

BOONE COUNTY DISTRICT No. 17
(aka ST. EDWARD PUBLIC SCHOOL)
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING
St. Edward School Science Room – St. Edward, Nebraska
Monday, March 9, 2026, 7:00 p.m.

The St. Edward Public School Board of Education conducted a regular meeting on Monday, March 9, 2026. Advance notice of the meeting was published in The Albion News/Boone County Tribune on March 4, 2026.

Opening Procedures - Regular Meeting

- The meeting was called to order by President Roberts at 7:00 p.m. with members Merrell, Cumming, Reardon and Cruise, present. Also in attendance were Steve Osborn, Lindsay Tenski, Mikael Roscoe, Alex Meyer, Dan Elsworth, Dick Stephens, Ryan Cumming, Olivia Reardon, Macy Reardon, Arlette Irineo Gallardo, Josie Sock.
- Open Meeting Law Posted
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Excuse board members who are absent

Motion by Roberts and seconded by Merrell to excuse Christman from the meeting

Roll call vote: Reardon-Yea, Roberts-Yea, Cruise-Yea, Merrell- Yea, Cumming- Yea:

Motion carried 5-0.

- President Roberts set the next board meetings:
 1. Regular Monthly Meeting date: Sunday, April 19, 2026 at 2:00 p.m.

Visitor/Patron recognition:

- ESU Representatives Dan Ellsworth and Dick Stephens presented an update on St. Edward use of the Service Unit's resources and answered question regarding the services offered and services received.
- Alex Meyer, advisor of the St. Edward FFA Chapter and students; Ryan Cumming, Olivia Reardon, Macy Reardon, Arlette Irineo Gallardo, Josie Sock were present and gave the Board an update on activities they have been involved in, the successes they have had, and talked about the upcoming State FFA Conference in Lincoln later this month.

Mr. Gray's Activity Director Report

- Winter Sports seasons have been completed
 - High School Girls Basketball completed their season at Subdistricts at Central Valley against Riverside on February 17th. The girls finished with a record of 8-13.
 - High School Boys Basketball completed their season at Fullerton against Neligh-Oakdale on February 23rd. The boys finished with a record of 3-17.
 - All Conference Teams will be finalized tomorrow at the GRC AD Meeting. All State teams will be coming out in the next few weeks.
- High School Track practice started on March 2nd in St. Edward. The track team has 28 total students participating with 12 of those coming from St. Edward.
 - Their 1st meet is on March 20th at the Concordia Indoor Meet in Seward.
- Junior High Track will begin practice together on March 16th. They are anticipating 51 students going out. We are in the process of ordering more uniforms and sweats.
- Their 1st meet is on April 7th at Boone Central.

Mrs. Tenski's Principal Report

- Speech:
 - Speech members competed at the Bellevue Speech Meet (40 teams) on February 6, 2026.

