

## WESTSIDE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS ~ DISTRICT 66

### Board of Education FY26 Budget Public Hearing Minutes ~ September 8, 2025

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A public hearing on the 2025-2026 budget for Westside Community Schools was held in open and public session on September 8, 2025, beginning at 6:00 p.m., at Westside High School, 8701 Pacific Street, Omaha, Nebraska.

**Board members present:**

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

Notice of the meeting was given by placing advance notice on the front page of the District's website no less than 48 hours in advance of the scheduled commencement of the meeting as authorized by Board Policy 1220. Notice for this meeting appeared beginning on August 19, 2025, and appeared continuously up through the start of this board meeting. Notice of the meeting was also published in the Daily Record on September 5 and 8, 2025, and on their website at [omahadailyrecord.com](http://omahadailyrecord.com), as well as the NE Press Association website at [nepublicnotices.com](http://nepublicnotices.com). Copies of proof of publication are attached to the official minutes. 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.

**District Staff in Attendance:** Mike Lucas, Mark Weichel, Andrea Haynes, Brian Gabriel, Nick Lesiak, Molly Hurley, Kim De La Cruz, Kelcy Tapp, Matt Lee, Becky Lowther.

**Others in Attendance\*:** Diane Cahill. \*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. Mr. Yale called the public hearing to order. He 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. He acknowledged that the meeting had been publicly announced and the agenda was available to any interested parties.

#### **Purpose of Hearing**

Mr. Yale 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 2025-2026 fiscal year. Mr. Brian Gabriel, District Officer of Business and Finance, reviewed expected budget expenditures for both levy and non-levy funds for FY26.

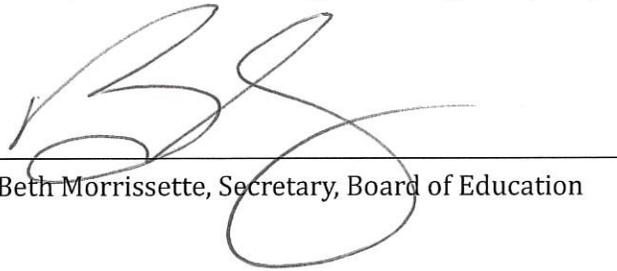
Non-levy fund budgets for FY26 total \$10,473,235: School Nutrition Fund - \$8,173,235; Activities Fund - \$2,000,000; Student Fees Fund - \$300,000. This is a decrease of \$786,695 (6.99%) from the FY25 amended budget for these funds, which totaled \$11,259,930.

**Board of Education FY26 Budget Public Hearing**  
**September 8, 2025**  
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Levy fund budgets for FY26 total \$203,533,959: General Fund - \$106,537,653; Employee Benefit Fund - \$54,071; Bond Fund - \$11,351,843; Special Building Fund - \$85,590,392. This is a decrease of \$59,277,895 (22.56%) from the FY25 amended budget for these funds, which totaled \$262,811,854.

The grand total of all FY26 fund budgets is \$214,007,194, compared to the amended FY25 total of \$274,071,784, which is a decrease of \$60,064,590, or 21.92%. The Public Hearing on the proposed FY25 Property Tax levy will be prior to the next Board of Education Meeting on September 22, 2025. The vote to adopt the FY26 budget will occur at the September 22nd Board of Education Meeting. The budget is due to the State Auditor, the County Clerk and NDE on September 30, 2025. Copies of Mr. Gabriel's Executive Summary, PowerPoint and the State of Nebraska Budget Form are included in the public hearing documents folder.

Mr. Yale invited comments and questions from the Board and from those in attendance wishing to address the topic of the FY26 Budget. Hearing none, the public hearing was adjourned at 6:14 p.m.



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Beth Morrissette, Secretary, Board of Education

**WESTSIDE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS  
NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given of a Board of Education FY26 Budget Public Hearing and regular Board Meeting for Westside Community Schools, District 66, Douglas County, in the State of Nebraska, to be held **September 8, 2025**, at **6:00 p.m.** at the **District Administration Office, 909 S. 76th St., Omaha, NE**. The agenda, continually kept current, is available at the District Office. The meeting is open to the public.

9/5, 9/8 ZNEZ



# The Daily Record

## Proof of Publication

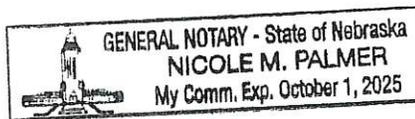
**JASON W. HUFF, Publisher**

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 2 consecutive weeks on:

9/5/25                      9/8/25

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

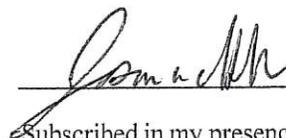


Publisher's Fee            \$27.42

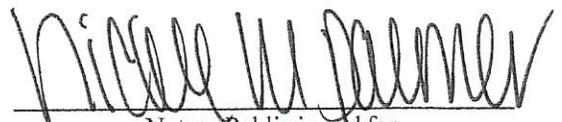
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Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before  
me this SEPTEMBER 12 2025



Notary Public in and for  
Douglas County, State of Nebraska

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**Notice Content**

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**NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING AND BUDGET SUMMARY**

Westside Community Schools (28-0066) in Douglas 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 8th day of September, 2025 at 6 o'clock, PM, at 909 South 76th Street, Omaha, NE 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> Actual Disbursements & Transfers 2023-2024 FUNDS (1) General \$93,027,854.98 Depreciation \$ Employee Benefit \$ 76,438.98 Contingency \$ Activities \$ 2,159,970.28 School Nutrition \$ 8,036,962.93 Bond \$ 8,279,617.40 Special Building \$ 17,647,544.47 Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking \$ Cooperative \$ Student Fee \$ 188,550.57 \$ TOTALS \$129,416,939.61 9/1-9/5 Actual/Estimated Disbursements & Transfers 2024-2025 (2) 96,456,715.70 45,928.94 1,596,355.19 8,081,749.86 47,731,985.60 70,823,788.66 \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ 120,000.00 \$ \$224,856,523.95 Budgeted Disbursements & Transfers 2025-2026 (3) \$106,537,653.00 \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ 54,071.06 2,000,000.00 8,173,235.05 11,351,843.08 85,590,391.54 \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ 300,000.00 \$ \$ \$214,007,193.73 Necessary Cash Reserve (4) 26,634,413.13 404,556.93 85,462.34 13,794,905.47 40,919,337.87 \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ Bond Purposes Breakdown of Property Tax|~\$~ 11,437,029.94 Total Available Resources Total Personal and Before Property Real Property Taxes Tax Requirement (5) (7) 92,184,293.86 \$ 41,401,789.27 54,071.06 2,404,556.93 8,258,697.39 13,824,088.61 \$ 82,356,527.60 \$ 300,000.00 \$ 11,437,029.94 3,266,528.94 199,382,235.45 \$ 56,105,348.15 I Non-Bond Purposes Total |\$ 44,668,318.21 |\$ 56,105,348.'I 5~| ZNEZ

*Web display limited to 1,000 characters. Please view the PDF for the complete Public Notice.*

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