

Board of Education Regular Meeting
Monday, May 13, 2024 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.
 - Resignations:
 - Hires: Blaine Hilgenkamp, Middle School Mathematics
 - Reassignments:
4. CURRICULUM/INSTRUCTION REPORTS
 - PE Elementary & MS/HS
5. PRINCIPALS' REPORTS
 - 5.1. Dr. Morgan's Elementary Report
 - 5.2. Mr. Pfingsten's Secondary Report
 - 5.3. Mr. Shada's Activity Report
6. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT
 - 6.1. Final Legislative Report
 - 6.2. NRCSA Report from Jack Moles (will deliver this report later in the meeting when Jack arrives)
 - 6.3. NASB Monthly Update
 - 6.4. Report on Safety and Security Grant through NDE
 - 6.5. Discuss July Board Meeting NCSA/NASA/AASA Conflict
7. COMMITTEE AND REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS
 - 7.1. Buildings and Grounds Committee
 - 7.2. Finance Committee
 - 7.3. Activities Coop Ad Hoc Committee
8. NEW BUSINESS
 - 8.1. Report from Community Engagement Surveys by NASB
 - 8.2. Discuss, Consider and Take Necessary Action to Approve Building Level Budget Requests for 2024-2025 Budget
 - 8.3. Discuss, Consider and Take Necessary Action to Approve District Level Budget Requests for 2024-2025
 - 8.4. Discuss, Consider and Take Necessary Action to Approve Issuing High School Diplomas for Senior Students as Presented to the Board of Education

- 8.5. Discuss, Consider and Take Necessary Action to Approve Interlocal Use Agreement with Village of Arlington and the Agricultural Society for Baseball Complex
- 8.6. Discuss, Consider and Take Necessary Action to Approve Staff Laptop Purchase as Presented
- 8.7. Discuss and Consider Policy Updates as Required by Legislation on First Reading
9. ADJOURNMENT

Monday, April 8, 2024 7:00 PM Central

1. OPENING PROCEDURES

1.1. Call Meeting to Order

Chase Kratochvil called the meeting to order at 7:00

1.2. Roll Call

Jason Arp, Present: Cassie Flesner, Present: Chase Kratochvil, Present: Brian Laaker, Present: Matt O'Daniel, Present: Shanon Willmott, Absent

Motion to excuse the absence of Shanon Willmott from tonight's meeting Passed with a motion by Chase Kratochvil and a second by Matt O'Daniel.

Cassie Flesner: Nay, Jason Arp: Yea, Chase Kratochvil: Yea, Brian Laaker: Yea, Matt O'Daniel: Yea

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 Matt O'Daniel and a second by Jason Arp.

Jason Arp: Yea, Cassie Flesner: Yea, Chase Kratochvil: Yea, Brian Laaker: Yea, Matt O'Daniel: Yea

2. WELCOME TO GUESTS AND PUBLIC FORUM

3. CONSENT AGENDA

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

Jason Arp: Yea, Cassie Flesner: Yea, Chase Kratochvil: Yea, Brian Laaker: Yea, Matt O'Daniel: Yea

3.1. Minutes of the Previous Board Meeting(s)

3.2. Monthly Financial Reports

3.3.

Resignations:

Hires:

- Makenzie Rhoads, Elementary
- Jaden Green, Elementary
- Anna Combs, Spanish
- Zoila Alvarado Mejia, Custodian
- Ana Axulen Natareno, Custodian
- Braden Rump, Paraprofessional

Reassignments:

4. CURRICULUM/INSTRUCTION REPORTS

- Science

Nichole Kern was at the meeting to present the Science Report to the board

5. PRINCIPALS REPORTS

5.1. Dr. Morgan's Elementary Report

5.2. Mr. Pfingsten's Secondary Report

5.3. Mr. Shada's Activity Report

6. SUPERINTENDENTS REPORT

6.1. NASB and NRCSA Updates

6.2. Legislative Update

- LB 388-Property Tax Relief, Funding for 1331-Advanced for Second Round without addressing amendments
- LB1331-Education-Needs LB 388 to work
- LB 575- Sports and Spaces
- LB 1402- Opportunity Scholarships

6.3. Video Board Update

- Fundraising
- Install

7. COMMITTEE AND REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

7.1. Negotiations Committee

A negotiation committee met in March for classified staff negotiations. A consistent array was used and held for all groups that salary and wages were considered.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1. Discuss, Consider and Take Necessary Action to Approve Administrator and Director Contracts for 2024-2025:

- Aaron Pfingsten, 7-12 Principal
- Jacqueline Morgan, PK-6 Principal
- James Shada, 7-12 Asst Principal/Activities Director
- Tashia Wolf, Curriculum and Assessment Director

Motion to Approve Administrator and Director Contracts as presented for 2024-2025 Passed with a motion by Matt O'Daniel and a second by Chase Kratochvil.

Jason Arp: Yea, Cassie Flesner: Yea, Chase Kratochvil: Yea, Brian Laaker: Yea, Matt O'Daniel: Yea

Chase spoke on behalf of the negotiations' committee on the Administration contracts - the board received a full array of all the schools used, to compare. The same array of schools was used to negotiate all wages this year. The committee felt like they had a better representation of salaries from the array than in the past, and they felt that the board was meeting or at the mid-point for all wages compared to the array. The board is moving in the right direction in meeting its goal of keeping and maintaining at the mid-point of the array for all salaries.

9.2. Discuss, Consider and Take Necessary Action to Approve Addendum to Superintendent Contract for 2024-2025

Motion to Approve Addendum to Superintendent Contract for 2024-2025 as Proposed Passed with a motion by Chase Kratochvil and a second by Cassie Flesner.

Jason Arp: Yea, Cassie Flesner: Yea, Chase Kratochvil: Yea, Brian Laaker: Yea, Matt O'Daniel: Yea

Chase discussed the superintendent contract for Dr Lewis. The same array was used to compare wages.

9.3. Discuss, Consider and Take Necessary Action to Form Ad Hoc Committee to Research and Develop Policy Regarding Adding Activity Cooperative Agreements with other Districts
Motion to Appoint Chase Kratochvil, Cassie Flenser and Matt O'Daniel to Ad Hoc Committee to Research and Develop Policy regarding Activities Co-op Agreements with Other Districts
Passed with a motion by Chase Kratochvil and a second by Matt O'Daniel.

Jason Arp: Yea, Cassie Flenser: Yea, Chase Kratochvil: Yea, Brian Laaker: Yea, Matt O'Daniel: Yea

The board would like to add a committee to work on research and development for co-op agreements, to help understand the ins and outs of co-ops with other school districts. The goal of the committee would be to determine what the goal is for each specific co-op and whether a policy will need to be created and take a look at what is the best fit going forward for Arlington and co-oping for sports with other schools.

Chase Kratochvill was nominated for the committee

Cassie Flenser & Matt O'Daniel volunteered to be on the committee

9.4. Discuss, Consider and Take Necessary Action to Approve Non-Certificated Staff Wage and Salary Increases for 2024-2025 as Presented

The negotiation committee again used the same array of schools and wages to determine raises for the 2024-2025 school year. Wages were mirrored with the certificated and administration negotiations, there were a couple different shift differentials added due to duties that are being asked of some of the staff.

Motion to Approve Non-Certificated Staff Increases as Proposed for 2024-2025 Passed with a motion by Chase Kratochvil and a second by Matt O'Daniel.

Jason Arp: Yea, Cassie Flenser: Yea, Chase Kratochvil: Yea, Brian Laaker: Yea, Matt O'Daniel: Yea

9.5. Discuss, Consider, and Approve Resolution to Cancel 2023-2024 Contract of Mrs. Teresa Van Beek for Failure to Request a Hearing

Motion to Adopt Resolution to Cancel 2023-2024 Teaching Contract of Teresa Van Beek for Failure to Request a Hearing Passed with a motion by Matt O'Daniel and a second by Chase Kratochvil.

Jason Arp: Yea, Cassie Flenser: Yea, Chase Kratochvil: Yea, Brian Laaker: Yea, Matt O'Daniel: Yea

- Legally required notice was sent and delivered
- A hearing was not requested within the allowed time frame

A vote at the February board meeting a motion failed to release a staff member from their contract. One of the steps in that motion that was missed was actually voting to cancel the teaching contract.

9.6. Discuss and Consider 2400 Series Policies:

- 2400-Line of Authority
- 2410-Administrative Action in Emergencies
- 2420- Staff Handbooks
- 2430- Attendance at Professional Growth Meetings
- 2440- Administrative Action in Absence of Policy

10. ADJOURNMENT

Chase Kratochvil adjourned the meeting at 8:07pm

Chase Kratochvil, Board President

Dawn Lewis, Board Secretary

Date

Date

Arlington Public Schools
April 30, 2024

Fund Name	Bank Statement Starting Balance	Receipts	Disbursements	Interest	Interfund Transfers	Bank Statement Ending Balance
2 Rivers Bank						
General Fund - 864	\$ 2,176,935.70	\$ 685,605.35	\$ 878,577.26	\$ 5,408.83	\$ 37,868.64	\$ 2,027,241.26
Activities - 109	\$ 214,621.01	\$ 28,629.13	\$ 34,683.06	\$ 379.42	\$ -	\$ 208,946.50
Hot Lunch - 487	\$ 167,108.18	\$ 49,962.34	\$ -	\$ 321.84	\$ (37,868.64)	\$ 179,523.72
Depreciation Fund	\$ 832,125.28		\$ -	\$ 2,949.44	\$ -	\$ 835,074.72
Depreciation CD - 5826	\$ 262,235.42		\$ -	\$ 3,178.08	\$ -	\$ 265,413.50
					Total Depreciation:	\$ 1,100,488.22
2017 Bond Refunding	\$ 266,278.48	\$ 18,473.31	\$ -	\$ 717.65	\$ -	\$ 285,469.44
QCPUF	\$ 239,942.19	\$ 7,502.36	\$ -	\$ 646.68		\$ 248,091.23
Spec Bldg Fund	\$ 700,036.13	\$ 19,815.27		\$ 1,886.69	\$ -	\$ 721,738.09
Sp Bldg CD (none for now)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
					Total Spec Bldg:	\$ 721,738.09
Total Special Funds	\$ 2,300,617.50	\$ 45,790.94	\$ -	\$ 6,200.46	\$ -	\$ 2,355,786.98
Total SF minus CD's	\$ 2,038,382.08					\$ 2,090,373.48

CHECK REGISTER FOR April 2024
(Includes special fund checks)

PAYEE NAME	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
American Broadband	Telephone service (dec & Jan)	\$ 583.26
Airgas	Welding gas tank rental & welding course material	\$ 4,216.25
Arbor Family Counseling	Contracted services March & 2nd Qrt Assistance fees	\$ 28.60
Arlington Hot Lunch	Shadow day lunches for students	\$ 4,650.00
AKRS	JD mower trade in and attachments for snow removal	\$ 3,017.25
Blue Door Pediatric Therapy	April Services	\$ 278.34
Border States	lights	\$ 243.94
Bomgaars	ground supplies for lawn maintenance	\$ 2,938.25
BSN Sports	Track uniforms(needed more)	\$ 92.64
Martin Clausen (Chem Tech)	Pest Control	\$ 1,148.28
Capital One (Walmart)	supplies	\$ 599.80
Candlewood Suites	Rooms for Autism Conference	\$ 500.00
Clint Adams	Concrete work	\$ 200.24
Dietze Music	Music for band and vocal	\$ 3,360.00
DB Nebraska Service	install and work on power supply for units HV/AC	\$ 811.40
Egan Supply	repair and parts for Zamboni for maintenance	\$ 40.00
ESU 3	PD Conference for Deb Washburn	\$ 1,458.23
Eagle Auto	Van 4 brakes, tires and oil change	\$ 399.84
Follett Content Solutions	Library Order for elementary (backorder)	\$ 1,810.93
Hometown Leasing	Copier Lease	\$ 2,304.60
Hansen Tire	bus 2013 repairs	\$ 120.18
Hurf Jones	Graduation medals	\$ 6,460.55
Integrated Life Choices	student services March & April	\$ 30.50
Instrumentalist	Choral Director awards	\$ 53.60
Shawna Koger	Reimburse mileage to Perkins meeting	\$ 136.00
KSB Law	Legal services	\$ 339.93
Learn 2 Move	PT Services	\$ 839.33
McKinnis	Roof Repair	\$ 419.05
Menards	Maintenance & Classroom supplies	\$ 2,953.00
Methodist Fremont Health	Athletic Services for March	\$ 57.08
Heather Mueller	Reimburse gas for vans- couldn't get card to work	\$ 431.55
Master Teacher	Retirement and service awards for staff	\$ 10,215.00
Nebraska FBLA	National Convention Registration	\$ 200.00
Nebraska Safety Center	Bus Transp course for 2 drivers	\$ 40.00
NASCD	Membership dues	\$ 3,419.00
NCSA	Membership for administration	\$ 75.00
NCSA	2024 legal session	\$ 36.56
O'Reilly's Auto Parts	Antifreeze and parts for vehicles	\$ 9,716.83
OPPD	Electricity	\$ 91.42
O'Reilly Auto	wiper blades for vans & Supplies	\$ 39.00
One Source	Background checks	\$ 8,679.59
Omaha Truck	bus 2013 repairs from Breakdown	\$ 100.00
PayFlex	Monthly fee	\$ 507.12
JW Pepper	Music for contests and end of year	\$ 230.74
P & H Electric	Maintenance on HV/AC	\$ 194.02
Scholastic	K-2 reading materials	\$ 350.20
School Nurse Supply	supplies for nurses office	\$ 3,395.55
Schmader Electric	Repairs on Lights at baseball field	\$ 128.50
Thermo King	Def for buses	\$ 320.00
Tamera Loftis	Accompanist for Feb and March	\$ 165.00
Tennant Sales and Services	Vacuum and Brush for Zamboni	\$ 10.00
Trophy Case	Retiring Teachers plaques for playground	\$ 560.78
Unite Private	Internet Provider	\$ 733.99
Village of Arlington	Water	\$ 3,867.22
VISA	MISC Supplies for HS/ELEM	\$ 764.92
Waste Connections	Trash	

Wex Bank	Shell Fuel for vans	\$	75.38
Wood River	Natural Gas Company	\$	2,691.27
Total Payables (GF checks not mailed until approved by the BOE)		\$	108,706.55

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

JM Hospitality	Rooms for State FBLA	\$	500.00
Casey's	Gas for Vans	\$	499.20
Waste Connections	Trash	\$	762.84
		\$	-

		\$	-
		\$	-
Total Hand payables		\$	1,762.04

Total General Fund		\$	111,264.27
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SPECIAL FUNDS (Building, Bond, QCPUF, Dep checks)

Fremont Electric	Gym Video Board installation	\$	28,455.00
Crouch Recreation	Remainder of Video Board	\$	164,359.50
Total Special Funds		\$	192,814.50

Hot Lunch Expenses

CWD (Cash-Wa)		\$	8,440.24
Bimbo's Bakery		\$	1,249.20
Hiland Dairy		\$	4,264.14
Jackson Services		\$	309.73
Sysco		\$	3,912.25
US Foods		\$	6,123.38
		\$	-
		\$	-
Hot Lunch Total		\$	24,298.94

EFINANCE - POWERSCHOOL
 DATE: 05/06/2024
 TIME: 12:28:36

ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOL
 CHECK REGISTER

PAGE NUMBER: 2
 VENCHK11
 ACCOUNTING PERIOD: 9/24

FUND - 99 - DISBURSEMENT FUND

CHECK NUMBER	CASH ACCT	DATE ISSUED	VENDOR	ACCT	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
47242			4607	VISA	VOID: MULTI STUB CHECK	
47243	9001	05/06/24	4607	VISA	2610 AMAZON - AVERY 1.5" BINDE	25.15
47243	9001	05/06/24	4607	VISA	2610 AMAZON - HEAVY DUTY PACKI	12.80
47243	9001	05/06/24	4607	VISA	2610 AMAZON - MAGNETIC TAPE (2	23.98
47243	9001	05/06/24	4607	VISA	2610 AMAZON - MULTIPLE ITEMS F	199.33
47243	9001	05/06/24	4607	VISA	2610 AMAZON - NATURALS HAND SA	149.61
47243	9001	05/06/24	4607	VISA	2610 AMAZON-PLAQUES	29.98
47243	9001	05/06/24	4607	VISA	2610 AMAZON-SPRAY BOTTLES FOR	41.78
47243	9001	05/06/24	4607	VISA	2643 BLOOKET PLUS	35.88
47243	9001	05/06/24	4607	VISA	2330 BRIDGES INTERVENTION TRAI	75.00
47243	9001	05/06/24	4607	VISA	2530 CERTIFIED MAIL SENT	8.73
47243	9001	05/06/24	4607	VISA	2610 DONUTS FOR TESTING	36.00
47243	9001	05/06/24	4607	VISA	2810 DUES AND CONFERENCE CHARG	125.00
47243	9001	05/06/24	4607	VISA	2610 ESTIMATED SHIPPING/HANDLI	14.99
47243	9001	05/06/24	4607	VISA	2626 FILL RITE SUBSCRIPTION FO	85.00
47243	9001	05/06/24	4607	VISA	2610 GASKETS & IGNITION COILS	87.34
47243	9001	05/06/24	4607	VISA	2650 HP 4250 TONER	96.88
47243	9001	05/06/24	4607	VISA	2650 HP X360 AUDIO/USB CARD	56.97
47243	9001	05/06/24	4607	VISA	2734 HP X360 LAPTOP CHARGERS	247.80
47243	9001	05/06/24	4607	VISA	2650 HP X360 REPLACEMENT MOTHE	328.50
47243	9001	05/06/24	4607	VISA	2650 HP X360 REPLACEMENT SCREE	296.00
47243	9001	05/06/24	4607	VISA	2650 HP X360 REPLACEMENT WIREL	33.60
47243	9001	05/06/24	4607	VISA	2610 HS OFFICE SUPPLIES	107.16
47243	9001	05/06/24	4607	VISA	2650 LAPTOP BATTERIES	250.21
47243	9001	05/06/24	4607	VISA	2610 MAINTENANCE EMERGENCY LIG	209.73
47243	9001	05/06/24	4607	VISA	2580 PARKING	2.50
47243	9001	05/06/24	4607	VISA	2531 POSTAL SERVICE	8.05
47243	9001	05/06/24	4607	VISA	2610 SPECIMEN JARS	7.98
47243	9001	05/06/24	4607	VISA	2610 TEACHER PAY TEACHER - MUL	134.14
47243	9001	05/06/24	4607	VISA	2530 TELEPHONE LONG DIST	77.69
47243	9001	05/06/24	4607	VISA	2580 THE GOOD LIFE-AD TRAVEL	26.07
47243	9001	05/06/24	4607	VISA	2650 TONER FOR LEXMARK PRINTER	450.40
47243	9001	05/06/24	4607	VISA	2610 TPT - 5TH GRADE ELA REVIE	4.25
47243	9001	05/06/24	4607	VISA	2610 TPT - 5TH GRADE MATH TEST	5.00
47243	9001	05/06/24	4607	VISA	2610 TPT - 5TH GRADE NSCAS ELA	5.00
47243	9001	05/06/24	4607	VISA	2610 TPT - DECODABLE READERS P	30.00
47243	9001	05/06/24	4607	VISA	2610 TPT - DECODABLE READERS S	25.00
47243	9001	05/06/24	4607	VISA	2610 TPT - ELA ASSESSMENT	6.99
47243	9001	05/06/24	4607	VISA	2610 TPT - ELA REVIEW GAME FOR	12.50
47243	9001	05/06/24	4607	VISA	2610 TPT - MATH INTERVENTION B	94.00
47243	9001	05/06/24	4607	VISA	2610 TPT - MYVIEW 5TH GRADE UN	20.00
47243	9001	05/06/24	4607	VISA	2610 TPT - MYVIEW 5TH GRADE WO	20.00
47243	9001	05/06/24	4607	VISA	2610 TPT - PHONICS SCIENCE OF	19.95
47243	9001	05/06/24	4607	VISA	2610 TPT - SCIENCE OF READING	64.99
47243	9001	05/06/24	4607	VISA	2610 TPT - SUMMER ESCAPE TO TH	6.95
47243	9001	05/06/24	4607	VISA	2610 TPT - WORLD WAR I DIGITAL	5.50
47243	9001	05/06/24	4607	VISA	2610 TPT DECODABLE READERS BUN	50.00
47243	9001	05/06/24	4607	VISA	2531 USPS CHARGES	52.38
47243	9001	05/06/24	4607	VISA	2531 USPS CHARGES	92.90
					TOTAL CHECK	3,799.66
					TOTAL FUND	3,799.66
					TOTAL REPORT	3,867.22

**General Fund
2023-2024**

<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Actual Receipts</u>	<u>% Received</u>	<u>Last Year At this time %</u>
Property Taxes	\$ 6,672,219.00	\$ 3,538,333.57	53.03%	43.55%
Carline Taxes	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 1,031.76	25.79%	18.33%
Motor Vehicle	\$ 400,000.00	\$ 316,733.92	79.18%	78.57%
PreSchool Tuition	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 16,100.00	107.33%	98.03%
County Sources	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 45,927.56	153.09%	136.69%
State Aid	\$ 2,041,657.00	\$ 1,633,328.00	80.00%	80.00%
Sped SA Revenue	\$ 500,000.00	\$ 660,422.00	132.08%	80.13%
Federal & all other	\$ 371,000.00	\$ 770,289.72	207.63%	
Transfer From Depreciation	\$ -	\$ -	-	
	\$10,033,876.00	\$6,982,166.53	69.59%	63.95%

<u>Expenditures:</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Expenditures YTD</u>	<u>% Disbursed</u>	
<u>General Fund Totals</u>				
Elementary	\$ 4,426,159.65	\$ 2,881,856.19	65.11%	64.08%
Secondary	\$ 4,424,939.43	\$ 2,675,781.12	60.47%	57.44%
District	\$ 2,436,420.96	\$ 1,228,591.58	50.43%	50.16%
Total	\$ 11,287,520.04	\$ 6,786,228.89	60.12%	58.45%

General Fund Categories of Particular Interest

<u>Transportation</u>				
Elementary	\$ 186,601.68	\$ 71,241.72	38.18%	36.38%
Elem Transportation Maint.	\$ 90,644.32	\$ 36,383.36	40.14%	68.33%
Secondary	\$ 98,674.89	\$ 43,033.19	43.61%	46.17%
HS Transportation Maint.	\$ 22,661.08	\$ 33,445.32	147.59%	118.45%

District Level Categories of Particular Interest

<u>Facilities and Operations</u>				
Operat of Building	\$ 577,066.04	\$ 314,063.05	54.42%	59.75%
Building Maint.	\$ 550,604.47	\$ 178,443.20	32.41%	23.73%
Grounds Maint	\$ 107,500.00	\$ 46,370.43	43.14%	17.20%

Source Code:	Activity Balances as of		4/30/2024		YTD Balance
	Account	Beginning Bal	YTD Revenues	YTD Expenditures	
701	One School One Team	\$ (629.69)	\$12,400.00	\$10,400.00	\$ 1,370.31
702	Always For Kids ELEM	\$ 20,199.79	\$27,652.84	\$13,956.72	\$ 33,895.91
702	HS Always for Kids	\$ 2,064.91	\$342.23	\$191.76	\$ 2,215.38
703	Art Class	\$ 7,496.22	\$1,966.34	\$4,712.09	\$ 4,750.47
704	Art Club	\$ 1,632.03	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ 1,632.03
705	Athletics	\$ (20,318.00)	\$55,137.23	\$85,688.52	\$ (50,869.29)
706	Band	\$ 3,207.29	\$9,314.91	\$7,720.09	\$ 4,802.11
708	Book Club	\$ 270.55	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ 270.55
709	Cheerleading	\$ 1,360.69	\$6,462.06	\$5,581.13	\$ 2,241.62
710	Welding	\$ 966.15	\$210.00	\$33.20	\$ 1,142.95
714	SKILLS	\$ 593.39	\$5,042.00	\$2,411.13	\$ 3,224.26
717	Transition	\$ 1,613.51	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ 1,613.51
720	Concessions	\$ 3,088.90	\$29,072.74	\$33,375.74	\$ (1,214.10)
721	Dance Squad	\$ (537.26)	\$7,750.09	\$3,585.99	\$ 3,626.84
722	Drama	\$ 708.05	\$3,701.50	\$3,059.68	\$ 1,349.87
723	MS STEM	\$ 59.75	\$75.00	\$60.00	\$ 74.75
724	Elem Lounge	\$ -	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ -
726	FBLA	\$ 14,496.48	\$28,112.60	\$26,657.69	\$ 15,951.39
727	Football	\$ 11,695.80	\$1,623.50	\$2,125.66	\$ 11,193.44
728	Reimbursement (general)	\$ 695.43	\$856.46	\$890.42	\$ 661.47
732	Fam Cons Science	\$ 552.61	\$1,260.00	\$1,192.66	\$ 619.75
733	Wrestling	\$ 953.89	\$6,331.20	\$6,264.10	\$ 1,020.99
735	Honor Society	\$ 1,158.96	\$380.00	\$94.89	\$ 1,444.07
736	Activities Interest	\$ -	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ -
737	MS Student Council	\$ 2,829.91	\$590.70	\$536.00	\$ 2,885.61
739	Library Fund Elem/HS	\$ 3,736.45	\$3,045.81	\$5,540.16	\$ 1,242.10
740	Industrial Tech / Woods	\$ 1,367.89	\$2,674.75	\$3,159.16	\$ 883.48
742	Quiz Bowl	\$ 870.82	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ 870.82
744	HS Lounge	\$ 251.17	\$0.00	\$132.08	\$ 119.09
746	Spanish Club	\$ 149.97	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ 149.97
747	Speech	\$ 247.91	\$473.26	\$507.00	\$ 214.17
748	Spring Musical	\$ 11,498.70	\$15,896.08	\$16,812.32	\$ 10,582.46
749	Student Council	\$ 3,816.37	\$2,422.18	\$1,105.29	\$ 5,133.26
750	Student Vending	\$ 1,403.01	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ 1,403.01
751	Swing Choir	\$ 3,238.69	\$480.81	\$2,125.73	\$ 1,593.77
753	Yearbook	\$ 5,046.53	\$8,565.00	\$5,104.30	\$ 8,507.23
756	Pepsi	\$ 1,556.15	\$1,897.59	\$1,432.71	\$ 2,021.03
758	Floor Fund	\$ 427.95	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ 427.95
761	Honors History	\$ -	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ -
762	Baylor/ACT	\$ 2,981.09	\$420.00	\$425.88	\$ 2,975.21
764	Metro	\$ 30,800.85	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ 30,800.85
765	Class of 2028	\$ -	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$ 300.00
766	FFA	\$ 25,205.65	\$32,479.43	\$34,874.68	\$ 22,810.40
768	RR Store	\$ -	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$ 1,000.00
770	K3 Basketball Camp	\$ 303.12	\$5,200.00	\$5,483.47	\$ 19.65
772	Class of 2023	\$ 1,044.36	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ 1,044.36
773	Class of 2024	\$ 3,169.00	\$0.00	\$220.21	\$ 2,948.79
774	Class of 2025	\$ 4,657.88	\$1,976.00	\$4,499.13	\$ 2,134.75
775	Class of 2026	\$ 929.90	\$2,572.10	\$667.50	\$ 2,834.50
776	Class of 2027	\$ 90.00	\$1,877.60	\$0.00	\$ 1,967.60
782	Volleyball	\$ 5,088.91	\$3,545.00	\$1,187.70	\$ 7,446.21
783	Boys Golf	\$ 2,908.56	\$800.00	\$38.99	\$ 3,669.57
784	Girls Golf	\$ 4,869.41	\$805.00	\$0.00	\$ 5,674.41
785	Cross Country	\$ 5,895.90	\$1,681.00	\$3,247.59	\$ 4,329.31
786	Track Fund	\$ 2,713.84	\$1,893.00	\$216.14	\$ 4,390.70
787	MS Track	\$ 222.12	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ 222.12
788	Softball	\$ 1,876.56	\$1,317.50	\$1,602.30	\$ 1,591.76
789	Baseball Fund	\$ 5,961.43	\$1,063.50	\$2,450.55	\$ 4,574.38
790	Boys Basketball	\$ 2,136.42	\$3,305.00	\$1,388.38	\$ 4,053.04
791	Girls Basketball	\$ 2,121.41	\$1,805.00	\$2,301.22	\$ 1,625.19
792	MS Girls Basketball	\$ 23.50	\$240.00	\$240.00	\$ 23.50
793	Striv	\$ 3,834.92	\$675.00	\$2,487.97	\$ 2,021.95
794	Sped	\$ 1,320.40	\$2,027.70	\$1,900.56	\$ 1,447.54
795	Wellness (District)	\$ 980.53	\$5,765.00	\$4,559.50	\$ 2,186.03
796	Elementary Activity	\$ -	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ -
799	Girls On The Run	\$443.75	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ 443.75
713	Alpaca	\$4,600.00	\$7.00	\$4,600.00	\$ 7.00
	Totals	\$201,950.48	\$304,491.71	\$316,847.39	\$189,594.80

2023-2024 Physical Education Board Report
Jake Polk, Luke Hoelsing, Jake Eckhardt

1. Multi-cultural Aspect:

- All students have an important role in class activities regardless of age, gender, and ability level. Each student will have the opportunity to perform all exercises in order to be successful in their physical education class.
- There are opportunities for students to learn activities and exercises that originated from other cultures.
- Workouts and activities in the gym and weight room can be adjusted to fit individual student needs.

2. What do we want students to learn?

- Students in physical education classes will develop in the following exercise categories: strength, power, speed, agility, core strength/stability, flexibility, and coordination/motor skills.
- Students in physical education classes will learn the following from participating in activities: rules/boundaries, teamwork, fair play, spacing/awareness, sport-specific skills, scorekeeping, situational play, strategy and the enjoyment of games – sports – activities.
- We want students to give their best effort in all aspects of class and have a positive attitude.
Data is collected throughout the school year for grades 3rd -12th.
- **Elementary (Kindergarten - 2nd Grade):** Students will emphasize developing motor skills and enjoyment of physical activities through various games and practice opportunities. Proper nutrition, hygiene, and caring for oneself will also be introduced during this time period.
- **Elementary (3rd - 6th Grade):** Developing a healthy body is a major point of emphasis for students in grades three- six. Students are tested 3 times a year using the Fitnessgram Testing program in the areas of body composition, cardiovascular endurance, upper body strength, abdominal strength, hamstring flexibility, and back flexibility. These results are used to determine areas that can be improved. Students are given opportunities to work on their fitness levels through various workouts and through the activities taught in class. Besides fitness, we also work on skill development using sport-related activities.
- **Junior High (7th and 8th grade):** Students follow a weekly plan that gives them one day of health class, two days of weights class, and two days of general physical education class each week. The schedule may be modified due to athletics/activities pulling a lot of students out of school early. The classes are also separated boys/girls for 4 of the 5 days each week and everyone comes together for a collaborative game/activity at the end of the week.
 - Activities: Weight training, aerobic training, agility training, and various team sports.
- **Freshman Physical Education Classes (Semester Schedule):** Before testing, students will go through six to eight weeks of circuit lift training that stresses a high amount of repetitions, lightweight, core development, and tempo (hypertrophy training). Later, we transition to fewer repetitions of each exercise while increasing the workload (progressive overload training). This weight training is paired with agility and plyometric training throughout the semester as well.
 - Students will be tested twice in three basic weight room exercises during the semesters. These exercises include Hang Clean, Bench Press, and Squat. The overall goal for these students is that it is not what we do, but how we do it. Students will learn the proper technique before

moving on to heavier weight. Students will also be assessed on how they perform five agility exercises including broad jump, vertical jump, 10-yard dash, flying 10, and pro agility.

- **10th-12th Physical Education Class: Strength Training, Life Sports, and Life Sports / Resistance:**

- Strength Training: Students follow a similar training outline as the 9th grade course, but with more advanced movements, techniques, and training guidelines. We introduce a wider range of exercises and also begin discussing the science behind resistance training and how different programs can be designed for different goals. These classes use the same assessment criteria as the 9th-grade class.
- Lifetime Sports / Resistance: This class is a more intermediate to beginner-level resistance training course. The exercises are not as advanced and more emphasis is put on learning proper form and increasing mobility.
- Activities: Wiffle Ball, Capture The Flag, Soccer, Hockey, Volleyball, Basketball, Pickleball, Badminton, Ultimate Frisbee, Team Handball, Horseshoes, Cornhole, and others.