- Claire Tibor placed 23rd out of more than 90 in Serious Prose, earning her first of two bids for Nationals.
- Speech members competed at the Osceola Speech Meet on February 6, 2026.
 - No medals but Kaden Albert and Lakin Prosofski competed.
- Speech team competed at the David City meet on February 14, 2026, the second largest meet in the state so far.
 - Kaden Albert earned Champion in Unified Speech
 - Calvin Sindelar placed 21st in Humorous Prose. He also placed 6th in Entertainment, earning his first of two bids for Nationals.
- Speech team competed at the Grand Island Northwest meet on February 21, 2026.
 - Calvin Sindelar–9th place in Humorous, 2nd place in Entertainment
 - Noah Ketelsen–12th place in Extemp
 - Claire Tibor–15th in POI, 12th in Serious Prose
 - Calvin and Claire both earned their bid to Nationals, which is May 7-10th in Minnesota.
 - The team placed 9th overall, the only Class D school in the top ten!!
- Speech team competed at the Goldenrod Conference meet at Riverside on February 25, 2026.
 - Noah Ketelsen placed 6th in Poetry and 2nd in Extemp.
 - Claire Tibor placed 2nd in POI and 4th in Serious.
 - Calvin Sindelar placed 4th in Humorous and 4th in Entertainment.
 - The team placed 4th overall.
- Speech team competed at the Lakeview meet on February 21, 2026.
 - Claire Tibor placed 4th in Program of Oral Interpretation.
 - Noah Ketelsen placed 3rd in Extemporaneous Speaking.
 - Calvin Sindelar placed 2nd in Entertainment and 1st in Humorous Prose.
 - The team placed 4th overall!
- PT Conferences were held on Thursday, February 12, 2026.
 - Attendance for Elementary: 90% in attendance
 - Attendance for Secondary: 74% in attendance
- FFA News:
 - Senior FFA members Ryan Cumming, Macy Reardon, Olivia Reardon, and Josie Sock participated in FFA State Degree interviews on Wednesday, February 4, 2026 in Central City.
 - The welding team attended the Lexington Welding Invite on February 7, 2026 and the Kearney Welding Invite on February 18, 2026.
 - Zaiden Heusman placed 3rd in MIG welding
 - Ryan Cumming placed 5th in TIG welding
 - Triton Sindelar placed 7th in OA welding
 - Parker Fitchner placed 8th in ARC welding.
 - The Meats Team competed in the Haskell Ag Lab Meats contest on February 11, 2026.
 - Ryan Cumming placed 8th, Olivia Reardon placed 22nd, Parker Fitchner placed 41st, and Zaiden Heusman placed 47th.
 - The team placed 4th overall.
 - District CDEs were held on February 27, 2026 in Grand Island and 24 students attended.
- State Proficiency Results:
 - Olivia Reardon received Silver on her Sales & Service application.
 - Ryan Cumming was selected as a Gold State Finalist in Diversified Ag Production. He will interview for top three at the state convention.
- Ryan Cumming has been selected as ONE of 24 Nebraska FFA State Star Finalists! This demonstrates excellence in his SAE, FFA, and the community.

- On February 18, 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 the effects of substance abuse, vaping, and alcohol. He talked about personal experiences where drugs and alcohol have had a huge impact on his life, including the loss of a brother. 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 FCCLA chapter traveled to Kearney on February 23, 2026 for the Peer Ed Retreat.
- The Quiz Bowl Teams competed at the Goldenrod Conference meet on February 16, 2026.
 - High School Team: Olivia Reardon, Claire Tibor, Kalvin Sindelar, Arlette Irineo Gallardo, Noah Ketelsen, Bristol Laska, and Zaiden Heusman.
 - Junior High Team: Isabelle Laska, Payton Kula, Jacob Reardon, Kalany Irineo Gallardo, Anhelina Umanska, Brooklyn Tenski, Riley Kassian, and Khale Allen
- The Juniors are scheduled to take the ACT on March 24, 2026 at the Community Building. They will be dismissed after completion of the exam

Faculty/Student Recognition

- Congratulations to the High School Quiz Bowl team for placing 2nd in the Goldenrod Conference Quiz Bowl tournament!
- Congratulations to Ryan Cumming, Macy Reardon, Olivia Reardon, and Josie Sock on earning your FFA State Degree!
- Congratulations to Olivia Reardon and Ryan Cumming on their State Proficiency awards!
- Congratulations to Mr. Roscoe for being awarded Honorary State FFA Degree! Mr. Roscoe will receive his award at the State FFA Conference later this month.
- Congratulations to Mr. Osborn for being awarded the Nebraska FFA Cornerstone Award! This elite award recognizes four school administrators for their long-term support of agricultural education and FFA as well as the leadership provided for their school system. Mr. Osborn will receive his award at the State FFA Conference later this month.

Mr. Osborn's Superintendent/Elementary Principal Report

Elementary News

- We finished out the quarter with our Beaver Buck Rally held on Wednesday, March 4, 2026. Several Awards were given by the teachers to students in their respective grades.
- AR Point Club Members were awarded. These additions were:
 - The first and second grade have started AR this quarter: We have some independent readers:
 - 10 Point Club: Paisley Fitchner, Tanner Johnson, Sophia Irineo, James Walton, Emiley Shotkoski. and Brynlee Sindelar.
 - 20 Point Club: Paisley Fitchner, and Sophia Irineo.
 - Upperclassmen
 - 25 Point Club: Alana Mendez, Mason Hoffmeister, Genesis Paez Garcia, Bentley Sindelar, Fernando Martinez Uriostegui, Mia Irineo, Wynn Talley, Victoria Baker, and Julia Spath.
 - 50 Point Club: Reese Fritzges, Kohen Fritzges, Kaylynn Steensnes, Iker Urbina, and Tony Gallaro Irineo.
 - 75 Point Club: Jase Nitzel, Randy Velasquez, Tyson Shotkoski, Kohen Fritzges, and Brystol Tenski.
- We had two join the Century Club: Congratulations to Randy Velasquez. and Tyson Shotkoski.
- We want to give a shout out to Morgan Cumming for reading over 200 points so far.
- We love that these students are loving reading!! Congrats to all!!!

