

NEBRASKA AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

Mike Foley State Auditor

Mike.Foley@nebraska.gov PO Box 98917 State Capitol, Suite 2303 Lincoln, Nebraska 68509 402-471-2111, FAX 402-471-3301 auditors.nebraska.gov

April 21, 2025

Dear Senators:

As you may know, the Nebraska Auditor of Public Accounts (APA) has received concerns regarding additional compensation for school district superintendents. The APA has also been contacted about legal fees paid by school districts and whether the underlying contracts for those expenses were competitively bid to ensure that the best rates were obtained for the services received.

The APA responded by performing limited preliminary planning work – including a review of information related to legal expenditures and superintendent salaries at Nebraska school districts – to determine if a full financial audit or attestation would be warranted. In doing so, the APA obtained financial records and other relevant documentation from various school districts and publicly available information.

During the course of that preliminary planning work, the APA noted that the Legislature has introduced recent bills and resolutions pertaining to compensation for school superintendents and administrators, including the following:

- Legislative Bill (LB) 300, introduced during the 109th legislature (2025-2026), has the intent of setting compensation for a beginning teacher for the first contract year in an amount that is at least twenty percent of the compensation of the superintendent or administrator of such school district or educational service unit for such contract year. A similar bill, LB 800, was introduced during the first session of the 108th legislature (2023-2024) but was carried over to the second session and then indefinitely postponed.
- Legislative Resolution (LR) 152, offered during the first session of the 108th legislature (2023-2024), proposed performing an interim study to "examine all factors that may impact a school district's ability to attract and retain qualified superintendents and administrators and the impact such factors have upon the salary and benefits provided." According to the Legislative Journal for the second session of the 108th legislature, LR 152 was "Deferred" on January 5, 2024.

Based on the outcome of this preliminary planning work, including an analysis of the information obtained, the APA has determined that a separate financial audit or attestation is unnecessary at this time. Nevertheless, the APA thinks it sensible to share with the Legislature important details gathered regarding both additional compensation paid to school district superintendents and legal fees paid by those educational entities.

Analysis of Superintendent Salary Information

Obtaining information about superintendent compensation from the Annual Financial Reports (AFR) submitted by Nebraska school districts to the Department of Education for September 1, 2023, through August 31, 2024, the APA compiled a list of total compensation for each of the superintendents. The table below lists the 10 superintendents who received the highest total compensation during that period:

| District Name | Enrollment | Salary | Additional Compensation | Benefits | Total Compensation |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Fremont Public Schools | <mark>5,333</mark> | <mark>\$249,980</mark> | <mark>\$110,016</mark> | <mark>\$65,690</mark> | <mark>\$425,686</mark> |
| Omaha Public Schools | 51,693 | \$358,787 | \$0 | \$53,094 | \$411,881 |
| Millard Public Schools | 23,300 | \$342,136 | \$0 | \$61,981 | \$404,117 |
| Lincoln Public Schools | 41,654 | \$344,396 | \$0 | \$50,055 | \$394,451 |
| Bellevue Public Schools | 9,444 | \$309,324 | \$17,369 | \$55,411 | \$382,104 |
| Elkhorn Public Schools | 11,455 | \$280,459 | \$10,455 | \$62,891 | \$353,805 |
| Westside Community Schools | 6,319 | \$282,669 | \$0 | \$62,685 | \$345,354 |
| Norfolk Public Schools | 4,541 | \$246,115 | \$0 | \$85,339 | \$331,454 |
| Columbus Public Schools | 4,145 | \$280,822 | \$1,008 | \$42,568 | \$324,398 |
| Grand Island Public Schools | 10,070 | \$275,000 | \$0 | \$44,671 | \$319,671 |

Exhibit A herein contains a comprehensive list of superintendent compensation.

Based upon a review of both AFR data and the superintendent employment contracts, the salaries, additional compensation, and benefits detailed in the above table consist of the following:

Salary: This is comprised of superintendent base pay. The APA noted that some school districts also include some of the items noted below as additional compensation in the salary amount.

Additional Compensation: This includes transportation allowance, cellphone stipend, performance bonus, professional dues allowance, etc. Not all superintendent contracts include each of these additional compensation items.

Benefits: This is the share of superintendent insurance coverage, retirement benefits, Medicare, and Social Security paid by the school district, as employer. In some cases, when a school district pays also for the employee's share of these benefits, that cost will be coded to this category as well.

To illustrate the above components, the compensation received by the Fremont Public Schools superintendent consists of the following:

- The salary from the contract for the 2023-2024 school year is \$248,324.91. This differs from the AFR amount shown in the table above because the contract is for July 2023 through June 2024, but the AFR covers September 2023 through August 2024.
- The additional compensation in the contract includes the following items:

| Contract Description | Amount |
|--|--------------|
| Flat Salary Payment (14% of salary) | \$34,765.49 |
| Fringe Benefit Stipend (9.78% of total salary) | \$27,686.24 |
| Tax Sheltered Annuity (12% of total salary) | \$33,970.85 |
| Transportation Allowance (\$860 per month) | \$10,320.00 |
| Cell Phone Allowance (\$125 per month) | \$1,500.00 |
| Total | \$108,242.58 |

Along with all of the above, the superintendent's contract allows for other payments subject to Board approval – including dues for membership in national and state organizations; payment of expenses for attendance at a national conference every other year (not available for 2023-2024); and annual dues for membership in at least one community service organization.

• Per the employment contract, the benefits shown in the above table include family health insurance, family dental insurance, term life insurance, and long-term disability insurance. This amount also includes the School District's social security payments, workers' compensation payments, and retirement contributions.