3. How do we know students are learning?

- **Elementary (Kindergarten- 2nd Grade):** Students do skill checks quarterly to determine the growth throughout the year. The skills are reviewed and also sent to parents for their observation to allow them to know how their child is performing.
- **Elementary (3rd- 6th Grade):** Students are testing 3 times a year using the Fitnessgram program. The scores are compared to standardized test scores to determine if a student is in the Healthy Fitness Zone. The scores are reviewed at each testing time to determine growth. Students are able to set goals to meet the Healthy Fitness Zone standards. Besides fitness growth, students also participate in assessment of the sport unit they participate in. The students are able to see areas of strength and ones where they need improvement.
- **Junior High (7th and 8th):**
 - Health: Students are quizzed and given assignments during their weekly health class on the content that is being covered.
 - Physical Education: The physical education class uses the same agility assessments as the 9th grade high school class. We use a program called the Athletic Performance Index, founded by Boyd Epply, that gives each student a relative performance score on their assessments based on their height, weight, gender, and age. This assessment tool is fantastic for giving students an idea of how they are performing and progressing based on who they are. The assessment gives students feedback in three different areas: agility, speed, and power. Points are assigned to each assessment based on the student's performance and their biometrics.
- **High School (9th-12th):** Students will be tested in certain exercises. This data will be entered into an individualized exercise program that is based on percentages of testing results. This allows students to exercise safely and according to their own ability level. The test results also ensure each student is challenged with the opportunity to improve. The high school classes also utilize the Athletic Performance Index as the primary assessment tool for their agility exercises. Scoring over 1,000pts in this assessment is a big milestone for our students. We celebrate this achievement by giving students a shirt denoting that they have surpassed this goal.

4. **How do we respond when students are not learning?**

- All physical educational classes regardless of age have the overall goal of increasing levels of physical fitness and gaining an enjoyment for physical activity. Developing strong relationships with students provides the opportunity to motivate and keep students engaged. A variety of exercises, activities, and games also helps keep things fresh in physical education classes.
- Students may also need individual attention whether it is skill development or an exercise. Every exercise we do in class can be adjusted to fit any student's ability level. We also have a fantastic weight room that allows each student regardless of ability and strength level to improve muscle groups that we are focusing on each day.

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

- Students in physical education classes that exceed proficiency will have opportunities to perform more challenging exercises. Also certain classes as a group may need less skill development before playing full games of certain sports. One example of this is our weight training program which is based on percentages. Students can increase their "RM (Repetition Max)" if the percentages currently being used do not challenge the student. Certain exercises such as Inverted Row can be substituted with Wide Grip Pull Ups for more advanced students.

6. **Other Information**

● **Resistance Training**

- Since last summer we have been developing a new strength and conditioning program for our strength & resistance training classes. While we still focus on our three fundamental exercises (hang clean, squat, and bench), we have also put a greater emphasis on students' speed, agility, and explosiveness training. The addition of the turf in our weight room has been a great resource for this training. Our goal is to not only have students be able to develop more power with their resistance training, but also be able to use that new strength in practical movements (jumping, sprinting, changing direction).

● **Health Curriculum**

- **The Great Body Shop** is the program used for our elementary health curriculum. Weekly, students are exposed to health related topics dealing with: body systems, nutrition, smoking and drug use dangers, making safe decisions, effectively communicating taking care of our healthy body, and recognizing and accepting differences
- **Essential Health Skills for Middle School** is the program used for our junior high health curriculum. In junior high, they have health once a week all year long. We covered 8 chapters this year (half of the book) and will cover the other 8 chapters next year for the 7th graders who will be 8th graders. We will continue to repeat the other 8 chapters the following year so the curriculum is covered over the course of two years for every junior high student.
- **Glencoe Teen Health** is the program used for our freshmen health curriculum. This is a semester class that the 9th grade students have every day for that semester. Topics covered include mental health, nutrition, drugs, alcohol, tobacco/vaping, reproduction, abstinence/saying no, emotions, and CPR training.

Summer Weights

SPEED
+
POWER
+
AGILITY



Program Overview

Program Goals

What benefits athletes in all their sports?

- Increase **SPEED**
- Increase **POWER**
- Increase **AGILITY**



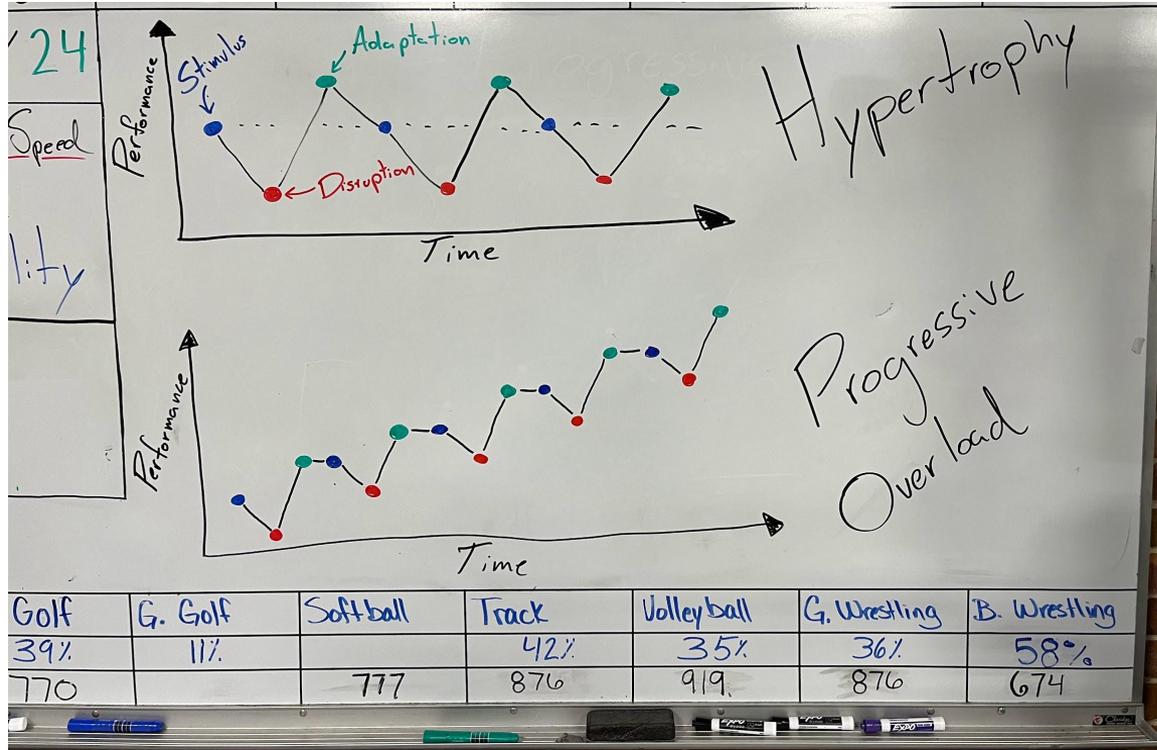
How do we get there?

Resistance Training Programing

- Hypertrophy (Increase muscle tissue)
 - Generates more tissue that can be recruited later for greater strength output.
 - Additional muscle tissue helps protect joints and prevent injury.
- Progressive Overload (Neurological training of muscles)
 - Train the nervous system to recruit more muscle using stronger contractions to produce more force.



Hypertrophy vs. Progressive Overload



Principle Movements

→ Triple Extension

→ Squat

→ Push

→ Pull



Summer Weights

2023

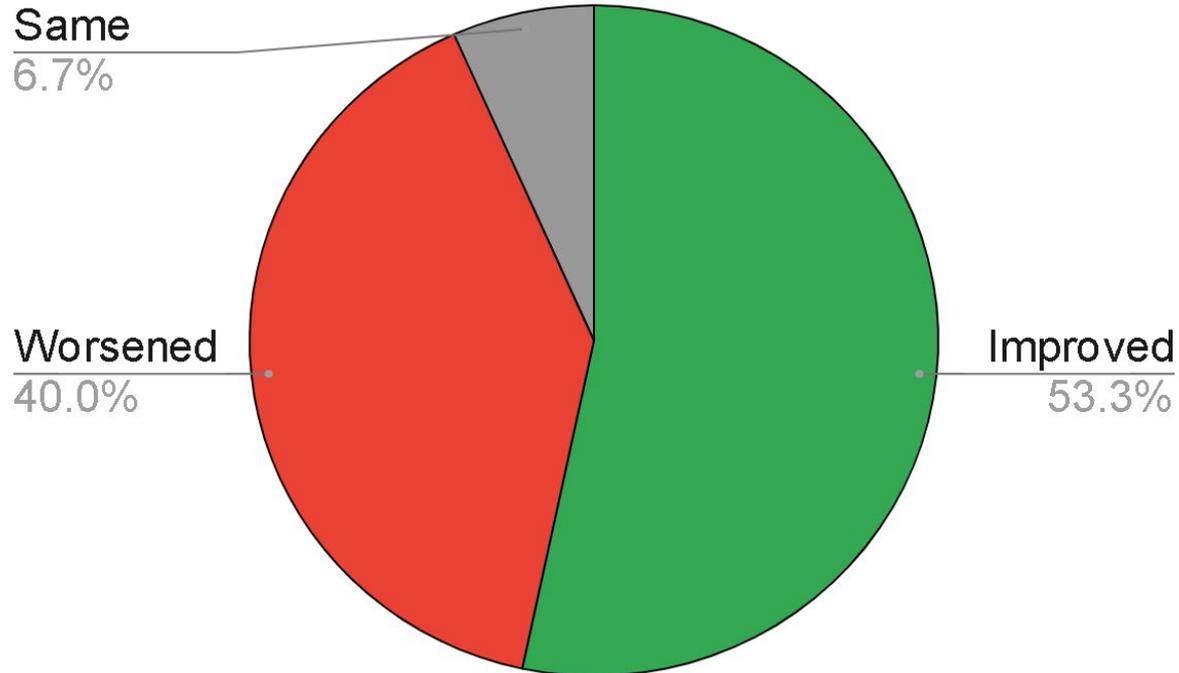
Pre and Post Test
Results (Agility Tests)

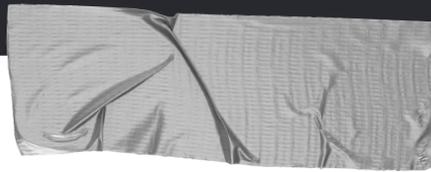
SPEED
+
POWER
+
AGILITY



SPEED
+
POWER
+
AGILITY

1. Pro-Agility (Agility)





1. Pro-Agility (Agility)

Pre-Test
Average

5.14

Post-Test
Average

5.08

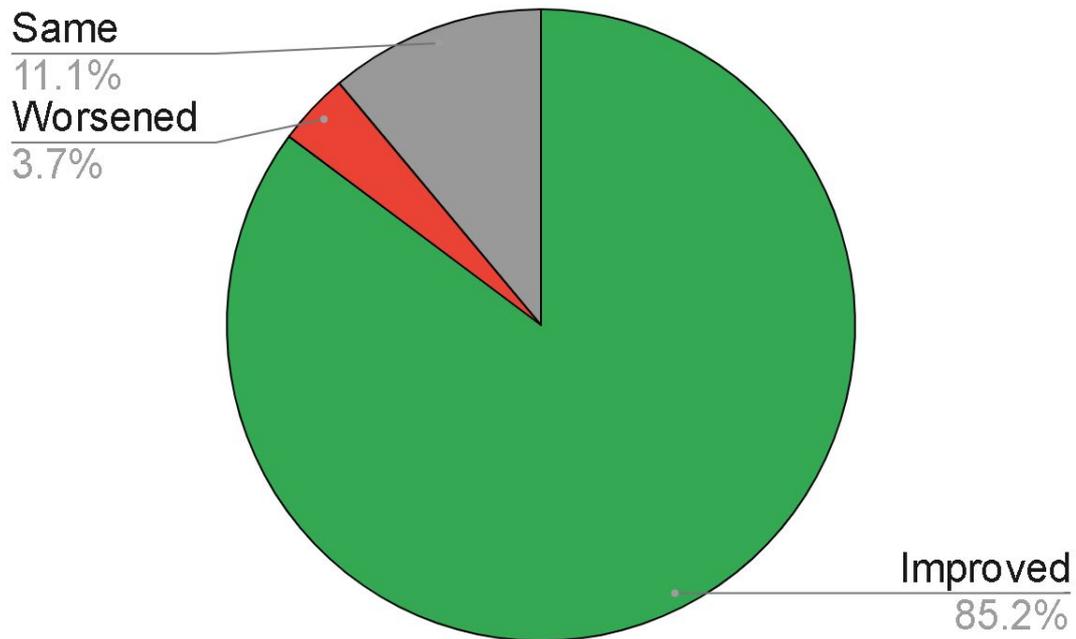
Average
Difference

-0.06

↓ 1.2%



2. Flying 10 (Speed)





2. Flying 10 (Speed)

Pre-Test
Average

1.30

Post-Test
Average

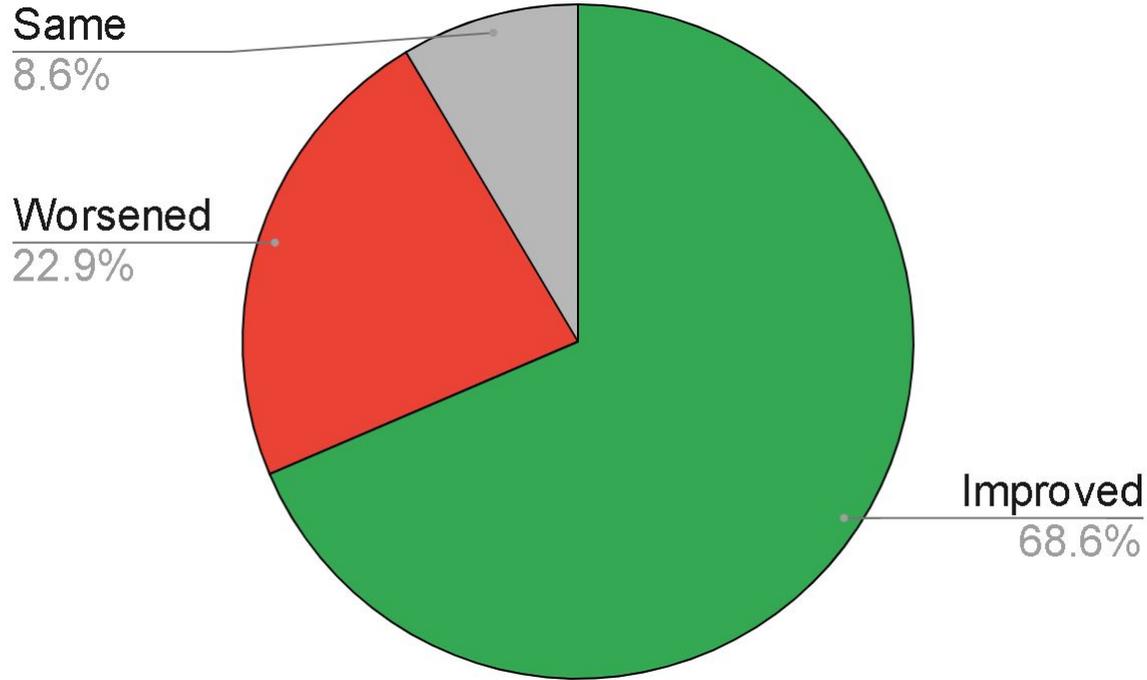
1.24

Average
Difference

-0.06

↓ 4.6%

3. Broad Jump (Power)





3. Broad Jump (Power)

Pre-Test
Average

76.4"

Post-Test
Average

80"

Average
Difference

+2.6"

↑ 4.7%



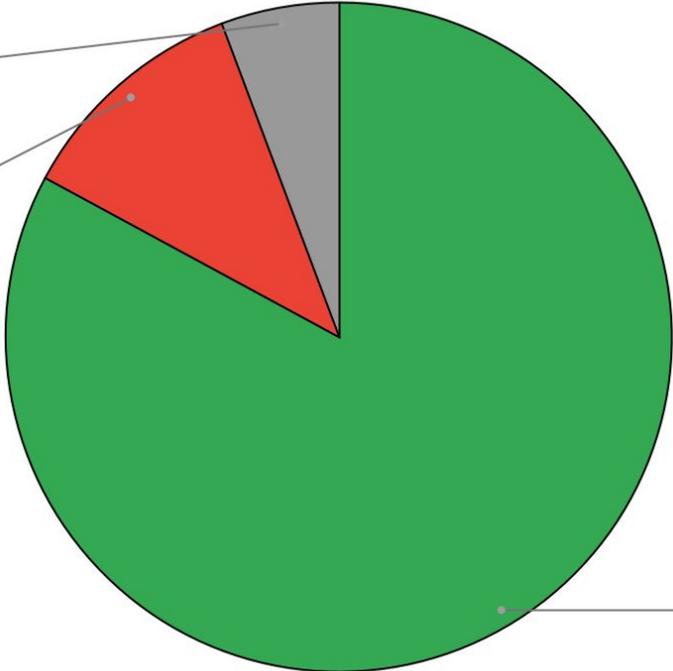
4. Vertical (Power)

Same

5.7%

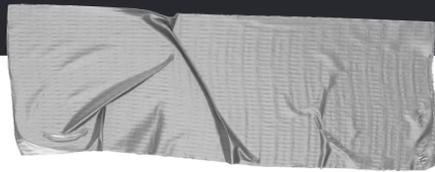
Worsened

11.4%



Improved

82.9%



4. Vertical (Power)

Pre-Test
Average

18.9"

Post-Test
Average

19.2"

Average
Difference

+1.6"

↑ 8.5%



Most Improved to Least

1. Vertical ----- +8.5%
2. Broad Jump ----- +4.7%
3. Flying 10 ----- +4.6%
4. Pro Agility ----- +1.2%

Summer Weights

2023

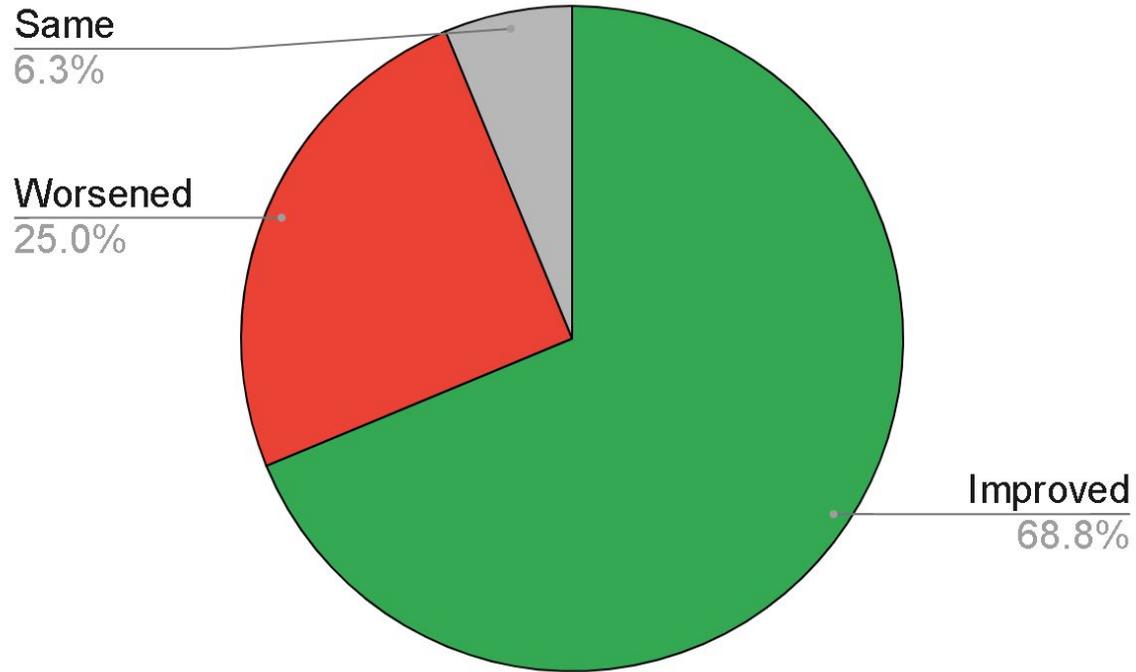
Pre and Post Test
Results (Max Lifts)

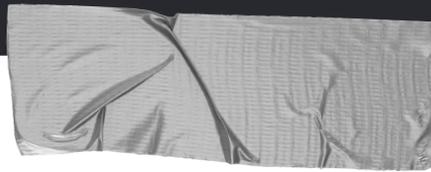
SPEED
+
POWER
+
AGILITY



SPEED
+
POWER
+
AGILITY

1. Bench Press





1. Bench Press

Pre-Test
Average

176.3

Post-Test
Average

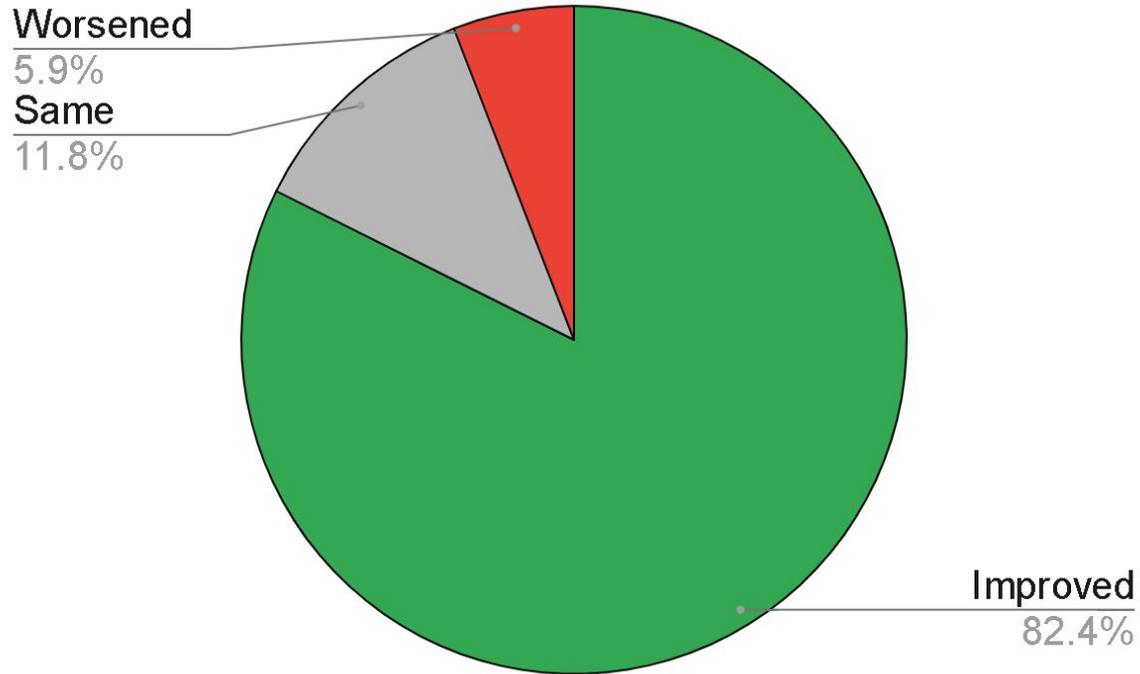
183.3

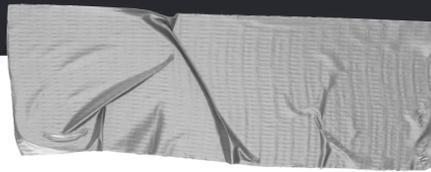
Average
Difference

+7lb

↑ 4%

2. Hang Clean





2. Hang Clean

Pre-Test
Average

173.2

Post-Test
Average

184.4

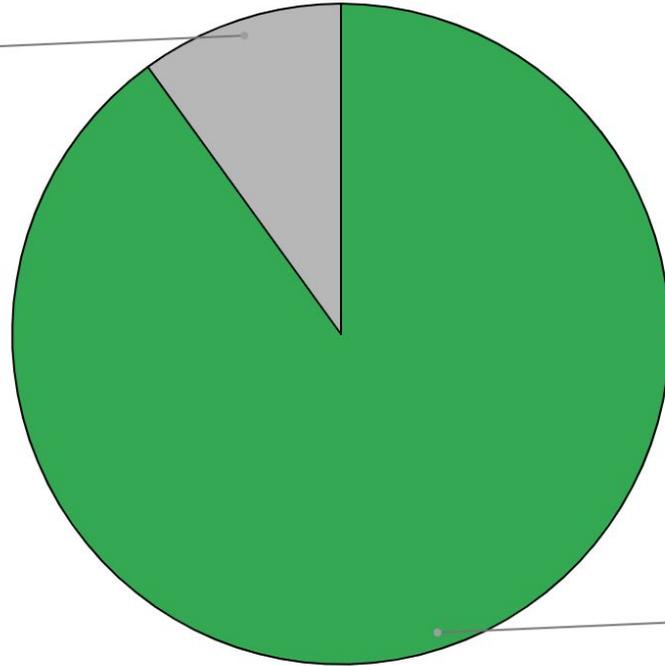
Average
Difference

+11.8lb

↑ 6.8%

3. Squat

Same
10.0%



Improved
90.0%

3. Squat

Pre-Test
Average

260.5

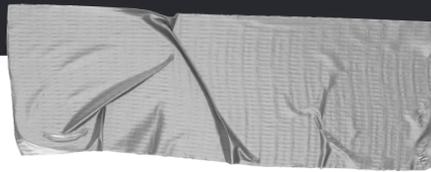
Post-Test
Average

284.4

Average
Difference

+23.9lb

↑ 9.2%



Most Improved to Least

1. Squat ----- +9.2%
2. Hang Clean ----- +6.8%
3. Bench Press ----- +4.0%

Testing Date: 12/18/2023 12:00 AM

10 Yard Dash (Speed Test)
2.03 s

Vertical Jump (Power Test)
21.50 in.

Pro Agility (Agility Test)
5.18 s

Biometrics

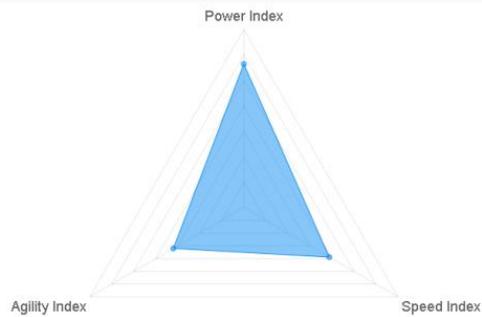
Weight	Height	Reach	Wingspan	Date of Birth (DOB)
192.00 lbs.	68.00 in.	-	-	11/03/2005

Index Results

EAPI Index

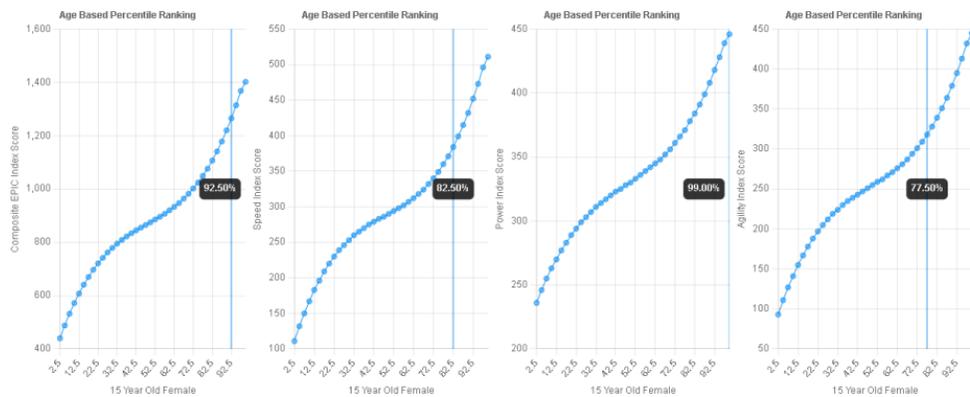
1272

Power Index: 564
Speed Index: 388
Agility Index: 320



Percentile Ranks

Overall Index Percentile Rank	Speed Index Percentile Rank	Power Index Percentile Rank	Agility Index Percentile Rank
92.50%	82.50%	99.00%	77.50%



General Notes

Vertical 12/18

DISTRICT REPORT

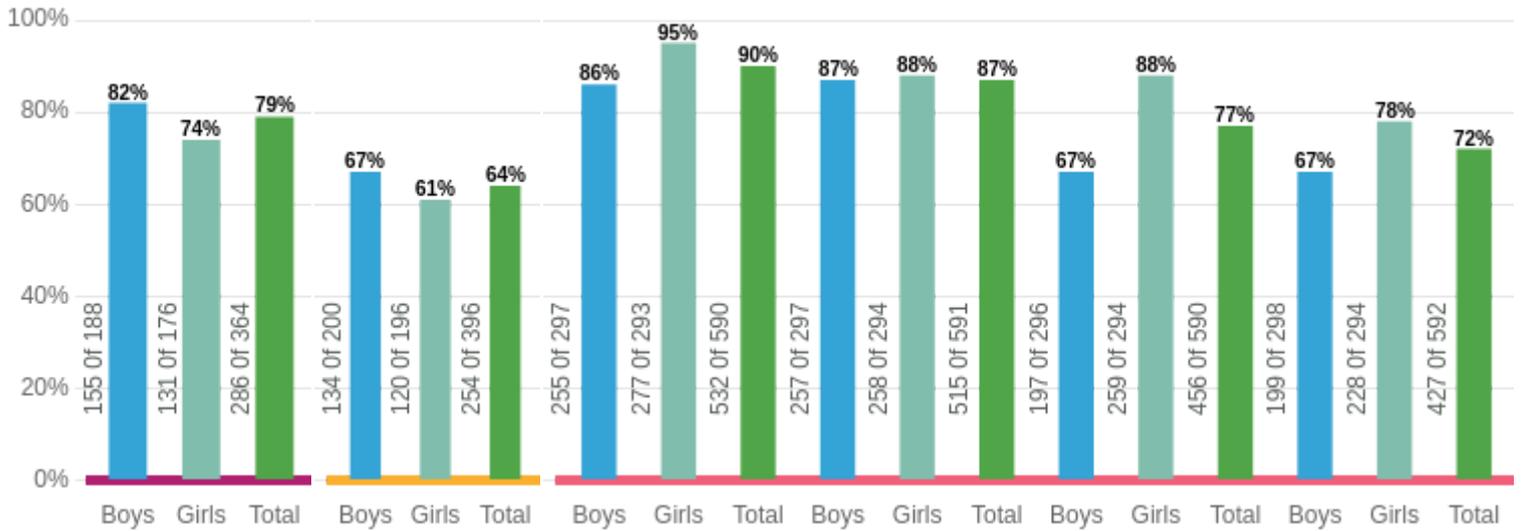
Summary

Arlington School District NE

05/07/2024

Grades : KG - 12 | Pre, Post | 7/1/2023 to 6/30/2024

✓ STUDENTS IN HEALTHY FITNESS ZONE (HFZ)



Heart Health	Body Health	Muscle Fitness			
Aerobic Capacity	Body Composition	Upper Body Strength / Endurance	Abdominal Strength / Endurance	Trunk Extensor Strength	Flexibility

⚠ STUDENTS IN NEEDS IMPROVEMENT ZONE (NI)

NI: Needs Improvement	NI-HR: Needs Improvement - Health Risk	VL: Very Lean	For more information please visit cdc.gov/healthyweight
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Heart Health	Body Health	Muscle Fitness			
Aerobic Capacity	Body Composition	Upper Body Strength / Endurance	Abdominal Strength / Endurance	Trunk Extensor Strength	Flexibility

	Aerobic Capacity	Body Composition	Upper Body Strength / Endurance	Abdominal Strength / Endurance	Trunk Extensor Strength	Flexibility
Boys	18% (33 of 188) NI-HR: 4% NI: 13%	33% (66 of 200) NI-HR: 18% NI: 14% VL: 1%	14% (42 of 297)	13% (40 of 297)	33% (99 of 296)	33% (99 of 298)
Girls	26% (45 of 176) NI-HR: 9% NI: 16%	39% (76 of 196) NI-HR: 21% NI: 16% VL: 2%	5% (16 of 293)	12% (36 of 294)	12% (35 of 294)	22% (66 of 294)
Total	21% (78 of 364) NI-HR: 7% NI: 15%	36% (142 of 396) NI-HR: 19% NI: 15% VL: 1%	10% (58 of 590)	13% (76 of 591)	23% (134 of 590)	28% (165 of 592)

Elementary Board Report - May 2024

- **Pender Honor Band** - Forty-three fifth and sixth grade students participated in the annual Pender Honor Band in Pender, Nebraska. Students were in Pender on April 29th. Students practiced all day and performed their concert that night.



- **Field Trips** -
 - ~ 2nd grade - the Henry Doorly Zoo
 - ~ 3rd grade - Ag Literacy Festival at the Washington County Fairgrounds
- **Swimming Lessons** - 1st grade will be attending four hour long lessons at the YMCA in Fremont. A grant was received for this offering.
- **Teacher Appreciation Week** - The week of May 6th-10th; A huge thank you to the PTO and parents as they provided a week of treats, snacks, and fun!
- **Bank in School** - Thanks to everyone for your support of the Bank in School program this year. I appreciate the willingness of the high school staff to allow the workers to arrive to class late

on Friday mornings and the elementary teachers for encouraging their students to attend! It was a very busy day with nearly 100 depositors depositing over \$9,873 in the bank. The K-6th grade students have accumulated \$36,701.21 in savings! Statements will go home with all elementary students in a few weeks.

