



ELKHORN  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

# ANNUAL REPORT



2022-2023 REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

# BOARD OF EDUCATION



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Visit [www.elkhornweb.org/about/board](http://www.elkhornweb.org/about/board) to learn more about the Elkhorn Public Schools Board of Education, including meeting information and how to provide your input as they work to be effective liaisons between our community and our professional educators.

## DISTRICT LEADERSHIP

Superintendent: *Dr. Bary Habrock*  
Assistant Superintendent: *Dr. Jodi Miller*  
Chief Financial Officer: *Heather Shepard*  
Exec. Dir. Business Support Services: *Ryan Lindquist*  
Exec. Dir. Personnel: *Dr. Don Pechous*  
Exec. Dir. Student Services: *Anne Doerr*

# A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

One of the greatest strengths of the Elkhorn Public Schools district is the ongoing partnership we share with our community. Over the course of the last year, community support has been on full display, most notably in the passing of the 12th bond issue since 1992. Also, our newly updated EPS Strategic Plan provides renewed focus on our ongoing journey to serve all students and our commitment to continuous improvement in pursuit of excellence. The publishing of the EPS Annual Report provides an overview of District demographics, assessment results, and finances that are evidence of the continued success of our students and the dedication of our staff, while also serving as an important reminder about the impact of your support in our school-community.

In a direct display of their commitment to education, Elkhorn voters approved a \$122.9 million bond measure in November 2023 with 63% of voters in favor of prioritizing the educational needs of our students. The quality of our school district was built and still depends on broad community support, and we continue to be grateful. This is the outcome needed in response to our growth and to make our schools safer; now, it is our job to continue being responsible stewards of the taxpayer dollars that our community has invested. To this point, the Board of Education voted this past September to lower the combined tax levy by just over 17 cents as a result of an increase in state-aid for fiscal year 2023-24.

Additionally, work to update the EPS Strategic Plan began in late spring and included community presentations, parent surveys, and focus groups, culminating with a work group to refine the themes into recommended goal areas. The process brought together the ideas of community members, past and current students, families, and staff, and was finalized with the EPS Board of Education's approval of these identified goals:

- *Safety and Security*
- *Mental Health and Overall Well-Being of Students and Staff*
- *Provide High Levels of Learning while Meeting the Needs of Each Student*
- *Attract and Retain High-Quality Employees*
- *Planning for Growth*

A focus on these priority areas will be our guidepost as we continue the important work of educating all students and developing lifelong learners.

On behalf of the Elkhorn Board of Education, the staff, and most importantly, our students, we thank you for your ongoing support of our schools. This partnership creates a community where all students can thrive in school, and leave prepared to write their future stories beyond our system. We appreciate your continued commitment to education and remain proud to be part of a community where all are dedicated to ensuring that every student experiences their optimal environment to live, learn, and grow.

Sincerely,

Bary Habrock, Superintendent

# STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

# 10,912 (K-12)



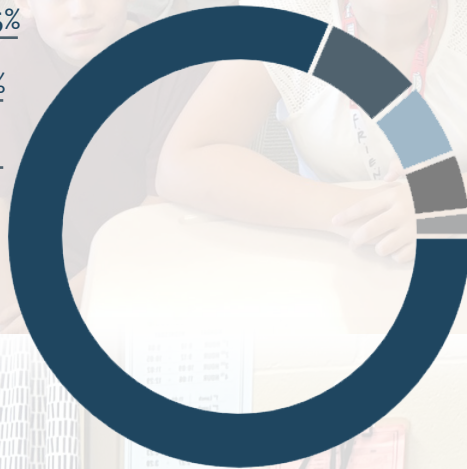
## STUDENTS ENROLLED

The Elkhorn Public Schools District continues to experience student enrollment growth, and there is an identified need for additional space at all levels. Given that, two elementary schools and additions to Elkhorn Valley View Middle School (EVMS) and Elkhorn North High School (ENHS) are included in the list of projects to be completed as part of the recently approved bond measure.

The construction of Elementary #13, located near 196<sup>th</sup> and Ida streets, Elementary #14, located near 204<sup>th</sup> and I streets, and the EVMS addition are planned to be completed by August 2025. The addition to ENHS is expected to open in August 2026.

Additional bond project information, including a detailed project list and anticipated completion timelines, can be found at <https://bit.ly/45cj99C>.

