Board of Education Budget Meeting

School District of Seward

410 South Street

Seward, NE 68434

Monday, August 24, 2026 5:00 PM

Attendance Taken at 5:01 PM.

Paul Duer: Present

Matt Hastings: Present

Jill Hochstein: Present

Ryne Seaman: Absent

Danielle Shipley: Present

Shawn Svoboda: Present

Attendance Update Taken at 5:15 PM.

Ryne Seaman: Present

1. Preliminary Procedures

1.1. Call meeting to order & announce Open Meetings Act is Posted

1.2. Public Notice as publicized per board policy

The public notice was publicized in the Seward County Independent and posted at city hall, library and courthouse. The public notice was dated August 19, 2026.

1.3. Roll Call

1.3.1. Action to excuse board members if necessary

Motion to excuse Ryne Seaman from tonight's meeting Passed with a motion by Jill Hochstein and a second by Matt Hastings.
Paul Duer: Yea, Matt Hastings: Yea, Jill Hochstein: Yea, Danielle Shipley: Yea, Shawn Svoboda: Yea

1.4. Pledge of Allegiance

1.5. **1.5 Mission** Seward Public Schools - a district rooted in excellence - in cooperation with family and community members is committed to the development of the whole student and affirms that all students will have the skills to become productive, resilient, and contributing members of their community.

1.6. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda as presented Passed with a motion by Shawn Svoboda and a second by Danielle Shipley.
Paul Duer: Yea, Matt Hastings: Yea, Jill Hochstein: Yea, Danielle Shipley: Yea, Shawn Svoboda: Yea

2. Public Forum: (The Board President reserves the right to place time limits on individuals and topics.)

2.1. Public Forum on Agenda Items: This is your opportunity to speak to items on the agenda. If you are not a part of the presentation of the agenda item you need to speak now. Thank you for your participation.

There was none.

2.2. Public Forum on Any Topic: This is your opportunity to speak to any topic concerning the school district. Since it is not an agenda item the board cannot discuss or take action at this time on the matter. Future discussion can be requested as an agenda item. Thank you for your participation.

There was none.

3. Discussion Items

3.1. 2026-2027 Budget Discussion

Dr. Fields discussed the 26-27 proposed budget with the board.

4. Action Items

4.1. Seward Milford Girls Wrestling Coop

Motion to approve a two-year girls wrestling coop with Milford Public Schools and Seward Public Schools starting in the 2026-2027 school year. Passed with a motion by Paul Duer and a second by Shawn Svoboda.
Paul Duer: Yea, Matt Hastings: Yea, Jill Hochstein: Yea, Ryne Seaman: Yea, Danielle Shipley: Yea, Shawn Svoboda: Yea

5. Consent Agenda

5.1. Approval of Claims

5.1.1. General Fund

5.2. Approval of Consent Agenda

Motion to approve the consent agenda as presented Passed with a motion by Danielle Shipley and a second by Jill Hochstein.
Paul Duer: Yea, Matt Hastings: Yea, Jill Hochstein: Yea, Ryne Seaman: Yea, Danielle Shipley: Yea, Shawn Svoboda: Yea

6. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:12 PM with the next study session and regular board meeting scheduled for Monday, September 14 at 5:30 PM Passed with a motion by Jill Hochstein and a second by Matt Hastings.
Paul Duer: Yea, Matt Hastings: Yea, Jill Hochstein: Yea, Ryne Seaman: Yea, Danielle Shipley: Yea, Shawn Svoboda: Yea

Please publish the following legal notice in the August 19, 2026 edition of the *Seward County Independent.* Thank you.

NOTICE OF SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

The board of education of the School District of Seward will hold a board meeting on Monday, August 24, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. The purpose of the meeting is for budget review, year end claims, and other pertinent business. The meeting will be held at the Administrative Offices located at 410 South Street, Seward, NE. An agenda for the meeting which shall be kept continually current is readily available for public inspection at the Superintendent's Office during normal business hours.

