

July Public Hearing
Monday, July 20, 2026 6:00 PM
Ashland-Greenwood Middle School Media
Center
806 N. 17th
Ashland-Greenwood Schools
Ashland, NE 68003

1. Call to Order. Roll Call
2. Acknowledge of Open Meetings Law posting
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Public Hearing on Student Fee Policy 5045
5. Board of Education review of Bullying Policy 5054. (Attached)
6. Board of Education Review of Attendance Policy 5001. (Attached)
7. Board of Education to receive and update related to policy 6020 - Multicultural Education. (Attached)
8. Board of Education review of Policy 2007 - Reimbursement and Miscellaneous Expenditures. (Attached)
9. Adjournment

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING INFORMATION:

The Ashland-Greenwood Public Schools Board of Education is empowered to act on any item listed on the agenda at any time during the meeting, irrespective of the time or order listed. Pages listed, or further detail, are available upon request. The Open Meetings Act requires and the intention of the Board is that agenda items be sufficiently descriptive to give the public reasonable notice of the matters to be considered at the meeting. The Ashland-Greenwood Board of Education releases its agenda well in advance of most meetings and desires that all interested persons are fully informed. Any interested person who has a question or needs clarification about the sufficiency of a descriptive item should contact the Office of the Superintendent of Schools.

COPY OF OPEN MEETINGS ACT: *The Board of Education makes available at least one current copy of the Open Meetings Act posted in the meeting room at a location accessible to members of the public. The Act is posted on the North wall of the meeting room west of the main entrance.*

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THOSE WHO WISH TO SPEAK DURING PUBLIC FORUM:

Getting Started: *When it is your turn to speak during the public forum portion of the agenda, please come forward, sign your name and address on the sign-in sheet and state your name to the Board of Education.*

Time Limit: *You may speak only one time and must limit comments to 5 minutes or less.*

Personnel or Student Topic: *If you are planning to speak about a personnel or student matter involving an individual, please understand that our policies require that such concerns initially be directed to the administration for consideration. Board members will generally not respond to any questions you ask or comments you make about individual staff members or students. You are cautioned that slanderous comments are not protected just because they are made at a Board meeting.*

General Rules: *Please remember that this is a meeting of the Board of Education held in public for conducting the business of the Board of Education. Offensive language, personal attacks and hostile conduct will not be tolerated.*

REQUEST FOR CLOSED SESSIONS:

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

5045 Student Fees

The school district shall provide free instruction in accordance with the Nebraska State Constitution and the Nebraska statutes. The district also provides activities, programs, and services that extend beyond the minimum level of constitutionally required free instruction. Under the Public Elementary and Secondary Student Fee Authorization Act, the district is permitted to charge students fees for these activities or to require students to provide specialized equipment and attire for certain purposes. This policy is subject to further interpretation or guidance by administrative or board regulations. Students are encouraged to contact their building administration, their teachers or their coaches, and sponsors for further specifics.

A. Definitions.

1. "Students" means students, their parents, guardians or other legal representatives.
2. "Extracurricular activities" means student activities or organizations that (1) are supervised or administered by the district; (2) do not count toward graduation or advancement between grades; and (3) are not otherwise required by the district.
3. "Post-secondary education costs" means tuition and other fees associated with obtaining credit from a post-secondary educational institution.

B. Listing of Fees Charged by this District.

1. Guidelines for Clothing Required for Specified Courses and Activities.

Students are responsible for complying with the district's grooming and attire guidelines and for furnishing all clothing required for any special programs, courses or activities in which they participate. The teacher, coach, or sponsor of the activity will provide students with written guidelines that detail any special clothing requirements and explain why the special clothing is required for the specific program, course or activity.

2. Safety Equipment and Attire.

The district will provide students with all safety equipment and attire that is required by law. Building administrators will assure that (a) such equipment is available in the appropriate classes and areas of the school

buildings, (b) teachers are directed to instruct students in the use of such devices, and (c) students use the devices as required. Students are responsible for using the devices safely and as instructed.

