MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
October 12, 2026
7:00 PM

I. Call Meeting to Order

President Dave Zimmerman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and the following members were present: Betsy Frerichs, Dana Dorn, Dave Zimmerman & Jared McKeever. The following administrators were present: Kane Hookstra, Jeff Murphy, & Mark Jolliffe.

Reasonable advance publicized notice of the meeting was given according to law by publishing, a designated method for giving notice of the school district. Posted Location:

- Fairbury Journal-News

Posted Date: 10/06/2026
Reasonable advance notice was simultaneously given to board members and a copy of their acknowledgment of receipt of notice and the agenda attached. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

I.A. Roll Call

Motion to excuse Jeff Argo and Debi Schlake. This motion, made by Jared McKeever and seconded by Betsy Frerichs, passed.
Jeff Argo: Absent, Debra Schlake: Absent, Dana Dorn: yes, Betsy Frerichs: yes, Jared McKeever: yes, David Zimmerman: yes
yes: 4, no: 0, Absent: 2

I.B. Notice of Nebraska Open Meetings Act Posted

President Dave Zimmerman announced that a complete copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was posted on the back of the board of education meeting room.

II. Approval of Minutes from the September 14, 2026 Budget Hearing, Tax Request Hearing and Regular Board Meeting

Motion to approve minutes from the September 14, 2026 Budget Hearing, Tax Request Hearing and Regular Board Meeting. This motion, made by Betsy Frerichs and seconded by Dana Dorn, passed.
Jeff Argo: Absent, Debra Schlake: Absent, Dana Dorn: yes, Betsy Frerichs: yes, Jared McKeever: yes, David Zimmerman: yes
yes: 4, no: 0, Absent: 2

III. Communications, Audiences, and Recognitions

III.A. Public comments will not be received after this period of time. Public comment period is limited to 5 minutes per person and a total of 30 minutes overall.

IV. Financial Statement: Items for Discussion, Consideration, and/or Action

IV.A. Approval of Bills

IV.A.1. General Fund, Special Building Fund, Depreciation Fund, and Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Fund Claims

Motion to approve the general fund, special building fund, depreciation fund, and qualified capitol purpose undertaking fund claims. This motion, made by Jared McKeever and seconded by Dana Dorn, passed.
Jeff Argo: Absent, Debra Schlake: Absent, Dana Dorn: yes, Betsy Frerichs: yes, Jared McKeever: yes, David Zimmerman: yes
yes: 4, no: 0, Absent: 2

IV.A.2. Lunch & Activity Claims

Motion to approve Lunch and Activity Claims. This motion, made by Betsy Frerichs and seconded by Jared McKeever, passed.
Jeff Argo: Absent, Debra Schlake: Absent, Dana Dorn: yes, Betsy Frerichs: yes, Jared McKeever: yes, David Zimmerman: yes
yes: 4, no: 0, Absent: 2

V. Support Service

V.A. Facility Update

John Eisenhauer provided the school board with a written report over bus 16A remains in the shop for exhaust system repairs, with the leaf spring repaired and an exhaust pipe ordered to complete the work. The black minivan continues to display an EVAP code despite having its gas cap replaced and being serviced at Twin Rivers. Bus 23A's electrical lug recall has been completed, with the replacement lugs installed.

In Maintenance and Facilities, the elementary school dishwasher's hot water booster heater requires repairs, with Hobart scheduled to send a technician on October 7. Jim's Carpet conducted moisture readings in the commons on October 5, recording a 99.9% moisture level in the concrete floor. The company also inspected the damaged stair treads, and a claim is being filed to determine whether replacements can be provided. The City of Wymore installed a new water meter on the east side of the high school, replacing a meter that had not been functioning for several years. This is expected to result in a significant increase in the water bill. TruGreen will also be completing fall aeration and reseeding at the football field.

V.B. Technology Update

Cody Sabey provided a written report over student laptops being distributed at the beginning of the school year, and Media Center PC workstations were relocated to Room 109, the STEM Room. Ethernet connections have been extended to designated eSports workstations, with the remaining workstations temporarily using wireless connections until additional wiring is completed. Securly Classroom was deployed for grades 4-12, allowing teachers to view, monitor,

and control student laptops during classroom instruction. Nine core network switches were also replaced with assistance from ESU 5. Fall NWEA MAP testing for students in grades 3-10 was completed in September, and preparations are underway for the October 14 PreACT testing for all sophomores. Additional wireless access points are being installed in common areas, including the board rooms, media centers, and high school commons, to accommodate guest presenters using non-Apple devices. Diode will be providing a demonstration of camera and recording options for the new gym and reviewing remaining work. Coordination continues with Wilkins, Diode, and Plymouth Electric on low-voltage and data installations for the new gym

