

Board of Education Regular Meeting
Monday, September 14, 2026 The Regular
Board Of Education Meeting will follow the
Tax Request Hearing

District Office
410 South St
Seward, NE 68434

Agenda

1. Preliminary Procedures
 - 1.1. Call meeting to order & announce Open Meetings Act is Posted
 - 1.2. Public Notice as publicized per board policy
 - 1.3. Roll Call
 - 1.3.1. Action to excuse board members if necessary
 - 1.4. Pledge of Allegiance
 - 1.5. **1.5 Mission** Seward Public Schools - a district rooted in excellence - in cooperation with family and community members is committed to the development of the whole student and affirms that all students will have the skills to become productive, resilient, and contributing members of their community.
 - 1.6. Approval of Agenda
2. Public Forum: (The Board President reserves the right to place time limits on individuals and topics.)
 - 2.1. Public Forum on Agenda Items: This is your opportunity to speak to items on the agenda. If you are not a part of the presentation of the agenda item you need to speak now. Thank you for your participation.
 - 2.2. Public Forum on Any Topic: This is your opportunity to speak to any topic concerning the school district. Since it is not an agenda item the board cannot discuss or take action at this time on the matter. Future discussion can be requested as an agenda item. Thank you for your participation.
3. Discussion Items
 - 3.1. Bond Project Update
 - 3.2. Emergency Operation Plan
4. Reports
 - 4.1. Administrator Reports
 - 4.2. Student Board Report
 - 4.3. Superintendent's Report
 - 4.4. 2026-2027 Enrollment Report
5. Action Items
 - 5.1. 2026-2027- Seward Public Schools Budget
 - 5.2. 2026-2027 Tax Resolution
6. Future Agenda Items
7. Consent Agenda
 - 7.1. Approval of Minutes
 - 7.2. Approval of Financial Reports
 - 7.2.1. Treasurer
 - 7.2.2. Budget
 - 7.2.3. Activities

- 7.2.4. Athletic
 - 7.3. Approval of Claims
 - 7.3.1. General Fund
 - 7.4. Out of State Travel
 - 7.5. Approval of Consent Agenda
- 8. Adjournment

School District of Seward Board Report

September 14, 2026

**Jessica Dominy, Principal
Seward Elementary School**

Enrollment: as of September 4, 2026

- Preschool: 43
- Kindergarten: 57
- 1st Grade: 90
- 2nd Grade: 86
- 3rd Grade: 74
- 4th Grade: 101
- Total: 449

Upcoming Seward Elementary Events:

- September 14th: PTO Meeting @ 5:30 PM
- Week of September 14th: Kindergarten DIBELS testing (literacy screener)
- September 21st: No School - Professional Development Day
- September 23rd: Ag Safety Demonstration for 1st grade (led by SHS students)
- Week of October 5th: Homecoming Week
- October 9th: No School - Elementary Plan Day
- October 12th and 13th: Parent Teacher Conferences

Fall Assessments:

We are in the process of giving beginning of year assessments to our students at Seward Elementary. Students in grades K-4 will take (or have taken) a literacy screener called DIBELS, which is our screening tool for the Nebraska Reads Program. This year, we chose to wait and test kindergarten students a little later, so we can begin to work with them on the skills they will be tested on. In the past, we tested them with everyone else, but found that the kindergarten data was not great because students had not been exposed to instruction. Students also took NWEA reading and math (2nd-4th) and our all school writing assessment. Instructional decisions will also be made with beginning of year data, including groupings for our WIN time (Whatever is Needed - intervention block) and enrichment groups.

The Bluejay Way:

Last year, two of our action teams joined forces and created The Bluejay Way system for our school. This system includes two new school rules: I can be safe and respectful and I can let all Bluejays learn. We also created new "Bluejay Way" posters for common areas to give student visuals about expectations. The Bluejay Way also includes a recognition program where staff can nominate students who are consistently displaying strong character traits and/or exceeding academic expectations. So far, The Bluejay Way system has rolled out wonderfully and our learning environment is very calm and productive. I appreciate the work done by both of these teams to get this program up and running.

Homecoming Week:

As usual, Seward Elementary will be joining in on the Homecoming Week festivities. We greatly appreciate the high school being willing to change the parade date so the elementary students can participate! We do not have school due to a plan day on the 9th, so the parade will be on the 5th.

Board of Education Report
Seward Middle School - Mr. Kirk J. Gottschalk
14 September, 2026

1. Middle School Activities:

14 Sept - 8 FB vs Columbus, Home, 1600 hrs. (4 pm) start
15 Sept. - 7/8 VB at Columbus Scotus, 1630 hrs. (4:30 pm) start
17 Sept - 7 VB vs Aurora, Home, (C,B,A), 1600 (4:00 p.m.) start
17 Sept. - 7/8 VB at St. John, B & C Teams only, 1600 (4:00 p.m.) start
17 Sept. - 7 FB vs Westridge, (H) 1615 (4:15 pm.) start
17 Sept. - 8 FB at Wahoo Neumann, 1600 (4:00 pm) start
18 Sept. - Cross Country at Ryder Park in Grand Island, 1600 (4:00 pm) start
21 Sept. - 7 FB at Crete, 1600 hrs. (4:00 pm) start
21 Sept - 8 FB vs Crete, (H) 1600 hrs. (4:00 pm) start
21 Sept. - 7/8th VB vs Lincoln Lutheran, (H) 1800 (6:00 pm.) start
22 Sept. - 7 VB at Central City, 1630 (4:30 p.m.) start
22 Sept. - Cross Country at Elkhorn Mt. Michael, 1700 hrs. (5:00 p.m.) start
24 Sept. - 7 VB at Crete, 1600 (4:00 p.m.) start
24 Sept. - 8 VB vs Crete, (H) 1600 (4:00 p.m.) start
28 Sept. - 7/8 VB vs Raymond Central, (H) 1600 (4:00 pm.) start
29 Sept. - 7/8 VB vs Crete (H) 1600 (4:00 pm.) start
29 Sept.- 8 FB at York, 1600 hrs. (4:00 p.m.) start
1 Oct. - 7/8 VB at Columbus Lakeview, 1630 (4:30 pm.) start
1 Oct. - 7 FB vs York, Home, 1600 (4:00 pm.) start
1 Oct. - Cross Country at DC Aquinas, 1600 hrs. (4:00 pm) start
3 Oct. - 8 VB Tourney at SMS, Home, 0900 hrs.
5 Oct. - 7th Grade VB at St. John, B & C Teams only, 1600 (4:00) start
6 Oct. - 7 FB at Hastings, 1615 hrs. (4:15 pm) start
6 Oct. - Cross Country at Norris, 1630 hrs. (4:30 pm) start
6 Oct. - 8 VB at Aurora HS, 1630 hrs. (4:30 pm) start
8 Oct. - 7 VB vs Schuyler MS, (H) 1600 hrs. (4:00 pm) start
8 Oct. - 8 VB at Schuyler, 1630 hrs. (4:30 pm) start
8 Oct. - 8 FB vs Aurora, (H) 1600 hrs. (4:00 pm) start
7 Oct. - Cross Country at Norris, 1630 hrs. (4:30 pm) start
7 Oct. - 7 FB vs Hastings, 1600 hrs. (4:00 pm) start
8 Oct. - 7 VB vs Schuyler MS, (H) 1630 hrs. (4:30 pm) start
8 Oct. - 8 VB at Schuyler, 1630 hrs. (4:30 pm) start
8 Oct. - 8 FB vs Aurora, (H) 1600 hrs. (4:00 pm) start
12 Oct. - 7/8 VB at Wahoo Neumann, 1600 hrs. (4:00 pm) start

2. Current Enrollment.

<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>
Grade 8 = 117	Grade 8 = 113	Grade 8 = 93	Grade 8 = 117
Grade 7 = 113	Grade 7 = 93	Grade 7 = 110	Grade 7 = 102
Grade 6 = 89	Grade 6 = 112	Grade 6 = 99	Grade 6 = 121
Grade 5 = 111	Grade 5 = 100	Grade 5 = 113	Grade 5 = 100
Total 430	Total 418	Total. 415	Total 440

3. Student Wellness Day. Scheduled for Friday, 9 October. This is a full day of activities with our entire student body. Students will walk from our building along the Plum Creek trail then back to Plum Creek Park and attend wellness clinics with CU coaches and students. Mr. Makey coordinates this activity and does a very nice job organizing everything. The day is designed to bring awareness of the importance for adolescents to establish healthy lifestyles.

4. MAP (NWEA) Testing. These assessments took place in August, with only a few make-up tests remaining. We test every student in the middle school with students missing less than one day of instruction during the testing period.

5. Student Council. Our Student Council members have not yet been determined for this school year. Ms. Gannon is our Student Council supervisor. They will get the applications out in the next few days to start the election process for students to vote on their grade level representatives then organize the activities. Students only vote for those in their own grade.



Board of Education Report

September 2026

Seward High School

Scott Axt, Rich Eber, Scott Curry



The 2026-2027 is off to a great start! Students and teachers are getting settled into their schedules, and fall sports are in full swing. We are excited about the direction of the school year. Our student-led Blue Jay Leadership team has made a significant impact with their hard work and leadership of the student body. We are proud of the students and how well they have done so far this school year. Always a Great Day to be a Jay!

