

WESTSIDE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS ~ DISTRICT 66

Board of Education FY26 Property Tax Public Hearing Minutes ~ September 22, 2025

A Public Hearing for the 2025-2026 Property Tax Request for Westside Community Schools, School District 66, was convened by the Board of Education in open and public session on September 22, 2025, at 6:00 p.m., at the District Administration Office, 909 S. 76th St., Omaha, Nebraska.

Board members present:

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

Notice of the public hearing 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 public hearing appeared beginning on September 9, 2025, and appeared continuously up through the start of this board meeting. Notice of the public hearing was also published in the Daily Record on September 19 and 22, 2025, and on their website at omahadailyrecord.com, as well as the NE Press Association website at 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 Gabrial, Nick Lesiak, Molly Hurley, Kim De La Cruz, Kelcy Tapp, Robert Aranda, Matt Lee.

Others in Attendance*: Diane Cahill, Stephanie Adams. *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.

Mr. Yale called the Public Hearing to order at 6:00 p.m. He confirmed with Ms. Hurley that public notice had been given of the hearing under the Nebraska Open Meetings Act and that a copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was posted at the meeting and on the district website, as required by law. He acknowledged that the meeting had been publicly announced and the agenda was available to any interested parties. Board member attendance is noted above.

Mr. Yale welcomed the audience and announced that handouts of supporting documents dealing with issues being discussed during the public hearing were available. He stated that the purpose of this special public hearing was to hear opposition, support, or observations regarding the 2025-2026 Property Tax Request for the Westside Community Schools, District 66, as certified for the District by the Douglas County Clerk. Mr. Brian Gabrial, District Officer of Business and Finance reviewed the following valuations, tax needs and recommended levies for FY26:

Valuations: Property valuation is \$5,222,388,240, an increase of 4.96%. This percentage increase is higher than the increase in valuation last year, which was 3.46%. Real Estate valuation is \$5,016,533,600, an increase of 5.01%. Personal Business valuation is \$134,563,615, an increase of 4.75%. State Assessed valuation is \$71,271,025, an increase of 1.91%.

FY26 Property Tax Public Hearing

September 22, 2025

Page 2 of 2

Tax Need: In the General Fund, the tax need is \$41.4M; in the Bond Fund, the tax need is \$11.4M; and in the Special Building Fund, the tax need is \$3.3M.

Recommended levies: In the General Fund, the recommended levy is \$0.7928; in the Bond Fund, the recommended levy is \$0.2190; and in the Special Building Fund, the recommended levy is \$0.0625. Total levy is \$1.0743, which is a decrease of \$0.0213 cents, or 1.9%.

Approval of the FY26 property tax request will be presented for approval at the Board of Education meeting on October 6, 2025. Mr. Yale invited questions or comments from the Board and the audience. Hearing none, the public hearing was adjourned at 6:13 p.m.

Copies of Mr. Gabriel's Executive Summary and PowerPoint are included in the board documents folder.



Beth Morrissette, Secretary, Board of Education

**WESTSIDE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
NOTICE OF MEETING**

Notice is hereby given of a Board of Education FY26 Proposed Property Tax Request Public Hearing and regular Board Meeting for Westside Community Schools, District 66, Douglas County, in the State of Nebraska, to be held September 22, 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.

9/19, 9/22 ZNEZ



Proof of Publication

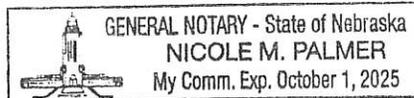
JASON W. HUFF, Publisher

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 2 consecutive weeks on:

9/19/25 9/22/25

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 \$28.67 Jason W. Huff
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Douglas County, State of Nebraska

Omaha Daily Record

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Monday, September 22, 2025

Notice Content

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