White:	81.5%
Asian:	7.2%
Hispanic:	5.4%
Other:	4.1%
Black:	1.8%



### STUDENTS IN SPECIAL PROGRAMS

English Learner:	1.9%
Poverty:	10.4%
Special Education:	14.1%
High Ability:	14.4%



# STAFF STATISTICS

In 2022-2023, EPS employed approximately 1,300 people, including over 900 certified staff and more than 400 classified staff.

EPS teachers are required to be highly qualified in their content areas and must demonstrate that they have sufficient knowledge in their subject. Teachers meet this requirement by holding the appropriate endorsement for the courses taught or successfully completing a state evaluation.

### CERTIFIED STAFF GROUPS

Classroom Teachers .....	629
Special Education Teachers/Specialists .....	151
Administrators.....	37
Guidance Counselors.....	29
Media Specialists.....	20
Gifted Education Teachers.....	15
Specialists and Coordinators .....	14
Reading Specialists.....	12
Math Interventionists .....	4

### CERTIFIED STAFF WITH MASTER'S DEGREES

Elkhorn Public Schools.....	72.08%
State of Nebraska.....	58.25%

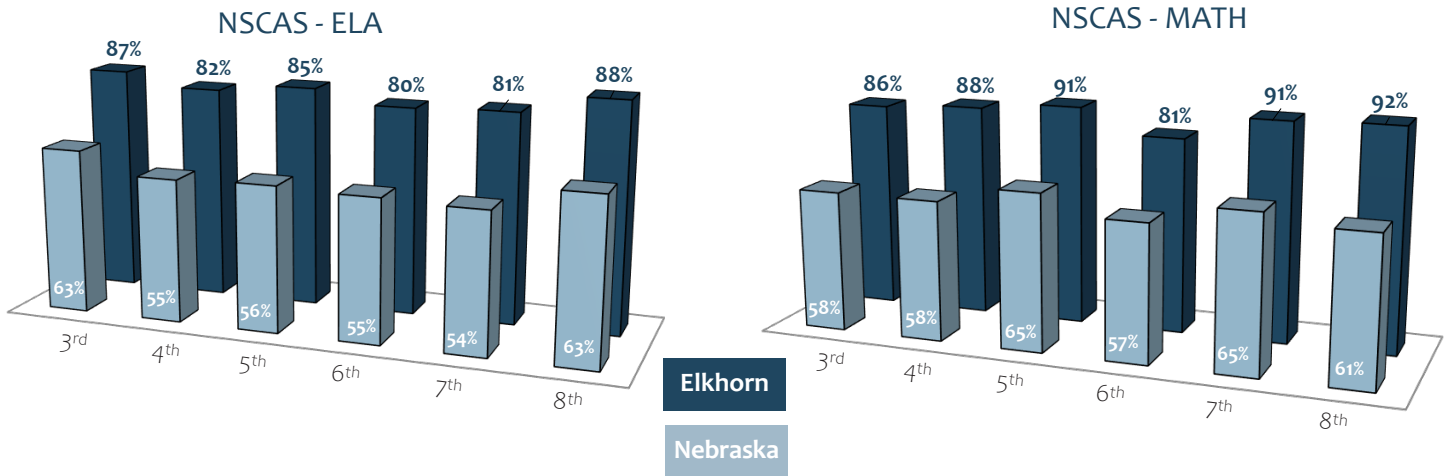
### AVERAGE YEARS OF EXPERIENCE

Elkhorn Public Schools.....	12.83 yrs
State of Nebraska.....	13.86 yrs

# STATE TESTING: NSCAS

Annually, students in grades 3-8 take the Nebraska Student-Centered Assessment System (NSCAS) assessments in English Language Arts (ELA) and Math. On all NSCAS assessments, students fall into one of three state-determined categories: Developing, On Track, and Advanced.

