State Board of Education Business Meeting.

Thursday October 1, 2026

Scottsbluff Public Schools Education Center, Bearcat Community Room, 2617 College Park, Scottsbluff, NE 69361

Link to Agenda and Attachments

Link to Video of Meeting October 2, 2026

Publicized notice of the business meeting was given by posting notice on the Department's website and emailed to news media requesting notification, which gave the date, time, and location of the meeting.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION WORK SESSION, Thursday, October 1, 2026, 1:45 p.m. MT/2:45 p.m. CT

1. **CALL TO ORDER –** President Elizabeth Tegtmeier called the meeting to order at 1:47 p.m.

   1.1 Roll Call

   Roll Call showed the following attendance:

Deborah Neary (absent)	Elizabeth Tegtmeier	Kirk Penner (absent)
Kristin Christensen	Lisa Schonhoff	Liz Renner
Maggie Douglas	Sherry Jones	

   Commissioner Maher was also in attendance.

   1.2. President Tegtmeier led the Pledge of Allegiance.

   1.3. President Tegtmeier announced the placement of the Open Meetings Act.

2. **BUSINESS**

   2.1. Review and Discussion of Board Officer Election and Tie-Breaking Procedures

   NDE Representative, Assistant Commissioner, Grant Norgaard reviewed board officer election and tie breaking procedures. Board members discussed the information provided. Deputy Commissioner Foor provided information from Roberts Rules of Order pertaining to elections as well as historical election processes.

3. **ADJOURNMENT** President Tegtmeier adjourned the meeting at 2:24 p.m.

The State Board of Education will reconvene Friday, October 2, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. MT/10:00 a.m. CT at the Scottsbluff Public Schools Education Center for a regular business meeting at the Scottsbluff Public Schools Education Center, Bearcat Community Room, 2617 College Park, Scottsbluff, NE 69361.

State Board of Education Business Meeting

Friday October 2, 2026

Scottsbluff Public Schools Education Center, Bearcat Community Room, 2617 College Park, Scottsbluff, NE 69361

Link to Agenda and Attachments

Link to Video of Meeting October 2, 2026

Publicized notice of the business meeting was given by posting notice on the Department's website and emailed to news media requesting notification, which gave the date, time, and location of the meeting.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING, Friday, October 2, 2026, 9:00 a.m. MT/10:00 a.m. CT

1. **CALL TO ORDER –** President Elizabeth Tegtmeier called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

1.1 Roll Call

Roll Call showed the following attendance:

Deborah Neary (absent)	Elizabeth Tegtmeier	Kirk Penner
Kristin Christensen	Lisa Schonhoff	Liz Renner
Maggie Douglas	Sherry Jones	

Commissioner Maher was also in attendance.

1.2. President Tegtmeier led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.3. President Tegtmeier announced the placement of the Open Meetings Act.

2. **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

2.1. Adopt the Resolution to Recognize October as Dyslexia Awareness Month.

Motion by Kirk Penner, second by Kristin Christensen to adopt the Resolution to recognize October as Dyslexia Awareness Month.

Lisa Schonhoff	Yes
Sherry Jones	Yes
Liz Renner	Yes
Elizabeth Tegtmeier	Yes
Kristin Christensen	Yes
Kirk Penner	Yes
Maggie Douglas	Yes
Deborah Neary	Absent

The motion passed.

3. **COMMISSIONER'S REPORT**

3.1. Agenda Overview and Consent Agenda Process

3.1.A. Commissioner Maher's recommendation and items to be removed from consent agenda

Agenda item 6.3.A. was requested to be removed from the Consent Agenda.

Commissioner Maher delivered the Commissioner's report.

4. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Tegtmeier expressed appreciation from State Board District 7 for hosting board members and staff for the meeting and thanked the community, staff, and board members who attended the meeting.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

5.1. Public Comment

The following individual spoke in public comment: Dr. Sadie Caffey.

5.2. Written Public Comment

There were no Written Public Comments submitted.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Liz Renner, second by Kristin Christensen to adopt the Consent Agenda with the exception of agenda item 6.3.A.

Liz Renner	Yes
Maggie Douglas	Yes
Kristin Christensen	Yes
Sherry Jones	Yes
Elizabeth Tegtmeier	Yes
Kirk Penner	Yes
Deborah Neary	Absent
Lisa Schonhoff	Yes

The motion passed.

7. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

7.1. **Executive Committee** – Elizabeth Tegtmeier, Chair, reported on the meeting of the Committee.

7.1.A. Action Item: Approve Revisions to Agency Management Policies.

Motion by Sherry Jones, second by Liz Renner to a approve revisions to Agency Management Policies.

Kristin Christensen	Yes
Deborah Neary	Absent
Sherry Jones	Yes
Liz Renner	Yes
Maggie Douglas	Yes
Lisa Schonhoff	Yes
Elizabeth Tegtmeier	Yes
Kirk Penner	Yes

The motion passed.

7.1.B. Discussion Item: ESSA State Plan Amendment.

There was no further discussion on the item.

7.2. **Budget and Finance Committee** – Kristin Christensen, Chair, reported on the meeting of the Committee.

7.2.A. Monthly Board Travel Expense Report

There was no further discussion on the item.

7.2.B. Action Item: Distribute Rural Health Transformation Project Funds to Subawardees and to Subcontract Funds to Fulfill Grant Requirements

NDE Representatives, Deputy Commissioner Jane Stavem provided information regarding the timeline, awarding of grant funds and distribution of funds to school districts and vendors. The committee discussion a one-year approval for the contracts and requested information for a review before future approvals. Commissioner Maher provided information regarding the assessment of the grant, distribution of funds, and outcomes.