3. Personal or Consumable Items.

The district does provide students with personal or consumable items for participation in courses and activities including, but not limited to, pencils, paper, pens, erasers and notebooks. Students who wish to supply their own personal or consumable items may do so, as long as those items comply with the requirements of the district. The district will provide students with facilities, equipment, materials and supplies, including books. Students are responsible for the careful and appropriate use of such property. Students will be charged for damage to school property caused by the student and will be held responsible for the reasonable replacement cost of any school property that they lose.

4. Materials Required for Course Projects.

The district will provide students with the materials necessary to complete all basic curricular projects. In courses where students choose to produce a project that requires materials beyond the basic materials provided by the district, the students will furnish the materials, purchase the materials from the school, or purchase the materials from an outside vendor with an order form provided by the school.

6. Extracurricular Activities.

The district may charge students a fee to participate in extracurricular activities to cover the district's reasonable costs in offering such activities. The district may require students to furnish specialized equipment and clothing that is required for participation in extracurricular activities, or may charge a reasonable fee for the use of district-owned equipment or attire. Attached to this policy is a list of the fees charged for particular activities. The coach or sponsor will provide students with additional written guidelines detailing the fees charged, the equipment and/or clothing required, or the usage fee charged. The guidelines will explain the reasons that fees, equipment and/or clothing are required for the activity.

The following list details the maximum dollar amount of all extracurricular activities fees and the specifications for any equipment or attire required for participation in extracurricular activities:

STUDENT FEE SCHEDULE/FUND ASHLAND-GREENWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

School Activity Participation Fee	\$50.00 Per Activity/Maximum \$150.00
• (Students in Grades 7-12: entitles admission into all school home activities, participation in all extra-curricular school activities, \$5 discount for a student yearbook).	

Adult Activity Pass	\$75.00
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Golden Age Adult Activity Pass	\$50.00 One Time Fee - Age 65+
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Student Activity Pass	\$50.00
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Dual Credit Course Fee	\$75 minimum, up to \$400
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Admission Fees

Varsity Athletic Events, School Plays, School Dances

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------|
| • Adults | \$6.00 |
| • Students | \$5.00 |

Non-Varsity Athletic Events

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------|
| • Adults | \$4.00 |
| • Students | \$3.00 |

*Admission fees can be waived by the principal and/or designee for all spectators at an event at his or her discretion.

*Admission Fee waived for students who have paid or had waived the student participation fee.

Participation in Pre-Kindergarten	\$175.00 per month
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School Records	\$0.05 per page
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7. Post-Secondary Education Costs.

Some students enroll in postsecondary courses while still enrolled in the district's high school. As a general rule, students must pay all costs associated with such post-secondary courses. However, for a course in which students receive high school credit or a course being taken as part of an approved accelerated or differentiated curriculum program, the district shall

offer the course without charge for tuition, transportation, books, or other fees. Students who choose to apply for post-secondary education credit for these courses must pay tuition and all other fees associated with obtaining credits from a post-secondary educational institution. The costs of these items will naturally vary, but the maximum dollar amount of the fee is anticipated to be \$50-\$400 per course.

12. Charges for Food Consumed by Students.

The district will charge for items that students purchase from the district's breakfast and lunch programs. The fees charged for these items will be set according to applicable federal and state statutes and regulations. The district will charge students for the cost of food, beverages, and the like that students purchase from a school store, vending machine, booster club or from similar sources. Students may be required to bring money or food for field trip lunches and similar activities.

13. Charges for Musical Extracurricular Activities.

Students who qualify for fee waivers under this policy will be provided, at no charge, the use of a musical instrument in optional music courses that are not extracurricular activities. The following list details the maximum dollar amount of all musical extracurricular activities fees and the equipment or attire required for participation in musical extracurricular activities:

C. Waiver Policy.

Students who qualify for free or reduced-price lunches under United States Department of Agriculture child nutrition programs shall be provided a fee waiver or be provided the necessary materials or equipment without charge for (1) participation in extracurricular activities, (2) materials for course projects, and (3) the use of a musical instrument in optional music courses that are not extracurricular activities. Actual participation in the free or reduced-price lunch program is not required to qualify for the waivers provided in this section. The district is not obligated to provide any particular type or quality of equipment or other material to eligible students. Students who wish to be considered for waiver of a particular fee must submit a completed fee waiver application to their building principal.