To view the agenda go to http://SewardPublicSchools.org/ and find the eMeeting link.

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SEWARD BUDGET

2026-2027

Mission of Seward Public Schools

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

GOALS FOR THE EVENING

1. Describe our past and present financial situation along with some comparable data.
2. Describe the effect this proposed budget would have on local property taxes
3. Expenditures/increased costs
4. Receive feedback from Board Members on any proposed changes

BUDGET PROCESS

- Fiscal Year for Schools – Sept. 1 to Aug. 31
- Budget must be adopted and submitted to the state by September 30.
- The discussion we have tonight does not constitute a hearing, and no action will be taken on the budget.
- Pink Postcard September 21, 2025 at 7:00 pm Harvest Hall
- Budget Hearing, Tax Request Hearing? Will depend upon our discussion tonight-

Other Information

- NDE Budget
- Budget Authority- The total amount of funds that can be budgeted and or expended- We would not spend that amount.
- Revenue/Tax Authority- Board Discussion
- Access to prior year's unused budget authority- 2% of the prior years adjusted general fund expenditures or prior year's unused budget authority

Cash Reserve General Fund

- 35%- General Fund
- 2-3 months in our low month which is now has changed due to foundation aid- December is our lowest now. 1.8-1.85 million a month on average in spending
- Could have over 9 million in Cash Reserves account

Cash Reserves

- $5,400,000 would give us the 3 months during our low month of the year
- We do not utilize a cash reserves account it is in the budget.

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

THERE IS A LOT OF DISCUSSION ABOUT PROPERTY TAXES—THERE HAS BEEN FOR YEARS

- Historic Foundation Aid for SPS over the last three years
- Special Ed. Reimbursement was around 78-79% last year but that might be changed for this coming year?
- Quick explanation of how the TEEOSA Works and the changes this year with foundation aid.
- TEEOSA was set up to level the playing field in terms of tax levies--there are still obvious discrepancies.

DATA COMPARISONS TO THE 10 LARGER AND 10 SMALLER SCHOOLS (OUR STATE AID/FOUNDATION AID ARRAY) 20 out 144 districts

2026-2027 Statistical Information on 10 Larger-10 Smaller Schools

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

ASSESSED VALUATION

Fiscal Year	Property Valuation	Change	Percentage Increase
2012-2013	$ 1,067,156,248	#REF!	#REF!
2013-2014	$ 1,185,364,177	$ 118,207,929	11.08%
2014-2015	$ 1,389,634,455	$ 204,270,278	17.23%
2015-2016	$ 1,472,775,392	$ 83,140,937	5.98%
2016-2017	$ 1,538,357,114	$ 65,581,722	4.45%
2017-2018	$ 1,573,912,154	$ 35,555,040	2.31%
2018-2019	$ 1,613,503,350	$ 39,591,196	2.52%
2019-2020	$ 1,611,210,672	$ (2,292,678)	-0.14%
2020-2021	$ 1,628,308,485	$ 17,097,813	1.06%
2021-2022	$ 1,680,093,238	$ 51,784,753	3.18%
2022-2023	$ 1,765,502,611	$ 85,409,373	5.08%
2023-2024	$ 1,896,876,595	$ 131,373,984	7.44%
2024-2025	$ 2,007,893,020	$ 111,016,425	5.85%
2025-2026	$ 2,191,752,753	$ 183,859,733	9.16%
2026-2027	$ 2,362,882,568	$ 171,129,815	7.81%