From the AFR data, the APA then created the following chart to show both the range of all superintendent salaries and the average of such salaries based on Nebraska school district size:

| | | Salary | | | |
|------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------|
| # of Students | Minimum | Median | Maximum | Average | # of Districts |
| Less than 300 | \$60,208 | \$129,723 | \$182,871 | \$123,194 | 97 |
| 300 - 999 | \$76,208 | \$148,417 | \$211,888 | \$150,923 | 104 |
| 1,000 - 2,999 | \$156,705 | \$186,317 | \$241,355 | \$184,772 | 23 |
| 3,000 - 4,999 | \$181,500 | \$220,417 | \$280,822 | \$225,848 | 9 |
| 5,000 - 9,999 | \$228,000 | \$249,980 | \$309,324 | \$262,354 | 5 |
| More than 10,000 | \$259,808 | \$311,298 | \$358,787 | \$310,098 | 6 |

The AFR data upon which the above information is based depends upon the accuracy of school district reporting; moreover, as noted previously, the amount recorded as salary in the AFR may include additional compensation, such as stipends and allowances for cell phone and transportation costs.

The APA compared this information to that found in a chart included in the AASA, The School Superintendents Association's (formerly known as the American Association of School Administrators) "2023-2024 AASA Superintendent Salary and Benefits Study," as shown below:

| | | 25 th | | 75 th | |
|-------------------|-----------|------------------|-----------|------------------|-----------|
| # of Students | Minimum | Percentile | Median | Percentile | Maximum |
| Less than 300 | \$60,000 | \$95,000 | \$112,500 | \$130,000 | \$267,540 |
| 300 - 999 | \$61,020 | \$116,000 | \$132,723 | \$153,000 | \$322,000 |
| 1,000 - 2,999 | \$75,000 | \$138,249 | \$160,000 | \$186,625 | \$312,000 |
| 3,000 - 4,999 | \$98,000 | \$165,000 | \$192,000 | \$223,000 | \$370,000 |
| 5,000 - 9,999 | \$100,000 | \$178,000 | \$203,500 | \$230,000 | \$398,494 |
| 10,000 - 24,999 | \$122,500 | \$199,999 | \$226,885 | \$259,000 | \$378,380 |
| 25,000 - 49,999 | \$154,000 | \$211,625 | \$250,000 | \$282,000 | \$403,800 |
| 50,000 - 99,999 | \$121,000 | \$249,000 | \$289,000 | \$318,828 | \$444,124 |
| More than 100,000 | \$137,000 | \$164,500 | \$201,000 | \$305,000 | \$395,000 |

Note: Table 2.1 from Thomas, T., Tienken, C.H., Timmer, J., Cronin, S., Lott-Velez, S. & Fetherman, M.J. (2024, February). 2023–2024 AASA superintendent salary and benefit study. American Association of School Administrators.

This study "tracked the demographics, salary, benefits, and other elements of the employment agreements of school superintendents throughout the country" and was based on 2,706 responses from superintendents across the country, including 50 from Nebraska. According to this information, as shown above, the median and average Nebraska superintendent salaries appear to be well above those of their national counterparts – not to mention closer to, or even above, the 75th percentile for superintendents at similarly sized school districts throughout the country.

Additionally, as LB 300 (2025) would set maximum superintendent and minimum beginning teacher compensation in relation to each other, the APA identified the districts with the 10 highest superintendent salaries reported through the AFR for fiscal year 2024 to compare with beginning teacher salaries for those districts. The total compensation for beginning teachers was not readily available, so the APA reviewed the base salaries for both superintendents and beginning teachers to determine the ratio between the two. The amounts shown below for the superintendent base salary were obtained from superintendent contracts for the 2023-2024 academic year rather than the AFR because, as explained previously herein, several school districts included additional compensation and benefits as base salary in the AFR.

| School District | Enrollment | Superintendent Salary | Beginning Teacher Salary | Comparison |
|--------------------------------------|------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|------------|
| Lincoln Public Schools | 41,654 | \$333,720 | \$47,356 | 7.05:1 |
| Omaha Public Schools | 51,693 | \$325,000 | \$45,000 | 7.22:1 |
| Fremont Public Schools | 5,333 | \$283,090 | \$39,716 | 7.13:1 |
| Grand Island Public Schools | 10,070 | \$275,000 | \$39,985 | 6.88:1 |
| Millard Public Schools | 23,300 | \$275,000 | \$42,155 | 6.52:1 |
| Bellevue Public Schools | 9,444 | \$264,647 | \$44,829 | 5.90:1 |
| Elkhorn Public Schools | 11,455 | \$263,294 | \$41,107 | 6.41:1 |
| Papillion La Vista Community Schools | 12,039 | \$257,092 | \$39,800 | 6.46:1 |
| Westside Community Schools | 6,319 | \$253,366 | \$41,050 | 6.17:1 |
| Columbus Public Schools | 4,145 | \$249,759 | \$39,100 | 6.39:1 |

Note: The Superintendent base salary does not include stipends, annuities, or other types of additional compensation that may be included in their contracts.

