

Holdrege Public Schools

Board of Education Regular Meeting

May 18, 2026, 6:00 PM

Holdrege High School Media Center, 600 12th Avenue, Holdrege, NE 68949

- I. Call to Order - Roll Call
- II. Recognition of Visitors
  - II.A. Presentation - HMS Jobs for America's Graduates - Charles McGreer, JAG Specialist & Students
  - II.B. HEA Report
  - II.C. Student Council Report
  - II.D. Public Forum
- III. Board of Education Committee Reports
- IV. Business Items
  - IV.A. Action Items
    - IV.A.1. Consent Agenda
      - IV.A.1.a. Discuss, Consider, and Take Action on the Minutes - April 20, 2026 Regular Meeting and April 29, 2026 Special Meeting
      - IV.A.1.b. Discuss, Consider, and Take Action on the Warrants/Bills
      - IV.A.1.c. Discuss, Consider, and Take Action on the Treasurer's Report
      - IV.A.1.d. Excuse Absent Board Members
    - IV.A.2. Discuss, Consider, and Take Action on the Bill(s) from InSPIRe - Holdrege, LLC.
    - IV.A.3. Discuss, Consider, and Take Action on Food Service Contract Renewal
    - IV.A.4. Discuss, Consider, and Take Action on Request for Out-of-State Travel
    - IV.A.5. Discuss, Consider, and Take Action on the Resignation of Certificated Staff
    - IV.A.6. Discuss, Consider, and Take Action on the Resignation of Classified/Noncertificated Staff
- V. Reports
  - V.A. Administrative Reports
  - V.B. Superintendent's Report
- VI. Board Policies
- VII. Adjournment

## **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 to the Board Secretary, complete the form provided with your name and any organization represented, as well as your address, and then state your name and any organization represented 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 not respond to any questions you ask or comments you may 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 public meeting for the conduct of the business of the Board of Education. Offensive language, personal attacks and hostile conduct will not be tolerated.

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING  
Holdrege Board of Education  
Monday, April 20, 2026, 6:00 p.m.  
High School Media Center

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of Holdrege Public Schools was convened in open session on Monday, April 20, 2026, at the High School Media Center at 6:00 p.m.

Notice of Meeting Posted 4/16/26 Holdrege Citizen

Notice of the meeting was given in advance by publication and/or posting in accordance with the Board approved method for giving notice of meetings. Notice of this meeting was given in advance to all members of the Board of Education. The Secretary of the Board maintains a list of the news media requesting notification of meetings and advance notification to the listed media of the time and place of the meeting and the subjects to be discussed at this meeting was provided. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the publicized notice and a current copy of the Agenda was maintained as stated in the publicized notice. All proceedings of the Board of Education, except as may be hereinafter noted, were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

The meeting was duly called to order.

Announcement of Open Meetings Act Posting

At the beginning of this meeting, it was announced that a current copy of the Open Meetings Act is posted on the wall of the meeting room and directed the public to its location.

The following board members were present: Teresa Kroll, Alex McClymont, Chris McQuillan, Samantha Minnick, Brian Rust, and Nick Wells. Also present were Todd Hilyard, Superintendent, Sandy Dunaway, Secretary, and Elizabeth Piening, Business Manager.

Lacie Wright, Curriculum Coordinator, reported on Americanism and presented highlights of the recent American Civics committee meeting.

Brea Martin reported for HEA.

President Rust recognized visitors and invited comments for the public forum.

Board committee reports were reviewed.

As required by Nebraska Statute 79-724, the district's American Civics Committee, during public session, provided an opportunity for public testimony regarding the district's social studies curriculum. No public comments were received.

Motion by McQuillan, seconded by Wells, to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- a. Approval of Minutes of March 20, 2026 Regular Meeting and April 13, 2026 Special Meeting
- b. Approve the Warrants/Bills
- c. Approve the Treasurer's Report
- d. Excuse Absent Board Members

On roll call vote: Kroll-yes, McClymont-yes, McQuillan-yes, Minnick-yes, Rust-yes, Wells-yes. Motion carried.

