

David City Public School Board of Education
Regular Board Meeting
Wednesday, April 8, 2026 7:30 PM
Board Meeting Room at the High School
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
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. Mrs. Athow
 - 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. HVAC Presentation

8.2. Discuss the long-range facility plan.

8.3. Discuss, consider, and take action on purchasing an SUV.

9. Personnel

9.1. Discuss, consider, and take action on new teacher contracts for the 2026-27 school year.

10. Future Discussion and Action Items

11. Adjournment

The track team has started off their season and has so far attended the Indoor Wayne Invite, David City Triangular, and Scotus Invite. On Monday, April 6, the team competes in David City at the Aquinas Invite.

The golf team has also recently began their season, having their triangular at the David City golf course with Bishop Neumann and Seward, and just recently placed first at the Aquinas Invite on March 31.

The National Honor Society's most recent random act of kindness was going to each access and having them write a positive message or words of encouragement on a sticky note to put up around the school.

Student Council members recently helped with Parent Teacher Conferences by having people take shifts and helping escort parents to rooms if they needed assistance.

FFA attended the state convention a couple weekends ago and saw many positive results with the Agriscience team placing 3rd and a few individuals having high scores in their respective categories.

FCCLA also had their state leadership conference at the end of March/beginning of April and many students were selected as a national qualifier for the National Leadership Conference in Washington D.C. in this coming up summer and placed highly in their categories.

Prom will be coming up shortly this month, on April 25, and pictures will be at the Bone Creek Museum, and the dinner, grand march, and dance will be held at the auditorium.

Cheer and Dance will be having their parent meeting on April 7 to go over important information and dates regarding summer activities and fundraising opportunities.

Harrison Blades

School Board of Education

4/6/26

Board Report

- Record boards in the new commons have received some updates. Abby Lindsley now has the most strikeouts in a game at 14, the best pitching season winning percentage at .714, and a record-tying 6 RBIs in a game. On top of that, Abby also holds the new records for career reversals and escapes for wrestling.
- Kamryn Behrns also has set new records in volleyball and basketball. Her volleyball records include most kills in a match (29), most kills in a season (472), most kills in a career (1,605), most digs in a match (37), and most digs in a career (1,069). Her basketball records are most blocks in a game (8), season (80), and career (201).
- Many members of the FCCLA team have punched their ticket to compete at the National Leadership Conference in Washington DC this summer after a great performance at State.
- Trevin Jahde has been selected to be a Nebraska FCCLA SPOT officer during the State Leadership Conference.
- The golf team dominated with their first place finish at the Aquinas Invite.
- Four students had the opportunity to compete at a State Robotics competition at UNL.
- The FFA Agriscience team brought home 3rd place out of 141 teams. On top of this, all team members placed in the top 40 of individuals.
- The Fortnite Esports team has brought home the State Championship.

CASH RECEIPTS
March

01-1110	Local Property Taxes	
3/4/26	Seward County	\$958.45
3/13/26	Saunders County	\$14,442.36
3/13/26	Platte County	\$6.21
3/14/26	Butler County	\$191,165.52
01-1370	PreSchool Tuition	
3/2/26	DeValle	\$220.00
3/2/26	Mendoz	\$200.00
3/2/26	Oborny	\$45.00
3/2/26	Quigley/Olson	\$660.00
3/3/26	Fiala	\$45.00
3/4/26	Meusch	\$220.00
3/6/26	Griffiths	\$150.00
3/6/26	Romshek	\$400.00
3/6/26	Steider	\$220.00
3/6/26	Smith	\$440.00
3/6/26	Palensky	\$440.00
3/6/26	Romshek	\$440.00
3/9/26	Fiala	\$220.00
3/9/26	Chmelka	\$220.00
3/9/26	Louderback/Lance	\$130.00
3/11/26	Lerch/Asmus	\$45.00
3/11/26	Cadenas	\$220.00
3/11/26	Worm	\$220.00
3/12/26	Worm	\$220.00
3/13/26	Allen	\$220.00
3/13/26	McDonald	\$220.00
3/13/26	Romshek	\$220.00
3/17/26	Stouffer	\$395.00
3/19/26	DeValle	\$220.00
3/20/26	Maldonaldo	\$45.00
2/20/26	Schmid	\$90.00
2/20/26	Kahnk	\$440.00
2/20/26	Johnson	\$440.00
2/20/26	Steager	\$440.00
2/20/26	Fadschild	\$440.00
2/20/26	Schroeder	\$630.00
2/20/26	Palensky	\$45.00
01-1510	Interest	
3/31/26	Bank of the Valley	\$581.65
01-1910	Rent of Facilities	
3/13/26	DC Explorers	\$100.00

01-3110	State Aid	
3/31/26	State of NE	\$111,693.00
01-3120	SPED SA FFR Reimb 23-24	
3/16/26	State of NE	\$286,377.00
01-4708	Medicaid in Public Schools (MIPS)	
3/29/26	State of NE	\$1,323.20
01-4709	Medicaid Administration	
3/27/26	State of NE	\$404.84
01-4969	Title IV	
3/11/26	State of NE	\$3,819.00
01-5690	Other Non-Revenue Receipts	
3/20/26	Scribner (BCBS Reimbursement)	\$300.00
3/13/26	Region V (Character Strong Reibursement)	\$3,000.00
01-9000	Non Program Receipts	
3/20/26	Lunch PR Reimburse	\$25,924.15
	TOTAL	\$648,695.38

DC Supt Monthly Board Report
April 2026
Chad Denker, Supt

Staffing Info

Certified Staff

All certified staff positions have been filled pending the approval of the teacher contract at the April board meeting. Here are the preliminary budget numbers for certified staff:

26-27: \$9,297,888	25-26: \$8,987,392	Increase: \$310,496
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Classified Staff

All classified staff work agreements have been sent out. We have asked for them to be returned by Friday. There will be a few positions to fill this summer. Here are the preliminary budget numbers for classified staff:

26-27: \$3,813,063	25-26: \$3,581,338	Increase: \$231,725
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Total Staff

26-27 Total: \$13,110,951	25-26 Total: \$12,568,730	Total Increase: \$542,221
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This does not include any of the staff we contract with outside agencies, such as ESU 7, Boys Town, ESU 2, Butler County Hospital (OT, PT, Speech), etc. Those costs will exceed \$1,000,000. In other words, our employee budget will be over \$14,000,000 for the 26-27 fiscal year.

