

David City Public School Board of Education
Special Board Meeting
Wednesday, October 8, 2025 6:15 PM
Bellwood Elem Media Center
612 Park St
Bellwood, NE 68624

1. Call Meeting to Order
 - 1.1. Open Meetings Statement
 - 1.2. Attendance/Absence Approval
2. Admin Presentation related to 6th-grade enrollment and education options.
3. Public Forum
4. Question and Answer Session related to 6th-grade enrollment and education options.
5. Adjournment

6th Grade Options For Future Years

Current Enrollment as of Mon Sept 15, 2025

K - 44 (33 + 11)

1 - 42 (33 + 9)

2 - 47 (36 + 11)

3 - 36 (28 + 8)

4 - 54 (40 + 14)

5 - 45 (31 + 14)

6 - 41

Option 1:

Continue to send all 6th graders to DC Elem. For the 2026-27 academic year, we will have a section of 23 and a section of 22. For the 2027-28 academic year, we will have two sections of 27. We would like to see the maximum at 24 when possible.

Pros - No additional cost to the district

No disruption to either building

Builds stability and a sense of community

No need to adjust teacher assignments or hire additional staff

Cons - Larger class sizes; what happens if more students enroll?

Tight learning spaces

Classroom management is possibly more difficult

Larger sections could impact differentiation, grading, and instructional planning

Hallways, cafeteria, and specials rotations may feel crowded.

Option 2:

Hire a 6th-grade teacher for Bellwood.

Pros - No disruption to DC Elem

Maintain reading/math interventions at DC Elem

Smaller class sizes allow for greater differentiation and stronger teacher-student relationships

Provides potentially fewer behavior referrals, smaller SPED Caseloads, and smaller intervention groups at DC Elem

If enrollment continues to grow, an established 6th-grade section at Bellwood could become a sustainable solution.

Cons - Additional cost to the district

Disruption to Bellwood in terms of moving staff and classrooms

Lose the easier transition to middle school gained by having all in DC

Not sure how many applicants want a short-term job

Requires Bellwood to adjust specials schedules and shared staff schedules

High school loses a shared teacher for an additional period

Option 3:

Make our intervention teacher a 6th-grade teacher in DC so we have 3 at DC Elem.

Pros - No additional cost to the district

No disruption to Bellwood

Classroom is available

Smaller sections for math and language arts

Students get accustomed to larger classes as they transition to middle school

Students have an opportunity to make more friends

Students learn DC cafeteria procedures

Students learn bus procedures

- Keeps the entire grade-level cohort together
- Strengthens grade-level collaboration
- More opportunities for small-group instruction – especially in math and reading, where class sizes directly impact achievement.
- Smooth transition to 7th grade
- Improves classroom management
- Cons - Disruption to DC Elem
- Loss of intervention time for students
- Change of teaching assignment for our current intervention teacher
- Master schedule changes for both elementary schools
- Reduced academic support for struggling students
- Shifting role for the current intervention teacher

Option 4:

Make our intervention teacher a 6th-grade teacher in DC for half a day and remain an intervention teacher for the other half of the day.

- Pros - No additional cost to the district
- No disruption to Bellwood
- Classroom is available
- Smaller sections for math and language arts
- Students get accustomed to larger classes as they transition to middle school
- Students have an opportunity to make more friends
- Students learn DC cafeteria procedures
- Students learn bus procedures
- Balances the needs of smaller core class sizes *and* keeps some intervention support
- Cons - Disruption to DC Elem
- Loss of half the intervention time for students
- Larger sections for the science, social studies, and specials
- Master schedule changes for both elementary schools
- Reduced intervention support
- Additional workload for the current intervention teacher

Option 5:

Hire a 6th-grade teacher for DC Elem and keep the intervention teacher position.

- Pros - No disruption to Bellwood
- Smaller class sizes
- Students get accustomed to larger classes as they transition to middle school
- Students have an opportunity to make more friends
- Students learn DC cafeteria procedures
- Students learn bus procedures
- Preserves intervention support.
- Students benefit from both smaller core classes *and* maintained interventions
- Supports long-term growth
- Helps teacher workload
- Stronger student relationships
- Cons - Additional cost to the district
- No classroom available, so we would have to have Title and intervention share a space or lose the conference room during the day
- Specials scheduling pressure