D. Distribution of Policy.

This policy will be published in the Student Handbook or its equivalent

that will be provided to students at no cost.

E. Voluntary Contributions to Defray Costs.

The district will, when appropriate, request donations of money, materials, equipment or attire from parents, guardians and other members of the community to defray the costs of providing certain services and activities to students. These requests are not requirements and staff members of the district are directed to clearly communicate that fact to students, parents and patrons.

F. Fund-Raising Activities

Students may be permitted or required to engage in fund-raising activities to support various curricular and extracurricular activities in which they participate. Students who decline to participate in fund-raising activities are not eligible under this policy for waiver of the costs or fees which the fund-raising activity was meant to defray.

G. Student Fee Fund.

The school board hereby establishes a Student Fee Fund. The Student Fee Fund shall be a separate school district fund that will not be funded by tax revenue, and that will serve as a depository for all monies collected from students for (1) participation in extracurricular activities, (2) post-secondary education costs, and (3) summer school or night school courses. Monies in the Student Fee Fund shall be expended only for the purposes for which they were collected from students.

Adopted on: 10/21/19

Revised on: 7/21/2025

Reviewed on: _____

**STUDENT FEE SCHEDULE/FUND
ASHLAND-GREENWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

Participation in Pre-Kindergarten	\$175.00/month
Dual Credit Course Fee	\$75 minimum, up to \$400
School Records	\$0.05 per page
School Activity Participation Fee	\$50.00/maximum of \$150.00
● Students in Grades 7-12 who participate in an extra-curricular activity are required to pay \$50.00 per activity. ● The Participation Fee entitles the participant to admission into all school home activities, participation in school activities, and a \$5 discount for a student yearbook.	
Adult Activity Pass	\$75.00
Student Activity Pass	\$50.00
Event Admission:	
● Athletic Events (All levels), School Plays, School Dances ○ Admission Fee Adults \$6.00 ○ Admission Fee Students \$5.00 ● Trailblazer Conference Tournament & MS/HS Tournament Events ○ Admission Fee Adults \$7.00 ○ Admission Fee Students \$5.00	

*Admission fees can be waived by the principal and/or designee for all spectators at an event at his or her discretion.

5054 Student Bullying

Definition of Bullying. Nebraska statute defines bullying as “an ongoing pattern of physical, verbal or electronic abuse.” The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention defines bullying as “any unwanted aggressive behavior(s) by another youth or group of youths who are not siblings or current dating partners that involves an observed or perceived power imbalance and is repeated multiple times or is highly likely to be repeated.” The school district’s administrators will consider these definitions when determining whether any specific situation constitutes bullying. These definitions include both in-person and cyberbullying behaviors.

Bullying Prohibited. Students are prohibited from engaging in any form of bullying behavior.

Reporting Bullying. Students who experience or observe bullying behavior must immediately report what happened to a teacher or administrator. Students may always confer with their parents or guardians about bullying they experience or witness, but the students must also ultimately report the situation to a teacher or administrator.

Bullying Investigations. School district staff will investigate allegations of bullying using the same practices and procedures that the district observes for student disciplinary matters. In no circumstance will school district staff be deliberately indifferent to allegations of bullying.

Disciplinary Consequences. The disciplinary consequences for bullying behavior will depend on the frequency, duration, severity and effect of the behavior.

A student who engages in bullying behavior on school grounds, in a vehicle owned, leased, or contracted by a school being used for a school purpose by a school employee or his or her designee, or at school-sponsored activities or school-sponsored athletic events may be subject to disciplinary consequences including but not limited to long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment.

