



Blair Community Schools

1326 Park Street

Blair, NE 68008

Blair Community Schools 2025-26 Annual Report

WE ARE BLAIR



Blair High School • Otte Blair Middle School

Arbor Park Elementary • Deerfield Elementary • South Early Learning Center



Mission Statement:

The Blair Community Schools. . . Where All Students Learn.

We Believe:

- Each child is unique with special talents.
- Human diversity is recognized and respected.
- Each student will achieve proficiency of essential content and skills.
- Change is necessary for continued growth.
- Efficient and effective use of technology will improve student learning.
- Frequent and varied assessments are essential for effective education.
- A supportive environment nurtures, challenges, and encourages students to reach their full potential.
- A safe and secure environment, including mutual respect and self-discipline, is essential for student learning.
- A partnership with the community, home, school, and student is necessary for student success.
- Thinking and problem-solving skills are essential for student learning.

Year in Review - 2024-2025

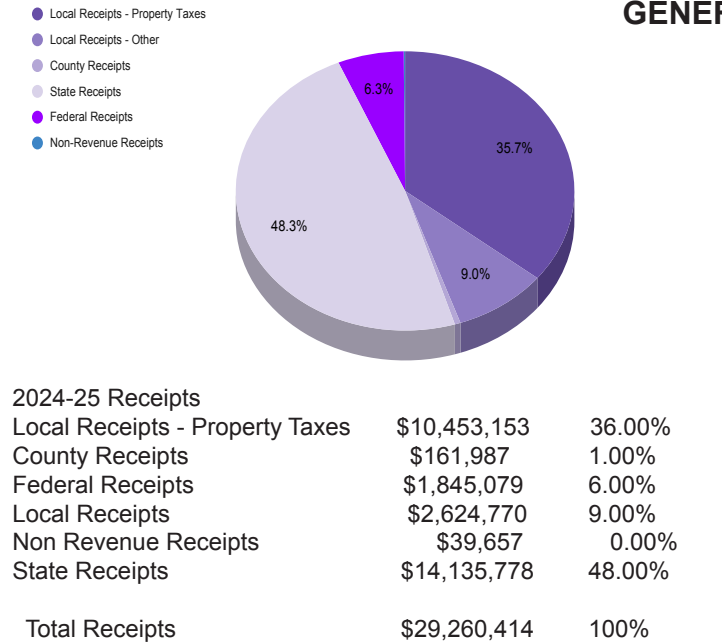
- Otte Middle School launched a new cross-country team; two runners took 1st place at their debut meet
- Arbor Park and Deerfield raised \$55,000+ through Fun Run, funding playground upgrades
- Purchased new facility for an Automotive Collision Technology & Engineering Program in partnership with Metropolitan Community College (MCC)
- Avenue Scholars toured Blair Water Treatment Plant with Eriksen Construction
- Homecoming King: Zeke Prochaska | Queen: Nadia Davey
- Sixpence hosted a family engagement event at Skinny Bones Pumpkin Patch
- Fall musical Cinderella showcased outstanding student talent
- Blair Career and Technical (BCAT) building officially opened
- Otte raised \$1,450 for Washington County Food Pantry during Blackout for Hunger
- 7th-8th grade marching bands earned superior ratings at Waverly parade
- Board member Steve Callaghan received the Poul Beck Outstanding Social Studies Educator Award
- BCS earned "Excellent" rating from Nebraska Department of Education for the 3rd consecutive year
- FFA milestone: first middle school LDE participation; 3 high school students earned purple ribbons; Parliamentary Procedure team placed 3rd
- Brooke Janning named Omaha World-Herald Class B All-State Softball Team Captain
- Blair High School Dance Team qualified for UDA National Championships (Orlando)
- BCS mobile app launched on Apple App Store and Google Play
- Celebrated Mark Kwikkel's 40 years as Certified Athletic Trainer
- Girls wrestling: EMC Duals champions; 2nd place at Schuyler Invitational (26 teams)
- 6th grade student selected for Omaha Performing Arts Jazz Academy (tenor saxophone)
- Wrestling success: 11 state qualifiers; Hudson Loges won his 2nd state title
- Announced updates to BHS Hall of Fame
- BHS competed in first-ever A Cappella competition, placing 5th
- Girls' basketball achieved best record since 1998 (15-11)
- Students participated in free drone course through Metropolitan Community College (MCC)
- Schools hosted International Women in Science Day with Evonik
- Washington County Cattlemen's Association donated \$5,000 to Blair FFA
- Student achievement: 3 SkillsUSA placers; 6 FBLA national qualifiers
- Mrs. Erin Field named Region 2 Assistant Principal of the Year
- BHS student placed 8th at State Speech
- Hosted first annual 3rd-5th grade track meet
- BCS named one of the Best Communities for Music Education for 5th year in a row
- BHS unveiled student mural celebrating inclusion and collaboration
- Girls soccer advanced to state semifinals

Blair Board of Education Members

- President: Bob Schoby
- Vice-President: Courtney Tabor
- Kari Loseke
- Denise Cada
- Steve Callaghan
- Nate Larsen
- Melaini Strurm



This report reflects the 2024–2025 school year. In addition to meeting the Nebraska Department of Education’s Rule 10 (010.01A) requirement, it provides an opportunity to share important information with our community. Statewide district data is available at www.education.ne.gov. All Blair Community Schools facilities and programs meet Rule 10 accreditation standards. The elementary schools, middle school, and high school continue to participate in the Nebraska Continuous Improvement Model, supporting ongoing school improvement efforts. Blair Community Schools remains committed to student success. Alongside academic achievement, the district continues to address mental health and wellness for both students and staff. Grant funding and district resources support access to school-based counseling services for students. The district also provides professional development focused on staff wellness and continues to expand awareness, education, and resources related to mental health, safety, and overall well-being.