For context, the APA obtained the following chart from the "2023-2024 AASA Superintendent Salary and Benefits Study," comparing the median superintendent salary to the median beginning teacher base salary for the school districts surveyed. This chart shows that the beginning teacher salaries tend to be closer to that of the superintendent salary at smaller school districts:

| | Superintendent | Beginning Teacher Median | |
|-------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|------------|
| # of Students | Median Salary | Base Salary | Comparison |
| Less than 300 | \$112,500 | \$41,000 | 2.74:1 |
| 300 - 999 | \$132,723 | \$42,500 | 3.12:1 |
| 1,000 - 2,999 | \$160,000 | \$45,717 | 3.50:1 |
| 3,000 - 4,999 | \$192,000 | \$48,000 | 4.00:1 |
| 5,000 - 9,999 | \$203,500 | \$48,336 | 4.21:1 |
| 10,000 - 24,999 | \$226,885 | \$50,000 | 4.54:1 |
| 25,000 - 49,999 | \$250,000 | \$50,000 | 5.00:1 |
| 50,000 - 99,999 | \$289,000 | \$51,500 | 5.61:1 |
| More than 100,000 | \$201,000 | \$50,115 | 4.01:1 |

Note: Table 2.10 from Thomas, T., Tienken, C.H., Timmer, J., Cronin, S., Lott-Velez, S. & Fetherman, M.J. (2024, February). 2023–2024 AASA superintendent salary and benefit study. American Association of School Administrators.

Analysis of Legal Fees Information

The APA is aware of no State statute requiring school districts to award their service contracts – including agreements for legal services – through the competitive bidding process. To determine the procedures followed by school districts when obtaining legal services, the APA obtained the detail of legal expenses paid by Nebraska school districts from the AFRs filed with the Department of Education for the 2023-2024 fiscal year (covering September 1, 2023, through August 31, 2024). The APA then selected a sample of school districts from which to request the following: all contracts for legal services; the detail of expenditures that were included as legal services in the AFR; and information on any policies and procedures for hiring legal counsel.

The table below lists not only the 10 Nebraska school districts with the highest legal expenses during the 2023-2024 fiscal year but also their legal fees for the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 fiscal years:

| District | 2023-2024 Enrollment | 2023-2024 Legal Fees | 2022-2023 Legal Fees | 2021-2022 Legal Fees |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Omaha Public Schools | 51,693 | \$1,996,567 | \$1,996,558 | \$1,176,342 |
| Lincoln Public Schools | 41,654 | \$824,934 | \$835,057 | \$754,953 |
| Westside Community Schools | 6,319 | \$366,815 | \$346,614 | \$205,491 |
| Norfolk Public Schools | 4,541 | \$212,524 | \$77,177 | \$38,320 |
| Millard Public Schools | 23,300 | \$206,834 | \$190,230 | \$106,692 |
| Papillion La Vista Community Schools | 12,039 | \$171,257 | \$202,338 | \$88,716 |
| Grand Island Public Schools | 10,070 | \$169,680 | \$189,660 | \$175,373 |
| Elkhorn Public Schools | 11,455 | \$133,265 | \$109,990 | \$66,847 |
| Ralston Public Schools | 3,409 | \$114,535 | \$104,023 | \$63,950 |
| Gretna Public Schools | 6,788 | \$85,633 | \$62,296 | \$80,539 |

Amounts noted in the table above were obtained by filtering the annual AFRs for account 01-2-02330, Support Services – General Administration – District Legal Services. When inquiring with school districts for further details about legal services, Omaha Public Schools pointed out that the amount for 2023-2024 did not include \$427,581 of legal expenses that were miscoded on the AFR to 01-2-01160, Poverty Programs.

The APA selected a sample of 10 Nebraska school districts for review, including five school districts listed in the above table, and five school districts not included therein. When asked about policies for competitively bidding contracts for legal services, all of the school districts contacted reported the lack of any formal bidding process for obtaining outside legal counsel. Instead, the districts contacted noted in most cases, legal counsel is obtained only when needed and through an informal process that considers the required subject matter expertise when contacting law firms. Only one district had a law firm on retainer. The APA noted that 8 of the 10 districts reviewed had policies on file pertaining to legal services. These policies generally state that the District can hire legal counsel as needed, and none of them contained any bidding provisions.

From the detail requested to support the legal service expenditures listed in the AFR, the APA selected a sample of invoices from the 10 school districts reviewed to compare the hourly rates paid by each. Those invoices revealed a wide range of legal fees billed – which is not surprising, as attorneys generally charge varying rates based on experience and other factors. The chart below summarizes the rates observed:

| District | Maximum Hourly Rate | Minimum Hourly Rate | Average Hourly Rate |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Papillion La Vista Community Schools | \$375 | \$200 | \$281 |
| Omaha Public Schools | \$550 | \$195 | \$306 |
| Elkhorn Public Schools | \$405 | \$210 | \$312 |
| Norfolk Public Schools* | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Grand Island Public Schools | \$360 | \$325 | \$343 |
| Cozad Community Schools | \$275 | \$350 | \$317 |
| Beatrice Public Schools | \$375 | \$375 | \$375 |
| Cedar Bluffs Public Schools* | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Morrill Public Schools | \$340 | \$225 | \$283 |
| Schuyler Community Schools** | \$385 | \$295 | \$347 |

*These school districts used law firms that did not show hourly rates on their invoices.

**This district provided invoices from two law firms. However, one invoice was for a flat fee and did not specify hourly rates.

For 7 of the 10 districts, the fees listed in the above table were for only one law firm, and the range of rates was due to the varying billings for attorneys within each firm. Invoices for the other three districts were obtained from multiple firms and reflect the different rates charged by them and the attorneys therein.

Annual Financial Report

While reviewing information for the superintendent salary and legal service fee analyses above, the APA noted errors and inconsistencies in the AFRs submitted to the Department of Education for September 1, 2023, through August 31, 2024. Of the 19 school districts that were contacted regarding the amounts listed in the AFR, 4 acknowledged errors in the amounts reported to the Department of Education. Those errors included the following:

- According to Omaha Public Schools, the amount recorded to account 01-2-02330, Support Services General Administration District Legal Services for the school's legal fees was incorrect because \$427,581 of legal expenses were miscoded on the AFR to 01-2-01160, Poverty Programs.
- While inquiring about the amounts recorded as superintendent pay in the AFR, Lincoln Public Schools, Elkhorn Public Schools, and Bennington Public Schools all stated that items were miscoded therein, including payments for unused leave, group term life insurance, and non-superintendent salaries that were entered under the account code for superintendent salaries.

