

MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
August 10, 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, Debra Schlake & Jeff Argo. 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: 8/04/2026

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 Jared McKeever. This motion, made by Jeff Argo and seconded by Debra Schlake, passed.

Jared McKeever: Absent, Jeff Argo: yes, Dana Dorn: yes, Betsy Frerichs: yes, Debra Schlake: yes, David Zimmerman: yes
yes: 5, no: 0, Absent: 1

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 July 9, 2026 Working Board Meeting, Student Fees Hearing, Parental Involvement Hearing and the Regular Board Meeting.

Motion to approve minutes from the July 9, 2026 Student Fees Hearing, Parental Involvement Hearing, Working Board Meeting and Regular Board Meeting. This motion, made by Debra Schlake and seconded by Jeff Argo, passed.

Jared McKeever: Absent, Jeff Argo: yes, Dana Dorn: yes, Betsy Frerichs: yes, Debra Schlake: yes, David Zimmerman: yes
yes: 5, no: 0, Absent: 1

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 Debra Schlake and seconded by Betsy Frerichs, passed.

Jared McKeever: Absent, Jeff Argo: yes, Dana Dorn: yes, Betsy Frerichs: yes, Debra Schlake: yes, David Zimmerman: yes
yes: 5, no: 0, Absent: 1

IV.A.2. Lunch & Activity Claims

V. Support Service

V.A. Facility Update

John Eisenhower provided the school board with a written report over the football field lighting project, exterior lighting repairs, buses 16A and 16C received brake and parking brake repairs, classrooms at both schools have been cleaned and shampooed. Th high school kitchen hood cleaning is scheduled and sod and concrete work at the elementary school and high school is in progress.

V.B. Personnel Items

V.C. Technology Update

Cody Sabey provided a written report on preparing student laptops for distribution and working with ESU 5 to install or replace nine core network switches. Cody is also coordinating with Wilkins, Diode, and Plymouth Electric on low-voltage and data installation for the new gym. An estimate is being obtained to add security cameras to areas of the elementary school that currently have limited coverage. The Media Center computers and equipment are being relocated to the new STEM room, with the data rack installed and fiber extended.

VI. Administrative and Committee Reports

VI.A. Elementary Principal's Report

The elementary principal reported on how staff and maintenance personnel have worked diligently to prepare for the upcoming school year, including extensive classroom moves over the summer. A School Improvement Retreat is scheduled for August 12, the elementary school will host a Back-to-School Open House on August 19. Several staff members also attended summer workshops through ESU 5 and the district is reviewing social studies curriculum materials, with a new curriculum anticipated for adoption for the 2027-28 school year.

VI.B. Secondary Principal's Report

The secondary principal reported on 6th/7th grade orientation is scheduled for August 18 at 6:30 p.m., the alternative school currently has three students enrolled. Staff participated in end-of-summer professional development, including new teacher and special education workshops through ESU and new teacher orientation. Appreciation was expressed to Landoll Corporation for donating Raider T-shirts to all middle and high school students for the third consecutive year. New staff members Laney Schaefer, K-12 Art, and Amanda Rath, High School Special Education, were welcomed. Five teams—girls' basketball, boys' basketball, football, wrestling, and softball—received Academic Excellence Awards for maintaining a cumulative GPA of 3.30 or higher. Lunch study groups will begin for students in grades 7-9 who are failing a class and fall sports practices have begun.

VI.C. Superintendent's Report

The superintendent reported on policy, handbooks, expectations, and staff duties are being reviewed, the district is working with NEXTPATH to transition student data to a new management system. The district will also undergo a routine Nebraska Department of Education compliance review of Rules 10, 14, and 18 during the school year. Food service improvements are being explored, including new kitchen equipment and ventilation to support improved meal preparation. The gym project continues to progress, with the roof and exterior walls nearly complete and interior framing underway. Johnson Controls has completed its work, and additional facilities projects include commons flooring, completed elementary sidewalk improvements, a new playground, exterior lighting, football field lighting, picnic tables, additional trash cans, and plans for high school hallway flooring.

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

VII.A. Community Eligibility Provision (CEP)

Audrey and Taylor worked with NDE to resubmit the district's Identified Student Population (ISP) for the Community Eligibility Program (CEP). The district's ISP for the 2023-2024 school year was 86%, the district's ISP for the 2025-2026 school year was 76.8%. This is the amount that will be reimbursed at the federal free rate. The CEP cycle was from 2024-2025 school year to 2027-2028 school year. This will extend our CEP cycle by 2 years. The new CEP cycle will run from the 2026-2027 school year to the 2029-2030 school year,

VII.B. Review, discuss and take possible action on a resolution to increase the district's base growth percentage (budget authority) by up to an additional seven percent or other maximum amount as permitted by law

Motion to approve resolution to increase the district's base growth percentage (budget authority) by up to an additional seven percent or other maximum amount as permitted by law. This motion, made by Dana Dorn and seconded by Jeff Argo, passed.

Jared McKeever: Absent, Jeff Argo: yes, Dana Dorn: yes, Betsy Frerichs: yes, Debra Schlake: yes, David Zimmerman: yes
yes: 5, no: 0, Absent: 1

VII.C. Review, discuss and take action to approve the disbursement from the building fund, to Genesis Contracting Group for June and July work completion on the new gym project.

Motion to approve the disbursement of \$477,467 from the building fund, to Genesis Contracting Group for June and July work completion on the new gym project. This motion, made by Debra Schlake and seconded by Jeff Argo, passed.

