

Board of Education Regular Meeting

Monday, March 9, 2026 5:30 PM
Public School Library
506 W. 9th Street
Dorchester, NE 68343-0007

Notice of the time and place of the Dorchester Board of Education meeting was published in a newspaper of general circulation within the district. Newspapers of general circulation in the district include, but are not necessarily limited to, the Crete News, the Lincoln Journal Star, or the Omaha World-Herald. Notice is also posted in at least three prominent places within the school district which may include the following: Dorchester Public Schools, Farmers Coop, First State Bank, and the Village Office. Individual board members received in advance the meeting agenda and meeting materials. Pursuant to Section 84-1412 of the Nebraska Statutes, the public is hereby informed that a current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act is posted in the Board meeting boardroom.

Matt Bolton: Present

Matthew Hansen: Present

Shelly Lehr: Present

Carol Schnell: Present

Matt Smith: Present

Steve Vyhnalek: Present

Carol Schnell: Absent

Carol Schnell needed to leave.

1. Call to Order and Announce Open Meetings Act Verification

The meeting was called to order by President Steve Vyhnalek. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

2. Roll Call

Also present were Superintendent Nick Mumm, Principal JJ Wagner, and Jen Bond.

3. Receive Visitors and Announce Open Forum for Public Comment

Visitors present were Rebecca Steuk, Matt Pracheil, Garrett Smith, Clint Zaptin, Tiffany Bergmeyer, and Jay Carlson.

4. Approval of the Minutes of the Last Meeting(s)

Motion to approve the reading of the last meeting(s) minutes both the regular board meeting and the American Civics meeting Passed with a motion by Shelly Lehr and a second by Matt Smith.
Matt Bolton: Yea, Matthew Hansen: Yea, Shelly Lehr: Yea, Matt Smith: Yea, Steve Vyhnalek: Yea

5. Financial Report

Motion to approve the financial report Passed with a motion by Matthew Hansen and a second by Shelly Lehr.
Matt Bolton: Yea, Matthew Hansen: Yea, Shelly Lehr: Yea, Matt Smith: Yea, Steve Vyhnalek: Yea

6. Reports

6.1. AD's Report

Mr. Zoubek submitted to the board a list of upcoming school events.

6.2. Principal's Report

Mr. Wagner told the board that all our elementary teachers, as well as Mrs. Ridpath and Mrs. Barlow, had the opportunity to visit Shickley and EMF to see the reading curriculum they use in action. This will help them make the decision on what is the best option for Dorchester. Mr. Bird and Mrs. Ridpath had the opportunity to see how Seward runs their ELA classes as well as some of their intervention groups.

6.3. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Mumm discussed the Safety Audit for 2025-2026.

7. New Business

7.1. Approve completed spring Superintendent evaluation.

Motion to acknowledge the completion of the spring Superintendent evaluation Passed with a motion by Matt Bolton and a second by Matthew Hansen.
Matt Bolton: Yea, Matthew Hansen: Yea, Shelly Lehr: Yea, Matt Smith: Yea, Steve Vyhnalek: Yea

7.2. Discuss and take all necessary action to approve the 2026 - 2027 Superintendent's contract.

Motion to approve the 2026-2027 Superintendent's contract with the amendment to change the cell phone reimbursement to \$100 Passed with a motion by Matt Bolton and a second by Matt Smith.
Matt Bolton: Yea, Matthew Hansen: Yea, Shelly Lehr: Yea, Matt Smith: Yea, Steve Vyhnalek: Yea

7.3. Discuss and take all necessary action to approve the 2026 - 2027 Principal's contract.

Motion to approve the 2026-2027 Principal's contract Passed with a motion by Matt Smith and a second by Shelly Lehr.
Matt Bolton: Yea, Matthew Hansen: Yea, Shelly Lehr: Yea, Matt Smith: Yea, Steve Vyhnalek: Yea

7.4. Discuss and take all necessary action to approve the purchase of property from Ziemann & Sons Construction LLC.

Motion to approve the purchase of property from Ziemann & Sons Construction LLC Passed with a motion by Matthew Hansen and a second by Matt Smith.
Matt Bolton: Yea, Matthew Hansen: Yea, Shelly Lehr: Yea, Matt Smith: Yea, Steve Vyhnalek: Yea

7.5. Discuss and take all necessary action to approve the Speech Language Pathologist contract for the 2026–2027 school year.