Additionally, while reviewing the superintendent salaries, the APA noted that the account codes used to report various types of additional compensation and benefits, including the employer portion of insurance coverage, were inconsistent between school districts.

We recommend the Department of Education work with the school districts to ensure the accuracy of the information in the AFR, including the proper and consistent coding of data across the State.

Department of Education Response: The Nebraska Department of Education has established a coding manual which is provided to schools along with ongoing communication/training for schools on proper and consistent coding of accounting transactions. The NDE relies on required independent audits done annually by certified public accountants to verify the accuracy of coding done by schools, and reviews those required audits for any further action by the NDE. The NDE will make sure any public document issued by the Nebraska Auditor of Public Accounts is made known to schools and certified public accountants.

Conclusion

We recommend the Legislature review the information presented herein to determine whether current procedures governing both salaries of school district superintendents and the legal services fees paid by those educational entities are sufficient or in need of legislative clarification.

* * * * * *

Our limited procedures for this letter were designed primarily on a test basis and, therefore, may not bring to light all existing weaknesses in relevant policies or procedures. Nevertheless, our objective is to use the knowledge gained during the APA's limited preliminary planning work to make available information that, hopefully, will prove useful to the Legislature.

This communication is intended solely for the information and the use of the Legislature. It is not intended to be, and should not be, used by any other parties or individuals. However, this letter is a matter of public record, and its distribution is not limited.

If you have any questions regarding the above information, please contact our office.

<u>Audit Staff Working on this Examination:</u> Craig Kubicek, CPA, CFE – Deputy Auditor Brad Ashley, CPA – Audit Manager Robert Giraud – Auditor-In-Charge Trevor Dumont – Auditor II

Sincerely,

Crail Kubicere

Craig Kubicek, CPA, CFE Deputy Auditor Auditor of Public Accounts Room 2303, State Capitol Lincoln, NE 68509 Phone: (402) 471-3686 craig.kubicek@nebraska.gov

Mike Foley 🥖 State Auditor

| | | Additional Compensation | | Total |
|-------------------------------|-----------|----------------------------|----------|--------------|
| District Name | Salary | & Benefits | Benefits | Compensation |
| Adams Central Public Schools | \$190,625 | \$820 | \$53,614 | \$245,059 |
| Ainsworth Community Schools | \$150,833 | \$0 | \$53,696 | \$204,529 |
| Allen Consolidated Schools | \$170,548 | \$0 | \$29,400 | \$199,948 |
| Alliance Public Schools | \$241,355 | \$0 | \$49,917 | \$291,272 |
| Alma Public Schools | \$127,296 | \$4,472 | \$32,090 | \$163,858 |
| Amherst Public Schools | \$126,500 | \$402 | \$47,032 | \$173,934 |
| Anselmo-Merna Public Schools | \$130,000 | \$0 | \$45,148 | \$175,148 |
| Ansley Public Schools | \$125,833 | \$600 | \$44,046 | \$170,479 |
| Arapahoe Public Schools | \$138,800 | \$420 | \$48,310 | \$187,530 |
| Arcadia Public Schools | \$116,873 | \$707 | \$17,250 | \$134,830 |
| Arlington Public Schools | \$160,241 | \$0 | \$0 | \$160,241 |
| Arnold Public Schools | \$129,723 | \$0 | \$47,578 | \$177,301 |
| Arthur County Schools | \$94,408 | \$38 | \$33,812 | \$128,258 |
| Ashland-Greenwood Public Schs | \$156,705 | \$439 | \$49,188 | \$206,332 |
| Auburn Public Schools | \$172,750 | \$480 | \$48,441 | \$221,671 |
| Aurora Public Schools | \$191,283 | \$746 | \$54,821 | \$246,850 |
| Axtell Community Schools | \$166,740 | \$1,279 | \$44,701 | \$212,720 |
| Bancroft-Rosalie Comm Schools | \$136,694 | \$0 | \$41,020 | \$177,714 |
| Banner County Public Schools | \$118,432 | \$1,140 | \$41,530 | \$161,102 |
| Battle Creek Public Schools | \$152,623 | \$669 | \$51,089 | \$204,381 |
| Bayard Public Schools | \$135,000 | \$244 | \$41,718 | \$176,962 |
| Beatrice Public Schools | \$196,992 | \$0 | \$37,624 | \$234,616 |
| Bellevue Public Schools | \$309,324 | \$17,369 | \$55,411 | \$382,104 |
| Bennington Public Schools | \$227,072 | \$14,696 | \$62,916 | \$304,684 |
| Bertrand Public Schools | \$162,250 | \$0 | \$37,070 | \$199,320 |
| Blair Community Schools | \$186,317 | \$960 | \$32,964 | \$220,241 |
| Bloomfield Community Schools | \$87,292 | \$0 | \$25,055 | \$112,347 |
| Blue Hill Community Schools | \$137,452 | \$543 | \$40,704 | \$178,699 |
| Boone Central Schools | \$134,032 | \$1,200 | \$39,730 | \$174,962 |
| Boyd County Schools | \$131,602 | \$0 | \$48,324 | \$179,926 |
| Brady Public Schools | \$121,041 | \$1,810 | \$43,688 | \$166,539 |
| Bridgeport Public Schools | \$146,160 | \$127 | \$49,515 | \$195,802 |
| Broken Bow Public Schools | \$174,853 | \$28,366 | \$42,934 | \$246,153 |
| Bruning-Davenport Unified Sys | \$130,325 | \$1,200 | \$40,656 | \$172,181 |
| Burwell Public Schools | \$66,244 | \$0 | \$10,124 | \$76,368 |
| Callaway Public Schools | \$133,591 | \$0 | \$42,993 | \$176,584 |
| Cambridge Public Schools | \$131,764 | \$0 | \$47,002 | \$178,766 |
| Cedar Bluffs Public Schools | \$163,000 | \$0 | \$56,231 | \$219,231 |
| Centennial Public Schools | \$139,423 | \$0 | \$50,105 | \$189,528 |
| Central City Public Schools | \$133,750 | \$0 | \$39,684 | \$173,434 |
| Central Valley Public Schools | \$149,223 | \$834 | \$50,980 | \$201,037 |
| Centura Public Schools | \$147,217 | \$0 | \$51,045 | \$198,262 |
| Chadron Public Schools | \$154,443 | \$0 | \$52,340 | \$206,783 |

