

Board of Education Regular Meeting
Monday, March 10, 2025 7:00 PM
Elementary School , 1003 Lilly Street, Wood
River, NE 68883

The regular monthly meeting of the Wood River Rural Schools Board of Education will be held on Monday, March 10, 2025 7:00 PM in the Elementary School , 1003 Lilly Street, Wood River, NE 68883. The Board of Education will attempt to adhere to the sequence of the published agenda, but reserves the right to adjust the order of items if necessary and may elect to take action on any of the items listed. The following items will be put before the Board of Education for consideration.

1. Routine Business
 - 1.1. Recognize the Nebraska Open Meetings Act
 - 1.2. Pledge of Allegiance
 - 1.3. Recognize Visitors
 - 1.4. Approval of Agenda
2. Presentations
 - 2.1. Activity Director Report
 - 2.2. Elementary Principal Report
 - 2.3. MS/HS Principal Report
 - 2.4. Superintendent Report
3. Consent Agenda
 - 3.1. Approval of Prior Minutes
 - 3.2. Approval of the Monthly Claims
 - 3.3. Approval of the Monthly Financial Reports
 - 3.4. Resignation of Beverly Wiebe-Brown
4. Discussions
 - 4.1. High School lighting project update.

- 4.2. Profile of a Graduate.
5. Regular Agenda - Business
 - 5.1. Discuss, consider and take all action necessary to sanding, painting and sealing the main gym floor.
 - 5.2. Discuss, consider and take all action necessary for the elementary lighting project.
 - 5.3. Discuss, consider and take all necessary action to summer staff development and 2025-2026 school year calendar.
 - 5.4. Discuss, consider and take all action necessary to declare unused items as surplus.
 - 5.5. Discuss, consider and take all action necessary to purchase vehicles that accommodate 6–14 passengers.
 - 5.6. Discuss, consider and take all necessary action to purchasing new iPads.
 - 5.7. Discuss, consider and take all necessary action on a teaching contract for David Gifford for the 2025-2026 school year.
 - 5.8. Discuss, consider and take all necessary action on a teaching contract for Nadia Vanslyke for the 2025-2026 school year.
 - 5.9. Discuss, consider and take all necessary action on a teaching contract for Royall Woodman for the 2025-2026 school year.
 - 5.10. Discuss, consider & take all necessary action on classified staff salaries.
6. Thank You Notes
7. Adjournment

The Board of Education reserves the right to enter into Executive Session.

An agenda reflecting any changes will be available for public inspection during normal business hours in the office of the Superintendent of Schools. Except for items of an emergency nature, the agenda will not be enlarged later than 24 hours before the scheduled beginning of the meeting. Individuals attending the meeting are invited to make comments during the “Recognition of Visitors” time allowed under agenda item B.



**Solution Tree, Inc.
Purchase Agreement**

Effective February 26, 2025, Solution Tree, Inc. (“Solution Tree”) located at 555 N. Morton St., Bloomington, IN 47404 and Wood River Rural Schools (“Customer”) located at 13800 West Wood River Road Wood River, NE US 68883 agree as follows:

1. **Summary of Products and Services:** Customer will purchase the following Solution Tree products and services (“Products”). Additional Products may be added in a mutually agreed upon written Addendum.

Products and Services	Total
Onsite and Virtual Professional Development	\$15,700.00
Total	\$15,700.00

2. **Payment Terms:** Customer will provide Solution Tree with a purchase order made out to Solution Tree, 555 N. Morton St., Bloomington, IN 47404, for the full amount due under this Agreement upon execution of this Agreement (the “Purchase Order Due Date”). A non-refundable deposit of 20% of the total amount due will be invoiced upon execution of this Agreement. The total includes any travel, lodging, and incidental expenses incurred by Solution Tree. All payments are due net 30 days from the actual date of invoice. All past due invoices are subject to a finance charge of 1.5% monthly. Solution Tree will invoice Customer off of the purchase order based on the following schedule:

Description	Payment	Expected Invoice Date
20% Deposit (non-refundable)	\$ 3,140.00	Upon execution of Agreement
Virtual Professional Development	\$ 1,200.00	March 18, 2025
Onsite Professional Development	\$11,360.00	June 24, 2025

3. Onsite and Virtual Professional Development

- 3.1. **Description of Services:** Solution Tree agrees to provide a speaker, Breez Daniels (“Associate”), to disseminate information for Customer on the topic of *PLC at Work*® virtually for 75 minutes on March 18, 2025 and onsite on June 23, 2025 to June 24, 2025.
- 3.2. **Presentation Materials:** Customer will reproduce any handouts and other print materials related to the services and will notify the Associate directly of any deadlines for reproduction.
- 3.3. **Venue and Audio/Visual Equipment:** Customer will provide a venue, audio/video equipment, and technical support for all sessions.



