

**BOONE COUNTY DISTRICT No. 17**  
**(aka ST. EDWARD PUBLIC SCHOOL)**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING**  
**St. Edward School Science Room – St. Edward, Nebraska**  
**Sunday, April 19, 2026, 2:00 p.m.**

The St. Edward Public School Board of Education conducted a regular meeting on Sunday, April 19, 2026. Advance notice of the meeting was published in The Albion News/Boone County Tribune on April 8, 2026.

**1. Opening Procedures - Regular Meeting**

- a. The meeting was called to order by President Roberts at 2:00 p.m. with members Merrell, Cumming, Christman, Reardon and Cruise, present. Also in attendance were Steve Osborn, Lindsay Tenski, Michael Roscoe, Tyler Gray, Hailey Osantowski, Damien Jones, Calvin Sindelar, Bristol Laska, Payton Kula, Ryan Cumming, Clarissa Toney
- b. Open Meeting Law Posted
- c. Pledge of Allegiance
- d. Excuse board members who are absent
- e. President Roberts set the next board meetings:
  1. Regular Monthly Meeting date: Monday, May 11, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

**Visitor/Patron Recognition:** Hailey Osantowski – FCCLA Sponsor and Students: They presented a slideshow highlighting the year’s events and accomplishments. They also shared preliminary plans for the 2026–2027 school year. Board members asked questions and engaged in discussion with the group.

Ryan Cumming – FFA Student gave a recap of State FFA Convention results and some highlights from the annual banquet. New 2026-2027 officers were named: Sentinel-Noah Ketelsen, Treasurer-Zaiden Huesman-Reporter Kate Werts, Secretary-Jocelin Bernal, Vice President-Kalvin Sindelar, President-Arlette Irineo. The Greenhand Award went to Max Kula. Star Farmer awards went to Ryan Cumming and Olivia Reardon. The Outstanding Senior award went to Josie Sock. An Honorary Chapter Degree was awarded to grandparent/community member Irais Irineo Pioquinto for her contributions to the program. Outgoing Seniors were recognized in a jacket retiring ceremony.

**2. Reports**

**a. Mr. Gray’s Activity Director Report**

- Spring Sports for both Junior High and High School are both in full swing
  - HS Track has competed in 3 meets thus far. 2 have been cancelled/postponed
    - Goldenrod Conference Meet – May 1<sup>st</sup> @ Burwell
  - JH Track has competed in 3 meets thus far
    - Goldenrod Conference Meet – May 4<sup>th</sup> @ Humphrey
- St. Edward hosted the Goldenrod Conference Music Contest on April 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - In total we hosted nearly 300 students from across the conference.
  - Thank you to Tami Texley, Terri Osborn, and Kyle Babb for helping organize and get things set up for this contest.
  - Thank you to the St. Edward staff for their help and work during the GRC Music Contest.
- St. Edward 7-12 Band and Choir will travel to Norfolk for the District Music Contest on April 24<sup>th</sup>.
- Summer Stuff
  - Summer Camps with dates are finalized and have been sent home to our Elementary, Junior High, and High School students. We have a good variety of camps that we offering to our students at most age levels.

- Weightlifting for our JH and HS athletes will start May 26. HS Boys @ 7 AM – HS Girls @ 8 AM – JH Boys/Girls @ 9 AM
- Athlete Recognition
  - Boys Basketball:
    - Ryan Cumming
      - Goldenrod Conference – Honorable Mention
      - Omaha World Herald – Honorable Mention
      - Norfolk Daily News – Honorable Mention
      - NCPA Academic All-State
    - Parker Fitchner
      - Goldenrod Conference – Honorable Mention
    - Dennis Bernal
      - NCPA Academic All-State
  - b. Girls Basketball
    - Kailey Patzel
      - Goldenrod Conference – 1<sup>st</sup> Team
      - Omaha World Herald – Honorable Mention
      - Norfolk Daily News – 2<sup>nd</sup> Team
    - Allyx Forre
      - Goldenrod Conference – 3<sup>rd</sup> Team
      - Omaha World Herald – Honorable Mention
      - Norfolk Daily News – Honorable Mention
    - Brylee Patzel
      - Goldenrod Conference – Honorable Mention
      - Omaha World Herald – Honorable Mention
    - Aubree Whitaker
      - Omaha World Herald – Honorable Mention
      - Norfolk Daily News – Honorable Mention
    - Katelyn Werts
      - Omaha World Herald – Honorable Mention
    - Macy Reardon
      - NCPA Academic All-State
    - Piper Jarecki
      - NCPA Academic All-State