Breakdown of Taxes

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

STATE AID/FOUNDATION AID HISTORY

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

12 YEAR PROPERTY LEVY HISTORY

Year	Property Valuation	Valuation Percent Increase	General Fund Levy	Bldg. Fund Levy	Bond Levy	QCPU Levy	Total Levy
2015-2016	$ 1,472,775,392	#######	0.826	0.050	0.102	0.009	0.987
2016-2017	$ 1,538,357,114	4.45%	0.797	0.050	0.102	0.008	0.957
2017-2018	$ 1,573,912,154	2.31%	0.797	0.040	0.102	0.008	0.947
2018-2019	$ 1,613,503,350	2.52%	0.789	0.030	0.103	0.009	0.931
2019-2020	$ 1,611,210,672	-0.14%	0.822	0.020	0.105	0.008	0.955
2020-2021	$ 1,628,308,485	1.06%	0.840	0.012	0.090	0.008	0.950
2021-2022	$ 1,680,093,238	3.18%	0.840	0.020	0.085	0.008	0.953
2022-2023	$ 1,765,502,611	5.08%	0.850	0.010	0.080	0.007	0.947
2023-2024	$ 1,896,876,595	7.44%	0.710	0.007	0.085	0.000	0.802
2024-2025	$ 2,007,893,020	5.85%	0.670	0.020	0.083	0.000	0.773
2025-2026	$ 2,191,752,753	9.16%	0.630	0.020	0.080	0.000	0.740
2026-2027	$ 2,350,334,909	7.24%	0.600	0.190	0.082	0.000	0.710
Averages	$ 1,777,543,358	**4.09%**	**$ 0.764**	**$ 0.039**	**$ 0.092**	**$ 0.005**	**$ 0.888**

Change in Cash Flow- School Tax Credit

- Replaces the income tax credit individuals received on taxes paid to the school.
- The state paid the property credit portion in two payments.
  - On or before January 1st
  - On or before April 1st

Impacts

- Higher cash balance now in May 2026
- Lower November- and October Tax Draws- 20-30% lower

CASH HISTORY AS OF JULY 31, 2026

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

GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES

GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURE HISTORY- 3.2% 10- year average

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

Why behind expenditures

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

PROPOSED BUDGET OF EXPENDITURES

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

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING AND BUDGET SUMMARY

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

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

FUNDS	Actual Disbursements & Transfers 2024-2025 (1)	Actual/Estimated Disbursements & Transfers 2025-2026 (2)	Budgeted Disbursements & Transfers 2026-2027 (3)	Necessary Cash Reserve (4)	Total Available Resources Before Property Taxes (5)	Total Personal and Real Property Tax Requirement (7)
General	$ 20,483,473.00	$ 23,685,000.00	$ 27,628,652.00	$ -	$ 13,518,001.00	$ 14,253,183.00
Depreciation	$ 242,453.00	$ 200,000.00	$ 1,374,560.00		$ 1,374,560.00	
Employee Benefit	$ 576.00	$ 10,320.00	$ 5,000.00	$ 21,186.00	$ 26,186.00	
Contingency	$ -	$ -	$ -		$ -	
Activities	$ 750,945.00	$ 765,000.00	$ 785,000.00	$ 390,500.00	$ 1,175,500.00	
School Nutrition	$ 940,359.00	$ 987,500.00	$ 944,500.00	$ 223,084.00	$ 1,167,584.00	
Bond	$ 1,553,965.00	$ 1,950,300.00	$ 2,103,000.00	$ 1,796,561.00	$ 1,979,561.00	$ 1,939,394.00
Special Building	$ 612,458.00	$ 575,000.00	$ 25,276,790.00		$ 24,829,790.00	$ 451,515.00
Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking	$ 4,000.00	$ -	$ -	$ 1,135.00	$ 1,135.00	$ -
Cooperative	$ 196,425.00	$ 158,000.00	$ 165,000.00	$ -	$ 165,000.00	
Student Fee	$ -	$ -	$ 1,291.00	$ -	$ 1,291.00	
	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	
TOTALS	$ 24,784,654.00	$ 28,331,120.00	$ 58,283,793.00	$ 2,432,466.00	$ 44,238,608.00	$ 16,644,092.00

	Bond Purposes	Non-Bond Purposes	Total
Breakdown of Property Tax	$ 1,939,394.00	$ 14,704,698.00	$ 16,644,092.00

GENERAL FUND CASH

GENERAL FUND CASH

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

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

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

OTHER FUNDS

BOND Fund

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

QUALIFIED CAPITAL PURPOSES UNDERTAKING FUND

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

COOPERATIVE FUND

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

SPECIAL BUILDING FUND

- Last year we levied $400,000 at $ .02.
- I have it set at $.019 again for $447,000-

PROPERTY TAX AND LEVY IMPACT

Why consider approving the revenue authority

- Thoughts on approving and not using?
- Credit Limit on a credit card-
- Similar to budget authority

Discussion Numbers

- If approved move our credit limit by $1,282,872 to $16,090,122.
- Thoughts on the philosophy of the Revenue Authority- Do you approve and not use or wait to see year to year if needed to approve?

