

David City Public School Board of Education
Regular Board Meeting
Wednesday, May 14, 2025 7:00 PM
High School Board Meeting Room
750 D St.
David City, NE 68632-1724

1. Call Meeting to Order
 - 1.1. Pledge of Allegiance
 - 1.2. Open Meetings Statement
 - 1.3. Attendance/Absence Approval
2. Student and Staff Involvement
 - 2.1. HAL Presentation
3. Public Forum
4. Consent Agenda
 - 4.1. Approve Minutes of the Previous Meeting(s).
 - 4.2. Approve Claims Against the District
 - 4.3. Financial Reports
5. Board Committee Reports
6. Board Workshop/Conference Reports
7. Administrative Reports
 - 7.1. Dr. Denker
 - 7.2. Mr. Couch
 - 7.3. Mr. Lindsley
 - 7.4. Ms. Greenfield

7.5. Ms. Romshek

7.6. Ms. Daniels

7.7. Mr. Hermelbracht

8. Discussion and Action Items

8.1. Discuss, consider, and take action on early graduation request(s).

8.2. Discuss, consider, and take action on the appointment of a student board member starting the 2025-26 school year.

8.3. Discuss, consider, and take action on updated policy 5205 graduation requirements.

8.4. Discuss, consider, and take action on updated breakfast and lunch prices for the 2025-26 school year.

8.5. Discuss summer admin/board retreat and possible dates.

9. Personnel

9.1. Discuss, consider, and take action on the superintendent's request to live outside of the school district.

10. Future Discussion and Action Items

11. Adjournment

David City Public School Board of Education
Regular Board Meeting
Wednesday, April 9, 2025 7:00 PM
Bellwood Elem Media Center
612 Park St
Bellwood, NE 68624

Notice of the meeting was given in advance by publication and posting to meet the legal requirements for public notice of meeting. The meeting notice was published in the Banner Press and/or Columbus Telegram, publications established for general circulation within the district and posted on the front door of each school building and the David City Post Office. Notice of this meeting was given in advance to all members of the Board of Education. A current copy of the agenda for said meeting was available in the Superintendent's office and the district's website. 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.

1. Call Meeting to Order

Stephanie Summers called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

1.1. Pledge of Allegiance

Stephanie Summers asked all attendees to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.2. Open Meetings Statement

Stephanie Summers informed all attendees that a copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Law was posted and available for inspection.

1.3. Attendance/Absence Approval

All board members and administration were in attendance.

2. Student and Staff Involvement

Student Board Member Addison Rands submitted a written report.

2.1. New Band Uniforms Presentation

Joseph Brumm and two band members presented new band uniforms.

3. Public Forum

No public forum

4. Consent Agenda

4.1. Approve Minutes of the Previous Meeting(s).

4.2. Approve Claims Against the District

Dr. Denker discussed this month's claims with the district as provided.

4.3. Financial Reports

Dr. Denker discussed the financial reports as provided.

Marcus Thoendel made the motion to approved consent agenda items 4.1-4.3.

Donnie Moravec seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

5. Board Committee Reports

None reported

6. Board Workshop/Conference Reports

None reported

7. Administrative Reports

7.1. Dr. Denker

7.2. Mr. Couch

7.3. Mr. Lindsley

7.4. Ms. Greenfield

7.5. Ms. Romshek

7.6. Ms. Daniels

7.7. Mr. Hermelbracht

All Admin submitted written reports to the board.

8. Discussion and Action Items

8.1. Discuss, consider, and take action on updated policy 8232.

Kasey Kuhlman made the motion to approve the updated policy 8232 as provided. Marcus Thoendel seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

8.2. Discuss, consider, and take action on summer meal assistance program.

Kasey Kuhlman made the motion to approve to have Dr. Denker adjust the summer meal assistance program at his discretion, due to school kitchens being under renovation this summer. The assistance will be limited to families who were part of our backpack program during the 2024-25 school year. Justin Krafka seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

9. Personnel

9.1. Discuss, consider, and take action on new teacher contracts for the 2025-26 school year.

Marcus Thoendel made the motion to approve Amy Sander and Olivia Drozd teacher contracts for the 2025-26 school year. Donnie Moravec seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

10. Future Discussion and Action Items

Board retreat

Early graduation requests

Student board member

11. Adjournment

Donnie Moravec made the motion to adjourn at 7:46pm. Kasey Kuhlman seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

David City Public School Board of Education
Special Board Meeting
Wednesday, April 23, 2025 8:00 AM
Board Meeting Room at the High School
750 D St.
David City, NE 68632-1724

Notice of the meeting was given in advance by publication and posting to meet the legal requirements for public notice of meeting. The meeting notice was published in the Banner Press and/or Columbus Telegram, publications established for general circulation within the district and posted on the front door of each school building and the David City Post Office. Notice of this meeting was given in advance to all members of the Board of Education. A current copy of the agenda for said meeting was available in the Superintendent's office and the district's website. 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.

1. Call Meeting to Order

Stephanie Summers called the meeting to order at 8:00am.