Motion to approve the Speech Language Pathologist contract for the 2026-2027 school year Passed with a motion by Matt Bolton and a second by Shelly Lehr.

Matt Bolton: Yea, Matthew Hansen: Yea, Shelly Lehr: Yea, Matt Smith: Yea, Steve Vyhnalek: Yea

7.6. Discuss and take all necessary action to approve the contract for the athletic trainer.

Motion to approve the contract for the athletic trainer Passed with a motion by Matthew Hansen and a second by Shelly Lehr.

Matt Bolton: Yea, Matthew Hansen: Yea, Shelly Lehr: Yea, Matt Smith: Yea, Steve Vyhnalek: Yea

7.7. Discuss and take all necessary action to approve the 2026-2027 school calendar.

Motion to approve the 2026-2027 school calendar Passed with a motion by Matt Smith and a second by Matthew Hansen.

Matt Bolton: Yea, Matthew Hansen: Yea, Shelly Lehr: Yea, Matt Smith: Yea, Steve Vyhnalek: Yea

7.8. Discuss and take all necessary action to approve the 2026-2027 classified staff wage increase of 4%.

Motion to approve the 2026-2027 classified staff wage increase of 4% Passed with a motion by Shelly Lehr and a second by Matt Smith.

Matt Bolton: Abstain (With Conflict), Matthew Hansen: Yea, Shelly Lehr: Yea, Matt Smith: Yea, Steve Vyhnalek: Yea

7.9. Discuss and take all necessary action to approve the contract for new copiers from Eakes.

Motion to approve the contract for new copiers from Eakes Passed with a motion by Matt Bolton and a second by Matthew Hansen.

Matt Bolton: Yea, Matthew Hansen: Yea, Shelly Lehr: Yea, Matt Smith: Yea, Steve Vyhnalek: Yea

8. Board Committee Report(s)

There were no board committee reports.

9. Closed Session (as necessary per statute)

Motion to go into closed session at 6:33pm Passed with a motion by Matthew Hansen and a second by Matt Smith.

Matt Bolton: Yea, Matthew Hansen: Yea, Shelly Lehr: Yea, Matt Smith: Yea, Steve Vyhnalek: Yea

Motion to come out of closed session at 7:48pm Passed with a motion by Matt Bolton and a second by Matthew Hansen.

Matt Bolton: Yea, Matthew Hansen: Yea, Shelly Lehr: Yea, Matt Smith: Yea, Steve Vyhnalek: Yea

10. Establish Future Board of Education Meeting Date(s) and Time(s)

The next scheduled board meeting is Monday, April 13th, at 7:00pm

11. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn at 7:50pm Passed with a motion by Shelly Lehr and a second by Matthew Hansen.

Matt Bolton: Yea, Matthew Hansen: Yea, Shelly Lehr: Yea, Matt Smith: Yea, Steve Vyhnalek: Yea

Carol Schnell?(s) Carol Schnell, Secretary of the Board of Education

Board of Education Regular Meeting

Monday, February 9, 2026 5:45 PM

Dorchester Public School Science Room

506 W. 9th Street

Dorchester, NE 68343-0007

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Matt Bolton: Present

Matthew Hansen: Present

Shelly Lehr: Present

Carol Schnell: Present

Matt Smith: Present

Steve Vyhnalek: Present

1. Call to Order and Announce Open Meetings Act Verification

The meeting was called to order by President Steve Vyhnalek. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

2. Roll Call

Also present were Superintendent Nick Mumm and Jen Bond.

3. Receive Visitors and Announce Open Forum for Public Comment

No visitors were present.

4. Request for Change of Agenda

No request for change of agenda.