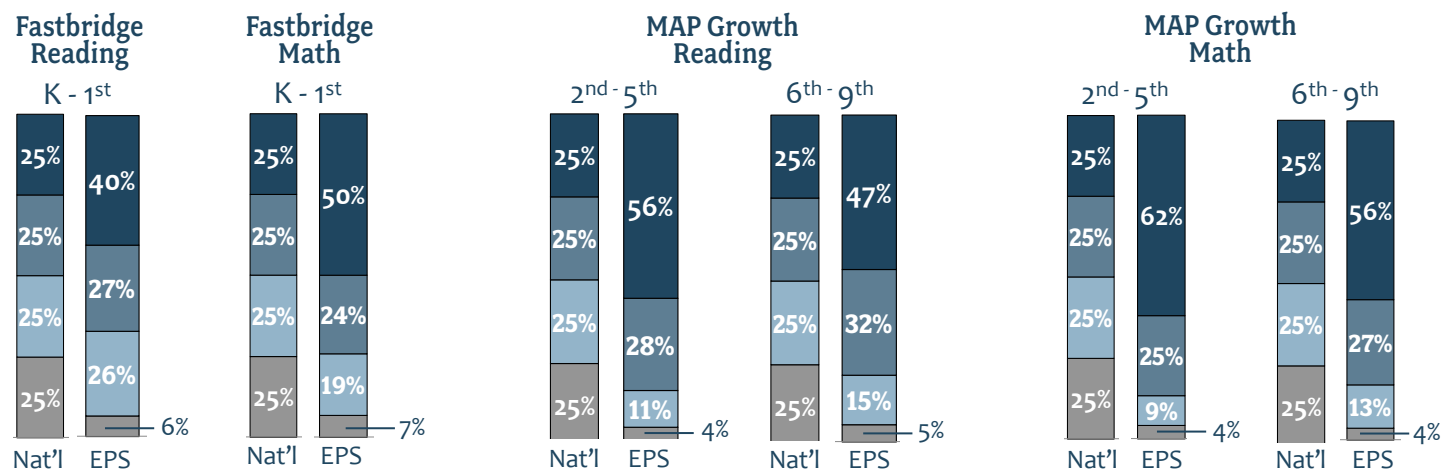
The graphs show the percentage of EPS students achieving at “On Track” or “Advanced” levels compared to state averages. Additional state assessment performance information can be found online on the Nebraska Department of Education website.



# NATIONAL TESTING: MAP GROWTH and FASTBRIDGE

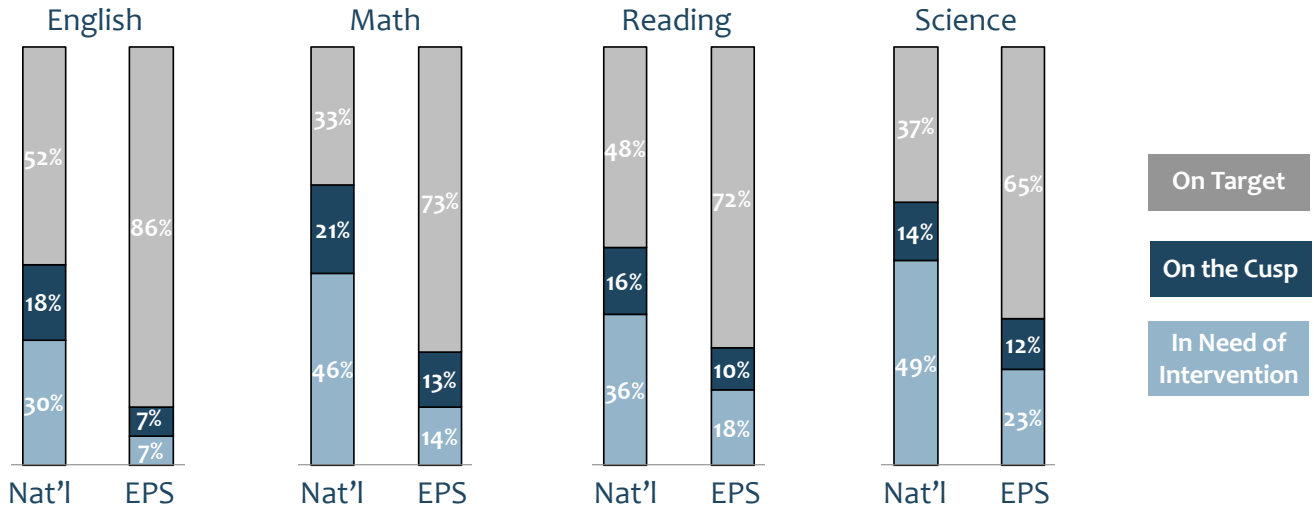
EPS administers nationally normed achievement tests to all students in grades K-9. Fastbridge is administered to students in grades K-1, and Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) Growth is administered to students in grades 2-9. Both are adaptive assessments that can be administered multiple times per year, allowing teachers and administrators to better measure academic growth during the school year.

Nationally, 25 percent of students fall in each of the four quartiles, with only 50 percent scoring at or above national averages. In Elkhorn, 67-87 percent of students score at or above national averages based on grade level and subject. The graphs below illustrate the percentage of EPS students in each quartile on the Spring 2023 reading and math assessments.