**a. Mrs. Tenski’s Secondary Principal Report**

- The 3rd Quarter D.E.A.R. Incentive was held on March 3, 2026.
  - The students who earned the incentive were allowed to choose between the activities of watching a movie, playing board games, playing games in the gym (corn hole, ping pong, volleyball, basketball), and doing crafts (beading keychains and jewelry, painting on a canvas and/or flower pot). Students were allowed to move about the activities. They were also treated to ice cream sundaes and rootbeer floats.
- Speech:
  - Speech members competed at the Riverside Speech Meet on March 9, 2026.

- Noah Ketelsen placed 7th in Extemporaneous Speaking.
    - Calvin Sindelar placed 6th in Entertainment and 2nd in Humorous Prose
    - Kaden Albert performed his Poetry in the Unified Division and earned a ribbon.
  - Speech members competed at the District Speech Meet in Wayne of March 16, 2026.
    - Noah Ketelsen placed 7th in Poetry and 5th in Extemporaneous
    - Claire Tibor placed 4th in POI and 2nd in Serious Prose, Qualifying for State!
    - Calvin Sindelar placed 5th in Entertainment and was the District Champion in Humorous Prose, Qualifying for State!
  - State Speech was held on March 27, 2026.
    - Kaden Albert participated in Unified Poetry and received a medal.
    - Claire Tibor earned a 6th place medal in Serious Prose.
    - Calvin Sindelar placed 3rd in Humorous Prose.
- FFA News:
  - State FFA was held March 25-27, 2026. St. Edward had 16 students attend.
    - Olivia Reardon received Silver in Employment Skills.
    - The Ag Demo received 7th place Gold.
    - Jake Reardon received a Gold in Ag Literacy Speaking
    - Ryan Cumming was recognized as a Star Finalist in Ag Placement
    - Livestock Management Team placed 19th overall earning a red ribbon, with a 6th place finish in Dairy, a 9th place finish in Sheep, and the 5th highest score on the exam!
    - The Meats Team placed 26th, earning a white ribbon. Ryan Cumming earned a red ribbon individually.
    - In Agriscience, Max Kula earned a red ribbon.
- All Secondary Observations have been completed for the 2025-2026 school year.
- The St. Edward Volunteer Fire & Rescue Department hosted the annual Junior Fire Day at the Fire Department. Juniors from both St. Edward and Newman Grove attended the event. Students were able to participate in activities such as cutting a car open, a fire rescue with a smoke simulation, and learned about what it takes to become a firefighter and an EMT and the importance of serving your community.
- On March 23, 2026, Jay Martin, who serves as the Director of School Safety and Security for the Nebraska Department of Education presented to students in grades 6-12 on Digital Wisdom & Resiliency. He talked about how Chatbots, A.I., and social media, continue to create tension between maximizing digital engagement and ensuring youth safety. Digital platforms use surveillance and personal privacy tools with focused optimizing algorithms to capture personal data, time, and attention with insignificant regard to young users' health & well-being. The digital platforms' production to activate emotionally charged responses from youth exposes them to toxic and often harmful content with inadequate safeguards to protect them. When engaged in Tech they must learn to SMILE. - Security, Management, Identity, Literacy, and Ethics. Jay brings with him over 24 years of experience as a deputy sheriff in Nebraska as well as Colorado. He has worked with youth and educating youth for decades and also earned D.A.R.E. Officer of the Year.
- The K-12 Music Concert was held on March 23, 2026.
- State FCCLA was held March 29-31, 2026 in Lincoln.
  - Damien Jones - Job Interview, Level 3 - Bronze
  - Bristol Laska - Focus on Children, Level 2 - Silver
  - Payton Kula, Isabelle Laska, Saphira Pohl - Food Innovations, Level 1 - Silver
- The Juniors completed the ACT on March 24, 2026 at the Community Building.