1.1. Pledge of Allegiance

Stephanie Summers asked all attendees to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.2. Open Meetings Statement

Stephanie Summers informed all attendees that a copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Law was posted and available for inspection.

1.3. Attendance/Absence Approval

All board members and Dr. Denker were in attendance.

2. Discussion and Action Items

2.1. Discuss, consider, and take action on the high school roof replacement bid.

Donnie Moravec made the motion to approve the bid from Weathercraft for the high school partial roof replacement bid. Marcus Thoendel seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

2.2. Discuss, consider, and take action on a 48-month copier lease.

Kasey Kuhlman made the motion to approve the bid from Eakes for the 48-month copier lease. Justin Krafka seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

3. Public Forum

No public forum.

4. Adjournment

Stephanie Summers made the motion to adjourn at 8:07am. Donnie Moravec seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

DC Supt Monthly Board Report
May 2025
Chad Denker, Supt

NASB and Strategic Plan Timeline

NASB will present the findings at our June board meeting. They just shared a preliminary report with the admin team and will share it with the school improvement team on Wed May 14.

Personnel

We are currently looking for an admin asst at the high school and some paras. We probably won't advertise for the para positions until the end of June.

Staff Recognition Banquet

Thank you for attending. The support is greatly appreciated. A special thanks to Stephanie Summers for helping plan the Family Feud.

Professional Development

We have scheduled Amplify CKLA training on Wed Aug 6, 2025, so we help ensure we are teaching the curriculum with fidelity. We have also scheduled Marzano training on Mon Sept 29, 2025, and Mon Jan 5, 2026. At least 75% of certified staff have not had official Marzano training since the last time we brought them to campus.

Rural School Achievement Program (REAP) Grant

DCPS is eligible to apply for the Rural School Achievement Program (REAP) grant for the first time. The deadline to submit an application is June 13.

Community Eligibility Program

DCPS is checking to see if we will qualify as a district for free meals for next year through the Community Eligibility Program (CEP). The paperwork has been submitted so we are just waiting to hear and to see what the reimbursement rate would be.

Board Report
Mr. Couch
May 12, 2025

You've heard me say it before, but the prospect of successfully finishing up one year while simultaneously planning for the next one is a challenging proposition. Students are more wound up than ever. Teachers are more tired than ever. Everybody is so close to a break, but there's so much to do between now and then. Welcome to May!

Graduation Requirements

I'm asking the Board to make a change to 5205R. Instead of 10 credits of Information Technology Applications I, I would like it to be 5 credits. This would also necessitate a change from 85 elective credits to 90 elective credits in order to keep us at a total of 265. There are a few reasons I would like to do this. First, by making Info Tech a semester class, it's going to open up space in students' schedules for Intro-level classes when they're freshmen. This will, in turn, make it more likely that students will be able to complete an entire CTE pathway during their high school career. The change to five credits of Info Tech corresponds with what the State Requirement is (also 5 credits of Info Tech), so it's not like we're slacking off in any area. This will also open up Morgan Styskal's schedule so that she can take all of the Intro to Business sections from Jenna Didier, which will then open Jenna's schedule up a bit so we can add Accounting II to Jenna's class schedule. Last year, we weren't able to offer Accounting II. With this change, we would always be able to offer it.

Creative Writing

In other planning news, I have been working with Payton DeMers-Sahling on adding a Creative Writing course for 8th graders next year. This would be a new class. It would take the place of 8th grade Explore Family and Consumer Science. Again, there are a few reasons I want to do this. First, our test scores are generally fine, but I continue to be frustrated with our writing scores. They're not tragically bad, but we're also not seeing as much movement as I would like. By adding a Creative Writing course at the MS level, I think it sets our students up to be stronger writers going into high school. In any event, it's hard to imagine that it would have a negative effect. Even if the Creative Writing class doesn't boost our scores right away, we're not harming anyone by getting more practice with writing. Here are a few nuts and bolts of the class for those who are interested:

Creative Writing. 9 week course. 8th Grade.

Standards Alignment: Nebraska ELA Standards (focus LA 8.W, LA 8.RL, LA 8.V)

Course Description: This course develops students' creative writing abilities through the study of short stories, poems, and creative nonfiction. Students will analyze mentor texts and apply literary elements, figurative language, and voice in their own writing. The course culminates in a polished portfolio of original student work.

Week 1 – Introduction to Creative Writing & Voice

Week 2 – Personal Narrative

Week 3 – Short Story (Plot and Conflict)

Week 4 – Character and Setting

Week 5 – Dialogue and Point of View

Week 6 – Poetry and Figurative Language
Week 7 – Flash Fiction and Micro Memoirs
Week 8 – Revision and Peer Review
Week 9 – Final Portfolio and Presentations

Also, I mentioned that this class would be taking the place of 8 Explore FACS. This will open up Mr. Martinez's schedule to add another high school FCS class. We will be adding another section of Fundamentals of Foods and Nutrition, which is a class that many students have requested. We would have had to turn away students. Now, everybody who wants the Fundamentals course will be able to take it. In my view this is a win-win.