DREAM Day Day of: Real, Engaging, Adventurous, Meaningful Opportunities

Students picked and attended 4 different sessions. Volunteers brought projects, activities, artifacts, and knowledge about different topics, careers, and hobbies. A huge thank you to Mrs. Mueller who puts in a TON of extra work and all of the volunteers that gave of their time and talents!



Secondary Principal's Report

For the May 2024 Board Meeting

NCC Art Awards

Many students attended the conference art show in April. Arlington's Outstanding Artist this year is Libby Stork!



DMC awards

Kolby Tighe and Caitlyn Camp were selected by their judges for the Outstanding Performance Awards at district music. This recognition is only given out to a few students at DMC!

Hall of Fame

Blaine Vogt, Brooke Hilgenkamp, and Kevin Flesner were inducted into the Arlington Hall of Fame on April 25 at Honors Night. Congratulations to these three on their accomplishments.

World Herald Academic Honorees

Brooke Hilgenkamp and Blaine Vogt were both named honorable mention honorees for the World Herald Academic program.

Nebraska Students Awarded Seals of Biliteracy

Blaine Vogt and Brooke Hilgenkamp were two of the 141 Nebraska students who were awarded Seals of Biliteracy for their language skills in English and Spanish. These awards are presented by the Nebraska Department of Education and the Nebraska International Language Association.

WISE Schools

Arlington is once again in the top 100 schools for personal finance education according to the WISE (Working in Support of Education) Personal Finance Organization. Way to go!

Stock Market Awards

Congratulations to these Arlington stock market teams for their performance in the NCEE Stock Market Game. The top team was recognized in Lincoln last month! Each team started with \$100,000 and had 15 weeks to turn a profit.

Rank	School	Team Name	Final Amount
1	ARLINGTON	A125-KOGER	\$114,584.77
2	BENNINGTON	ZZ330-OHLSON	\$111,673.14
3	ST. JOHN LUTHERAN	ZZ137-EINSPAHR	\$110,761.55
4	GRETNA	ZZ112-VIETH	\$110,334.78
5	ARLINGTON	A122-KOGER	\$109,940.66
6	ST. JOHN LUTHERAN	ZZ138-EINSPAHR	\$109,747.51
7	ST. JOHN LUTHERAN	A78-EINSPAHR	\$109,357.34
8	ST. JOHN LUTHERAN	ZZ134-EINSPAHR	\$108,982.39
9	ARLINGTON	A126-KOGER	\$108,371.00
10	BEADLE	ZZ304-HAHN	\$107,715.83

TOP TEAMS SPRING 24

NEBRASKA STATE OF AMERICA

NCEE STOCK MARKET GAME

Graduation

The last day for seniors is Wednesday, May 15. We will run through a graduation rehearsal followed by a senior luncheon. Graduation will be held in the competition gym at 1:00 on Sunday, May 19th. Seats will be reserved for board members. We need to decide who will sit on the stage and present diplomas during graduation. Please meet in the boardroom at 12:30 pm on May 19. (sign diplomas)

Middle School Honors Day

Middle School Honors Day will be held Monday, May 20 during first period in the competition gym. Middle school students will be recognized for achievements in academic performance, citizenship, leadership, positivity, good communication, accomplishments in reading and writing, academic growth, school spirit, creativity, class participation, as well as extracurricular endeavors.

James Shada
May
Board Report

Hall of Fame

The criteria in the area of athletics includes individual event medalists at the state level in any NSAA sanctioned state championship activity and/or state championship teams or a member of an All-state 1st team selected by the Omaha World Herald or Lincoln Journal Star.

2024 Hall of Fame Induction

Cadie Robinson:

Cadie was a three year letter winner Track and Field at Arlington with missing her freshman year due to the pandemic. Cadie graduated from Arlington leaving a lasting impact on the track and field program.

In 2023 Cadie looked to build off of a successful 2022 season. She started the year off with a solid 2nd place start at the Bulldog invitational at Concordia. She would continue to have a solid shot put and discus season with multiple top three finishes in both. Her highlight finishes have to be winning the NCC shot put and winning the B-2 district shot put, punching her ticket to state! She also qualified for state in the discus. Amongst the best shot putters in the state, Cadie finished 7th, and followed up with a 15th place finish in the discus.

On top of those individual achievements, Cadie will be remembered most by being an outstanding teammate! Once her business was done in the ring, you could hear Cadie cheering on her fellow Eagles as they competed throughout the day!

Unfortunately, Cadie couldn't be here tonight, but we want to take this moment and congratulate Cadie on her outstanding track and field career as an Eagle and welcome her to the Hall of Fame!

Trevor Denker:

Congratulations to Trevor Denker for being inducted into the Arlington Hall of Fame for his success and achievements on the Arlington Baseball team.

Throughout his high school career, Trevor has amassed an impressive list of accomplishments. He has set records, earned accolades, and was a driving force in a lot of the success the Arlington baseball team had during his tenure. He was also a great leader and teammate, demonstrating the importance of hard work, perseverance, and teamwork.

Because of his passion, hard work, and commitment to the team, Trevor ended his high school baseball career with the following records and accolades. School records that Trevor currently holds are-

- Career Batting Average: 0.420
- Career Hits: 81
- Career Runs Scored: 57
- Career RBIs: 54
- Extra Base Hits in a Season: 12
- Extra Base Hits in a Career: 29

He also accomplished all of these career records in only three seasons, as his freshman year was canceled due to Covid.

-Trevor also holds a State Record for RBIs in a game with 10.

Finally, during his senior year, Trevor had an exceptional season. He finished the season leading the team in batting average, hits, runs, walks, and RBIs. He was also top 5 in the state, all class, in batting average, on base percentage, and slugging percentage. Not only did this result in a winning season for the team, but Trevor was elected first team all-conference and was selected to the Omaha World Herald First team in class C.

Congratulations to Trevor Denker on a great high school baseball career and being inducted into the Arlington Hall of Fame.

Nolan May

Nolan leaves a legacy on the Arlington XC program that is beyond compare. Nolan is a four-year letter winner in cross country and was named co-captain of the cross country team in both 2022 and 2023. He has been voted “Most Valuable Runner” by his teammates for the past three cross country seasons, as well. Nolan is a two-time conference champion, a four-time conference medalist, a two-time district runner-up, and a 3-time state qualifier. Nolan placed 8th at the Class C State Cross Country meet in 2021, earning himself a place on the podium and a state medal! Throughout his high school career, Nolan has claimed 25 individual medals and leaves as one of the most decorated cross country runners in Arlington history. Finally, Nolan ended his career running a personal best time of 16:45 which ranks him 11th on the “Top 15 All-Time” record board list! We are very proud of all that he has accomplished on the course, but we are even more proud of his dedication and commitment to the cross country program the last six years. Please join me in welcoming Nolan May to the Hall of Fame.

Elisabeth Meyer:

Elisabeth Meyer (Class of 2024) Swimming. 6 x All State

- 2022 = All State 200 Free Relay (6th place Medal)
- 2023 = All State 200 Free Relay, (7th place Medal) 400 Free Relay (5th place medal)
- 2024 = All State 200 Medley Relay (7th place Medal), 200 Free Relay (8th place medal), 400 Free Relay (4th place Medal)

Lizzie since the first day she joined the FHS Swim team as a Freshman made an instant impact with her worth ethic, attitude, and leadership. Lizzie was nominated All-State 3 years in a row, 6 x time All-State honors total on relays. She qualified for State individually and on relays all four years of high school, and scored points at the State meet individually. 3 x HAC All-Academic, and a HAC Champion in the 200 Medley Relay in 2024. Lizzie goes down in the FHS history books as one of the fastest sprinters in FHS history, and is a part of 3 All-time School records, also was a Team Captain her Senior season. Elisabeth Meyer is well deserved of the Arlington Hall of Fame award and goes down as the first Arlington Swimmer entered into the Hall of Fame.

Few Final Events for the Year

On Thursday May 2nd we hosted 8 high school track teams. On Friday May 4th we hosted 7 junior high track teams for the Arlington Jr. High Invite. To host back-to-back events takes quite a bit of planning and a lot of help from many people. Special thanks to the head of maintenance Lawrence Reed and his staff for taking care of so many details that have to be done to host so many student athletes and coaches. I am also grateful to our staff that had signed up to work the track meets. This year we hosted three track meets. We are blessed with many willing workers that know track or are willing to learn and help make each day a success. This is a great opportunity to show case our facilities and our great staff that have a selfless attitude and are willing to whatever it takes to make Arlington shine! The baseball team finished the season in district play! The boy's golf team will head to districts on May 14th at Oakland.

Nebraska Council of School Administrators

NCSA Final Legislative Report
108th Legislature, Second Session

Convened, January 3, 2024
 Adjournment sine die, April 18, 2024

Prepared by
Dr. Michael Dulaney
NCSA Executive Director
April 21, 2024

<i>Bill</i>	<i>Sponsor</i>	<i>Committee</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Subject Matter</i>	<i>Pg.</i>
LB 25	Wayne	Judiciary	Passed	Allow claims involving child abuse or sexual assault of a child under the Political Subdivisions Tort Claims Act	1
LB 43	Sanders	Government	Signed into law 3/27/24	Adopt the First Freedom Act and the Personal Privacy Protection Act, authorize tribal regalia to be worn by students, change provisions relating to withholding records from the public, provide requirements for interpretation of statutes, rules, and regulations, and prohibit state agencies from imposing certain requirements on charitable organizations	1
LB 71	Sanders	Education	Signed into law 4/15/24	Change provisions relating to parental involvement in and access to learning materials in schools and provide a process for repeating a grade upon request	5
LB 147	Kauth	Revenue	Signed into law 3/5/24	Change procedures for property tax refunds	8
LB 198	McDonnell	Retirement	Signed into law 3/18/24	Change provisions relating to participation in and implementation of public retirement provisions	9
LB 287	Brewer	Government	Signed into law 4/16/24	Eliminate obsolete provisions relating to the 2020 federal decennial census and provide, change, and eliminate provisions relating to petitions, conflicts of interest, voter registration and voting as prescribed in the Election Act, and notice and virtual conferencing requirements under the Open Meetings Act	11
LB 299	Linehan	Education	Signed into law 2/13/24	Require approval by the voters of a school district or educational service unit for the issuance of certain bonds under the Interlocal Cooperation Act	14
LB 303	Linehan	Revenue	Signed into law 3/5/24	Change provisions relating to an annual estimate for necessary funding under the TEEOSA	14
LB 304	Linehan	Government	Signed into law 3/18/24	Require political subdivisions to disclose membership dues and lobbying fees	15

<i>Bill</i>	<i>Sponsor</i>	<i>Committee</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Subject Matter</i>	<i>Pg.</i>
LB 1027	Clements	Education	Signed into law 4/15/24	Change provisions relating to schools which elect not to meet accreditation and approval requirements	15
LB 1029	Conrad	Education	Signed into law 4/15/24	Change provisions relating to compulsory school attendance regarding illness	15
LB 1284	Walz	Education	Signed into law 4/16/24	Provide for and change teacher incentive programs, provide for a pilot program to distribute menstrual products in schools, a Dyslexia Research Grant Program, a professional learning system relating to instruction in reading, and a statewide computer science education expansion program, create and change authorized use of certain funds, and change provisions relating to school psychologists and certain scholarship programs	16
LB 1300	Bostar	Government	Signed into law 4/16/24	Adopt the Pacific Conflict Stress Test Act, the Foreign Adversary Contracting Prohibition Act, the Nebraska Nonprofit Security Grant Program Act, and the Wildland Fire Response Act, create the Commission on Asian American Affairs, provide security requirements for chemical facilities, require approval of voters for certain salary increases, and change provisions relating to veterans aid programs	23
LB 1306	Education Com.	Education	Signed into law 4/16/24	Eliminate the Professional Practices Commission and provide, change, and eliminate provisions relating to standards for and conduct of teachers and administrators	27
LB 1329	Murman	Education	Signed into law 4/16/24	Change provisions relating to handguns and firearms in school environments, classification of school districts, excessive absenteeism, the enrollment option program, certain educational certificates, permits, and endorsements, certain tax levy and bonding authority of school districts, and the Nebraska Career Scholarship Act, provide for grants relating to school mapping data, and prohibit certain debt collection activities and the use of certain maps for schools	27
LB 1402	Linehan	Appropriations	Passed	Require the State Treasurer to establish education scholarships and repeal the Opportunity Scholarships Act	36

Interim Study Legislative Resolutions

Banking Committee	40
Business and Labor Committee	41
Education Committee.....	42
Government Committee.....	53
Health Committee	54
Judiciary Committee	55
Retirement Committee	56
Revenue Committee.....	56
Transportation Committee	58

LB 25	<i>Sponsor</i> Wayne	<i>Committee</i> Judiciary	<i>Status</i> Passed 28-17	<i>Subject</i> Allow claims involving child abuse or sexual assault of a child under the Political Subdivisions Tort Claims Act
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LB 25 would permit claims under the Political Subdivisions Tort Claims Act when the harm caused by child abuse or sexual assault of a child is a “proximate result” of the failure of a political subdivision or an employee of the political subdivision to exercise reasonable care to either:

- (i) Control a person over whom it has taken charge; or
- (ii) Protect a person in the political subdivision's care, custody, or control from harm caused by a non-employee actor.

LB 25 was the subject of heated debate at each stage of debate with a focus on whether punitive damages should be permitted under the Political Subdivisions Tort Claims Act. The measure was substantially reduced in scope but did manage to hold political subdivisions responsible for the actions noted above.

LB 25 becomes operative on July 19, 2024.

LB 43	<i>Sponsor</i> Sanders	<i>Committee</i> Government	<i>Signed</i> 3/27/24 Passed 39-0 w/E clause	<i>Subject</i> Adopt the First Freedom Act and the Personal Privacy Protection Act, authorize tribal regalia to be worn by students, change provisions relating to withholding records from the public, provide requirements for interpretation of statutes, rules, and regulations, and prohibit state agencies from imposing certain requirements on charitable organizations
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<i>Sections of LB 43</i>	<i>Subject Matter</i>	<i>Operative</i>
1-5	First Freedom Act (LB 277, Brewer)	July 19, 2024
6-7	Tribal Regalia (LB 277, Brewer)	July 1, 2025
8-12*	Public Records Law (LB 366, Conrad)	July 19, 2024
11*	Cybersecurity Records (LB 650, McDonnell)	July 19, 2024
13-14	Administrative Procedures Act (LB 43, Sanders)	July 19, 2024
15	Administrative Procedures Act (LB 41, Hansen)	July 19, 2024
16**	[Citation for Administrative Procedure Act] (LB 297, Sanders)	July 19, 2024
17-20	Personal Privacy Protection Act (LB 297, Sanders)	January 1, 2025
21	Open Meetings Act (LB 637, Albrecht)	July 19, 2024

* Both LB 366 and LB 650 amended Section 11 of LB 43.

** Section 16 places the Personal Privacy Protection Act within the Administrative Procedure Act.

LB 43 was designated as a Government Committee priority measure. The measure was introduced by Senator Sanders to provide changes to the Administrative Procedures Act and later become a package bill for the committee.

<i>Subject Matter</i>	<i>Sections</i>	<i>Operative</i>
First Freedom Act	1-5.....	July 19, 2024

LB 43 includes the provisions of LB 277 (Brewer) to provide that a person or religious organization whose exercise of religion or religious service has been burdened or restricted, or is likely to be burdened or restricted, in violation of the First Freedom Act, may bring a civil action or assert such violation or impending violation as a defense in a judicial or administrative proceeding.

<i>Subject Matter</i>	<i>Sections</i>	<i>Operative</i>
Tribal Regalia	6-7.....	July 1, 2025

LB 43 includes the provisions of LB 277 (Brewer) to provide that a person who is a member of an indigenous tribe of the U.S. or another country and is a student attending an approved or accredited public school may wear tribal regalia in any public or private location where the person is otherwise authorized to be on such school grounds or at any school function.

The provisions of the measure are not meant to limit the authority of administrative and teaching personnel to regulate student behavior or the authority of a school to regulate student behavior to further school purposes or to prevent interference with the educational process.

The measure permits but does not require a school to adopt a policy to accommodate this legislation. The policy may specify the characteristics of any garment, jewelry, other adornment, or object that such school finds will endanger the safety of a student or others or interfere with school purposes or the educational process if worn by a student during a specified activity.

The measure defines “tribal regalia” as traditional garments, jewelry, other adornments, or similar objects of cultural significance worn by members of an indigenous tribe of the U.S. or another country. *Tribal regalia does not include any firearm or other dangerous weapon.* Tribal regalia also does not include, except in compliance with an appropriate federal permit, any object that is otherwise prohibited by federal law.

<i>Subject Matter</i>	<i>Sections</i>	<i>Operative</i>
Public Records Law	8-12.....	July 19, 2024

LB 43 includes the provisions of LB 366 (Conrad) to amend the Public Records Law. The provisions apply to public records requests generally, and references to “citizens” are removed and replaced with “residents.”

The measure would also create a bifurcated fee structure for obtaining public records, with residents receiving more favorable treatment than nonresidents, though all news media requesters would be considered as “residents” for this purpose.

Under current law, the first four hours spent “searching, identifying, physically redacting, or copying” in response to a records request cannot be charged to the requester, but a service charge may be assessed for requests that exceed that amount of time. This measure would move that

threshold to eight hours for residents of Nebraska. Nonresident requesters would be charged for the actual added cost of fulfilling the request.

No special service charge or fee may be charged for copies of blank forms or pages with all meaningful information redacted.

The measure would require a public custodian’s estimate for fulfilling a voluminous public records request requiring more than four days to be “attested to under oath” before being provided in writing to the requester.

<i>Subject Matter</i>	<i>Section</i>	<i>Operative</i>
Cybersecurity Records	11	July 19, 2024

LB 43 includes the provisions of LB 650 (McDonnell) to amend the Public Records Law.

The measure permits the withholding of records relating to the nature, location, or function of cybersecurity by the State of Nebraska or any of its political subdivisions, including, but not limited to, devices, programs, or systems designed to protect computer, information technology, or communications systems against terrorist or other attacks.

The Nebraska Information Technology Commission is required to adopt and promulgate rules and regulations to implement the provisions of the bill.

<i>Subject Matter</i>	<i>Sections</i>	<i>Operative</i>
Administrative Procedures Act	13-14.....	July 19, 2024

The original provisions of LB 43 (Sanders) direct hearing officers and judges in their interpretation of state statutes or regulations when hearing a contested case under the Administrative Procedures Act. The adjudicators would be instructed not to defer to a state agency’s interpretation and instead interpret such language de novo on the record. That means that the adjudicator could rely on the findings of fact from the agency but would not rely on the agency’s legal conclusions or interpretations when analyzing the dispute.

The measure would also provide that any doubt in interpreting statutes or regulations should be resolved in favor of an interpretation that “limits agency power and maximizes individual liberty.”

<i>Subject Matter</i>	<i>Section</i>	<i>Operative</i>
Administrative Procedures Act	15	July 19, 2024

LB 43 includes the provisions of LB 41 (Hansen) to include legislative findings providing that burdens on charitable grantmaking should be free from “intrusive or politically motivated regulation.” The measure defines “agency” broadly to include nearly all state executive branch agencies, the courts, and the Legislature. Such agencies would be broadly prohibited from imposing additional filing or reporting requirements on charitable organizations beyond those required by state law. Agencies could impose such filing or reporting requirements if they can show a compelling state interest and a narrowly tailored means for serving that interest. The

committee amendment revises the bill to provide that agency information requests are authorized when required due to a federal funding requirement.

<i>Subject Matter</i>	<i>Section</i>	<i>Operative</i>
Citation for Administrative Procedure Act	16	July 19, 2024

Note: The introduced version of LB 297 (Sanders) amended Section 84-920 to include the Personal Privacy Protection Act within the Administrative Procedure Act for purposes of citation. Section 16 of LB 43 addresses this provision.

Section 16 also references Sections 13-15 to be cited under the Administrative Procedure Act.

<i>Subject Matter</i>	<i>Sections</i>	<i>Operative</i>
Personal Privacy Protection Act	17-20.....	January 1, 2025

LB 43 includes the provisions of LB 297 (Sanders) to create the Personal Privacy Protection Act and applies to political subdivisions, including school districts and ESUs.

Note: Section 16 of LB 43 incorporates the Personal Privacy Protection Act within the Administrative Procedure Act for purposes of statutory citation.

The bill prohibits all public agencies from:

- (a) Requiring any individual to provide personal information or otherwise compelling the release of personal information;
- (b) Requiring any nonprofit organization holding a certificate of exemption under section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code to provide the public agency with personal information or otherwise compelling the release of personal information;
- (c) Releasing, publicizing, or otherwise publicly disclosing personal information in the possession of the public agency; or
- (d) Requesting or requiring a current or prospective contractor or grantee to provide such public agency with a list of nonprofit organizations holding certificates of exemption under section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code to which such contractor or grantee has provided financial or nonfinancial support.

“Personal information” is defined as any list, record, register, registry, roll, roster, or other compilation of data that directly or indirectly identifies a person as a member, supporter, or volunteer of, or donor of financial or nonfinancial support to, any nonprofit organization holding a certificate of exemption under section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code.

The legislation does not prohibit the following:

- (a) Any report or disclosure required by the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act;
- (b) Any report or disclosure by a public agency regarding testimony received at a public hearing conducted by such public agency;

- (c) Any lawful warrant, subpoena, or order issued by a court of competent jurisdiction for the production of personal information;
- (d) Any lawful request for discovery of personal information in litigation if both of the following conditions are met: (i) The requestor demonstrates a compelling need for such personal information by clear and convincing evidence; and (ii) The requestor obtains an order barring disclosure of such personal information to any person not named in the litigation;
- (e) Admission of personal information as relevant evidence before a court of competent jurisdiction. However, no court may publicly reveal personal information absent a specific finding of good cause;
- (f) Any report or disclosure required by state or federal law or regulation for an employee of the University of Nebraska or any state college. Except as otherwise required by law, no such report or disclosure shall be subject to release under the state public records laws;
- (g) Any report or disclosure required by a conflict of interest, conflict of commitment, or outside income policies for an employee of the University of Nebraska or any state college. Except as otherwise required by law, no such report or disclosure shall be subject to release under the state public records laws;
- (h) Any document required or permitted to be filed with the Secretary of State disclosing the identity of any director, officer, incorporator, or registered agent of a nonprofit organization; or
- (i) Any examination undertaken by the Auditor of Public Accounts pursuant to state statute. Personal information obtained during the course of such examination may not be disclosed except to a county attorney or the Attorney General in connection with an investigation made or action taken in the course of the official duties of a county attorney or the Attorney General.

<i>Subject Matter</i>	<i>Section</i>	<i>Operative</i>
Open Meetings Act	21	July 19, 2024

LB 43 includes the provisions of LB 637 (Albrecht) to amend the Open Meetings Act by eliminating existing language in the Act stating that a body may not be required to allow citizens to speak at each meeting, but it may not forbid public participation at all meetings.

The measure adds new language stating that, except for closed sessions, a public body must allow members of the public an opportunity to speak at each meeting.

LB 71	<i>Sponsor</i>	<i>Committee</i>	<i>Signed</i>	<i>Subject</i>
	Sanders	Education	3/5/24 Passed 46-0	Change provisions relating to parental involvement in and access to learning materials in schools and provide a process for repeating a grade upon request

<i>Sections of LB 71</i>	<i>Subject Matter</i>	<i>Operative</i>
1-7	Parental Involvement Act	July 19, 2024
8-10	Age Requirement for Attending a Public Preschool	July 19, 2024
11	Repeat a Grade Level	July 19, 2024

The original intent of LB 71 is to strengthen the level of parental involvement and participation by parents, guardians, and educational decisionmakers in the public school system. The measure was amended to include the provisions of LB 1193 (repeat of grade level) and LB 1201 (age requirement for attending a public preschool).

<i>Subject Matter</i>	<i>Sections</i>	<i>Operative</i>
Parental Involvement Act	1-7	July 19, 2024

Policy: The measure maintains the existing requirement for a local school board policy to involve parents, guardians, or educational decisionmakers in the education of their children and the rights of each parent, guardian, or educational decisionmaker to:

- (a) Access testing information and curriculum; and
- (b) Request that a child be excused from specific instruction or activities.

“Educational decisionmaker” is defined as a person designated or ordered by a court to make educational decisions on behalf of a child.

The former district policy would remain in effect until a new policy is developed and adopted by July 1, 2025.

The new policy must include the following:

- (a) How the school district will provide access to parents, guardians, or educational decisionmakers concerning (i) textbooks; (ii) tests; (iii) activities information; (iv) digital materials; (v) websites or applications used for learning; (vi) training materials for teachers, administrators, and staff; (vii) procedures for the review and approval of training materials, learning materials, and activities; and (viii) other curriculum materials used in the school district;
- (b) How the school district will accommodate requests by parents, guardians, or educational decisionmakers to attend and monitor courses, assemblies, counseling sessions, and other instructional activities;
- (c) Under what circumstances parents, guardians, or educational decisionmakers may ask that their children be excused from testing, classroom instruction, learning materials, activities, guest speaker events, and other school experiences the parents, guardians, or educational decisionmakers may find objectionable;
- (d) How the school district will provide access to records of students;
- (e) What the school district's testing policy will be; and

- (f) How the school district participates in surveys of students and the right of parents, guardians, or educational decisionmakers to remove their children from such surveys.

The measure provides intent not to require disclosure of information in violation of the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) or any federal regulations and applicable guidelines as existed on January 1, 2024.

Public Hearing: The policy must be developed with input from parents, guardians, and educational decisionmakers and must be the subject of a public hearing before the school board before adoption by the board. The policy must be reviewed annually and either altered and adopted as altered or reaffirmed by the board following a public hearing. The public hearing must include a reasonable opportunity for public comments.

Access to Policy: By August 1, 2025, each school district must make the policy accessible on the school district's public website. The policy must be accessible by a prominently displayed link on such website. If the policy is altered, the new version of the policy must be made accessible within a reasonable time.

Learning Materials: To the extent practicable, each public school district must make a reasonable effort to make any learning materials, including original materials, available for inspection by a parent, guardian, or educational decisionmaker upon request.

Enforcement: If the Commissioner of Education determines that any school district has intentionally refused, in a material manner, to comply with the Parental Involvement Act, the commissioner must notify the district of the noncompliance and allow a reasonable time to comply. If the commissioner determines, after the time has elapsed, that the school district is not in compliance and has not made a good-faith attempt to comply, the commissioner must take appropriate remedial action within the commissioner's authority, up to and including qualifying the noncompliance as a violation of the rules and regulations for the accreditation of schools.

<i>Subject Matter</i>	<i>Sections</i>	<i>Operative</i>
Age Requirement to Attend Public Preschool	8-10.....	July 19, 2024

LB 71 includes the contents of LB 1201 (Hardin) to change the age requirement for attending a public preschool. The measure would allow children to remain in a public pre-school until the mandatory kindergarten entrance age. As a result, eligible five- and six-year-olds could now access public pre-kindergarten. This could result in additional need and, therefore, additional costs. This particular provision would also add five-year-old students to the formula student count under the TEEOSA calculation of state aid.

<i>Subject Matter</i>	<i>Section</i>	<i>Operative</i>
Repeat of Grade Level	11	July 19, 2024

LB 71 includes the contents of LB 1193 (Conrad) to provide that a parent or guardian would have the right to have the parent's or guardian's child repeat a grade in kindergarten through fourth grade due to (i) academic needs, (ii) illness, or (iii) excessive absenteeism.

In addition, a parent or guardian would have the right to have the parent’s or guardian’s child repeat a grade in fifth through twelfth grade due to excessive absenteeism.

The bill defines the following terms:

- (i) “Academic needs” means that a child is at least one year below grade level and behind the child’s typically developing peers in reading, English, and language arts such that the child does not possess the necessary academic skills required to succeed in reading, English, and language arts at grade level for the next grade the student would otherwise advance to;
- (ii) “Illness” means that the child experienced a severe mental or physical illness resulting in hospitalization of two or more weeks during the school year; and
- (iii) “Excessive absenteeism” means that the child was absent 50% or more of the school year and includes excused absences, unexcused absences, and absences due to suspension or expulsion. Absences due to approved school-related activities, such as field trips, competitions, athletic events, and testing, are not included.

A parent or guardian requesting that the child repeat a grade must have a meeting with the school district superintendent or the superintendent’s designee to discuss the parent’s or guardian’s decision to have the child repeat a grade. The parent or guardian must provide evidence of academic needs, illness, or excessive absenteeism that would authorize the parent or guardian to have the child repeat a grade.

At the meeting, the superintendent or designee must identify any alternative educational opportunities, including remedial instruction if applicable, and verify any special education supports available to the child. If the child’s parent or guardian still intends to have the child repeat a grade, the parent or guardian must complete a form prescribed by NDE and return the form to the school district. Upon completion of the form and if all requirements are met, the school district must have the child repeat the child’s grade for the next school year.

LB 147	<i>Sponsor</i> Kauth	<i>Committee</i> Revenue	<i>Signed</i> 3/5/24 Passed 41-0	<i>Subject</i> Change procedures for property tax refunds
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Current provisions of law relevant to property tax refunds (§ 77-1736.06) require that, within 30 days from the date the county assessor certifies the amount of the refund, the county treasurer must notify each political subdivision, including any school district receiving a distribution, of its respective share of the refund, except that, for any political subdivision whose share of the refund is \$200 or less, the county board may waive this notice requirement.

LB 147 provides that, for any political subdivision whose share of the refund is \$1,000 or less, the governing body of the political subdivision may waive the notice requirement by notifying the county treasurer in writing.

Notification would be by (i) first-class mail, postage prepaid, to the last-known address of record of the political subdivision or (ii) electronic means if requested in writing by the governing body of the political subdivision.

LB 147 would become operative on July 19, 2024.

LB 198	<i>Sponsor</i> McDonnell	<i>Committee</i> Retirement	<i>Signed</i> 3/18/24 Passed 47-0 w/E clause	<i>Subject</i> Change provisions relating to participation in and implementation of public retirement provisions
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LB 198 is a significant bill for both the School Employees and Class V (OPS) Plans and clarifies issues related to termination of employment, issues related to prospective employees lawfully present in the U.S., and personnel issues at NPERS. LB 198 contained the emergency clause and became operative on March 19, 2024.

Termination of Employment

Background

In the 2022 Session, Nebraska school advocates united around LB 147, which allowed retired educators to substitute teach more often without jeopardizing their retirement benefits. In the current teacher shortage, schools sought more, not less, flexibility in finding help. LB 147 provided this needed leeway by specifying that a retired teacher can now substitute teach for up to eight days during their 180-day break in service without losing any retirement benefits.

At some point after LB 147 was signed into law, NPERS (State Retirement Agency) interpreted its “termination of employment” rules in a new way. For reference, the retirement statutes define “termination of employment” as an event when “the member experiences a bona fide separation from service of employment with the member’s employer... .” A “termination of employment” triggers various requirements, including the general rule that the employee cannot work for 180 days.

However, as early as August, NPERS began informing schools that a school employee typically cannot work for 180 days after the employee terminates employment for nearly any reason. This new interpretation (for example) would prevent a teacher who leaves at semester to stay home to care for her ill parents to avoid employment with a public school for 180 days after the semester break.

A workgroup comprised of NCSA, NSEA, and OPS representatives, school attorneys, NPERS officials, and legislative aides worked over a period of months in 2022 to formulate a solution to the problem. It’s taken a few years to get the legislation passed, but the measure will provide much-needed clarification.

The Solution

LB 198 was introduced with language painstakingly prepared by the workgroup. The bill amends both the School Plan and the OPS (Class V) Plan.

Under the bill, a member who experiences a separation from service with the member's employer but has not submitted a retirement application or a request for distribution, or received a retirement benefit, disability retirement benefit, or distribution from the retirement system, may return to work as a (i) temporary employee, (ii) substitute employee, or (iii) volunteer for any employer participating in the retirement system.

Prospective Employees Lawfully Present in the U.S.

Prior to LB 198, there was no clear direction for school districts and ESUs to demonstrate through documentation that a prospective employee is lawfully present in this country and, therefore, upon employment, may be a member of the School Plan or the Class V (OPS) Plan. There are several types of documents that could be used, and rather than requiring just one form of documentation, NPERS was requiring a list of them.

LB 198 resolves this problem at long last. The measure clarifies that no employee of a state agency or political subdivision would be authorized to participate in any government-sponsored retirement system unless the employee is lawfully present in the United States.