Without limiting the foregoing, a student who engages in bullying behavior that materially and substantially interferes with or disrupts the educational environment, the district’s day-to-day operations, or the education process, regardless of where the student is at the time of

engaging in the bullying behavior, may be subject to discipline to the extent permitted by law.

Bullying Based on Protected Class Status. Bullying based on protected class status is unique and may require additional investigation. The appropriate district staff member or coordinator will promptly investigate bullying complaints that violate the district's antidiscrimination policies.

Support for Students Who Have Experienced Bullying. Regardless of where the bullying occurred, the district will consider whether victims of bullying are suffering an adverse educational impact and, if appropriate, will refer those students to the district's student assistance team.

Bullying Prevention and Education. Students and parents are encouraged to inform teachers or administrators orally or in writing about bullying behavior or suspected bullying behavior. School employees are required to inform the administrator of all such reports. The appropriate administrator shall promptly investigate all such reports. Each building shall engage in activities which educate students about bullying, bullying prevention and digital citizenship.

Policy Review. The school district shall review this policy annually.

Adopted on: 10/21/19

Revised on: 6/15/20

Reviewed on: _____

5001 - REVISED for 26.27
Compulsory Attendance and Excessive Absenteeism

"School success is 90 percent showing up; the other half is mental." Yogi Berra

Research on policies and practices that effectively encourage regular student attendance share some key components:

1. Education of parents regarding school attendance requirements.
2. Effective policies and practices to monitor attendance.
3. Clear definition of excessive absenteeism and a two-stage response to excessive absences.

The board has considered this educational research and used it to create the following policy on Compulsory Attendance and Excessive Absenteeism.

Required Attendance

Every person residing in the school district who has legal or actual charge or control of any child who is of mandatory attendance age shall cause that child to attend a public or private school regularly unless the child has graduated from high school or has been allowed to disenroll pursuant to this policy.

Mandatory Attendance Age

All children who are or will turn six years old before January 1 of the current school year are of mandatory attendance age. Children who have not turned eighteen years of age are of mandatory attendance age.

A child who will not reach age 7 before January 1 of the current school year may be excused from mandatory attendance if the child's parent or guardian completes an affidavit affirming that alternative educational arrangements have been made for the child. A copy of the required affidavit is attached to this policy.

Discontinuing Enrollment – 5 Year Old Students

The person seeking to discontinue the enrollment of a student who will not reach six years of age prior to January 1 of the current school year shall submit a signed, written request and to the superintendent using the form which is attached to this policy. The school district may request written verification or documentation that the person signing the form has legal or actual charge or control of the student. The school district shall discontinue the enrollment of any student who satisfies these requirements. Any

student whose enrollment is discontinued under this subsection shall not be eligible to reenroll in this school district until the beginning of the following school year unless otherwise required by law.

Discontinuing Enrollment – 16 and 17 Year Old Students

Only children who are at least 16 years of age may be disenrolled from the district. The person seeking to discontinue the child's enrollment shall submit a signed, written request and submit it to the superintendent using the form which is attached to this policy. The district will follow the procedures outlined on the attached form in considering requests to disenroll.

Only children disenrolling to attend an exempt school may be exempt from this policy. The person with legal or actual charge or control of the child must provide the superintendent with a copy of the signed request submitted to the State Department of Education for attending exempt schools. The superintendent may confirm the validity of the submission with the State Department of Education.

Prohibition on Discontinuing Enrollment – Abuse or Neglect Investigation

Upon notice from the Department of Health and Human Services, the District shall not facilitate the transfer or disenrollment of a student whose parent, guardian, or educational decisionmaker is subject to an active investigation by the Department for fourteen days or until further notice from the Department, whichever occurs first.

Attendance Officer

Each building principal is designated as an attendance officer for the district. Each building principal, at his or her discretion, may delegate these responsibilities to any other qualified individual. The attendance officer is responsible for enforcing the provisions of state law relating to compulsory attendance. This responsibility includes but is not limited to filing a report with the county attorney of the county in which a student resides. Compensation for the duties of attendance officer is included in the salary for the superintendent or designee.