- St. Edward hosted Goldenrod Conference Music on April 1, 2026.
  - Claire Tibor and Kaylee Applegarth received a rating of 1 on their vocal solos.
  - Choir and Band received a rating of 2 on their performances.
  - Bristol Laska received a rating of 2 on her vocal solo.
  - Kaylee Applegarth and Addison Applegarth received a rating of 2 on their duet.
- Spring NSCAS and MAPS testing is underway and approximately 75-80% complete.

### **b. Faculty/Student Recognition**

- Thank you to the Secondary Staff for helping make the D.E.A.R. Incentive successful and fun for the students.
- Thank you to the St. Edward Fire & Rescue Department for hosting Junior Fire Day!
- Congratulations to Calvin Sindelar, Kaden Albert, and Claire Tibor for your success at State Speech and to Calvin and Claire for qualifying for National Speech!
- Thank you to Jay Martin for presenting to our 6th-12th grade students on digital wisdom and resiliency.
- Congratulations to the FFA State competitors on their successful trip at State!
- Thank you to Ms. Tami Texley for setting up and running Conference Music and to all staff for helping make the day successful

### **b. Mr. Osborn's Superintendent/Elementary Principal Report**

#### **Elementary News**

- Mrs. Tenski and the staff have been busy with our Spring NSCAS/MAPS Testing at the elementary level and all seems to be going well.
- The 3<sup>rd</sup> grade class will be attending Farm Safety at the Boone County Fairgrounds on April 21<sup>st</sup>.
- Grades K-3 will be taking a field trip to the Columbus Children's Museum on April 23<sup>rd</sup>. They also plan to have lunch and other activities in the park before returning to St. Edward.
- Mrs. Reicks invited a Dental Hygienist to visit grades K-6 on Friday, April 10<sup>th</sup> to talk about taking care of your smile. The students enjoyed this activity, and it was a good learning experience.
- The 4<sup>th</sup> grade class are incubating eggs with high hopes for a high percentage hatching later this month.
- The school celebrated World Down Syndrome Day in March by wearing the WDS colors of blue and yellow and crazy socks. The 5th graders made posters advertising it and also made friendship bracelets for everyone in the school. Clara Ketelsen and different students went into each of the PK - 12 classrooms to tell them about WDS day and to ask them to wear the colors and bracelets. We also had a Pk-6 crazy socks coloring contest and Clara gave out Clara Choice Awards.
- Grades PK-6 participated in an "upshift" activity where they moved up to the next grade to spend some time with their next year's classroom teacher.
- 5th Grade is going to the Annual Nebraska Groundwater Festival held at CCC in Grand Island on May 12<sup>th</sup>
- The second grade are starting to learn money, which is always a fun unit with exciting added activities that the kids really enjoy! Earth Day, National Picnic Day, and Read a Book Outside Day are coming up, which the second-grade class participates in! Mrs. Krohn will combine these activities into one day and do a lesson on Earth Day at the park, have a picnic, read some books, and end it with some fun park play!

- Mrs. Rasmussen is having a visitor from the Arbor day foundation come in and he will be doing a presentation on Arbor day, and each student will go home with a container tree to plant at home. This is planned for April 24<sup>th</sup> at 10:30.
- Elementary Field day will take place on Friday May 8th at 1:00 location Football Field / Park. The alternate date will be May 11<sup>th</sup> in the case of inclement weather.

### **Project Updates**

- I have included quotes for replacing the dish washing machine in the kitchen. This is an action item on the agenda

### **Staffing**

- We are still looking for an assistant in the cafeteria. There has been some interest, but we are still in the process of accepting applications. Other than filling this position, I believe we are in good shape to begin the 2026-2027 school year.