The budget estimates above could change depending upon any late resignations or new hires.

Snow Days

At this point, we have only used one snow day. If we do not use our second built-in snow day, the students and staff will be done one day earlier than expected. The last day for students would be Wed May 20, and the last day for staff would be Thurs May 21.

Purchase Requisitions

Staff have submitted approx. 230 purchase orders for next year. All of the orders have been coded and submitted to the vendors. Next month, we will have a clearer picture of our general fund expenditures for the current year.

Legislature

The last full week of the short session is this week. The last day is scheduled for next week.

David City School Board Report: Athrow

April Board Report

Communication

The April edition of *The Scout* is now available! This month's issue highlights the diverse talents of our students and staff, featuring Mr. Carmichael, Mr. VanWinkle, Mrs. Berns, Mrs. Backstrom, Ms. Noonan and Mrs. Didier:

- New FFA members are highlighted for placing at state in the Student Spotlight
- Mr. Carmichael teaches us about photosynthesis, biosynthesis and cellular respiration.
- Mrs. Behrns digs into her math classes and introduces us to her student teacher.
- Mrs. Backstrom highlights our Student Council and the long list of services they bring to our school and community.
- Mr. VanWinkle introduces us to what is happening in the World and US History classes.
- Ms. Noonan has 2 artists of the month to celebrate.
- Mrs. Didier gives us the business of the month: Brookstone of David City.

You can find the full issue on our school webpage or on this link : <https://aptg.co/DcSZhl>

Academic and Intervention Planning

MTSS Secondary Team:

This quarter, our core academic departments—English, Math, Science, and Social Studies—have been operating as Communicate, Connect, and Collaborate (CCC) Teams. Their mission is to ensure that every student's educational journey is seamless, rigorous, and data-driven.

The process began with a comprehensive vertical alignment audit. By looking at the curriculum across all grade levels, our CCCs identified and closed learning gaps, ensuring that what a student learns in one grade perfectly prepares them for the next.

Departmental Deep Dives

With the audit complete, each team has pivoted to specific goals tailored to their discipline:

- **English:** The team is optimizing High-Quality Instructional Materials (HQIM) while sharpening their focus on writing. They are currently working to ensure rubric consistency so that every student receives fair, high-fidelity feedback on their written work.
- **Math:** Strategic planning is underway for the upcoming school year. The team is focusing on 7th and 8th-grade supports, using a "triangulation of data" approach. By analyzing MAP, NSCAS, IXL scores, and classroom grades, they are ensuring every student is placed in the environment best suited for their growth.
- **Social Studies:** Literacy is the priority. The department is "dialed in" on a specific reading goal for next year, designed to bolster our broader school-wide initiative to improve reading comprehension across all subjects.
- **Science:** Consistency is key. The Science CCC is hard at work developing common formative and summative assessments to ensure that rigorous standards and grading practices are uniform across all classrooms.

Principal's Advisory: Tackling Transitions and Grading Trends

The Principal's Advisory Committee recently convened to tackle some of the most pressing data trends impacting our school's academic climate. From grading scales to seasonal dip patterns, the committee is looking critically at how we can better support our students.

Data-Driven Insights: The "Spring Slide"

Mr. Lindsley presented a comprehensive five-year breakdown of student failure rates. The data revealed two striking patterns:

1. **The Middle School Gap:** Failure rates are highest at the middle school level, particularly during the transition from 6th to 7th grade.
2. **Seasonal Shifts:** Failures consistently spike in the Spring compared to the Fall.

Our educators attribute the Spring increase to the heavy influx of extracurricular activities and sports, which frequently take students out of the classroom during a critical time of the year.

Proactive Solutions for Next Year

To address these findings, the Advisory is moving forward with several strategic initiatives:

- **Targeted Academic Supports:** To ease the 6th-to-7th grade transition, we are adding dedicated Math and ELA supports for the upcoming school year.
- **The Grading Scale Debate:** The committee is weighing the pros and cons of 7-point vs. 10-point grading scales to ensure our assessment methods are both fair and motivating.
- **The Homework Hurdle:** Recognizing that homework completion is a primary concern in middle school, the Advisory is taking a two-pronged approach:
 - **Student Voice:** We will be surveying students directly to find out what truly motivates them to turn in work on time.
 - **Carrots & Sticks:** We are developing new incentives and celebrations for those consistently doing the right thing, while simultaneously discussing the logistics of a mandatory homework detention for next year to provide a structured environment for completion.

Our goal is to balance accountability with encouragement. By listening to student feedback and providing more support during high-activity seasons, we aim to turn these data trends around and set our middle schoolers up for long-term success.

Focus on Teachers, Retention and Recruitment

Our students have crowned a second Spotlight Teacher for April. Mr. Wiseman was our first Spotlight Teacher, as voted on by students at DC Public. Our newest recognized teacher is Morgan Dredge. Morgan is a middle school science teacher, and she is currently working on her masters degree in School Counseling. She is on the MTSS Committee and the Principal's Advisory, and she runs a lunch bunch group she meets weekly to work on social skills and mentorship. Here's what our students had to say about Mrs. Dredge:

She is always kind and there to help you when you need it the most. She always has a big smile on her face when you walk into her class room.

I love how after lunch Mrs. Dredge helps me when I am really upset. If it wasn't for her a lot of this year would have been TERRIBLE for me.