Motion by Kristin Christensen, second by Maggie Douglas to authorize the Commissioner to distribute Rural Health Transformation Project funds to subawardees and to subcontract funds to fulfill grant requirements.

Sherry Jones	Yes
Deborah Neary	Absent
Liz Renner	Yes
Maggie Douglas	Yes
Kirk Penner	No
Kristin Christensen	Yes
Lisa Schonhoff	Yes
Elizabeth Tegtmeier	Yes

The motion passed.

7.2.C. Action Item: Approve Strategic Initiatives Grant Opportunities

NDE Representative, Commissioner Maher provided information regarding the grant process at the NDE.

Motion by Kristin Christensen, second by Maggie Douglas to authorize the Commissioner to accept the grant funds from the federal government pending notification from federal grantors.

Motion by Liz Renner, second by Kristin Christensen to amend the original motion to strike the federal government pending notification from the federal grantors and replace it with the Traumatic Brain Injury Partnership Program.

Sherry Jones	Yes
Liz Renner	Yes
Lisa Schonhoff	Yes
Maggie Douglas	Yes
Kristin Christensen	Yes
Kirk Penner	No
Deborah Neary	Absent
Elizabeth Tegtmeier	Yes

The amendment passed.

The amended motion to authorize the Commissioner to accept the grant funds from the Traumatic Brain Injury Partnership Program.

Kristin Christensen	Yes
Elizabeth Tegtmeier	Yes
Kirk Penner	No

Maggie Douglas	Yes
Lisa Schonhoff	Yes
Sherry Jones	Yes
Liz Renner	Yes
Deborah Neary	Absent

The motion passed.

Motion by Sherry Jones, second by Kristin Christensen to authorize the Commissioner to accept the grant funds for the School Safety Enhancement grant pending notification from the federal government.

Kirk Penner	No
Maggie Douglas	Yes
Deborah Neary	Absent
Lisa Schonhoff	Yes
Sherry Jones	Yes
Kristin Christensen	Yes
Elizabeth Tegtmeier	No
Liz Renner	Yes

The motion passed.

7.2.D. Action Item: Subaward to Carry Out the Federal IDEA Part D - SPDG Grant Activities

Motion by Kristin Christensen, second by Maggie Douglas to authorize the Commissioner to approve the subaward to carry out the Federal IDEA Part D - SPDG grant activities.

Elizabeth Tegtmeier	Yes
Deborah Neary	Absent
Kirk Penner	Yes
Kristin Christensen	Yes
Liz Renner	Yes
Sherry Jones	Yes
Lisa Schonhoff	Yes
Maggie Douglas	Yes

The motion passed.

7.2.E. Action Item: 2026-27 Deficit Budget Request

Motion by Kristin Christensen, second by Maggie Douglas to authorize the Commissioner to submit the Department's 2026-27 deficit budget request.

Lisa Schonhoff	Yes
Deborah Neary	Absent
Kristin Christensen	Yes
Liz Renner	Yes
Sherry Jones	Yes
Maggie Douglas	Yes
Kirk Penner	Yes
Elizabeth Tegtmeier	Yes

The motion passed.

7.3. **Planning and Evaluation Committee Report** – Lisa Schonhoff, Chair, reported on the meeting of the Committee.

7.3.A. Discussion Item: Adopt Assessment and Reporting Plan and Assessment Technical Report for 2026-2027

There was no further discussion on the item.

7.3.B. Discussion Item: Approve Rule 10 Teacher Waiver Request from Roncalli Catholic High School

There was no further discussion on the item.

7.4. **Rules and Regulations Committee** – Maggie Douglas, Chair reported on the meeting of the Committee.

7.4.A. Report on Rules

The report on rules is linked through Sparq in Board Agenda item 7.4.A.

7.4.B. Action Item: Proposed Revision of Rule 55 (92 NAC 55), Rules of Practice and Procedure for Due Process Hearings in Special Education Contested Cases

Motion by Maggie Douglas, second by Liz Renner to adopt the proposed revisions to Rule 55.

Liz Renner	Yes
Maggie Douglas	Yes
Kristin Christensen	Yes
Sherry Jones	Yes
Elizabeth Tegtmeier	Yes
Kirk Penner	Yes
Deborah Neary	Absent
Lisa Schonhoff	Yes

The motion passed.

8. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

6.3.A. Amend Contract for Systems Involved Youth Data Project.

NDE Representatives, Commissioner Maher provided information regarding students in the Systems Involved Youth system moving from one organization to another, transcripts and services. Deputy Commissioner Ryan Foor provided information regarding the Contractor and legislative work directed to the NDE. Additional information was shared regarding technical assistance pertaining to data for systems involved youth.

Motion by Liz Renner, second by Maggie Douglas to authorize the Commissioner to amend contract for Systems Involved Youth Data Project.

Deborah Neary	Absent
Elizabeth Tegtmeier	Yes
Liz Renner	Yes
Kristin Christensen	Yes
Kirk Penner	Yes
Lisa Schonhoff	Yes
Maggie Douglas	Yes

Sherry Jones Yes

The motion passed.

9. INFORMATION ITEMS AND REPORTS

Information items and reports are linked through Sparq under Board Agenda item 9.

10. GOOD OF THE ORDER

Lisa Schonhoff provided additional remarks regarding the hospitality from Scottsbluff.

11. ADJOURNMENT

President Tegtmeier adjourned the meeting at 10:27 a.m.

The next meetings of the State Board of Education are scheduled for November 5-6, 2026, in Lincoln, Nebraska.