Motion by McClymont, seconded by McQuillan, to approve payment of the bill(s) from InSPIRe - Holdrege, LLC. On roll call vote: Kroll-yes, McClymont-yes, McQuillan-yes, Minnick-abstained with conflict, Rust-yes, Wells-yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Minnick, seconded by Rust, to approve textbook and curriculum materials purchases for the areas of physical education, art, music, speech, and foreign language, as recommended by the Curriculum Advisory Committee in the amount of \$132,502.03, as presented, with administrative discretion for minor adjustments as needed. On roll call vote: Kroll-yes, McClymont-yes, McQuillan-yes, Minnick-yes, Rust-yes, Wells-yes. Motion carried.

Motion by McClymont, seconded by Minnick, to approve technology related purchases, as recommended by the Curriculum Advisory Committee in the amount of \$39,375.25, as presented, with administrative discretion for minor adjustments as needed. On roll call vote: Kroll-yes, McClymont-yes, McQuillan-yes, Minnick-yes, Rust-yes, Wells-yes. Motion carried.

Motion by McQuillan, seconded by Wells, to approve a contract for 2026-27 Occupational and Physical Therapy services with InSPIRE - Holdrege, LLC, as presented. On roll call vote: Kroll-yes, McClymont-yes, McQuillan-yes, Minnick-abstained with conflict, Rust-yes, Wells-yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Kroll, seconded by Rust, to approve 2026 HPS Foundation Teacher Grant Applications totaling \$311.72 based on the recommendation of the HPS Foundation Committee as follows: Darla Windholz - HHS Kitchen Prep Items for Culinary Classes \$311.72. On roll call vote: Kroll-yes, McClymont-yes, McQuillan-yes, Minnick-yes, Rust-yes, Wells-yes. Motion carried.

Proposals for the update of the HHS Family & Consumer Science room were received from Ridder Custom Building, LLC for \$41,450, and Skiles Construction, LLC for \$26,765.48. Motion by Wells, seconded by McClymont, to approve the proposal of Skiles Construction, LLC in the amount of \$26,765.48 for the HHS FCS room updates, as presented, with administrative discretion to make minor adjustments as needed. On roll call vote: Kroll-yes, McClymont-yes, McQuillan-yes, Minnick-yes, Rust-yes, Wells-yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Rust, seconded by McClymont, to approve an out-of-state travel request for Lily Janssen's participation in the JAG National Career Development Conference in Salt Lake City, April 28 - May 2, 2026, with administrative discretion to prohibit such travel should conditions warrant. On roll call vote: Kroll-yes, McClymont-yes, McQuillan-yes, Minnick-yes, Rust-yes, Wells-yes. Motion carried.

Motion by McQuillan, seconded by Minnick, to approve the employment of the following certificated/professional staff for 2026-27 with projected assignments: Haley West, 5th - 8th vocal and instrumental music. On roll call vote: Kroll-yes, McClymont-yes, McQuillan-yes, Minnick-yes, Rust-yes, Wells-yes. Motion carried.

Administrative reports were reviewed.

First reading of the proposed revision of Policy 1040 Annual Report was held. Motion by McQuillan, seconded by Minnick, to waive further reading and adopt revised Policy 1040 Annual Report, as presented. On roll call vote: Kroll-yes, McClymont-yes, McQuillan-yes, Minnick-yes, Rust-yes, Wells-yes. Motion carried.

First reading of the proposed revision of Policy 3540 Bidding Construction Projects was held. Motion by Minnick, seconded by McClymont, to waive further reading and adopt revised Policy 3540 Bidding Construction Projects, as presented. On roll call vote: Kroll-yes, McClymont-yes, McQuillan-yes, Minnick-yes, Rust-yes, Wells-yes. Motion carried.