5. Approval of the Minutes of the Last Meeting(s)

Motion to approve the reading of the last meeting(s) minutes passed with a motion by Carol Schnell and a second by Matthew Hansen.

Matt Bolton: Yea, Matthew Hansen: Yea, Shelly Lehr: Yea, Carol Schnell: Yea, Matt Smith: Yea, Steve Vyhnalek: Yea

6. Financial Report

Motion to approve the financial report passed with a motion by Shelly Lehr and a second by Matt Smith.

Matt Bolton: Yea, Matthew Hansen: Yea, Shelly Lehr: Yea, Carol Schnell: Yea, Matt Smith: Yea, Steve Vyhnalek: Yea

7. Reports

7.1. AD's Report

Mr. Zoubek submitted to the board a list of upcoming school events.

7.2. Principal's Report

Mr. Wagner went to a training session for administrators that helped introduce the GOLD system. He also attended meetings at the ESU.

7.3. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Mumm told the board we are continuing to get bids for the loft project. Our Rule 10 safety audit was this past week, and it appeared to go well. There has been discussion with the village regarding how we

can continue to ensure the safety of our students, staff, and families during drop-off and pick-up in front of the school. One possible option that was discussed is adding stop signs on 9th street.

8. New Business

8.1. Mrs. Brenda Nerud will share an overview of the High Ability Learners program.
This item is tabled until March. Mrs. Nerud was unable to attend.

8.2. Discuss and take all necessary action to approve the purchase of 605 9th St. and 710 West Depot, Dorchester, NE from Ziemann & Sons Construction.

Motion to approve the purchase of 605 W 9th St and 710 W Depot St, Dorchester, NE from Ziemann & Sons Construction passed with a motion by Matt Smith and a second by Shelly Lehr.

Matt Bolton: Yea, Matthew Hansen: Yea, Shelly Lehr: Yea, Carol Schnell: Yea, Matt Smith: Yea, Steve Vyhnaek: Yea

8.3. Discuss and take all necessary action to approve the 2026-2027 Spanish teacher, Ms. Ayala Garnica.

Motion to approve the teaching contract for Ms. Areli Ayala Garnica passed with a motion by Matthew Hansen and a second by Matt Bolton.

Matt Bolton: Yea, Matthew Hansen: Yea, Shelly Lehr: Yea, Carol Schnell: Yea, Matt Smith: Yea, Steve Vyhnaek: Yea

8.4. Take all necessary action to approve the resignation of Mr. Randy Klooz effective at the end of the 2025 - 2026 school year.

Motion to approve the resignation of Randy Klooz effective at the end of the 2025-2026 school year passed with a motion by Shelly Lehr and a second by Carol Schnell.

Matt Bolton: Yea, Matthew Hansen: Yea, Shelly Lehr: Yea, Carol Schnell: Yea, Matt Smith: Yea, Steve Vyhnaek: Yea

8.5. Discuss Superintendent Spring evaluation in closed session.

9. Board Committee Report(s)

There were no committee reports

10. Closed Session (as necessary per statute)

Motion to move into closed session to discuss the superintendent's spring evaluation at 7:11pm passed with a motion by Matthew Hansen and a second by Carol Schnell.

Matt Bolton: Yea, Matthew Hansen: Yea, Shelly Lehr: Yea, Carol Schnell: Yea, Matt Smith: Yea, Steve Vyhnaek: Yea

Motion to move out of closed session at 8:07 pm passed with a motion by Shelly Lehr and a second by Matthew Hansen.

Matt Bolton: Yea, Matthew Hansen: Yea, Shelly Lehr: Yea, Carol Schnell: Yea, Matt Smith: Yea, Steve Vyhnaek: Yea

11. Establish Future Board of Education Meeting Date(s) and Time(s)

The next scheduled board meeting is Monday, March 9, 2026 at 5:30pm.

12. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn at 8:08pm passed with a motion by Matt Smith and a second by Matthew Hansen.