4. General Terms

- 4.1. Intellectual Property:** Customer acknowledges that Solution Tree or Associate owns the copyrights to all tangible or electronic presentation materials, handouts, and/or program books used in conjunction with services performed under this Agreement and that no materials will be developed specifically for Customer. Solution Tree will retain all copyrights owned prior to entering this Agreement, and Customer may not reproduce any materials not designated reproducible without the express written permission of Solution Tree. All audio, video, and digital recording of the services by Customer is prohibited.
- 4.2. Force Majeure:** If an event beyond the parties' control makes performance impossible, illegal, or commercially impracticable (a "Force Majeure Event"), the parties will proceed as follows:
- a. If a Force Majeure Event prevents services from occurring onsite, the parties will arrange for the affected services to be delivered virtually on the scheduled dates.
 - b. If a Force Majeure Event prevents services from occurring as scheduled, the parties will use best efforts to reschedule or make substitutions for affected services or products.
 - c. If a Force Majeure Event prevents performance entirely, neither party will have any further liability to the other party for the prevented performance.
 - d. All obligations unaffected by a Force Majeure Event will remain in place.
- 4.3. Termination:** Solution Tree may terminate this Agreement if Solution Tree has not received a purchase order by the Purchase Order Due Date.
- a. **Professional Development:** If Customer cancels any Professional Development Services within 90 days of the scheduled date for any reason but Force Majeure, Customer will reimburse Solution Tree for any reasonable business expenses incurred in anticipation of performance of this Agreement that exceed the amount of the deposit. If events beyond the parties' control make performance on the scheduled dates impossible, the parties will use best efforts to reschedule the Professional Development Services.
- 4.4. Entire Agreement:** This Agreement and any exhibits attached hereto constitute the entire agreement of the parties and supersede any prior or contemporaneous written or oral understanding or agreement. No waiver or modification of any of the terms of the Agreement will be effective unless made in writing and signed by both parties, and the unenforceability, invalidity, or illegality of any provision of this Agreement will not render the other provisions unenforceable, invalid, or illegal. Any waiver by either party of any default or breach hereunder will not constitute a waiver of any provision of this Agreement or of any subsequent default or breach of the same or a different kind.



This Agreement is acknowledged and accepted by Customer and Solution Tree:

Terry Zessin
Superintendent
Wood River Rural Schools

Date

Date

Solution Tree, Inc.



DAVID GIFFORD

EDUCATOR AND TRAINER

Contact

Kearney, NE 68847

402-297-5428

dabgifford@gmail.com

Dear Mr. Christopher Pietrzak,

I am writing to express my interest in the Business Teacher position at Wood River, as advertised. With ten years of teaching experience and a professional teaching certificate, I am confident in my ability to contribute positively to your school's academic environment.

Throughout my career, I have had the opportunity to work with students from multiple grades and backgrounds, providing me with a broad understanding of the developmental stages and educational needs of students at various levels. My diverse teaching experience has equipped me with the flexibility and adaptability required to effectively manage classrooms across different age groups and subjects.

In my previous roles, I have developed and implemented lesson plans, assessed student performance, and fostered a supportive and inclusive classroom atmosphere. I am adept at using various teaching methodologies to accommodate diverse learning styles, ensuring that each student can achieve their full potential.

I am particularly drawn to the opportunity at Wood River because of its commitment to providing a nurturing and stimulating educational environment. I am eager to bring my skills and experience to your school and to work collaboratively with your staff to support student success.

Thank you for considering my application. I look forward to the opportunity to discuss how my background, skills, and certifications can contribute to the ongoing success of your school.