First reading of the proposed revision of Policy 5005 Student Residence, Admission & Contracting for Educational Services was held. Motion by McClymont, seconded by Wells, to waive further reading and adopt revised Policy 5005 Student Residence, Admission & Contracting for Educational Services, as presented. On roll call vote: Kroll-yes, McClymont-yes, McQuillan-yes, Minnick-yes, Rust-yes, Wells-yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Wells, seconded by Minnick, to rescind Policy 5209 High School Credit for Middle School Courses, as presented. On roll call vote: Kroll-yes, McClymont-yes, McQuillan-yes, Minnick-yes, Rust-yes, Wells-yes. Motion carried.

First reading of the proposed Policy 5209 School Library Materials and Parent Access was held. Motion by McQuillan, seconded by Minnick, to waive further reading and adopt Policy 5209 School Library Materials and Parent Access, as presented. On roll call vote: Kroll-yes, McClymont-yes, McQuillan-yes, Minnick-yes, Rust-yes, Wells-yes. Motion carried.

First reading of the proposed revision of Policy 5601 Asthma, Anaphylaxis, and Allergic Reaction Protocol was held. Motion by Minnick, seconded by McQuillan, to waive further reading and adopt revised Policy 5601 Asthma, Anaphylaxis, and Allergic Reaction Protocol, as presented. On roll call vote: Kroll-yes, McClymont-yes, McQuillan-yes, Minnick-yes, Rust-yes, Wells-yes. Motion carried.

First reading of the proposed revision of Policy 7050 Bids and Contracts was held. Motion by McClymont, seconded by Wells, to waive further reading and adopt revised Policy 7050 Bids and Contracts, as presented. On roll call vote: Kroll-yes, McClymont-yes, McQuillan-yes, Minnick-yes, Rust-yes, Wells-yes. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:19 p.m.

The next regular monthly meeting will be held on Monday, May 18, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. at the High School Media Center.

## Sandy Dunaway

Sandy Dunaway, Secretary  
Holdrege Board of Education

# Holdrege High School

## Board Report

May 18, 2026

Jeremy Ham, Principal

**1. Handbook Approval** – The 2025-2026 handbook will be revised prior to the June board meeting. The principals have maintained a working list of items needing attention throughout the year and will be addressing those in the next two weeks.

**2. Semester Tests Schedule/Last Day Schedule** – I've included the semester test schedule for May 19-20. Students will attend periods 1-4 on Tuesday, and periods 5-8 on Wednesday with a normal lunch period each day. Students will end the day with their Seminar teachers, where they will clean up any outstanding issues before the year ends on Wednesday. W.I.N. (What I Need) time is dedicated to those students needing some extra attention. Students in good standing may be released early from the Seminar period at the end of the day as an incentive, allowing staff to focus efforts on the remaining students in greater need of attention.

On the last day of school Wednesday the 20th, students will meet with their Seminar teachers at the end of the testing session. Once end-of-the year check-ins, locker clean-up, and fines/fees are taken care of, we plan a graduated dismissal by grade level to end the year. Students free of failing grades and attendance issues will be in front of the order for dismissal.

**3. Graduation** – Graduation was Sunday, May 17th. We graduated 74 Seniors, each of them met all graduation requirements and were free of excessive absences. All students met eligibility to graduate on time, we do not have any Seniors needing to make anything up. It was a fantastic year for the Senior class, 17 graduates with distinction is awesome! Usually we have 7-9 on that list.

**4. Summer Credit Recovery** – Ms. Ferreira will again be teaching the summer school program this year May 21 through June 11. During these three weeks, students will meet from 8:00-12:00 each morning to work on courses through Edgenuity to recover credit from past failed courses. Memorial day will be off, providing 15 days of attendance. Students with failing graduation requirements have been invited to attend, the guidance office is compiling a roster and communications will be sent out a few more times to ensure maximum participation.