### **Other Information:**

- The Impala recently had a collision with a deer and will go in for repairs on April 27<sup>th</sup>. It will cost us our \$500.00 deductible, and we should get at least another year of good service from the vehicle. It has been a very reliable spare!
- The Department of Education will be changing the elementary reading assessment to DIBELS. While not a new program, it will be new to our district and many others, and it is an unfunded mandate. This item on the agenda.

### **Upcoming Meeting and Conferences:**

- I am scheduled to attend the ESU 7 Superintendents' Meeting, on April 28, 2028.
- The next meeting that will take me out of district are some training opportunities, a possible budget workshop this summer, and Administrator Days late in July

### **Standing Committee Meeting**

- A second NGSE Coop Committee meeting was held at the NRCSA Conference. Coaching assignments and other items were discussed. The committee would like to start meeting more often moving forward.
- Policy Committee met on March 31<sup>st</sup> at 5:15 p.m. and reviewed policies 1040, 3540, 5209, 5601, 7050. These are an action item on the agenda. This committee will be meeting at least one more time in the near future to review additional policy changes.
- The spring Climate Committee Meeting was held on April 8<sup>th</sup>, and a follow-up meeting was held with me on Monday morning, April 13<sup>th</sup>. Overall, the year has gone well with good collaboration taking place. The addition of the music teacher has been a good addition with his positive attitude. Other items discussed included special education, cell phone usage, breakfast menu, attendance issues, administration transition and adding additional collaboration time into the master calendar.
- The Finance Committee met today at 1:15 pm, reviewing revenue and expenditures to date.

### **3. Consent Agenda**

- a. March 9, 2026 Special meeting minutes
- b. Financial Report
- c. Bills and Claims payment for April, 2026.

It was moved by Roberts and seconded by Merrell to approve the consent agenda as presented.  
Roll call vote: Reardon-Yea, Roberts-Yea, Cruise-Yea, Merrell- Yea, Christman-Yea, Cumming- Yea:  
Motion carried 6-0.

**4. Discussion items - None**

**5. Action Items**

a. Discussion with action to adopt as amended policies 1040, 3540, 5209, 5601, 7050

Motion by Roberts and seconded by Christman to adopt as amended policies 1040, 3540, 5209, 5601, 7050  
Roll call vote: Reardon-Yea, Roberts-Yea, Cruise-Yea, Merrell- Yea, Christman-Yea, Cumming- Yea:  
Motion carried 6-0.

b. Discussion with action to replace the dishwashing machine in the cafeteria

Motion by Roberts and seconded by Reardon to replace the dishwashing machine in the cafeteria through the Sysco Company.

Roll call vote: Reardon-Yea, Roberts-Yea, Cruise-Yea, Merrell- Yea, Christman-Yea, Cumming- Yea:  
Motion carried 6-0.

c. Discussion with action to declare the 2003 Suburban surplus property and authorize administration to proceed with its sale.

Motion by Merrell and seconded by Roberts to declare the 2003 Suburban surplus property and authorize the superintendent to proceed with its sale.

Roll call vote: Reardon-Yea, Roberts-Yea, Cruise-Yea, Merrell-Yea, Christman-Yea, Cumming- Yea:  
Motion carried 6-0.

d. Discussion with action to purchase the DIBELS reading assessment program.

Motion by Christman and seconded by Cumming to purchase the DIBELS reading assessment program for the five-year license rate and include the professional development.

Roll call vote: Reardon-Yea, Roberts-Yea, Cruise-Yea, Merrell-Yea, Christman-Yea, Cumming- Yea:  
Motion carried 6-0.

e. Discussion with action to amend the 2026-2027 Master Calendar

Motion by Cumming and seconded by Roberts to amend the 2026-2027 Master Calendar

Roll call vote: Reardon-Yea, Roberts-Yea, Cruise-Yea, Merrell-Yea, Christman-Yea, Cumming- Yea:  
Motion carried 6-0.

**6. The meeting was adjourned by Executive Authority at 3:32 p.m.**

Sherrri Cruise, Secretary/Treasurer