Matt Bolton: Yea, Matthew Hansen: Yea, Shelly Lehr: Yea, Carol Schnell: Yea, Matt Smith: Yea, Steve Vyhnaek: Yea

Shelly Lehr, Secretary of the Board of Education

American Civics Committee Meeting

Monday, February 9, 2026 5:30 PM

Dorchester Public School Science Room

506 W. 9th Street

Dorchester, NE 68343-0007

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Matt Bolton: Present

Matthew Hansen: Present

Shelly Lehr: Present

Carol Schnell: Absent

Matt Smith: Absent

Steve Vyhnalek: Absent

1. Call to Order and Announce Open Meetings Act Verification

Dr. Mumm called the meeting of the American Civics Committee to order.

2. Roll Call

All committee members were present.

3. Receive Visitors and Announce Open Forum for Public Comment

Also present were board members Matt Smith and Carol Schnell.

4. Discussion Items

4.1. Review and discuss current DPS social studies curriculum and procedures.

The board discussed the current high school social studies curriculum for Dorchester Public School.

5. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn at 5:35pm passed with a motion by Shelly Lehr and a second by Matthew Hansen.

Matt Bolton: Yea, Matthew Hansen: Yea, Shelly Lehr: Yea

Shelly Lehr, Secretary of the Board of Education

Board Report

March 2026

- Junior High ESU6 Quiz Bowl - March 4
- NHS Blood Drive - March 10 - 11:30-5:30
- Speech Season wrapping up - March 7 @ McCool Junction
- District Speech - March 16 @ Raymond Central
- State Speech - March 28 @ Kearney
- Elementary Reading Classic Contest @ Dorchester - March 20 - AM
- Training workouts for students Grades 7-12 begin March 16 - AM
- 32nd Annual Alumni Basketball Tournament - 5 teams - March 20-21
- CRC Honor Band/Choir Concert @ Nebraska Lutheran - March 23
- HS Play Performances - March 26 & 29 - 7pm both nights
- Spring Practices started March 5
- HS Girls Track - approximately 15 participants
- HS Boys Track - approximately 5 participants
- JH Track Boys and Girls - approximately 30 participants
- HS Indoor Track @ Doane - March 19
- HS Outdoor season begins - March 24 @ Thayer Central (Hebron)
- HS Track Turkey Creek Relays @ Friend - March 31

Principal's Report

March 9th, 2026

ELA Visits

All of our elementary teachers as well as Mrs. Ridpath and Mrs. Barlow had the opportunity to visit Shickley and EMF to see the Reading curriculums they use in action. This will help them make the decision on what is the best option for Dorchester. They should be making a choice soon, so that we can get items ordered and make sure they are delivered in time for next school year. Both curriculums they went and looked at are good programs and would be great for our students.

CLSD Meetings

Mr. Bird and Mrs. Ridpath attended the latest meeting at Seward Public Schools. They had the opportunity to see how Seward runs their ELA classes as well as some of their intervention groups. I elected to stay back that day since we had had a large number of teacher absences the day before.

Sports

Winter Sports Season has concluded. Spring sports have had the chance to get started. Football and Volleyball have had their meetings to gauge interest for the fall and talk about camps over the summer.

Threat Assessment Team

We have officially started a Threat Assessment Team that consists of Deputy Warning, Mrs. Josoff, Mr. Kotas, Mrs. Bird, and myself. We have completed some online modules and will be attending a training via Zoom on March 19th. This team will meet once a month.

Upcoming Events

3/12 & 3/13 - No School - Spring Break

3/16 - District Speech @ Raymond Central TBD

3/19 - HS Track @ Doane Indoor 10 A.M.

3/20 - IPG Training @ ESU 5

3/20 - Excellence Rally

3/20 - Reading Classic Competition

3/20 & 3/21 - Alumni Basketball Tournament

3/23 - CLSD Meeting @ ESU 6

3/24 - HS Track @ Thayer Central

3/26 - High School Play TBD

3/27 - Practice ACT Test 8:05 A.M.