Holdrege High School  
2025 - 2026  
Semester Test Bell Schedule

**Day 1**

May 19, 2025

Access	7:45 - 7:57
Period 1	8:00 - 9:12
Period 2	9:15 - 10:27
Period 3	10:30 - 11:42
Lunch	11:42 - 12:17
Period 4	12:20 - 1:32
Seminar W.I.N	1:35 - 3:37

**Day 2**

May 20, 2025

Access	7:45 - 7:57
Period 5	8:00 - 9:12
Period 6	9:15 - 10:27
Period 7	10:30 - 11:42
Lunch	11:42 - 12:17
Period 8	12:20 - 1:32
Seminar W.I.N	1:35 - 3:37

**Holdrege Public Schools**  
**Special Education & Early Childhood Report**

**Director: Casey Klein**

**May 18, 2026**

	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
Birth-3 years	7	7	7	7	8	9	9	9	11	12
3-5 years with IEP attending <b>NON</b> -HPS Preschool	10	10	7	6	7	8	8	8	8	7
3-5 years with IEP attending HPS preschool	6	6	6	6	7	7	7	7	7	7
Holdrege Elementary	91	89	85	85	88	88	92	92	90	93
Holdrege Middle School	72	71	69	70	71	66	66	65	63	62
Holdrege High School	48	47	47	46	44	41	42	42	41	40
<b>Special Services Students</b>	<b>234</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>225</b>	<b>219</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>223</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>221</b>
<i>3-5 without IEP Attending HPS Preschoolers</i>	24	25	23	24	25	25	25	25	25	25

**PK enrollments for 26-27:**

**AM: 11** = 5F, 6M, 3Sped, 0ELL

**PM: 7** = 3F, 4M, 1Sped, 0ELL

**Preschool Update**

Our preschool students are preparing for their “Slide into Kindergarten” celebration on Tuesday, May 19th. Students are excited for the transition to Kindergarten and have been working hard throughout the year to strengthen their academic, social, and developmental skills. Staff are looking forward to celebrating their growth and accomplishments with families.

**File Review / Corrective Action Plan (CAP)**

The district received the Letter of Findings from the recent file review process. Administration will be reviewing the findings carefully to ensure all MDTs and IEPs are fully compliant with state and federal requirements.

As part of the Corrective Action Plan (CAP), staff trainings will be required in the following areas:

- Assistive Technology
- Present Levels of Academic Achievement and Functional Performance (PLAAFP) summaries
- Measurable annual goals
- Accommodations and supplementary supports

The district’s CAP submission is due by June 15, 2026. All identified noncompliance items must be corrected

by August 31, 2026, with all CAP activities required to be fully completed by February 1, 2027.

The Special Education Department remains committed to continuous improvement, compliance, and providing high-quality services and supports for students.

## **Gearing Up for 2026–2027**

The Behavior Intervention Training and Teacher Support Act (BITS) was created by the Nebraska Legislature in the spring of 2023. This act mandates that every Nebraska public school teacher, administrator, counselor, paraprofessional, and nurse receive behavioral awareness training at least once every three years. In preparation for the upcoming school year, all staff will participate in BITS training to support continued growth in behavior intervention practices and student support systems.

At the Elementary, we will continue to work through implementation details related to Skills Based Treatment (SBT) for Fall 2026. Additional planning and collaboration are underway to ensure systems, staff training, and supports are in place for successful implementation.

## **Staffing**

We are excited to welcome several new staff members to the district for the 2026–2027 school year:

- Hanna Swearingen – Preschool
- Stephanie Erickson – School Psychologist
- Stacey Hofaker – Elementary Special Education

We look forward to the experience and support they will bring to our students, staff, and families.

**Holdrege Elementary School  
Report to the Board of Education**

May 18, 2026

Amber Porter

The school year will be coming to an end on May 20. We have some fun last day events planned that include mini golf, games, crafts, and more. We will also have a staff lunch where we will recognize and honor any staff who are leaving the district.

We will have a final assembly on May 19, 2026. At the assembly, we will recognize students with Perfect or close to Perfect Attendance, Star Students, Highest MAP scores, and other honors for the year.