Jared McKeever: Absent, Jeff Argo: yes, Dana Dorn: yes, Betsy Frerichs: yes, Debra Schlake: yes, David Zimmerman: yes
yes: 5, no: 0, Absent: 1

VII.D. Review, discuss and take action to approve a payment from the building fund account to Genesis Contracting Group for work completed on the new gym project.

Motion to approve a payment of \$584,079.30 from the building fund account to Genesis Contracting Group for work completed on the new gym project. This motion, made by Jeff Argo and seconded by Dana Dorn, passed.

Jared McKeever: Absent, Jeff Argo: yes, Dana Dorn: yes, Betsy Frerichs: yes, Debra Schlake: yes, David Zimmerman: yes
yes: 5, no: 0, Absent: 1

VII.E. Review, discuss and take action to approve the bid by Jim's Carpet to replace the commons, stairs and hallway flooring.

Motion to approve the bid of \$51,524.01 by Jim's Carpet to replace the commons, stairs and hallway flooring during winter break 2026. This motion, made by Debra Schlake and seconded by Dana Dorn, passed.

Jared McKeever: Absent, Jeff Argo: yes, Dana Dorn: yes, Betsy Frerichs: yes, Debra Schlake: yes, David Zimmerman: yes
yes: 5, no: 0, Absent: 1

VII.E.1. Review, discuss and take action to approve the down payment to Jim's Carpet.

Motion to approve the down payment to Jim's Carpet in the amount of \$31,372.18. This motion, made by Dana Dorn and seconded by Debra Schlake, passed.

Jared McKeever: Absent, Jeff Argo: yes, Dana Dorn: yes, Betsy Frerichs: yes, Debra Schlake: yes, David Zimmerman: yes
yes: 5, no: 0, Absent: 1

VII.F. Annual School Board Policy Updates

Motion to approve the following policy updates: 3057, 4056, 5001 & 5003. This motion, made by Jeff Argo and seconded by Dana Dorn, passed.

Jared McKeever: Absent, Jeff Argo: yes, Dana Dorn: yes, Betsy Frerichs: yes, Debra Schlake: yes, David Zimmerman: yes
yes: 5, no: 0, Absent: 1

VII.G. Approval of the District Handbooks for the 2026-2027 School Year

Motion to approve the district handbooks for the 2026-2027 school year. This motion, made by Debra Schlake and seconded by Betsy Frerichs, passed.

Jared McKeever: Absent, Jeff Argo: yes, Dana Dorn: yes, Betsy Frerichs: yes, Debra Schlake: yes, David Zimmerman: yes
yes: 5, no: 0, Absent: 1

VII.G.1. Staff Handbook 2026-2027

VII.G.2. Technology Handbook 2026-2027

VII.G.3. Activity Handbook 2026-2027

VII.G.4. Student Handbook 2026-2027

VII.G.5. Little Raiders Handbook 2026-2027

VII.H. Approval of Bread Bids for the 2026-2027 School Year

Motion to Approve by food service the most responsive bidder on price per unit for the 2026-2027 school year. This motion, made by Dana Dorn and seconded by Betsy Frerichs, passed.

Jared McKeever: Absent, Jeff Argo: yes, Dana Dorn: yes, Betsy Frerichs: yes, Debra Schlake: yes, David Zimmerman: yes
yes: 5, no: 0, Absent: 1

VII.I. Review, discuss and take action to move \$200,000 from the general budget to the food service account.

Motion to approve moving \$200,000 from the general budget to the food service account. This motion, made by Debra Schlake and seconded by Dana Dorn, passed.

Jared McKeever: Absent, Jeff Argo: yes, Dana Dorn: yes, Betsy Frerichs: yes, Debra Schlake: yes, David Zimmerman: yes
yes: 5, no: 0, Absent: 1

VII.J. Review, discuss and take action to approve the general fund transfer of \$35,947.09 to the activities account to cover 2025-2026 expenses.

Motion to approve the general fund transfer of \$35,947.09 to the activities account to cover 2025-2026 expenses. This motion, made by Jeff Argo and seconded by Debra Schlake, passed.

Jared McKeever: Absent, Jeff Argo: yes, Dana Dorn: yes, Betsy Frerichs: yes, Debra Schlake: yes, David Zimmerman: yes
yes: 5, no: 0, Absent: 1

VII.K. Review and discuss the closing of the Wymore Methodist Church, presentation from Rod Goes.

Rod Goes spoke with school board about the Wymore Methodist Church closing on November 15th. They would like to see the building repurposed and would like to give the district the first opportunity to purchase it. They are waiting on an appraisal. The board discussed touring the

building along with administration and John Eisenhower.

VII.L. Option Enrollment Applications

Motion to approve of option enrollment applications. This motion, made by Dana Dorn and seconded by Debra Schlake, passed.

Jared McKeever: Absent, Jeff Argo: yes, Dana Dorn: yes, Betsy Frerichs: yes, Debra Schlake: yes, David Zimmerman: yes
yes: 5, no: 0, Absent: 1

The board approved two option in applications for the 2026-2027 school year and four option out applications for the 2026-2027 school year.

VIII. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:22 p.m. This motion, made by Debra Schlake and seconded by Betsy Frerichs, passed.

Jared McKeever: Absent, Jeff Argo: yes, Dana Dorn: yes, Betsy Frerichs: yes, Debra Schlake: yes, David Zimmerman: yes
yes: 5, no: 0, Absent: 1

The next Regular Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 14, 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