The employing state agency or political subdivision and the employee must maintain at least one of the following documents to demonstrate lawful presence in the U.S. as of the employee's date of hire and produce any such document so maintained upon request of the Public Employees Retirement Board (PERB) or the Nebraska Public Employees Retirement Systems (NPERS):

- (a) A state-issued driver's license;
- (b) A state-issued identification card;
- (c) A certified copy of a birth certificate or delayed birth certificate issued in any state, territory, or possession of the United States;
- (d) A Consular Report of Birth Abroad issued by the U.S. Department of State;
- (e) A United States passport;
- (f) A foreign passport with a United States visa;
- (g) A U.S. Certificate of Naturalization;
- (h) A U.S. Certificate of Citizenship;
- (i) A tribal certificate of Native American blood or similar document;
- (j) A U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Employment Authorization Document, Form I-766;
- (k) A U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Permanent Resident Card, Form I-551; or
- (l) Any other document issued by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security or the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services granting employment authorization in the United States and approved by the PERB.

The measure further provides that, for any applicant who is not a United States citizen but who has attested that the applicant is lawfully present in the United States, eligibility for public benefits must be verified through the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program operated by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security or an equivalent program designated by the United States Department of Homeland Security.

NPERS Technical/Substantive Cleanup Provisions

LB 198 was amended to include the contents of LB 1365 (McDonnell). LB 1365 is a technical/substantive bill related to the Omaha School Employees’ Retirement System (OSERS) and the hiring of employees at the Nebraska Public Employees Retirement Systems (NPERS).

The bill would essentially accomplish three objectives:

- Allow OSERS one ex-officio non-voting seat on the Public Employees Retirement Board (PERB) until the permanent member is selected,
- eliminate the restriction that OSERS members must be age 50 to attend NPERS retirement seminars, and
- allow NPERS to hire multiple deputies and assistants.

LB 198 contained the emergency clause and became operative on March 19, 2024.

LB 287	<i>Sponsor</i>	<i>Committee</i>	<i>Signed</i>	<i>Subject</i>
	Brewer	Government	4/16/24 Passed 46-0 w/E clause	Eliminate obsolete provisions relating to the 2020 federal decennial census and provide, change, and eliminate provisions relating to petitions, conflicts of interest, voter registration and voting as prescribed in the Election Act, and notice and virtual conferencing requirements under the Open Meetings Act

<i>Relevant Sections of LB 287</i>	<i>Subject Matter</i>	<i>Operative</i>
5.....	Legal notices/proof of publication *	April 17, 2024
7-64.....	Election Act *	Various Dates
65.....	Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act *	July 19, 2024
72.....	Educational Service Units Act *	April 17, 2024
74.....	Open Meetings Act *	April 17, 2024

* Provisions that have an impact on schools, ESUs, and/or educational personnel

LB 287 was designated as a Government Committee priority measure. LB 287 is an omnibus technical cleanup measure but also provides substantive changes to election laws, the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act, and the Open Meetings Act.

<i>Subject Matter</i>	<i>Section</i>	<i>Operative</i>
Legal Notices / Proof of Publication	5	April 17, 2024

Section 25-1274 is amended to harmonize with the changes proposed in the Open Meetings Act.

Section 25-1274, as amended, provides that “Publications required by law to be made in a newspaper or on a statewide website established and maintained as a repository of public notices by a majority of Nebraska newspapers, may be proved by affidavit of any person having knowledge of the fact, specifying the time when and the paper in which or the website whereon the publication was made, and, if made by publication in a newspaper, that such said newspaper is a legal newspaper under the statutes of the State of Nebraska,

but such affidavit must, for the purposes now contemplated, be made within six months after the last day of publication, in the office where the original affidavit of publication is required to be filed.”

<i>Subject Matter</i>	<i>Section</i>	<i>Operative</i>
Election Law: Maps / Additional Information	18	July 19, 2024

The measure amends Section 32-404 to require all political subdivisions, including school districts, ESUs, and the learning community coordinating council, to furnish to the Secretary of State and election commissioner or county clerk any maps and “additional information” that the state and local election officials may require in the proper performance of their duties in the conduct of elections and certification of results.

<i>Subject Matter</i>	<i>Section</i>	<i>Operative</i>
Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act	65	July 19, 2024

The measure adds new language to an existing statute (§ 49-1499.03) to provide that any employee of a political subdivision whose annual salary and benefits exceed \$150,000 and who would be required to take any action or make any decision in the discharge of his/her official duties that may cause financial benefit or detriment (i) to him/her, (ii) a member of his/her immediate family, or (iii) a business with which he/she is associated, which is “distinguishable from the effects of the action on the public generally or a broad segment of the public,” must take the following actions as soon as he/she is aware of the potential conflict or should reasonably be aware of the potential conflict, whichever is sooner:

- (a) Prepare a written statement describing the matter requiring action or decision and the nature of the potential conflict;
- (b) Deliver a copy of the statement to the person in charge of keeping records for the government body, who must enter the statement onto the public records of the government body; and
- (c) Except as provided below, abstain from participating in the matter in which the employee has a conflict of interest.

An employee may apply to the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Commission for an opinion as to whether he/she has a conflict of interest.

The new provision is not meant to prevent an employee from making or participating in the making of a governmental decision to the extent that the employee's participation is legally required for the action or decision to be made.

<i>Subject Matter</i>	<i>Section</i>	<i>Operative</i>
Educational Service Units Act	72	April 17, 2024

Section 79-1218 is amended to harmonize statutory citations consistent with the changes proposed in the Open Meetings Act.

The measure makes two important changes to the Open Meetings Act. First, it amends the section of the Act relating to notice requirements (§ 84-1411). Second, it sunsets much of this portion of the Act on January 1, 2025, and inserts new language on notice requirements.

New Provision - *Effective April 17, 2024*

A new provision is added to state that, in case of refusal, neglect, or inability of the newspaper to timely publish the notice, the public body must:

- (a) post such notice on its website, if available, and
- (b) post such notice in a conspicuous public place in such public body's jurisdiction.

The public body must keep a written record of the posting. The record of the posting would be evidence that the posting was done as required and must be sufficient to fulfill the requirement of publication.

New Language - *Effective January 1, 2025*

The measure replaces existing notice requirement provisions in favor of new language, beginning on January 1, 2025.

Each public body must give reasonable advance publicized notice of the time and place of each meeting. The notice must be transmitted to all members of the public body and the public.

In the case of a public body of a political subdivision or the body's advisory committees, including for school districts and ESUs, notice must be given by:

- (1) (a) Publication in a newspaper of general circulation within the public body's jurisdiction that is finalized for printing prior to the time and date of the meeting, (b) posting on the newspaper's website, if available, AND (c) posting on a statewide website established and maintained as a repository for such notices by a majority of Nebraska newspapers. The notice must be placed in the newspaper and on the websites of the newspaper; OR
- (2) (a) Posting to the newspaper's website, if available, AND (b) posting to a statewide website established and maintained as a repository for such notices by a majority of Nebraska newspapers if no edition of a newspaper of general circulation within the public body's jurisdiction is to be finalized for printing prior to the time and date of the meeting. Such notice shall be placed in the newspaper and on the websites of the newspaper.

In case of refusal or neglect of the newspaper to publish the notice, the public body must:

- (a) post such notice on its website, if available,
- (b) submit a post on a statewide website established and maintained as a repository for such notices by a majority of Nebraska newspapers, and
- (c) post in a conspicuous public place in such public body's jurisdiction.

The public body must keep a written record of the posting. The record of the posting would be evidence that the posting was done as required and must be sufficient to fulfill the requirement of publication.

LB 299	<i>Sponsor</i>	<i>Committee</i>	<i>Signed</i>	<i>Subject</i>
	Linehan	Education	2/13/24 Passed 45-0 w/E clause	Require approval by the voters of a school district or educational service unit for the issuance of certain bonds under the Interlocal Cooperation Act

LB 299 provides that any future joint entity that includes a Nebraska school district or an educational service unit, such joint entity may not issue any bonds until the question of issuing the bonds has been submitted to the qualified electors of each Nebraska school district or educational service unit that is part of the joint entity at an election called for that purpose and, within each such school district or educational service unit, a majority of the qualified electors voting on the question voted in favor of issuing the bonds.

The joint entity must give notice of the election at least 50 days prior to the election. The question of issuing bonds may be submitted at the statewide primary or general election.

The question of bond issues, when defeated, may not be resubmitted in substance for a period of at least six months after the date of the election.

LB 299 passed with the emergency clause attached and became operative on February 14, 2024.

LB 303	<i>Sponsor</i>	<i>Committee</i>	<i>Signed</i>	<i>Subject</i>
	Linehan	Education	3/5/24 Passed 43-0	Change provisions relating to an annual estimate for necessary funding under TEEOSA

LB 303 amends one of the few original sections of LB 1059 (1990), which created the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act. This section was last updated in 1999.

Section 79-1031 requires NDE, with assistance from the Property Tax Administrator, the Legislative Fiscal Analyst, and the budget division of the Department of Administrative Services, to annually, by November 15, provide an estimate of the necessary funding level for the next school fiscal year under TEEOSA to the Governor, the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature, and the Education Committee of the Legislature.

LB 303 requires that a legal counsel or research analyst from the Education Committee, and a legal counsel or research analyst from the Revenue Committee be included in the process of providing an estimate on funding level.

LB 303 becomes operative on July 19, 2024.

LB 304	<i>Sponsor</i>	<i>Committee</i>	<i>Signed</i>	<i>Subject</i>
	Linehan	Government	3/18/24 Passed 48-0	Require political subdivisions to disclose membership dues and lobbying fees

LB 304 requires all political subdivisions, including school districts and ESUs, to publicly disclose the following on its website:

- (a) Membership dues paid annually to any association or organization, identifying each association or organization and the dues amounts paid; and
- (b) Fees paid to any individual lobbyist or lobbying firm other than any fees paid for lobbying services that may be included in the membership dues.

For any political subdivision that does not have a website, the information may be made available upon request to any member of the public at the office of the political subdivision.

LB 304 becomes operative on July 19, 2024.

LB 1027	<i>Sponsor</i>	<i>Committee</i>	<i>Signed</i>	<i>Subject</i>
	Clements	Education	4/15/24 Passed 44-1	Change provisions relating to schools which elect not to meet accreditation and approval requirements

Under current law (§ 79-1601), a home school must provide evidence that the school offers a program of instruction leading to the acquisition of basic skills in the language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, and health.

LB 1027 merely requires an assurance rather than evidence. An assurance would be satisfied by a signed statement by the parent, legal guardian, or educational decisionmaker of a student that the education provided complies with Section 79-1601. Rules and regulations that govern procedures are limited to procedures for receiving information from a parent, legal guardian, or educational decisionmaker of a student or a parent representative when the individual files the election not to meet accreditation or approval requirements.

“Educational decisionmaker” is defined as a person designated or ordered by a court to make educational decisions on behalf of a child.

LB 1027 becomes operative on July 19, 2024.

LB 1029	<i>Sponsor</i>	<i>Committee</i>	<i>Signed</i>	<i>Subject</i>
	Conrad	Education	4/15/24 Passed 47-0	Change provisions relating to compulsory school attendance regarding illness

LB 1029 amends the compulsory attendance law (§ 79-201) such that attendance is required unless excused by school authorities or when mental or physical illness or severe weather conditions make attendance impossible or impracticable.

At the public hearing for LB 1029 on February 6, 2024, Senator Conrad explained the rationale for introducing the measure:

This bill was brought to me and to Senator Dungan by a seminar class at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, who did a great job researching this issue and learning about state government. And they really wanted to highlight this as a potential solution to move forward, to raise awareness about mental health, to advance equity and reduce stigma around mental health, and to ensure that we are limiting our entanglements for kids and families who are struggling with mental illness or other reasons for missing school from being entangled in the justice system through the truancy laws.

Katie Nungesser, representing Voices for Children, testified in support of LB 1029.

LB 1029 would make a significant and overdue change by recognizing mental health absences as equivalent to physical illness absences within our school systems. The importance of mental health and the well-being and educational success of Nebraska's children cannot be overstated. Mental health directly influences a child's ability to learn, think, feel, and act, impacting crucial aspects such as stress management, peer relationships, and decision-making skills.

LB 1029 would become operative three months after the Legislature adjourns sine die.

LB 1284	<i>Sponsor</i>	<i>Committee</i>	<i>Signed</i>	<i>Subject</i>
	Walz	Education	4/16/24 Passed 42-0 w/E clause	Provide for and change teacher incentive programs, provide for a pilot program to distribute menstrual products in schools, a Dyslexia Research Grant Program, a professional learning system relating to instruction in reading, and a statewide computer science education expansion program, create and change authorized use of certain funds, and change provisions relating to school psychologists and certain scholarship programs

<i>Sections of LB 1284</i>	<i>Subject Matter (original bill and sponsor)</i>	<i>Operative Date</i>
1.....	Menstrual Products Provided by Schools [LB 1050, Conrad]	July 19, 2024
2.....	Dyslexia Research Grant Program [LB 1253, Linehan]	July 19, 2024
3.....	School Psychologists [LB 1014, Walz].....	July 19, 2024
4.....	Nebraska Teacher Recruitment/Retention Act [LB 985, Linehan].....	April 17, 2024
5-11	Teach in Nebraska Today Act [LB 986, Linehan]	April 17, 2024
12.....	Appropriations from Education Future Fund	July 19, 2024
13.....	Nebraska Reading Improvement Act [LB 1254, Linehan]	July 19, 2024
14-16.....	Computer Science/Technology Education Act [LB 1284, Walz]	July 19, 2024
17.....	Nebraska Career Scholarship (Program of Study in Special Education) [Dungan, LB 964]	July 19, 2024
18-20.....	Student-Teacher Loans [LB 1005, Walz]	July 1, 2024

LB 1284 was prioritized by Senator Walz and became a committee package bill. Much of the package consists of bills introduced by Senators Walz and Linehan, but Senators Dungan and Conrad also had measures included.

<i>Subject Matter</i>	<i>Section</i>	<i>Operative</i>
Menstrual Products Provided by Schools	1	July 19, 2024

LB 1284 includes LB 1050 (Conrad) relating to menstrual products and the creation of a pilot program.

Beginning in school year 2025-26 *and subject to available appropriations*, NDE is required to develop a pilot program to make menstrual products, including both pads and tampons, available to each school district. Priority must be given to each school district:

- (a) That classifies as a needs improvement school under the accountability system developed by the State Board of Education; or
- (b) In which 40% of the students are poverty students.

Note: Section 79-1003(30) defines “poverty students” as the unadjusted poverty students plus the difference of such unadjusted poverty students minus the average number of poverty students for such district, prior to such addition, for the three immediately preceding school fiscal years if such difference is greater than zero.

For school year 2025-26, a school district that receives free menstrual products must ensure that free menstrual products, including both pads and tampons, are available for use in school bathrooms.

NDE is required to submit a report electronically to the Legislature relating to the pilot program for free menstrual products by December 1, 2026.

The measure provides intent to appropriate an amount not to exceed \$250,000 for fiscal year 2024-25 to NDE to carry out the pilot program.

<i>Subject Matter</i>	<i>Section</i>	<i>Operative</i>
Dyslexia Research Grant Program	2	July 19, 2024

LB 1284 includes LB 1253 (Linehan) to create the Dyslexia Research Grant Program, to be administered by NDE.

The Dyslexia Research Grant Program provides that an eligible applicant may apply to NDE for a grant. The department must prescribe the application form that is to be completed when applying for a grant under the Program.

Eligible applicant means a privately owned business based in Nebraska that is in the process of researching artificial-intelligence based writing assistance that can be used to assist individuals with dyslexia.

NDE may award a grant to any eligible applicant, except that the total amount of all grants awarded under the Program may not be more than \$1 million.

All grant money received under the Program must be used only for the purpose of researching the use of artificial intelligence-based writing assistance by individuals with dyslexia. The research must be focused on using aggregate writing analytics to identify writing errors and patterns that can be used by teachers to develop a comprehensive literacy plan for students with dyslexia.

If any grant money received under the Program is used in violation of the intended purpose, NDE must notify the Attorney General of the violation.

The Attorney General must bring a civil action in any court of competent jurisdiction to recoup any money spent in violation of the intended purpose. Any money collected in such civil action would be remitted to the State Treasurer for credit to the General Fund.

<i>Subject Matter</i>	<i>Section</i>	<i>Operative</i>
School Psychologists	3	July 19, 2024

LB 1284 includes LB 1014 (Walz) to amend Section 38-3113 and change the requirements relating to the Psychology Practice Act. LB 1014 would allow school districts to receive reimbursement for school psychologists employed through a service agency with special education programs and rates approved by the Nebraska Department of Education (NDE).

At the public hearing for LB 1014 on January 22, 2024, Senator Walz stated:

[T]here's a workforce shortage among mental health and special education providers in Nebraska. The key player in both of these worlds is a school psychologist. This is amplified with research that tells us that our students receive up to a majority of these services in a school setting. School psychologists are in short supply, and we must do everything we can to build this workforce. LB 1014 is one of the steps we can take to enable schools to be reimbursed if they need to contract with school psychologists to support the tremendous workload seen every day. The bill amends the Psychology Practice Act to include the ability for school districts to receive reimbursements if they contract with special education service agencies for help in delivering services to students. The rates for services are set by the Nebraska Department of Education and would not change whether it's an employed school psychologist or a contracted provider.

<i>Subject Matter</i>	<i>Section</i>	<i>Operative</i>
Nebraska Teacher Recruitment and Retention Act	4	April 17, 2024

LB 985 (Linehan) amends the Nebraska Teacher Recruitment and Retention Act (created in 2023 under LB 705). The act provided a series of grants for teachers who continue in the profession.

Currently, a high-need retention grant of \$5,000 may be awarded to a teacher who obtains an endorsement in special education, mathematics, science, technology, or dual credit AND signs a

contract to complete a school year of full-time employment as a teacher at a Nebraska school in school year 2024-25, 2025-26, or 2026-27.

LB 985 creates a second option to be eligible for the \$5,000 grant. The bill provides that a high-need retention grant of \$5,000 may be awarded to a teacher who obtains an endorsement in special education, mathematics, science, technology, or dual credit AND signs a contract to complete a school year of full-time employment as a teacher to teach in such endorsement area at a Nebraska school in school year 2024-25, 2025-26, or 2026-27.

<i>Subject Matter</i>	<i>Sections</i>	<i>Operative</i>
Teach in Nebraska Today Act	5-11.....	April 17, 2024

LB 1284 includes LB 986 (Linehan) to sunset some of the provisions of the Teach in Nebraska Today Program.

Beginning on the effective date of the measure, a revised program would provide a grant to an individual who applies and who:

- a. Is a resident of the State of Nebraska;
- b. Is teaching full-time or has a contract to teach full-time at the time of the application for the program;
- c. Has taught in Nebraska five years or less at the time of the application or renewal; and
- d. Has an individual income that is less than \$55,000 per year.

The amount of a grant awarded to an eligible applicant would be limited to \$5,000 per year. An eligible applicant may be awarded a grant for up to five years.

If the funds available for grants in any year are insufficient to provide grants to all eligible applicants, NDE must establish priorities to award grants with renewal applications given priority over initial applications. For initial applications, priority would be given to applicants who demonstrate financial need.

Applications for a grant must be submitted no later than July 10, 2024, and no later than July 10 thereafter. NDE must determine whether to approve or deny each application and must notify each applicant of such determination no later than October 10, 2024, and no later than October 10 thereafter. Grants awarded under the program must be paid directly to the applicant no later than December 10, 2024, and no later than December 10 thereafter.

The measure increases the appropriation for the program from the current \$5 million to \$10 million.

<i>Subject Matter</i>	<i>Section</i>	<i>Operative</i>
Appropriations from Education Future Fund	12	July 19, 2024

LB 1284 amends Section 79-1021 (Education Future Fund) to recognize potential funding for various programs created or modified under the measure. Transfers may be made:

- (1) To the Computer Science and Technology Education Fund with additional funding for matching funds at the direction of the Legislature;
- (2) To provide funding to develop and implement a professional learning system to help provide sustained professional learning and training regarding evidence-based reading instruction and for a grant program relating to dyslexia research; and
- (3) To provide funding for a pilot project administered by NDE to provide menstrual products to school districts.

<i>Subject Matter</i>	<i>Section</i>	<i>Operative</i>
Nebraska Reading Improvement Act	13	July 19, 2024

LB 1284 includes LB 1254 (Linehan) to amend an existing law (passed in 2018), providing that NDE may provide technical assistance as needed to assist school boards in carrying out the Nebraska Reading Improvement Act (§ 79-2607).

Note: LB 1081 (2018) was an Education Committee bill and created the Nebraska Reading Improvement Act. The passage of this bill in 2018 was largely championed by Senator Linehan.

NDE is required to develop and implement a professional learning system to help provide sustained professional learning and training regarding “evidence-based reading instruction” for teachers who teach children from four years of age through third grade at an approved or accredited school and teachers employed by an early childhood education program approved by the State Board of Education.

Notes: “Evidence-based reading instruction” is defined as instruction in reading that is in alignment with scientifically based reading research and does not include the “three-cueing system model of reading instruction.”

“Three-cueing system model of reading instruction” is defined as an approach to foundational skills instruction that involves the use of three different types of instructional cues which include semantic, syntactic, and grapho-phonetic.

The professional learning system must include information and tips for teachers related to helping children and families work with local family literacy centers to strengthen home and family literacy programs and better instruct children in reading.

Approved or accredited elementary schools and early childhood education programs approved by the State Board of Education must ensure that teachers who teach children from four years of age through third grade are aware of the professional learning system and are adequately trained regarding evidence-based reading instruction to effectively instruct students in reading.

NDE must work with ESUs to provide regional coaches to approved or accredited elementary schools to provide assistance and job-embedded training relating to evidence-based reading instruction to teachers who teach students in kindergarten through third grade.

By September 30 of each year, the Commissioner of Education must file a report electronically with the Clerk of the Legislature relating to the status and use of the professional learning system implemented.

The measure provides intent to appropriate \$2 million from the Education Future Fund for each fiscal year beginning with fiscal year 2024-25 through 2026-27 to NDE to provide regional coaches and job-embedded training relating to evidence-based reading instruction.

<i>Subject Matter</i>	<i>Sections</i>	<i>Operative</i>
Computer Science/Technology Education Act	14-16.....	July 19, 2024

LB 1284 includes the original provisions of the measure, introduced by Senator Walz, relating to computer science education.

The measure requires NDE to establish a statewide computer science education expansion program to recruit, train, and support teachers in computer science and technology education. The program must include:

- (a) Training for teachers seeking supplemental computer science certification;
- (b) Training designed to support the integration of computer science and technology education into the instructional programs of elementary, middle, and high schools; and
- (c) Support for schools and teachers in the development of computer science instructional plans that are consistent with the academic content standards for computer science and technology education adopted by the State Board of Education.

NDE is required to employ or contract with computer science specialists to develop and deliver computer science educator training. The training must be provided in a manner that every teacher in this state has reasonable access to the training.

The department is also required to annually submit a report electronically to the Governor and the Legislature relating to the statewide computer science education expansion program. The report must include:

- (a) The number of training opportunities held and the format of such training;
- (b) The number of teachers who received training;
- (c) To the extent such information is available, the number of teachers that became certified or received an endorsement in computer science and technology education or began teaching a class in computer science and technology education within three calendar months following completion of training; and
- (d) The costs associated with the training for the fiscal year covered by the report.

The measure creates the Computer Science and Technology Education Fund. The fund would be administered by NDE and consist of money transferred by the Legislature, federal funds, gifts, grants, bequests, or other contributions or donations from public or private entities that have been

accepted by the State Board of Education. The fund must be used to provide computer science and technology training and support.

The measure provides intent to transfer \$1 million for fiscal year 2024-25 and \$1 million for fiscal year 2025-26 from the Education Future Fund to the Computer Science and Technology Education Fund to provide computer science and technology education training, support, and incentive and stipend payments.

The measure also provides intent to transfer an additional \$500,000 for fiscal year 2024-25 and each year thereafter from the Education Future Fund to the Computer Science and Technology Education Fund contingent upon the receipt of matching private funds of the same amount.

<i>Subject Matter</i>	<i>Section</i>	<i>Operative</i>
Nebraska Career Scholarship (Program of Study in Special Education)	17	July 19, 2024

At one point, LB 1284 included the provisions of LB 964 (Dungan) to create a Special Education Teacher Forgivable Loan Program Act to address the fact that Nebraska elementary and secondary schools have had difficulty filling open and necessary job positions, including special education teachers.

Prior to passage, due to the overall cost of LB 1284, the Special Education Teacher Forgivable Loan Program Act was removed from the legislation.

The only surviving portion of LB 964 relates to amendments to the Nebraska Career Scholarship Act.

The measure amends Section 85-3004 relating to the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska and awarding a Nebraska Career Scholarship to eligible university students who are enrolled in an eligible program of study.

Currently, an eligible program of study is designated by the Department of Economic Development, in collaboration with the Board of Regents, based on periodic reviews of workforce needs in the state.

LB 1284 would add a second eligible program of study. Beginning with academic year 2024-25, a program of study in special education would be eligible for a scholarship.

<i>Subject Matter</i>	<i>Sections</i>	<i>Operative</i>
Student Teacher Loans	18-20	July 1, 2024

LB 1284 includes the provisions of LB 1005 (Walz), which was viewed as a clean-up bill following the passage of LB 705 (2023). The intent is to provide clarification language for grants and loans to students enrolled in a teacher education program for student teaching semesters found in Section 85-3112. LB 1005 was necessary to carry out this statute as intended.

The measure amends existing provisions of law that authorized the Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education to award grants to teachers who meet the criteria. The grants would derive from the Excellence in Teaching Cash Fund.

It amends part of the existing law such that, beginning on July 1, 2024, the Commission must allocate on an annual basis up to \$500,000 of the funds exclusively for loans to any eligible student who is enrolling in a “student-teaching semester” during the award year pursuant to the Attracting Excellence to Teaching Program. The funds would be distributed to all eligible institutions according to the distribution formula as determined by rules and regulations. The eligible institutions must act as agents of the Commission in the distribution of the funds to any eligible student for a student-teaching semester.

Under the measure, an eligible student enrolling for a student-teaching semester may apply for an additional loan of up to \$3,000 for the student-teaching semester and receive up to a total of \$6,000 for the year.

LB 1300	<i>Sponsor</i>	<i>Committee</i>	<i>Signed</i>	<i>Subject</i>
	Bostar	Government	4/16/24 Passed 46-0 w/E clause	Adopt the Pacific Conflict Stress Test Act, the Foreign Adversary Contracting Prohibition Act, the Nebraska Nonprofit Security Grant Program Act, and the Wildland Fire Response Act, create the Commission on Asian American Affairs, provide security requirements for chemical facilities, require approval of voters for certain salary increases, and change provisions relating to veterans aid programs

<i>Relevant Sections of LB 1300</i>	<i>Subject Matter</i>	<i>Operative</i>
1-6	Pacific Conflict Stress Test Act.....	April 17, 2024
7-13	Foreign Adversary Contracting Prohibition Act	April 17, 2024

LB 1300 was originally meant to prepare the state’s supply chains and critical infrastructure for the risk of a Pacific conflict. The legislation directs the Department of Administrative Services and the State Treasurer to audit procurement supply chains and state-managed funds in order to assess the risk of disruption in the event of a Pacific conflict, and to create a contingency plan to mitigate the risk of supply chain disruption.

LB 1300 was introduced by Senator Bostar *at the request of the Governor* as a proactive effort toward preparedness in the event of a “Pacific conflict,” defined as:

A declared war or armed conflict between the United States or any of its allies and another nation that occurs in the land, sea, or air area of the Pacific Ocean and threatens or could reasonably escalate to threaten the supply chains, critical infrastructure, safety, or security of the State of Nebraska or the United States.

During the public hearing on February 8, 2024, Senator Bostar presented a lengthy explanation of the purposes of the measure. As Senator Bostar testified:

LB 1300 prepares the state's supply chains and critical infrastructure for the risk of a Pacific conflict that Beijing consistently signals might occur. The bipartisan House Select Committee on the Chinese Communist Party has reported that any invasion of Taiwan would likely include cyberattacks and other disruptions targeted at the U.S. homeland.

LB 1300 eventually became a package bill for the Government Committee and included a variety of pieces, including the (i) Pacific Conflict Stress Test Act and the (ii) Foreign Adversary Contracting Prohibition Act.

<i>Subject Matter</i>	<i>Sections</i>	<i>Operative</i>
Pacific Conflict Stress Test Act	1-6.....	April 17, 2024

The purpose of the Pacific Conflict Stress Test Act is to prepare and secure the State of Nebraska in order to minimize the disruptive impact of a potential conflict precipitated by foreign adversaries against allies, democratic countries, and the U.S. Armed Forces in the Pacific theater.

The Pacific Conflict Stress Test Act requires a number of state agencies to prepare reports to analyze risks and concerns in the event of a Pacific conflict, including the Nebraska Investment Council, which is required to conduct an audit of all state-managed funds. The report must:

- (a) Summarize the investments at risk of substantially losing value or being frozen, seized, or appropriated by foreign adversaries in the event of a Pacific conflict;
- (b) Summarize the investments in any arms industry of a foreign adversary;
- (c) Summarize the investments in state-owned enterprises of a foreign adversary;
- (d) Summarize the investments in companies domiciled within a foreign adversary or owned by a company domiciled within a foreign adversary; and
- (e) Recommend strategies for the immediate and complete divestment of the assets.

Note: Since the duties of the Nebraska Investment Council include investment of funds for the Nebraska Public Employees Retirement Systems (NPERs), the report is particularly significant for public employees under state and local requirement plans.

The measure also creates the Committee on Pacific Conflict. The committee would consist of the following seven voting members:

- (a) The Director of State Homeland Security, who would serve as chairperson;
- (b) The Director of Administrative Services;
- (c) The state investment officer;
- (d) The Adjutant General; and

- (e) Three individuals with applicable knowledge of the threats posed to this state in the event of a Pacific conflict, including at least one individual who represents an entity responsible for the operation and maintenance of critical infrastructure in this state. This individual would be appointed by the Governor.

The committee would also include four members of the Legislature, to be appointed by the Executive Board of the Legislative. The legislative members would be nonvoting members of the committee.

The measure requires the Governor to annually produce and publish a state threat assessment no later than the day prior to the annual address made to the Legislature by the Governor. The annual state threat assessment must provide an overview of the substantial threats to state or national security, state or national economic security, state or national public health, or any combination of such matters occurring within and threatening Nebraska.

<i>Subject Matter</i>	<i>Sections</i>	<i>Operative</i>
Foreign Adversary Contracting Prohibition Act	7-13	April 17, 2024

LB 1300 also creates the Foreign Adversary Contracting Prohibition Act, which would be applicable to many “public entities” and private entities, including the state or any department, agency, commission, or other body of state government, including publicly funded institutions of higher education, any political subdivision of the state, and any other public or private agency, person, partnership, corporation, or business entity acting on behalf of any such public entity.

The measure provides that a “scrutinized company” may not bid on, submit a proposal for, or enter into, directly or indirectly through a third party, any contract or contract renewal with any public entity for any technology-related product or service. Scrutinized company is defined as:

- (a) Any company organized under the laws of a foreign adversary or having its principal place of business within a foreign adversary and any subsidiary of any such company;
- (b) Any company owned in whole or in part or operated by the government of a foreign adversary, an entity controlled by the government of a foreign adversary, or any subsidiary or parent of any such company; or
- (c) Any company that sells to a public entity a final technology-related product or service that originates with a company without incorporating that product or service into another final product or service.

“Technology-related product or service” is defined as a product or service used for information systems, surveillance, light detection and ranging, or communications.

“Foreign adversary” is defined as a foreign adversary as determined under 15 C.F.R. 7.4, which states that:

The Secretary of Commerce has determined that the following foreign governments or foreign non-government persons have engaged in a long-term pattern or serious instances of conduct significantly adverse to the national security of the United States or security and

safety of United States persons and, therefore, constitute foreign adversaries solely for the purposes of the Executive Order, this rule, and any subsequent rule:

- (1) The People's Republic of China, including the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (China);
- (2) Republic of Cuba (Cuba);
- (3) Islamic Republic of Iran (Iran);
- (4) Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea);
- (5) Russian Federation (Russia); and
- (6) Venezuelan politician Nicolás Maduro (Maduro Regime).

LB 1300 requires a public entity to require a company that submits a bid or proposal or enters into any contract or contract renewal with any public entity for any technology-related product or service to certify:

- (1) That the company is not a scrutinized company;
- (2) That the company will not subcontract with any scrutinized company for any aspect of performance of the contemplated contract; and
- (3) That any products or services to be provided do not originate with a scrutinized company.

No public entity may enter into any contract or contract renewal that would result in any state or local government funds being transferred:

- (a) To a scrutinized company in connection with any technology-related product or service; or
- (b) To any company in connection with any technology-related product or service that originates with a scrutinized company.

However, a public entity may enter into a contract for goods manufactured by a scrutinized company if:

- (a) There is no other reasonable option for procuring such good; the contract is preapproved by the Nebraska Department of Administrative Services; and not procuring such good would pose a greater threat to the state than the threat associated with the good itself; or
- (b) The purchasing entity is an electric supplier that is not out of compliance with the Critical Infrastructure Protection requirements issued by the North American Electric Reliability Corporation.