| | | Additional Compensation | | Total |
|------------------------------------|-----------|----------------------------|----------|--------------|
| District Name | Salary | & Benefits | Benefits | Compensation |
| Chambers Public Schools | \$60,208 | \$300 | \$22,922 | \$83,430 |
| Chase County Schools | \$164,750 | \$0 | \$50,914 | \$215,664 |
| Clarkson Public Schools | \$104,242 | \$0 | \$33,724 | \$137,966 |
| Cody-Kilgore Public Schs | \$88,366 | \$0 | \$24,159 | \$112,525 |
| Columbus Public Schools | \$280,822 | \$1,008 | \$42,568 | \$324,398 |
| Conestoga Public Schools | \$173,167 | \$840 | \$52,299 | \$226,306 |
| Cozad Community Schools | \$177,667 | \$63 | \$52,546 | \$230,276 |
| Crawford Public Schools | \$128,417 | \$661 | \$49,767 | \$178,845 |
| Creek Valley Schools | \$120,000 | \$564 | \$47,090 | \$167,654 |
| Creighton Community Public Schools | \$89,053 | \$273 | \$32,882 | \$122,208 |
| Crete Public Schools | \$196,617 | \$180 | \$54,820 | \$251,617 |
| Crofton Community Schools | \$137,455 | \$4,392 | \$50,885 | \$192,732 |
| Cross County Community Schools | \$159,667 | \$368 | \$49,812 | \$209,847 |
| David City Public Schools | \$169,167 | \$0 | \$52,037 | \$221,204 |
| Deshler Public Schools | \$82,292 | \$24 | \$13,456 | \$95,772 |
| Diller-Odell Public Schools | \$152,618 | \$1,229 | \$48,529 | \$202,376 |
| Doniphan-Trumbull Public Schs | \$147,980 | \$0 | \$49,212 | \$197,192 |
| Dorchester Public School | \$150,000 | \$665 | \$22,502 | \$173,167 |
| Douglas Co West Community Schs | \$210,788 | \$0 | \$36,313 | \$247,101 |
| Dundy Co Stratton Public Schs | \$157,826 | \$0 | \$41,293 | \$199,119 |
| East Butler Public Schools | \$136,093 | \$0 | \$50,436 | \$186,529 |
| Elba Public Schools | \$85,031 | \$0 | \$30,444 | \$115,475 |
| Elgin Public Schools | \$119,808 | \$0 | \$45,154 | \$164,962 |
| Elkhorn Public Schools | \$280,459 | \$10,455 | \$62,891 | \$353,805 |
| Elkhorn Valley Schools | \$130,159 | \$5,618 | \$46,219 | \$181,996 |
| Elm Creek Public Schools | \$125,754 | \$2,711 | \$39,463 | \$167,928 |
| Elmwood-Murdock Public Schools | \$152,175 | \$375 | \$48,716 | \$201,266 |
| Elwood Public Schools | \$142,417 | \$1,035 | \$45,139 | \$188,591 |
| Emerson-Hubbard Public Schools | \$113,898 | \$0 | \$19,964 | \$133,862 |
| Eustis-Farnam Public Schools | \$123,599 | \$0 | \$32,133 | \$155,732 |
| Exeter-Milligan Public Schools | \$182,871 | \$0 | \$47,410 | \$230,281 |
| Fairbury Public Schools | \$157,407 | \$3,449 | \$49,149 | \$210,005 |
| Falls City Public Schools | \$167,238 | \$0 | \$24,728 | \$191,966 |
| Fillmore Central Public Schs | \$159,439 | \$0 | \$53,298 | \$212,737 |
| Fort Calhoun Community Schs | \$144,000 | \$2,804 | \$57,944 | \$204,748 |
| Franklin Public Schools | \$125,663 | \$0 | \$42,401 | \$168,064 |
| Freeman Public Schools | \$144,753 | \$0 | \$48,502 | \$193,255 |
| Fremont Public Schools | \$249,980 | \$110,016 | \$65,690 | \$425,686 |
| Friend Public Schools | \$133,052 | \$0 | \$47,393 | \$180,445 |
| Fullerton Public Schools | \$176,360 | \$0 | \$34,867 | \$211,227 |
| Garden County Schools | \$158,500 | \$0 | \$21,565 | \$180,065 |
| Gering Public Schools | \$202,339 | \$0 | \$33,533 | \$235,872 |
| Gibbon Public Schools | \$189,686 | \$0 | \$46,316 | \$236,002 |