Graduation

It's nearly impossible to believe that graduation will take place on Saturday. I'd like the Board to take time to reflect on how wonderful and unique this class of seniors have been. They have made this such an enjoyable year at DCHS. I always say that as the seniors go, the high school will go. The Class of 2025 has been exemplary in many regards. We have honors night this week, followed by the Seniors' last day of school on Wednesday. District Track on Thursday, followed by Graduation Rehearsal on Friday. Our seniors will take time to do a Senior Walk through the elementary schools (Bellwood on Thursday, DCE on Friday). The Graduation Ceremony will be on Saturday at 1:00. If there are any Board Members who would like to be seated on stage, just let me know, and we will have a spot for you. I encourage you to come celebrate the very best we have to offer if you have the opportunity to do so. I will miss these seniors very much. GO SCOUTS!

David City High School FCCLA Chapter Celebrates a Remarkable Year of Leadership, Achievement, and Growth

The Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) chapter at David City High School is proud to celebrate an exciting and successful year filled with leadership development, competitive excellence, and meaningful student involvement. Throughout the 2024-2025 school year, our chapter took part in several major events that offered students valuable experiences and opportunities to grow. In the fall, members attended the Fall Leadership Workshop, the District Leadership Conference, and the District STAR Competition, where they showcased their skills and commitment to personal and professional growth. At each of these events, members were able to learn new skills, gain meaningful information that they could bring back to their school and community, and show off their unique talents. A highlight of the year came when six students qualified for the State Leadership Conference after outstanding performances at the District STAR level. At the state level, four of those students advanced to the FCCLA National STAR Competition in Orlando, Florida, a tremendous honor that reflects their hard work and dedication. Even more impressive, every STAR competitor this year received a gold at both the District and State levels, something the David City FCCLA Chapter has not done before. In addition to these achievements, we are thrilled to announce that Ellie Bales was elected to serve on the 2025-2026 Nebraska FCCLA State Officer Team. Ellie's selection is a testament to her leadership and passion for FCCLA, and we are incredibly proud to see her represent our chapter at the state level. We know that she will make Scout nation proud. Overall, FCCLA is more than just a club—it's a dynamic youth organization that helps members develop essential life skills such as leadership, teamwork, communication, and goal setting. Through real-world learning experiences, FCCLA empowers students to become strong leaders in their families, careers, and communities. As we wrap up on an outstanding year, we are already looking forward to what's ahead. We are committed to growing our chapter even more in the 2025-2026 school year and welcoming new members who are eager to make a difference. Joining FCCLA is easy—students simply need to attend any chapter meeting of the school year and pay their membership dues to get involved. David City FCCLA continues to inspire, lead, and achieve—and we can't wait to see what the future holds. For more information about joining FCCLA, contact Mr. Martinez or watch for announcements at the start of the 2025-2026 school year.



Chad Lindsley
Board Report
5/14/2025

I can't believe the end of the school year is near and how fast the year has gone! This past month has been extremely busy as it is every year at this time of year. Below I have highlighted a few things of note below.

- The March/April newsletter has been published and mailed out to our families. I have attached a copy of it with this report for your reference. Thank you to all the teachers that have provided articles and content for our families.
- We are winding down MAPS testing with our 9th and 10th grade students. We only have a few tests to finish.
- With the certified observations completed for this school year I have started working on the few classified evaluations I have to do. Our classified staff does such a wonderful job making sure the needs of our students and district are met.
- The staff banquet was another great night to honor our awesome staff. It does not hurt that the food was fantastic.
- Our awards night is always a special night honoring our students and all their accomplishments. Our students are doing some great things!
- The band and choir put on a great show at their spring concert. Mr. Brumm always does a great job preparing our students and showcasing their talents.
- I am really looking forward to graduation on Saturday. It is an event I always cherish as I love seeing our students receive their diplomas.
- I have almost finalized everything for 6th grade transition day on May 20. The middle school leadership team will help that day by either helping the groups get from one place to the next or serve on the student panel.

David City Elementary May 2024-25 Board Report

Kindergarten Roundup

Kindergarten Round-Up was held on April 15th from 5:30 to 6:30 PM. This year, we piloted a new format by hosting the event in the evening instead of cancelling Kindergarten classes for the day. The change was well received by families and staff, with 32 students attending. Based on the positive feedback and strong turnout, we will most likely continue the evening format in future years.

State Farm Donation

A huge thank you to Steve Hicks, our local State Farm Agent, for his generous donation of 25 full-size backpacks to David City Elementary. These backpacks will be distributed to students in need, helping ensure they're prepared and confident for school. In addition, Steve also donated 25 smaller backpacks the perfect size for classroom medical kits. Our amazing PTO is stepping up to fill them with essentials like band-aids, gloves, a bottle of water, and other first-aid supplies. These kits will be available for teachers to take along on field trips and other outings, adding an extra layer of safety and preparedness.