V.C. Elementary Principal's Report

The elementary principal reported on Parent-teacher conference attendance on October 1 was 89%, an increase from 76% in Fall 2025. The fire and evacuation drill conducted on September 23 went well, with Gage County deputies commending staff and students for their cooperation and efforts. The district completed its first two teacher in-service days on September 18 and October 2, during which staff focused on preschool continuing education requirements, math acceleration for grades K-6 and junior high/high school, literacy across all subject areas for grades 7-12, OpenSciEd science curriculum for grades K-6, and MANDT de-escalation and restraint training for select elementary staff. Jolene Bartels and Kane Hookstra attended a High Ability Learners (HAL) workshop at ESU 5 on September 29. Additionally, elementary and secondary staff attended the NeMTSS conference in Kearney on October 8-9, which covered a variety of topics, including literacy and student behavior.

V.D. Secondary Principal's Report

The secondary principal reported on 2026 Homecoming candidates, with Paxx Adams named King and Caroline Heard named Queen. The alternative school program (SNAP) currently has three students enrolled. Through career exploration opportunities coordinated by Mrs. Trauernicht, 17 students attended Healthcare Day at SCC Lincoln, and 10 students are scheduled to attend Manufacturing/Engineering Day at SCC Milford. College and Armed Forces representatives continue to meet with students to discuss future opportunities. All sophomores were scheduled to take the Pre-ACT on October 14 to help prepare for the ACT, which is required for all juniors. Juniors were scheduled to take the ASVAB on October 27, with an Armed Forces representative returning to review and interpret the results with students.

The district continues to meet the requirements of the American Civics Education Bill. In recognition of Constitution Day on September 17, all students watched a video reviewing the U.S. Constitution. The district has selected the civics portion of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services naturalization test to fulfill curriculum requirements prior to students completing both eighth and twelfth grades. Test scores must be made available to parents or guardians.

Parent-teacher conference attendance was 40%, compared to 30% in Fall 2025 and 36% in Spring 2026. The softball season concluded successfully, with the co-op experiencing no reported issues. Both transportation drivers enjoyed working with and getting to know the players, and one has expressed interest in driving again next season.

The Activities Director reported that 63 of 97 students in grades 9-12 (65%) are participating in at least one activity, including football, volleyball, softball, cheer, FFA, FBLA, and eSports. Participation by grade level was 52% of seniors, 62% of juniors, 66% of sophomores, and 80% of freshmen. In grades 7-8, 32 of 50 students (64%) participate in an activity, including 48% of seventh graders and 78% of eighth graders.

V.E. Superintendent's Report

The superintendent reported on student engagement, district operations, facilities, and upcoming projects. Meetings were held with the JAG class to discuss how individual strengths apply to workplace skills and decision-making. A separate student discussion focused on the effectiveness of high school English courses in preparing students for College Composition. School improvement efforts continue through curriculum mapping and the development of instructional strategies to improve alignment across grade levels and support student achievement. New gym construction remains on schedule. Sheetrock work is nearing completion in the wrestling room, storage area, and second-floor maintenance area, with painting scheduled to follow. Drainage work is expected to be completed by October 12, allowing concrete work to begin. Outside conduit and electrical boxes for the heating and cooling units have been installed. The district is approximately five to seven weeks away from receiving punch lists for portions of the building and moving toward temporary occupancy. New handheld credit card payment systems have been received and will be implemented during the winter activity season. Work will soon begin with Board committees to establish meeting schedules and priorities. The district is also reviewing options for developing a consistent staff attendance management process. Discussions with PowerSchool regarding an online enrollment system are underway, with a demonstration planned and potential implementation in June. All required budget documents have been submitted to the appropriate state and local agencies. Johnson Controls has completed its outstanding project items, with approximately $265,000 in remaining invoices. Discussions are underway regarding the outstanding balance and potential reductions based on project concerns. A fencing contractor has also been identified to enclose the new units at both sites. The commons flooring project is planned for winter break, pending additional concrete moisture testing and any necessary corrective work. Epoxy flooring in the high school back hallway is also scheduled for winter break. New kitchen equipment, including a three-door freezer and double oven, has been delivered to the elementary school. Additional projects include painting the football field posts and bell, installing a railing at the junior high/high school public entrance, and beginning the elementary preschool playground project on October 15. Activity facility needs, including trash cans and replacement floor mats, are also being reviewed. The Daktronics video board and scoreboards, along with the transfer of existing scoreboards to the new gym, are scheduled for mid-to-late November. Air quality testing in the high school band room produced satisfactory results. Mold was identified on ceiling vents, but the ceiling tiles have been replaced and the walls cleaned. Carpet replacement is recommended for this summer at an estimated cost of less than $5,000. The mechanical engineer is also reviewing HVAC settings to help prevent future moisture and mold concerns. Dana Dorn and the Superintendent attended the Labor Relations Conference in Lincoln on September 29-30. Additional information regarding the teacher application process and potential improvements to current procedures will be brought to the Board. The conference also addressed anticipated insurance increases, with current projections indicating a double-digit increase that could cost the district $150,000 or more, impacting future negotiations and budget planning. The State Conference is scheduled for