We would encourage any board members to stop by the high school to see some of the exciting things going on in our classrooms or our extracurricular activities.

September/October Newsletter: <https://app.smores.com/n/89w5d>

Farmers Luncheon: We will be hosting our annual farmer luncheon on Campus (Near the Greenhouse) on Friday, September 11th, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. We hope you can join us!

Safety Drills: We have completed three fire drills, a tornado drill, and a bus drill this school year. We do ten fire drills annually by law, one crisis drill per term, and one bus and tornado drill per semester. Our staff has done a very good job ensuring interior and exterior doors are always secure.

Parent-Teacher Conferences: We will host conferences on Wednesday, September 16th from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Homecoming Week: Homecoming week is the week of October 5th. The BlueJay Leadership Team is planning activities for the week. We had trouble finding a date. Homecoming is historically centered around the football schedule. The NSAA schedules football (Don't get us started on why and how bad a job they do); our schedule really gave us poor options for Homecoming this year. The week of October 5th had fewer conflicts; however, the Elementary school has a planning day and no students. The high school students love to see the students at the elementary school during the parade. We discussed this with the Bluejay Leadership team and decided to start the week off with the parade so they could participate.

Freshman Orientation: We had an extremely well-attended Freshman Orientation Event (all but 1 student attended). Feedback from parents and students indicated that the information and experiences provided as part of this orientation were very well received. Most attendees commented on how they enjoyed the open house format.

NWEA Testing: We complete fall NWEA testing for grades 9-10 students on September 30th. Students will be tested in math, reading, science, and language usage. The results of these assessments will be used to guide our instruction and intervention practices and provide students and parents with an indication of their growth and progress. NWEA assessment results serve as an important barometer within our comprehensive assessment system.

ACT Testing: All Juniors will be taking the ACT on October 21. This fall will be our first time using the online testing option. Thank you to the board for allowing us to continue to offer the ACT in the fall.

Activities:

Student athlete Participation numbers Fall 2026:

Cheer = 20

Football = 77

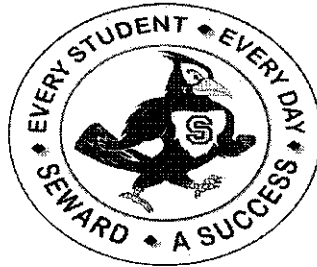
Boys Cross County = 36

Girls Cross County = 25

Softball = 20
Volleyball = 30
Girls Golf = 22
Band = 84

Enrollment Numbers: September 4

Grade Level	Enrollment
Grade 9	121
Grade 10	139
Grade 11	134
Grade 12	120



School District of Seward Board Report
Dr. Shannon Hall-Schmeckpeper
Director of Special Services
September 2026

Special Education

ILCD Indicator 11, the state report documenting the number of special education evaluations completed within the 45-school-day/60-calendar-day timeline, is due on August 31st and has been submitted to NDE. We completed 13 initial evaluations for children between the ages of 3 and 21 during the 2024-2025 school year; all of our evaluations met the timeline requirements.

Our final report for Flex Funding is due on September 30th and has been submitted to NDE. The flexible funding option allows the use of a percentage of special education funds for the education of students not verified as having a disability as defined in 92 NAC 51 (Rule 51). We use this money to help fund some of our interventions at the elementary and middle schools.

We have also been busy ensuring that all accommodations for students with IEPs and 504 plans are reported, so that students can receive the appropriate accommodations for the beginning of the year NWEA assessments, the Pre-ACT, and the ACT.

We have had several new students move into our district. As of September 1, 12 new students with an IEP from their previous school district enrolled in Seward (average of 10 new students at the beginning of the year). We have 30 days from the first day of their enrollment to do any assessment that we need to do to determine eligibility for special education and to hold a new IEP if they are found eligible. We had 11 students on an IEP transfer to another school district before the start of the year, which is a little lower than average (11 on average).

Title

The elementary school is finishing the beginning-of-the-year assessments, and we will be assigning students to WIN groups based on their needs.

Preschool

Currently, we have 43 students in our preschool classes at the elementary school. Students attend Monday through Friday, following the school calendar. .This is an increase from 37 students in our preschool classes last year. There are currently 24 students in the AM class and 19 in the PM class

English Language Learners

Five students are eligible as English Language Learners, and two students will continue to be monitored this school year.

High Ability Learners (HAL)

We currently have 140 HAL students for the 2026-2027 school year. This is an increase from 127 students who were identified as HAL at the beginning of the 2024-2025 school year.

The budget for our High Ability Learner program is due on September 30th. Last year, we also used the funds to help pay for students' involvement in UNL Math Day, Hobby, Science Olympiad, Quizbowls, Academic Decathlon, Battle of the Books, and a field trip for our 4th grade HAL students to the SAC Museum.

Thank you for all you do!

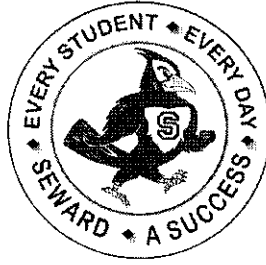
Dr. Shannon Hall-Schmeckpeper

Dr. Shannon Hall-Schmeckpeper
Director of Special Services

Seward Public Schools Special Programs Enrollment Data									
Data as of 30th of last month	2025-2026								
	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Feb	March	April	May	June
Special Education Open Evaluations									
Public School									
Birth to 3 (IFSP)	2								

3-5	1
School Age	0
Non-Public School	0
Special Education Numbers	
Birth to 3 (IFSP)	9
Preschool Numbers	
Community (IEP)	5
Pre-K (IEP)	14
PreK (No IEP)	29
Total Birth to 5 Special Education	28
School Age (K-21 programming)	
Total Public School Special Education Enrollment	199
Total Non-Public School Special Education Enrollment	19
Grand Total Special Education Enrollment	246
Special Programs	
HAL	140
ELL	3
ELL Monitor	3
504	77
Sixpence	8
Title 1: Public	
Title1: Non-Public	
Migrant	1
Immigrant	0

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SEWARD
410 South Street
Seward, NE 68434



Dr. Matt Dominy
Director of Curriculum and Staff
Development
Phone: (402) 643-2941
FAX: (402) 643-4986

September 2026 Board Report for Curriculum and Staff Development

Board Members,

Another school year is off and running! It has been a great start; I am proud of the conversations we are having about literacy. Even though our data is significantly better than the nation's literacy data, we still have work to do and we need to ensure that all of our students leave our buildings with the best literacy skills possible.

Curriculum

The Business and PE/Health teachers have had time to explore and implement their new curriculum. I am hearing positive things from our personal finance course as well as in our physical education programs. I have started to receive samples of Spanish curricular resources and our plan is to start reviewing these resources and the music curriculum in October.

Instruction

Our strategic plan calls for our content teachers to be trained in adolescent literacy and literacy across the content areas. We are happy to provide this training for our secondary teachers this year as well as follow up literacy training for our elementary staff. The middle school staff will be trained in Keys to Literacy in a way that includes both in-person and online training. Our expectation will be that teachers identify opportunities to bring literacy into their classroom through various vocabulary, comprehension, and student interaction opportunities.

Staff Development

We feel like we have a great staff development program, but there are special areas that we feel like we can grow in. This year we are going to be working with our PE teachers to provide them professional development that they find meaningful and impactful. The ESU 6 has helped us organize a PE tour where teachers from across ESU #6 will come and observe our teachers. Our teachers will then share what they are teaching, why they are teaching it, etc. The other teachers will offer feedback and suggestions on other lessons that they have taught using the same standards. In the Spring our teachers will be able to go to another school to learn in a similar manner.

Assessment

Beginning of year assessments have gone well. We are currently screening our students using the DIBELS (Grades K-4 Literacy) and NWEA(Grades 2-10 Literacy and Math) assessments. This data will inform teachers about where the students are beginning the year and where additional support or enrichment may be needed.

NSCAS and ACT scores from the 25-26 school year are currently in Embargo status, but in the coming months I will be able to share this information with the school board.

Thank you for your support.

Dr. Matt Dominy

SEPTEMBER STAFF DEVELOPMENT NEWS

September 4th, 2026

Our Mission

Seward Public Schools - a district rooted in excellence - in cooperation with family and community members is committed to the development of the whole student and affirms that all students will have the skills to become productive, resilient, and contributing members of their community.

A message from Matt

As we complete our first month of the school year, I want to take a moment to express my gratitude for the dedication each of you has brought to our classrooms and hallways. Thanks to the collective effort of our entire team, we have experienced a seamless start to the year. Our experienced staff members continue to exemplify the robust systems and routines we have built together—frameworks designed specifically to nurture the success and growth of every child in our care. Whether you are stepping into a familiar routine or helping build new momentum, your hard work lays the foundation for everything our students will achieve.



This upcoming weekend brings Labor Day, a holiday with roots in the late 19th century when American workers advocated for fair labor conditions, dignity in work, and the standard eight-hour workday. First celebrated nationally in 1894, Labor Day was created to recognize the vital contributions that workers make to the strength, prosperity, and well-being of our country. As educators and school support personnel, the labor you contribute every day shapes the future of our community, instilling knowledge, empathy, and resilience in the next generation.