Spring Assessments

All spring NSCAS, MAP, and DIBELS assessments are now complete. As we know, these assessments offer just a snapshot of student performance and can be influenced by a range of academic, social-emotional, environmental, and instructional factors. Assessments aren't just about scores—they are tools that help us:

- Track student growth over time
- Reflect on the effectiveness of our instruction
- Identify both strengths and areas for support

When used thoughtfully, assessment data allows us to make informed instructional decisions, ensuring every student receives the support they need to thrive. Over the next few weeks, we'll be diving into the data and making targeted adjustments to strengthen instruction and promote student achievement.

David City Elementary and Bellwood Spring Music Concert

The David City Elementary and Bellwood Spring Music Concert was held on Tuesday, May 6, 2025, featuring students in grades 4 through 6. The evening began with a performance by the 5th and 6th grade band, under the direction of Mr. Brumm. Their talent and preparation were evident as they set the tone for the evening with a strong instrumental showing.

Following the band, Mrs. Kozisek led the 4th through 6th grade students in a wonderful vocal performance. The students sang with enthusiasm and heart, providing a memorable experience for families and guests. Thank you to all who attended and supported our young musicians!

HAL Day

Ms. Roemmich will host her fourth HAL (High Ability Learner) Day of the school year on Tuesday, May 13th. The event takes place at the SAC Museum in Ashland, NE where students will participate in the traveling exhibit "Mission Astronaut!" Students will delve into the fascinating world of space and aviation, exploring aircraft and space exhibits that bring aviation history and space missions to life. Then they will join a STEM Educator in an interactive classroom experience, applying engineering and science principles through engaging, hands-on challenges. After lunch, students will then have the opportunity to explore other exhibits in the museum.

5th to 6th Grade Transition Day

Bellwood 5th graders visited David City Elementary to take part in our annual Transition Day program. This special day is designed to help ease the transition to 6th grade by introducing students to the DCE staff and familiarizing them with their new building for the upcoming school year. The day was filled with engaging activities planned by the 5th grade teachers, including classroom fun, lunch, recess, and music concert practice. It was a great opportunity for students to build connections and gain confidence before entering 6th grade at DCE.

David City Elementary 6th graders will have their own transition experience on May 20th from 8:30 to 11:00 AM, when they head to the Middle School to learn more about what to expect next fall.

Walk/Bike to School Day

Many students participated in our spring Walk/Bike to School Day on Wednesday, May 7th. This fun event promotes healthy habits and safe travel to school. We were excited to have local police officers on hand, handing out stickers and engaging with students on the playground before the school day began. Thank you to everyone who participated and helped make the day a success!

Pajama Day Fundraiser

Students and staff participated in a cozy Pajama Day fundraiser on Thursday, May 8th. Everyone was invited to wear their favorite pajamas to school in support of a great cause. All funds raised from the event go directly to support the Backpack Program, which helps provide meals and snacks for students in need. Thank you to everyone who contributed and made the day both fun and meaningful!

PBiS

The David City Elementary team is proud to share that we've handed out an impressive 5,746 positive tickets so far this year! In addition, 39 students have been recognized with our Future World Changer Award, celebrating those who go above and beyond in modeling outstanding behavior. Each day, our staff continues to look for students who demonstrate what it means to be safe, respectful, and responsible—and who are also learning to own their actions when mistakes happen. These are important life skills we're proud to help nurture. Our final Scout Camp Day of the year is scheduled for Thursday, May 22 2025. We look forward to ending the year strong and celebrating all the great choices our students are making!

Summer School

David City Elementary will not be offering the Summer Jumpstart Program typically held in July each year. Due to a lack of teaching staff and grant funding, we will need to discontinue the program. Another factor that went into this decision was poor student attendance over the 10 days. As a result, student data did not show signs of improvement. Given the limited staffing, poor attendance, and lack of significant impact on student achievement, the administration does not feel the program is the best use of district resources at this time.

May Newsletter [Link](#)

Mrs. Greenfield,
David City Elementary Principal

Bellwood Board of Education Report
May 2025

It's crazy to think that we are in the final few days of the 2024-25 school year. Overall, it has been a very positive year with so many highlights. This time of year there is so much going on that it is difficult to include it all, so below are some of the highlights from the past month.

Community Events

As you know, Bellwood Elementary hosts several community events throughout the year. In the last month, we have wrapped up our community events with the following events.

- On April 14th we held Breakfast with a Buddy. This is where preschool students get to invite up to 2 guests for breakfast. Because preschool eats at a separate time from the rest of the school, we hold a special event just for them. This also gives family members a time to watch opening circle in the classroom and see what preschool is all about.
- Bellwood Elementary's annual Family Walk Night was held on Tuesday April 22nd. This year, we partnered with the Bellwood American Legion and Legion Auxiliary to make it a community event. Families walked around town for about 30 minutes and then ended at the Legion Hall where they had arranged for bike safety and fire truck rides. The American Legion Auxiliary provided a light supper as well.
- Our VIP Breakfast was held on May 8th. This is where K-5 students get to invite a female role model to breakfast (mom, grandma, etc.). We purposefully plan this event the week before Mother's Day. We had an amazing turnout.



Yearly Events The following events that take place one time per year took place in the last month.