November 18-20 in Omaha, with hotel accommodations secured. The Rule 10 Compliance Visit is being rescheduled for late November or early December. Staff are gathering the necessary documentation and evidence for submission to NDE. Discussions are also underway regarding a Memorandum of Understanding with the Wymore Police Department, Gage County Sheriff, and Blue Springs to increase law enforcement visibility, communication, and support around the elementary school. The district continues reviewing the additional costs associated with serving students with significant special education needs while exploring available resources and maintaining fiscal responsibility. Election Day is November 3, with Dave, Jeff, and Deb up for re-election. The district is beginning a review of fall activities, including participation, staffing, facilities, equipment, scheduling, ticketing, and concessions, to identify successes and areas for improvement ahead of the winter activity season.

VI. Items for Discussion, Consideration, and/or Action

VI.A. Review and Discuss Policies 3001, 3002, 3004, 3005, 3007, 3009, 3010, 3012, 3013, 3014, 3015 & 3016

Motion to approve policies 3001, 3002, 3004, 3005, 3009, 3010, 3013, 3015. This motion, made by Dana Dorn and seconded by Betsy Frerichs, passed.
Jeff Argo: Absent, Debra Schlake: Absent, Dana Dorn: yes, Betsy Frerichs: yes, Jared McKeever: yes, David Zimmerman: yes
yes: 4, no: 0, Absent: 2
Motion to table policies 3007, 3012, 3014, 3016 to the next regular board meeting on November, 9, 2026. This motion, made by Jared McKeever and seconded by Dana Dorn, Tabled.
Jeff Argo: Absent, Debra Schlake: Absent, Dana Dorn: yes, Betsy Frerichs: yes, Jared McKeever: yes, David Zimmerman: yes
yes: 4, no: 0, Absent: 2

VI.B. Review, discuss and if necessary, take action to approve changes to policy 5052 School Wellness as part of the 2026 Triennial Review Process.

Motion to approve policy 5052 School Wellness. This motion, made by Betsy Frerichs and seconded by Jared McKeever, passed.
Jeff Argo: Absent, Debra Schlake: Absent, Dana Dorn: yes, Betsy Frerichs: yes, Jared McKeever: yes, David Zimmerman: yes
yes: 4, no: 0, Absent: 2

VI.C. Review and Discuss the 2026 Triennial Wellness Policy Assessment and associated review documentation.

VI.D. Review, discuss and take action to approve the summer hallway carpet replacement at the Jr High and High School. Jim's Carpet provided the attached quotes for a total expense of $33,939.72

Motion to approve the summer hallway carpet replacement at the Jr High and High School. Jim's Carpet provided the attached quotes for a total expense of $33,939.72. This motion, made by Jared McKeever and seconded by Betsy Frerichs, passed.
Jeff Argo: Absent, Debra Schlake: Absent, Dana Dorn: yes, Betsy Frerichs: yes, Jared

McKeever: yes, David Zimmerman: yes
yes: 4, no: 0, Absent: 2

VI.E. Review fall MAP Reading and Math trend data presented via NextPath Data Management System.

VI.F. Review and Discuss the pros and cons of acquiring the Wymore Methodist Church building for future use.

VII. Executive Session - As Needed to Protect the Interest of the District and/or to Prevent the Needless Injury to the Reputation of an Individual

VII.A. Convene Executive Session

VII.B. Reconvene Meeting from Executive Session

VIII. Option Enrollment Applications

IX. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:23. This motion, made by Jared McKeever and seconded by Betsy Frerichs, passed.
Jeff Argo: Absent, Debra Schlake: Absent, Dana Dorn: yes, Betsy Frerichs: yes, Jared McKeever: yes, David Zimmerman: yes
yes: 4, no: 0, Absent: 2

The next Regular Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 9, 2026, at Southern Jr./Sr. High School Boardroom in Wymore. The Board of Education will usually adhere to the sequence of the published agenda, but reserves the right to adjust the order of items if necessary and may elect to amend the agenda as deemed necessary.

BY

President of the Board of Education

Of this School District

ATTEST

Secretary of the Board of Education

of this School District