She is a kind, thoughtful, and an amazing teacher. She is a one of a kind teacher.

She will always answer questions right away.

Mrs. Dredge is very encouraging and kind. When you need help, she is sure to be there and explain it.

She is very nice and she actually teaches us. She helps us when we need her.

She always makes sure that we understand what we are learning. She makes her lesson fun and her class room is filled with positivity.

She shows sympathy to the students.

We are thrilled to announce two fantastic additions to our teaching staff for the upcoming year. Both Kate Milligan and Doug Stephens bring a wealth of diverse experience that will benefit our students both in and out of the classroom.

While Kate joins us as a first-year teacher, she is no stranger to mentorship and leadership. With an extensive background as a camp counselor and youth minister, Kate has a proven track record of connecting with both youth and adults. She also brings competitive expertise to our halls, having served as a speech coach for Fremont this past year. Kate is eager to dive into our activities program, serving as an Assistant Coach for both Speech and One Act alongside Jarod Ockander. We are excited to see her bring that energy and creativity to our English department!

We are proud to introduce Doug Stephens as the leader of our brand-new JAG program. Doug brings a powerful blend of experience to DC Public:

- Educational Roots: 10 years of classroom experience in Iowa and Omaha Public Schools.
- Service & Leadership: 20 years of dedicated service in the military.

Doug is looking forward to returning to the classroom to help our students develop vital leadership and career skills. Thanks to the advocacy of Mr. Fish, the JAG program is already off to a flying start with full classes for grades 7–12. We can't wait to see the "fresh start" this program provides for our students' future success.

Highlighting Student Academics

Peyton DeMers-Sahling organized the Holocaust speaker for the middle school students. This followed a unit that featured *The Diary of Anne Frank* and the lessons from the Holocaust experience. Providing our students with the chance to hear a direct legacy story from Michelle Brown Rainey of such a pivotal moment in history is an invaluable

gift. I truly appreciate when we can create a space for students to learn about resilience, history, and humanity in such a profound way.

It was a privilege to join our FCCLA chapter in Lincoln for the opening general session of the State Leadership Conference. Our students represented the school with incredible skill and professionalism, bringing home significant honors and securing their spots on the national stage. We are incredibly proud to announce two major milestones for our student leaders. Ellie Bales was officially honored as a State Officer, a prestigious role that recognizes her leadership abilities and commitment to the organization. Abby Lindsley claimed the title of State Champion in her STAR event, a testament to her hard work. We have five state qualifiers who have earned the opportunity to compete at the National Leadership Conference this summer in Indiana.

Thanks for your continued support!

DC Secondary Principal, Stacy Athow

Chad Lindsley
Board Report
4/8/2026

We are now into April which means we are off and running with spring events. State testing will be kicking off soon and we will be preparing for graduation before we know it. Below I want to highlight a few key items from this past month.

- Congrats to both the FFA and FCCLA for outstanding performances in their competitions at the state level!
- Another congrats to the speech team for winning districts and finishing in 5th place at state!
- The juniors took the ACT test this month. Thankful to the staff that organizes this and makes sure everything is set up.
- I have finished up all my teacher observations and will continue to express how incredible our teachers are. They go out of their way to help students and try to find ways to reach everyone.

Below is my monthly data comparing March of last year to March of this year.

	<u>March 2025</u>	<u>March 2026</u>
Tardies	51	76
Behavior Referrals	45	49
Attendance	325.8 Absent Days	243.6 Absent Days

As you can see, our attendance improved drastically this year compared to last year but our tardies also increased significantly. The increase in tardies could explain the increase in behavior referrals as those definitely can go hand in hand.

Apr 6, 2026

David City Elementary Weekly Board Update

Enrollment

David City Elementary currently serves 246 students in grades K–6 and 45 students in preschool for a total of 291 students. Preschool enrollment is currently full for both half-day and full-day students.

Attendance

Student illnesses continue to decline, as the overall attendance is increasing compared to this time last month. Our average K–6 attendance for the past month is 98.11%, which is a slight increase from 97.17% at the same time last year. Our chronic absenteeism rate is currently 3.08% (9 out of 292 students), which is also an improvement from 6.98% (21 out of 301 students) during the same period last year.

Staffing

All certified teaching positions at David City Elementary have been filled for the upcoming school year.

We are excited to welcome Andra Pracheil as our new 4th grade teacher. A veteran educator, Andra brings 16 years of experience, having taught both 4th and 5th grade at Schuyler Elementary and working with a wide range of student abilities.

Carlee Helgoth will be our new 2nd grade teacher. She was a December graduate of Chadron State College and is currently serving as a paraprofessional at Howells-Dodge Elementary. Carlee is excited to begin her teaching career with us and brings strong organizational skills, enthusiasm, and a genuine commitment to student success.

Jordan Mavis will join our team as a special education teacher. She comes to us from Randolph with one year of teaching experience and has worked with students with diverse needs, including behavioral disorders, autism, nonverbal learners, and ADHD.

Jared Engel will be taking over the Elementary PE position as Mrs. Reeves transitions to a new role as a PE teacher at the middle/high school. Mr. Engel is a recent graduate of Wayne State College and has been substituting this semester. He will also serve as a wrestling coach.

School Improvement Meeting

On March 18, the team reviewed updates to the MTSS page on the DC website and discussed action planning for MTSS goals, focusing on identifying evidence that demonstrates goal achievement. Mrs. Daniels gave an update on the Targeted Improvement Plan (TIP) was provided, including the goal that by May 2027, 55% of third-grade students will reach or exceed benchmark on the DIBELS 8th Edition middle-of-year oral reading fluency (ORF) subtest, with current baseline data showing 50% of

special education students meeting this target. She also shared findings from a Root Cause Analysis to understand lower scores and reviewed Instructional Practice Guides, which will support explicit instruction and align with upcoming state and district requirements, including those from the CLSD grant, to provide coherence and avoid duplication of work.

