

WESTSIDE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS ~ DISTRICT 66

Board of Education FY25 Budget Public Hearing Minutes ~ September 3, 2024

A public hearing on the 2024-2025 budget for Westside Community Schools was held in open and public session on September 3, 2024, beginning at 6:00 p.m., at Westside High School, 8701 Pacific Street, Omaha, Nebraska.

Board members present:

- Dana Blakely, President
- Adam Yale, Vice President
- Sarah Rider, Secretary
- Kris Karnes, Treasurer
- Meagan Van Gelder, Treasurer-Elect
- Beth Morrissette, Director

Notice of this budget hearing and required information was given by publishing advance notice in *The Daily Record* in Omaha, Nebraska prior to the hearing (August 30 and September 3, 2024), confirmation of which is attached to the official minutes. Advance notice also appeared on the front page of the District's website beginning on August 20, 2024, and appeared continuously up through the start of this public hearing, a copy of which is attached to the official minutes, as authorized by Board Policy 1220. Notice of this meeting and the availability of the agenda was simultaneously given to all members of the Board of Education and available to anyone at the Board of Education office. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public. Board member attendance is noted above.

District Staff in Attendance: Mike Lucas, Mark Weichel, Andrea Haynes, Brian Gabriel, Nick Lesiak, Molly Hurley, Kami Jessop, Kelcy Tapp, Laura Mann, Robert Aranda, Quinn McGuire, Garret Higginbotham, Becky Lowther, Abby Langner.

Others in Attendance*: Erin Froschheiser, Diane Cahill, Kit Williams. *Members of the public are not required to identify themselves to attend. Attendee names appearing in these minutes are those who signed a voluntary sign-in sheet.

At 6:00 p.m. Ms. Blakely called the public hearing to order. She welcomed the audience and confirmed with Ms. Hurley that public notice had been given of the meeting under the Nebraska Open Meetings Act and that a copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was posted at the meeting, as required by law. She acknowledged that the meeting had been publicly announced and the agenda was available to any interested parties.

Purpose of Hearing

Ms. Blakely announced that the purpose of the public hearing is to hear support, opposition, or observations relating to the proposed budgets for School District 66 for the 2024-2025 fiscal year. Mr. Brian Gabriel, District Officer of Business and Finance, reviewed expected budget expenditures for both levy and non-levy funds for FY25.

Non-levy fund budgets for FY25 total \$10,659,930: School Nutrition fund - \$7,909,930; Activities fund - \$2,500,000; and Student Fees fund - \$250,000. This is a decrease of \$532,770 (4.76%) from the amended FY24 budget for these funds, which totaled \$11,192,700.

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Levy fund budgets for FY25 total \$225,811,854: General fund - \$101,995,123; Employee Benefit fund - \$100,000; Bond fund - \$13,188,054; and Special Building fund - \$110,528,677 (a significant jump this year due to Phase II Bond projects). Overall, levy funds increased by \$93,306,097 (70.42%) from the amended FY24 budget for these funds, which totaled \$132,505,757.

The grand total of all FY25 fund budgets is \$236,471,783, compared to the amended FY24 total of \$143,698,457, which is an increase of \$92,773,326 or 64.56%. As in FY24, due to reserves being maintained at a sufficient level, the need for short-term borrowing through TANs has been eliminated for FY25.

Ms. Morrisette invited comments and questions from the Board and from those in attendance wishing to address the topic of the FY24 Budget.

The Public Hearing on the proposed FY25 property tax levy will be held at 6:00 p.m. on September 16, 2024, prior to the Board of Education Meeting. The Board vote to adopt the FY25 budget will occur at the September 16, 2024, Board of Education Meeting. The budget is due to the state auditor, the county clerk and NDE on September 30, 2024. Copies of Mr. Gabriel's Executive Summary, PowerPoint and the State of Nebraska Budget Form are included in the public hearing documents folder. The public hearing was adjourned at 6:11 p.m.



Sarah Rider, Secretary, Board of Education

**WESTSIDE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
NOTICE OF MEETING**

Notice is hereby given of a Budget Public Hearing and Board of Education Meeting for the Westside Community School District 66, Douglas County, in the State of Nebraska, to be held **September 3, 2024**, at **6:00 p.m.** at **Westside High School, 8701 Pacific St., Omaha, NE**. The **Public Hearing** will begin at **6:00 p.m.**; the **regular Board Meeting** will begin **immediately following adjournment of the Public Hearing**. The agendas, continually kept current, are available at the District Office. The meeting is open to the public.

8/30, 9/2, 9/3

ZNEZ



Proof of Publication

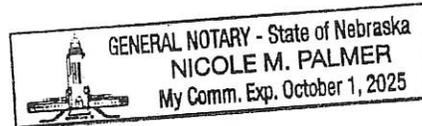
JASON W. HUFF, Publisher

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
The State of Nebraska,
District of Nebraska,
County of Douglas,
City of Omaha } ss.

JASON W. HUFF, being duly sworn, deposes and say that they are the PUBLISHER and/or MANAGING EDITOR of THE DAILY RECORD, of Omaha, a legal newspaper, printed and published daily in the English language, having a bona fide paid circulation in Douglas County in excess of 300 copies, and a general circulation in Sarpy, Lancaster, Cass and Dodge Counties, printed in Omaha, in said County of Douglas, Nebraska for more than fifty-two weeks last past; that the printed notice here-to attached was published in THE DAILY RECORD, of Omaha, for 3 consecutive weeks on:

8/30/24 9/2/24 9/3/24

That said Newspaper during that time was regularly published and in general circulation in the County of Douglas, and State of Nebraska.



Publisher's Fee \$40.98

Additional Copies \$ _____

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Total \$40.98

Jason W Huff

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this SEPTEMBER 03 2024

Nicole M Palmer
Notary Public in and for
Douglas County, State of Nebraska

