

FALLS CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
Minutes of the December 17, 2025  
School Board Meeting

The Falls City Board of Education met at 5:00 PM on December 17, 2025 in the Central Office at the Falls City Middle School.

{{Name: Agenda Item Name}}

1. Business Items:

1.1. Roll Call, Open Meetings Act Notice, and Pledge of Allegiance

1.2. Approval of Absences

1.3. Approval of Agenda

2. Informational Items/Reports:

2.1. Superintendent's Report:

2.2. Dr. Offner - Superintendent

3. Old/New Action Items: Budget Planning Session

3.1. Discussion on the external visit summary, strategic planning goals for 2026 - 2031, and review of the mission and vision

4. Executive Session: Requested by member, approved by majority, as per statute

5. Adjournment

---

President

---

Secretary

## Annual Planning Meeting Agenda

5:00 P.M. – Welcome and get food

Fill in all information in the Google Doc:

Remember, our focus is students – keep them the central focus

5:20 P.M. Session I: Review of External Visit

Whole Group Discussion:

- Identify Success Items, Strengths, and Items of Pride
- Individual Sharing of Items
- Charting and Recording of Individual Items

As we move forward to planning, we need to keep in mind (smart) -

- Specific
- Measurable
- Attainable
- Realistic
- Timely

We need to make sure that we focus on no more than 3 items under each category below – so we can make meaningful strides for our students

Reminder Goal Goal-setting criteria:

- Specific objectives
- Implementation timeline
- Responsible parties (Board, Supt., Admin., Teachers)

5:40 P.M. Session 2: Review the Strategic Goals and add items

Whole Group Discussion:

- Budget & Financial Stewardship
- Academic Excellence & Instructional Support
- Facilities Planning & Optimization
- Community Engagement & Communication

6:40 P.M. Session 3: Discussion on Mission Statement and Vision

- Should be short and meaningful
- Something staff can remember and utilize
- Should resonate with staff, students, and the community

7:00 P.M. Session 4: wrap up

7:30 P.M. – Adjourn

## **Falls City Public Schools**

### **External Continuous Improvement Visit Summary**

#### **Purpose of the External Visit**

A Nebraska external review team visited Falls City Public Schools (FCPS) on October 27–28, 2025 to evaluate the district’s improvement efforts, observe classrooms, interview stakeholders, and provide recommendations to support ongoing progress.

#### **Districtwide Improvement Priorities**

- Improve student achievement in English Language Arts (ELA).
- Improve student achievement in Math.
- Strengthen transitions between buildings (K–12).

#### **Key Progress & Student Results**

- ELA proficiency increased following CKLA implementation.
- Math proficiency increased from 40% to 56.8%.
- Science proficiency increased from 69% to 75%.
- District maintained a “Great” NEP rating for two consecutive years.

#### **Subgroup Growth:**

- Special Education math proficiency increased from 13% to 24%.
- Free/Reduced Lunch math proficiency increased from 31% to 48%.

#### **What Is Driving This Growth**

- High-quality instructional materials are implemented across all grade levels.
- Consistent MTSS systems with regular data cycles.
- Partnerships with ESU 4, DMG, and the WORDS Grant.
- Improved transition supports, including PAWS and Freshmen First Day.

#### **Commendations by Building**

##### **North School**

- Strong communication and collaboration among staff.
- Experienced staff committed to student success.
- Consistent math instruction and strong MTSS systems.

##### **South School**

- Highly collaborative and supportive staff culture.
- Strong pacing and high student engagement.
- Effective PBIS implementation with visible expectations.

##### **Middle School**

- Positive, family-centered school culture.
- Well-established PBIS system (ROAR tickets).
- Expanded learning opportunities such as robotics, eSports, and yearbook.

#### High School

- Strong school spirit and community pride.
- Teacher buy-in with literacy improvement work.
- Freshmen First Day supports smooth transitions.
- Wide range of career and college opportunities (SCC pathways, dual credit).

#### Districtwide Strengths

- Clear priorities supported by data and strong staff commitment.
- Effective curriculum implementation and PBIS across buildings.
- Strong partnerships with ESU 4, DMG, and WORDS Grant.

#### Recommended Next Steps

- Develop a consistent districtwide MTSS-A and MTSS-B framework.
- Create unified professional development and PLC structures.
- Adopt a Teaching & Learning Framework for instructional alignment.
- Review staffing structures to support classroom needs.
- Address facility needs for safety and modernization.
- Develop a comprehensive strategic plan with measurable goals.

**Overall Summary** - Falls City Public Schools has demonstrated strong progress in student achievement, instructional consistency, and supportive school culture. Continued alignment of districtwide systems will help sustain long-term growth.