Excused Absences – Physical or Mental Illness

Absences shall be excused by a parent, guardian, or educational decision maker, as defined in section 79-530, of the child for physical or mental

illness and as documented by a credentialed health professional, provided the documentation supports such absence. In the instance of chronic illness, documentation shall be reviewed each semester.

Expectations for Regular Attendance:

1. Students are expected to attend every class, every day.
2. The only "excused" absences shall be:
 - a.) absences when the Nebraska State Patrol confirms in writing that weather conditions have made the roads impassable so that the student's attendance impracticable or impossible;
 - b.) student attendance at a school-sponsored activity;
 - c.) student has been suspended or expelled from school by the school district; and
 - d.) absences required by law enforcement, child protective services or a court of competent jurisdiction, confirmed in writing to the school district.
3. All other absences, including absences for minor physical or mental illnesses, family events, routine medical appointments are simply "absences."
4. Upon return from every absence or partial-day absence, students must remain after school for 30 minutes to meet with teachers, work on missed assignments or simply to study. The location and supervision of the student will be determined by the building principal in consultation with the student's classroom teacher(s).
5. Students must not be absent from any course more than seven days in any given quarter in order to earn academic credit for that course for that quarter. Students who lose credit in any given course due to absences may appeal that loss of credit to his/her building principal.

Attendance Incentives:

Building principals will establish attendance incentives for their students. Those may include:

- Special Recognition of students who have exceptional attendance. Each building principal will determine those standards.

When students are absent from school, district staff will respond as follows:

First Stage Response to Absences

1. A member of district staff will contact parent via telephone for every absence if the parent has not contacted the school in advance. 2. The superintendent may meet with the building principal if more than 10% of students miss seven or more days of class in any quarter to review strategies to improve the school building's climate. A consistent pattern of building-wide absenteeism may result in a formal remediation plan.

Second Stage Response to Absences

The Saunders County ARRIVE ATTENDANCE officer will receive notification of all students who accumulate seven or more absences during a semester. If a student continues to be or becomes habitually absent from school, the principal shall serve a written notice to the person violating Neb.Rev.Stat. 79-201, warning the student to comply with the provisions of that statute.

Students who accrue more than 20 absences in a school year may be referred to the county attorney for action under NEB. REV. STAT. § 43-247(3)(a) and (b).

Adopted on: _____

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

Ashland-Greenwood - Multicultural Report - July 2026

School District Mission Statement: Our school, with family and community cooperation, promotes life-long learning to awaken, develop and enhance the individual potential.

Multicultural Statement: Our school provides a multicultural education for all students to acquire knowledge and skills to promote understanding, respect and appreciation of themselves and others so they can live effectively in a world of expanding experiences and constant change.

Goal Statements:

- The district will develop well-rounded students knowledgeable of the history and culture of differing national, ethnic, racial and gender groups.
- Students will be provided experiences beyond their immediate environment in order to function in our changing and expanding world.
- Students will develop skills in relating and working effectively with people from other national, ethnic, racial and gender groups.
- Students will increase self-esteem through appreciation of their own culture and the cultures of others.
- Students will develop unity with others by understanding the diversity of others with special emphasis on human relations and sensitivity toward all races.
- Students will become aware of, recognize the benefits, and respect the contributions of other national, ethnic, racial and gender groups.

District Instructional Program: The instructional program incorporates multicultural education in most curriculum areas at all grades. Multicultural education includes, but is not limited to, studies relative to the culture, history, and contributions of African Americans, Hispanic Americans, Native Americans, Asian Americans and European Americans with special emphasis on human relations and sensitivity toward all races. Each district content/curriculum area has standards that specifically foster and develop an appreciation and understanding of the racial, ethnic, and cultural heritage of all students. Resources, materials, and/or activities appropriate for each grade level have been identified to support the implementation of these standards. Some example standards include:

Kindergarten Science: Students will compare transportation, food, and recreation from culture to culture

2nd Grade Art: Students create a Native American animal mask

5th Grade Health: Students will analyze how a person's self esteem can be influenced by the actions of others with regard to nationality, ethnicity, race, and gender

