

RULE 10 ANNUAL REPORT INFORMATION

2025-2026

Part I: Organization and Finance

General Information:

Pre-K through 12 Enrollment	258
Teachers' Experience:	13.91 years average
Administrators' Experience:	19.33 years average
Master's Degrees (or BA+36 equivalent)	13
Total Staff:	
Administration	3.00
Teachers (including SpEd, Title I):	22.00
Counselor	1.00
Aides (Regular, SpEd, Title I, ESL, Preschool):	6.00
Secretaries:	1.00
Bookkeeper/Business Manager:	1.00
Custodians:	3.50
Food Service	2.50
Bus Drivers (Regular & Sp.Ed.):	8.00
Specialists from ESU #8 (includes Special Education, Technology, Staff Development, Media, Etc.)	

Budgeted Revenue Sources:

General Fund:

Revenue from Local/County Sources:	92%
Revenue from State Sources:	7%
Revenue from Federal Sources:	1%
Reserve, Local, County:	\$2,471,264
Property Taxes:	\$3,285,341
State, Special Education, Grants:	\$113,000
State Aid:	\$329,295
Federal:	\$44,700
Total:	\$6,243,600

Budget of Expenditures:

General Fund:

All Instruction except Special Ed:	\$4,532,900
Special Education (all programs):	\$710,700
Necessary Cash Reserve/Transfers	\$1,000,000
Total:	\$6,243,600

Levies (calculated to 6 places):

General Fund:	0.376804
Special Building:	0.084873
Bond Fund:	0.087166
Total District Levy:	0.548843

Valuation - August, 2025: \$880,702,789

2025-2026 BUDGET: State Aid for the 2025-2026 fiscal year is \$329,295 an increase of \$3,998 from the previous year.

PROPERTY TAXES AND VALUATION: Property taxes still account for the largest share of revenue for schools. Property taxes are based on two factors: property valuation, which is set by the county assessor; and the property tax levy, which is a factor one multiplies with the valuation to come up with the tax. The Nebraska State Legislature continues to set the limit on which districts can set their levies. The limit set for the 2025-2026 fiscal year is 1.05. Some exclusions are allowed to exceed this levy lid.

After the County Assessor has certified valuation figures on August 20th, the budget is then completed and presented to the Board of Education in September for their approval. Final levy figures are then verified by the County Treasurer's office.

BUDGET: Newman Grove Schools has a total of seven active budgets or funds which they use during the year. They are the General Fund (which includes the Depreciation and Petty Cash Funds), Employee Benefit Fund, Student Fees Fund, Activities Fund, School Lunch, Bond Fund, and Special Building Fund. Of these, taxes are collected this year for the General, Building and Bond Funds. The remaining funds are mostly self-supporting.

GOVERNANCE: Governance is through an elected six-member Board of Education, with all members elected at-large for staggered four-year terms. Candidates for the Board of Education must file according to state law in Madison County, the county of record. Current officers are Jeanie McCloud, President; Ginger Buhl-Jorgensen, Vice-President; Kevin Patzel, Secretary; Becky Wallin, Treasurer; David Fowlkes and Eric Stone, Members.

BLUEJAY FOUNDATION: The Bluejay Foundation is a separate entity made up of the members of the Board of Education and four patrons. Officers are Kari Fehringer, President; Becky Wallin, Vice-President; and Christie Wallin, Secretary-Treasurer. The Foundation works toward providing opportunities for our students through scholarships, donations, and special projects. The Foundation is supported by tax deductible donations and fund-raising activities. No tax dollars are involved. Anyone interested in donating toward the mission of the Bluejay Foundation may contact the Central Office or any member of the Bluejay Foundation Board of Directors.

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VISION STATEMENT

B Believe in yourself
L Learn to be great
U Uncover your potential
E Evolve into a productive member of society
J Join student extra-curricular activities, get involved
A Appreciate people around you
Y You can make a difference
S Strive for excellence

MISSION STATEMENT

Newman Grove Public School District is committed to providing a safe environment where all students can develop academically. Students will be provided opportunities to acquire skills needed to accomplish their goals and to develop their potential as lifelong learners, which will allow students to participate in and contribute to society.

BELIEF AND VALUE STATEMENT

Every student will be given equal opportunities to succeed at Newman Grove Public Schools. All education resources and materials students need to succeed are provided and readily available to every student.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT GOAL

The district is in year 3 of a 5 year cycle that began in 2023-2024. The chair of the Continuous Improvement Leadership Team (CILT) is Erin Forre. Each year the CILT team leads the faculty to specifically analyze testing results to make decisions to drive instruction and programs. Our goal for this cycle is:

Priority Outcome: Newman Grove Public School will increase proficiency on state and district-wide ELA Assessments through the development of common instructional strategies, consistent language, and targeted ELA professional development.

Priority Goal:

- By the end of the 2027-2028 school year, Newman Grove Public Schools will increase proficiency on the NSCAS ELA Assessment from 76% to 80%.
- By the end of the 2027-2028 school year, Newman Grove Public Schools will increase proficiency on the NSCAS/MAP ELA Language usage assessment from 77% to 80%.

STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT ACCOUNTABILITY

Schools in Nebraska are held accountable for student achievement and progress. Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) is a federally mandated law that requires testing of students in grades 3-8 and 11 in the subject categories of Reading, Math and Science to measure student performance and growth. Graduation rate is also part of the formula. These components are used to determine the progress and growth of students who are considered proficient in the areas tested. To meet the requirements of this law, Nebraska has established a state accountability system called AQuESTT. Each spring the students of Nebraska are required to take the Nebraska Student-Centered Assessment System (NSCAS) to fulfill both prior mentioned accountability measures.

Assessment results are published and archived for each school on the state level and can be found on www.education.ne.gov. When results are made available for public release, Newman Grove Public Schools submits a news article to summarize the results in the local newspaper and district bulletin. Assessment results are typically available in the fall.

STUDENT PERFORMANCE

The following information has been compiled to show how students of Newman Grove Schools have performed on college entrance exams, achievement tests, and the mastery of basic skills.

COLLEGE ENTRANCE EXAMS (A.C.T.)

The ACT Company provides us with a five-year history of our ACT tests and Mrs. Sweeter has added our 2025-2026 scores to date.

Table I shows our average composite scores as well as state and national composite averages. Newman Grove students normally score at or slightly below the national averages and at or above the state averages. 100% percent of our students took the test the past five years with a composite average of 19.6. The ACT is a state mandated test for all Juniors to take.

TABLE I

Average Composite ACT Scores for All Graduates

Year	Local	State	National
2017-2018	19.8	21.4	21.0
2018-2019	19.4	20.8	20.8
2019-2020	19.7	20.1	20.8
2020-2021	20.8	21.4	19.5
Fall-Class 2022	20	20	20.7
2022-2023	19.8	19.9	20.1
2023-2024	18.6	18.7	19.4
2024-2025	18.9	18.3	19.4
2025-2026	20.9	18.6	TBD

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2025-2026

The Class of 2027 has the following scores on the ACT:
English: 18.6; Mathematics: 22.2; Reading: 22; Science: 22.5; and Composite: 20.9. All scores increased compared to last year's.

ACHIEVEMENT TESTS

Newman Grove Schools uses the NWEA MAP test to measure student achievement.

During the 2025-2026 school year, we tested our 7-11 students in the NWEA MAP Growth test; our 3-8th grade students took the NWEA MAP Growth test during the fall and winter, along with the NSCAS summative test in the spring.

Table I shows the percentages of Newman Grove students by grade level scoring at or above the National Norms in each subject area. Example: 68 would mean that 68% of the class was at or above the national norm compared to students who took the test nationwide. For all of the classes in each tested subject, we are achieving higher than the national "average".

Spring 2026 MAPS Growth Testing Results (7-11th Grades)

RIT Scores

% of students at or above the normative RIT

Grade	Class	Science RIT Score	Math RIT Score	Language Usage RIT Score	Reading RIT Score
7th	2031	221 Class Average (National Average is 210) 83% of our students scored at or above the 50th percentile	235 Class Average (National Average is 224) 72% of our students scored at or above the 50th percentile	222 Class Average (National Average is 213) 78% of our students scored at or above the 50th percentile	220 Class Average (National Average is 215) 61% of our students scored at or above the 50th percentile
8th	2030	220 Class Average (National Average is 213) 81% of our students scored at or above the 50th percentile	239 Class Average (National Average is 229) 78% of our students scored at or above the 50th percentile	227 Class Average (National Average is 217) 85% of our students scored at or above the 50th percentile	221 Class Average (National Average is 218) 56% of our students scored at or above the 50th percentile
9th	2029	221 Class Average (National Average is 213) 83% of our students scored at or above the 50th percentile	251 Class Average (National Average is 237) 83% of our students scored at or above the 50th percentile	226 Class Average (National Average is 216) 75% of our students scored at or above the 50th percentile	224 Class Average (National Average is 217) 75% of our students scored at or above the 50th percentile
10th	2028	224 Class Average (National Average is 215) 70% of our students scored at or above the 50th percentile.	249 Class Average (National Average is 239) 80% of our students scored at or above the 50th percentile	229 Class Average (National Average is 217) 80% of our students scored at or above the 50th percentile	225 Class Average (National Average is 218) 70% of our students scored at or above the 50th percentile
11th	2027	228 Class Average *No National Average	257 Class Average (National Average is 247) 81% of our students scored at or above the 50th percentile	230 Class Average (National Average is 218) 88% of our students scored at or above the 50th percentile	229 Class Average (National Average is 218) 75% of our students scored at or above the 50th percentile

RIT = Rasch unit. RIT scores relate directly to the curriculum scale in each subject area. It is an equal-interval score, like feet and inches, so scores can be added together to calculate class or school averages. RIT scores range from about 100 to 300. RIT scores make it possible to follow a student's educational growth from year to year.