Please accept my sincere thanks for every task, lesson, and quiet moment of support you have provided over these past four weeks to keep our school running smoothly. I hope this long weekend provides you with a well-deserved opportunity to rest, recharge, and spend quality time with those you love. Wishing you all a joyful, relaxing, and wonderful Labor Day weekend!

Jon Gordon- Be Humble and Hungry

Years ago while speaking at a leadership conference in Dallas, I looked over to the left and saw Zig Ziglar sitting there in the front row. Zig was the iconic, legendary speaker who impacted millions of lives and careers. He's famous for saying, "If you help enough people get what they want, you'll get what you want," and "Some people are so good at complaining you'd think they were getting paid for it," and "I'll see you at the top." I ran over to him and said, "Zig, I can't believe you're here. One of my goals in life was to meet you." He replied, "You need to have bigger goals." He was still sharp and funny after all these years. While I was speaking I noticed he was taking notes. It wasn't because I was on stage; anyone could have been on stage and he would have taken notes. At 82 years old he was a lifelong learner, and still humble and hungry after all these years. He only lived a few years after that but the lesson he taught me lives on. Whether you're just starting out and trying to make a name for yourself or you have achieved the pinnacle of success, it's important to remember to be humble and hungry. These two words are the key to a life and career of continuous improvement and growth.

Be Humble

- Don't think you know it all. See yourself as a lifelong learner who is always seeking ways to learn, grow, and improve.
- See everyone as a teacher and learn from everyone you meet.
- Be open to new ideas and strategies to move your life and work to the next level.
- Live with humility because the minute you think you've arrived at the door of greatness, it will get shut in your face.
- As C. S. Lewis said, "Humility doesn't mean you think less of yourself. It just means you think of yourself less."
- Realize there is no finish line. Keep growing till the end.

Be Hungry

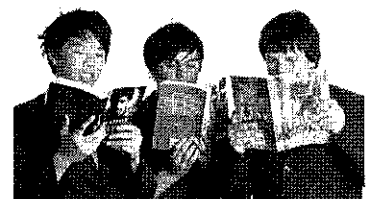
- Have a great desire to continuously learn, improve, grow, and dream.
- Seek out new ideas, new strategies and new ways to push yourself out of your comfort zone.
- Invest the time, energy, sweat, and dedication to be your best.
- Be willing to pay the price that greatness requires. Don't be average. Strive to be great.
- Become the hardest worker you know.
- Make your life and work a quest for excellence. Every day ask myself, "How I can be better today than I was yesterday?"
- Make your next work your best work.

Lead Positive,
Jon

Adolescent Literacy

On our September PD Day our middle and high school teachers will start exploring adolescent literacy. For an overview of what we will be learning about, please see this PDF-

https://keystoliteracy.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/KTL-Guide_Adolescent_Literacy_2026.pdf



Patriotic Holidays

Nebraska Revised Statute 79-724 requires the following:

Appropriate patriotic exercises suitable to the occasion shall be held under the direction of the superintendent in every public, private, denominational, and parochial school on George Washington's birthday, Abraham Lincoln's birthday, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday, Native American Heritage Day, **Constitution Day**, Memorial Day, Veterans Day, and Thanksgiving Day, or on the day or week preceding or following such holiday, if the school is in session.

Constitution Day is September 17th



Seward Public Schools



Bluejay Leadership Team Report

The Bluejay Leadership Team has had a busy and productive start to the school year. We began the year with our annual summer retreat, where we welcomed and onboarded new team members, established committees, and began planning for the upcoming school year. One of our first major projects has been planning Homecoming. With the parade and pep rally moving to Monday of Homecoming Week this year, our team is working to create energy and excitement throughout the entire week and ensure that each activity is well-supported by the student body.

The Bluejay Leadership Team also had the opportunity to assist with New Student Orientation. We hosted a booth featuring Seward Jays Customs merchandise and introduced a new interactive board in the school lobby designed to engage students and help build school spirit.

Seward Jays Customs has continued to grow as one of our team's initiatives. This year, we have partnered with the middle school to create Top Time shirts, allowing students to bring their creative shirt ideas to life. This project has been a fun way to connect with our younger students and supports one of our goals for the year: building a stronger sense of community and school culture across the elementary, middle, and high schools. Seward Jays Customs has also sold approximately 60 Seward blankets so far this school year. We will continue looking for opportunities to expand initiatives such as Seward Jays Customs and Seward Seconds.

Our Flock Committee has been working closely with the cheerleading team and band to build a positive and energetic student section at athletic events. The committee is focused on creating an environment that encourages students to support all Seward activities, not just a select few. So far this year, we organized a white-out spirit day in preparation for the home cross-country meet. Moving forward, our goal is to create opportunities for students to show their support and school spirit for every activity throughout the year.

The Social Media Committee has also made significant progress in promoting Seward High School activities. We began the year with a Fall Athletics Media Day, where we took photos and created

content to use throughout the season. This committee has grown in both size and experience, with more students learning how to design and create social media posts. The team works to highlight the accomplishments and activities taking place at Seward High School while creating a consistent and recognizable brand through the Bluejay Leadership Team's Instagram page.

Finally, our freshmen leadership team members have taken on an important role in student recognition and communication throughout the school. They design and display locker stickers recognizing the activities and organizations in which Seward High School students participate. This year, they also created a new format for our weekly activity schedule, called the Busters Planner, which is posted throughout the school. The planner provides students with important information about upcoming activities, events, and student section themes. Our freshmen have done an excellent job taking initiative, staying prepared, and contributing to the school community.

Overall, the Bluejay Leadership Team has had a strong start to the school year. Through our committees and initiatives, we are working to strengthen school spirit, recognize student involvement, promote all Seward activities, and build a stronger sense of community across our schools. We are excited to continue building on these efforts throughout the remainder of the year.

Grade	Sept., 2020	Sept. 2021	Sept. 2022	Sept. 2023	Sept. 2024	Sept. 2025	Sept. 2026
PK	47	54	71	65	64	37	44
K	102	90	95	75	83	90	57
1	90	97	86	94	75	86	90
2	103	91	102	94	97	77	86
3	90	106	91	101	94	98	75
4	109	91	108	92	105	95	102
SES Total	541	529	553	521	518	483	454
5	105	112	92	111	100	113	100
6	100	108	113	89	112	99	121
7	108	103	114	113	93	110	102
8	110	109	104	117	113	93	117
SMS Total	423	432	423	430	418	415	440
9	126	126	126	123	140	138	121
10	133	125	128	129	122	141	138
11	148	124	121	124	125	121	134
12	122	148	128	121	124	124	120
SHS Total	529	523	503	497	511	524	513
PK-12 Total	1,493	1,484	1,479	1,448	1,447	1,422	1,407

Teachers	class size
2	22
4	14
5	18
4	22
4	19
5	20
5	20
5	24
5	20
5	23

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NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING AND BUDGET SUMMARY

Seward Public Schools (80-0009) in Seward County, Nebraska

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given, in compliance with the provisions of State Statute Sections 13-501 to 13-513, that the governing body will meet on the 14th day of September , 2026 at 5:30 o'clock, P.M , at Seward Public Schools District Office-410 South Street, Seward, NE 68434 for the purpose of hearing support, opposition, criticism, suggestions or observations of taxpayers relating to the following proposed budget and to consider amendments relative thereto. The budget detail is available at the office of the Clerk/Secretary during regular business hours. For more information on statewide receipts and expenditures, and to compare cost per pupil and performance to other school districts, go to: <https://nep.education.ne.gov>

FUNDS	Actual Disbursements & Transfers	Actual/Estimated Disbursements & Transfers	Budgeted Disbursements & Transfers	Necessary Cash Reserve (4)	Total Available Resources Before Property Taxes (5)	Total Personal and Real Property Tax Requirement (7)
	2024-2025 (1)	2025-2026 (2)	2026-2027 (3)			
General	\$ 20,483,473.00	\$ 24,235,000.00	\$ 27,127,134.00	\$ -	\$ 13,244,483.00	\$ 14,022,880.00
Depreciation	\$ 242,453.00	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 1,374,560.00		\$ 1,374,560.00	
Employee Benefit	\$ 576.00	\$ 10,320.00	\$ 26,186.00	\$ -	\$ 26,186.00	
Contingency	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	
Activities	\$ 750,945.00	\$ 765,000.00	\$ 1,175,500.00	\$ -	\$ 1,175,500.00	
School Nutrition	\$ 940,359.00	\$ 987,500.00	\$ 944,500.00	\$ 223,084.00	\$ 1,167,584.00	
Bond	\$ 1,553,965.00	\$ 1,950,300.00	\$ 3,899,561.00	\$ -	\$ 1,979,561.00	\$ 1,939,394.00
Special Building	\$ 612,458.00	\$ 575,000.00	\$ 25,511,790.00		\$ 24,829,790.00	\$ 688,889.00
Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking	\$ 4,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,135.00	\$ 1,135.00	\$ -
Cooperative	\$ 196,425.00	\$ 158,000.00	\$ 202,000.00	\$ -	\$ 202,000.00	
Student Fee	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,291.00	\$ -	\$ 1,291.00	
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
TOTALS	\$ 24,784,654.00	\$ 28,881,120.00	\$ 60,262,522.00	\$ 224,219.00	\$ 44,002,090.00	\$ 16,651,163.00

	Bond Purposes	Non-Bond Purposes	Total
Breakdown of Property Tax	\$ 1,939,394.00	\$ 14,711,769.00	\$ 16,651,163.00

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SEWARD BUDGET

2026-2027



Mission of Seward Public Schools

Seward Public Schools - a district rooted in excellence - in cooperation with family and community members is committed to the development of the whole student and affirms that all students will have the skills to become productive, resilient, and contributing members of their community.