Walk to Math

On Thursday, March 19, Mrs. Valentine, Ms. Romshek, and I spent the afternoon updating the criteria for student participation in our Walk to Math program. We revised the qualifying scores for the Hanna-Orleans Algebra Prognosis Test, Spring 2026 NWEA MAP scores, current grades, and incorporated teacher recommendations to ensure students are appropriately placed and supported. These decision rules will ensure students get what they need to be successful when skipping ahead one year and not risk missing foundational skills.

MTSS

Our newly formed Elementary MTSS team held its first meeting on March 19, with Ms. Romshek facilitating. Team members were introduced and reviewed the team's purpose and responsibilities, including establishing progress monitoring protocols, creating decision rules, determining resource needs, monitoring curriculum fidelity, proposing professional development, and aligning district goals with elementary practices. The team examined the Shared Leadership Document, discussed the three types of MTSS teams, and developed collective commitments and norms. Key items included reviewing a progress monitoring tool and the 2026-27 SAT form template in eduCLIMBER, with plans for members to practice using the form individually. Future priorities include preparation for the April 6 PD Day teacher focus groups, and the next meeting is scheduled for April 22.

Spring Family Literacy Night

On March 23, David City Elementary hosted Spring Family Literacy Night alongside the Scholastic Book Fair, with 76 families (212 attendees) participating, including 103 students. The evening featured literacy games, a book swap, and support from the public library, which provided free books and a gift basket drawing. The book fair was also successful and will provide several additional books for our school library.

Overall student attendance was 35% (103/291), with the highest participation in 4th grade (53%). Students were also recognized through grade-level prize drawings. This event strengthened family engagement and reinforced our focus on building a strong culture of literacy. We will continue working to increase participation across all grade levels.

3rd Quarter Attendance Popcorn Party

On Tuesday, March 24, students who achieved 98% or better attendance during the third quarter were recognized with a popcorn party. This celebration highlighted the importance of consistent attendance and reinforced our school-wide focus on being present and engaged in learning each day. We will continue to emphasize strong attendance habits and recognize students who demonstrate this commitment.

HAL Day

On Wednesday, March 25, HAL students participated in a field-based learning experience at the Butler County Landfill. This opportunity directly connected to this year's HAL theme, *Engineering Environmental Solutions*, and provided students with meaningful, real-world applications of environmental engineering concepts.

During the visit, students learned how the landfill manages air, water, and land pollution while gaining insight through a guided tour of the facility. This hands-on experience allowed students to see environmental systems in action and deepen their understanding of how communities address complex environmental challenges.

Following the field experience, students returned to David City Elementary to extend their learning through additional activities focused on landfill systems and environmental impact. They also explored the history of waste management, examining how practices have evolved over time and how different communities approach waste today.

The day also included interactive games designed to strengthen students' social skills, making it a well-rounded and engaging experience. This HAL Day reflects our continued commitment to providing relevant, hands-on learning opportunities that build student understanding, collaboration, and interest in STEM-related fields.

Progress Monitoring Data Day

On Monday, March 30, classroom teachers and reading interventionists met to review student data and monitor progress toward end-of-year benchmarks. This collaborative work allows staff to identify areas of growth and adjust instruction to better meet student needs. The information reviewed during these data meetings will also be shared with families during upcoming parent-teacher conferences. These data days are a critical component of the MTSS process, helping ensure all students receive the appropriate level of instruction and support to be successful.

Spring Parent-Teacher Conferences

Parent-teacher conferences were held on Thursday, April 2, 2026. Approximately 90% of our families attended, providing a valuable opportunity to share student progress, celebrate growth, and strengthen the home-school connection. For those families who were unable to attend, teachers will reach out to see if the conference can be rescheduled.

Professional Development

On Monday, April 6, 2026, staff participated in a comprehensive professional development day focused on student learning, safety, and continuous improvement. The day began with a district "State of the Union" and an overview of the Words initiative for PK-6 staff, while secondary staff engaged in an MTSS overview.

Throughout the morning, multiple staff members completed CPR recertification, and teacher focus groups provided feedback on the Words initiative. New certified staff met with mentors, and teachers continued their professional growth through Marzano-focused training sessions.

In the afternoon, staff collaborated in a series of meetings focused on student and staff support, including Crisis Team, Wellness Committee, and required safety and security training (LB 757 and Rule 10). The day concluded with a coach/sponsor meeting and a 6th–7th transition meeting to support student success as they move between buildings. Overall, the day provided valuable opportunities for collaboration, professional learning, and alignment across the district.

Kindergarten Roundup

Kindergarten Roundup will be held on April 14 and offered in two sessions: 4:00–5:00 PM and 5:30–6:30 PM. Families may sign up for their preferred time by calling the elementary office. Students will have the opportunity to take their “signing day” photo and visit classrooms while parents attend a brief informational presentation in the gym. We look forward to welcoming our future Scouts and their families!

April Newsletter [Link](#)

Looking Ahead

April 6 - No School
April 8 - Spring Assessments Begin
April 13 - Preschool Family Literacy Event
April 14 - Kindergarten Roundup
April 20 - No School
April 29 - 3rd Field Trip
May 4 - Backpack PJ Day Fundraiser
May 5 - Spring Music Concert (4-6)
May 6 - Walk/Ride Bike to School Day & 6th Field Trip
May 11 - HAL Field Trip
May 12 - Kona Shaved Ice
May 13 - 1st Field Trip
May 14 - K Field Trip
May 15 - K-6 Field Day
May 18 - Elementary Awards Ceremony
May 20 - Last Day of School 1:30 Dismissal

Bellwood Board of Education Report
April 2026

Now that April is here, the rest of the 2025-26 school year will fly by in a hurry.