Any contract entered into in violation of the Foreign Adversary Contracting Prohibition Act would be null and void.

If a public entity believes that a company has violated the certification, the public entity must give such company notice of the alleged violation. The company would then have 60 days to respond to the notice. The public entity must make a final determination on whether a violation of the certification has occurred within 60 days after receipt of the response from the company. If the

public entity determines a violation has occurred, the public entity may refer the matter to the Nebraska Attorney General.

Any individual may act as a whistleblower and report suspected violations or suspected violations of the certification to the Nebraska Attorney General. If the reported violation results in a civil penalty, the whistleblower would be entitled to a reward equal to 30% of the civil penalty assessed.

LB 1306	<i>Sponsor</i> Education Com.	<i>Committee</i> Education	<i>Signed</i> 4/16/24	<i>Subject</i> Eliminate the Professional Practices Commission And provide, change, and eliminate provisions relating to standards for and conduct of teachers and administrators
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Note: Both NCSA and NSEA had prior knowledge of this legislation. The bill was a result of a collaborative effort between NDE, the Education Committee, and stakeholder groups.

LB 1306 eliminates the Professional Practices Commission (PPC) in favor of a new process to address alleged violations by certificated school employees.

It's important to note that the bill does not change the existing investigatory arm of the PPC. NDE counsel would continue to serve in this capacity.

Rather than a separate, appointed commission, the State Board of Education would employ hearing officers to hold hearings and make recommendations to the State Board concerning alleged violations of standards of professional ethics and practices by persons holding a teacher's or administrator's certificate.

LB 1306 becomes operative on July 19, 2024.

LB 1329	<i>Sponsor</i> Murman	<i>Committee</i> Education	<i>Signed</i> 4/16/24 Passed 40-0	<i>Subject</i> Change provisions relating to handguns and firearms in school environments, classification of school districts, excessive absenteeism, the enrollment option program, certain educational certificates, permits, and endorsements, certain tax levy and bonding authority of school districts, and the Nebraska Career Scholarship Act, provide for grants relating to school mapping data, and prohibit certain debt collection activities and the use of certain maps for schools
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<i>Sections of LB 1329</i>	<i>Subject Matter</i>	<i>Operative</i>
1-3	Firearms at School (LB 1339, Brewer)	July 19, 2024
4-7	Reclassification of K-12 Districts (LB 1328, Murman)	July 19, 2024
8	NDE Technical Cleanup (LB 1331, Murman)	July 19, 2024

9-10	Reclassification of K-12 Districts (LB 1328, Murman)	July 19, 2024
11-16	NDE Technical Cleanup (LB 1331, Murman)	July 19, 2024
	[Sec. 15] Excessive Absences (LB 231, Dungan)	July 19, 2024
17-20	Option Enrollment (LB 550, Ballard).....	July 19, 2024
	[Sec. 18-20] NDE Technical Cleanup (LB 1331, Murman).....	July 19, 2024
21-24	Mandated Times for Training (LB 1377, Walz).....	July 19, 2024
25-67	Reclassification of K-12 districts (LB 1328, Murman).....	July 19, 2024
68.....	NDE Technical Cleanup (LB 1331, Murman)	July 19, 2024
69-70	Streamline Certification Process (LB 1385, Kauth).....	July 19, 2024
71-72	NDE Technical Cleanup (LB 1331, Murman)	July 19, 2024
73.....	Reclassification of K-12 Districts (LB 1328, Murman)	July 19, 2024
74.....	NDE Technical Cleanup (LB 1331, Murman)	July 19, 2024
75-76	Reclassification of K-12 districts (LB 1328, Murman).....	July 19, 2024
77.....	QCPUF, Safety Infrastructure Concerns (LB 1012, Walz).....	July 19, 2024
78-80	Reclassification of K-12 Districts (LB 1328, Murman)	July 19, 2024
81-86	NDE Technical Cleanup (LB 1331, Murman)	July 19, 2024
87.....	Mandated Times for Training (LB 1377, Walz).....	July 19, 2024
88-89	Emergency Response Mapping Data (LB 673, Hansen).....	July 19, 2024
90.....	Classroom Projection Maps (LB 962, Wayne).....	July 19, 2024
91.....	Use of Debt Collection Agencies (LB 855, Conrad).....	July 19, 2024
92.....	NDE Technical Cleanup (LB 1331, Murman)	July 19, 2024
93-94	Mandated Times for Training (LB 1377, Walz).....	July 19, 2024
	[Sec. 93] NDE Technical Cleanup (LB 1331, Murman).....	July 19, 2024
95.....	NDE Technical Cleanup (LB 1331, Murman)	July 19, 2024
96-100	Nebraska Career Scholarship Act (LB 1329, Murman)	July 19, 2024

LB 1329 was originally introduced as a postsecondary education bill and was later designated as an Education Committee priority measure.

<i>Subject Matter</i>	<i>Sections</i>	<i>Operative</i>
Firearms at School	1-3.....	July 19, 2024

The amended provisions of LB 1339 (Brewer) are included in LB 1329. These provisions amend the Nebraska Criminal Code and would apply to newly designated Class I and Class II school districts (districts with 5,000 or fewer inhabitants). It would apply to private schools, private postsecondary career schools, community colleges, public or private colleges, junior colleges, or the university. It would not apply to Class III, IV, or V school districts or to home schools.

The legislation permits the carrying of firearms by qualified law enforcement officers or qualified retired law enforcement officers. It also permits the possession of a firearm by a person who is

employed or contracted by a school to provide school security or school event control services according to a written policy adopted by the school.

Under LB 1329, a school board or other governing body of a school may authorize the carrying of firearms by authorized security personnel in a school, on school grounds, in a school-owned vehicle, or at a school-sponsored activity or athletic event by adopting a written policy governing such conduct. The written policy must, at a minimum, include requirements for:

- (i) personal qualifications,
- (ii) training,
- (iii) appropriate firearms and ammunition, and
- (iv) appropriate use of force.

The State Board of Education is required to, in consultation with the Nebraska State Patrol, develop a model policy relating to the authorization of the carrying of firearms by authorized security personnel. The policy must include, but need not be limited to, the appropriate number of training hours required of security personnel.

<i>Subject Matter</i>	<i>Sections</i>	<i>Operative</i>
School District Classification	4-7, 9-10, 25-67, 73, 75-76, 78-80	July 19, 2024

LB 1329 includes the provisions of LB 1328 (Murman) to classify K-12 districts as follows:

- (1) Class I includes any school district embracing territory having a population of fewer than 1,500 inhabitants that maintains both elementary and high school grades under the direction of a single school board;
- (2) Class II includes any school district embracing territory having a population of 1,500 or more but fewer than 5,000 inhabitants;
- (3) Class III includes any school district embracing territory having a population of 5,000 or more but fewer than 200,000 inhabitants;
- (4) Class IV (LPS) includes any school district embracing territory having a population of 100,000 or more inhabitants with a city of the primary class within the territory of the district;
- (5) Class V (OPS) includes any school district whose employees participate in a retirement system established pursuant to the Class V School Employees Retirement Act and which embraces territory having a city of the metropolitan class within the territory of the district.

<i>Subject Matter</i>	<i>Section</i>	<i>Operative</i>
Excessive Absenteeism	15	July 19, 2024

LB 1329 includes the provisions of LB 231 (Dungan) relating to excessive absenteeism.

Current law provides that school districts are directed to have a policy regarding excessive absenteeism and a process by which schools are to address excessive absences and requires

districts to provide certain services and notice to parents or guardians when children experience absences.

The policy must state the circumstances and number of absences or the hourly equivalent upon which the school must render all services to address barriers to attendance. The services must be provided upon 20 days of absence and must include:

- (a) Written communication by school officials with the person or persons who have legal or actual charge or control of any child; and
- (b) One or more meetings to address (not just attempt to address) the barriers to attendance between, at a minimum, a school attendance officer, a school social worker, or a school administrator or his/her designee, the person who has legal or actual charge or control of the child, the person who is responsible for making educational decisions on behalf of the child if that person is someone other than the person who has legal or actual charge or control of the child, and the child, when appropriate.

The result of the meeting or meetings must be to develop a collaborative plan to reduce barriers identified to improve regular attendance. The plan must include, if agreed to by the person who is responsible for making educational decisions on behalf of the child, an educational evaluation to determine whether any intellectual, academic, physical, or social-emotional barriers are contributing factors to the lack of attendance.

The plan must also consider:

- (i) The physical, mental, or behavioral health of the child;
- (ii) Educational counseling;
- (iii) Referral to community agencies for economic services;
- (iv) Family or individual counseling;
- (v) Assisting the family in working with other community services; and
- (vi) Referral to restorative justice practices or services.

Note: Section 15 of LB 1329 also includes technical cleanup provisions from LB 1331.

<i>Subject Matter</i>	<i>Sections</i>	<i>Operative</i>
Option Enrollment	17-20.....	July 19, 2024

LB 1329 includes the provisions of LB 550 (Ballard) relating to option enrollment.

Under LB 1329, students can exercise option enrollment once during elementary, once during middle school or junior high, and once during high school, totaling three times before graduation.

Exceptions to the three-time limit include situations such as:

- (i) relocating to a different resident school district,
- (ii) the merging of the option school district with another,
- (iii) completing grades in the originally attended school,
- (iv) continuing current enrollment,
- (v) returning to a previously attended district, or
- (vi) being an open enrollment option student.

The program does not relieve parents or guardians from compulsory attendance requirements. However, it doesn't apply to students residing in a district that has entered into an annexation agreement unless the student transfers to another district accepting option students.

The program allows K-12 students to attend a public school in a district other than their residence, subject to certain conditions. Parents or guardians must submit an application between September 1 and March 15 for attendance in the following school years. Late applications require release approval from the resident or current option school district. The application process involves notifying relevant districts and determining acceptance or rejection by April 1 or within 60 days for late applications.

A student choosing a private or parochial school may return to the original or option district upon completion of the grade levels offered at the private or parochial school.

Note: Sections 18-20 of LB 1329 also include technical cleanup provisions from LB 1331.

<i>Subject Matter</i>	<i>Sections</i>	<i>Operative</i>
Mandated Times for Training	21-24, 87, 93-94	July 19, 2024

Background: The Governor asked a group of NCSA members, along with several private school administrators, to produce an analysis of existing mandates on schools. The “Mandates Group” met many times from May to December 2023. The group met with the Governor and his staff several times to discuss its findings. The Governor listened carefully and ultimately asked that we propose legislation for his review. LB 1377 represents one of the topics we brought to his attention—the issue of excessive training requirements for school employees.

LB 1377 weaves into various education-related statutes the phrase, “The length of such training shall be a reasonable amount as determined by each school board.” In many cases, the statutes prescribe one hour or other overly specific requirements. This new training provision would apply to:

- Training for school employees on behavioral intervention, behavioral management, classroom management, and removal of a student from a classroom in schools (§ 79-262.01);
- Dating violence training (§ 79-2,141);
- Mental health training with a focus on suicide awareness and prevention training (§ 79-2,146);
- Training for the members to conduct threat assessments, engage in crisis intervention, increase awareness of concerning behavior among school staff, students, and the public, and interrupt violence in the planning stage to thwart potential harm to persons and property (§ 79-3105);
- Beginning in school year 2026-27, training to ensure that each administrator, teacher, paraprofessional, school nurse, and counselor receives behavioral awareness training (§ 79-3602);

- Behavioral awareness point of contact training, including knowledge of community service providers and other resources available for the students and families in the school district (§ 79-3603);

The measure also amends Section 79-2,145 relating to the permitted authority of the State Board of Education, based on the recommendations of the state school security director appointed to adopt and promulgate rules and regulations establishing minimum school security standards. *LB 1329 specifies that any rules or regulations that create a training requirement must ensure that the training requirement be reasonable in length.*

Note: Sections 93 of LB 1329 also includes technical cleanup provisions from LB 1331.

<i>Subject Matter</i>	<i>Sections</i>	<i>Operative</i>
Streamline Certification Process	69-70.....	July 19, 2024

LB 1329 includes the provisions of LB 1385 (Kauth) to streamline the application process for teaching certificate approval and creates reciprocity between states for the issuance of teaching certificates.

NDE is required to make available on a portal on the agency’s website the option or ability for an individual with a certificate or permit to apply for an endorsement. The portal must also include a list of courses that an individual with a certificate or permit may take to add an endorsement to such certificate or permit. The commissioner must allow an individual with a certificate or permit the following alternative methods of obtaining an endorsement:

- (a) Taking a subject-specific content examination in designated endorsement areas and indicating such subject as an endorsement on such individual's certificate or permit based solely on the passage of the examination; or
- (b) Completing an approved program of equivalent professional education in a designated endorsement area that is provided by an accredited public school.

The State Board of Education must authorize the issuance of a certificate or permit to any applicant for the certificate or permit who:

- (i) Holds a valid certificate or permit to teach in force in another state at the time of application;
- (ii) Is in good standing in all states in which the applicant holds a certificate or permit to teach;
- (iii) Does not have any pending investigation or complaint against any such certificate or permit;
- (iv) Meets all residency and background check requirements otherwise required for a Nebraska certificate or permit; and
- (v) Pays any applicable fees.

Verification: The commissioner must verify that the applicant for a teaching certificate or permit is in good standing in all states where the applicant holds a certificate or permit to teach and does not have any pending investigation or complaint against any such certificate or permit.

The applicant may not be required to meet the human relations training requirement (§ 79-808) to obtain the certification or permit. The certificate or permit must include the same or similar endorsements to teach in all subject areas for which the applicant had been certified to teach in such other state if a similar endorsement is offered in Nebraska.

A conditional permit may be issued to an applicant upon submission of the application, payment of the applicable fees, and the successful completion of the criminal history record information check (§ 79-814.01). The conditional permit must remain in force until the commissioner completes the review and verification of all the requirements noted above and either issues a certificate or permit to teach or notifies the applicant of the reason the certificate or permit cannot be issued.

NDE must make available on a portal on the agency’s website the option or ability for individuals to apply for a certificate to teach.

<i>Subject Matter</i>	<i>Section</i>	<i>Operative</i>
QCPUF, Safety Infrastructure Concerns	77	July 19, 2024

LB 1329 includes the provisions of LB 1012 (Walz) to allow the Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Fund (QCPUF) to be used for abatement projects to address school safety infrastructure concerns.

<i>Subject Matter</i>	<i>Sections</i>	<i>Operative</i>
Emergency Response Mapping Data	88-89.....	July 19, 2024

LB 1329 includes the provisions of LB 673 (Hansen) to grant funding to schools that apply to update their maps with emergency response mapping data. First responders would be able to enter emergency situations with improved confidence.

LB 1329 permits a school board or a governing authority of a private school to vote to adopt a policy to provide mapping data to public safety agencies for use in response to emergencies.

- “Mapping data” is defined as maps relating to a school building or school property with data for an efficient emergency response to the school building or school property; and
- “Public safety agency” is defined as a local, county, or state agency consisting of members who serve a public or governmental agency or political subdivision in an official capacity, with or without compensation, as either peace officers, firefighters, or emergency care providers.

Policy

A school board or a governing authority that adopts such a policy must provide mapping data in an electronic or digital format to assist public safety agencies in responding to an emergency at a school. The mapping data must, at a minimum, meet all of the following requirements:

1. Be compatible with and able to be integrated into software platforms used by public safety agencies that provide emergency services to the specific school for which the data is provided without requiring:
 - The purchase of additional software by such public safety agencies; or
 - The integration of third-party software to view the data;
2. Be a finished map product in a file format easily accessible using a standard or open-source file reader, depending on the needs of the school and the public safety agency;
3. Be provided in a printable format;
4. Be verified for accuracy, during production and annually, through a walk-through of the school campus;
5. Give an indication of what direction is true north;
6. Include accurate floor plans overlaid on accurate, verified aerial imagery of the school campus;
7. Contain site-specific labeling that matches the structure of school buildings, including room labels, hallway names, external door or stairwell numbers, locations of hazards, key utility locations, key boxes, automated external defibrillators, and trauma kits using standard labeling rules set by NDE;
8. Contain site-specific labeling that matches the school grounds, including parking areas, athletic fields, surrounding roads, and neighboring properties using standard labeling rules set by NDE; and
9. Be overlaid with a grid and coordinates.

Each school board or governing authority that adopts a policy must annually:

- (a) certify to the appropriate public safety agencies that the mapping data required to be provided is accurate OR
- (b) if the information has changed, provide the appropriate public safety agencies with updated mapping data.

Grants

A school board of a school district that adopts a policy may apply to NDE (in a manner prescribed by the Commissioner) for a grant to cover the costs of providing payment to vendors on behalf of the school district to facilitate the implementation of mapping data for the school district. The application must include a copy of the appropriate school policy, an estimate from a vendor on the cost of providing the mapping data, and any other information NDE may require.

A private school may apply to and contract with the appropriate ESU in the school's geographical area (in a manner prescribed by the ESU) for purposes of covering the costs of facilitating mapping data.

An ESU may apply to NDE (in a manner prescribed by the Commissioner) for a grant to cover the costs of providing payments to vendors on behalf of a private school that contracts with the ESU to facilitate the implementation of mapping data for the school. The ESU must include with the application the information provided to the ESU by the school, which must include a copy of the appropriate school policy, an estimate from a vendor on the cost of providing such mapping data, and any other information NDE may require.

Funding

LB 1329 includes intent to transfer \$525,000 from the General Fund to the newly created School Emergency Response Mapping Fund for fiscal year 2024-25 for providing grants.

<i>Subject Matter</i>	<i>Section</i>	<i>Operative</i>
Classroom Projection Maps	90	July 19, 2024

LB 962 (Wayne) would require public schools to use only the Gall-Peters or AuthaGraph projection map for teaching purposes in the classroom.

Beginning in school year 2024-25, a public school may not allow the use of a Mercator projection map in school. A school may only use the Gall-Peters projection map or AuthaGraph projection map for display or use in the classroom.

Exception: A Mercator projection map may be used in a classroom in conjunction with other projection maps in a teaching exercise to demonstrate that all maps are flawed in some way and that different map projections serve different functions and may affect how an individual views the world.

The school board of each public school district must adopt a policy to implement the requirements of these provisions.

Notes:

- The Gall–Peters projection is a rectangular, equal-area map projection. Like all equal-area projections, it distorts most shapes. It is a cylindrical equal-area projection with latitudes 45° north and south as the regions on the map that have no distortion.
- The AuthaGraph World Map is made by dividing a spherical surface into 96 triangles and then transferring it to a tetrahedron while keeping the area's proportions.

<i>Subject Matter</i>	<i>Section</i>	<i>Operative</i>
Use of Debt Collection Agencies	91	July 19, 2024

LB 1329 includes the provisions of LB 855 (Conrad) to prohibit a school board or board of education of a school district from using a debt collection agency to collect or attempt to collect, directly or indirectly, debts due or assessed to be owed for outstanding debts on a school lunch or breakfast account at the school district.

“Debt collection agency” is defined as any person or entity that collects or attempts to collect, directly or indirectly, debts due or asserted to be owed or due to another. Debt collection agency does not include the Department of Revenue or any programs administered by the department or a school, school district, or school board.

A school board of a school district may not:

- (a) Use a debt collection agency to collect or attempt to collect, directly or indirectly, debts due or assessed to be owed for outstanding debts on a school lunch or breakfast account of a student at such school district; or
- (b) Assess or collect any interest, fees, or other monetary penalties for outstanding debts on a school lunch or breakfast account of a student at such school district.

<i>Subject Matter</i>	<i>Sections</i>	<i>Operative</i>
Nebraska Career Scholarship Act	96-100.....	July 19, 2024

The original provisions of LB 1329 are retained in the legislation. The measure amends the Nebraska Career Scholarship Act by transferring administration of the scholarship program from the Department of Economic Development to the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education.

The Board of Trustees of the Nebraska State Colleges can grant a Nebraska Career Scholarship, not to exceed \$15,000 per year, to eligible state college students covering tuition, fees, tools, equipment, and room and board. The scholarship is renewable for up to four years.

The Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska can award Nebraska Career Scholarships ranging from \$10,000 to \$25,000 to eligible university students covering eligible expenses. The scholarship can be renewed for up to four years.

The Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education collaborating with community colleges and private colleges, can award up to \$15,000 and \$10,000 respectively per year covering tuition, fees, tools, equipment, and room and board. The scholarship is renewable.

The measure establishes reporting requirements for all institutions to the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education. Scholarship eligibility is based upon a high school grade point average of 3.0 or higher on a 4-point scale.

LB 1402	<i>Sponsor</i>	<i>Committee</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Subject</i>
	Linehan	Appropriations	Passed 32-14	Require the State Treasurer to establish education scholarships and eliminate the Opportunity Scholarships Act

LB 1402 contained the emergency clause on Final Reading. The measure failed to pass with the required 33 affirmative votes on April 18, 2024. As per the Rules of the Legislature, the introducer

was allowed to strike the emergency clause to allow the measure to pass without it. LB 1402 passed with the requisite majority vote.

Section 1 of the measure becomes operative on July 19, 2024. The sections to repeal the Opportunity Scholarships Act (LB 753, 2023), along with the tax credit pieces in Chapter 77, become operative on October 31, 2024, which is just five days before the 2024 General Election.

Administration of the Program

LB 1402 requires the State Treasurer to establish a program to provide education scholarships to eligible students to pay the costs associated with attending a qualified school. Under the program, the State Treasurer must:

- (a) Establish a priority system for awarding education scholarships under the program. The priority system must:
 - (i) Give FIRST priority to:
 - (A) Eligible students who received an education scholarship under LB 1402 or under the Opportunity Scholarships Act (LB 753, 2023) during the previous school year; and
 - (B) The sibling of a student who is receiving an education scholarship, so long as the sibling resides in the same household as the student;
 - (ii) Give SECOND priority to:
 - (A) Eligible students whose household income levels do not exceed 185% of the federal poverty level;
 - (B) Eligible students whose application for the enrollment option program (§ 79-234) has been denied;
 - (C) Eligible students who have an IEP;
 - (D) Eligible students who are experiencing bullying, harassment, hazing, assault, battery, kidnapping, robbery, sexual offenses, threat or intimidation, or fighting at school;
 - (E) Eligible students who are in foster care; and
 - (F) Eligible students who are in a family with a parent or guardian in an active duty role in a branch of the armed forces of the United States or in the National Guard or whose parent or guardian was killed serving in the line of duty;
 - (iii) Give THIRD priority to eligible students whose household income levels exceed 185% of the federal poverty level but do not exceed 213% of the federal poverty level; and
 - (iv) Give FOURTH priority to eligible students whose household income levels exceed 213% of the federal poverty level but do not exceed 300% of the income indicated in

the income eligibility guidelines for reduced-price meals under the National School Lunch Program in 7 C.F.R. part 210;

- (b) Limit the maximum scholarship amount awarded to any eligible student to the cost necessary to educate the eligible student at the qualified school such student attends; and
- (c) Limit scholarship amounts awarded to eligible students in a manner that assures that the average of the scholarship amounts awarded per student does not exceed 75% of the statewide average general fund operating expenditures per formula student for the most recently available complete data year.

Funding

The annual limit on the total amount of education scholarships awarded under LB 1402 for fiscal year 2024-25 and each year thereafter would be \$10 million.

The bill provides to appropriate \$10 million from the General Fund for each year thereafter to the State Treasurer for the purpose of providing education scholarships.

Report

By December 1, 2025, and by each December 1 thereafter, the State Treasurer must electronically submit a report to the Governor and the Legislature that includes the following:

- (a) A summary description of the State Treasurer's policies and procedures for awarding education scholarships;
- (b) The number of eligible students receiving education scholarships in the most recent fiscal year;
- (c) The total amount of education scholarships awarded in the most recent fiscal year;
- (d) The number of eligible students currently wait-listed or denied from receiving an education scholarship and the reason for the wait listing or denial; and
- (e) The demographic information of eligible students receiving education scholarships, including:
 - (i) Income level;
 - (ii) Grade level; and
 - (iii) Geographic location.

Management

The State Treasurer may enter into contracts with up to three program managers for the purposes of carrying out the education scholarship program. Up to 7.5% of the funds appropriated may be used by the State Treasurer, or by the program managers with which the State Treasurer contracts, for administrative expenses.

Limitation on State Influence

The bill includes a provision to state that nothing shall be construed as granting any expanded or additional authority to the State of Nebraska to control or influence the governance or policies of any qualified school due to the fact that the qualified school admits and enrolls students who receive education scholarships or as requiring any such qualified school to admit or, once admitted, to continue the enrollment of any student receiving an education scholarship.

Definitions

- (a) Education scholarship means a financial grant-in-aid to be used to pay all or part of the cost to educate an eligible student attending a qualified school;
- (b) Eligible student means a resident of Nebraska who:
 - (i) Is receiving an education scholarship for the first time and is (A) entering kindergarten or ninth grade in a qualified school or the first grade level offered by the qualified school, (B) transferring from a public school at which the student was enrolled for at least one semester immediately preceding the first semester for which the student receives an education scholarship to a qualified school and is entering any of grades kindergarten through twelve, or (C) a member of an active duty or reserve military family transferring into Nebraska from another state or another country and is entering any of grades K-12 in a qualified school;
 - (ii) Has previously received an education scholarship and is continuing education at a qualified school until such student graduates from high school or reaches 21 years of age, whichever comes first;
 - (iii) Has previously received an education scholarship under the Opportunity Scholarships Act (LB 753, 2023) and is continuing education at a qualified school until the student graduates from high school or reaches 21 years of age, whichever comes first;
 - (iv) Is the sibling of a student who is receiving an education scholarship and resides in the same household as the student; or
 - (v) Is currently enrolled in a qualified school and is a member of a family whose household income is no more than 213% of the federal poverty level; and
- (c) Qualified school means any nongovernmental, privately operated elementary or secondary school located in this state that (i) is operated not for profit, (ii) complies with the antidiscrimination provisions of 42 U.S.C. 1981, (iii) complies with all health and life safety laws or codes that apply to privately operated schools, and (iv) fulfills the applicable accreditation or approval requirements established by the State Board of Education under Section 79-318.

Interim Study Legislative Resolutions, 2024

Banking Committee

LR 430 (Bostar) Interim study to examine the impact of artificial intelligence on Nebraska's private and public sectors, including the technology and insurance sectors.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the impact of artificial intelligence on Nebraska's private and public sectors, including the technology and insurance sectors. Artificial intelligence technologies have emerged as transformative tools with the potential to significantly impact workforce dynamics, operational efficiencies, and technological advancements. Nationally, state governments are recognizing the importance of understanding and adapting to the implications of artificial intelligence adoption to ensure effective governance and service delivery.

Given the potential impact of artificial intelligence on the public and private sectors, a comprehensive examination of the effects of artificial intelligence on Nebraska's workforce, operational efficiencies, and technological landscape is essential for informed decisionmaking and strategic planning. It is imperative to assess how artificial intelligence adoption can enhance productivity, improve service quality, and foster innovation, while also addressing potential challenges related to workforce displacement, skill gaps, and equitable access to technological resources.

This study shall include, but need not be limited to, an examination of the following:

- (1) The current and potential impact of artificial intelligence adoption on the state economy, including changes in job roles, skill requirements, and workforce development needs;
- (2) The extent to which artificial intelligence technologies can enhance operational efficiencies, streamline processes, and optimize resource allocation;
- (3) The role of artificial intelligence in driving technological advancements and innovation within Nebraska, including influence of artificial intelligence on digital transformation initiatives and emerging technologies;
- (4) Key challenges and opportunities associated with artificial intelligence integration, such as workforce reskilling, data security, ethical considerations, and stakeholder engagement; and
- (5) Potential recommendations for policies, regulations, and investment strategies to support responsible artificial intelligence adoption, to promote workforce resilience, and to harness the full potential of artificial intelligence technologies.

LR 431 (Jacobson) Interim study to examine the roles of various entities in the pharmaceutical supply chain.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the roles of various entities in the pharmaceutical supply chain, including pharmaceutical manufacturers, wholesalers, distributors, pharmacies, pharmacy benefit managers, insurers, and private and public health plans.

Further, the interim study should also consider whether additional oversight or regulation is needed for some or all of these entities to safeguard consumer access to safe, effective, and timely pharmaceuticals, ensure fair business practices within the pharmaceutical supply chain, decrease the costs to consumers to access both pharmaceuticals and health insurance coverage, and reduce barriers to patient-friendly cost-saving measures within the pharmaceutical supply chain. The study shall include an examination of issues raised in Legislative Bills 778, 984, and 990, introduced in the One Hundred Eighth Legislature.

Business and Labor Committee

LR 354 (Conrad) Interim study to assess state-led programs pertaining to the Nebraska workforce.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to assess state-led programs pertaining to the Nebraska workforce. It is challenging for employers to navigate and understand all available resources and qualifications to access such resources, such as worker training, job training, workforce development, customized job training, apprenticeships, and other programs and grants.

The study shall analyze state funding, policies, and initiatives addressing workforce needs and shortages and examine the accessibility of current programs offered by the Department of Labor, Department of Economic Development, Department of Health and Human Services, and State Department of Education and whether they are meeting the growing workforce needs in Nebraska.

The study shall further examine how to coordinate and increase opportunities for all Nebraskans to enter and advance in these programs, how to align and expand education and training, and how to strengthen the capacity, diversity, development, and retention of the Nebraska workforce.

The study shall also include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following:

- (1) Existing pathway programs and educational initiatives that train or upskill workers in Nebraska;
- (2) Current state funding sources and programs that invest in the workforce in Nebraska, including worker training, workforce development, worker retention and recruitment, and career and technical education;
- (3) How programs are marketed and applications are sought;
- (4) How funds are distributed and how applications are scored, including the application approval rates and whether those denied have opportunity to receive technical assistance and appeal;
- (5) Opportunities to align or improve systems that support Nebraska's workforce in underserved and high-need communities across the state;
- (6) Alternative paths for public-private partnerships to address future workforce needs and requirements; and

- (7) The following issues relating to the State Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund:
- (a) How the fund is used for workforce programs;
 - (b) Whether excess funds should be directed to additional workforce training and development purposes;
 - (c) What constitutes an adequate level of funding;
 - (d) Alternative legislative paths to establish a trust fund cap and redirect excess funds or dissolve the trust fund and identify alternative sources for the worker training; and
 - (e) Current legal parameters for the use of the fund.

LR 444 (Wishart) Interim study to examine the oversight of staffing agencies, including health care staffing agencies, in Nebraska.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the oversight of staffing agencies, including health care staffing agencies, in Nebraska. Health care staffing agencies play a crucial part in Nebraska's health care system by directing people to jobs required for the system to operate. With widespread shortages throughout the state in every section of health care, the roles of staffing agencies are more pronounced than ever. However, the oversight provided to staffing agencies is limited. Requiring health care staffing agencies to register with the Department of Health and Human Services, confirm insurance-holder status, and verify that staff meet requirements would provide guardrails beneficial not only to the state but to the health of Nebraska residents. Further study is required of how such requirements would benefit the overall health care system of Nebraska.

This study shall include, but need not be limited to, an examination of the following:

- (1) The requirements health care staffing agencies should have regarding the agencies' insurance certificates or policies;
- (2) The requirements health care staffing agencies should have regarding verification of qualifications, certifications, and requirements of staff;
- (3) How a database of registered health care staffing agencies operated by the Department of Health and Human Services would benefit Nebraska's health care system as a whole;
- (4) The potential benefits of creating a system that the public could use to report complaints about health care staffing agencies; and
- (5) The requirements health care staffing agencies should have regarding annual registration with the Department of Health and Human Services and what information should be provided along with such registration.

Education Committee

LR 303 (Murman) Interim study to examine the viability of adopting the Classical Learning Test as an option for meeting admissions requirements at the University of Nebraska and the Nebraska state colleges.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to study the viability of adopting the Classical Learning Test as an option for meeting admissions requirements at the University of Nebraska and the Nebraska state colleges. The adoption of the Classical Learning Test as an admissions test option would not replace the ACT or any other standard college admission test used by the University of Nebraska or the Nebraska state colleges for admissions, but would allow applicants the option to submit the results of the Classical Learning Test instead of or in addition to other accepted tests. In order to carry out the purpose of this resolution, the input of interested individuals, public officials, and such entities as deemed necessary shall be considered and a copy of any findings and recommendations from the study shall be sent to the State Board of Education, the University of Nebraska, and the Nebraska state colleges.

LR 319 (Conrad) Interim study to determine whether student-to-teacher ratio requirements should be considered or implemented in Nebraska by statute or regulation.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to determine whether student-to-teacher ratio requirements should be considered or implemented in Nebraska by statute or regulation. The study should also consider whether student-to-teacher ratios should be tailored for special education instruction.

At least twenty-eight states have statutes or regulations that provide student-to-teacher ratio requirements. An additional ten states provide maximum class size requirements. A number of other states have laws that link funding to lower student-to-teacher ratios. Nebraska is among the states that have no statutory or regulatory student-to-teacher ratio requirements for public schools. If implemented, Legislative Bill 1081, introduced in the One Hundred Eighth Legislature, Second Session, would provide for student-to-teacher ratio requirements for special education and general education students in Nebraska.