- Bellwood's Kindergarten Round-Up was held on April 14th at 5:30 pm. At this point in time, we will have 9 students who will be in kindergarten at Bellwood Elementary for the 2025-26 school year. Of course, these numbers could change over the summer.
- The 5th to 6th grade transition day was held on May 6th. This gives Bellwood 5th grade students an opportunity to attend school in David City, tour the elementary, and get to know who will be their classmates the following year. The 5th grade teachers do a great job planning this event.
- Spring Concert - The Bellwood Elementary 4th and 5th graders participated in the district's Spring Concert on May 6th. The Bellwood elementary students did a great job performing with the other 5th and 6th grade students in band. This is different for them as they practice individually or in small groups. To be able to perform in the large group with only one practice is tough, but they did great. All students did a great job singing as well.
- Our Spring Walk/Bike to School was held on May 7th. In Bellwood, we have students walk or ride their bikes around the section by the Veterans Memorial until we are ready for them to head to school as a group. The students love this event and look forward to it. With our bus schedule, we have to have staff downtown by 7:10 am, but staff enjoy this event as well and are willing to assist.



Field Trips

In the past month, we have had several grade levels go on their field trip for the year. We have a few field trips this week and then they will be complete for the 2024-25 school year.

- April 30th - The third grade class went to the Henry Doorly Zoo in Omaha. The teachers submit a proposal to the zoo to get this field trip paid for since we are both Title I buildings.



- May 5th - The kindergarten students went to a Dairy by Wahoo and to AKRS in David City. Farming is one of the units in the kindergarten reading curriculum, so this fits right in with what students learned earlier in the year.
- May 13th - The elementary HAL students from both buildings will be going to the SAC museum by Ashland.
- May 14th - The 1st grade class will be going to the Lincoln Children's Zoo.
- May 15th - The 3rd grade class will be going to the Butler County Historical Museum as a local field trip to go with their social studies unit.



State and District-Wide Testing

We have concluded our state and district wide testing for the 2024-25 school year. It has been good to analyze the results and look at the progress students have made throughout the course of the school year.

Remaining End of the School Year Activities

We have the following end of the school year activities remaining.

- 3-5 Track and Field Day is Friday, May 16th from 10:50 am - 3:00 pm
- FFA Barnyard is on Friday, May 16th
- K-2 Track and Field Day is Monday, May 19th from 12:30 to 3:00 pm
- End of year Awards Assembly: Tuesday, May 20 from 2 to 3:30
- Attendance Celebration for Students have missed 5 days of school or less: May 21 at 2:30
 - This is the day that the students who have missed 5 days of school or less for the entire school year get to SLIME THE PRINCIPAL.
 - The Bellwood PTO is also paying for a Shaved Ice truck to come to school and treat the students who have missed 5 days of school or less as well as the staff.
- Bellwood Elementary's End of The School Year celebration is Thursday, May 22nd.
 - As usual, we have some great things planned at Bellwood Elementary to celebrate the end of the school year. The Bellwood PTO is paying for two different activities on this day to make it special for students. Linked here is the agenda for the last day that we will show students next week and send to parents. [Link to activities.](#)

Teacher Appreciation Week

May 5th through the 9th we celebrated teacher and staff appreciation week. I worked with the Bellwood PTO to plan events for each day of the week. The staff were spoiled with gifts, drinks, food, etc. Several staff members commented how they really enjoyed the week and it was a great boost to keep them motivated through the end of the school year. On Friday the 9th, the PTO had planned a breakfast for the staff. They decorated the lounge and turned it into a "Bon Voyage Breakfast" honoring Mrs. Grosc on her retirement. We hung a picture up of Mrs. Grosc's first and last class in the lounge. It was a nice way to end the week.



A special thanks to the Board of Education for treating staff to Scouts Bites and Brews on Friday of staff appreciation week. Because of logistics, the Bellwood staff have not been able to purchase items from this business except on our PD Day. Therefore, it was extra special that they could try the treats from this school based business, and that you made arrangements for Tammie Zitek to deliver them to Bellwood. Thanks so much! The Bellwood staff truly appreciated this kind gesture.

May Newsletter

- Here is a [link](#) to the Bellwood Elementary Newsletter for May.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Peggy Romshek
Bellwood Elementary Principal

5/09/2025

School Board Report: Special Education

Submitted by: Kari Daniels

There is a great deal of uncertainty at the federal and state levels regarding the future of public education. We know that they are in the process of dismantling the Department of Education at the federal level. This, of course, is leaving many of us in special education with some uncertainty regarding its funding and oversight moving forward. I was somewhat relieved when a letter from the Executive Office of the President came out on May 2, 2025 and indicated that there were no immediate proposed changes in the funding for special education in the upcoming 2026 budget proposal (<https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/Fiscal-Year-2026-Discretionary-Budget-Request.pdf>) This is something those of us in regular and special education should be watching closely. The thing that we must always remember is that students with special needs are regular education students first.