Edgerton Science Discovery Day

Bellwood Elementary ended our 3rd quarter in a phenomenal way on March 12th with our Edgerton on the Move Science Discovery Day. The students were well behaved, so engaged, and truly had a great day of learning. Many of the students are still talking about the things they learned and the fun they had. Our PTO truly stepped up in an amazing way by funding this event, but in my mind it was well worth it as it was a great day for our students. The Bellwood PTO also spent a lot of time setting it up, volunteering for the whole day, and helping to take everything down.



Bellwood Bowling Trip

Mr. Worm took the 2nd through 5th grade students bowling on Friday, March 20th, as a culmination of his PE bowling unit. The students always look forward to this event. When the kids got back to the building, they were super excited and said they had a great time. This is always a way to bring their bowling unit to an end, and it give them an opportunity to go to an actual bowling alley. Many of our students would not get this opportunity if we didn't take them.



3rd Quarter Attendance

During the third quarter, our overall attendance as a school took a hit as we had a lot of sickness going around. However, our overall school attendance is still better than it was at the end of the 3rd quarter last year. We did put in some extra incentives for the 4th quarter to motivate students to end the year strong with attendance.

- 2024-25 all school attendance at the end of 3rd quarter - 95.77%
- 2025-26 all school attendance at the end of 3rd quarter - 96.48%

Elementary MTSS Meeting

On Thursday, March 19th, we had our first official meeting of the newly revamped Elementary MTSS Team. At this first first meeting, the committee talked about its purpose and set some guidelines. It also gave input on the SAT (Student Assistance Team) form on eduCLIMBER that will be used at both buildings next year. The team set the next meeting in April and picked a day to meet this summer in June.

Autism Awareness

Mrs. Kouba and Miss Lenz wanted to teach all students in the building about autism. At our Monday Morning Chat (MMC) on March 30th, they did a presentation to all students about what autism is and how everyone is unique. Each student had to color a puzzle piece as to how they are unique. On Wednesday, April 1st, to kick off Autism Awareness Month, students and staff were encouraged to wear blue to school.



Parent/Teacher Conferences

Our second Parent/Teacher conferences for the 2025-26 school year were held on Thursday, April 2nd from 10-6. I am still waiting to get final percentages from teachers, but overall we had good attendance. With the time change for teachers, teachers had a lot of conferences scheduled between 4 and 6, but they also had some scattered throughout the day. The Bellwood PTO provided a baked potato bar for staff in the lounge as their meal for the day.

SPIRE Data

As you know, we purchased the SPIRE reading intervention with our year 1 and 2 CLSD funds. We are using this intervention for Tier 2 and Tier 3 support in reading. Since this is a federal grant, we have to turn in data each quarter about the implementation of this program. Below is the SPIRE implementation data from both buildings that I turned in to NDE last week to give you a picture of how implementation of this intervention program is going.

SPIRE Implementation Data DCPS			
Month of Reporting	<u>November 2025</u>	<u>January 2026</u>	<u>April 2026</u>
Number of teachers using program	8	11	12
Number of students in program	60	72	87
Number of Concept Assessments Taken	373	615	939
Number of Concept Assessments taken that were at Mastery (80% or higher)	343	565	867
Percentage of concept assessments taken that were at mastery	92.80%	91.80%	92.30%
Number of post tests completed (number of students who have completed a level)	0	6	32

April 6th PD Day

During the April 6th PD Day, two staff members from UNL came out and gave all elementary teachers and paras an overview of the Words project. As you know, Words will be the Science of Reading training that we require our elementary teachers to participate in for the next three years. Our participation in this program will be funded by the CLSD grant. We will officially begin this program in August of 2026, but we wanted to give teachers an overview of what they would be participating in starting next school year. After this training, the UNL staff met with members of the Elementary MTSS team from both buildings as part of a teacher focus

group to get preliminary information from them. Mrs. Greenfield, Mrs. Valentine and I had a working lunch with them. This gave us the opportunity to ask questions and gather more information about the Words project and some of their recommendations for instructional practices in reading. Here is a link to more information about the UNL Words project: <https://nebraskawords.unl.edu/>

Evaluations and Walkthroughs

April 15th will be here before we know it, so I have been working diligently to complete all of my teacher evaluations and walkthroughs for this school year. I have all of my formal evaluations completed, and I will be finishing up a few of my final walkthroughs this week. All summative evaluations will be completed by the April 15th deadline.

April Newsletter

Here is a link to April 2026 Newsletter for Bellwood Elementary: [Link](#)

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Peggy Romshek

Bellwood Elementary Principal

4/08/2026

School Board Report: Special Education

Submitted by: Kari Daniels

This past week was very busy. I attended the TIP workday at the ESU. We had the chance to meet, via Zoom, with various individuals from the NDE who have expertise in sections that will be evaluated. The format has changed. That may sound like a broken record, but it continues to be the case.

We are working on establishing caseloads at David City Elementary. That definitely takes a good deal of time. We want to be sure that student numbers and student complexity stay as equitable as possible. We do have students with complex needs and we need to be sure that we are laying the appropriate foundation for their support. Critical to student success is paraprofessional support. As we know, there continues to be open para positions that we have not been able to fill. I can't speak highly enough about the teamwork that exists between our regular and special education teachers and our paras. They work extraordinarily hard everyday to support our students. It takes incredible flexibility and communication. We are extremely fortunate to have such dedicated employees.

As we work toward winding up this school year, I want to take a moment to thank the board of education for understanding our need for two full time psychologists. Above and beyond the nearly 100 evaluations (this includes re-evaluations and determination meetings) that they have already completed, their expertise and support with behavior has been invaluable. As we continue to improve our Student Assistance Teams (SAT) and our MTSS (multi-tiered systems of support), we will continue to lean very heavily on their expertise. Having two psychologists has allowed us to provide more consistent support to both Bellwood and the Parochial schools in our district. Their support has also allowed us to significantly expand our Circle of Friends groups, in coordination with our speech/language pathologists and resource teachers and across multiple buildings.