Sincerely,

David Gifford



DAVID GIFFORD

EDUCATOR AND TRAINER

Contact

Kearney, NE 68847
402-297-5428
dabgifford@gmail.com

Skills

Microsoft Office
Public Speaking
Learning Management Systems
E-Learning Platforms

Interests

Traveling
Cooking
Outdoor Activities

Activities

Kiwanis Noon Club
DECA
FBLA

Certifications

Professional Teaching Certification
Basic Business 6-12
Information Technology K-12

Profile

Well-qualified educator and trainer adept at implementing onsite and remote training programs. Authoritative and clear communicator with enthusiastic style and insightful approach.

Education History

Master of Science, Instructional Design	May 2020
University of Nebraska at Kearney	3.97
Master of Art, Teaching	December 2013
College of Saint Mary, Omaha	4.0
Undergraduate in Business Management	May 2010
Peru State College	
Associates in Human Resources	May 2008
Community College of the Air Force	

Work Experience

Long Term Substitute	Current
Wood River Rural Schools	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop strong relationships with students and teachers• Lead students in district curriculum and building activities• Participate in additional assignments and assist as needed throughout the district	

Work Experience Continued

Teacher

Kearney High School **2017-2023**

Kearney YRTC **2015-2017**

Bellevue Public Schools **2013-2015**

- Identified and delivered curriculum using technology and online platforms
- Managed classroom behaviors effectively by establishing clear expectations, modeling appropriate conduct, and consistently enforcing rules and consequences
- Assisted in creating a safe and nurturing classroom environment that promoted emotional well-being and academic growth for all students
- Enhanced classroom engagement through the use of interactive teaching methods, such as group projects and hands-on activities
- Developed strong relationships with students, parents, and colleagues by maintain open lines of communication and fostering a supportive learning environment

Ethanol Technician **2008-2012**

Cargill, Blair NE

- Maintained a safe work environment by strictly adhering to established safety protocols and guidelines
- Trained new technicians on standard operating procedures, ensuring consistency across the team
- Performed troubleshooting and diagnosis on malfunctioning equipment
- Inspected equipment to identify areas of wear or causes of malfunctions

US Air Force **2001-2008**

Worldwide

- Supervised the building and maintain of government assets
 - Created and implemented task lists and standard operating procedures
 - Recruited youth in the Midwest for the Air Force
 - Delivered yearly presentations to over 44 high schools and community colleges
 - Monitored and maintained personal records of recruits and families
 - Conducted personal sales calls and meetings
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PROBATIONARY TEACHER CONTRACT

THIS CONTRACT made by and between the School District of Wood River Rural Schools, No. 83 in the County of Hall, in the State of Nebraska, hereinafter referred to as the District and David Gifford, a legally qualified teacher, hereinafter referred to as Teacher.

WITNESSETH: That District hereby agrees to employ Teacher for one school year, which shall begin on or about the August 6, 2025 and end on or about May 21, 2026 consisting of 185 days of service exclusive of holidays, vacations and teacher institutes, and teacher hereby agrees to accept such employment for a salary of \$70,788 under the terms and conditions hereof.

FTE: 1 INDEX: 1.75 DEGREE: MA+27

1. It is understood That the period of employment covered by this Contract is provided for by Section 79-824.

2. The execution of this Contract shall create no property rights on behalf of the teacher which exists beyond the current year this Contract is in effect; nor does the execution of this Contract create any contractual right beyond the current year, rather said Contract be controlled by Section 79-824 to 842.

3. That upon termination of the Contract for any cause, the compensation paid or to be paid hereunder shall be an amount which bears the same ratio to the yearly salary herein specified as the number of days of service to the days of such an installment paid but not earned prior to termination of the Contract shall be refunded to Teacher.

4. The salary of Teacher shall be payable in 12 equal installments. The first installment shall be payable on the 1st of September and the remaining installments shall be payable on the 1st day of each month thereafter.

5. Teacher hereby agrees to be governed by all reasonable regulations and policies of the Board of Education of the District and that the duties to be performed by him/her under this Contract shall be subject to assignment by the Superintendent of Schools.

6. There shall be no penalty for release or resignation by Teacher from this Contract; provided no resignation shall become effective until the close of the Contract period unless accepted by the Board of Education of the District and said Board shall fix the time at which the resignation is to take effect.