BUDGET PROCESS

- Fiscal Year for Schools – Sept. 1 to Aug. 31
- Budget must be adopted and submitted to the state by September 30.
- Hearings tonight pending board approval of budget and tax request resolution later in the evening.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION AND
PROPOSED BUDGET FIGURES FOR
THE 2026-2027 BUDGET

DATA COMPARISONS TO THE 10 LARGER AND 10 SMALLER SCHOOLS

(OUR STATE AID/FOUNDATION AID ARRAY) 20 out 144
districts

2026-2027 Statistical Information on 10 Larger-10 Smaller Schools										
School	General Fund Levy	Total Levy	2025-2026 Valuation	Property Tax per \$100,000	26-27 State aid	Free/Red	% Sped	24/25 Per Pupil Cost	14/15 Per Pupil Cost	
Norris	\$ 0.66	\$ 0.75	\$ 2,745,822,385	\$ 750	\$ 3,973,363	8%	8%	\$ 14,078	\$ 10,058	
Beatrice	\$ 0.77	\$ 0.91	\$ 1,903,405,982	\$ 910	\$ 4,326,912	50%	25%	\$ 15,722	\$ 10,871	
Gering	\$ 0.99	\$ 1.30	\$ 1,117,627,753	\$ 1,300	\$ 9,981,382	48%	19%	\$ 15,732	\$ 10,500	
Waverly	\$ 0.70	\$ 0.86	\$ 2,897,877,286	\$ 860	\$ 3,535,625	18%	18%	\$ 15,984	\$ 10,121	
Crete	\$ 0.90	\$ 1.09	\$ 1,790,575,048	\$ 1,090	\$ 9,603,920	66%	14%	\$ 17,428	\$ 12,091	
Plattsmouth	\$ 0.98	\$ 1.17	\$ 1,199,939,223	\$ 1,170	\$ 4,299,752	36%	19%	\$ 15,872	\$ 11,418	
Schuyler	\$ 0.91	\$ 0.99	\$ 1,977,174,190	\$ 990	\$ 2,870,366	51%	13%	\$ 15,940	\$ 11,182	
Bennington	\$ 0.98	\$ 1.36	\$ 3,096,216,080	\$ 1,360	\$ 16,780,008	11%	17%	\$ 13,388	\$ 9,276	
McCook	\$ 0.86	\$ 0.86	\$ 1,123,991,383	\$ 860	\$ 5,843,461	36%	19%	\$ 17,022	\$ 10,984	
Alliance	\$ 0.80	\$ 0.87	\$ 1,450,228,126	\$ 870	\$ 2,237,467	55%	27%	\$ 17,316	\$ 10,315	
Nebr. City	\$ 0.82	\$ 0.99	\$ 1,385,746,787	\$ 990	\$ 2,872,516	58%	23%	\$ 16,783	\$ 11,996	
York	\$ 0.76	\$ 1.02	\$ 1,702,141,887	\$ 1,020	\$ 2,923,733	41%	14%	\$ 15,843	\$ 12,366	
Sidney	\$ 1.04	\$ 1.20	\$ 820,495,471	\$ 1,200	\$ 5,141,987	44%	24%	\$ 17,341	\$ 11,420	
Aurora	\$ 0.67	\$ 0.69	\$ 2,260,650,832	\$ 690	\$ 2,007,645	29%	13%	\$ 18,784	\$ 12,295	
Springfield Platt	\$ 0.30	\$ 0.57	\$ 3,721,563,845	\$ 570	\$ 3,290,380	16%	17%	\$ 19,024	\$ 13,163	
Holdrege	\$ 0.73	\$ 0.80	\$ 1,594,139,673	\$ 800	\$ 1,596,484	38%	22%	\$ 18,829	\$ 11,395	
Gothenburg	\$ 0.90	\$ 0.97	\$ 1,168,215,070	\$ 970	\$ 1,483,559	40%	14%	\$ 20,181	\$ 11,472	
Lakeview	\$ 0.35	\$ 0.53	\$ 2,108,105,372	\$ 530	\$ 2,970,751	33%	14%	\$ 16,216	\$ 13,443	
Adams Cent.	\$ 0.53	\$ 0.62	\$ 2,542,061,825	\$ 620	\$ 2,022,503	13%	13%	\$ 18,240	\$ 12,885	
Wahoo	\$ 0.73	\$ 0.88	\$ 1,517,417,463	\$ 880	\$ 1,866,098	27%	21%	\$ 18,846	\$ 11,219	
SEWARD	\$ 0.63	\$ 0.74	\$ 2,191,752,753	\$ 740	\$ 2,412,066	19%	17%	\$ 16,845	\$ 11,917	
AVERAGE	\$ 0.76	\$ 0.91	\$ 1,919,768,973	\$ 913	\$ 4,382,856	35%	18%	\$ 16,924	\$ 11,447	

ASSESSED VALUATION

Fiscal Year	Property Valuation	Change	Percentage Increase
2012-2013	\$ 1,067,156,248	#REF!	#REF!
2013-2014	\$ 1,185,364,177	\$ 118,207,929	11.08%
2014-2015	\$ 1,389,634,455	\$ 204,270,278	17.23%
2015-2016	\$ 1,472,775,392	\$ 83,140,937	5.98%
2016-2017	\$ 1,538,357,114	\$ 65,581,722	4.45%
2017-2018	\$ 1,573,912,154	\$ 35,555,040	2.31%
2018-2019	\$ 1,613,503,350	\$ 39,591,196	2.52%
2019-2020	\$ 1,611,210,672	\$ (2,292,678)	-0.14%
2020-2021	\$ 1,628,308,485	\$ 17,097,813	1.06%
2021-2022	\$ 1,680,093,238	\$ 51,784,753	3.18%
2022-2023	\$ 1,765,502,611	\$ 85,409,373	5.08%
2023-2024	\$ 1,896,876,595	\$ 131,373,984	7.44%
2024-2025	\$ 2,007,893,020	\$ 111,016,425	5.85%
2025-2026	\$ 2,191,752,753	\$ 183,859,733	9.16%
2026-2027	\$ 2,350,688,840	\$ 158,936,087	7.25%

Breakdown of Taxes

- 48%- 25/26, 48%- 24/25 -- —Residential and Real Property
- 37% 25/26, 36% 24/25 — Agricultural Land
- The rest is Personal Property (4%), Commercial (7%) , Ag buildings(1%), Centrally Assessed Personal and Real (3%).

STATE AID/FOUNDATION AID HISTORY

Year	State Aid	Change
2014-15	\$ 350,863	#REF!
2015-16	\$ 40,564	\$ (310,299)
2016-17	\$ -	\$ (40,564)
2017-18	\$ 232,263	\$ 232,263
2018-19	\$ 233,555	\$ 1,292
2019-20	\$ 252,082	\$ 18,527
2020-21	\$ 293,213	\$ 41,131
2021-22	\$ 270,316	\$ (22,897)
2022-23	\$ 288,134	\$ 17,818
2023-24	\$ 2,460,649	\$ 2,172,515
2024-25	\$ 2,413,080	\$ (47,569)
2025-26	\$ 2,450,900	\$ 37,820
2026-27	\$ 2,412,066	\$ (38,834)

12 YEAR PROPERTY LEVY HISTORY

[illegible]

CASH HISTORY AS OF JULY 31, 2026

July 31 Balances							
Fund	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026
General	\$6,349,391.00	\$6,084,292.00	\$6,148,749.00	\$5,008,412.00	\$7,139,021.00	\$9,558,848.00	10,095,706.52
Special Building	\$695,815.00	\$712,549.00	\$499,232.00	\$524,380.00	\$475,817.00	\$340,504.00	310,742.44
Depreciation	\$1,392,019.00	\$1,424,082.00	\$1,295,194.00	\$1,309,269.00	\$1,012,368.00	\$990,604.00	1,026,561.93
Bond	\$1,507,823.00	\$1,528,329.00	\$1,428,817.00	\$1,304,208.00	\$1,326,547.00	\$1,427,998.00	1,670,740.37
Quality Capital Purp.	\$148,938.00	\$147,882.00	\$142,371.00	\$139,943.00	\$15,517.00	\$1,135.00	1,179.14
TOTAL CASH	\$10,093,986.00	\$9,897,134.00	\$9,514,363.00	\$8,286,212.00	\$9,969,270.00	\$12,319,089.00	\$13,104,930.40

GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES

GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURE HISTORY- 3.2% 10- year average

Year	Spent	Dollar Increase	Percent Increase
2015-2016	\$ 15,666,649	#REF!	#REF!
2016-2017	\$ 16,105,773	\$ 439,124	2.8%
2017-2018 * (SPED 582,320)	\$ 17,099,651	\$ 993,878	6.2%
2018-2019	\$ 16,791,407	\$ (308,244)	-1.8%
2019-2020	\$ 17,378,922	\$ 587,515	3.5%
2020-2021	\$ 18,060,137	\$ 681,215	3.9%
2021-2022	\$ 18,798,607	\$ 738,470	4.1%
2022-2023	\$ 19,650,543	\$ 851,936	4.5%
2023-2024	\$ 19,673,158	\$ 22,615	0.1%
2024-2025	\$ 20,483,473	\$ 810,315	4.1%
2025-2026	\$ 21,431,920	\$ 948,447	4.6%

Why behind expenditures

- New Chromebooks for 9-12th grade students
- Curriculum each year-
- Salaries/Benefits- Increase
- Inflation- Paper, Gas, Shipping

PROPOSED BUDGET OF EXPENDITURES

- The vast majority of the increases are increased staffing costs
- Cost of materials, gas, insurance, etc.
- We will have Spanish and Music curriculum cycle this year.

