Logan County

Walk or Ride

Greg Doering, Kansas Farm Bureau

It's hard to see a yellow school bus and not think about all the hours of my childhood spent sitting on one of those hard seats with a stiff back. I hope the modern versions have a little more comfort than the utilitarian transportation I had to ride uphill both ways.

From the outside, they don't look much different now that the calendar has turned to September and the wheels on the buses are going around and around every day. As one of the last stops on the bus route, I don't remember much about the ride to school. Being among the last to be picked up made the trip pretty short, and I wasn't fully awake at that hour despite the sleep advantage I had over the kids who got on earlier.

This meant the reverse was true in the afternoon. I was the last or next to last one off the bus, unless I decided to take a shortcut that would allow me to exit first. The only catch was it meant a half-mile walk home. Faster than riding but more effort, too.

Walking meant getting home about 45 minutes earlier than riding the full route. There were multiple considerations that factored into the decision like weather, who was on the bus that day, whether any neighbors were also walking, if I had a full backpack or happened to be toting a saxophone (better than carrying a tuba, not as good as a clarinet).

What was at home also mattered. Chores and homework weren't a reason to get home earlier than necessary. Video games, TV and snacks were.

Hot weather made the decision easy. It was far better to sweat while walking than get stuck to the vinyl seat of the bus. You'd also have a fine coating of gravel dust on everything because the windows were open as the bus traversed the backroads. Wet or cold weather also made the decision simple as long as the heater on the bus was working.

Riding the bus also extended the day's education. Since there was a mix of younger and older students, there was a significant exchange of knowledge in the form of innuendo, double entendre and the art of swearing. Thankfully this was way before everyone carried a shiny rectangle capable of broadcasting these tutoring sessions to the world. What happened on the bus stayed on the bus. Mostly.

My days riding the bus to and from school ended about the time my older brother received driver's license. There were occasional schedule conflicts that necessitated catching the bus, but for the most part my mass transit interactions were limited to sports and field trips.

Walk or ride? It sounds like a simple decision today, but I was fortunate it was one of the few I had to make each day. It's prepared me well for adult life, where there's a steady stream of banal questions like, "What's for dinner?" or "What are our plans for this weekend?" Turns out, you don't really stop riding the bus, you just become the driver.

"Insight" is a weekly column published by Kansas Farm Bureau, the state's largest farm organization whose mission is to strengthen agriculture and the lives of Kansans through advocacy, education and service.

Garden City Community College Opens Scholarship Application for 2026-2027

Garden City Community College (GCCC) is pleased to announce that the 2026-2027 Scholarship Application is now open. Each year, GCCC awards more than 300 endowed and annual scholarships, providing significant financial support to students as they pursue their educational goals.

To be eligible, new students must first apply for admission to GCCC and be officially accepted before accessing the scholarship application. The free admissions application can be completed on the GCCC

Current/returning GCCC students may apply directly through the AwardSpring tile in myGCCC.

When students submit their scholarship application, it is automatically matched with all available scholarships for which they qualify. Scholarships are awarded based on cumulative high school or college GPA, and students must reapply each year. All scholarship notifications will be sent to the student's official GCCC email account.

Scholarship funding is provided through GCCC and the GCCC Endowment Association. Awards are available for the fall and spring semesters only and are distributed on a first-come, first-served basis as funds

To receive a scholarship award, students must be enrolled by June 1, 2026. Scholarship applications for new and returning students will be accepted from September 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026.

For additional information, please visit the GCCC Scholarship page or contact the GCCC Financial Aid Office at 620-276-9519 or finaid@gcccks.edu



If You have news or events happening contact us!

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Legals

NOTICE OF HEARING TO EXCEED REVENUE NEUTRAL RATE AND BUDGET HEARING

Logan County

will meet on September 15, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. at Logan County Commissioners Room for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of ad valorem tax and Revenue Neutral Rate. Detailed budget information is available at Logan County Clerk's Office and will be available at this hearing.

BUDGET SUMMARY

Proposed Budget 2026 Expenditures and Amount of 2025 Ad Valorem Tax establish the maximum limits of the 2026 budget. Estimated Tax Rate is subject to change depending on the final assessed valuation