7. This Contract shall conform to the regulations governing deductions from the above stated compensation with reference to Withholding Tax, Social Security, Teacher's Retirement and other deductions required by law. Other deductions may be entered into subject to all provisions of the Laws of the State of Nebraska.

8. Teacher hereby affirms that he/she is not under Contract with another School Board of Education within this State covering a part or all of the same time of performance as is contemplated by this Agreement. Teacher further affirms that at the beginning of the term of this Contract he/she holds or will hold a NEBRASKA CERTIFICATE, which is or will be in full force and effect for the period covered by this Contract. It is understood and agreed that this Contract is not valid until Teacher's Certificate, as herein listed, is registered in the Office of the Superintendent of Schools of this school district and that Teacher shall not be compensated for any services performed prior to the date of registration of this certificate.

9. If Teacher does not accept and deliver one signed copy of this Contract to the Board of Education of said District on or before February 18, 2025, this contract is null and void.

WE HAVE EXECUTED THIS CONTRACT IN DUPLICATE AND HAVE HEREUNTO SUBSCRIBED OUR NAMES AS PROVIDED BY LAW.

Executed 2-17-2024, 2025.



Teacher

School District Wood River Rural Schools, No. 83, County of Hall

President

Executed March 10, 2025

Secretary

NADIA VANSLYKE

Elementary Educator & Coach

Loup City, Ne 68853 | 308-202-0486 | nadia.vanslyke@gmail.com

February, 3, 2025

Wood River Administration
Wood River Rural Schools
13800 West Wood River Rd.
Wood River, NE 68883

Dear Wood River Administration,

As a very recent college graduate I am very eager to apply for a position at Wood River. With a strong passion for student growth academically and athletically, I bring different levels and years of experience to the classroom as well as the court.

In my current role as a Long-Term Substitute at Loup City Public Schools, I implement engaging lessons that cater to diverse learning styles. My flexibility and confidence as an educator has led me to this position in Middle School Math where my schooling is K-6 Elementary.

As a coach I have led the South Central 16U team for the last 4 years. I prioritize teaching the fundamental skills, sportsmanship, and leadership while holding a positive and disciplined culture for the team. My dual role as an educator and coach will allow me to create more connections to assist in students excelling academically and athletically.

I am particularly drawn to Wood River Rural School District because of its commitment to the excellence of the academics as well as athletics. The "Excellent" ratings from the Nebraska Department of Education shows the standard Wood River Schools holds their academics too.

Thank you for your consideration for the coaching and classroom positions. I look forward to the possibility of joining your team and contributing to the success of your students.

Sincerely,

Nadia VanSlyke



NADIA VANSLYKE

Elementary Educator & Coach

CONTACT

✉ nadia.vanslyke@gmail.com

☎ (308) 202-0486

📍 361 S 12th St.
Loup City, Ne. 68853

EDUCATION

Bachelors of Education K-6

University of Nebraska at Kearney
| August 2022 - December 2025

Associates of Science

Southeast Community College-
Beatrice, Ne.
| August 2020 - May 2022

REFERENCES

Jason Sullivan

Administrator, Loup City, Ne.
308-745-0120
jason.sullivan@lcpublic.org

Cristina Valdes

Outley Elementary- Houston, Tx.
832-231-1107
cristina.valdes@aliefisd.net

EXPERIENCE

Substitute Teacher/ Long Term Substitute

Loup City Public Schools- Loup City, Ne.
| Aug 2022 - present

- Implemented lesson plans across diverse subjects and grade levels, ensuring continuity of learning.
- Fostered a positive and inclusive atmosphere in the classroom.

Student Teacher

Alief Independent School District-Houston, Tx.
| Jul 2025 - Dec 2024

- Planned, prepared, and delivered engaging lessons in alignment with the curriculum
- Participated in team meetings, parent-teacher conferences, and professional development sessions.

Summer School Class Leader

Loup City Public Schools- Loup City, Ne.
| Summers of 2023 & 2024

- Created engaging elementary based lessons in all subjects.
- Collaborated with fellow educators about educational activities.

Club Volleyball Head Coach

South Central Volleyball Club- Aurora, Ne.
| Years of 22,23,24,25

- Scheduling practice and tournaments
- Mentored athletes in developing technical skills, game strategies, and personal growth.