- Additional Awards were given for the Rocking Role Model Award - Kaylynn Steensnes and Rule Rock Star Award - Tanner Johnson. These students have shown great pride in our school and have been setting good examples.
- The student did a craft project with the high school juniors and seniors assisting. Thank you to them for helping us out. We ended the Rally with drawing Beaver Bucks for prizes.
- The elementary celebrated Read Across America Week and had themes for each day:
 - Monday – Cozy up with a good book – students and staff wore their favorite pajamas
 - Tuesday – Fox in Sox – students and staff wore crazy, mismatched or fun socks
 - Wednesday – Oh the Places You Will Go – students dressed as their future career or wore their favorite/future college shirt! Staff dressed as educators wearing college shirts:)
 - Wednesday also include a Lorax craft activity in the gym where they planted marigold in plastic cups. Thank you to the high school juniors and seniors for helping us out with this project.
 - Kathy Seier, a retired teacher from Petersburg came as the Cat in the Hat and read to students in grades PK-3. She read *Oh, the Places You'll Go!* and then read a book about Stephen Curry, tying it into a message about the importance of reading and working hard to reach your goals.
- 1st grade received the "I Love Blueberries" grant from Nationwide. We will receive a picture book, curriculum, and student materials to complete the accompanying lesson.
- 1st grade learned about camouflage. They created camouflaged frogs to hide around the room to apply what they had learned. I shared pictures in the board packets.

Project Updates

- We have quotes from Rollies Flooring to carpet the remaining five elementary classrooms. The prices are up \$170 per classroom. Notice the kindergarten quote is quite a bit higher as the room is much larger than the others. This is an action item on the agenda
- We have two quotes to replace the east elementary/cafeteria entry door. While this is not an emergency, it is a project that will need to be completed at some point in the near future. They are from Glass Edge and M & O Door Products. The project is to replace the existing double doors with a single, 42-inch-wide ADA-accessible door with narrow sidelights on each side. The door would have a solid panel on the bottom half and match the glass used in our new west doors on the top half. This installation does not include an automatic opener; however, one could be added in the future if needed. This is an action item on the agenda.
- Steve Thompson and I are anticipating some ground thaw so we can begin the installation of the preschool playground fencing. It will be nice to get this project wrapped up and open to the students. Zabka Construction has agreed to loan us some equipment at no charge for planting the posts.

Staffing

- Special Education: I am working on a Plan C for additional personnel in our program. I am in contact with ESU with some questions. No action will be needed on Item 'c'
- We do have a contract approval for an elementary teacher as item 'e' on the agenda
- We have advertised on the school's webpage and the education jobs website for the position of assistant cook beginning with the 2026-2027 school year. We have included an ad on our social media page, and I will get the ad in the City Library Newsletter with our BOE meeting notes from tonight. We are still in the early stages of the process; we have had one individual express interest for this position as of today.

Other Information:

- Mrs. Tenski and I have been communicating with the elementary staff regarding our math curriculum renewal or curriculum change for the 2026-2027 school year. We met twice last week and will be

meeting as necessary and appropriate with the staff and will schedule a Curriculum Committee meeting to share our work and what we would like to do moving forward with math instruction.

- 80 Day vehicle inspections begin this week.

Upcoming Meeting and Conferences:

- I was not able to attend the NRCSA Legislative Forum on February 26th as it was important for me to remain in the district on that day. I am hopeful there will be plenty of updates next week at the NRCSA Conference
- The NG/SE Coop Meetings are scheduled on March 13, 2026. Coop Committee meeting at 5:00 will be followed by the social and supper with no agenda at 6:00 p.m. These will take place at The Creek Road Barn, 1846 330th Ave, Newman Grove. I am working with The Beaver Pub to cater the meal again this year. It is Lent so we will have a similar menu to last year. The Beaver Pub will be catering.
- NRCSA Spring Conference. March 18th (Pre-Conference), 19th, and 20th (Main Conference) in Kearney. I will be taking my own vehicle, and I have reserved the 2024 Suburban for those wanting to take the school vehicle. Your rooms are reserved at the Crown Plaza, and you should have your reservation information. If you need any information, just let me know.