LR 320 (Conrad) Interim study to examine changes to the enrollment option program to ensure students with disabilities have an increased ability to access enrollment opportunities.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to determine whether students with disabilities have experienced increased ability to access option enrollment opportunities in Nebraska and to examine potential changes to the enrollment option program to better ensure students with disabilities have an increased ability to access option enrollment opportunities.

Prior to 2023, school districts had wide latitude to reject students with disabilities and evidence showed that most districts had closed enrollment option programs to all students with disabilities. In an effort to expand option enrollment opportunities for students with disabilities, section 79-239 was amended by Laws 2023, LB705, and now requires the adoption of capacity standards for acceptance and rejection of applications under the enrollment option program, and requires capacity for special education services to be determined on a case-by-case basis.

Additionally, section 79-239 now requires school districts that reject such applicants to provide written notification to parents with the specific reasons for rejection including a description of the services and accommodations required for a student with a disability that the school district does not have capacity to provide.

This study should analyze applications under the enrollment option program, and acceptance or rejections thereof, in order to determine whether school districts are making individualized decisions as opposed to generalized decisions. The study should also examine and determine how the significant increases in special education funding granted in 2023 has been utilized by school districts to increase capacity in the enrollment option program for students with disabilities, and should consider what, if any, improvements need to be made to ensure that students with disabilities are regularly accepted to enrollment option programs across the State of Nebraska.

LR 321 (Conrad) Interim study to determine the scope and use of student surveillance, monitoring, and tracking technology by school officials in Nebraska.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to determine the scope and use of student surveillance, monitoring, and tracking technology by school officials in Nebraska and the private companies involved that are contracting with schools for the use of such student surveillance, monitoring, and tracking technology.

The intersection of government and technology companies utilizing tools of mass surveillance raises red flags from a civil rights and civil liberties perspective. Numerous public schools in Nebraska have instituted various tracking systems of students or school-issued computers that can surveil and monitor student usage or student movement in classrooms and schools. The tracking systems include, but are not limited to, digital hall passes, anti-vaping devices, fingerprints swipes, and electronic surveys.

Tools of mass surveillance are being purchased and utilized with taxpayer funds through contracts with private companies. These tools may have legitimate use for educational purposes and new technologies can advance the goals of student success and school safety. However, it is unclear as to how decisions about the tools are being made, under what authority, whether or not students and families can opt in or out of these tools, how these tools interface with student privacy laws, whether these tools comply with constitutional rights and civil liberties, how much public funds are expended by schools in Nebraska for these tools, how these tools impact or are able to ensure proper accommodations for students with disabilities or individualized education programs, and how biometric or personally identifiable information is stored, shared, or sold with the private companies.

The study should also include, but not be limited to, a consideration of the following:

- (1) What statutory reforms are necessary to ensure that the constitutional and privacy rights of students, parents, and guardians are protected regarding governmental and commercial surveillance of students; and

- (2) What statutory reforms are necessary to provide remedies for students, parents, and guardians against schools and private surveillance or curriculum companies that misappropriate or improperly use collected data for commercial or other purposes beyond legitimate educational purposes.

LR 333 (Conrad) Interim study to determine whether legislation similar to the model Hunger-Free Campus Bill is needed to address hunger and basic needs insecurity of Nebraska college students.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to determine whether legislation similar to the model Hunger-Free Campus Bill is needed to address hunger and basic needs insecurity of Nebraska college students. This study should also determine the size and scope of hunger and basic needs insecurity of Nebraska college students, assess available resources to address hunger and basic needs insecurity of Nebraska college students, and research best practices other states utilize to address hunger and basic needs insecurity of college students.

Nationally, one in three college students face food insecurity and three in five college students face at least one form of basic needs insecurity. Basic needs include access to food, housing, health care, technology, transportation, resources for personal hygiene, and child care and related needs. As students from diverse backgrounds are entering college with hopes of creating a better future, many are struggling to support themselves and finish their degrees. While additional forms of food assistance, such as local food pantries exist, many students do not know how to access these resources and the stigma of accessing such resources keeps students from using the resources. The high cost of housing, transportation, textbooks, health care, and other living expenses, coupled with the rising cost of tuition, have created significant financial burdens for college students. These costs particularly impact students from low-income families, those who have children, first-generation and nontraditional college students, and former foster youth.

Financial aid programs and scholarships designed for low-income students fail to cover the bulk of their needs and even if students work while in school the income from a job does not eliminate the threat of food and other basic needs insecurity.

Ten states have passed a version of the model Hunger-Free Campus Bill, which sends funding to public colleges to address student hunger. Any public college is eligible to access these funds if it meets certain criteria.

LR 341 (McKinney) Interim study to determine the scope and use by school districts of a ban and bar action, banning and barring individuals from school property.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to determine the scope and use by school districts of a ban and bar action, banning and barring individuals from school property. This study should include an examination of whether the purported authority for such bans is appropriate and what statutory reforms are necessary to protect parents' rights to be involved in their child's education and to contest, appeal, or otherwise challenge a ban and bar action.

School districts for Nebraska public schools are utilizing a ban and bar process by which school districts prohibit students and family members from school property with the threat of police enforcement should an individual violate a ban. There are no regulations related to the appropriate use of a ban, the length of a ban, or to whom and when a ban may be applied. There have been instances of school districts instituting bans against students and family members who have disagreed with staff or administrators regarding the educational needs of the student, even though there was no evidence of a threat by the student or family member, and some school districts have even implemented four-year bans. There is no due process or appeal mechanism by which a student or family member can allege that a ban and bar is unreasonable or retaliatory.

The only authority for a school district to utilize a ban and bar arises from section 79-405, which states, in part, that every school district is a body corporate that possesses all the usual powers of a corporation for public purposes, may sue and be sued, and may purchase, hold, and sell such personal and real estate as the law allows. School districts have implemented ban and bar actions through the general right of corporations to prohibit trespass.

LR 365 (Day) Interim study to examine school guidelines and policies relating to LGBTQ bullying prevention.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study examining school guidelines and policies relating to LGBTQ bullying prevention. Currently, Nebraska's bullying statutes are governed by section 79-2,137, which directs school districts to develop and adopt policies concerning bullying prevention and education for all students. By reviewing school policies and practices and resources available to school districts, the Legislature can identify the challenges and areas for improvement to ensure that all students are protected from bullying in a school setting.

This interim study shall include, but need not be limited to:

- (1) A review of available data on the prevalence of school bullying in Nebraska;
- (2) A state-by-state review of bullying laws, and the progression of how best practices surrounding bullying has evolved;
- (3) A state-by-state review of school nondiscrimination laws, including whether the state has guidance on the treatment of LGBTQ students; and
- (4) Input from school districts, parents, and other stakeholders regarding recommendations and strategies to enhance and strengthen school policies.

LR 368 (Day) Interim study to examine the process for school districts to change the boundaries of individual schools within their districts.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the process for school districts to change the boundaries of individual schools within their districts.

Given that many families move specifically to be near a certain school within a greater school district, the decision to change boundaries can upend planning for families and affect numerous relationships between students, teachers, and staff. Boundary changes involve a decision-making process that can be difficult; however, changes are often necessary to facilitate growth within a school district. Parents should have the opportunity to voice their concerns and have full transparency regarding the process for changing school boundaries within a school district that determines which school their children will attend.

Currently, the process for school district boundary changes is governed by section 79-413. This interim study is meant to evaluate whether some of the process for school district boundary changes, such as notification to parents, should be replicated in school boundary changes within a district.

The interim study shall include, but need not be limited to, an examination of:

- (1) The processes that school districts in Nebraska use for interdistrict school boundary changes;
- (2) Statutes in other states relating to school boundary changes within a single school district;
- (3) Ways to facilitate communication between parents and school districts when school boundary changes are being considered;
- (4) How much advanced communication should be given to parents;
- (5) Strategies to increase transparency for school boundary changes; and
- (6) Public meeting laws in Nebraska, and whether school boundary changes should require an opportunity for public comment.

LR 378 (Murman) Interim study to examine the viability of selling land managed by the Board of Educational Lands and Funds.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the viability of selling land managed by the Board of Educational Lands and Funds. This study shall include, but need not be limited to, an examination of the following:

- (1) Whether the land managed by the Board of Educational Lands and Funds is presently providing the most effective rate of return to Nebraska schools;
- (2) Whether the funds gained from the sale of land managed by the Board of Educational Lands and Funds could lead to a greater return;
- (3) How such a sale could be handled in the most fiduciarily responsible manner possible;
- (4) The constitutionality of such a sale;
- (5) The potential for property tax relief from such a sale; and
- (6) The public support for such a sale.

In order to carry out the purpose of this resolution, the committee shall consider the input of interested individuals, public officials, and such entities as the committee deems necessary and beneficial.

LR 383 (Hughes) Interim study to examine improvements to the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act and potential alternative funding mechanisms for Nebraska public schools.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine improvements to the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act and potential alternative funding mechanisms for Nebraska public schools. The study shall include, but need not be limited to, an examination of the following:

- (1) Potential changes to the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act that would provide for more equitable property tax levies between public school districts;
- (2) Potential changes to the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act that would simplify state aid calculations for public school districts; and
- (3) Proposals to leverage state resources, including the Board of Education Land and Funds, to provide additional funding to public school districts.

LR 385 (Linehan) Interim study to examine state standardized testing required in elementary and secondary public schools and the (AQuESTT) system used to classify schools under the Quality Education Accountability Act.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine state standardized testing required in elementary and secondary public schools in Nebraska and the Accountability for a Quality Education System, Today and Tomorrow (AQuESTT) system used to classify schools under the Quality Education Accountability Act.

This study shall include, but need not be limited to:

- (1) The benefits and value of Nebraska's standardized assessment system developed by the State Board of Education compared to adopting norm-referenced, nationally accepted, standardized testing requirements;
- (2) The history of standardized testing in Nebraska and how Nebraska came to develop and adopt its own standardized assessments; and
- (3) How the AQuESTT system was developed for the statewide assessment and reporting system as required pursuant to section 79-760.01, and if classifying schools in the manner outlined in such system is beneficial to Nebraska schools.

LR 419 (Hughes) Interim study to examine school meal programs in Nebraska.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine school meal programs in Nebraska, barriers to participation in school meal programs, and potential strategies to maximize the role of school meal programs in addressing child hunger. The committee shall consult with the State Department of Education for this study.

This study shall include, but need not be limited to, an examination of the following:

- (1) How the adoption of the community eligibility provision impacts the funding under the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act of participating schools or school districts;
- (2) The adequacy and appropriateness of using free and reduced-price lunch data and data collected by the Internal Revenue Service to calculate the poverty allowance within the funding formula under the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act;
- (3) The adequacy and appropriateness of the state's current community eligibility provision multiplier which is used to determine funding under the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act for schools and school districts and which is based on a school's or school district's direct certification population;
- (4) How past, current, and projected future funding under the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act impacts schools and school districts participating in or eligible for the community eligibility provision using the existing community eligibility provision multiplier and other options, with consideration for schools and school districts with large enrollments versus schools and school districts with smaller enrollments;
- (5) Recommendations for adjusting the community eligibility provision multiplier;
- (6) Recommendations for adjusting relevant state statutes to support continued and additional school and school district participation in the community eligibility provision; and
- (7) Any other related topics the committee deems appropriate.

LR 425 (Murman) Interim study to examine the challenges faced by families with special needs students in enrolling such students as option students in other school districts under the enrollment option program.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the challenges faced by families with special needs students in enrolling such students as option students in other school districts under the enrollment option program and how the Legislature can better provide guidance and resources to facilitate the best outcomes for families. In order to carry out the purpose of this resolution, the committee shall consider the input of families, school officials, and other entities as the committee deems necessary and beneficial.

LR 439 (McKinney) Interim study to explore whether the size of school districts has contributed to historical student underachievement within the Class V school district.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to explore whether the size of school districts has contributed to historical student underachievement within the Class V school district. This study should seek to understand whether the school district's size contributes to the success or lack thereof of students.

This study should include, but need not be limited to, answers to the following questions:

- (1) What are the prevailing trends in student performance and academic outcomes over the past decade in the Class V school district?
- (2) How do such trends compare to regional, state, and national benchmarks?
- (3) What is the total student population of the Class V school district?
- (4) What percentage of students in the Class V school district are classified as living below the poverty line?
- (5) What is the racial and ethnic composition of the student body in the Class V school district?
- (6) What is the socioeconomic status distribution among the student population in the Class V school district?
- (7) How many schools are within the Class V school district?
- (8) What is the geographical size of the Class V school district?
- (9) What is the student-to-teacher ratio in the Class V school district?
- (10) How many administrators are employed in the Class V school district?
- (11) How many administrators in the Class V school district have teaching certificates but do not teach?
- (12) What are the average test scores for students in the Class V school district?
- (13) What is the graduation rate of students in the Class V school district?
- (14) How do student outcomes in the Class V school district compare to state and national averages?
- (15) Are there significant achievement gaps among different demographic groups within the Class V school district?
- (16) What percentage of students are on track to graduate on time in the Class V school district?
- (17) What is the annual turnover rate for teachers within the Class V school district?
- (18) What factors are cited by teachers as causing them to leave their positions in the Class V school district?
- (19) How does teacher turnover in the Class V school district compare to neighboring districts and national averages?
- (20) Are there specific schools within the Class V school district experiencing higher turnover rates? If so, where are the schools located?
- (21) What resources are available to schools within the Class V school district?
- (22) How are resources allocated among schools in the Class V school district?
- (23) What professional development opportunities are provided to teachers within the Class V school district?

- (24) What support services are available to students from disadvantaged backgrounds in the Class V school district?
- (25) What support services are available to teachers in the Class V school district?
- (26) What policies and practices regarding curriculum, assessment, and instruction are in place that cause undue hardship to students in the Class V school district?
- (27) How are decisions made regarding budget allocation and resource distribution for the Class V school district?
- (28) Are there specific initiatives or programs implemented to address the needs of students from low-income backgrounds in the Class V school district?
- (29) How does the Class V school district support teacher retention and professional growth?
- (30) What level of involvement do parents and community members have in the Class V school district?
- (31) Are there partnerships with local organizations or businesses to support educational initiatives in the Class V school district?
- (32) How do the Class V school district communicate with parents and community stakeholders about school policies and initiatives?
- (33) Are there barriers to parental involvement in the Class V school district, particularly among families facing socioeconomic challenges?

LR 440 (McKinney) Interim study to examine how to close the educational achievement gap in the Class V school district.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine how to close the educational achievement gap in the Class V school district. This study shall include, but need not be limited to, an examination of the following:

- (1) The demographic composition of the Class V school district, including racial and ethnic breakdowns, socioeconomic status, English language proficiency, and any other relevant factors that could influence educational outcomes;
- (2) The existing educational policies, curricula, teaching methods, and support systems to identify any biases or inequities that may be perpetuating the educational achievement gap;
- (3) The quality of teacher training and ongoing professional development opportunities in the Class V school district and whether teachers are equipped with culturally responsive teaching practices and strategies to effectively support diverse learners;
- (4) School, family, and community engagement and the communication, involvement, and support for families in need in the Class V school district;
- (5) What can be done to promote collaboration among educators, administrators, students, families, and stakeholders to foster continuous improvement through reflection, feedback, and evidence-based strategies;

- (6) The resource distribution across the Class V school district's schools to see if there is equity for marginalized students;
- (7) The Class V school district's partnerships with community organizations and businesses that provide additional support services or could;
- (8) The African American Achievement Council's status and engagement with the Class V school district board and administration;
- (9) Whether students have access to rigorous academic programs, advanced coursework, extracurricular activities, and support services, such as counseling and special education, in the Class V school district to see if there is equitable access for all students, regardless of background;
- (10) The availability and effectiveness of programs aimed at addressing the social and emotional needs of students in the Class V school district, including mental health services, counseling, and conflict resolution programs;
- (11) Data analytics that track student performance in the Class V school district to identify patterns of underachievement and student progress over time;
- (12) Possible accountability measures that would help ensure that interventions are implemented effectively and outcomes are improving in the Class V school district;
- (13) The curriculum of the Class V school district to see if the curriculum reflects the diversity of students' backgrounds and experiences;
- (14) What culturally relevant content and teaching materials would enhance engagement and academic success in the Class V school district;
- (15) The availability and effectiveness of early childhood education programs in the Class V school district, including pre-kindergarten and kindergarten readiness initiatives, that are supposed to ensure all students have a strong foundation for academic success;
- (16) The Class V school district board's role in promoting educational equity through policy, resource allocation, and oversight;
- (17) The Class V school district board's community engagement and advocacy efforts for underserved populations;
- (18) The monitoring of student progress in the Class V school district and Class V school district leadership accountability; and
- (19) The collaboration of Class V school district board members with district leadership on equity initiatives to close the achievement gap.

LR 496 (Education Committee) Interim study to examine issues relating to the State Department of Education.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine issues relating to the State Department of Education.

Government Committee

LR 355 (Conrad) Interim study to examine and compare the process for adopting, promulgating, and eliminating rules and regulations in Nebraska and in other states, and updates to the Administrative Procedure Act.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine and compare the processes for adopting, promulgating, and eliminating rules and regulations in Nebraska and other states, to explore updates, improvements, and cleanup of the Administrative Procedure Act to make the act more transparent and accessible to the public and the Legislature, and to explore and compare different means of oversight employed nationwide by legislative bodies over administrative agencies.

LR 426 (Conrad) Interim study relating to public records requests to determine whether reports of the resistance of government entities to public record requests are representative or isolated.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study relating to public records requests to determine whether reports of the resistance of government entities to public record requests are representative or isolated. The study should determine whether any additional statutory reforms beyond Laws 2023, LB43, are justified in response to the Supreme Court's opinion in *Nebraska Journalism Trust v. Dept. of Env't. & Energy*, 316 Neb. 174 (2024), to ensure that the purposes of sections 84-712 to 84-712.09 are being met and that Nebraskans have prompt, unfettered, and robust access to open government.

Subdivision (1)(b) of section 84-712.03 allows for any person who is denied access to public records to petition the Attorney General for assistance in obtaining the requested records. This study should look to see how such requests are made by the public to the Attorney General and whether there is an online portal or some similar means to effectuate assistance. The study should also determine how many such requests have been accommodated or responded to by the Attorney General. The study should also determine what the Attorney General did in response to such requests, what the resolutions of the requests were, and how many such requests were made and served in the last several years. Additionally, body-worn camera footage is presumed to be a public record, but is regularly withheld or released solely at the whim of police agencies. Legislative Bill 366, introduced in the One Hundred Eighth Legislature, First Session, would provide a very narrow expansion mandating release of body-worn camera footage in custody deaths after the conclusion of the statutorily required grand jury process. This component of Legislative Bill 366 was strongly resisted by law enforcement and prosecutors despite the strong public interest in accessing such footage and law enforcement and prosecutors contradicted their position regarding body-worn camera footage more broadly as an accountability tool in news stories and legislative testimony during the hearing before the Judiciary Committee on Legislative Bill 1185, introduced in the One Hundred Eighth Legislature, Second Session. This study should also focus on what statutory reforms are necessary to provide for the public's right to access to police body-worn camera footage in instances in which the public interest is strong or when law enforcement releases such footage in part themselves.

In order to complete the purpose of this study, the committee shall obtain input from the public and impacted individuals regarding the subject matter of the study.

Health Committee

LR 415 (Cavanaugh, M.) Interim study to examine the historic unwind of the federal COVID-19 Medicaid continuous coverage requirements as implemented by the Department of Health and Human Services.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the historic unwind of the federal COVID-19 Medicaid continuous coverage requirements as implemented by the Department of Health and Human Services. In March 2020, Congress passed a law responding to the COVID-19 pandemic that generally required states to keep most people enrolled in Medicaid coverage regardless of changes, such as a change in income. Nearly three hundred ninety thousand Nebraskans had been relying on Medicaid coverage for their health needs during the pandemic. The federal protections ended in March 2023. The department began the unwinding process and restarted terminations, the first of which were effective April 1, 2023. The unwinding is an unprecedented health coverage disenrollment event. Between April 2023 and February 2024, more than ninety-four thousand Nebraskans were terminated from Medicaid coverage during the unwinding period. The department has been tracking data throughout the unwinding process, which is projected to continue through summer 2024.

This study will examine the practices utilized by the department during the Medicaid unwind and related health coverage outcomes for Nebraskans. This study shall include, but not be limited to, data collection and information gathering regarding:

- (1) Eligibility, enrollment, application, renewal, and redetermination policies and practices for the medical assistance program and the Children's Health Insurance Program during the unwinding period;
- (2) Lessons learned from continuous coverage and unwinding; and
- (3) Opportunities and plans to improve the systems utilized in eligibility, enrollment, application, renewal, and redetermination processes for the medical assistance program and the Children's Health Insurance Program.

LR 422 (Fredrickson) Interim study to examine the needs, successes, and challenges relating to behavioral health in Nebraska.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the needs, successes, and challenges relating to behavioral health in Nebraska, including the regional behavioral health authorities. In 1974, the Legislature established the six behavioral health regions to address the diverse populations, resources, and needs of the state. State statutes set out the responsibility of each behavioral health region to plan, coordinate, develop, and evaluate the publicly funded behavioral health service system by addressing needs, gaps, and barriers and contracting with community-based service organizations to provide behavioral health treatment, rehabilitation, recovery, and prevention activities.

Behavioral health regions are local units of government that the Division of Behavioral Health of the Department of Health and Human Services contracts with to engage in planning and service implementation.

This study should include, but need not be limited to, an examination of the following:

- (1) Behavioral health needs and challenges throughout the state, particularly in rural Nebraska;
- (2) Services provided by the behavioral health regions and partner providers;
- (3) Challenges to funding utilization, including, but not limited to, the medical assistance program unwinding, COVID-19 pandemic policies, and staffing shortages;
- (4) The current and historical capacity of the Lincoln Regional Center;
- (5) The documented lack of flexibility and slow-walking of approval of new projects by the Division of Behavioral Health; and
- (6) Opioid settlement projects and funds disbursement.

Judiciary Committee

LR 347 (Dungan) Interim study to examine the frequency of claims brought under the Political Subdivisions Torts Claims Act and the State Tort Claims Act and the frequency of tort claims brought against other states.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the frequency of claims brought under the Political Subdivisions Torts Claims Act and the State Tort Claims Act and the frequency of tort claims brought against other states.

The study shall include, but need not be limited to, an examination of the following:

- (1) The number of claims brought against the State of Nebraska or its political subdivisions for intentional torts committed by employees of the state or its political subdivisions or individuals in the custody or care of the state or its political subdivisions prior to September 1, 2020;
- (2) The costs associated with claims brought against the State of Nebraska or its political subdivisions for intentional torts committed by employees of the state or its political subdivisions or individuals in the custody or care of the state or its political subdivisions prior to September 1, 2020;
- (3) The number of claims brought against other states or political subdivisions of other states for intentional torts committed by employees of other states or political subdivisions of other states; and
- (4) The frequency or number of criminal charges filed for abuse or neglect against employees of the State of Nebraska or its political subdivisions or individuals in the care or custody of the state or its political subdivisions since September 1, 2020.

LR 351 (Raybould) Interim study to examine the safe storage of firearms.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study on the safe storage of firearms. The study should include an examination of best practices, policies, and laws regarding the safe storage of firearms in homes, schools, and workplaces. Additionally, the study should examine and compare laws from neighboring states regarding the safe storage of firearms.

Retirement Committee

LR 408 (McDonnell) Interim study to examine the Nebraska Public Employees Retirement Systems administered by the Public Employees Retirement Board.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the Nebraska Public Employees Retirement Systems administered by the Public Employees Retirement Board, including the State Employees Retirement System of the State of Nebraska, the Retirement System for Nebraska Counties, the School Employees Retirement System of the State of Nebraska, the Nebraska State Patrol Retirement System, and the Nebraska Judges Retirement System. The study may also examine the retirement system administered under the Class V School Employees Retirement Act. The study shall examine issues as they relate to the funding needs, benefits, contributions, and the administration of each retirement system.

LR 409 (McDonnell) Interim study to carry out the provisions of section 13-2402, which requires the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee to monitor underfunded defined benefit plans administered by political subdivisions.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to carry out the provisions of section 13-2402, which requires the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee to monitor underfunded defined benefit plans administered by political subdivisions. The study shall include a public hearing for the presentation of reports by political subdivisions with underfunded defined benefit plans.

Revenue Committee

LR 349 (Linehan) Interim study to examine the funding sources, including tax incentives and other methods, used for early childhood education programs in Nebraska.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the funding sources, including tax incentives and other methods, used for early childhood education programs in Nebraska. This study should include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following:

- (1) What resources the State of Nebraska invests into early childhood education;
- (2) The history of early childhood education and its funding in Nebraska;

- (3) What local and community partners the State of Nebraska works with for early childhood education; and
- (4) Early child care needs in Nebraska.

Upon conclusion of the study, the committee should also send the report of its findings to the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature and the Education Committee of the Legislature.

LR 367 (Day) Interim study to examine mechanisms to slow the rise of property tax valuations during periods of rapid property value increases.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine mechanisms to slow the rise of property tax valuations during periods of rapid property value increases. While the dramatic increase in home prices over the past ten years has shown the strength of our state's housing market, it has also created challenges for homeowners, as increasing property taxes have strained family budgets. This study should explore whether there are ways to flatten valuation increases so that homeowners could have more predictability in their year-to-year property tax bills.

The interim study shall include, but need not be limited to:

- (1) A review of available data on the increases in home valuations in Nebraska;
- (2) A state-by-state comparison of methods used to slow the growth of property tax valuations;
- (3) A review of county board of equalization methods of complying with the uniformity clause of the Constitution of Nebraska;
- (4) A comparison of assessment and equalization methods across counties in determining actual value, including the sales comparison approach, the income approach, and the cost approach; and
- (5) A consideration of potential changes the Legislature could adopt to address challenges that homeowners face from rising home valuations.

LR 384 (Linehan) Interim study to examine nonprofit organizations, their nonprofit status, the way they use their nontaxable income, and the ways they use their nontaxable income for political purposes.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study nonprofit organizations, their nonprofit status, the ways in which such organizations use their nontaxable income, and the ways in which such organizations use their nontaxable income for political purposes.

LR 414 (Meyer) Interim study to determine the feasibility of having the state run all property assessment in Nebraska, merging county assessors with another office, or having county assessors be an appointed position.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to determine the feasibility of having the state run all property assessment in Nebraska, merging county assessors with another office, or having county assessors be an appointed position.

LR 418 (Dover) Interim study to examine the current property tax valuation process.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the current property tax valuation process. The study shall examine the different classes of real property, including residential, commercial, and agricultural, to ascertain if there is a more equitable process to determine property valuation that will result in a property tax that more clearly reflects the taxpayer's ability to pay based on the revenue produced by that real property, when possible.

Transportation Committee

LR 380 (DeBoer) Interim study to examine issues regarding affordable broadband in Nebraska.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine issues regarding affordable broadband in Nebraska.

The Affordable Connectivity Program, a federal benefit program to provide affordable broadband to households, announced that in February of 2024 it would no longer be able to enroll new households, and that by April of 2024 funding for the program will likely lapse. In Nebraska, approximately ninety-six thousand households have enrolled in the federal program. Nebraska is investing unprecedented amounts of money into providing broadband to areas that are currently unserved or underserved. It is vitally important that households are able to afford the broadband provided in such areas.

This study should include, but need not be limited to, an examination of the following:

- (1) Prices currently offered by Internet service providers to customers in service territories, including, but not limited to, available discounts and the cost of any devices required by the Internet service provider for broadband service, the speed of broadband service provided at each price point, the type of broadband service available in such areas, and any data caps related to customer plans offered;
- (2) Anticipated prices by Internet service providers in areas that are currently unserved or underserved who have received or who have applied to receive state or federal funds to provide Internet services in such areas, including the type of broadband service expected to be provided;
- (3) Government-led efforts to provide or encourage affordable broadband services, including, but not limited to, ways to coordinate efforts between the Legislature, the Public Service Commission, the Nebraska Broadband Office, Internet service providers, and the federal government to encourage and support affordable broadband;

Transportation Committee - continued

- (4) Long-term issues relating to broadband deployment in high-cost, low- density areas, including, but not limited to, maintenance costs, legal obligations to continually provide service, consumer price variability, and new and emerging technologies; and
- (5) Any other issues relating to the affordability and reliability of broadband services in Nebraska.

NASB BOARD QUICKS

A MONTHLY E-UPDATE OF KEY DATES FROM THE NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BOARDS



1,960,000 Nebraskans 324,000 Students 1,700 Locally Elected School Board Members 260 Member Districts/ESUs ONE NEBRASKA

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Now Hiring! NASB is hiring an IT Specialist ... visit the About Us page to learn more.