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING AND BUDGET SUMMARY

Seward Public Schools (80-0009) in Seward County, Nebraska

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given, in compliance with the provisions of State Statute Sections 13-501 to 13-513, that the governing body will meet on the 14th day of September, 2026 at 5:30 o'clock, P.M., at Seward Public Schools District Office-410 South Street, Seward, NE 68434 for the purpose of hearing support, opposition, criticism, suggestions or observations of taxpayers relating to the following proposed budget and to consider amendments relative thereto. The budget detail is available at the office of the Clerk/Secretary during regular business hours. For more information on statewide receipts and expenditures, and to compare cost per pupil and performance to other school districts, go to: <https://nep.education.ne.gov>

FUNDS	Actual Disbursements & Transfers	Actual/Estimated Disbursements & Transfers	Budgeted Disbursements & Transfers	Necessary Cash Reserve (4)	Total Available Resources Before Property Taxes (5)	Total Personal and Real Property Tax Requirement (7)
	2024-2025 (1)	2025-2026 (2)	2026-2027 (3)			
General	\$ 20,483,473.00	\$ 24,235,000.00	\$ 27,127,134.00	\$ -	\$ 13,244,483.00	\$ 14,022,880.00
Depreciation	\$ 242,453.00	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 1,374,560.00		\$ 1,374,560.00	
Employee Benefit	\$ 576.00	\$ 10,320.00	\$ 26,186.00	\$ -	\$ 26,186.00	
Contingency	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	
Activities	\$ 750,945.00	\$ 765,000.00	\$ 1,175,500.00	\$ -	\$ 1,175,500.00	
School Nutrition	\$ 940,359.00	\$ 987,500.00	\$ 944,500.00	\$ 223,084.00	\$ 1,167,584.00	
Bond	\$ 1,553,965.00	\$ 1,950,300.00	\$ 3,899,561.00	\$ -	\$ 1,979,561.00	\$ 1,939,394.00
Special Building	\$ 612,458.00	\$ 575,000.00	\$ 25,511,790.00		\$ 24,829,790.00	\$ 688,889.00
Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking	\$ 4,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,135.00	\$ 1,135.00	\$ -
Cooperative	\$ 196,425.00	\$ 158,000.00	\$ 202,000.00	\$ -	\$ 202,000.00	
Student Fee	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,291.00	\$ -	\$ 1,291.00	
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
TOTALS	\$ 24,784,654.00	\$ 28,881,120.00	\$ 60,262,522.00	\$ 224,219.00	\$ 44,002,090.00	\$ 16,651,163.00
				Bond Purposes	Non-Bond Purposes	Total
			Breakdown of Property Tax	\$ 1,939,394.00	\$ 14,711,769.00	\$ 16,651,163.00

GENERAL FUND CASH

GENERAL FUND CASH

- We have always maintained the goal of keeping 3 months of cash in reserve to help smooth out the peaks and valleys. In years when we lost a lot of state aid, this cash on hand helped us maintain a consistent levy. In the future it could help us if property values decline.
- We were right at \$5,308,402 in our lowest point of the year (December). We spend right at \$1.83 million a month, so we are at 2.9 months in reserve at our low point.

GENERAL FUND MONTHLY CASH –(This is for our low month)

2025-2026	INCREASE/DECREASE FROM PRIOR YEAR
26,535,948.00	1,008,405.00
9,149,804.70	1,446,775.27
7,609,053.01	1,329,843.42
6,116,382.85	668,664.72
5,308,492.17	962,945.79
6,238,015.68	998,311.41
6,098,200.66	-1,310,962.89
7,786,767.54	678,434.25
6,813,771.52	-34,162.40
11,928,373.90	1,324,747.84
11,364,291.78	428,041.57
10,095,706.52	536,858.30
	-8,153,763.57

Sept.

Oct

Nov.



Dec.

Jan

Feb.

March

April

May

June

July

OTHER FUNDS

BOND Fund

- For 2026-27 I'm proposing \$ 1,920,000 we will get in property taxes and our payments will be \$1,538,967. The bond levy would be a at .082.
- Our last bond payment for the middle school is December 2027- The hope is to have enough collected to pay that off in the 2026-2027 school year.
- Our total payoff of the MS bond is \$2,823,967
- We have \$1,600,000 in the bank to make the December 26 payment.
-

QUALIFIED CAPITAL PURPOSES UNDERTAKING FUND

- Options- Do we look at another QCPUF bond?
- Our last QCPUF bond was 1.2 million- 10 year bond with \$176,000 payments.
- I do have to count dollars toward safety ect. If we don't have a QCPUF bond.
- We can tax up to \$0.03- \$705,000 per year

COOPERATIVE FUND

- The Cooperative Fund is a pass through account for Sixpence. We are the fiscal agent so the money will run through our budget. If we use this fund, it has no impact on our state aid, or levy/expenditure limits for any of the three school districts. We did receive a grant again this year so we will need to budget again. We increase the amount because when we get paid may not fall in line with our budget year.

SPECIAL BUILDING FUND

- Last year we levied \$400,000 at \$.02.
- This year the proposal is .03 - \$682,000

PROPERTY TAX AND LEVY IMPACT

What does a Penny Generate?

Last year a penny will generate \$219,000

This year a penny will generate \$ 235,000

PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX IMPACT FOR ALL TAXABLE FUNDS-

2025-2026 Budget Information					
2025-2026 Operating Budget	2025-2026 Proposed Property Tax Request	Proposed 2025 Tax Rate	Change in Tax Rate	Change in Operating Budget	
26,535,948.00	13,891,980.00	0.633830	-5%	4%	General Bond
1,950,300.00	1,818,182.00	0.082956	3%	-4%	
		0.000000	#DIV/0!	0	
		0.000000	#DIV/0!	0	
		0.000000	#DIV/0!	0	
918,775.00	444,444.00	0.020278	1%	-6%	Special Build QCPUF
-	-	0.000000	#DIV/0!	-100%	
		0.000000	#DIV/0!	0	
		0.000000	#DIV/0!	0	
29,405,023.00	16,154,606.00	0.737064	-4%	3%	Total

25-26

2026-2027 Budget Information					
2026-2027 Operating Budget	2026-2027 Proposed Property Tax Request	Proposed 2026 Tax Rate	Change in Tax Rate	Change in Operating Budget	
27,127,134.00	14,022,880.00	0.596543	-6%	2%	
3,899,561.00	1,939,394.00	0.082503	-1%	100%	
		0.000000	#DIV/0!	0	
		0.000000	#DIV/0!	0	
		0.000000	#DIV/0!	0	
25,511,790.00	688,889.00	0.029306	45%	2677%	
-	-	0.000000	#DIV/0!	0	
		0.000000	#DIV/0!	0	
		0.000000	#DIV/0!	0	
56,538,485.00	16,651,163.00	0.708352	-4%	92%	

26-27

PROPERTY TAX ASKING HISTORY

Fiscal Year	General Fund Property Tax Asking	Change	Percentage Change
2015-2016	\$12,165,810.00	#REF!	#REF!
2016-2017	\$12,264,498.87	\$98,688.87	0.81%
2017-2018	\$12,545,826.14	\$281,327.27	2.29%
2018-2019	\$12,730,870.00	\$185,043.86	1.47%
2019-2020	\$13,245,248.00	\$514,378.00	4.04%
2020-2021	\$13,750,299.00	\$505,051.00	3.81%
2021-2022	\$14,094,055.00	\$343,756.00	2.50%
2022-2023	\$14,949,495.00	\$855,440.00	6.07%
2023-2024	\$13,350,505.00	-\$1,598,990.00	-10.70%
2024-2025	\$13,451,515.00	\$101,010.00	0.76%
2025-2026	\$13,891,980.00	\$440,465.00	3.27%
2026-2027	\$14,253,183.00	\$361,203.00	2.60%
Fiscal Year	Total Property Tax Asking (all funds)	Change	Percent Change
2015-2016	\$14,548,662.00	#REF!	#REF!
2016-2017	\$14,747,300.87	\$198,638.87	1.37%
2017-2018	\$14,921,251.00	\$173,950.13	1.18%
2018-2019	\$15,025,859.00	\$278,558.13	0.70%
2019-2020	\$15,409,985.00	\$488,734.00	2.56%
2020-2021	\$15,573,721.00	\$163,736.00	1.06%
2021-2022	\$16,013,220.00	\$439,499.00	2.82%
2022-2023	\$16,678,232.00	\$665,012.00	4.15%
2023-2024	\$15,138,384.00	-\$1,539,848.00	-9.23%
2024-2025	\$15,471,717.00	\$333,333.00	2.20%
2025-2026	\$16,154,606.00	\$682,889.00	4.41%
2026-2027	\$16,644,092.00	\$489,486.00	3.03%

Seward Public Schools (80-0009) in Seward County, Nebraska

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given, in compliance with the provisions of State Statute Section 77-1632, that the governing body will meet on the 14th day of, September 2026 at Immediately following the 5:30 P.M. Budget Hearing , at Seward Public Schools District Office-410 South Street, Seward, NE 68434 for the purpose of hearing support, opposition, criticism, suggestions or observations of taxpayers relating to setting the final tax request.

