a substantial interference with school purposes.
6. Possession, use or distribution of any tobacco product (including electronic nicotine delivery systems).

Disciplinary Sanctions

Violation of any of the above prohibited acts will result in disciplinary sanction being taken within the bounds of applicable law, up to and including short term suspension, long term suspension, expulsion, and referral to appropriate authorities for criminal prosecution. In particular, students should be aware that:

1. Violation of these standards may result in suspension or expulsion.
2. Prohibited substances will be confiscated and turned over to law enforcement authorities.
3. The student may be referred for counseling or treatment.
4. Parents or legal guardian will be notified.
5. Law enforcement will be notified.
6. If it appears there is imminent danger to the student, other students, school personnel, or students involved, emergency medical services will be contacted.

Intervention

The [Name] Public School District does not have the authority or responsibility to make medical or health determinations regarding chemical dependency. However, when observed behavior indicates that a problem exists which may affect the student's ability to learn or function in the educational climate or activity, the school then has the right and responsibility to refer the student for a formal chemical dependency diagnosis based on behavior observed by school staff. The school will issue a statement to all students and employed staff that the use of illicit drugs and the unlawful possession and use of alcohol is wrong and harmful. The school shall make available to students and employed staff information about any drug and alcohol counseling, and rehabilitation and re-entry programs, which are available to students.

Administration

The administration is authorized to adopt such administrative rules, regulations or practices necessary to properly implement this policy. Such regulations, rules or practices may vary the procedures set forth herein to the extent necessary to fit the circumstances of an individual situation. Such rules, regulations and practices may include administrative forms, such as checklists to be used by staff to record observed behavior and to determine the proper plan of action.

Date of Adoption: August 12, 2019

StudentsForeign Exchange Students

Arlington Public Schools recognizes the value of cultural exchange for students. The District will consider applications for the admission of foreign exchange students from host parents/legal guardians of students currently enrolled in the high school. The administration shall review each application and determine whether to grant such based on administrative regulations or standards and determine whether such admission may be made without payment of tuition. A foreign exchange student may not participate in commencement exercises unless they have met graduation requirements.

Date of Adoption: April 14, 2008

Reviewed: April 11, 2016; March 11, 2019

StudentsStudent AttendanceAttendance Policy and Excessive Absenteeism

Regular and punctual student attendance is required. The administration is responsible for developing further attendance rules and regulations, and all staff are expected to implement this policy and administrative rules and regulations to encourage regular and punctual student attendance. The Principals and teachers are required to maintain an accurate record of student attendance.

A. Attendance and Absences.

1. Circumstances of Absences – Definitions. The circumstances for all absences from school will be identified as School Excused or Not School Excused. Absences should be cleared through the Principal's office in advance whenever possible. All absences, except for illness and/or death in the family, require advance approval.
 - a. School Excused. Any of the following circumstances that lead to an absence will be identified as a *School Excused* absence, provided the required attendance procedures have been followed:
 - (1) Impossible or impracticable barriers outside the control of the parent or child prevent a student from attending school. The parent must provide the school with documentation to demonstrate the absence was beyond the control of the parent or child. This could include, but is not limited to documented illness, court, death of a family member, or suspension.
 - (2) Other absences as determined by the principal or the principal's designee.
 - b. Not School Excused. Absences that are not school excused may result in a report to the county attorney and may be classified as follows:
 - (1) Parent acknowledged absences are those in which the parent communicated with the school in the prescribed manner that the child is absent and is the parent's responsibility for the extent of the school day. This includes, but is not limited to, illness, vacations, and medical appointments.
 - (2) Other absences are those in which the parent has not communicated a reason for the student's absence.

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2. Absence Procedure. In its Student Information System, the District may identify many different codes that provide greater definition to the circumstances of a child's absence, but all of the codes need to be identified to parents and students as fitting into one of the above defined absence circumstances.

A student will not be allowed to enter class after an absence until an admit slip, based upon a written or verbal parental excuse, is issued by the Principal's office.

Two school days will be allowed to make up work for each day missed, with a maximum of 10 days allowed to make up work.

3. Mandatory Ages of Attendance. A child is of mandatory age if the child will reach age 6 prior to January 1 of the then-current school year and has not reached 18 years of age.