| | | Additional Compensation | | Total |
|-------------------------------------|--|----------------------------|----------|--------------|
| District Name | Salary | & Benefits | Benefits | Compensation |
| Giltner Public Schools | \$140,934 | \$764 | \$49,562 | \$191,260 |
| Gordon-Rushville Public Schs | \$148,464 | \$0 | \$28,502 | \$176,966 |
| Gothenburg Public Schools | \$183,333 | \$1,200 | \$27,136 | \$211,669 |
| Grand Island Public Schools | \$275,000 | \$0 | \$44,671 | \$319,671 |
| Gretna Public Schools | \$241,795 | \$646 | \$64,135 | \$306,576 |
| Hampton Public School | \$150,744 | \$450 | \$48,971 | \$200,165 |
| Hartington Newcastle Public Schools | \$131,083 | \$14,400 | \$34,969 | \$180,452 |
| Harvard Public Schools | \$153,246 | \$2,885 | \$36,307 | \$192,438 |
| Hastings Public Schools | \$220,417 | \$0 | \$29,638 | \$250,055 |
| Hay Springs Public Schools | \$121,459 | \$0 | \$30,650 | \$152,109 |
| Hayes Center Public Schools | \$133,578 | \$623 | \$46,592 | \$180,793 |
| Heartland Community Schools | \$163,988 | \$0 | \$52,107 | \$216,095 |
| Hemingford Public Schools | \$148,370 | \$799 | \$22,114 | \$171,283 |
| Hershey Public Schools | \$169,397 | \$0 | \$51,317 | \$220,714 |
| High Plains Community Schools | \$133,260 | \$262 | \$46,592 | \$180,114 |
| Hitchcock Co Sch System | \$71,000 | \$645 | \$17,195 | \$88,840 |
| Holdrege Public Schools | \$180,869 | \$659 | \$53,032 | \$234,560 |
| Homer Community Schools | \$170,666 | \$0 | \$24,849 | \$195,515 |
| Howells-Dodge Consolidated Schools | \$97,195 | \$0 | \$25,009 | \$122,204 |
| Humboldt Table Rock Steinauer | \$136,008 | \$2,775 | \$40,866 | \$179,649 |
| Humphrey Public Schools | \$129,820 | \$0 | \$46,169 | \$175,989 |
| Hyannis Area Schools | \$61,808 | \$10,421 | \$18,854 | \$91,083 |
| Isanti Community School | \$168,983 | \$900 | \$70,368 | \$240,251 |
| Johnson Co Central Public Schs | \$107,063 | \$0 | \$38,203 | \$145,266 |
| Johnson-Brock Public Schools | \$161,054 | \$0 | \$27,221 | \$188,275 |
| Kearney Public Schools | \$228,000 | \$0 | \$30,738 | \$258,738 |
| Kenesaw Public Schools | \$134,223 | \$0 | \$22,637 | \$156,860 |
| Keya Paha County Schools | \$62,517 | \$0 | \$37,319 | \$99,836 |
| Kimball Public Schools | \$133,595 | \$0 | \$50,487 | \$184,082 |
| Lakeview Community Schools | \$144,000 | \$72 | \$23,588 | \$167,660 |
| Laurel-Concord-Coleridge School | \$140,203 | \$1,160 | \$51,142 | \$192,505 |
| Leigh Community Schools | \$128,426 | \$1,278 | \$46,050 | \$175,754 |
| Lewiston Consolidated Schools | \$124,062 | \$286 | \$26,502 | \$150,850 |
| Lexington Public Schools | \$216,395 | \$0 | \$57,044 | \$273,439 |
| Leyton Public Schools | \$133,326 | \$0 | \$50,383 | \$183,709 |
| Lincoln Public Schools | \$344,396 | \$0 | \$50,055 | \$394,451 |
| Litchfield Public Schools | \$120,583 | \$0 | \$39,128 | \$159,711 |
| Logan View Public Schools | \$142,282 | \$0 | \$47,702 | \$189,984 |
| Loomis Public Schools | \$84,880 | \$1,570 | \$30,560 | \$117,010 |
| Louisville Public Schools | \$142,667 | \$2,677 | \$50,410 | \$195,754 |
| Loup City Public Schools | \$143,799 | \$0 | \$31,659 | \$175,458 |
| Loup County Public Schools | \$66,458 | \$698 | \$31,572 | \$98,728 |
| Lyons-Decatur Northeast Schs | \$168,380 | \$0 | \$33,955 | \$202,335 |
| Lyons Doontal Hornicast Dons | <i>\(\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\</i> | ¥ • | +00,000 | +=0=,000 |