	2025-2026	2026-2027	Change						
Property Valuations	2,191,752,753	2,350,688,840	7%						
2025-2026 Budget Information					2026-2027 Budget Information				
Fund	2025-2026 Operating Budget	2025-2026 Property Tax Request	2025 Tax Rate	Property Tax Rate (2025-2026 Request Divided By 2026 Valuation)	2026-2027 Operating Budget	2026-2027 Proposed Property Tax Request	Proposed 2026 Tax Rate	Change in Tax Rate	Change in Operating Budget
General Fund	26,535,948.00	13,891,980.00	0.633830	0.590975	27,127,134.00	14,022,880.00	0.596543	-6%	2%
Bond Fund(s) K - 12	1,950,300.00	1,818,182.00	0.082956	0.077347	3,899,561.00	1,939,394.00	0.082503	-1%	100%
Bond Fund(s) K - 8			0.000000	0.000000			0.000000	#DIV/0!	0
Bond Fund(s) 9 - 12			0.000000	0.000000			0.000000	#DIV/0!	0
Bond Fund			0.000000	0.000000			0.000000	#DIV/0!	0
Special Building Fund	918,775.00	444,444.00	0.020278	0.018907	25,511,790.00	688,889.00	0.029306	45%	2677%
Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Fund K - 12			0.000000	0.000000	-	-	0.000000	#DIV/0!	0
Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Fund K - 8			0.000000	0.000000			0.000000	#DIV/0!	0
Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Fund 9 - 12			0.000000	0.000000			0.000000	#DIV/0!	0
Total	29,405,023.00	16,154,606.00	0.737063	0.687229	56,538,485.00	16,651,163.00	0.708352	-4%	92%

SUMMARY

- General Fund –3% increase to our general fund for staff/insurance costs. As a reminder salary/insurance increase will be around \$ 600,000 for staff
- Bond Fund – We will be able to pay off Middle School Bond I hope in June 2027 and will budget for new bond 27/28 budget year.
- Special Building Fund: I have it at .03 to keep the overall ask at \$688,889
- Total tax asking 3.0% increase.
- No Pink Postcard-

RESOLUTION SETTING THE PROPERTY TAX REQUEST

RESOLUTION NO. 2026

WHEREAS, Nebraska Revised Statute 77-1632 and 77-1633 provides that the Governing Body of Seward Public Schools passes by a majority vote a resolution or ordinance setting the tax request; and

WHEREAS, a special public hearing was held as required by law to hear and consider comments concerning the property tax request;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Governing Body of Seward Public Schools resolves that:

1. The 2026-2027 property tax request be set at:

General Fund:	\$	14,022,880.00
Bond Fund:	\$	1,939,394.00
Special Building Fund:	\$	688,889.00
Qualified Capital Purpose	\$	-
Undertaking Fund:		

2. The total assessed value of property differs from last year's total assessed value by 7.25 percent.
3. The tax rate which would levy the same amount of property taxes as last year, when multiplied by the new total assessed value of property would be 0.687229 per \$100 of assessed value.
4. Seward Public Schools proposes to adopt a property tax request that will cause its tax rate to be 0.708354 per \$100 of assessed value.
5. Based on the proposed property tax request and changes in other revenue, the total operating budget of Seward Public Schools will increase (decrease) last year's budget by 85.47 percent.
6. A copy of this resolution be certified and forwarded to the County Clerk on or before October 15, 2026.

Motion by _____, seconded by _____ to adopt Resolution # 2026.

Voting yes were:

Voting no were:

Dated this 14th day of September, 2026

Notice of Special Hearing To Set Final Tax Request

Seward Public Schools (80-0009) in Seward County, Nebraska

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given, in compliance with the provisions of State Statute Section 77-1632, that the governing body will meet on the 14th day of, September 2026 at Immediately following the 5:30 P.M. Budget Hearing , at Seward Public Schools District Office-410 South Street, Seward, NE 68434 for the purpose of hearing support, opposition, criticism, suggestions or observations of taxpayers relating to setting the final tax request.

	2025-2026	2026-2027	Change
Property Valuations	2,191,752,753	2,350,688,840	7%

2025-2026 Budget Information

2026-2027 Budget Information

Fund	2025-2026 Operating Budget	2025-2026 Property Tax Request	2025 Tax Rate	Property Tax Rate (2025-2026 Request Divided By 2026 Valuation)	2026-2027 Operating Budget	2026-2027 Proposed Property Tax Request	Proposed 2026 Tax Rate	Change in Tax Rate	Change in Operating Budget
General Fund	26,535,948.00	13,891,980.00	0.633830	0.590975	27,127,134.00	14,022,880.00	0.596543	-6%	2%
Bond Fund(s) K - 12	1,950,300.00	1,818,182.00	0.082956	0.077347	3,899,561.00	1,939,394.00	0.082503	-1%	100%
Bond Fund(s) K - 8			0.000000	0.000000			0.000000	#DIV/0!	0
Bond Fund(s) 9 - 12			0.000000	0.000000			0.000000	#DIV/0!	0
Bond Fund			0.000000	0.000000			0.000000	#DIV/0!	0
Special Building Fund	918,775.00	444,444.00	0.020278	0.018907	25,511,790.00	688,889.00	0.029306	45%	2677%
Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Fund K - 12			0.000000	0.000000	-	-	0.000000	#DIV/0!	0
Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Fund K - 8			0.000000	0.000000			0.000000	#DIV/0!	0
Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Fund 9 - 12			0.000000	0.000000			0.000000	#DIV/0!	0
Total	29,405,023.00	16,154,606.00	0.737063	0.687229	56,538,485.00	16,651,163.00	0.708352	-4%	92%

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SEWARD BUDGET

2026-2027



Mission of Seward Public Schools

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BUDGET PROCESS

- Fiscal Year for Schools – Sept. 1 to Aug. 31
- Budget must be adopted and submitted to the state by September 30.
- Hearings tonight pending board approval of budget and tax request resolution later in the evening.

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PROPOSED BUDGET FIGURES FOR
THE 2026-2027 BUDGET

DATA COMPARISONS TO THE 10 LARGER AND 10 SMALLER SCHOOLS

(OUR STATE AID/FOUNDATION AID ARRAY) 20 out 144 districts

2026-2027 Statistical Information on 10 Larger-10 Smaller Schools										
School	General Fund Levy	Total Levy	2025-2026 Valuation	Property Tax per \$100,000	26-27 State aid	Free/Red	% Sped	24/25 Per Pupil Cost	14/15 Per Pupil Cost	
Norris	\$ 0.66	\$ 0.75	\$ 2,745,822,385	\$ 750	\$ 3,973,363	8%	8%	\$ 14,078	\$ 10,058	
Beatrice	\$ 0.77	\$ 0.91	\$ 1,903,405,982	\$ 910	\$ 4,326,912	50%	25%	\$ 15,722	\$ 10,871	
Gering	\$ 0.99	\$ 1.30	\$ 1,117,627,753	\$ 1,300	\$ 9,981,382	48%	19%	\$ 15,732	\$ 10,500	
Waverly	\$ 0.70	\$ 0.86	\$ 2,897,877,286	\$ 860	\$ 3,535,625	18%	18%	\$ 15,984	\$ 10,121	
Crete	\$ 0.90	\$ 1.09	\$ 1,790,575,048	\$ 1,090	\$ 9,603,920	66%	14%	\$ 17,428	\$ 12,091	
Plattsmouth	\$ 0.98	\$ 1.17	\$ 1,199,939,223	\$ 1,170	\$ 4,299,752	36%	19%	\$ 15,872	\$ 11,418	
Schuyler	\$ 0.91	\$ 0.99	\$ 1,977,174,190	\$ 990	\$ 2,870,366	51%	13%	\$ 15,940	\$ 11,182	
Bennington	\$ 0.98	\$ 1.36	\$ 3,096,216,080	\$ 1,360	\$ 16,780,008	11%	17%	\$ 13,388	\$ 9,276	
McCook	\$ 0.86	\$ 0.86	\$ 1,123,991,383	\$ 860	\$ 5,843,461	36%	19%	\$ 17,022	\$ 10,984	
Alliance	\$ 0.80	\$ 0.87	\$ 1,450,228,126	\$ 870	\$ 2,237,467	55%	27%	\$ 17,316	\$ 10,315	
Nebr. City	\$ 0.82	\$ 0.99	\$ 1,385,746,787	\$ 990	\$ 2,872,516	58%	23%	\$ 16,783	\$ 11,996	
York	\$ 0.76	\$ 1.02	\$ 1,702,141,887	\$ 1,020	\$ 2,923,733	41%	14%	\$ 15,843	\$ 12,366	
Sidney	\$ 1.04	\$ 1.20	\$ 820,495,471	\$ 1,200	\$ 5,141,987	44%	24%	\$ 17,341	\$ 11,420	
Aurora	\$ 0.67	\$ 0.69	\$ 2,260,650,832	\$ 690	\$ 2,007,645	29%	13%	\$ 18,784	\$ 12,295	
Springfield Platt	\$ 0.30	\$ 0.57	\$ 3,721,563,845	\$ 570	\$ 3,290,380	16%	17%	\$ 19,024	\$ 13,163	
Holdrege	\$ 0.73	\$ 0.80	\$ 1,594,139,673	\$ 800	\$ 1,596,484	38%	22%	\$ 18,829	\$ 11,395	
Gothenburg	\$ 0.90	\$ 0.97	\$ 1,168,215,070	\$ 970	\$ 1,483,559	40%	14%	\$ 20,181	\$ 11,472	
Lakeview	\$ 0.35	\$ 0.53	\$ 2,108,105,372	\$ 530	\$ 2,970,751	33%	14%	\$ 16,216	\$ 13,443	
Adams Cent.	\$ 0.53	\$ 0.62	\$ 2,542,061,825	\$ 620	\$ 2,022,503	13%	13%	\$ 18,240	\$ 12,885	
Wahoo	\$ 0.73	\$ 0.88	\$ 1,517,417,463	\$ 880	\$ 1,866,098	27%	21%	\$ 18,846	\$ 11,219	
SEWARD	\$ 0.63	\$ 0.74	\$ 2,191,752,753	\$ 740	\$ 2,412,066	19%	17%	\$ 16,845	\$ 11,917	
AVERAGE	\$ 0.76	\$ 0.91	\$ 1,919,768,973	\$ 913	\$ 4,382,856	35%	18%	\$ 16,924	\$ 11,447	

