

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Education of Elwood Public School

A meeting of the Board of Education of Elwood Public School was convened in open and public session on Thursday, August 20, 2026 in the school library at the Elwood Public School, 502 First Avenue, Elwood, Nebraska. The roll was called and the following members were present or absent:

Notice of the meeting was given in advance by publication in accordance with the Board approved method for printing notice of meetings in the Cambridge Clarion (Valley Voice). Notice of this meeting was given in advance to all members of the Board of Education. The Secretary of the Board maintains a list of the news media requesting notification of meetings and advance notification to the listed media of the time and place of the meeting and the subjects to be discussed at this meeting was provided. Availability of agenda was communicated in the publicized notice and a copy of the Agenda was maintained as stated in the publicized notice. All proceedings of the Board of Education, except as may be hereinafter noted, were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

A. Call to order

Opening Statement

This meeting of the Board of Education of Elwood Public Schools is convened in open and public session on Thursday, August 20th, 2026 at 7:30 PM in the Elwood Public School library. The purpose of this meeting is to review and plan for the 2026-2027 Elwood Public School budget. Notice of this meeting was given in advance by publication in the Valley Voice, the posting of notice in at least 3 public locations and the Elwood Public Schools website. The Board of Education makes available at least one current copy of the Open Meetings Act posted in the meeting room at a location accessible to members of the public. The Act is posted on top of the bookshelf on the south wall of the meeting room.

Copy of the Open Meeting Act:

The Board of Education makes available at least one current copy of the Open Meetings Act posted in the meeting room at a location accessible to the members of the public. The Act is posted on the South wall of the meeting room.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

INSTRUCTIONS FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO WISH TO SPEAK: This is the portion of the meeting when members of the public may speak to the board about matters of public concern.

- **Getting Started:** When you have been recognized, please stand and state your name.

B.

- **Time Limit:** The board will generally allow a total of 15 minutes for the presentation of all public comments. Individuals may speak only one time, and must limit comments to around 5 minutes. If there are more than 3 individuals who wish to address the board, the 15 minutes will be divided equally between the number of speakers. These time limits may be changed by a majority vote of the board members in attendance to extend the time for a specific item or speaker.

C.

- **Personnel or Student Topic:** If you are planning to speak about a personnel or a student matter involving an individual, please understand that the district has a complaint policy and/or procedures to resolve such complaints and concerns. The Board requests that you follow the policy and procedures before addressing these matters with the Board. Board members will generally not respond to any questions you ask or comments about individual staff members or students.

D.

- **General Rules:** This is a public meeting for the conduct of business. Comments from the audience while others are speaking will not be tolerated. Lewd, obscene, profane, slanderous, threatening and hostile conduct or statements and fighting words (words whose mere utterance entails a call to violence) will not be tolerated.

E.

- **No Action by the Board:** The board will not act on any matter unless it is on the published agenda.

Motion to excuse Bryant and Kristy by Weissert seconded by Huyser. Motion passed 4-0-2

F. Public Comment

No Public Comment

G. Review of effective tax levy.

Discussion and review of the Effective Tax Rate. Information provided by information published on the Nebraska Department of Education website. Elwood Public School shows an effective levy of .267099.

H. Review District Valuation comparisons.

Valuation comparisons were reviewed all the way back to 2015-2016. District valuation shows growth since 2015. 10% growth for 2026-2027.

I. Review District Tax Asking and Levy comparison.

Discussion was held about Levy Comparison and Valuation examples were reviewed.

J. Discuss proposed budget for 2026-2027

Proposed budget was discussed for 2026-2027. Thoughts about proceeding with the proposed budget were expressed and questions were answered by Supt. Hatch.

Budget Hearing September 14th, 2026 7 pm

Tax Request Hearing September 14th to follow Budget Hearing.

Next regular meeting, September 14th to follow Tax Request Hearing.

Board ideas for next meeting.

K. Adjournment

Adjournment at 8:20 pm Motion by Moore seconded by Weissert. Motion carried 4-0-2

Minutes provided by Superintendent Hatch

Respectfully submitted,

Kristy Diefenbaugh, Recording Secretary
Gosper County District 37-0030
a/k/a Elwood Public School