NASB Leadership Workshop - June 5-6 - Lincoln

NASB Member Golf Outing - June 12 - Kearney

Email sendorf@NASBonline.org to sign up



School Leaders & Law Conference - June 12-13 - Kearney



Call for Legislative Proposals - Due July 1

Legislative Proposals for 2025 can be submitted at any time between now and July 1 at <https://members.nasbonline.org/government-relations/legislative-proposals>

Board Candidate Workshop - July 9 - Ogallala

Board Candidate Workshop - July 10 - Hastings

Board Candidate Workshop - July 11 - Ord

Board Candidate Workshop - July 16 - Milford

ALICAP Summer Workshop - July 10 - Gering

ALICAP Summer Workshop - July 11 - Kearney

ALICAP Summer Workshop - July 12 - Lincoln

Continued on Page 2



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PAGE 2



Area Membership Meetings - August & September



North Platte, Gering, Valentine, Kearney, York, Norfolk, Nebraska City, Omaha & Fremont



YOUR 2024 PLATINUM AFFILIATES

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2024-2025 GRADES 7-12 BUDGET SUMMARY				
Area	2024-25	2023-24	Difference	Reasons for increase/decrease
Agriculture	\$ 12,088.68	\$ 9,932.78	\$2,155.90	cost of materials for new CASE nat resources class (\$3498)
Art (290)	\$ 1,324.05	\$ 1,563.16	-\$239.11	
Business (270)	\$ 3,987.58	\$ 3,549.96	\$437.62	accounting numbers are up slightly
English (210)	\$ 2,111.52	\$ 2,112.30	-\$0.78	NRI to Dan; 2 bookshelves
FCS (260)	\$ 4,811.04	\$ 1,725.70	\$3,085.34	startup costs for physical therapy class; may get books at a reduced cost
Industrial Tech (280)	\$ 3,663.85	\$ 2,700.00	\$963.85	need to replenish sanding supplies and update sanding equipment
Instrumental Music (194)	\$ 2,303.40	\$ 4,587.80	-\$2,284.40	not purchasing new instruments; what about rental?
Math (240)	\$ 455.93	\$ 757.64	-\$301.71	
PE (268)	\$ 2,444.22	\$ 823.40	\$1,620.82	seeking alternate funding for TeamBuildr items
Science (250)	\$ 6,674.58	\$ 6,156.63	\$517.95	cost of robotics addition to applied science
Social Studies (230)	\$ 70.60	\$ 2,226.12	-\$2,155.52	
Spanish (225)	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 500.00	\$500.00	new teacher
Vocal Music (297)	\$ 5,824.08	\$ 5,679.75	\$144.33	
General Education (295)	\$ 27,500.00	\$ 26,500.00	\$1,000.00	cost of furniture continues to rise; could limit furniture purchase this yr; added paper here
REG ED TOTAL (1100)	\$ 74,259.53	\$ 68,815.24	\$5,444.29	cost of 2 startup classes; accounting numbers are up
SPED (1200)	\$ 6,140.08	\$ 4,653.17	\$1,486.91	curriculum costs
GUIDANCE (2120)	\$ 2,575.00	\$ 2,875.16	-\$300.16	
IMPROVEMENT OF INSTRUCTION (2210)	0	0	\$0.00	in district budget since 22-23 budget cycle
INSTRUCTION AND CURRICULUM (2212)	0	\$ 2,810.00	-\$2,810.00	Moved to Curriculum/Instruction Code on District Budget
STAFF DEV (2213)	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$0.00	
LIBRARY (2220)	\$ 2,810.00	\$ 2,771.84	\$38.16	
PRINCIPAL (2410)	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,950.00	-\$950.00	moved paper to general budget; removed misc.; removed furniture cost
TOTAL ALL	\$94,784.61	\$91,875.41	\$2,909.20	Cost of Natural Resources class, Physical Therapy class, Accounting numbers are up

Elementary Budget Summary

Area	2024-2025	2023-2024	Difference	Reasons for Increase/Decrease
KDG	\$899.18	\$2,222.10	-\$1,322.92	
1st	\$542.54	\$609.20	-\$66.66	
2nd	\$962.64	\$1,324.24	-\$361.60	
3rd	\$700.28	\$700.00	\$0.28	
4th	\$653.80	\$342.60	\$311.20	
5th (150)	\$451.53	\$420.89	\$30.64	
6th (160)	\$2,614.94	\$2,745.89	-\$130.95	
Art (190)	\$954.28	\$857.97	\$96.31	
Title I (101)	\$200.96	\$250.73	-\$49.77	
Reading Intervention	\$361.10	\$768.76	-\$407.66	
Math Intervention	\$249.86	\$598.33	-\$348.47	
Vocal Mus (197)	\$614.89	\$655.04	-\$40.15	
Instr Mus (294)	\$350.00	\$350.00	\$0.00	
PE (168)	\$960.34	\$954.92	\$5.42	
Science	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$0.00	
General Ed (170)	\$16,783.00	\$14,500.00	\$2,283.00	
Instructional Technology	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	
REG ED TOTAL (1100)	\$29,599.34	\$29,600.67	-\$1.33	
SPED (1200)	\$3,300.00	\$2,993.90	\$306.10	
SUMMER SCHOOL (1300)	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	
PRESCHOOL (4401)	\$2,686.72	\$3,046.13	-\$359.41	
GUIDANCE (2120)	\$575.00	\$675.00	-\$100.00	
HEALTH (2130)	\$7,700.00	\$7,700.00	\$0.00	
IMPROVEMENT OF INSTRUCTION (2210)		\$0.00	\$0.00	
INSTRUCTION AND CURRICULUM (2212)		\$0.00	\$0.00	
STAFF DEV (2213)	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	
LIBRARY (2220)	\$3,997.56	\$3,911.82	\$85.74	
PRINCIPAL (2410)	\$4,250.00	\$4,250.00	\$0.00	
TOTAL ALL	\$60,108.62	\$60,755.34	-\$646.72	

Operations of Building				22-23	23-24	24-25	Rationale
202610	2410	UTILITY/WATER	Village bills	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	
202610	2442	RENTALS EQUIP or VEHICLES		\$2,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	
		Lift Rental					
202610	2580	TRAVEL		\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	
202610	2610	GENERAL SUPPLIES		\$28,000.00	\$28,000.00	\$28,000.00	
202610	2621	NATURAL GAS/Electricity		\$40,000.00	\$160,000.00	\$150,000.00	
202610	2622	ELECTRICITY	DNU CODE	Combined with 2621 \$115,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
202610	2730	EQUIPMENT (initial/addtl/replace)	DNU CODE	Combined with 2620 2442 \$7,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Operation of Buil 2610				\$218,500.00	\$217,000.00	\$207,000.00	
Maintenance of Building							
202620	2340	OTHER PROFESSIONAL SERVICE		\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	
		Pest control/etc.					
202620	2420	CLEANING SERVICE(2600)		\$17,500.00	\$17,200.00	\$15,000.00	
		Trash Services				\$7,700.00	
		Snow removal				\$4,000.00	
		Uniforms/Mops				\$3,300.00	
202620	2431	REPAIRS AND MAINT		\$40,500.00	\$60,000.00		
		Gym Floor refinishing				\$10,000.00	
		Roofs				\$15,000.00	leaks/etc
		Summer Projects				\$20,000.00	
		Electrical Contractors				\$5,000.00	
		HVAC Contractors				\$10,000.00	
202620	2431	UPKEEP REPAIRS-CONTRCT/AGREE		\$2,400.00	\$2,600.00		
		Alarm-Continent (we hold contracts)				\$900.00	
		Midwest Fire/Ext (we hold contracts)				\$1,700.00	
202620	2442	RENTALS EQUIP or VEHICLES		\$0.00	\$8,000.00		

202620	2450	CONSTRUCT (4000)						
202620	2520	PROP/LIABILTY INSURANCE		\$82,000.00	\$85,000.00	\$85,000.00		
202620	2610	GENERAL SUPPLIES		\$87,000.00	\$83,500.00	\$83,500.00		
		Paint						
		Cleaning Supplies						
		flooring						
		Summer Projects						
202620	2720	BUILDING LEASE/RENOVTN		\$116,266.61	\$181,104.00	\$130,000.00	Flexible Line Item for large purchaes/repairs. Assists in balancing the budget	
202620	2730	EQUIPMENT (initial/addtl/replace) DNU Code	CHANGE to 739	\$29,000.00	\$31,200.00	\$30,000.00		
		Radio for Communication						
		Electrical Repairs(fixtures,bulbs)						
		Drills,ladders,hand tools						
		TBD						
		Plumbing replace/add						
202620	2731	MACHINERY PURCHASE		\$10,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00		
						\$0.00		
Maint of Building 2620				\$414,666.61	\$513,604.00	\$466,100.00		
Care / Upkeep of Grounds								
202630	2340	OTHER PROFESSIONAL SERVCE		\$10,000.00	\$14,000.00	\$14,000.00		
		FB Field Lines/5th Season						
202630	2420	CLEANING SERVICE(2600)		\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$15,000.00		
		Garbage Service						
		Recycling						
202630	2431	REPARS/MANTNCE(2600/2700)		\$49,500.00	\$49,000.00	\$45,000.00		
		Mower Repair						
		Utility Vehicle Repair						

		Sprinkler Repair/Main					
		Sidewalk repairs					
		Parking Lot Repairs					
		Summer Projects					
202630	2610	GENERAL SUPPLIES			\$16,600.00	\$16,000.00	\$16,000.00
		Seed,dirt, rock,					
		Weed Killer					
		Paint					
202630	2730	EQUIPMENT	DNU Code/Moved to 2731		\$6,000.00		
		Bobcat Lawn Trade					\$7,500.00
202630	2732	VEHICLE PURCHASE			\$ -	\$30,000.00	\$0.00
202630	2626	GASOLINE			\$750.00	\$1,000.00	
		Mowers					\$1,000.00
Care/Upkeep Grc 2630					\$102,850.00	\$130,000.00	\$98,500.00
Care / Upkeep of Equipment (repair furniture/mac							
202640	2431	REPARS/MANTNCE(2600/2700)			\$17,000.00	\$17,000.00	\$17,000.00
		TBD					
Care/Upkeep Eq 2640					\$17,000.00	\$17,000.00	\$17,000.00
Vehicle Operation / Maintenance							
202650	2431	REPARS/MANTNCE(2600/2700)			\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00
		Pick-up/gator					
202650	2440	RENTALS OR LEASING			\$ -		
202650	2626	GASOLINE STATION			\$750.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00
		pick-up					
202650	2731	MACHINERY PURCHASE			\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00	\$25,000.00

Curriculum and Assessment Budget (Proposed)							
Improve Instruction				24-25	23-24	22-23	21-22
202210	2320	PROFES ED SERVICES				\$460.00	
202210	2330	EMPLOY TRAIN AND DEV		\$6,500.00	\$6,500.00	\$3,500.00	\$5,000.00
202210	2340	OTHER PROFESSIONAL SERVICE				\$200.00	\$200.00
202210	2580	TRAVEL		\$1,000.00		\$200.00	
202210	2610	GENERAL SUPPLIES		\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$4,615.00
202210	2643	WEB/CLOUD BASED SOFTWARE		\$6,680.00	\$5,661.25	\$850.00	\$850.00
		NWEA Map growth/Canvas/ Kami/fastbridge				\$12,350.00	\$9,000.00
202210	2810	DUES AND FEES		\$600.00	\$685.00	\$335.00	\$135.00
Curriculum Development							
202212	2320	PROFES ED SERVICES		\$460.00	\$310.00		\$6,000.00
202212	2330	EMPLOY TRANG/DEVELOP Spring Approved				\$5,200.00	\$2,200.00
202212	2610	GENERAL SUPPLIES Spring Approval		\$2,500.00		\$6,569.40	\$150.00
		Breakfast for testing			\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	
202212	2643	WEB/CLOUD BASED SFTWARE		\$5,000.00	\$2,500.00		\$10,850.00
		COGAT HAL/fastbridge		\$83.75		\$965.00	
		On to College					
				\$23,823.75	\$17,656.25	\$32,629.40	\$39,000.00
				\$6,167.50	-\$14,973.15	-\$6,370.60	

Instructional Technology Budget (Proposed)								
Non-Salary Related Instructional Technology Proposed Budget					2024-2025	2023-2024	2022-2023	2021-2022
202230	2330	EMPLOY TRANG/DEVELOP	24-25 Notes		\$400.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00
		Workshps/training (NETA)	NETA (price increase)					
202230	2443	LEASE COMPUTER/EQUIP			\$0.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
		Copier Lease	Lease pd elsewhere					
202230	2530	COMMUNICATIONS						
202230	2610	GENERAL SUPPLIES				\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
			Gaggle email backup/ESU5 PS Consortium/deep freeze (expires, we paid for three years in 2021)		\$40,000.00	\$24,000.00		
202230	2643	WEB/CLOUD BASED SFTWARE					\$12,000.00	\$ -
	2643	Learning Mngt Software (canvas)					\$12,000.00	
202230	2650	SUPPLIES/TECH RELATED			\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00
			Need to purchase student computers now					
202230	2734	TECH RELATED HARDWARE			\$65,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$35,000.00
202230	2735	TECH SOFTWARE			\$7,500.00	\$15,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$5,000.00
					\$130,900.00	\$110,300.00	\$99,300.00	\$55,300.00
				Difference	\$20,600.00	\$11,000.00	\$44,000.00	
				Percentage of Total Budget:		.10% of total Budget		

INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BASEBALL COMPLEX

This Interlocal Agreement ("Agreement") is made and entered into under the provisions of the Nebraska Interlocal Cooperation Act, NEB. REV. STAT. §§ 13-801 to 13-827 ("Act"), between **Washington County School District 89-0024**, commonly known as **Arlington Public Schools** ("School"), the **Village of Arlington** ("Village"), and the **Washington County Agricultural Society (Ag Society)**". The parties are referred to collectively as "Parties."

WHEREAS, the Act provides that two or more public agencies may enter into an agreement for joint or cooperative action, and this Agreement is made and entered into pursuant to the provisions of that Act; and

WHEREAS, the Parties are public agencies and political subdivisions of the State of Nebraska;

WHEREAS, the Parties desire to make the most efficient use of their taxing authority and other powers to enable them to cooperate with each other and other entities as further agreed on the basis of mutual advantage to provide goods, services, and facilities in a manner and pursuant to forms of governmental organization that will accord the best results in terms of geographic, economic, population, and other factors that will influence the needs and development of the Parties; and

WHEREAS, the Parties have passed resolutions authorizing each party to approve and enter into this Agreement;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants contained herein, it is agreed by the parties as follows:

1. No Separate Legal Entity. This Agreement does not establish a separate legal or joint entity.

2. Purpose. The purpose of this Agreement is to share certain real property and its improvements owned by the School and Ag Society (hereinafter "Facility"). The real property is legally described and displayed in **Exhibit A** which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference.

3. Term. This Agreement shall commence on June 1, 2024, and shall continue through May 31, 2029, unless terminated by the Parties as

provided herein. This Agreement shall automatically renew for an additional one-year periods unless at least one of the Parties gives written notice to the other Parties of nonrenewal at least sixty (60) days before the conclusion of the term.

4. Administration. The School's Superintendent, the Village's Chairman of the Board, and the Ag Society's President (collectively "Administrators") shall be jointly responsible for administering the cooperative undertaking described in this Agreement. The Administrators may take any action authorized, either explicitly or implicitly, by the Interlocal Cooperation Act, including any action that may be necessary to perform the duties and functions as provided in this Agreement. Either Party may change their Administrator and shall provide the other Parties with the name of the new person.

5. Control and Supervision. During their respective use of the Facility, the Parties shall exercise that degree of control and supervision as is necessary for the effective management and use of the Facility. Such control and supervision will include the enforcement of any rules and regulations adopted by the Parties for the safety of persons engaged in use of the Facility.

6. Operations and Use.

The Village shall have the right and responsibility for the control of the use of the Facility, owned by the School. The Ag Society shall have the rights and responsibility for the control of the Facility owned by the Ag Society. The use of the Facility shall be subject to the following:

- A. The right of the School to use the Facility for its baseball and/or other programs, provided that such use is properly coordinated with the Village and the Ag Society;
- B. The right of the Ag Society (or such other entity or body duly appointed by the Ag Society) to use the Facility, provided that no automobiles, farm machinery, animals, livestock, temporary building(s), or any and all other items of personal or inter-mixed property are placed in, on, or within the fenced boundaries of the ball diamond located on the; and
- C. The general right of all parties to access or enter upon the Facility for any reasonable purpose as long as it does not interfere with any use granted by this Agreement to any other Party.

7. Easement. The Ag Society grants and conveys an easement to the Village and the School with regards to the Facility for the ingress, egress, regress and parking associated with the operations of use under paragraph 6, and the Ag Society hereby reserves unto itself a like and similar easement with regard to the Facility.

8. Use of Facility by Other Persons or Organizations. The Parties may allow other individual, entities, or organization not subject to this Agreement to use the Facility, provided that the use by others does not interfere with the rights granted to the Parties in this Agreement.

9. General Care. The Parties responsible for the general care of the Facility are as follows:

A. School - from March 1st through the May 31 each year for the baseball field fenced area and related concession/restroom structures. The School will be responsible for fertilizer and broadleaf control applications, aerating, and seeding each year, provided that the Village shall reimburse the School for 50% of the associated costs within 30 days after receiving an invoice for the same.

B. Ag Society - mowing and care of grass areas outside of the fenced ball field year round with the exception of March 1 through May 31.

C. Village - care of baseball field fenced area not under the direct care of school as listed in Section 9A.

“General care of the Facility” means mowing, fertilizing, watering, and otherwise maintaining the ball fields (baselines, bases, etc.); weed control; cleaning the concession stand (including its appliances, sinks, grandstands, dugouts, batting cages, and other concession stand equipment); providing maintenance and supplies for the Facility restrooms and press box.

10. Facility Improvements and Maintenance. The Parties may make such alterations, improvements, and repairs to the Facility as it desires so long as (1) the Administrators of the governing bodies approve improvements under \$5,000 (2) the governing boards of the other Parties approve improvements over \$5,000 in writing and (2) the alterations, improvements, or repairs that need to be approved by the appropriate regulatory authority are so approved by that authority. The School and Village agree to be responsible for the payment of any and all repairs, alterations, improvements, and replacements it makes to the Facility except as otherwise agreed to by the parties in writing. All improvements made to the Facility

shall be and remain the personal property of the Party that owns the real property on which the improvements are located.

11. Utilities. The Village shall pay for all electricity, gas, water, sewer, water and sewer connections, light, heat, and power used, rendered, or supplied upon or in connection with the Facility and shall indemnify the Ag Society and School against any liability on such account. The School will reimburse the Village for the cost of any electricity and water that is consumed in association with the baseball field and concessions during the months of March, April, and May.

12. Manner of Acquiring, Holding, and Disposing of Real and Personal Property. The Parties' respective governing boards shall determine the manner of acquiring, holding, or disposing of real property in the event that such a need arises. In no event shall the Administrators have the authority to acquire real property on behalf of the Parties. The Administrators shall have the authority to acquire and hold any personal property that is needed or required for the implementation of any purpose of this Agreement. The title to all such personal property shall be held in the name of the acquiring party for the benefit of all Parties. The Parties shall have the authority to dispose of such personal property, provided that (a) any such disposal shall comply with state law, and (b) any funds raised from such sale shall be shared by the parties in proportion to their contribution made to obtain the property.

13. Financing and Budgeting. Each party will budget separately to pay the costs and expenses that it will reasonably and necessarily incur to fulfill its obligations under this agreement.

14. Damage or Destruction. The Parties agree that in the event of the damage or destruction of the Facility, they shall be restored to the same use to the extent possible with insurance proceeds. No party shall be obligated to restore the Facility beyond what can be provided with insurance proceeds. In the event that insurance proceeds are insufficient to repair or replace the Facility, this Agreement shall terminate.

15. Taxes. This Agreement does not grant the Parties any authority to levy, collect, or account for any tax authorized under sections 13-318 through 13-326 or 13-2813 through 2816. The Party owning the Property will be liable for any real estate tax or assessment on such Property.

16. Nondiscrimination. The Parties shall not discriminate against any employee or applicant who is to be employed for performance of this Agreement with respect to his or her hire, tenure, terms, conditions, or

privileges of employment, because of his race, color, religion, sex, disability, or national origin.

17. Employment Eligibility Verification. The Parties shall use a federal immigration verification system to determine the work eligibility status of employees hired on or after October 1, 2009 and who are physically performing services within the State of Nebraska. If a party employs or contracts with any subcontractor in connection with this Agreement, the contracting party shall include a provision in the contract requiring the subcontractor to use a federal immigration verification system to determine the work eligibility status of new employees physically performing services within the State of Nebraska.

18. Termination. The Parties may terminate this Agreement prior to its scheduled termination date only if each of the Parties' governing boards passes a resolution and submits a copy of it to the other Parties. Any funds or property in possession of the Parties as a result of this Agreement shall be divided and distributed to the party that contributed it or funded its purchases. Termination shall not relieve a Party of any obligation for its share of any outstanding indebtedness or expense incurred under this Agreement.

19. Default. A Party shall be in default under this Agreement if it breaches, defaults on, or otherwise fails to perform or satisfy any agreement, obligation, term, covenant, condition, or provision set forth herein or arising hereunder, and such breach, default, or failure to perform continues for a period of thirty (30) days after the Party receives written notice of such breach or failure to perform from the other Party; or, if such breach cannot reasonably be cured within such 30-day period, and the breaching party fails to commence to cure such breach within such thirty (30) days after notice from the non-breaching Party or fails to proceed diligently to cure such breach within a reasonable time thereafter. Upon default by a Party, the remaining Parties may pursue any remedy provided by law.

20. Insurance. Each Party shall obtain and maintain liability insurance coverage for any personal injuries to any person or person on or about the Facility during the terms of this Agreement in the amounts of \$1,000,000 for one accident and \$5,000,000 in the aggregate. The insurance required in this paragraph, through a policy or endorsement, shall include a provision that the policy and endorsements may not be canceled or modified without thirty (30) days prior written notice to the other Parties. Each Party's liability policy shall name the other parties as additional insureds. Each Party shall furnish a certificate of insurance to the undersigned representatives of every other Party prior to commencement of this Agreement. The parties shall

otherwise obtain and pay for such other insurance it deems necessary and appropriate or as otherwise required by law.

21. Indemnification. To the extent permitted by applicable law, but without waiving any rights under any applicable state governmental immunity act, the Parties hereto agree to indemnify each other from any and all liabilities, claims, expenses, losses or damages, including attorneys' fees, which may arise in connection with the use of the Facility and which are caused, in whole or in part, by the negligent act or omission of the indemnifying party.

22. New Members. The Parties may add additional parties to this Agreement by the unanimous consent of the then current member Parties. The Administrators shall establish the fees, costs, charges, assessments, and other conditions required for participation by the new member.

23. Notice. Each Party giving any Notice ("Notice") under this Agreement must give written Notice by personal delivery, registered or certified Mail (in each case, return receipt requested and postage prepaid), or electronic mail (to the School's Superintendent, Village's Mayor, and the Ag Society's President with receipt confirmed). Notice shall be sent to the following addressees at the following addresses:

School: Arlington Public Schools
Attn: Superintendent
705 N. 9th Street; PO Box 580
Arlington, NE 68002-0580

Village: Arlington Village Board of Trustees
Attn: Paul Krause, Chairman
245 N. 2nd; PO Box 370
Arlington, NE 68002

Fair Board: Washington County Agricultural Society
Attn: Jason Cloudt
PO Box 1
Arlington, NE 68002

Notice is effective only if the party giving the Notice has complied with this section.

24. Amendments and Modifications. The Parties may amend or modify this Agreement only by a signed, written unanimous agreement that identifies itself as an amendment or modification to this Agreement. No other alterations in the terms of this agreement shall be valid or binding.

25. Severability. If any provision of this Agreement is determined to be unenforceable, the remaining provisions of this Agreement remain in full force, if the essential terms and conditions of this Agreement for each party remain enforceable.

26. Counterparts. The Parties may execute this Agreement in multiple counterparts, each of which constitutes an original, and all of which, collectively, constitute only one agreement. The signatures of all of the Parties need not appear on the same counterpart, and delivery of an executed counterpart signature page by facsimile or other electronic means is as effective as executing and delivering this Agreement in the presence of the other Parties to this Agreement. This Agreement is effective upon delivery of one executed counterpart from each party to the other party. In proving this Agreement, a party must produce or account only for the executed counterpart of the party to be charged.

27. Assignment. The Parties shall not assign or otherwise dispose of this Agreement or any duty, right, or responsibility contemplated in this Agreement to any other person or entity without the previous written consent of the other Parties.

28. Entire Agreement. The Agreement is the complete and exclusive expression of the Parties' agreement on the matters contained in this Agreement. All prior and contemporaneous negotiations and agreements between the Parties on the matters contained in this Agreement are expressly merged into and superseded by this Agreement.

**WASHINGTON COUNTY SCHOOL
DISTRICT NO. 89-0024, A/K/A
ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

By: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

VILLAGE OF ARLINGTON

By: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

WASHINGTON COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

By: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____



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For all other customers, click below to convert your quote to an order.

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QUOTE #	QUOTE DATE	QUOTE REFERENCE	CUSTOMER #	GRAND TOTAL
NWKM580	5/2/2024	HP PROBOOK 455	6387312	\$47,077.00

QUOTE DETAILS				
ITEM	QTY	CDW#	UNIT PRICE	EXT. PRICE
HP ProBook 455 G10 15.6" Notebook - Full HD - AMD Ryzen 5 7530U - 8 GB - 25	65	7354109	\$676.88	\$43,997.20
Mfg. Part#: 7P3B6UT#ABA Contract: USETPA 2108001 IT Equipment and Services (2108001)				

SUBTOTAL	\$43,997.20
SHIPPING	\$0.00
SALES TAX	\$3,079.80
GRAND TOTAL	\$47,077.00

PURCHASER BILLING INFO	DELIVER TO
Billing Address: ARLINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION 705 N 9TH ST PO BOX 580 ARLINGTON, NE 68002-3032 Phone: (402) 478-4173 Payment Terms: Net 30-Expired	Shipping Address: ARLINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT KURT SANDERS 705 N 9TH ST ARLINGTON, NE 68002-3032 Shipping Method: UPS Ground
	Please remit payments to: CDW Government 75 Remittance Drive Suite 1515 Chicago, IL 60675-1515



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James B. Gessford
Daniel F. Kaplan
Gregory H. Perry
Joseph F. Bachmann*
R. J. Shortridge*
Joshua J. Schauer*
Derek A. Aldridge**
Justin J. Knight***
Charles Kaplan
Haleigh B. Carlson
Sara J. Tonjes



PERRY, GUTHERY, HAASE & GESSFORD, P.C., L.L.O.

Of Counsel
Thomas M. Haase

*Also admitted in Iowa
** Also admitted in Kansas
***Also admitted in Colorado

Ernest B. Perry (1876-1962)
Arthur E. Perry (1910-1982)
R.R. Perry (1917-1999)
Edwin C. Perry (1931-2012)

MEMORANDUM

To: Dr. Dan Schnoes, ESU 3 Administrator
From: Justin Knight, Perry Law Firm
Date: May 4, 2024
RE: 2024 School District Annual Policy Service Update

A. REQUIRED POLICY UPDATES

1. **Policy 5101 – Student Discipline.** LB 43’s “First Freedom Act” establishes the rights of students with respect to religious practices and tribal regalia. The Student Discipline Policy has been updated to reflect these new statutory rights.

2. **Policy 1050 – Access to Records.** LB 43 significantly altered Nebraska’s public records request laws. Nebraska residents are now entitled to the first eight (an increase from four) hours of staff time spent responding to the records request. From now on, non-residents are not entitled to any “free” time spent by staff responding to a records request. Policy 1050 has been updated to reflect these changes.

3. **Policy 8346 – Public Participation at Board Meetings.** LB 43 now requires public comment at every Board meeting, including special meetings, work sessions, and so forth. All other requirements for public comment remain in place, such as time limits for individual speakers. To comply with this new requirement, we have included two options for your board to consider: (1) Establish the same time limits for all meetings; or (2) Establish time limits for regular board meetings and different time limits for all other meetings. There is also an option (Option #3) to list public comment at the end of the agenda for non-regular board meetings (to ensure the Board completes its business before public comment).

4. **Policy 3130 – Purchasing Policies.** LB 287 imposes a new conflict of interest obligations on public employees. After a situation where a city employee apparently entered into a contract with a family member’s business, the Legislature imposed more stringent requirements on public employees. This change to policy makes clear that employees cannot contract on behalf of the District with themselves, family members, or their own businesses without prior Board approval. (The dollars amounts in this Policy are in the discretion of each Board and may be adjusted as each Board sees fit.)

5. Policy 8342 – Designated Method of Giving Notice – LB 287 eased the newspaper publication requirements for Board meetings. From now on, if a newspaper refuses, neglects, or is unable to timely publish notice of a board meeting, then the board may give notice by (1) posting the notice on the newspaper’s website (if available) and (2) posting the notice in conspicuous places within the district. (Note that this will change (again) on January 1, 2025 with new notice requirements, so this Policy will need to be revised against next winter.)

6. Policy 5201 – Promotion and Retention. LB 71 allows a parent or guardian to require their student re-take a grade level if the parent or guardian satisfies the requirements outlined in the new law. To comply with these new requirements, Policy 5201 has been updated.

7. Policy 3140 – Contracting for Services. LB 1300 imposes requirements on public bodies to ensure that no technology contracts are awarded to any “scrutinized company” (companies operated or owned by foreign adversaries). LB 1300 includes these new requirements that apply to any covered contracts. Each school will need to ensure that this certification will be incorporated into future technology agreements.

8. Policy 8240 – Membership in School Board Associations – LB 304 requires each School District to disclose on its website: (1) the dues paid to any association or organization of which the Board is a member; and (2) fees paid by the Board directly to a lobbyist or lobbying firm. This Policy reflects this new requirement.

9. Policy 6700 – Firearms – LB 1329 changed Nebraska’s laws regarding firearms on school grounds. Some of these changes involve changes to the statute’s wording. Other changes are more substantive (see below) and allow certain schools to allow more firearms at school. The changes in this Policy 6700 are limited to the technical changes to the new laws.

10. Policy 5008 – Attendance – LB 1029 makes clear that mental (as well as physical) illness is a basis for excused student absences. LB 1329 also makes changes to Nebraska’s attendance and truancy statutes, which are all incorporated into Policy 5008.

11. Policy 5006 – Option Enrollment – LB 1029 changed aspects of Nebraska’s Option Enrollment Program. We have updated Policy 5006 to incorporate these changes. Note that there are different options within this Policy that each Board will need to select. In addition, LB 1329 shifted the burden from the parent to the school district to establish capacity in an option appeal.

12. Policy 4141 – Teacher Training - Training Requirements. LB 1329 relaxed several training requirements for school employees. Some statutes required a defined length of training required (such as one hour). LB 1329 largely eliminates these definite training requirements and, instead, defers to each board to decide the reasonable training lengths. To comply with this new requirement, we recommend updating Policy 4141 to allow the Board to approve the administration’s planned training requirements each year.

13. Policy 5205 – Graduation – Last year, LB 705 added a graduation requirement that any graduating student complete the FAFSA or opt out of the FAFSA. Policy 5205 has been updated to reflect this new graduation requirement. (Note that each Board will need to ensure that the credit requirements listed in this Policy are consistent with their District’s graduation requirements.)

14. Policy 6111 – Classroom Environment – LB 1329 requires each school board to adopt a policy that the school will only use Gall-Peters projection maps (or other similar cylindrical equal-area projection maps) or AuthaGraph projection maps in schools.

15. Policy 3571 – Meal Charge Policy – LB 1329 prohibits any school from using debt collection agencies or collecting interest or fees for outstanding school lunch debt. Policy 3571 has been updated to reflect these changes.

B. POLICY RESCISSIONS

1. Policy 6310 – Textbook Loans - Last year, LB 705 shifted the responsibility of the textbook loan program from school districts to the NDE, beginning July 1, 2024. With this change in mind, Policy 6310 can be rescinded.

C. OPTIONAL POLICY AND/OR HANDBOOK UPDATES

1. Policy 5013 – Preschool Enrollment – LB 71 will allow kindergarten-eligible students to attend preschool. Previously (and within current NDE Rule 11), students generally could not attend preschool after they turned five. The new law allows kindergarten-aged students to continue in preschool, but does not require a school to serve a student beyond age five. If your district operates a preschool program, we recommend reviewing and possibly revising this optional Policy (especially the highlighted priorities) to determine your district’s order of priority for students seeking to enroll in your preschool.

2. Policy 3241 - Emergency Response Mapping – LB 1329 allows (but does not require) school boards to adopt a policy on emergency response mapping. There are funding opportunities available for schools that adopt such a policy. Since this is not required, each district will need to decide whether to move forward with this policy.

3. Firearms – LB 1329 allows Class I and II school districts to adopt a policy to authorize the carrying of firearms by identified individuals. The Policy must, at a minimum, include requirements for personal qualifications, training, appropriate firearms and ammunition, and appropriate use of force. The State Board of Education and Nebraska State Patrol are required to develop a model policy that meets these requirements, though the Legislative Bill did not include a deadline for when this model policy must be adopted. If your Board is interested in adopting this type of policy, please contact us directly for more information and details in your individual district.

D. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

1. Title IX – The Department of Education recently proposed changes to the existing Title IX regulations. The regulations are currently set to become effective on August 1, 2024. If implemented, these regulations will require policy updates. However, multiple states have already sued to block the implementation of these regulations, so it is possible that these regulations will be delayed (and possibly rescinded entirely). Rather than change the Title IX policy now (and perhaps need to change it again later), we recommend waiting to see if the regulations become effective later this summer.

2. DOL FLSA Changes – The Department of Labor recently announced that the salary basis threshold will increase from \$684 per week to \$844 per week, effective July 1, 2024. This amount will increase to \$1,128 per week, beginning January 1, 2025. There is no policy update needed to comply with these updates, but your district should ensure that any FLSA exempt employees comply with these new amounts if they continue to be treated as exempt employees in your district.

3. Model Dress Code – Last year, we mentioned that the Legislature passed a requirement that each school district to adopt a student dress code policy. Each school district has until July 1, 2025 to adopt the dress code policy. During next year’s policy updates, we will include a policy that meets this requirement.

4. Artificial Intelligence – We did not include any update to the Artificial Intelligence Policy this year, since we have received feedback that schools are more focused on implementing guidance, as opposed to annually tweaking their Policy. Feel free to contact us if you have any questions or concerns about your current Artificial Intelligence Policy.

5. Open Meetings Act Posters – The Open Meetings Act requires each school board to have “at least one current copy of the Open Meetings Act posted in the meeting room.” With changes to the Open Meetings Act, each board should make sure that their poster is current.

6. Professional Practices Commission – LB 1306 altered the process for ethical investigations into certificated staff members in Nebraska. Currently, after the Nebraska Department of Education investigates a complaint, the investigator brings the complaint before the Professional Practices Commission (a panel of administrators and teachers). The Commission hears the evidence, renders a recommendation to the State Board, then the State Board makes a final determination. LB 1306 will change this process by having a hearing officer (rather than the Commission) review the evidence and make a recommendation to the State Board of Education.

7. Changes to Retirement Requirements – LB 198 changed several provisions of the public retirement laws, particularly those affecting foreign-born workers. From now on, a public employer will be required to maintain on file one of the listed forms of identification (such as a driver’s license) to establish lawful presence in the United States. These forms of identification will also be used for NPERS to verify employment eligibility and/or eligibility to

participate in the retirement plan. In addition, LB 198 eases the restrictions on employees that separate from employment but do not request a distribution or submit a retirement application.

8. Personal Privacy Protection Act – LB 43 includes the “Personal Privacy Protection Act.” The Act prohibits, among other things, any political subdivision from “requiring any individual to provide personal information or otherwise compelling the release of personal information” or “publicizing or otherwise publicly disclosing personal information in the possession of such public agency without the express permission of every individual who is identifiable from the potential release of such personal information.” Since schools are governed by FERPA and other federal and state privacy laws, we assume this new Act will not impact schools (and does not need its own separate policy).

9. Online Age Verification Liability Act – LB 1092 requires certain website operators (including adult websites) to implement age verification requirements to prevent minors from accessing those sites. The bill does not impose any requirements on a public school district. To be sure: a school district can discipline a student for accessing an inappropriate website at school, but there is no liability for school districts if a student bypasses these verification requirements or accesses inappropriate websites at school.

10. Election Maps – LB 287 now requires that any political subdivision, upon the request of the Secretary of State or Election Commission, furnish to the Secretary of State and election commissioner or county clerk with any maps or additional information which the Secretary of State and election commissioner or county clerk “may require in the proper performance of their duties in the conduct of elections and certification of results.” This does not require a policy but is worth mentioning, especially in an election year.

11. New Parental Involvement Policy – LB 71 requires revisions and additions to your existing parental involvement policy. The new policy needs to be adopted by July 1, 2025. Since there are rumors that further changes to the parental involvement policy requirements will be proposed next year, we decided to wait until next spring to update the Parental Involvement Policy.