3/28 - State Speech @ Kearney

3/29 - High School Play 1 P.M.

3/30 - Mike Donahue Presentation - All Grades throughout the Day, Staff - After School, Parents - 6 P.M.

3/31 - HS Track @ EMF 10 A.M.

4/1 - ESU 6 Principals Meeting via Zoom 9 A.M.

4/1 - JH Track @ McCool Junction NOON
4/3 & 4/6 - No School - Easter Break
4/7 - Juniors take ACT
4/7 - JH Track @ McCool Junction 9 A.M.
4/8 - HS Track @ EMF 10 A.M.
4/9 - JH Track @ Milford 10 A.M.
4/11 - Prom
4/13 - JH Track @ McCool Junction 9 A.M.

Dorchester Public School 2026-2027 Calendar = Adopted01+000 FF0000 000000

2026

JULY								
S	M	T	W	T	F	S		
			1	2	3	4		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25		
26	27	28	29	30	31			
AUGUST							3.00	14.00
S	M	T	W	T	F	S		
						1		
2	3	4	5	6	7	8		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29		
30	31							
SEPTEMBER							2.00	18.00
S	M	T	W	T	F	S		
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6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
13	14	15	16	17	18	19		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26		
27	28	29	30					
OCTOBER							1.00	21.00
S	M	T	W	T	F	S		
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NOVEMBER							0.00	18.00
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29	30							
DECEMBER							0.00	14.00
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26		
27	28	29	30	31				
1st Semester Totals =							91.0	85.0

2027

JANUARY							1.00	19.00
S	M	T	W	T	F	S		
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23		
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31								
FEBRUARY							2.00	17.00
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28								
MARCH							1.00	18.00
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APRIL							1.00	21.00
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23/30	24/31	25	26	27	28	29		
JUNE								
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26		
27	28	29	30					
2nd Semester Totals =							94.0	89.0

- August 4 & 5 Beginning Teachers Network (Stipend Days)
- August 10 Start of FB & VB Practices
- August 10 & 11 Teacher In-Service (Open House August 10th)
- August 11 Para Day @ ESU 6 (Stipend Day)
- August 12-14 First Day of School for K-12 - 2 P.M. Dismissals
- August 17 First Day of School for Preschool
- September 7 Labor Day - NO SCHOOL
- September 8 Cohort Day - NO SCHOOL
- September 17 PTC - NO SCHOOL
- September 18 NO SCHOOL
- October 16 End of Quarter 1
- October 19 Teacher In-Service - No School
- November 6 Noon Dismissal
- November 25-27 Thanksgiving Break
- December 18 End of Quarter 2/Semester 1
- Dec. 21 - Jan 1 Holiday Break

- January 4 Teacher In-Service - No School
- January 22 Noon Dismissal
- February 11 PTC - NO SCHOOL
- February 12 NO SCHOOL
- February 15 Teacher In-Service - No School
- March 5 NO SCHOOL
- March 10 End of Quarter 3
- March 11 Teacher In-Service - No School
- March 12 NO SCHOOL
- March 26-29 Easter Break - NO SCHOOL
- April 16 Teacher In-Service - No School
- May 6 Last Day of School, Seniors
- May 7 Noon Dismissal
- May 8 Graduation
- May 20 End of S2 - Dismiss K-11 at Noon
- May 25-28 Make-up Days/School Improvement/Data Days TBD
- July 27 - August 7 Flex Teacher Work Day

STUDENT DAYS 174
 TEACHER DAYS 11
TOTAL DAYS 185

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES
September 17 8:30 A.M. - 8:00 P.M.
February 11 8:30 A.M. - 8:00 P.M.
NO SCHOOL
NO SCHOOL FOR PreK-12 STUDENTS
NOON DISMISSAL
TEACHER DUTY DAY - NO SCHOOL
COHORT - TEACHER DUTY DAY - NO SCHOOL
END OF THE QUARTER
PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES
Make-up Days/School Improvement/Data Days TBD
GYM CLOSED TO ALL PRACTICES AND ACTIVITIES