# Falls City Public Schools District Initiatives Overview 2026 - 2031

## 1. Budget & Financial Stewardship

<i>Areas of Focus</i>	<i>Action Steps for 2026 – 2031</i>
<b>Revenue Adjustments:</b> Review and evaluate all current district expenditures to ensure alignment with fiscal priorities and long-term sustainability.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce SB (Special Building Fund) by \$0.05.</li> <li>• Anticipate a change of \$0.10 to \$0.13 to the General Fund.</li> <li>• Total change of \$0.05 to \$0.08.</li> </ul>
<b>District Reserve Management:</b> Build a district reserve level between \$3,000,000 to \$6,000,000 to ensure operational stability and readiness for unexpected needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3 years from now how to start</li> <li>• Amount we want to have</li> <li>• Timeline</li> </ul>

## 2. Academic Excellence & Instructional Support

<i>Areas of Focus</i>	<i>Action Steps for 2026 – 2031</i>
<b>Instructional Model Alignment:</b> Create a district instructional model to ensure consistent expectations and high-quality teaching practices across all schools.	
<b>MTSS Strengthening:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve PK–5 MTSS implementation.</li> <li>• Clarify and enhance MTSS tiers (T1, T2, T3) for grades 6–12.</li> </ul>
<b>Mission &amp; Vision Alignment:</b> Redo the district mission and vision goals across all grade levels to ensure coherence and alignment in academic programming.	
<b>Staffing Needs Evaluation:</b> Evaluate and adjust staffing structures to support academic programs, intervention systems, and student learning needs.	

### 3. Facilities Planning & Optimization

<i>Areas of Focus</i>	<i>Action Steps for 2026 – 2031</i>
<b>Space Utilization:</b> Review redeployment and optimization of district facilities and learning spaces for maximum efficiency and instructional alignment.	
<b>Ongoing Planning Work:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue progress on the BVH Space Study and do the Facility study</li> </ul>
<b>Long-Term Facility Priorities:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clarify long-range facility considerations, including Bond or Lease-Purchase (LP) options.</li> <li>• Establish districtwide priority rankings for facility needs.</li> <li>• Develop a 1-3 and 3 – 5 year plan</li> </ul>

### 4. Community Engagement & Communication

<i>Areas of Focus</i>	<i>Action Steps for 2026 – 2031</i>
<b>Perceptual Data Expansion:</b> Increase the collection and analysis of perceptual data to better understand community needs and priorities better.	
<b>Engagement Opportunities:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase the number of school-based events.</li> <li>• Increase district-wide events to strengthen community connection and visibility.</li> </ul>
<b>Communication Practices:</b> Strengthen communication expectations and approaches across the district to improve clarity, transparency, and trust.	

<p><b><i>Innovation in Communication:</i></b> Encourage the development and implementation of new communication strategies and ideas.</p>	

# District Priorities Summary

## Strategic Planning Goals 2026 - 2027

### 1. Budget & Financial Stewardship

#### **Expenditure Review:**

Review and evaluate all current district expenditures to ensure alignment with fiscal priorities and long-term sustainability.

#### **Revenue Adjustments:**

- Reduce SB (Special Building Fund) by \$0.05.
- Anticipate a change of \$0.10 to \$0.13 to the General Fund.
- Total change of \$0.05 to \$0.08.

#### **District Reserve Management:**

Build a district reserve level between \$3,000,000 to \$6,000,000 to ensure operational stability and readiness for unexpected needs

- Goal 3 to 5 years from now

### 2. Academic Excellence & Instructional Support

#### **Instructional Model Alignment:**

Create a district instructional model to ensure consistent expectations and high-quality teaching practices across all schools.

#### **MTSS Strengthening:**

- Improve PK–5 MTSS implementation.
- Clarify and enhance MTSS tiers (T1, T2, T3) for grades 6–12.

#### **Mission & Vision Alignment:**

Redo the district mission and vision goals across all grade levels to ensure coherence and alignment in academic programming.

#### **Staffing Needs Evaluation:**

Evaluate and adjust staffing structures to support academic programs, intervention systems, and student learning needs.

### 3. Facilities Planning & Optimization

#### **Space Utilization:**

Review the redeployment and optimization of district facilities and learning spaces to maximize efficiency and instructional alignment.

#### **Ongoing Planning Work:**

- Continue progress on the BVH Space Study and do the Facility study

***Long-Term Facility Priorities:***

- Clarify long-range facility considerations, including Bond or Lease-Purchase (LP) options.
- Establish districtwide priority rankings for facility needs.
- Develop a 1-3 and 3 – 5 year plan

**4. Community Engagement & Communication**

***Perceptual Data Expansion:***

Increase the collection and analysis of perceptual data to understand community needs and priorities.

***Engagement Opportunities:***

- Increase the number of school-based events.
- Increase district-wide events to strengthen community connection and visibility.

***Communication Practices:***

Strengthen communication expectations and approaches across the district to improve clarity, transparency, and trust.

***Innovation in Communication:***

Encourage the development and implementation of new communication strategies and ideas.