12. Changes to Class System – Currently, all school districts (other than Lincoln Public Schools and Omaha Public Schools) are Class III school districts and governed by the same statutes. LB 1329 deviated from this standard and will now delineate between Class I schools (districts with fewer than 1,500 inhabitants), Class II schools (districts with between 1,500 and 5,000 inhabitants), and Class III schools (all other districts, except for LPS and OPS). By January 1, 2025, the Commissioner of Education will reclassify and designate each school district.

13. QCPUF Expanded – LB 1329 expands the allowable expenditures of Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Funds (“QCPUF”). Under the new law, projects relating to “school safety infrastructure concerns” will be permitted uses of QCPUF funds. Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-10,110.02. There is no policy required for this change.

As always, please let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

Community RelationsPublic Access to School Records - Examination, Making Memoranda, and Copying

1. The School District, through the Superintendent, shall provide interested persons access to the records of the School District as required by law. Such access shall include the opportunity to examine School District records, when permitted by law. The School District shall not make records of individual students, personnel, or other confidential material available, except as allowed by law or compelled by court order.

2. Records may be examined at the School District offices during the hours such offices are open for the ordinary transaction of business. School district offices will be open for the ordinary transaction of business (a) during the school year on such days as school is in session, and (b) during the summer months when school is not in session, Monday through Friday, except legal holidays or other days the District is closed.

3. Records may be obtained in the form in which the record is maintained including, but not limited to, printouts, electronic data, and photocopies. The School District will not be required to produce or generate any record in a new or different form or format modified from that of the original School District record. Copies of records may be made as follows:

(a) Copies may be made by persons using their own copying or photocopying equipment, provided that such copies shall be made on the premises of the School District offices or at a location mutually agreed to by the requester and the School District.

(b) Copies may be obtained from the School District if the School District has copying equipment reasonably available, and upon payment of a fee for providing copies. The Superintendent shall determine a reasonable fee for the copying of school district records, provided that such fee is not to exceed the actual cost of making the copies available. If the copies requested are estimated by the School District to be more than fifty dollars (\$50.00), the School District may require the requester to furnish a deposit prior to fulfilling such request.

4. For residents of Nebraska and news media desiring to submit a public records request to the School District, a requester must submit a written request to the School District. Upon written request for access to records, the School District will provide to the requester as soon as is practicable and without delay, but not more than four (4) business days after actual receipt of the request:

(a) Access to or, if copying equipment is reasonably available, copies of the school district records requested;

(b) A written denial of the request, or portion thereof, if there is a legal basis for such denial of access to school district records on a written form from the school district; or

(c) If the entire request cannot with reasonable good faith efforts be fulfilled within four (4) business days after actual receipt of the request due to the significant difficulty or extensiveness of the request, the school district shall provide a written explanation, including the earliest practicable date for fulfilling the request, and estimate of the expected cost of any copies, and an opportunity to modify or prioritize the items within the request. If the response to the request is expected to require more than eight cumulative hours of staff time spent searching, identifying, physically redacting, or copying, the District may require the requester to furnish a deposit, as permitted under the Public Records Request Laws.

5. For nonresidents of Nebraska, a requester must submit a written request to the School District. The School District may then require the requester to submit a deposit, as permitted under the Public Records Request Laws.

Legal Reference: Neb. Rev. Stat. Sec. 84-712 et seq.

Date of Adoption: [Insert Date]

Business OperationsPurchasing Policies

The Superintendent shall ensure that all purchases are made in the interest of economy and efficiency. Where necessary, standards and procedures shall be established to accomplish the following policies of the Board of Education:

1. Purchases up to \$10,000. For the greatest efficiency in expediting purchases, the administration shall be authorized to purchase any item specifically budgeted which has a sale price within the established limit.
2. Purchases from \$10,000 up to \$110,000. The Superintendent shall request the submission of proposals for purchases which have a sale price within the established limit. The Superintendent shall receive and evaluate all proposals in making a recommendation to the Board of Education for acceptance. The Board of Education may review all proposals submitted relating to the recommended purchase. Since this is a proposal system, not a bidding process, the school district in no way shall be obligated to arbitrarily award the contract to the lowest proposal, but shall reserve the right to reject any and all proposals or to waive any informality in any proposal it deems advisable, and to award to the proposer which, in its opinion, is most desirable.
3. Purchases of \$110,000 and above. The Superintendent shall advertise for sealed bids which shall be opened in conformity with any applicable laws and in compliance with any procedures established by the Superintendent. The Board retains the right to determine the responsibility of the bidders, and shall award the contract to the lowest responsible bidder meeting specifications, be the bidder a member or apart from the local community.
4. These purchasing limits or requirements will not apply in the event of a time-sensitive purchase, or a purchase where these requirements would not reasonably or practically apply, as long as the Superintendent obtains prior approval from the Board President, and the Board of Education subsequently ratifies said purchase at a subsequent Board meeting.
5. Any school employee who orders any supplies or equipment outside of that which has been included in the annual budget and without written authorization of the principal or Superintendent shall be personally liable for payment for the supplies or equipment purchased.
6. School employees or students purchasing supplies and equipment out of an activity account must first secure a purchase order from the principal authorizing the purchase. Failure to do so will cause the person to be personally liable for payment for the supplies or equipment purchased.
7. The District need not comply with the bidding requirements if the District purchases property from the Nebraska State Purchasing Bureau, so long as the Nebraska State

Purchasing Bureau competitively bid the purchase of property.

8. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary, no employee may enter into any agreement or understanding on behalf of the District that may financially benefit the employee, member of the employee's immediate family, or a business with which the employee is associated, unless the Board of Education approves such contract or arrangement in advance.

Credit Card Purchasing Program

1. The Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent or designee to contract with one or more financial institutions, card-issuing banks, credit card companies, charge card companies, debit card companies, or third-party merchant banks capable of operating a purchasing card program on behalf of the District.
2. The Board of Education delegates to the Superintendent or designee: (a) the determination of the type of purchasing card or cards to be utilized in the District's purchasing card program; and (b) the determination of which employees shall be approved or disapproved to be assigned a purchasing card in the District's purchasing card program. The Superintendent shall submit the approved names to the Board, from time to time.
3. The District's purchasing card program may only be utilized for the purchase of goods and services for and on behalf of the District. No officer or employee of the District shall use a purchasing card for any unauthorized use.
4. An itemized receipt for purposes of tracking expenditures shall accompany all purchasing card purchases. In the event that a receipt does not accompany an authorized cardholder's purchase, the Superintendent or designee shall temporarily or permanently suspend said cardholder's purchasing card privileges.
5. Upon the termination or suspension of employment of an individual using a purchasing card, the Superintendent or designee shall immediately close such individual's purchasing card account and said employee shall immediately return the purchasing card.

Legal Reference: Neb. Rev. Stat. Sec. 13-610
 Neb. Rev. Stat. Sec. 49-1401, et seq

Date of Adoption: [Insert Date]

Business OperationsContracting for Services

Contractual services which by their nature are not adapted to award by competitive bidding, such as contracts for the services of individuals possessing a high degree of professional skill, where the ability or fitness of the individual plays an important part, are not subject to bid but are subject to approval by the Board of Education in conformity with established policy.

Every contract for services to be provided to [Name] Public Schools shall require that the contractor use a federal immigration verification system to determine the work eligibility status of new employees physically performing services within the State of Nebraska. Such requirement shall be deemed to be included and a part of the terms of every contract for services with the School District, including but not limited to oral contracts.

For any company that submits a bid or proposal for any technology-related product or service, and before entering into any contract with any company for any technology-related product or service, the company must certify that: (1) the company is not a scrutinized company (as defined by law); (2) the company will not subcontract with any scrutinized company for any aspect of the performance of the contemplated contract; and (3) that any products or services to be provided do not originate with a scrutinized company. The District will not knowingly enter into any contract with any scrutinized company.

Legal Reference: Neb. Rev. Stat. Sec. 4-114
LB 1300 (2024)

Date of Adoption: [Insert Date]

Business Operations

School Meal Program and Meal Charges

Meal Program. The school district will make a school meal program available to students. The cost of the program will be determined by the board of education so as to make the program as nearly self-supporting as possible. With board approval, the district may contract with a private company or corporation for the management and/or provision of the program.

The district will notify the families with children attending school of the current guidelines for free or reduced-price school meals. A copy of the complete regulations and procedures regarding reduced-price and free meals shall be available in the office of the superintendent.

Meal Charge Policy. The district will notify students and their families of the policy for **Charged Meals**, meaning meals received by a student when the student does not have money in hand or in his or her food account. This policy applies to students who receive meals at the free, reduced, or full rates.

Notice of this policy must be provided in writing to all households at the start of each school year and to households that transfer to the school during the school year. Notice may be provided through the student handbook, student registration materials, online portal used to access student accounts, direct mailing or e-mail, newsletter, the district website, and/or any other appropriate means. Notice of this policy will also be provided all school staff responsible for the enforcement of it, including food service professionals responsible for collecting payment for meals at the point of service, staff involved in notifying families of low or negative balances, and other staff involved in enforcing any aspect of this policy.

The district's policy on charged meals is:

If a student has no funds available to pay for a meal, the student will be provided and charged for up to five meals. Thereafter, if a student has no funds available to pay for a meal, the student is provided a 'courtesy meal,' such as a plain sandwich and milk at no cost.

Students who qualify for free meals will not be denied a reimbursable meal, even if they have accrued a negative balance from other food purchases. School staff may prohibit any students from charging a la carte or extra items if they do not have cash in hand or their account has a negative balance.

If a student repeatedly lacks funds to purchase a meal, has not brought a meal from home, and is not enrolled in a free meal program, the district will use its resources and contacts to protect the health and safety of the student. Failure or refusal of parents or guardians to provide meals for students may require mandatory reporting to child protection agencies as required by law.

Collection of Delinquent Meal Charge Debt

The school district is required to make reasonable efforts to collect unpaid meal charges. The building principal or his or her designee will contact households about unpaid meal charges and notify them again of the availability of the free and reduced meal program and/or establish payment plans and due dates by telephone, e-mail, or other written or oral communication. If these collection efforts are unsuccessful, the school district may pursue any other methods to collect delinquent debt as allowed by law. Collection efforts may continue into a new school year.

The District will not use a debt collection agency to collect or attempt to collect, directly or indirectly, debts due or assessed to be owed for outstanding debts on a school lunch or breakfast account of any student. Nor will the District assess or collect any interest, fees, or other monetary penalties for outstanding debts on a school lunch or breakfast account of any student.

In the event that the Nebraska Department of Education develops a state-level meal charge policy, it shall supersede that portion of this policy.

Date of Adoption: June 12, 2017

Reviewed: September 10, 2018

Personnel - Certificated EmployeesTeacher Training

The district shall provide and promote development programs for all professional staff - Superintendent, principals, teachers and the Board of education. Features of the staff development program:

1. Staff development resources and time shall be allocated in keeping with the key values and priorities of the district.
2. The staff development program shall concentrate on the programs and practices of effective schools and teaching, goal setting, assessment procedures, evaluation of staff, and the change process.
3. Content shall be selected that has been verified by research to improve student outcomes.
4. Teachers shall be actively involved in initiating, planning, and conducting the development programs for teachers.

At least annually, the administration will present to the Board the planned staff training as required by law. The Board will then approve those training requirements if the Board determines that the length of each training is reasonable.

Legal Reference: LB 1329 (2024)

Date of Adoption: [Insert Date]

StudentsOption EnrollmentA. Process and Time Lines to Option In

For a student to attend Arlington Public Schools as an option enrollment student, the student's parent or legal guardian must submit an application to the Board of Education of the Arlington Public School District between September 1 and March 15 for enrollment during the following and subsequent school years (the "application period").

Upon receipt of an application, the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee shall provide the resident school district or, if the student attends a different district as an option student, the option district with the name of the applicant on or before April 1 or, in the case of an application submitted after March 15, within sixty days after submission.

Provisions for Waiver of Application Deadline:

The application deadline will not be waived by the School District for applications to option into the Arlington Public School District, except in the following circumstances:

1. Siblings: The application deadline will be waived where the application is for a student who is the sibling of a student attending Arlington Public Schools as of the time the application is filed. A "sibling" for this purpose means a child who resides in the same household on a permanent basis with a student who is currently attending the School District and who has the same natural or adoptive parent or who is a stepbrother or stepsister.
2. Kindergarten: The application deadline will be waived where the application is for a student who is seeking to enroll and attend the Kindergarten grade level provided the application was filed on or before June 1 prior to the first semester of the next school year.
3. Release Approval: For the foregoing exceptions, the application must contain a release approval from the resident district or, if the student attends a different district as an option student, the student's current option district.
4. Other Conditions: The waiver of the deadline in the above circumstances does not require acceptance of the application, as such applications may be rejected for reasons other than late filing.
5. Capacity: For the foregoing exceptions, the application deadline shall not be waived if the application is for enrollment in any program, class, grade level or school building operated by this School District which have been determined by the School District to be at capacity in accordance with the capacity standards (Appendix "1"), and no waiver of the deadline shall be made for such an application regardless of whether such capacity determinations are declared invalid for any reason. For any option application for a student that would receive or could be

eligible to receive special education or related services, the Director of Special Education or designee shall conduct a case-by-case analysis to determine if the District has the capacity to provide the student with the appropriate services and accommodations.

B. Rejection of Applications; Reasons

1. Capacity: An option enrollment application shall be rejected in the event the capacity of a program, class, grade level, or school building operated by the School District would be exceeded by acceptance of the application, and an option enrollment application shall be rejected in the event the application is for enrollment in a program, class, grade level, or school building which has been declared unavailable to option students due to lack of capacity.

The Director of Special Education shall review on a case-by-case basis all option applications for students that would receive or could be eligible to receive special education or related services. If the Director or designee determines that the District does not have the capacity to provide the student with the appropriate services and accommodations, then the Director or designee shall send a denial notice to the parent(s) or guardian(s) and include a description of services and accommodations that the District does not have the capacity to provide.

2. Timeliness: An option enrollment application shall be rejected in the event the application is not filed on or before the April 1st immediately preceding the school year in which enrollment is sought, and the filing deadline has not been waived.
3. Previous Option Enrollment: An option enrollment application shall be rejected in the event the student has exhausted their option enrollments in other school districts, as determined by state law.
4. Other Reasons: An option enrollment application may be rejected in the event the Superintendent, the Superintendent's designee, or the School District determines: The application is not submitted on a form prescribed by the State Department of Education, is not completely and accurately filled in, is not received within the time required by law, or any additional information requested to be supplied is not supplied to the School District within the time lines indicated; or in the event acceptance of the application is not required by law. Matters which are legally prohibited from being considered as standards for acceptance or rejection of applications (including "previous academic achievement, athletic or extracurricular ability, disabilities, proficiency in the English language, or previous disciplinary proceedings" and further including, without limitation, race, national origin, and gender) shall not be considered as reasons for acceptance or rejection.

C. Priority of Acceptance

Priority shall be accorded in the following order: (1) those applications required to be given priority by law, (2) those with a sibling in attendance at Arlington Public Schools, with priority within this group being given to those who had earliest filed applications, and (3) those without an

option student sibling in attendance at Arlington Public Schools, with priority within this group to those who had earliest filed applications.

Filing date determinations are made by the Superintendent, or the Superintendent's designee. In the event applications within a group are received at the same or substantially the same time, priority as between such same-date applications shall be determined on the basis of random drawing.

D. Determination of Capacity

The School District will determine and set, on an annual basis, the maximum number of option enrollment applications the School District will accept in any program, class, grade level or school building operated by this School District, based upon available staff, facilities, projected enrollment of resident students, projected number of students with which this School District will contract based on existing contractual arrangements, and may declare a program, class or school unavailable to option students due to lack of capacity. Such determinations may be made in the form of an Appendix "1" to this Policy. The determination and declaration made for any school year shall continue in effect for the next and subsequent school years unless otherwise determined and/or declared. The capacity for special education services shall be determined on a case-by-case basis as determined by the Director of Special Education or designee.

E. Releases for Options Out

A request for release of a resident student of or option student currently attending Arlington Public School District who submits an enrollment option application after March 15 or any other statutory deadline will be granted only on the following conditions:

1. Kindergarten: A release will be granted where the application is for a student who is seeking to enroll and attend the Kindergarten grade level provided the application was filed on or before June 1 prior to the first semester of the next school year.
2. Siblings: A release will be granted where the application would allow the student to attend the same school as a sibling. A "sibling" for this purpose means a child who resides in the same household on a permanent basis with a student who is currently enrolled in the option district and who has the same natural or adoptive parent or who is a stepbrother or stepsister.
3. Educational Programming: A release will be granted where the needs of the student require the District to obtain additional staffing or equipment and it is in the best interests of the District and the student to enroll in the option district. The determination of whether this condition is met shall be made by the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee.
4. No Pending Expulsion: The deadline shall not be waived if the administration is considering or has recommended expulsion of the student at the time the application is filed, and the administration determines it is appropriate to complete the expulsion process.

The Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee is hereby authorized to execute such releases on behalf of the School District and the School District.

F. Notification of Acceptance or Rejection

In the case of an application to option enroll into the School District, the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee shall notify, in writing, the parent or legal guardian of the student, and the resident school district or, if the student is an option student attending a different district, that option district whether the application is accepted or rejected on or before April 1 or, in the case of an application submitted after March 15, within sixty days after submission.

If an option enrollment application or a request for release is rejected by the Arlington Public School District, the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee shall provide written notification to the parent or guardian stating the reasons for the rejection and the process for appealing such rejection to the State Board of Education. Such notification shall be sent by certified mail.

G. Status of Option Student

A student who is admitted under the enrollment option program shall be treated as a resident student, and in such regard shall be required to provide such enrollment information and documentation as is required for enrollment of other students (e.g., certified birth certificate and evidence of physical examination, visual evaluation and immunization), shall be required to be enrolled on a full-time basis, and shall be required to adhere to student conduct rules. The building assignment for an option student, as well as classroom and grade level assignments, shall be determined solely by the administration.

An option student shall not be entitled to transportation except as required by law. Transportation or transportation reimbursement will be provided only in the following circumstances:

1. The Arlington Public School District may, upon mutual agreement with the parent or legal guardian of an option student, provide transportation to the option student on the same basis as provided for resident students. The school district may charge the parents of each option student transported a fee sufficient to recover the additional costs of such transportation.
2. Option students who qualify for free lunches are eligible for either free transportation or transportation reimbursement from the option school district. The District's policy is that the District selects which service (transportation or reimbursement) is to be provided to students.
3. For option students receiving special education services, the transportation services required in the student's Individualized Education Plan shall be provided by the resident school district.

H. Information Regarding Schools, Programs, Policies and Procedures.

As part of the option enrollment program, the administration shall make information about the Arlington Public Schools and its school, programs, policies and procedures available to all interested persons and shall have a copy of the option enrollment policy and regulations available at each school building.

Legal Reference: Neb. Rev. Stat. Sections 79-232 to 79-246

Date of Adoption: [Insert Date]

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 District will 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 may be required to 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 (including physical or mental 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 vacations or other events that do not meet the criteria for a School Excused absence.
 - (2) Other absences are those in which the parent has not communicated a reason for the student's absence.

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.
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 Arlington Public Schools or resides in the Arlington 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 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 District staff member or board member 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 Superintendent's designee to be the 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 school
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 of at least twenty days which are Not School Excused, one or more meetings will be held between the school, 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 identified to improve regular attendance. The plan shall include, if agreed to by the person who is responsible for making educational decisions on behalf of the child, an educational evaluation to determine whether any intellectual, academic, physical, or social-emotional barriers are contributing factors to the lack of attendance. The plan shall also consider, but not be limited to:

- (a) The physical, mental, or behavioral health of the child.
- (b) Educational counseling;
- (c) Referral to community agencies for economic services;
- (d) Family or individual counseling; and
- (e) 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 school year. The school shall notify the child's family in writing prior to making the referral to the county attorney. Illness (including physical or mental illness) that makes attendance impossible or impracticable shall not be the basis for referral to the county attorney.

Legal Reference: Neb. Rev. Stat. Sections 79-201 and 79-209

Date of Adoption: [Insert Date]

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, not to exceed an additional 48 hours, 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. The Principal shall document their

- attempt to make a reasonable effort to hold a conference with the parent or guardian.
- 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 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. If the student is suspended pending the outcome of the hearing, the student may complete classwork and homework, including, but not limited to, examinations, missed during the period of suspension. During this period, the student will not be required to attend the alternative

programs for expelled students in order to complete classwork or homework.

- 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 offered an alternative education program that will enable the student to continue academic work for credit toward graduation. A student will not be required to attend the alternative education program in order to complete classwork and homework. 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 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.
- g. Returning from Expulsion. At the conclusion of an expulsion, the District will reinstate the student and accept nonduplicative, grade-appropriate credits earned by the student during the term of expulsion from any

Nebraska accredited institution or institution accredited by one of the six regional accrediting bodies in the United States.

- h. Exception for Pre-Kindergarten through Second Grade Students. Notwithstanding the foregoing, no pre-kindergarten through second grade student may be suspended from school, unless the student brings a deadly weapon on school grounds, in a school vehicle, or to a school activity. Instead, the Principal or Principal's designee may implement alternative disciplinary measures on a case-by-case basis if a pre-kindergarten through second grade student engages in misconduct that would otherwise result in a short-term suspension. If a pre-kindergarten through second grade student brings a deadly weapon on school grounds, in a school vehicle, or to a school activity, then the student may be suspended or expelled in accordance with this Policy's disciplinary procedures.
 - i. Religious Freedom. The District will not substantially burden a student's right to religious exercise unless the student's religious exercise is disruptive to the school environment, not permitted by staff, may pose a safety risk, or would otherwise interfere with the school day.
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 may be held, upon a parent's timely request, 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.

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.

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.

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. Clothing or jewelry that advertises or promotes beer, alcohol, tobacco, or illegal drugs.
 - c. 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).
 - d. Head wear including hats, caps, bandannas, and scarves.
 - e. Clothing or jewelry which exhibits nudity, makes sexual references or carries lewd, indecent, or vulgar double meaning.
 - f. Clothing or jewelry that is gang related.

A student who is a member of an indigenous tribe of the United States or another country may wear tribal regalia in any location where the student is authorized to be on such school grounds or at any school function, as long as the tribal regalia does not interfere with the educational process and does not endanger another person, as determined by the administration.

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.

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.

E. 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
LB 43 (2024)

Date of Adoption: [Insert Date]

StudentsPromotion and Retention

Students will typically progress annually from grade to grade. A student may be retained at a grade level or be required to repeat a course or program when such is determined in the judgment of the Principal, in consultation with the student's teachers and counselor, to be appropriate for the educational interests of the student and the school's educational program.

If a parent or guardian would like their student to retake a grade level, the parent or guardian must meet with the Superintendent or designee to discuss the student repeating a grade. At that meeting, the parent or guardian must provide evidence of academic needs, illness, or excessive absenteeism that would warrant the student to repeat the grade. A student in kindergarten through fourth grade may be retained due to academic needs, illness, or excessive absenteeism. A student in grades fifth through twelfth grade may be retained due to excessive absenteeism. At such meeting, the Superintendent or designee shall identify any alternative educational opportunities, including remedial instruction, if applicable, and verify any special education supports available to such student. If the student's parent or guardian still intends for their student to repeat a grade, such parent or guardian shall then complete the required form and return such form to the District. Upon completion of the form and if all requirements pursuant to this policy and law are met, the District shall permit the student to repeat the student's grade for the next school year.

Legal Reference: Neb. Rev. Stat. Sec. 79-526

Date of Adoption: [Insert Date]

StudentsGraduation

To participate in commencement exercises or receive an Arlington Public Schools diploma a student must fully complete all requirements for graduation prior to the official commencement exercises, and complete other administrative requirements or conditions.

It shall be the policy of Arlington Public Schools that to be eligible for graduation from Arlington High School, the candidate must have earned a minimum of 260 semester hours credit in grades 9 through 12 inclusive.

Further eligibility for graduation shall require the candidate to present a minimum of 40 earned semester hours credit during the school year in which he/she intends to graduate. Credit hours will be computed in accordance with the Nebraska Department of Education. All students must be enrolled as a full-time student at the time of their graduation.

Satisfactory completion of the following courses must be presented in the candidate's record:

<u>Language Arts</u> – 45 credit hours	
English 9	10
English 10	10
English 11	10
Beginning Speech	5
English 12	10

<u>Social Studies</u> – 35 credit hours	
World Geography	10
World History	10
American History-20 th Century	10
American Government	5

<u>Mathematics</u> – 30 credit hours	
Algebra I*	10
Geometry	10
Math Elective	10

* Students who passed Algebra I as an 8th Grader will meet the 30 credit hour requirement with additional math electives.

<u>Science</u> – 30 credit hours	
Physical Science	10
Biology	10
Science Elective	10

Practical Arts – 20 credit hours

Information Technology I	5
Information Technology II	5
Personal Finance and Business Economics OR Wealth Building Fundamentals and Personal Finance	5
Remaining credits can be obtained from Business, and/or Consumer/ Family Science, and/or Industrial Education, and/or additional computer classes.	10

Physical Education – 20 credit hours

Physical Education I/Health	10
P.E. Electives	10

Fine Arts – 10 credit hours

*These credits can be earned in the areas of Instrumental (10), Vocal Music (10), Art (10) or a combination Of Art (5) and Music (5)

Electives – 70 credit hours

Exceptions to these requirements may be made by the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, who will support the recommendation with justifiable reasons. A complete record of the recommendation and of the action taken upon it by the Board shall be included in the minutes. The candidates for graduation shall be presented to the Board of Education for approval.

A student who has not met the requirements for graduation but who has attended school regularly may, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, be granted a Certificate of Attendance. Students receiving a Certificate of Attendance shall not be eligible to participate in graduation exercises.

Written notification will be made to parents of students who are in danger of not earning an academic diploma. It shall be required that the candidate have eight (8) semesters experience in grades 9-12.

In addition, every student must complete at least one five-credit high school course in personal finance or financial literacy prior to graduation. Each student shall also complete and submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid prior to graduation, unless the required opt-out form is completed by either: (1) the student's parent or legal guardian; (2) the Principal, if the Principal determines that good cause exists not to require the student to complete the FAFSA; or (3) an emancipated student or student of at least 19 years of age.

Date of Adoption: October 10, 2016

Reviewed: April 8, 2019, Sept 9, 2019; October 10, 2022

InstructionClassroom Environment

At all times, teachers are expected to organize, maintain and ensure that their classroom is in a safe, orderly and clean condition for student learning. Classrooms should be free from distractions (such as inappropriate or unprofessional posters or other displays) and other apparatus that may cause student health problems (such as essential oils and/or essential oil diffusers). Teachers who are uncertain as to whether their classroom meets this requirement are encouraged to consult with their building principal in a proactive manner.

The District will only permit the Gall-Peters projection map (or a similar cylindrical equal-area projection map) or the AuthaGraph projection map for display or use in the classroom.

Legal Reference: LB 1329 (2024)

Date of Adoption: [Insert Date]

InstructionFirearm Policy

It shall be the policy of Arlington Public School District to undertake all reasonable efforts to prohibit the unlawful possession, the knowingly and intentionally selling, attempting to sell, providing, loaning, delivering, or in any other way transferring the possession of a firearm to a juvenile, and to prevent the unlawful possession of a firearm, including concealed firearms, in a school, on school grounds, in a school owned vehicle, or at a school sponsored activity or athletic event. This policy shall not apply to the issuance of firearms to or possession by members of the Armed Services of the United States, active or reserve, National Guard of the State, or Reserve Officers' Training Corps, peace officers, or qualified law enforcement officers or qualified retired law enforcement officers, as defined by and pursuant to state and federal law. Further, nothing in this policy shall be construed to require school action when a firearm is lawfully possessed by a person receiving instruction, or instruction under the immediate supervision of an adult instructor, or as to firearms contained within a private vehicle operated by someone other than a minor or prohibited person, as defined by law, and are enclosed in a case or inside the glove box, trunk, or other compartment of the vehicle, a storage box securely attached to the vehicle, or, if the vehicle is a motorcycle, other than an autocycle, a hardened compartment securely attached to the motorcycle while the vehicle is in or on such parking area.

Any unlawful use or possession of a firearm, including concealed firearms, as described in this policy and as described by statute shall as soon as is reasonably possible be reported to an appropriate peace officer. Nothing in this policy shall be construed to prevent the district from carrying out regular disciplinary procedures as have been adopted by the Board of Education or as otherwise authorized by law.

Legal Reference: Neb. Rev. Stat. Sec. 28-1204.04

Date of Adoption: [Insert Date]

Internal Board Policies - Board Members

Membership in School Board Associations

The Board of Education shall hold memberships in such school board associations as it may from time to time determine appropriate.

The Board will list on the school's website the organizations and memberships that the Board belongs to and the annual membership dues (if any) for such organizations and memberships, as well as the fees paid by the Board to any individual lobbyist or lobbying firm (if any).

Legal Reference: Neb. Rev. Stat. Sec. 79-512
 LB 304 (2024)

Date of Adoption: [Insert Date]

Internal Board Policies - Methods of OperationDesignated Method of Giving Notice of Meetings

The Board of Education will give advance notice of meetings by publishing such notice in a newspaper of general circulation within the District's jurisdiction and, if available, on such newspaper's web site. If a newspaper refuses, neglects, or is unable to timely publish such notice, then notice may be given by (1) posting on the newspaper's website, if available, and (2) posting such notice in conspicuous public places within the District. The Board Secretary shall keep a written record of such postings.

Notice shall be given a reasonable time in advance of the meeting. Two (2) days advance notice shall be considered sufficient.

For an emergency meeting, notice shall not be required to be given; however, the Board will complete minutes for such an emergency meeting as required by law. An emergency has been defined as any event or occasional combination of circumstances which calls for immediate action or remedy; pressing necessity; exigency; a sudden or unexpected happening; an unforeseen occurrence or condition.

The Secretary of the Board of Education, or the Secretary's designee, shall maintain a list of the news media requesting notification of meetings and shall make reasonable efforts to provide advance notification to such news media of the time and place of each meeting and the subjects to be discussed at the meeting.

Legal Reference: Neb. Rev. Stat. Sections 79-554; 79-555 and 84-1411

Date of Adoption: [Insert Date]

Internal Board Policies - Methods of OperationPublic Participation at Board MeetingsA. Attend

Members of the public shall be permitted to attend and to speak at Board meetings. They will not be required to identify themselves as a condition for admission to the meeting.

The Board may allow advisors, consultants, and other persons who are not Board members to appear at the meeting via telephone or other similar means.

The President has the authority to assure that people conduct themselves in an orderly manner at the meeting. Undue interruption or other interference with the orderly conduct of business will not be allowed. The President may order persons who are disorderly to be removed from the meeting.

B. Hear

The Board will, upon request, make a reasonable effort to accommodate the public's right to hear the discussion and testimony presented at the meeting.

C. Record

Members of the public may use recording devices (phone, video camera, etc.) to record any part of a board meeting, except for closed sessions. The President shall control the placement of the recording device so the device does not obstruct the view of Board members or other members of the public attending the meeting and does not otherwise interfere with the meeting.

D. Access to Written Materials

At least one copy of all reproducible written material to be discussed at an open meeting will be made available at the meeting for examination and copying by members of the public.

E. Speak

Members of the public will be permitted to speak at Board meetings. Members of the public may also speak when invited to make a presentation or when recognized by the President.

Option #1: For all meetings of the Board, individual speakers shall have up to [REDACTED] minutes to address the Board, and the Board shall hear up to [REDACTED] cumulative minutes of public comment. The Board may vote to modify these time limits when the Board deems appropriate. The President may implement other reasonable requirements for public comment, consistent with the Open Meetings Act.

Option #2: For regular meetings of the Board, individual speakers shall have up to [redacted] minutes to address the Board, and the Board shall hear up to [redacted] cumulative minutes of public comment. For all meetings other than regular meetings of the Board, individual speakers shall have up to [redacted] minutes to address the Board, and the Board shall hear up to [redacted] cumulative minutes of public comment. The Board may vote to modify these time limits when the Board deems appropriate. The President may implement other reasonable requirements for public comment, consistent with the Open Meetings Act.

Members of the public will not be required to have their name be placed on the agenda prior to the meeting in order to speak about items on the agenda.

Any member of the public desiring to address the body shall be required to identify himself or herself, including an address and the name of any organization represented by such person, unless the address requirement is waived to protect the security of the individual.

Option #3: To ensure the Board completes its business during meetings other than regular meetings, public comment will be listed at the end of the agenda for all meetings other than regular meetings.

Speakers will be permitted to address the Board consistent with free speech rights. However, offensive language, defamatory remarks, and hostile conduct will not be tolerated. Further, charges or complaints against a school employee shall not be made for the first time at a public Board meeting without having followed the school's complaint procedure.

Legal Reference: Neb. Rev. Stat. 84-1412

Date of Adoption: [Insert Date]