I will be attending the Nebraska ASD conference with four of our teachers. This group of regular and special education teachers was chosen to help expand the knowledge of staff in anticipation of student placement next year. It is always a fabulous conference and I look forward to sharing information learned with the rest of our department.

Thank you again for your support for all of our staff and students!

All Scouts Have Power

Activities Director Monthly Board Report 4/8/26

Activities Director Board Report

Spring Season Update

The spring activities season is officially underway, with multiple programs already in competition. A Spring Sports Kickoff, along with a send-off pep rally for State Speech, FFA, and FCCLA participants, was held on Friday, March 20th during access.

eSports

Fortnite- State Champions (Zayne, Jackson, Julien, Justin and Jaxon)

Playoffs began last week. We currently have teams competing in *Hearthstone*, *Mario Kart*.

Speech

The Speech team has concluded an outstanding season as both SNC Conference Champions and District Champions. The team qualified for state competition in 10 events.

Duet Acting— Shelbea Reed & Trevin Jahde, Ellie Bales & Paul Tebbe

Entertainment— Hayden Valentine

Extemporaneous—Shelbea Reed

Informative— Shelbea Reed , Madie Summers

OID—Hamilton (Brittin Valentine, Ellie B., Paul T., Madie S. , Trevin J.) , Houdini (Hayden V. , Neil Zrust, Cara Giersdorf, Emma Hoepfner, John Benes)

Humorous— Paul T

Poetry— Kaylee Dresch , Abby Lindsley

Serious—Ellie B.

Persuasive—HaydenV ., Kaylee D.

POI—Abby L, Emma H

State Results:

Team—5th

Persuasive—Hayden-5th, Kaylee-4th

Duet—Ellie & Paul—6th

OID—

Hamilton—Brittin, Trevin, Paul, Ellie, Madie—3rd

Houdini— Hayden, Emma, Cara, Neil, John—6th

Track & Field

The track and field season is in full swing. The team has recently competed at the Wayne State Indoor Meet, Aquinas Triangular, Scotus Invite, and Aquinas Invite.

Middle School Track

The middle school team will open their season at the Stanton Invite, Thursday, April 9th.

- The Friend Invite has been postponed to April 13th due to weather.

Golf

- **Team Champions- Aquinas Invite**

FFA

Nine students competed at State FFA in Lincoln this week, with events held at Pinnacle Bank Arena and UNL East Campus.

- Brayden Osantowski and Sarah Wieseler qualified for the State Meat Evaluation Contest for the third consecutive year.
- The 2026 Meat Evaluation Team (Coleigh Kluck, Jesse Divis, Brayden Osantowski, Jason White, Sarah Wieseler) were District Champions.
- Agriscience (automatic state qualifier for freshmen/sophomores):
 - Kayla Wieseler
 - Annabelle Clary
 - Emma Hoepfner

FCCLA

State FCCLA will take place March 29–31 at Pinnacle Bank Arena in Lincoln.

Participants include:

Ellie Bales, Abby Lindsley, Shelbea Reed, Garrett Small, Micah Nicolas, Trevin Jahde, Maddie Summers, and Zayne Mittlender.

National Qualifiers- (National Leadership Conference in Washington D.C. July 5th-10th)

Trevin - Promote and Publicize FCCLA / Silver

Zayne - Chapter Website

Shelbea, Garret, Micah - Chapter in Review Display / State Runner Ups

Abby - Leadership / State Champion

Other Notes

- Applications have been received for High School Girls Wrestling and Boys Basketball coaching positions. Interviews will be conducted in the coming weeks.
- Neujahr Home Center has generously purchased the record board for the Girls Wrestling program, which will be displayed in the new commons area

Wellness Committee

- In the process of creating a Wellness Policy handout for teachers.
- Triennial Assessment Report is due June 30th
 - Starting working through new goals for the next 3 year cycle.
 - 1) Physical Goal, 2) Nutrition Education Goals 3) School Based Goals

Current Goals (24-26)

- 1) Provide an updated snack list for students to bring into the classrooms for celebrations.
- 2) Get students more involved in making healthy choices around the school.
- 3) Provide students with more access to a Mental Health

David City Public Schools HVAC

Bellwood:

Most units are from 1994 and are in very poor condition which is why they are being replaced this summer.

DC Elementary & High School:

The majority of the equipment is from the 2006 HVAC Renovation

- Obviously, any equipment installed during construction after 2006 reno is the same age as the respective project
- Most equipment is still running as intended because it's been well maintained
 - Filters are all changed regularly on a schedule, belts have been replaced as needed, pumps are greased as needed, boilers have annual preventative maintenance done, etc.
- But:
 - All mechanical equipment has a life expectancy – which we are nearing the end of (if not already past in some cases)

DC Elementary:

- We've had a several compressors in the classroom/hallway units fail.
 - We have replaced a couple in the past, but we cannot get those compressors anymore. Once they're out the units are not repairable
 - Classrooms in the original 1960's building have two HP units. One primary and one backup. A couple of rooms are down to the backup unit only – if that goes down there is no heat/air in that classroom
- Many have needed the refrigerant recharged
 - All units run on the old R22 refrigerant which is getting more expensive and harder to get. Most commercial buildings are transitioning to A2L options which are more environmentally friendly and readily available.
- The ERV that helps bring in and filter the fresh outside air to the gym had a fan bearing go out.
 - That has since been replaced and is back up and running, but the other 3 bearings could go out at any given time.
- The energy recovery unit that serves the majority of the building had the main supply fan fail.
 - That took a couple months, a special-order fan, and about \$22,000 to repair because they don't make those parts any more.