Department of Education (ED)		
Program Name	\$ Change from 2025 Enacted (in millions)	Brief Description of Program and Recommended Reduction or Increase
Special Education Simplified Funding Program	--	The Budget delivers on the President's promise to preserve special education funding, while simplifying the workload to reduce the Federal footprint. The Special Education Simplified Funding Program consolidates seven Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) programs to provide States and school districts greater flexibility to support students with special education needs, maintaining funding at the 2025 level. The consolidation furthers the Administration's goal of limiting the Federal role in education by reducing the number of programs at ED, the number of staff needed to administer them, and the administrative burden on States so more dollars go to students instead of bureaucrats. Parents of students with disabilities would remain empowered to direct these funds because the Federal IDEA law would remain in place; maintaining a base set of Federal funds means they can also be withdrawn from States and districts who flout parental rights.

Here in David City, we are seeing matching t-shirts, so we can find our friends on a field trip, and red, sweaty faces from epic soccer tournaments at recess. The majority of our testing is completed and students have earned their breaks and field trips. Make no mistake however, students are still busy learning. In the world of special education, we are still evaluating students for services, holding meetings and writing IEPs. We are still working to meet our IEP minutes until the end of the school year. It is an exciting and busy time of year. Caseloads have been determined and the shock of having to clean out treasures, stored in other offices, is beginning to set in. We are excited for the opportunities that 2025-2026 will bring and thankful for all of the lessons and connections that were made in 2024-2025.

All Scouts Have Power

Activities Director Board Report 5/14/25

ESports

- Esports ended their successful season with a trip to the State Championships hosted by Doane University on Friday, 4/12.
- Spring State Esports Results Valorant - 3rd place
- Rocket League 1 - State Champions
- Rocket League 2 - 4th place
- Mario Kart - 3rd place
- Fortnite - State Champions
- The team received the Divisional Cup for the 3rd year in a row. This award goes to as the most successful team in our division!

MS Speech

- The Middle School Speech team ended their season at the Raymond Central MS Speech Invite. The middle school team finished in 5th place. Individuals medals- Humorous: Cara - 4th, John -6th Serious: Omar - 3rd, Duet: Cara & Alexis - 5th, Impromptu: Omar - 1st, OID: Olivia, Lindsey, McKenzie, Avery - 4th, Informative: Alaina - 2nd

Track and Field

- Most recently competed at the SNC track meet hosted by Tri County. Multiple girls and boys received medals in their individual events and relays. The girls' team finished as the conference Runner-up, while the boys' team finished in seventh place. Both teams are preparing for the District C-6 Track Meet on May 15th at David City.

MS Track

- The middle school team ended their season at the SNC Middle School Track meet hosted by Centennial, where the girls' team finished tied for 11th place and the boys 9th.

Golf

- Jesse Divis finished in 3rd place at the SNC Golf tournament. They will compete at the District Meet hosted by West Point - Beemer at the Indian Trails Golf Course in Beemer on Monday, May 19th.

Music Band

- The Middle School and High School Spring Concert was held on May 6th. Both bands and choirs sounded amazing. Mr. Brumm does an amazing job preparing his students.

FFA

- FFA will be hosting the FFA barnyard on Friday, May 16th. Mrs. Mesuch has done an excellent job in her first year as the FFA sponsor.

Other notes :

Final Forms:

David City Public will be using Final Forms to track and collect student forms (7-12) and teacher certifications starting June 1st. This program will allow us to better track and organize all student and teacher forms. Currently, These forms are collected and tracked on multiple spreadsheets. Final forms will digitize these forms and collect them in one spot. Students will sign up for sports in Final Forms, coaches then will receive rosters with their students and know what students have all their forms turned in and are cleared to participate. A big thank you to Angie, as she is the one loading students and teachers into this program.

Wellness Committee

The wellness committee met for the third time on April 17th. The goal this year was to increase student involvement within the wellness committee. The goal was achieved by incorporating student wellness topics into the elementary leadership teams and Stay-U. The elementary's implemented movement challenges in the second semester. Stay-U started having a wellness topic during their monthly Stay-U meetings. Our goals going forward into next school year will be geared towards educating students with monthly wellness flyers/ information along with increasing student movement throughout the school day.

David City Public Schools

December 18, 2024

Dear Mr. Courtney Couch,

As my senior year is approaching right around the corner. I am writing this letter to you and the Board of Education in permission to graduate early in the 2025-2026 school year at first semester. Being a student at David City Public Schools has been an honor. The staff, students, and teachers have all made me feel welcomed as if I have been here since preschool. I have loved the time I have had with all of my classmates. The memories I have made here are the ones that I will forever cherish.

Although my time here has not been long enough. Many students would say that they are not ready to take on the next biggest milestone, college. I have always maintained my focus and kept up with the curriculum. Even when the academic expectations were challenging, I did not settle for anything less than my highest potential.

I am requesting to be able to graduate early so I can get a head start on my college education and get some experience in the career I want to pursue. I am planning to go to Northeast Community College and go into Nursing. After becoming a Registered Nurse (RN) I plan to continue my education to become a Flight Nurse. In today's world I understand the need and importance it is to have health care providers and the sooner I can focus and study for my future I feel it would better the ones who need me there and for myself.