What does a Penny Generate?

Last year a penny will generate $219,000

This year a penny will generate $ 235,000

PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX IMPACT FOR ALL TAXABLE FUNDS-

2025-2026 Budget Information

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

2026-2027 Budget Information

2026-2027 Operating Budget	2026-2027 Proposed Property Tax Request	Proposed 2026 Tax Rate
27,628,652.00	14,253,183.00	0.606432
2,103,000.00	1,939,394.00	0.082516
		0.000000
		0.000000
		0.000000
25,276,790.00	451,515.00	0.019211
-	-	0.000000
		0.000000
		0.000000
55,008,442.00	16,644,092.00	0.708159

25-26

26-27

PROPERTY TAX ASKING HISTORY

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

Notice of Special Hearing To Set Final Tax Request

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

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

	2025-2026	2026-2027	Change
Property Valuations	2,191,752,753	2,350,334,909	7%

	2025-2026 Budget Information				2026-2027 Budget Information				
Fund	2025-2026 Operating Budget	2025-2026 Property Tax Request	2025 Tax Rate	Property Tax Rate (2025-2026 Request **Divided By** 2026 Valuation)	2026-2027 Operating Budget	2026-2027 Proposed Property Tax Request	Proposed 2026 Tax Rate	Change in Tax Rate	Change in Operating Budget
General Fund	26,535,948.00	13,891,980.00	0.633830	0.591064	27,628,652.00	14,253,183.00	0.606432	-4%	4%
Bond Fund(s) K - 12	1,950,300.00	1,818,182.00	0.082956	0.077358	2,103,000.00	1,939,394.00	0.082516	-1%	8%
Bond Fund(s) K - 8			0.000000	0.000000			0.000000	#DIV/0!	0
Bond Fund(s) 9 - 12			0.000000	0.000000			0.000000	#DIV/0!	0
Bond Fund ____________			0.000000	0.000000			0.000000	#DIV/0!	0
Special Building Fund	918,775.00	444,444.00	0.020278	0.018910	25,276,790.00	451,515.00	0.019211	-5%	2651%
Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Fund K - 12			0.000000	0.000000	-	-	0.000000	#DIV/0!	0
Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Fund K - 8			0.000000	0.000000			0.000000	#DIV/0!	0
Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Fund 9 - 12			0.000000	0.000000			0.000000	#DIV/0!	0
Total	29,405,023.00	16,154,606.00	0.737063	0.687332	55,008,442.00	16,644,092.00	0.708159	-4%	87%

Depreciation

- I propose adding $200,000 to the depreciation account for the 2026-2027 School Budget

SUMMARY

- General Fund –3% increase to our general fund for staff/insurance costs. As a reminder salary/insurance increase will be around $ 600,000 for staff
- Bond Fund – We will be able to pay off Middle School Bond I hope in June 2027 and will budget for new bond 27/28 budget year.
- Special Building Fund: I have it at .019 to keep the overall ask at $447,0000
- Total tax asking 3.0% increase.
- QCPUF- Need to consider down the road if we get a loan.
- No Pink Postcard- Budget and Tax Request Hearing Sept.

QUESTIONS AND/OR COMMENTS

- Again, this is a proposal. If you want clarification or if you want to recommend changes, now is the time to do so. I want to know what your support is tonight, rather than wait until our September 14 board meeting to find out you disagree.
- Again: $.01 levy = $235,000 in terms of property taxes requested.