# SOPHOMORE Pre-ACT

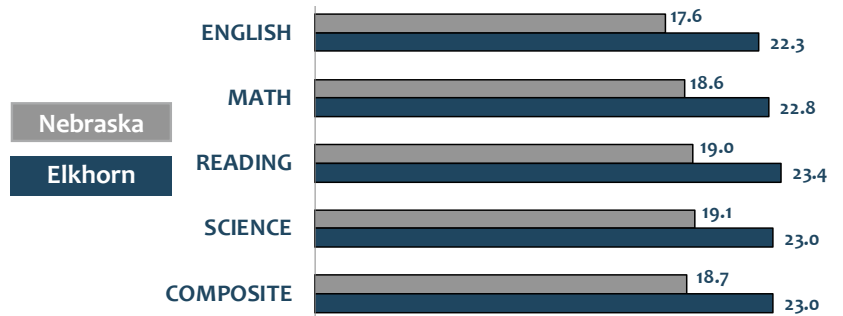
Annually, EPS sophomore students take the Pre-ACT to provide students with information about their own preparation for the ACT. From their results, students are determined to be “On Target”, “On the Cusp”, or “In Need of Intervention” for a college-ready score on the ACT.



# JUNIOR ACT

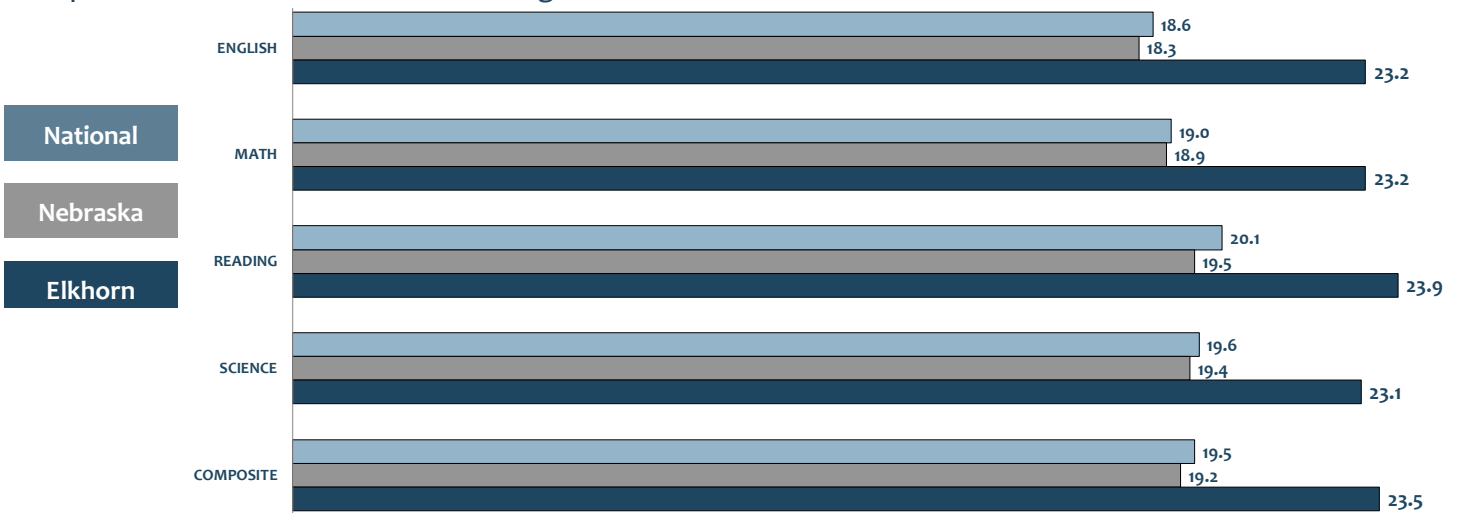
In order to meet state and federal testing requirements, Elkhorn students are required to take the ACT in the spring of their junior year. This requirement gives all students an opportunity to take the ACT at no cost to them and to then use the results earned for college entrance information.

The graph features EPS student scores, both composite and in individual subject areas, in comparison to Nebraska state averages.



# GRADUATE ACT

EPS graduates consistently score above both state and national averages on the ACT. For the EPS Class of 2023, the average composite score was 23.5. Results featured illustrate how EPS 2023 graduates rank in comparison to state and national averages.