While I understand it is important to get all the education I can in high school. The classes I have taken over the years were the ones that prepared me to get to where I am today. In conclusion, I hope you take into consideration of my request. I am looking forward to the next year at David City Public to prepare myself for the future even more then I already have.

Go Scouts!

Sincerely,



Kenadi J. Hotovy

As parents of Kenadi J. Hotovy we request that she be allowed to graduate ahead of her present class, assuming that all graduation requirements are fulfilled.



(Parents Signature)

November 18, 2024

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing this letter at the request of Kenadi Hotovy. Kenadi has shared with me that she would like to graduate early and therefore has asked me to write a letter on her behalf. I think she would be an excellent candidate for early graduation. She is very hard working, asks questions whenever she is not fully understanding a concept, and is very polite to myself and her classmates. When she doesn't understand something or needs additional clarification, she works even harder to either figure it out on her own or seeks out a way to solve the problem elsewhere. In addition, she is always looking for ways to improve her grade whether that is fixing errors made or coming in access for additional help. And because of her strong work ethic, I have no doubt she will be able to translate that hard work to her future plans.

Moreover, I also think it would be beneficial for Kenadi to graduate early based on her future plans. If she graduates early, she could spend more time working and earning extra money working which will assist her financially when she begins her post-secondary education. She plans to go into nursing, so with the extra schooling that requires, graduating early would help her get a jump start on doing so. I really enjoy Kenadi in class and the work ethic she displays so I have no doubt she will put that same energy and effort into her career goals.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sam Schlautman', written in a cursive style.

Sam Schlautman

December 18, 2024

Dear Members of the David City School Board,

I am writing to offer my recommendation for Kenadi Hotovy, a junior at David City High School, who is seeking approval to graduate a semester early. Having first known Kenadi as my neighbor and later working closely with her to help facilitate her transition into our school district, I can confidently say that she has earned this opportunity, both academically and personally.

When Kenadi transferred to us as a sophomore, she faced significant challenges. Adjusting to a new school environment, leaving behind established friendships, and trying to find a place in athletics and other extracurricular activities was no easy feat. It is never easy to be the "new kid," especially after spending time in another school system one's entire life in the same community, but Kenadi handled the transition with resilience. Though she initially struggled to find her footing in terms of school activities and athletics, she remained determined to make the most of her high school experience and quickly adapted to our school culture.

Over time, Kenadi began to thrive academically and socially. She found her rhythm, not by seeking the spotlight, but by quietly excelling in the classroom and making meaningful connections with peers and faculty alike. While her involvement in athletics and other school organizations may not have been extensive, she has been consistently committed to her academics. Her strong self-discipline, combined with a profound sense of responsibility, has enabled her to consistently maintain a GPA above 3.179.

Throughout her high school career, Kenadi has maintained a clear vision for her future. She is eager to pursue a career in nursing and excited about the opportunity to attend Northeast Community College, with the ultimate goal of becoming a Registered Nurse (RN). Looking ahead, she has set her sights on becoming a Flight Nurse, a specialized role that will require a high level of expertise and dedication. Graduating early will give her the head start she needs to begin her college education and embark on this promising career path sooner.

I have had the privilege of watching Kenadi grow into a determined, responsible, and focused individual, both as my neighbor and as a student at DCHS. She has faced challenges that would have discouraged many, yet she has persevered and demonstrated a maturity beyond her years. Her ambition to start college early, pursue a career in healthcare, and make a meaningful impact in the world is a testament to her drive and character.

It is with complete confidence that I recommend Kenadi Hotovy for early graduation. I believe she is not only ready for the academic challenges of college but also for the personal growth that will come with this next phase of her journey. Kenadi has shown the kind of resilience and determination that will serve her well in all of her future endeavors, and I have no doubts that she will continue to excel in her nursing studies and beyond.

Thank you for your time and consideration in supporting this deserving student.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tiffany Heins". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tiffany Heins

Dear Mr. Couch

Kenadi Hottovy is requesting to graduate at Christmas next year. She is in fine standing academically, and will have the necessary credits to graduate early. I see no reason academically that she not be allowed to graduate after her 7th semester.

Bob Fish
Guidance Counselor
David City High School

David City Public Schools
Student Board Member Application

Name Harrison Blades Grade Level Next Year 11
Address 247 42 Rd, Bellwood Phone 402-276-9306

Male Female Birth Date: 02 / 01 / 2009 Cumulative GPA 4.0

Parent or Guardian's Name(s) Russell and Tiffany Blades

Qualifications and Certification:

The applicant must demonstrate a cumulative "B" average, or 86% and above. He/She must also be on track for graduation.

I certify that I have the necessary qualifications of cumulative grade average and on track for graduation to serve as a student Board member. I affirm that if selected to serve on the Board, I will participate and meet the expectations required of being a student Board member. I agree to abide by the rules and regulations set by the David City Public Schools Board of Education and the state of Nebraska. I understand that failure to abide by these expectations and regulations, or refusal to participate in meetings and events related to this position, will be just cause for dismissal from the Board.