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SEWARD BUDGET

2026-2027

Mission of Seward Public Schools

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

GOALS FOR THE EVENING

1. Describe our past and present financial situation along with some comparable data.
2. Describe the effect this proposed budget would have on local property taxes
3. Expenditures/increased costs
4. Receive feedback from Board Members on any proposed changes

BUDGET PROCESS

- Fiscal Year for Schools – Sept. 1 to Aug. 31
- Budget must be adopted and submitted to the state by September 30.
- The discussion we have tonight does not constitute a hearing, and no action will be taken on the budget.
- Pink Postcard September 21, 2025 at 7:00 pm Harvest Hall
- Budget Hearing, Tax Request Hearing? Will depend upon our discussion tonight-

Other Information

- NDE Budget
- Budget Authority- The total amount of funds that can be budgeted and or expended- We would not spend that amount.
- Revenue/Tax Authority- Board Discussion
- Access to prior year's unused budget authority- 2% of the prior years adjusted general fund expenditures or prior year's unused budget authority

Cash Reserve General Fund

- 35%- General Fund
- 2-3 months in our low month which is now has changed due to foundation aid- December is our lowest now. 1.8-1.85 million a month on average in spending
- Could have over 9 million in Cash Reserves account

Cash Reserves

- $5,400,000 would give us the 3 months during our low month of the year
- We do not utilize a cash reserves account it is in the budget.

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

THERE IS A LOT OF DISCUSSION ABOUT PROPERTY TAXES—THERE HAS BEEN FOR YEARS

- Historic Foundation Aid for SPS over the last three years
- Special Ed. Reimbursement was around 78-79% last year but that might be changed for this coming year?
- Quick explanation of how the TEEOSA Works and the changes this year with foundation aid.
- TEEOSA was set up to level the playing field in terms of tax levies--there are still obvious discrepancies.

DATA COMPARISONS TO THE 10 LARGER AND 10 SMALLER SCHOOLS (OUR STATE AID/FOUNDATION AID ARRAY) 20 out 144 districts

2026-2027 Statistical Information on 10 Larger-10 Smaller Schools

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

ASSESSED VALUATION

Fiscal Year	Property Valuation	Change	Percentage Increase
2012-2013	$ 1,067,156,248	#REF!	#REF!
2013-2014	$ 1,185,364,177	$ 118,207,929	11.08%
2014-2015	$ 1,389,634,455	$ 204,270,278	17.23%
2015-2016	$ 1,472,775,392	$ 83,140,937	5.98%
2016-2017	$ 1,538,357,114	$ 65,581,722	4.45%
2017-2018	$ 1,573,912,154	$ 35,555,040	2.31%
2018-2019	$ 1,613,503,350	$ 39,591,196	2.52%
2019-2020	$ 1,611,210,672	$ (2,292,678)	-0.14%
2020-2021	$ 1,628,308,485	$ 17,097,813	1.06%
2021-2022	$ 1,680,093,238	$ 51,784,753	3.18%
2022-2023	$ 1,765,502,611	$ 85,409,373	5.08%
2023-2024	$ 1,896,876,595	$ 131,373,984	7.44%
2024-2025	$ 2,007,893,020	$ 111,016,425	5.85%
2025-2026	$ 2,191,752,753	$ 183,859,733	9.16%
2026-2027	$ 2,362,882,568	$ 171,129,815	7.81%