We had our final Music program for 3rd and 4th Grade on May 7. The Kindergarten celebration program was held on May 14, 2026 at the Tassel. Both events had a very large attendance.

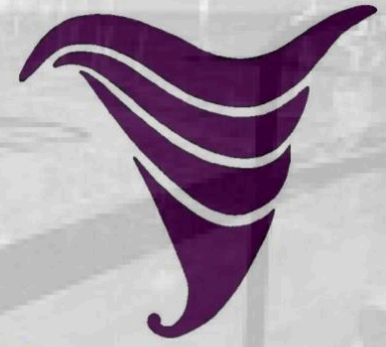
Our 4th graders had 5th grade orientation on Monday, May 5, 2026. They toured the middle school and students met teachers and learned about the building and 5th grade.

Summer School will be held May 26-June 12. Students were recommended by their teachers. Any student that attends can attend for free if they attend 12 out of 14 days. Kara Taylor will teach Math to grades 1-4 and Heather Florell will teach reading to grades 1-4. Kaitlin Ellis will teach Kindergarten students.

We will begin working on the new playground May 18. That is the day the tear out begins. The installation will be May 26. We are excited for this new addition. I want to thank you for your support of this project.



# Holdrege Activities Department



Dylan Sullivan  
Activities Director  
(402)643-0423

Kelli Hale  
Activities Assistant  
(308)995-6558

## Holdrege Public Schools – Activities Board Report May 2026

### Academic Awards:

- **NSAA Academic All-State** 3.7 or better GPA and nominated by the coach of each activity. Those selected are :
  - Girls Golf Grace Anderson
  - Boys Tennis Tristan Berg
  - Softball Alexa Hale Abigail Reith
  - Cross Country Katalina Garcia Margot Sturtevant
  - Cross Country Michael Golus Dominic Deaver
  - Volleyball Addyson Stutzman Emily Stutzman
  - Football Derrek Marquardt Barrett Schroeder
  - Play Prod. Gracie Chambers Emily Flores Barron
  - Girls Wrestling
  - Wrestling Quincy Bell Derrek Marquardt
  - Girls Basketball Jaclyn Nelson Addyson Stutzman
  - Boys Basketball Brycen Samuelson Barrett Schroeder
  - Speech Hailey Cepel Kendellen Kellen
  - Band
  - Music Leah DeWald Mackenzie Martinez Ramos
  - Baseball Barrett Schroeder
  - Girls Soccer Emily Flores Barron Lillian Janssen
  - Boys Soccer Jackson Deaver Tegan Weaver
  - Girls Tennis Claire Maloley Reyna Pineda
  - Girls Track Addyson Stutzman Emily Stutzman
  - Boys Track Michael Golus Samuel McQuistan
  - Boys Golf Derrek Marquardt Creighton Smith

**State Track Schedule:**

<https://nsaa-static.s3.amazonaws.com/textfile/track/tfchampsched.pdf>

Class B will compete on Wednesday, May 20th & Thursday, May 21st

Holdrege had 9 competitors qualify for the state track championship.

Those state qualifiers are:

Kambryn Vaughn - Pole Vault

Gracie Johnson - Triple Jump

Mariah Shepherd - Long Jump / Triple Jump

Hayden Steinke - Long Jump

Rayc Meyer - High Jump

Michael Golus - 4x800

Sam McQuistan - 4x800

Hunter Mueller - 4x800

Mason Push - 4x800

Christophe Widick - 4x800

**Girls State Tennis Participants:**

Summer Florell - #1 Singles

McKinley Jauken - #2 Singles

Katelyn Weekley & Ann Weides - #1 Doubles

Claire Maloley/Daniella Solorio - #2 Doubles

**Board Report**  
**Holdrege Middle School**  
**Lacie Wright-Principal & Jacob McLain-Assistant Principal/AD**  
**May 18, 2026**

**Staffing & Year-End Reflection**

We are thrilled to announce that Holdrege Middle School is fully staffed for the upcoming school year! We are deeply grateful for the dedication of our returning team and are looking forward to welcoming our new staff members in the fall. As this academic year draws to a close, our administration and faculty are anticipating a productive summer focused on strategic reorganization and recharging.