ASSESSED VALUATION

Fiscal Year	Property Valuation	Change	Percentage Increase
2012-2013	\$ 1,067,156,248	#REF!	#REF!
2013-2014	\$ 1,185,364,177	\$ 118,207,929	11.08%
2014-2015	\$ 1,389,634,455	\$ 204,270,278	17.23%
2015-2016	\$ 1,472,775,392	\$ 83,140,937	5.98%
2016-2017	\$ 1,538,357,114	\$ 65,581,722	4.45%
2017-2018	\$ 1,573,912,154	\$ 35,555,040	2.31%
2018-2019	\$ 1,613,503,350	\$ 39,591,196	2.52%
2019-2020	\$ 1,611,210,672	\$ (2,292,678)	-0.14%
2020-2021	\$ 1,628,308,485	\$ 17,097,813	1.06%
2021-2022	\$ 1,680,093,238	\$ 51,784,753	3.18%
2022-2023	\$ 1,765,502,611	\$ 85,409,373	5.08%
2023-2024	\$ 1,896,876,595	\$ 131,373,984	7.44%
2024-2025	\$ 2,007,893,020	\$ 111,016,425	5.85%
2025-2026	\$ 2,191,752,753	\$ 183,859,733	9.16%
2026-2027	\$ 2,350,688,840	\$ 158,936,087	7.25%

Breakdown of Taxes

- 48%- 25/26, 48%- 24/25 -- —Residential and Real Property
- 37% 25/26, 36% 24/25 — Agricultural Land
- The rest is Personal Property (4%), Commercial (7%) , Ag buildings(1%), Centrally Assessed Personal and Real (3%).

STATE AID/FOUNDATION AID HISTORY

Year	State Aid	Change
2014-15	\$ 350,863	#REF!
2015-16	\$ 40,564	\$ (310,299)
2016-17	\$ -	\$ (40,564)
2017-18	\$ 232,263	\$ 232,263
2018-19	\$ 233,555	\$ 1,292
2019-20	\$ 252,082	\$ 18,527
2020-21	\$ 293,213	\$ 41,131
2021-22	\$ 270,316	\$ (22,897)
2022-23	\$ 288,134	\$ 17,818
2023-24	\$ 2,460,649	\$ 2,172,515
2024-25	\$ 2,413,080	\$ (47,569)
2025-26	\$ 2,450,900	\$ 37,820
2026-27	\$ 2,412,066	\$ (38,834)

12 YEAR PROPERTY LEVY HISTORY

[illegible]

CASH HISTORY AS OF JULY 31, 2026

July 31 Balances							
Fund	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026
General	\$6,349,391.00	\$6,084,292.00	\$6,148,749.00	\$5,008,412.00	\$7,139,021.00	\$9,558,848.00	10,095,706.52
Special Building	\$695,815.00	\$712,549.00	\$499,232.00	\$524,380.00	\$475,817.00	\$340,504.00	310,742.44
Depreciation	\$1,392,019.00	\$1,424,082.00	\$1,295,194.00	\$1,309,269.00	\$1,012,368.00	\$990,604.00	1,026,561.93
Bond	\$1,507,823.00	\$1,528,329.00	\$1,428,817.00	\$1,304,208.00	\$1,326,547.00	\$1,427,998.00	1,670,740.37
Quality Capital Purp.	\$148,938.00	\$147,882.00	\$142,371.00	\$139,943.00	\$15,517.00	\$1,135.00	1,179.14
TOTAL CASH	\$10,093,986.00	\$9,897,134.00	\$9,514,363.00	\$8,286,212.00	\$9,969,270.00	\$12,319,089.00	\$13,104,930.40

GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES

GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURE HISTORY- 3.2% 10- year average

Year	Spent	Dollar Increase	Percent Increase
2015-2016	\$ 15,666,649	#REF!	#REF!
2016-2017	\$ 16,105,773	\$ 439,124	2.8%
2017-2018 * (SPED 582,320)	\$ 17,099,651	\$ 993,878	6.2%
2018-2019	\$ 16,791,407	\$ (308,244)	-1.8%
2019-2020	\$ 17,378,922	\$ 587,515	3.5%
2020-2021	\$ 18,060,137	\$ 681,215	3.9%
2021-2022	\$ 18,798,607	\$ 738,470	4.1%
2022-2023	\$ 19,650,543	\$ 851,936	4.5%
2023-2024	\$ 19,673,158	\$ 22,615	0.1%
2024-2025	\$ 20,483,473	\$ 810,315	4.1%
2025-2026	\$ 21,431,920	\$ 948,447	4.6%

Why behind expenditures

- New Chromebooks for 9-12th grade students
- Curriculum each year-
- Salaries/Benefits- Increase
- Inflation- Paper, Gas, Shipping

PROPOSED BUDGET OF EXPENDITURES

- The vast majority of the increases are increased staffing costs
- Cost of materials, gas, insurance, etc.
- We will have Spanish and Music curriculum cycle this year.

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING AND BUDGET SUMMARY

Seward Public Schools (80-0009) in Seward County, Nebraska

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given, in compliance with the provisions of State Statute Sections 13-501 to 13-513, that the governing body will meet on the 14th day of September, 2026 at 5:30 o'clock, P.M., at Seward Public Schools District Office-410 South Street, Seward, NE 68434 for the purpose of hearing support, opposition, criticism, suggestions or observations of taxpayers relating to the following proposed budget and to consider amendments relative thereto. The budget detail is available at the office of the Clerk/Secretary during regular business hours. For more information on statewide receipts and expenditures, and to compare cost per pupil and performance to other school districts, go to: <https://nep.education.ne.gov>

FUNDS	Actual Disbursements & Transfers	Actual/Estimated Disbursements & Transfers	Budgeted Disbursements & Transfers	Necessary Cash Reserve (4)	Total Available Resources Before Property Taxes (5)	Total Personal and Real Property Tax Requirement (7)
	2024-2025 (1)	2025-2026 (2)	2026-2027 (3)			
General	\$ 20,483,473.00	\$ 24,235,000.00	\$ 27,127,134.00	\$ -	\$ 13,244,483.00	\$ 14,022,880.00
Depreciation	\$ 242,453.00	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 1,374,560.00		\$ 1,374,560.00	
Employee Benefit	\$ 576.00	\$ 10,320.00	\$ 26,186.00	\$ -	\$ 26,186.00	
Contingency	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	
Activities	\$ 750,945.00	\$ 765,000.00	\$ 1,175,500.00	\$ -	\$ 1,175,500.00	
School Nutrition	\$ 940,359.00	\$ 987,500.00	\$ 944,500.00	\$ 223,084.00	\$ 1,167,584.00	
Bond	\$ 1,553,965.00	\$ 1,950,300.00	\$ 3,899,561.00	\$ -	\$ 1,979,561.00	\$ 1,939,394.00
Special Building	\$ 612,458.00	\$ 575,000.00	\$ 25,511,790.00		\$ 24,829,790.00	\$ 688,889.00
Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking	\$ 4,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,135.00	\$ 1,135.00	\$ -
Cooperative	\$ 196,425.00	\$ 158,000.00	\$ 202,000.00	\$ -	\$ 202,000.00	
Student Fee	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,291.00	\$ -	\$ 1,291.00	
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
TOTALS	\$ 24,784,654.00	\$ 28,881,120.00	\$ 60,262,522.00	\$ 224,219.00	\$ 44,002,090.00	\$ 16,651,163.00
				Bond Purposes	Non-Bond Purposes	Total
			Breakdown of Property Tax	\$ 1,939,394.00	\$ 14,711,769.00	\$ 16,651,163.00

GENERAL FUND CASH

GENERAL FUND CASH

- We have always maintained the goal of keeping 3 months of cash in reserve to help smooth out the peaks and valleys. In years when we lost a lot of state aid, this cash on hand helped us maintain a consistent levy. In the future it could help us if property values decline.
- We were right at \$5,308,402 in our lowest point of the year (December). We spend right at \$1.83 million a month, so we are at 2.9 months in reserve at our low point.