| | | Additional Compensation | | Total |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|----------------------------|----------|--------------|
| District Name | Salary | & Benefits | Benefits | Compensation |
| Madison Public Schools | \$144,792 | \$780 | \$22,676 | \$168,248 |
| Malcolm Public Schools | \$191,201 | \$0 | \$0 | \$191,201 |
| Maxwell Public Schools | \$140,700 | \$15 | \$49,849 | \$190,564 |
| Maywood Public Schools | \$137,810 | \$0 | \$33,520 | \$171,330 |
| Mc Cook Public Schools | \$189,472 | \$3,001 | \$55,264 | \$247,737 |
| Mc Cool Junction Public Schs | \$133,792 | \$0 | \$48,227 | \$182,019 |
| Mc Pherson County Schools | \$122,450 | \$0 | \$21,327 | \$143,777 |
| Mead Public Schools | \$143,792 | \$6,460 | \$21,654 | \$171,906 |
| Medicine Valley Public Schools | \$143,518 | \$0 | \$50,880 | \$194,398 |
| Meridian Public Schools | \$143,961 | \$0 | \$48,502 | \$192,463 |
| Milford Public Schools | \$174,762 | \$1,473 | \$57,460 | \$233,695 |
| Millard Public Schools | \$342,136 | \$0 | \$61,981 | \$404,117 |
| Minatare Public Schools | \$168,000 | \$4,627 | \$58,650 | \$231,277 |
| Minden Public Schools | \$154,083 | \$189 | \$49,572 | \$203,844 |
| Mitchell Public Schools | \$150,635 | \$0 | \$54,036 | \$204,671 |
| Morrill Public Schools | \$120,833 | \$0 | \$36,581 | \$157,414 |
| Mullen Public Schools | \$130,250 | \$2,076 | \$47,034 | \$179,360 |
| Nebraska City Public Schools | \$167,708 | \$0 | \$52,591 | \$220,299 |
| Neligh-Oakdale Schools | \$144,168 | \$0 | \$47,971 | \$192,139 |
| Newman Grove Public Schools | \$132,875 | \$0 | \$19,928 | \$152,803 |
| Niobrara Public Schools | \$164,630 | \$0 | \$52,618 | \$217,248 |
| Norfolk Public Schools | \$246,115 | \$0 | \$85,339 | \$331,454 |
| Norris School Dist 160 | \$201,009 | \$0 | \$55,129 | \$256,138 |
| North Bend Central Public Schs | \$146,198 | \$0 | \$51,146 | \$197,344 |
| North Platte Public Schools | \$243,472 | \$0 | \$37,124 | \$280,596 |
| Northwest Public Schools | \$193,481 | \$0 | \$48,733 | \$242,214 |
| Oakland Craig Public Schools | \$144,640 | \$742 | \$47,657 | \$193,039 |
| Ogallala Public Schools | \$163,592 | \$947 | \$50,721 | \$215,260 |
| Omaha Public Schools | \$358,787 | \$0 | \$53,094 | \$411,881 |
| O'Neill Public Schools | \$140,708 | \$0 | \$39,594 | \$180,302 |
| Ord Public Schools | \$177,000 | \$900 | \$52,102 | \$230,002 |
| Osceola Public Schools | \$137,166 | \$892 | \$47,398 | \$185,456 |
| Osmond Community Schools | \$121,000 | \$1,200 | \$41,930 | \$164,130 |
| Overton Public Schools | \$146,710 | \$0 | \$41,360 | \$188,070 |
| Palmer Public Schools | \$144,012 | \$0 | \$0 | \$144,012 |
| Palmyra District O R 1 | \$149,490 | \$0 | \$50,194 | \$199,684 |
| Papillion La Vista Community Schools | \$259,808 | \$5 | \$48,424 | \$308,237 |
| Pawnee City Public Schools | \$91,700 | \$0 | \$32,673 | \$124,373 |
| Paxton Consolidated Schools | \$151,725 | \$0 | \$52,515 | \$204,240 |
| Pender Public Schools | \$76,208 | \$375 | \$27,398 | \$103,981 |
| Perkins County Schools | \$141,167 | \$801 | \$44,996 | \$186,964 |
| Pierce Public Schools | \$149,863 | \$0 | \$43,552 | \$193,415 |
| Plainview Public Schools | \$156,375 | \$0 | \$25,365 | \$181,740 |

| | Additional Compensation | | | Total |
|--|----------------------------|------------|----------|--------------|
| District Name | Salary | & Benefits | Benefits | Compensation |
| Plattsmouth Community Schools | \$161,800 | \$0 | \$33,320 | \$195,120 |
| Pleasanton Public Schools | \$140,833 | \$1,200 | \$47,769 | \$189,802 |
| Ponca Public Schools | \$146,048 | \$5,250 | \$51,891 | \$203,189 |
| Potter-Dix Public Schools | \$133,500 | \$0 | \$47,200 | \$180,700 |
| Ralston Public Schools | \$181,500 | \$0 | \$0 | \$181,500 |
| Randolph Public Schools | \$142,800 | \$0 | \$44,212 | \$187,012 |
| Ravenna Public Schools | \$146,852 | \$0 | \$50,288 | \$197,140 |
| Raymond Central Public Schools | \$156,760 | \$17,656 | \$41,292 | \$215,708 |
| Red Cloud Community Schools | \$137,458 | \$0 | \$30,339 | \$167,797 |
| Riverside Public Schools | \$134,247 | \$1,200 | \$30,726 | \$166,173 |
| Rock County Public Schools | \$108,984 | \$4,887 | \$41,316 | \$155,187 |
| Sandhills Public Schools | \$75,333 | \$0 | \$25,117 | \$100,450 |
| Sargent Public Schools | \$71,458 | \$0 | \$20,850 | \$92,308 |
| Schuyler Community Schools | \$180,193 | \$0 | \$32,700 | \$212,893 |
| Scottsbluff Public Schools | \$214,171 | \$0 | \$30,209 | \$244,380 |
| Scribner-Snyder Community Schs | \$152,183 | \$0 | \$42,721 | \$194,904 |
| Seward Public Schools | \$180,845 | \$0 | \$54,701 | \$235,546 |
| Shelby - Rising City Public Schools | \$128,167 | \$0 | \$45,541 | \$173,708 |
| Shelton Public Schools | \$128,304 | \$0 | \$47,885 | \$176,189 |
| Shickley Public Schools | \$138,917 | \$960 | \$48,077 | \$187,954 |
| Sidney Public Schools | \$165,550 | \$50 | \$49,467 | \$215,067 |
| Silver Lake Public Schools | \$126,500 | \$300 | \$45,498 | \$172,298 |
| Sioux County Public Schools | \$128,292 | \$0 | \$32,399 | \$160,691 |
| So Sioux City Community Schs | \$202,667 | \$3,000 | \$66,803 | \$272,470 |
| South Central Nebraska Unified | \$192,994 | \$318 | \$56,815 | \$250,127 |
| South Platte Public Schools | \$69,667 | \$800 | \$25,676 | \$96,143 |
| Southern School District 1 | \$173,256 | \$408 | \$25,672 | \$199,336 |
| Southern Valley Schools | \$156,333 | \$0 | \$49,385 | \$205,718 |
| Southwest Public Schools | \$130,325 | \$8,298 | \$47,057 | \$185,680 |
| Springfield Platteview Community Schools | \$171,214 | \$0 | \$52,796 | \$224,010 |
| St Edward Public Schools | \$72,867 | \$600 | \$23,886 | \$97,353 |
| St Paul Public Schools | \$143,733 | \$0 | \$49,605 | \$193,338 |
| Stanton Community Schools | \$147,902 | \$420 | \$43,968 | \$192,290 |
| Stapleton Public Schools | \$139,800 | \$0 | \$22,677 | \$162,477 |
| Sterling Public Schools | \$128,375 | \$0 | \$50,067 | \$178,442 |
| Stuart Public Schools | \$150,750 | \$0 | \$41,138 | \$191,888 |
| Summerland Public Schools | \$142,486 | \$2,167 | \$23,870 | \$168,523 |
| Sumner-Eddyville-Miller Schs | \$137,663 | \$0 | \$19,425 | \$157,088 |
| Superior Public Schools | \$145,949 | \$317 | \$39,057 | \$185,323 |
| Sutherland Public Schools | \$124,750 | \$0 | \$35,183 | \$159,933 |
| Sutton Public Schools* | \$172,017 | \$104,089 | \$48,491 | \$324,597 |
| Syracuse-Dunbar-Avoca Schools | \$179,805 | \$557 | \$26,055 | \$206,417 |
| Tekamah-Herman Community Schs | \$136,666 | \$612 | \$50,818 | \$188,096 |