Standing Committee Meeting

- Lindsey Christman, Sherri Cruise, Dave Roberts and I met on Monday, March 2nd at 6:30 to prepared to attend the 7:30 p.m. City Council Meeting regarding the use of the Community Building moving forward. We have a verbal agreement to use the facility on a per day basis at the non-profit rate of \$50.00. This should significantly cut our cost! We will plan to operate on a running basis and pay the City monthly.
- Transportation Committee met at 6:00 p.m. today prior to the regular meeting.
- I will be scheduling a Policy Committee meeting prior to the April BOE meeting as we will have the first round of Perry Policy Updates (Spring) to review and place on the agenda as action items. We will for sure have at least one more round of Perry Policies prior to the 2026-2027 school year.
- **Consent Agenda**
 - February 8, 2026 Special meeting minutes
 - February 8, 2026 Regular meeting minutes
 - Financial Report
 - Bills and Claims payment for March 2026.

It was moved by Cumming and seconded by Roberts to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Roll call vote: Reardon-Yea, Roberts-Yea, Cruise-Yea, Merrell-Yea, Cumming-Yea:

Motion carried 5-0.

Discussion items

- The planning and goal-setting document developed by the Board and administration will move from draft to final form and serve as a living document to guide our work. It will be reviewed and adjusted as needed at future meetings.

Action Items

- a) Discussion with action to approve a teaching contract for Graham Kyle Babb for the remainder of the 2025-2026 school year.

Motion by Roberts and seconded by Reardon to approve a teaching contract for Graham Kyle Babb for the remainder of the 2025-2026 school year.

Roll call vote: Reardon-Yea, Roberts-Yea, Cruise-Yea, Merrell-Yea, Cumming-Yea:

Motion carried 5-0.

b) Discussion with action to approve a teaching contract for Graham Kyle Babb for the 2026-2027 school year.

Motion by Roberts and seconded by Reardon to approve a teaching contract for Graham Kyle Babb for the 2026-2027 school year.

Roll call vote: Reardon-Yea, Roberts-Yea, Cruise-Yea, Merrell-Yea, Cumming-Yea:

Motion carried 5-0.

c) Discussion with action to approve a teaching contract for the 2026-2027 school year.

No action taken.

d) Discussion with action to accept the resignation from Rhonda Krohn effective at the conclusion of the 2025-2026 school year.

Motion by Roberts and seconded by Cumming to accept the resignation from Rhonda Krohn effective at the conclusion of the 2025-2026 school year.

Roll call vote: Reardon-Yea, Roberts-Yea, Cruise-Yea, Merrell-Yea, Cumming-Yea:

Motion carried 5-0.

e) Discussion with action to approve a teaching contract for the 2026-2027 school year.

Motion by Cumming and seconded by Roberts to approve a teaching contract for Hayley Stamp for the 2026-2027 school year.

Roll call vote: Reardon-Yea, Roberts-Yea, Cruise-Yea, Merrell-Yea, Cumming-Yea:

Motion carried 5-0.

f) Discussion with action to install carpet in elementary classrooms.

Motion by Cumming and seconded by Roberts to install carpet in elementary classrooms.

Roll call vote: Reardon-Yea, Roberts-Yea, Cruise-Yea, Merrell-Yea, Cumming-Yea:

Motion carried 5-0.

g) Discussion with action to replace east elementary/cafeteria doors with a 42" ADA entry door.

Motion by Merrell and seconded by Reardon to accept the bid from The Glass Edge replace east elementary/cafeteria doors with a 42" ADA entry door.

Roll call vote: Reardon-Yea, Roberts-Yea, Cruise-Yea, Merrell-Yea, Cumming-Yea:

Motion carried 5-0.

2. The meeting was adjourned by Executive Authority at 9:02 p.m.

Sherri Cruise, Secretary/Treasurer