GENERAL FUND MONTHLY CASH –(This is for our low month)

2025-2026	INCREASE/DECREASE FROM PRIOR YEAR
26,535,948.00	1,008,405.00
9,149,804.70	1,446,775.27
7,609,053.01	1,329,843.42
6,116,382.85	668,664.72
5,308,492.17	962,945.79
6,238,015.68	998,311.41
6,098,200.66	-1,310,962.89
7,786,767.54	678,434.25
6,813,771.52	-34,162.40
11,928,373.90	1,324,747.84
11,364,291.78	428,041.57
10,095,706.52	536,858.30
	-8,153,763.57

Sept.

Oct

Nov.



Dec.

Jan

Feb.

March

April

May

June

July

OTHER FUNDS

BOND Fund

- For 2026-27 I'm proposing \$ 1,920,000 we will get in property taxes and our payments will be \$1,538,967. The bond levy would be a at .082.
- Our last bond payment for the middle school is December 2027- The hope is to have enough collected to pay that off in the 2026-2027 school year.
- Our total payoff of the MS bond is \$2,823,967
- We have \$1,600,000 in the bank to make the December 26 payment.
-

QUALIFIED CAPITAL PURPOSES UNDERTAKING FUND

- Options- Do we look at another QCPUF bond?
- Our last QCPUF bond was 1.2 million- 10 year bond with \$176,000 payments.
- I do have to count dollars toward safety ect. If we don't have a QCPUF bond.
- We can tax up to \$0.03- \$705,000 per year

COOPERATIVE FUND

- The Cooperative Fund is a pass through account for Sixpence. We are the fiscal agent so the money will run through our budget. If we use this fund, it has no impact on our state aid, or levy/expenditure limits for any of the three school districts. We did receive a grant again this year so we will need to budget again. We increase the amount because when we get paid may not fall in line with our budget year.

SPECIAL BUILDING FUND

- Last year we levied \$400,000 at \$.02.
- This year the proposal is .03 - \$682,000

PROPERTY TAX AND LEVY IMPACT

What does a Penny Generate?

Last year a penny will generate \$219,000

This year a penny will generate \$ 235,000

PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX IMPACT FOR ALL TAXABLE FUNDS-

2025-2026 Budget Information					
2025-2026 Operating Budget	2025-2026 Proposed Property Tax Request	Proposed 2025 Tax Rate	Change in Tax Rate	Change in Operating Budget	
26,535,948.00	13,891,980.00	0.633830	-5%	4%	General Bond
1,950,300.00	1,818,182.00	0.082956	3%	-4%	
		0.000000	#DIV/0!	0	
		0.000000	#DIV/0!	0	
		0.000000	#DIV/0!	0	
918,775.00	444,444.00	0.020278	1%	-6%	Special Build QCPUF
-	-	0.000000	#DIV/0!	-100%	
		0.000000	#DIV/0!	0	
		0.000000	#DIV/0!	0	
29,405,023.00	16,154,606.00	0.737064	-4%	3%	Total

25-26

2026-2027 Budget Information					
2026-2027 Operating Budget	2026-2027 Proposed Property Tax Request	Proposed 2026 Tax Rate	Change in Tax Rate	Change in Operating Budget	
27,127,134.00	14,022,880.00	0.596543	-6%	2%	
3,899,561.00	1,939,394.00	0.082503	-1%	100%	
		0.000000	#DIV/0!	0	
		0.000000	#DIV/0!	0	
		0.000000	#DIV/0!	0	
25,511,790.00	688,889.00	0.029306	45%	2677%	
-	-	0.000000	#DIV/0!	0	
		0.000000	#DIV/0!	0	
		0.000000	#DIV/0!	0	
56,538,485.00	16,651,163.00	0.708352	-4%	92%	

26-27

PROPERTY TAX ASKING HISTORY

Fiscal Year	General Fund Property Tax Asking	Change	Percentage Change
2015-2016	\$12,165,810.00	#REF!	#REF!
2016-2017	\$12,264,498.87	\$98,688.87	0.81%
2017-2018	\$12,545,826.14	\$281,327.27	2.29%
2018-2019	\$12,730,870.00	\$185,043.86	1.47%
2019-2020	\$13,245,248.00	\$514,378.00	4.04%
2020-2021	\$13,750,299.00	\$505,051.00	3.81%
2021-2022	\$14,094,055.00	\$343,756.00	2.50%
2022-2023	\$14,949,495.00	\$855,440.00	6.07%
2023-2024	\$13,350,505.00	-\$1,598,990.00	-10.70%
2024-2025	\$13,451,515.00	\$101,010.00	0.76%
2025-2026	\$13,891,980.00	\$440,465.00	3.27%
2026-2027	\$14,253,183.00	\$361,203.00	2.60%
Fiscal Year	Total Property Tax Asking (all funds)	Change	Percent Change
2015-2016	\$14,548,662.00	#REF!	#REF!
2016-2017	\$14,747,300.87	\$198,638.87	1.37%
2017-2018	\$14,921,251.00	\$173,950.13	1.18%
2018-2019	\$15,025,859.00	\$278,558.13	0.70%
2019-2020	\$15,409,985.00	\$488,734.00	2.56%
2020-2021	\$15,573,721.00	\$163,736.00	1.06%
2021-2022	\$16,013,220.00	\$439,499.00	2.82%
2022-2023	\$16,678,232.00	\$665,012.00	4.15%
2023-2024	\$15,138,384.00	-\$1,539,848.00	-9.23%
2024-2025	\$15,471,717.00	\$333,333.00	2.20%
2025-2026	\$16,154,606.00	\$682,889.00	4.41%
2026-2027	\$16,644,092.00	\$489,486.00	3.03%

Seward Public Schools (80-0009) in Seward County, Nebraska

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given, in compliance with the provisions of State Statute Section 77-1632, that the governing body will meet on the 14th day of, September 2026 at Immediately following the 5:30 P.M. Budget Hearing , at Seward Public Schools District Office-410 South Street, Seward, NE 68434 for the purpose of hearing support, opposition, criticism, suggestions or observations of taxpayers relating to setting the final tax request.

	2025-2026	2026-2027	Change						
Property Valuations	2,191,752,753	2,350,688,840	7%						
	2025-2026 Budget Information				2026-2027 Budget Information				
Fund	2025-2026 Operating Budget	2025-2026 Property Tax Request	2025 Tax Rate	Property Tax Rate (2025-2026 Request Divided By 2026 Valuation)	2026-2027 Operating Budget	2026-2027 Proposed Property Tax Request	Proposed 2026 Tax Rate	Change in Tax Rate	Change in Operating Budget
General Fund	26,535,948.00	13,891,980.00	0.633830	0.590975	27,127,134.00	14,022,880.00	0.596543	-6%	2%
Bond Fund(s) K - 12	1,950,300.00	1,818,182.00	0.082956	0.077347	3,899,561.00	1,939,394.00	0.082503	-1%	100%
Bond Fund(s) K - 8			0.000000	0.000000			0.000000	#DIV/0!	0
Bond Fund(s) 9 - 12			0.000000	0.000000			0.000000	#DIV/0!	0
Bond Fund			0.000000	0.000000			0.000000	#DIV/0!	0
Special Building Fund	918,775.00	444,444.00	0.020278	0.018907	25,511,790.00	688,889.00	0.029306	45%	2677%
Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Fund K - 12			0.000000	0.000000	-	-	0.000000	#DIV/0!	0
Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Fund K - 8			0.000000	0.000000			0.000000	#DIV/0!	0
Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Fund 9 - 12			0.000000	0.000000			0.000000	#DIV/0!	0
Total	29,405,023.00	16,154,606.00	0.737063	0.687229	56,538,485.00	16,651,163.00	0.708352	-4%	92%

SUMMARY

- General Fund –3% increase to our general fund for staff/insurance costs. As a reminder salary/insurance increase will be around \$ 600,000 for staff
- Bond Fund – We will be able to pay off Middle School Bond I hope in June 2027 and will budget for new bond 27/28 budget year.
- Special Building Fund: I have it at .03 to keep the overall ask at \$688,889
- Total tax asking 3.0% increase.
- No Pink Postcard-

School District of Seward
Staff Item for Placement on School
Board Agenda

I request the following item or items be placed on the Seward Board of Education agenda for the September meeting.

The title of the agenda item and the request: Out-of-state travel for National FCCLA

Pertinent Background Information:

National FCCLA will be hosted in San Antonio, Texas, June 22-26th. If students qualify at State, they are able to compete at the National Level. During this conference, students will learn essential skills to enhance their personal and professional growth, such as effective communication, team building, and problem solving.

Celeste Brandenburg 8/3/26
Name of Staff Member Date

Principal's Comments:

[Signature] 8/3/26
Principal's Signature Date