Exceptions for Younger Students. Attendance is not mandatory for a child who has reached 6 years of age prior to January 1 of the then-current school year, but will not reach age 7 prior to January 1 of such school year, if the child's parent or guardian has signed and filed with the school district in which the child resides an affidavit stating either: (1) that the child is participating in an education program that the parent or guardian believes will prepare the child to enter grade one for the following school year; or (2) that the parent or guardian intends for the child to participate in a school which has elected or will elect pursuant to law not to meet accreditation or approval requirements and the parent or guardian intends to provide the Commissioner of Education with a statement pursuant to section 79-1601(3) on or before the child's seventh birthday.

Exceptions for Older Students. Attendance is also not mandatory for a child who: (1) has obtained a high school diploma by meeting statutory graduation requirements; (2) has completed the program of instruction offered by a school which elects pursuant to law not to meet accreditation or approval requirements; or (3) has reached the age of 16 years and has been withdrawn from school in the manner prescribed by law.

Early Withdrawal for Students Enrolled in Accredited or Approved Schools. A person who has legal or actual charge or control of a child who is at least 16 but less than 18 years of age may withdraw such child from school before graduation and be exempt from the mandatory attendance requirements if an exit interview is conducted and a withdrawal form is signed.

Exit Interview. The process is initiated by a person who has legal or actual charge or control of the child submitting a withdrawal form. The form is to be as prescribed by the Commissioner of Education. Upon submission of the form, the Superintendent or Superintendent's designee shall set a time and place for an exit interview if the child is enrolled in [Name] Public Schools or resides in the

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[Name] Public School District and is enrolled in a private, denominational, or parochial school.

The exit interview shall be personally attended by:

- The child, unless the withdrawal is being requested due to an illness of the child making attendance at the exit interview impossible or impracticable;
- the person who has legal or actual charge or control of the child who requested the exit interview;
- the Superintendent or Superintendent's designee;
- the child's principal or the principal's designee if the child at the time of the exit interview is enrolled in a school operated by the school district; and
- any other person requested by any of the required parties who agrees to attend the exit interview and is available at the time designated for the exit interview which may include, for example, other school personnel or the child's principal if the child is enrolled in a private school.

At the exit interview, the person making the written request must present evidence that (a) the person has legal or actual charge or control of the child and (b) the child would be withdrawing due to either:

- financial hardships requiring the child to be employed to support the child's family or one or more dependents of the child, or
- an illness of the child making attendance impossible or impracticable.

The Superintendent or Superintendent's designee shall identify all known alternative educational opportunities, including vocational courses of study, that are available to the child in the school district and how withdrawing from school is likely to reduce potential future earnings for the child and increase the likelihood of the child being unemployed in the future. Any other relevant information may be presented and discussed by any of the parties in attendance.

At the conclusion of the exit interview, the person making the written request may sign a withdrawal form provided by the school district agreeing to the withdrawal of the child OR may rescind the written request for the withdrawal.

Withdrawal Form. Any withdrawal form signed by the person making the written request shall be valid only if:

- the child also signs the form, unless the withdrawal is being requested due to an illness of the child making attendance at the exit interview impossible or impracticable, and
- the Superintendent or Superintendent's designee signs the form acknowledging that the interview was held, the required information was provided and discussed at the interview, and, in the opinion of the Superintendent or Superintendent's designee, the person making the written request does in fact have legal or actual charge or control of the

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child and the child is experiencing either (i) financial hardship, or (ii) an illness making attendance impossible or impracticable.

Early Withdrawal for Students Enrolled in an Exempt School (Home Schools). A person who has legal or actual charge or control of a child who is at least 16 but less than 18 years of age may withdraw such child from school before graduation and be exempt from the mandatory attendance requirements if such child has been enrolled in a school that elects not to meet the accreditation or approval requirements by filing with the State Department of Education a signed notarized release on a form prescribed by the Commissioner of Education.

4. Reporting and Responding to Excessive Absenteeism. Any administrator, teacher, or member of the board of education who knows of any failure on the part of any child of mandatory school attendance age to attend school regularly without lawful reason, shall within three days report such violation to the superintendent or such person(s) who the superintendent designates to be the attendance officer (hereafter, "attendance officer"). The attendance officer shall immediately cause an investigation into any such report to be made. The attendance officer shall also investigate any case when of his or her personal knowledge, or by report or complaint from any resident of the district, the attendance officer believes there is a violation of the compulsory attendance laws. The school shall render all services in its power to compel such child to attend some public, private, denominational, or parochial school, which the person having control of the child shall designate, in an attempt to address the problem of excessive absenteeism. Such services shall include, as appropriate, the services listed below under "Excessive Absenteeism" and "Reporting Excessive Absenteeism."
5. Excessive Absenteeism. Students who accumulate five (5) unexcused absences in a quarter which are Not School Excused shall be deemed to have "excessive absences." Such absences shall be determined on a per day (or hourly equivalent) basis for elementary students and on a per class basis for secondary students. When a student has excessive absences, school officials will have verbal or written communication with the person or persons who have legal or actual charge or control of any child.