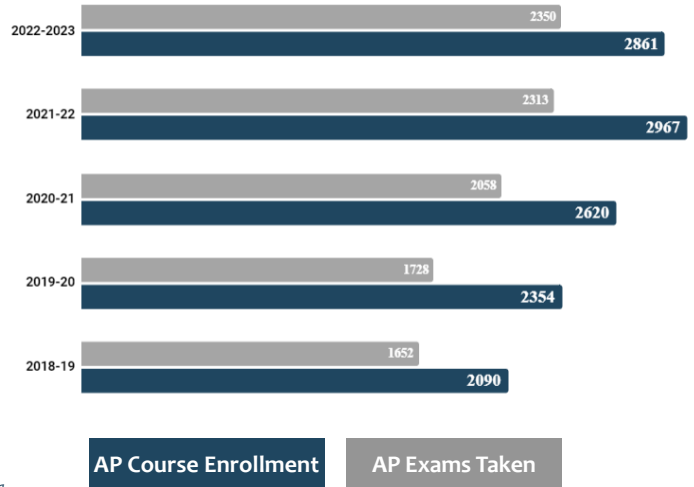
# ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP)

EPS offers numerous, rigorous, college-level Advanced Placement (AP) courses where students may earn college credit upon successful completion of a national AP Exam. Historically, AP enrollment and the number of AP exams taken by EPS students has steadily increased due to the culture of rigor and high expectations set at all EPS schools.

## 2022-2023 AP Enrollment by Subject


AP English* .....789	AP Government ..... 123
AP History* .....777	AP Chemistry ..... 113
AP Psychology .....216	AP Spanish ..... 74
AP Statistics .....192	AP Computer Science..... 40
AP Calculus* .....191	AP French..... 11
AP Biology.....166	AP Japanese ..... 7
AP Physics.....162	


\*Multiple course offerings available within listed subject area.




Notably, in the recently released 2023 AP Honor, all three Elkhorn Public Schools high schools were among those recognized as having built a culture of academic success, while also broadening access to AP courses for all students. This honor, which was bestowed on only 10 high schools in Nebraska, directly reflects the dedication to academic excellence that is displayed daily by every student and staff member.

# GRADUATION REPORT

 **757**  
CLASS OF  
2023 SENIORS

**97%**   
CLASS OF 2023  
GRADUATION RATE

 **\$39.7M**  
SCHOLARSHIP  
DOLLARS EARNED

**87%**   
PURSUING  
POST-SECONDARY  
EDUCATION

**23.5**   
COMPOSITE  
ACT  
SCORE

EPS students are encouraged to take a rigorous curriculum in order to maximize their post-secondary options. To graduate from an EPS high school, students must accumulate 42 credits to include 8 English credits, 6 credits of social sciences (must include US History and American Government), 6 math credits (must include Algebra I), 6 credits of science (must include Biology), 2 credits of physical education, 1 personal finance and careers credit, and 14 elective credits. In addition to the core graduation requirement offerings, EPS high schools also offer a wide range of other courses and activities including career/technical education, world languages, visual performing arts, physical education/health, career awareness experiences and extracurricular activities to enhance the educational experience for all students.



# FINANCIAL REPORT

The EPS tax levy is determined by the district’s general, bond, and building funds. The common general and common building fund levies are set by the Learning Community of Douglas and Sarpy counties.

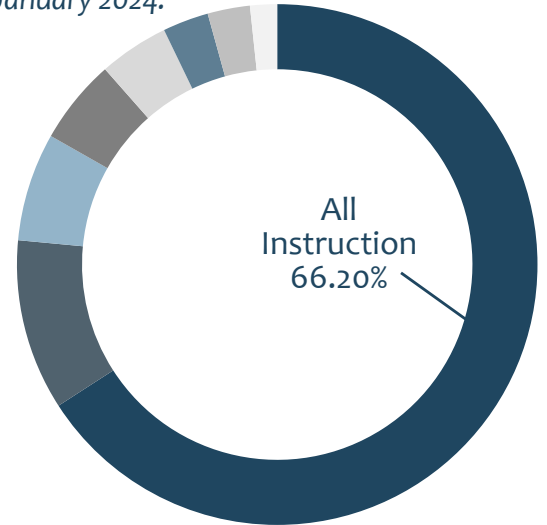
2022-2023 .....	1.383	2020-2021 .....	1.423
2021-2022.....	1.418	2019-2020 .....	1.415

Note: as a result of an increase in state-aid for fiscal year 2023-24, the EPS Board of Education approved a combined levy decrease of just over 17 cents (\$1.209) to take effect in January 2024.