DC High School:

- At the High School, many of the condensation drip pans for blower coils in the 1916 building have rusted through and drip water into ceiling cavity eventually saturating ceiling tile and dripping into middle of classrooms

- We had a dozen stainless replacement pans custom made because these units are old and you cannot get the parts.
- We've replaced several already, but there are numerous others that are close behind.
- These units are in the ceiling of each classroom and it is a lengthy repair causing the room to be out of commission for a whole day at minimum.
- The two chillers at the high school are aging and have had several repairs done recently including sensors, fans, wiring, etc.
 - These repairs have been cost over \$28,000 since the beginning of last school year.
 - At any given time, we're hard pressed to have both ready to run as one or the other seems to present problems of some kind.
 - These chillers are the only thing that cools the entire school building with the exception of the new addition and the commons/weight room. Without them we don't have air conditioning.
- With all that being said:
 - For the units that are repairable, repairs are costly and are becoming more of a regular occurrence all the time.
 - Our maintenance staff diagnoses and repairs all issues that we have the capability to do. If we don't have the tools, can't get the parts ourselves, or the scope of work is too big, we call the professionals.
 - Since the beginning of last school year, we've spent over \$68,000 on professional repairs alone. This doesn't include the parts and time that our maintenance staff has put in ourselves.

Controls:

- Both of our HVAC systems at DC elementary and high schools are run through controls that automate equipment operation and provide a way to monitor the entire system from the computer.
- Elementary controls have been replaced in the last 2 years and are working pretty well.
- At the high school, with the exception of the new addition, the NEWEST controls are from 2013. Many are still from the 2006 reno project. As expected with electronics, they are well past their prime. We've had numerous issues with controls, programming glitches, and graphical errors.
 - Several times when trying to log in, we have had licensing issues and can't monitor the HVAC system until we can get ahold of the programmers to fix it.
 - We have had several user interface issues that have been lingering for a year or more and can't get anyone to fix.
 - Several differential pressure sensors have failed causing inconsistent loop pressures and pumps to run at full speed which is hard on pumps, loop lines and equipment.
 - We have had several electronic valves go out causing equipment to heat or cool when they're not supposed to.....or not do either when they should.
 - We have had some automatic dampers that have not opened/closed when called to do so.
 - These dampers are designed to make the system more efficient as well as bring in fresh outside air to assist with air quality.

- When not working properly, this can cause major humidity issues in the summer or freezing problems in the winter
 - For example:
 - Our Gym air handler had an auto damper stay open overnight when it was freezing outside. It caused the coil to freeze and split several pipes inside causing loop water to leak out all over the floor damaging boxes of filters, drywall, insulation and dripping water into one of the locker rooms below.
 - This also caused our pumps to lose pressure and run dry until the issue was located, isolated, and the loop refilled.
 - Thankfully facility advocates was able to find a contractor that could perform the specialty fix so as to not be without gym AC/Heat for months.

In conclusion:

- Need to be proactive and replace systems BEFORE they fail
 - Equipment ALWAYS fails when it's needed the most because that's when the workload is the highest.
 - When equipment fails, it disrupts classes
 - Best case scenario it can be fixed by maintenance staff, but may still disrupt classes for at least one period, if not most of the day. Potentially more.
 - Worst case scenario we have to order replacement equipment and schedule installation that can take days, weeks, or - for major equipment - even months to complete. This can potentially displace an entire classroom for the entirety of the process.

DCPS Vehicle Info Updated Monday, February 23, 2026				August 2025	Replacement	Replacement
Year	Make	Model	Driver/Route	Current Mileage	Year	Cost
2016	Chevy	Silver 4x4 Suburban (9)	Elem Shared Staff	84,702	2025-26	70k
2017	Chevy	White 4x4 Suburban (9)	Activities	49,968	2027-28	70k
2018	Chevy	Tungsten 4x4 Suburban (9)	Activities	47,434	2026-27	70k
2019	Chevy	Pepperdust 4x4 Suburban (9)	Rising City Route	40,129	2028-29	70k
2020	Chevy	Satin Steel 4x4 Suburban (9)	Activities	24,130	2029-30	70k
2020	Chevy	Satin Steel AWD Traverse (7)	Boys Town Duncan Route	34,119	2030-31	50k
2022	Buick	Red AWD Buick Enclave (7)	Elem Shared Staff	23,220	2031-32	50k
2022	Chevy	Auburn 4x4 Suburban (7)	Teachers/Admin	15,666	2032-33	70k
2023	Chevy	Red AWD Traverse (7)	Teachers/Admin	22,276	2033-34	50k
2026	Chevy	Blue AWD Traverse (7)	Teachers/Admin	5	2034-35	50k
2015	Dodge	White Handicap Van	DCE PreK / Handicap SPED	71,153	???	57k
2018	Dodge	Silver Handicap Van	Bellwood PreK / Handicap SPED	30,206	???	57k
2011	Ford	White Sports Van	Custodial / Maint	111,911	???	35k
2004	Chevy	Tan 4x4 Reg Cab Long Box Pickup	Custodial / Maint	110,785	2025-26	50k
2019	Chevy	White 4x4 Ext Cab Long Box Pickup	Activity Trailer / Maint	44,774	???	55k
2019	Chevy	White 4x4 Reg Cab Long Box Pickup	Bellwood Custodial / Maint	79,554	???	55K

TEACHER'S CONTRACT

THIS CONTRACT is made by and between the Board of Education of Butler County School District 0056, a/k/a David City Public Schools ("District") and **Kate Millington** ("Teacher") and supersedes any prior contract between the parties. The Board of Education agrees to employ the Teacher and the Teacher accepts such employment as follows:

School Year: School Year begins on or about **August 3, 2026**, and ends on or about **May 20, 2027**, subject to Board modification.

Days of Service: Teacher shall be employed for 186 days of service, subject to terms of the negotiated agreement unless otherwise agreed in writing by both parties.

Full Time Equivalency: Teacher shall be employed for a full-time equivalency (FTE) of **1.00**.

Salary Schedule Placement: Teacher's salary schedule placement is subject to final terms of the negotiated agreement for the applicable contract year between the Board and the bargaining unit representing the certificated employees of the District. The Teacher's salary schedule placement and other terms of employment for the **2026-2027** contract year may be set forth on an Annual Supplemental Renewal Form to be executed subsequent to this Teacher's Contract.