When a student continues thereafter to have absences which are Not School Excused and the absences are of concern due to the effect of the absences on the student's academics, the student's attendance history, the time of the school year, the reasons for the absences, or other circumstances, one or more meetings will be held between the school (a school attendance officer, a school administrator or his or her designee, and/or a social worker), the child's parent or guardian, and the child, when appropriate, to address the barriers to attendance. The result of the meeting or meetings shall be to develop a collaborative plan to reduce barriers

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identified to improve regular attendance. The plan shall consider, but not be limited to:

- (a) The physical, mental, or behavioral health of the child.
- (b) Educational counseling;
- (c) Educational evaluation;
- (d) Referral to community agencies for economic services;
- (e) Family or individual counseling; and
- (f) Assisting the family in working with other community services.

If the parent/guardian refuses to participate in such meeting, the principal shall place documentation of such refusal in the child's attendance records.

6. Reporting Excessive Absenteeism to the County Attorney.

The school may report to the county attorney of the county in which the person having control of the student resides when the school has documented the efforts to address excessive absences, the collaborative plan to reduce barriers identified to improve regular attendance has not been successful, and the student has accumulated more than twenty (20) absences per year. The school shall notify the child's family in writing prior to making the referral to the county attorney. Illness that makes attendance impossible or impracticable shall not be the basis for referral to the county attorney. A report to the county attorney may also be made when a student otherwise accrues excessive absences as herein defined.

Date of Adoption: November 9, 2020

PARENT RELEASE

(For Children to Discontinue Enrollment When Age 16 or Older and Not Yet Age 18)

The undersigned, being first duly sworn, states upon oath as follows:

I am the parent or guardian of _____(Child's Name). The Child's date of birth is _____. The Child has reached the age of 16, but was not age 16 as of July 16, 2004, and has not reached the age of 18.

I hereby release the Child from continued enrollment in school. The Child is disenrolled from school effective) _____ (insert date, if none stated, disenrollment is effective immediately).

NOTICE: Once disenrollment occurs by Parent Release, any future enrollment or re-enrollment must be approved by the Superintendent.

In WITNESS WHEREOF, this affidavit is signed and acknowledged this ____ day of _____, 200__.

Parent or Guardian

STATE OF NEBRASKA

COUNTY OF _____ ss.

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this ____ day of _____, 200__ by _____.

Notary Public

[Print on School District Letterhead]

[Date], 2010

[Insert Name of County Attorney of the County in which the principal office of the school district is located]

[Insert Address]

RE: Policy on Excessive Absenteeism; Requested Collaboration

Dear [Name]:

Laws 2010, LB 800 requires school districts to “have a written policy on excessive absenteeism developed in collaboration with the county attorney of the county in which the principal office of the school district is located.”

Enclosed is a draft of an excessive absenteeism policy that we intend to submit to the Board of Education for adoption. Please review the policy and give me any suggested changes you may have. If you would like to meet to discuss the policy in person, please contact me at [insert phone number].

We need to get the new policy in place prior to the beginning of the 2010-2011 school year. As such, I request that you contact me with regard to the policy at your earliest opportunity.

Sincerely,

[School Name]

[Superintendent Name], Superintendent

Enclosure: Attendance and Excessive Absenteeism Policy

Reviewed: April 11, 2016: October 12, 2020

StudentsAttendance During School Day (Dismissals and Field Trips)

Students may not be permitted to leave school prior to the regular dismissal time except by permission of the Principal.

No student may be permitted to leave school prior to the dismissal hour at the request of or in the company of anyone other than a school employee, police officer, court official, or parent of the child, unless permission of the parent has been first secured. If any police or court official requests the dismissal of a student, the student's parents should be notified as soon as possible.

Field trips or excursions off school grounds must have the approval of the Principal in advance and administrative requirements may be established for such activities.

Date of Adoption: April 14, 2008

Reviewed: April 11, 2016; March 11, 2019

Students

School Census

The Superintendent is authorized to take such steps as necessary to take a complete school census every year in accordance with state and local laws.

Date of Adoption: April 14, 2008

Reviewed: April 11, 2016; March 11, 2019