6th Grade Music: Students will examine and analyze different musical styles, timbres, rhythms and instruments used in music from different cultures in comparison to their own culture

7th Grade Social Studies: Students will examine how prejudice has affected various racial and ethnic groups in the United States

9th and 10th Grade English: Students will study people of different cultures to better understand attitudes and

values different from their own

HS Agriculture: Students will understand the effect of cultural norms and practices in relation to agricultural production and consumption

Before selecting new instructional materials to purchase, curriculum committees must ensure the material content will allow students to explore the history and contributions made by various ethnic groups and emphasize the rich diversity of the population of the United States as well as the world.

Our most recent instructional materials adoptions include representation from publishers who have been very intentional about their attention to multiculturalism.

- TCI - ELE Social Studies Alive!: TCI's elementary social studies curriculum is built in alignment with national frameworks, such as the College, Career, and Civic Life (C3) Framework for Social Studies, as well as state standards, and it is constructed with inquiry-based instruction at its core including multicultural content in each unit.
- MyView - K-5 ELA Materials include a focus on Culturally Relevant Literacy: Relevant and responsive texts that foster building positive images of varied roles and special populations
- Reveal - K-12 Math includes a focus on creating an equitable classroom culture where all ideas are welcome and respected. Texts include multiple perspectives and language components to support all learners.
- EL - Open Up Resources - 6-8 ELA materials aim to represent diverse cultures, backgrounds, and perspectives. This includes texts, stories, and examples from various cultural contexts and regions of the world. There is a strong emphasis on developing cultural awareness and sensitivity among students through exploring different cultural practices, traditions, and histories embedded within the curriculum. Students are encouraged to critically examine cultural stereotypes and deeper understanding of the complexities of multiculturalism.

The need for professional development in support of sufficiently implementing the multi-cultural standards is also considered by curriculum committees.

2007
Reimbursement and Miscellaneous Expenditures

1. Board members, employees, and volunteers of the school district are expected to maintain and enhance their effectiveness by being well-informed on issues affecting education. They are encouraged to attend education workshops, conferences, training programs, official functions, hearings, and meetings sponsored by the school district or state and national educational organizations which are helpful to them in performing their duties or which are in the best interests of the school district.
2. This board hereby gives prior approval for board members to attend meetings described in the preceding paragraph. Upon approval by the board president, or the superintendent or designee when the board president is unavailable, such board members may attend authorized meetings without further action or approval by the board, and shall be paid or reimbursed for registration costs, tuition costs, fees or charges, travel expenses, and costs of meals and lodging as permitted by law.
 - a. The superintendent or the superintendent's designee may authorize employees and volunteers to attend meetings described in the first paragraph and may authorize the payment of such registration costs, tuition costs, fees, charges, travel expenses, costs of meals, and/or costs of lodging as he or she deems appropriate and as permitted by law.
 - b. Expenses for attendance at any of the above activities shall be paid by the school district as allowed by law. The Board shall pay or reimburse attendees for expenses that are actually, necessarily, and reasonably incurred in attending educational seminars, conventions, and workshops; conferences; training programs; official school functions, hearings or meetings, provided that such reimbursement is permitted by law.
 - c. The board authorizes the expenditure of funds for non-alcoholic beverages for individuals attending public meetings of the board and non-alcoholic beverages and meals for individuals while performing or immediately after performing relief, assistance, or support activities in emergency situations, and for any volunteers during or

immediately following their participation in any activity approved by the board.

- d. It is in the best interest of this school district to recognize service by board members, employees, and volunteers. The board authorizes the president, superintendent or the superintendent's designee to determine when and to whom plaques, certificates of achievement, flowers or other items of value should be granted, provided that no such plaque, certificate, flowers or other item of value shall cost more than \$100.00.
- e. Funds may be spent for one recognition dinner each year for elected and appointed officials, employees or volunteers of the school district. The maximum cost per person for such a dinner shall not exceed \$50.00.

Adopted on: 10/21/2019

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____