EPS continually maintains one of the lowest per pupil costs, ranking #4 in Nebraska and averaging \$12,221 per pupil. Additionally, given the District’s strong focus on student learning, more than 66% of the total budget goes directly into the instructional budget.

## 2022-2023 EXPENDITURES

■ All Instruction .....	66.20%
■ Operation and Maintenance/Safety and Security .....	10.12%
■ Student Support Services .....	6.76%
■ Office of the Principal.....	5.14%
■ Instructional Staff Support .....	4.44%
■ Local, State, and Federal Grants.....	2.68%
■ Admin and Central Services .....	2.67%
■ Transportation.....	1.85%



Please visit <https://nep.education.ne.gov/> in early 2024 for additional financial information.

# INSTRUCTIONAL TIME REPORT

ELEMENTARY	MIDDLE SCHOOL	HIGH SCHOOL
Total Required ..... 1032 hrs.	Total Required ..... 1032 hrs.	Total Required.....1080 hrs.
Total Attended..... 1098.90 hrs.	Total Attended..... 1152.84 hrs.	Total Attended .....1144.51 hrs.

# ANNUAL NOTICES

**SPECIAL EDUCATION CHILD FIND:** Any resident of the Elkhorn Public Schools District may refer a child for special education services for speech, language, hearing, visual, physical or behavioral impairments, learning disabilities, or problems in mental development. Please contact the Student Services department at (402) 289-2579.

**STUDENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM:** The Elkhorn Public Schools District makes available a student assistance program through Arbor Family Counseling to provide assessment, counseling and referral services to students and families who may be experiencing problems with peer relationships, family relationships, eating disorders, violent/aggressive behaviors, drug/alcohol abuse or other concerns. The student assistance program can be accessed by calling (402) 330-0960.

**TEACHER QUALIFICATION NOTICE:** As part of federal legislation, all parents have the right to request information about their child’s teacher’s qualifications. General information about district teacher qualifications is available on the Nebraska Department of Education website ([www.education.ne.gov](http://www.education.ne.gov)) as part of the State of the Schools report. Specific requests for teacher qualification information should be directed to Executive Director of Personnel, Dr. Don Pechous, 20650 Glenn Street, Elkhorn, NE 68022.

**NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION:** The Elkhorn Public Schools District does not discriminate on the basis of sex, disability, race (including skin color, hair texture and protective hairstyles), color, religion, veteran status, national or ethnic origin, age, marital status, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, sexual orientation or gender identity, or other protected status in its programs. The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the Non-discrimination Policies:

- Students: Anne Doerr, Executive Director of Student Services, 20650 Glenn Street, Elkhorn, NE; (402) 289-2579
  - Employees and Others: Dr. Don Pechous, Executive Director of Personnel, 20650 Glenn Street, Elkhorn, NE; (402) 289-2579
- Complaints or concerns involving discrimination or needs for accommodation or access should be addressed to the appropriately identified individual. For further information about anti-discrimination laws and regulations, or to file a complaint of discrimination, contact the OCR at One Petticoat Lane, 1010 Walnut Street, 3rd Floor, Suite 320, Kansas City, Missouri 64106, (816) 268-0550 (voice), Fax (816) 268-0559, (800) 877-8339 (telecommunications device for the deaf), or [ocr.kansascity@ed.gov](mailto:ocr.kansascity@ed.gov).



**ELKHORN**  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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*The Elkhorn Public Schools District unites students, families, educators, and the community to ensure a challenging and enriching academic environment that inspires students to develop the knowledge and skills necessary to become responsible citizens and lifelong learners.*

# 2024-2025 KINDERGARTEN INFORMATION

Registration for students entering kindergarten for the 2024-25 school year will open in January 2024 at [www.elkhornweb.org](http://www.elkhornweb.org). Per Nebraska state law, students must be at least 5 years of age by July 31, 2024, in order to attend kindergarten for the 2024-2025 school year.

By completing the online registration, parents/guardians will be added to the contact list to receive an email with information for incoming kindergarten students, including details for the parent meeting and kindergarten round-up.

Elkhorn Public Schools publishes the Annual Report for the sole purpose of informing district residents of the programs, procedures, and progress of the school district. Questions or comments should be addressed to Superintendent Dr. Bary Habrock, 20650 Glenn Street, Elkhorn, NE 68022, (402) 289-2579.