Breakdown of Taxes

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

STATE AID/FOUNDATION AID HISTORY

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

12 YEAR PROPERTY LEVY HISTORY

Year	Property Valuation	Valuation Percent Increase	General Fund Levy	Bldg. Fund Levy	Bond Levy	QCPU Levy	Total Levy
2015-2016	$ 1,472,775,392	#######	0.826	0.050	0.102	0.009	0.987
2016-2017	$ 1,538,357,114	4.45%	0.797	0.050	0.102	0.008	0.957
2017-2018	$ 1,573,912,154	2.31%	0.797	0.040	0.102	0.008	0.947
2018-2019	$ 1,613,503,350	2.52%	0.789	0.030	0.103	0.009	0.931
2019-2020	$ 1,611,210,672	-0.14%	0.822	0.020	0.105	0.008	0.955
2020-2021	$ 1,628,308,485	1.06%	0.840	0.012	0.090	0.008	0.950
2021-2022	$ 1,680,093,238	3.18%	0.840	0.020	0.085	0.008	0.953
2022-2023	$ 1,765,502,611	5.08%	0.850	0.010	0.080	0.007	0.947
2023-2024	$ 1,896,876,595	7.44%	0.710	0.007	0.085	0.000	0.802
2024-2025	$ 2,007,893,020	5.85%	0.670	0.020	0.083	0.000	0.773
2025-2026	$ 2,191,752,753	9.16%	0.630	0.020	0.080	0.000	0.740
2026-2027	$ 2,350,334,909	7.24%	0.600	0.190	0.082	0.000	0.710
Averages	$ 1,777,543,358	**4.09%**	**$0.764**	**$0.039**	**$0.092**	**$0.005**	**$0.888**

Change in Cash Flow- School Tax Credit

- Replaces the income tax credit individuals received on taxes paid to the school.
- The state paid the property credit portion in two payments.
  - On or before January 1st
  - On or before April 1st

Impacts

- Higher cash balance now in May 2026
- Lower November- and October Tax Draws- 20-30% lower

CASH HISTORY AS OF JULY 31, 2026

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

GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES

GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURE HISTORY- 3.2% 10- year average

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

Why behind expenditures

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

PROPOSED BUDGET OF EXPENDITURES

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

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING AND BUDGET SUMMARY

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

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

FUNDS	Actual Disbursements & Transfers 2024-2025 (1)	Actual/Estimated Disbursements & Transfers 2025-2026 (2)	Budgeted Disbursements & Transfers 2026-2027 (3)	Necessary Cash Reserve (4)	Total Available Resources Before Property Taxes (5)	Total Personal and Real Property Tax Requirement (7)
General	$ 20,483,473.00	$ 23,685,000.00	$ 27,628,652.00	$ -	$ 13,518,001.00	$ 14,253,183.00
Depreciation	$ 242,453.00	$ 200,000.00	$ 1,374,560.00		$ 1,374,560.00	
Employee Benefit	$ 576.00	$ 10,320.00	$ 5,000.00	$ 21,186.00	$ 26,186.00	
Contingency	$ -	$ -	$ -		$ -	
Activities	$ 750,945.00	$ 765,000.00	$ 785,000.00	$ 390,500.00	$ 1,175,500.00	
School Nutrition	$ 940,359.00	$ 987,500.00	$ 944,500.00	$ 223,084.00	$ 1,167,584.00	
Bond	$ 1,553,965.00	$ 1,950,300.00	$ 2,103,000.00	$ 1,796,561.00	$ 1,979,561.00	$ 1,939,394.00
Special Building	$ 612,458.00	$ 575,000.00	$ 25,276,790.00		$ 24,829,790.00	$ 451,515.00
Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking	$ 4,000.00	$ -	$ -	$ 1,135.00	$ 1,135.00	$ -
Cooperative	$ 196,425.00	$ 158,000.00	$ 165,000.00	$ -	$ 165,000.00	
Student Fee	$ -	$ -	$ 1,291.00	$ -	$ 1,291.00	
	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	
TOTALS	$ 24,784,654.00	$ 28,331,120.00	$ 58,283,793.00	$ 2,432,466.00	$ 44,238,608.00	$ 16,644,092.00

	Bond Purposes	Non-Bond Purposes	Total
Breakdown of Property Tax	$ 1,939,394.00	$ 14,704,698.00	$ 16,644,092.00

GENERAL FUND CASH

GENERAL FUND CASH

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

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

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

OTHER FUNDS

BOND Fund

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

QUALIFIED CAPITAL PURPOSES UNDERTAKING FUND

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

COOPERATIVE FUND

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

SPECIAL BUILDING FUND

- Last year we levied $400,000 at $ .02.
- I have it set at $.02 again for $440,000- To continue with roofing, HVAC and if needed other projects.