FIRST: Salary. The salary of the Teacher shall be payable in twelve (12) equal installments. The first installment shall be payable on the **20th day of September, 2026**, and the remaining installments shall be payable on same day of each month thereafter. Terms and conditions set forth in this agreement shall be subject to such wages and conditions of employment as may be mutually agreed upon by and between the Board and teachers or a duly recognized collective bargaining agent for said teachers, and said agreement, when reduced to writing, and executed by the parties, shall be deemed to be included herein by reference and shall become a part hereof. This contract shall conform to the regulations governing deductions with reference to Withholding Tax, Social Security and Teacher Retirement. Other deductions may be withheld as agreed to by the parties to this contract. Upon termination of this contract by the Board or the Teacher, the compensation shall be an amount which bears the same ratio to the yearly salary herein specified as the number of days of service to the date of such termination bears to the number of days of service in the applicable contract year. Any unearned fractional portion of an installment paid but not earned prior to termination of the contract shall be refunded by the Teacher.

SECOND: Duties. The Teacher hereby agrees to be governed by the policies of the Board of Education of the District. The duties to be performed by the Teacher shall be subject to assignment by the Superintendent or the Board. Days of service may be adjusted from year to year by the Board. The Teacher further agrees to devote full time during days of school to the Teacher's position and in all respects to diligently and faithfully perform the assigned duties to the best of the Teacher's professional ability. Regular dependable in-person attendance is an essential function of the Teacher's position.

THIRD: Extra Duty Assignments. In addition to the normal duties traditionally required of certificated employees, the Teacher may be assigned "extra duty" assignments by the District. Such assignments shall be upon such terms and conditions and at such additional rate of compensation as the Teacher and the District may agree upon; provided, that the Teacher shall not unreasonably refuse to accept such assignments. Duty assignments which do not require a teaching or administrative certificate are on an at-will basis, shall be subject to removal without cause and shall not be subject to continuation or renewal as part of this Teacher's Contract.

FOURTH: Contract Termination. To the extent this Contract is subject to the continuing contract statutes, this Contract may be amended, cancelled or terminated subject to required procedures in the event the Teacher violates any of the provisions of this Contract, or performs any act or does anything which is materially harmful to the employer, or which substantially inhibits the Teacher's ability to discharge the duties as set forth herein, including, but not limited to (1) failing to become qualified, or becoming legally disqualified, to teach in the State of Nebraska in Teacher's assigned area; (2) participation in any fraud; (3) causing any intentional damage to property; (4) engaging in any unlawful act as may be outlined in Board Policy and the Teacher Handbook; (5) just cause, including: (a) incompetency, which includes, but is not limited to, demonstrated deficiencies or shortcomings

in knowledge of subject matter or teaching or administrative skills; (b) neglect of duty; (c) unprofessional conduct; (d) insubordination; (e) immorality; (f) physical or mental incapacity; (g) failure to give evidence of professional growth as required by law; or (h) other conduct which interferes substantially with the continued performance of duties. Non-renewal, suspension or other disciplinary action may be enforced in accordance with applicable law. This Contract and assignments, to the extent they are not subject to the continuing contract statutes, are terminable at will without cause or hearing.

FIFTH: Legal Requirements. The Teacher affirms that: (1) Teacher holds or will hold a valid and appropriate certificate to act as a certificated employee in the State of Nebraska to perform the assigned duties throughout the term of this Contract and any extensions of this Contract; (2) the required certificate to perform the assigned duties shall be registered as required by law; it being understood and agreed that this contract is not valid until the required certificate is registered in accordance with law and that the Teacher shall not be compensated for services performed prior to the date of registration of this certificate; (3) Teacher is not under contract with another board of education within the State of Nebraska covering any part of or all of the same time of performance as provided for in this Contract and (4) there shall be no penalty for release or resignation by Teacher from this Contract; provided no resignation shall become effective until expiration of the remaining term of the Contract unless the Board fixes an earlier effective date. This Contract is subject to provisions of the School Teachers Retirement Act. The Teacher further warrants and represents as follows: (1) all information set forth in the Teacher’s application for employment and other information provided by the Teacher in seeking employment are true and accurate, and if said information ceases to be true, Teacher will advise the Superintendent immediately; (2) Teacher has never been convicted or plead no contest or otherwise been adjudicated as having committed a felony, any other offense involving moral turpitude or any other offense involving abuse, neglect, or sexual misconduct as defined in Sections 003.12 through 003.14 of 92 NAC 21; and (3) Teacher has not suffered suspension or revocation of any educational professional license or certificate, nor voluntarily surrendered such a license or certificate where charges or potential charges were pending or imminent. If this is an initial contract with the District, it is conditional upon receipt of a satisfactory criminal background and child abuse registry check.

SIXTH: Renewal. Hereafter, this contract may be continued by a separate, annual written “Renewal Agreement” which shall incorporate all the provisions hereof by reference except as stated on such Renewal Agreement. Renewal Agreements must be executed by the Teacher and delivered to the Superintendent of Schools or the Secretary of the Board of Education of the District within fifteen calendar days of receipt thereof from the District. Said Renewal Agreement shall not be required to be signed by the Teacher prior to March 15. Failure to return the Renewal Agreement or an intent card by the required date shall constitute grounds for termination.

Executed this 23rd day of March, 2026	Executed this 9th day of April, 2026
<p style="text-align: center;">_____ Kate Millington</p>	<p>Board of Education of Butler County School District 0056, a/k/a David City Public Schools</p> <p>By: _____ Board President</p> <p>Attest: _____ Board Secretary</p>

Please return by Tues March 24, 20256

BA+0 Step 1: \$43,050; no previous experience
Asst HS Speech: 5.5%; \$2368
Other extra duty assignments possible

Katemill426@gmail.com
402-290-4165