**End-of-Year Student Celebrations & Milestones**

The final days of the school year are packed with meaningful activities celebrating our students' hard work and milestones:

- **May 19th – Reading Goal Field Trips:** Students who successfully met their reading requirements and benchmarks throughout the year will celebrate their achievements with dedicated field trip days.
- **May 20th – Last Day of School:** We look forward to wrapping up the year with high energy, featuring interactive fun stations across the building and our annual end-of-the-year assembly.
- **8th Grade Transition:** Our outgoing 8th graders have a fantastic final day planned. They will wrap up their comprehensive *Hunger Games* unit and come together to celebrate their upcoming transition to high school.

**Activities & Athletics Update**

Our students continue to shine creatively, socially, and athletically outside the traditional classroom:

- **State Track Results:** Congratulations to the four middle school athletes who qualified for the State Track Meet held in Gothenburg on May 16th! They represented Holdrege beautifully.
- **Evening of the Arts:** This event was a wonderful success, serving as an incredible showcase for our student artists and musicians while offering a formal space to celebrate our departing 8th graders.

**Community Partnerships & Culture**

Fostering local connections has brought immensely positive experiences to our building this month. Partnering with community stakeholders continues to highlight how much we love coming together:

- **Memorial Homes Partnership:** Students partnered with residents to plant spring flowers, building wonderful intergenerational connections.

- **Nebraska Extension Office:** Shared engaging STEM and biology lessons with our classes, introducing students to hands-on learning with bees and cockroaches.
- **Service Dog Training:** We were glad to welcome Julie Freburg and her dog, Sauce, who visited our building to get some valuable practice as Sauce trains as a service/therapy dog.
- **Teacher Appreciation Week:** A massive hit! The Courtesy Committee did a phenomenal job taking care of the faculty, alongside generous support and donations from area businesses.

**Superintendent's Report**  
**5/18/2026**

- 1.) **HPS Foundation Golf Tournament** - The 17<sup>th</sup> Annual HPS Foundation Golf Tournament is set for Saturday, June 20<sup>th</sup> at the Holdrege Country Club. The Foundation Committee would appreciate any help with sponsorships, encouraging teams to play, helping the day of the tournament, or just stopping out and saying “hi” to some of the individuals playing in the tournament.
- 2.) **In-Town Courtesy Shuttle Bus Stops** - We are looking at making some minor changes to our in-town courtesy shuttle bus stop locations for next year. The net effect will probably be adding two stops and deleting one stop in order to better serve the community.
- 3.) **HPS Budget & Finance Considerations** - Over the coming months and years, I believe it is important to continue discussing the budget and finance challenges that school districts across Nebraska are facing. Without getting too deep into the details at this point, most districts are currently operating under spending limit increases of roughly 2.5%. With well over 80% of Holdrege Public Schools’ expenditures tied to personnel costs, those limitations create significant challenges when insurance increases and negotiated salary increases often exceed 4% annually.

In recent years, we have been able to manage these pressures by strategically shifting small amounts of levy authority from the bond and building funds into the general fund. However, we have now done about as much of that as reasonably possible. Moving forward, districts will increasingly be forced to rely on cash reserves to bridge the gap. If nothing changes regarding the current funding formula, spending lids, and budget caps, the next likely step for many districts — including eventually HPS — will be staffing reductions.

I do want to emphasize that, through the decisions this Board has made over many years, Holdrege Public Schools remains in a comparatively strong financial position. Your conservative and thoughtful approach has positioned the district well to navigate difficult circumstances. At the same time, there are limits to how long even well-managed districts can offset structural financial pressures without broader changes at the state level.