VALUATION/LEVY			
2020-21	\$2,045,200,905	\$1.0860	
2021-22	\$2,098,392,910	\$1.0981	
2022-23	\$2,283,912,458	\$1.0776	
2023-24	\$2,632,040,875	\$0.8451	
2024-25	\$2,824,890,027	\$0.7732	

AQuESTT CLASSIFICATIONS

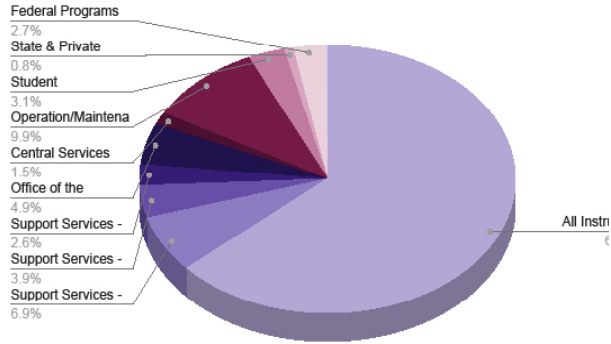
2023-24	Elementary	4 = Excellent
2024-25	Elementary	3 = Great
2023-24	Middle School	4 = Excellent
2024-25	Middle Scool	4 = Excellent
2023-24	High School	4 = Excellent
2024-2025	High School	3 = Great

Only 29.8% of all Nebraska Schools Receive an Excellent Ranking

GENERAL FUND

2024-25 Expenditures

All Instruction	\$18,136,618	63.00%
Federal Programs	\$773,020	3.00%
General Administration	\$731,,280	3.00%
Central Services Services	\$421,826	1.00%
Office of the Principal	\$1,414,381	4.86%
State Categorical Programs	\$222,685	1.00%
Maintenance-Operation Bldgs/Sites	\$2,828,601	10.00%
Support Services - Instruction	\$1,115,389	4.00%
Support Services - Students	\$1,974.304	7.00%
Transportation	\$900,449	3.00%
Community Services	\$1,554	0.00%
Transfer To Activity	\$80,000	0.00%
Total Expenditures	\$28,600,107	100.00%



ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

YEAR	BLAIR NSCAS GRADES 3-8					
	ELA	Math	Science	ELA	Math	Science
2021-22	47	46	66	47	46	66
2022-23	58	61	70	58	61	70
2023-24	59	58	74	59	58	74
2024-25	59	58	80	59	58	80

(Numbers listed represent the percentage of student proficiency)

STUDENT CHARACTERISTICS 2024-25

Characteristics	State Average	District
Eligible for free and reduced price meals	50.43%	23.81%
Moving in or out during the school year (mobility)	3.65%	2.35%
Learning the English language	10.34%	1.66%
Receiving special education services	17.00%	13.54%
High Ability Learning	13.13%	10.23%
Attendance rate	92.8%	94.66%
Drop Out rate	1.66%	<1%

GRADUATION RATES

	Year	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024
-25					
District		99.43%*	97.60%	96.91%	95.74%
State		87.12%*	87%	88%	87.09%

ACT

Year	Composite Scores 2017-18		
	Local	State	National
2021-22	20.6	19.4	19.8
2022-23	20.9	18.7	19.8
2023-24	20.7	19.1	19.4
2024-25*	21.0	19.2	19.5

*2 students scored 30 or above
*12 students scored 25 or above

POST SECONDARY PLANS

COLLEGE TYPE	%
Public	87.27%
Private	9.42%
2-year College	80.61%
4-year College	49.7%

CERTIFIED STAFF

Average Years of Teaching Experience

	State	District
2021-22	13.94	18.00
2022-23	13.86	16.00
2023-24	13.00	16.00
2024-25	14.00	15.00

% of Teachers with Master’s Degrees

	State	District
2021-22	57.72%	68.00%
2022-23	58.25%	65.00%
2023-24	59%	65.00%
2024-25	59%	63.00%

Average Teacher Salary

Blair	\$64,864.00
State	\$63,527.00
Student/Teacher Ratio	14.56

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES *

Elementary

Fall 2022 =	97.09%
Fall 2023 =	97.67%
Fall 2024 =	96.72%

Secondary*

Fall 2022 =	64.17%
Fall 2023 =	62.09%
Fall 2024 =	60.39%

STUDENT MEALS K-12 *

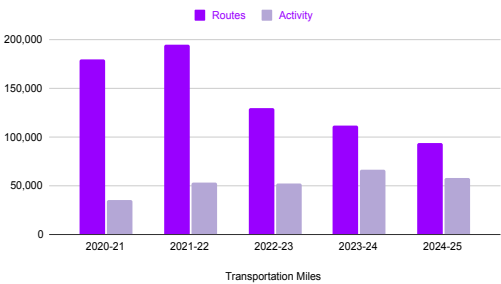
	Breakfast	Lunch
2021-22**	120,165	289,037
2022-23	40,638	221,417
2023-24	32,340	209,825
2024-25	40,565	180,006

*Totals include Free and Reduced Price Meals

**For all 2021-22 and the first semeste of 22-23 first meals were free to students through the USDA as part of their COV-program.



Routes and Activity



TRANSPORTATION

	Regular Route	Activity
2020-21	179,089	35,350
2021-22	194,666	53,004
2022-23	129,289	51,980
2023-24	112,059	66,859
2024-25	93,575	58,345

The District runs 7 regular routes twice daily. There are 547 scheduled riders on these routes.

Breakfast and Lunch