PROPERTY TAX AND LEVY IMPACT

Why consider approving the revenue authority

- Thoughts on approving and not using?
- Credit Limit on a credit card-
- Similar to budget authority

Discussion Numbers

- If approved move our credit limit by $1,282,872 to $16,090,122.
- Thoughts on the philosophy of the Revenue Authority- Do you approve and not use or wait to see year to year if needed to approve?

What does a Penny Generate?

Last year a penny will generate $219,000

This year a penny will generate $ 235,000

PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX IMPACT FOR ALL TAXABLE FUNDS-

2025-2026 Budget Information

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

25-26

2026-2027 Budget Information

	2026-2027 Operating Budget	2026-2027 Proposed Property Tax Request	Proposed 2026 Tax Rate
General	27,628,652.00	14,253,183.00	0.606432
Bond	2,103,000.00	1,939,394.00	0.082516
			0.000000
			0.000000
			0.000000
Special Build	25,276,790.00	451,515.00	0.019211
QCPUF	-	-	0.000000
			0.000000
			0.000000
Total	55,008,442.00	16,644,092.00	0.708159

26-27

PROPERTY TAX ASKING HISTORY

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

Notice of Special Hearing To Set Final Tax Request

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

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

	2025-2026	2026-2027	Change
Property Valuations	2,191,752,753	2,350,334,909	7%

	2025-2026 Budget Information				***2026-2027 Budget Information***				
Fund	2025-2026 Operating Budget	2025-2026 Property Tax Request	2025 Tax Rate	Property Tax Rate (2025-2026 Request **Divided By** 2026 Valuation)	2026-2027 Operating Budget	2026-2027 Proposed Property Tax Request	Proposed 2026 Tax Rate	Change in Tax Rate	Change in Operating Budget
General Fund	26,535,948.00	13,891,980.00	0.633830	0.591064	27,628,652.00	14,253,183.00	0.606432	-4%	4%
Bond Fund(s) K - 12	1,950,300.00	1,818,182.00	0.082956	0.077358	2,103,000.00	1,939,394.00	0.082516	-1%	8%
Bond Fund(s) K - 8			0.000000	0.000000			0.000000	#DIV/0!	0
Bond Fund(s) 9 - 12			0.000000	0.000000			0.000000	#DIV/0!	0
Bond Fund _____________			0.000000	0.000000			0.000000	#DIV/0!	0
Special Building Fund	918,775.00	444,444.00	0.020278	0.018910	25,276,790.00	451,515.00	0.019211	-5%	2651%
Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Fund K - 12			0.000000	0.000000	-	-	0.000000	#DIV/0!	0
Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Fund K - 8			0.000000	0.000000			0.000000	#DIV/0!	0
Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Fund 9 - 12			0.000000	0.000000			0.000000	#DIV/0!	0
Total	29,405,023.00	16,154,606.00	0.737063	0.687332	55,008,442.00	16,644,092.00	0.708159	-4%	87%

Depreciation

- I propose adding $200,000 to the depreciation account for the 2026-2027 School Budget

SUMMARY

- General Fund –3% increase to our general fund for staff/insurance costs. As a reminder salary/insurance increase will be around $ 600,000 for staff
- Bond Fund – We will be able to pay off Middle School Bond I hope in June 2027 and will budget for new bond 27/28 budget year.
- Special Building Fund: I have it at .019 to keep the overall ask at $447,0000
- Total tax asking 3.0% increase.
- QCPUF- Need to consider down the road if we get a loan.
- No Pink Postcard- Budget and Tax Request Hearing Sept.

QUESTIONS AND/OR COMMENTS

- Again, this is a proposal. If you want clarification or if you want to recommend changes, now is the time to do so. I want to know what your support is tonight, rather than wait until our September 14 board meeting to find out you disagree.
- Again: $.01 levy = $235,000 in terms of property taxes requested.