Student Signature Harrison Blades Date April 28, 2025

I certify that the student listed above has the necessary qualifications of cumulative grade average and is on track for graduation.

Administrator Signature Courtney McCord Date May 5, 2025

Attachments:

1. Consent form signed by parent or guardian (at bottom of this sheet).
2. Resume (1 – 2 pages), include a brief statement of your skills and qualifications that enable you to represent the students of David City Public Schools.
3. Write a one-page statement explaining:
 - a. Why you desire to be on the David City Public Schools Board of Education.
 - b. What you hope to accomplish/contribute as a student Board member.

Parental Support:

I understand that the position of David City Public Schools student Board member is a position of responsibility requiring a significant commitment of time and energy. I support my son/daughter in his/her desire to fulfill this position and I agree to allow my child to participate in this activity. I understand that my child has agreed to abide by the rules and regulations set by the David City Public Schools Board of Education and the state of Nebraska. I understand that failure to abide by these expectations and regulations, or refusal to participate in meetings and events related to this position, will be just cause for his or her dismissal from the board.

Parent or Guardian Signature Tiffany Blades Date April 28, 2025

Harrison Blades

Student Board Member

PROFILE

Active Sophomore at David City Public Schools with involvement in various aspects of student life. Successful in maintaining a high GPA while also managing several extra-curricular activities.

EXPERIENCE

Lawncare, Erv Kopp; Columbus, NE— 2025—Present

Basic Lawncare including mowing, brush clearance. I was offered this job by my manager at the concessions for CYBL after working the last two years for him.

Concessions Assistant, CYBL; Columbus, NE — 2023—Present

Over the past two years, I have learned many parts of customer service. This includes time management, working with others, dealing with customers, dealing with cash, and dealing with food. All of which I excelled at.

Detasseling, Buresh Detasseling, Butler County, NE — 2022-2022

I learned how to manage time, find enjoyment in tough situations with others, and deal with physical labor.

EDUCATION

David City Public High School, David City, Nebraska — Sophomore, 4.0 GPA

SKILLS

- Leadership

I often enjoy taking responsibility for others, and trying to help everyone that is participating understand where I'm coming from. I also like to hear what others have to say because it helps me rethink my opinions.

- Time Management

Being involved in many things at once can be overwhelming, however time management is the key. I learned this skill throughout all of my jobs above, and school activities.

- Adaptable

I am very capable of working with adults, my peers, and those younger than me. I understand the varying levels of respect you must show depending on your audience.

Harrison Blades

April 29, 2025

David City School Board
750 D St
David City, NE 68632

Dear School Board Members,

Being apart of David City Public Schools' Board of Education wouldn't just be a position I would desire, but a position that I would honor. Serving on our school board would not only improve my personal skill set, but also improve the quality of education and overall school atmosphere. I care a lot about our school's community and want to make it a better place for all students, staff, and families. Being involved on our school board would allow me to be in the position to directly impact our schools future, and I'm all for it. I believe that this position would heighten my leadership capability.

I want to be respected not because of the things I get done, but for how I got them done. I want to be able to get the opinion of my fellow students to ensure they feel heard. Not only that, but I want to set an example of what a leader is to my peers. I strive to not only know the way to get something done, but also teach and learn from those around me. I want to be the voice for all students, to make sure decisions are well thought out and fair. I believe that by learning from Addi Rands, I can become a well rounded leader for my school.

Sincerely,

Harrison Blades

247 42 RD, BELLWOOD, NE 68624
ADDRESS

DC27BLADESH@DCSCOUTS.ORG
EMAIL

Graduation Requirements

The graduation requirements for David City Public Schools students shall be 265 academic credits.

Students must successfully complete the following course requirements to be eligible for graduation:

40 credits of English

35 credits of Social Science including 10 credits of World History, 5 credits of Geography, 15 credits of American History, and 5 credits of American Government

30 credits of Math including 10 credits of Algebra I and 10 credits of Geometry

30 credits of Science including 10 credits of Natural Science (Biology) and 10 credits of Physical Science

~~40~~ 5 credits of Information Technology Applications I

10 credits of Career and Technical Education Elective classes or Fine Arts elective classes

5 credits of Personal Finance completed the junior or senior year

10 credits of Physical Education

5 credits of Health

5 credits of Speech

The remaining required ~~85~~ 90 credits can be from elective classes, including work experience or internship opportunities.

Per LB 705: Beginning with the class of 2025, each student shall also complete and submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) prior to graduation, unless the required opt-out form is completed by either: (1) the student's parent or legal guardian; (2) the Principal, if the Principal determines that good cause exists not to require the student to complete the FAFSA; or (3) an emancipated student or student of at least 19 years of age.

Legal Reference: Neb. Rev. Stat. Sec. 79-729

Neb. Rev. Stat. Sec. 79-3003

NDE Rule 10

Policy Adopted: January 13, 1997

Policy Reviewed/Revised: July 14, 2003; June 11, 2007; April 13, 2009; March 8, 2010
March 14, 2011; May 9, 2017; March 12, 2018; December 2019
July 10, 2023; June 12, 2024; May 14, 2025