September 1, 2023, through August 31, 2024

| | Additional | | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------|--------------|----------|--------------|
| | | Compensation | | Total |
| District Name | Salary | & Benefits | Benefits | Compensation |
| Thayer Central Community Schs | \$145,416 | \$0 | \$48,546 | \$193,962 |
| Thedford Public Schools | \$63,250 | \$0 | \$23,918 | \$87,168 |
| Tri County Public Schools | \$206,492 | \$0 | \$53,796 | \$260,288 |
| Twin River Public Schools | \$133,700 | \$0 | \$20,277 | \$153,977 |
| Umo N Ho N Nation Public Schs | \$211,888 | \$0 | \$67,202 | \$279,090 |
| Valentine Community Schools | \$157,393 | \$380 | \$45,604 | \$203,377 |
| Verdigre Public Schools | \$63,000 | \$0 | \$22,973 | \$85,973 |
| Wahoo Public Schools | \$173,242 | \$78 | \$50,610 | \$223,930 |
| Wakefield Public Schools | \$148,863 | \$1,200 | \$48,915 | \$198,978 |
| Wallace Public Sch Dist 65 R | \$84,314 | \$0 | \$12,734 | \$97,048 |
| Walthill Public Schools | \$194,349 | \$559 | \$46,259 | \$241,167 |
| Wauneta-Palisade Public Schs | \$147,293 | \$0 | \$43,436 | \$190,729 |
| Wausa Public Schools | \$99,392 | \$441 | \$17,230 | \$117,063 |
| Waverly School District 145 | \$187,045 | \$0 | \$54,126 | \$241,171 |
| Wayne Community Schools | \$159,469 | \$0 | \$44,750 | \$204,219 |
| Weeping Water Public Schools | \$106,538 | \$0 | \$42,133 | \$148,671 |
| West Holt Public Schools | \$142,769 | \$165 | \$51,980 | \$194,914 |
| West Point Public Schools | \$150,221 | \$902 | \$53,862 | \$204,985 |
| Westside Community Schools | \$282,669 | \$0 | \$62,685 | \$345,354 |
| Wheeler Central Schools | \$125,417 | \$41 | \$44,725 | \$170,183 |
| Wilber-Clatonia Public Schools | \$160,151 | \$3,591 | \$45,570 | \$209,312 |
| Wilcox-Hildreth Public Schools | \$146,129 | \$7,816 | \$50,545 | \$204,490 |
| Winnebago Public Schools District 17 | \$150,250 | \$0 | \$26,482 | \$176,732 |
| Winside Public Schools | \$127,083 | \$361 | \$49,352 | \$176,796 |
| Wisner-Pilger Public Schools | \$151,273 | \$900 | \$59,429 | \$211,602 |
| Wood River Rural Schools | \$151,144 | \$36 | \$48,686 | \$199,866 |
| Wynot Public Schools | \$99,109 | \$589 | \$36,122 | \$135,820 |
| York Public Schools | \$164,831 | \$588 | \$24,053 | \$189,472 |
| Yutan Public Schools | \$180,000 | \$1,089 | \$28,670 | \$209,759 |

* The high additional compensation for Sutton Public Schools is payment of a settlement approved in April 2024 for the resignation of its former superintendent, which the FY 2024 Sutton Public Schools audit report noted as \$200,000, with \$100,000 paid in FY 2024.

Source: 2023 - 2024 Statewide District Annual Financial Report, sfos.education.ne.gov