	Prior Year Actual	for 2024	Current Year Estimat	te for 2025	Proposed Budget Year for 2026			
FUND	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Budget Authority for Expenditures	Amount of 2025 Ad Valorem Tax	Proposed Estimated Tax Rate*	
General	2,394,659	24.095	2,882,920	24.016	2,933,575	1,108,670	16.925	
Bond & Interest	652,016	0.342	107,930		1,476,725	589,554	9.000	
Road & Bridge	1,247,744	9.114	1,605,000	10.680	1,675,000	783,057	11.954	
County Health	373,978	2.376	388,000	2.542	431,000	187,861	2.868	
Noxious Weed	187,086	1.843	280,400	1.234	267,600	74,971	1.145	
Hospital Maintenance	400,000	5.564	400,000	5.652	410,000	378,029	5.771	
Employee Benefits	1,142,864	16.523	1,373,332	19.571	1,388,000	1,233,623	18.833	
Ambulance	656,540	3.515	480,000	3.464	430,000	176,945	2.701	
Special Alcohol and Drug	3,556		6,000		6,000			
Noxious Weed Capital Outla	35,800				135,591			
Prairie Dog	34,017		63,000		63,000			
Opioid	0		0		30,661			
Non-Budgeted Funds-A	984,028							
Non-Budgeted Funds-B	206,660						1	
Non-Budgeted Funds-C	31,170							
Totals	8,350,118	63.372	7,586,582	67.159	9,247,152	4,532,710	69.197	
					Reve	enue Neutral Rate **	69.057	
Lace: Transfere	477 126		682 030		545,000			

Less: Transfers	4//,126	682,930	545,000	
Net Expenditure	7,872,992	6,903,652	8,702,152	
Total Tax Levied	4,520,295	4,523,442	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	
Assessed Valuation	71,330,217	67,355,107	65,503,981	

Outstanding Indebtedness

<u>2023</u>		<u>2024</u>		<u>2025</u>
945,000		640,000		0
0		0		0
0		0		0
0		0		0
945,000		640,000		0
	0 0	945,000 0 0 0	945,000 640,000 0 0 0 0 0 0	945,000 640,000 0 0 0 0

*Tax rates are expressed in mills **Revenue Neutral Rate as defined by KSA 79-2988

> Crystal Rucker County Clerk

> > State of Kansa County Special Distric

Logan County Rural Fire District #1

	Prior Year Actual 2024		Current Yr Estim	nate 2025		Proposed Budget Year 2026			
Special District Funds	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Budget Authority for Expenditures	Amount of 2025 Ad Valorem Tax	July 1, 2025 Estimated Valuation	Proposed Estimted Tax Rate*	Revenue Neutral Rate**
Fire District #1	150,362	1.429	165,000	1.462	165,000	130,052	77,343,454	1.681	1.537
Special Machinery	0		0		0	0			
0	0		0		0	0			
0	0		0		0	0			
0	0		0		0	0			

NOTICE OF BUDGET AND RATE HEARING

านุ่ย Neutral Rate ลร defined by KSA 💥 29 Kucken

(First published in The Oakley Graphic on September 3, 2025.)

Notice of Hearing 2025-2026 Budget The governing body of Unified School District 274 will meet on the 15 day of September 2025 at 7:30 AM at 621 Center Ave, Ste 103, Oakley, KS 67748 for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of tax to be levied. Detailed budget information, including budget profile, building needs assessment and Board state assessments review is available at District Office on the district website and will

The Amount of 2025 Tax to be Levied and Expenditures (published below) establish the maximum limits of the 2025-2026 Budget. The 'Est. Tax Rate' (column shown for comparative purposes, is subject to slight change depending on final assessed valuation

		2000 202 () (
			Actual		Actual		Amount of	Est.
	Code	Actual	Tax	Actual	Tax	Budgeted	2025 Tax to	Tax
	99	Expenditures	Rate*	Expenditures	Rate*	Expenditures	be Levied	Rate*
	Line	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
OPERATING	1			7 10 27 100 1077				
General	06	4,044,451	20,000	4,480,412	20,000	4,952,992	1,030,287	20.000
Supplemental General (LOB)	08	1,387,451	20.600	1,516,243	21.858	1,570,786	1,503,712	24,905
SPECIAL REVENUE								
Federal Funds	07	271,092	[342,935		145,731		
Adult Education	10	Û	0.000	0	0.000	0	ol	0.000
Preschool-Aged At-Risk	11	0		46,838		50,114		
Adult Supplemental Education	12	0		0		0	1	
At-Risk Education Fund	13	440,095		615,419		707,631	i	
Bilingual Education	14	11,450	1	2,731		17,086	1	
Virtual Education	15	Ö	1 1	0		0		
Capital Outlay	16	566,771	7.933	502,329	7.980	846,525	483,032	8.000
Oriver Training	18	8.297		6.183		12.044		
Declining Enrollment	19	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0,000
Extraordinary School Program	22	0		0		Ō		
Food Service	24	462,985	1	424,942		638,155		
Professional Development	26	9,793		7,636		12,024		
Parent Education Program	28	0	1	0	1 1	O		
Summer School	29	0		0	1 1	O O		
Special Education	30	832,139		833,205		1.059,017		
Cost of Living	33	Ö	0.000	0	0.000	O	اه	0.000
Career and Postsecondary Education	34	89,183		84,373		90,000		
Gifts and Grants	35	6,430	1 1	5.874		5,149		
Special Liability Expense Fund	42	0	0.000	0	0.000	C	٥	0.000
School Retirement	44	Ō	0.000	0	0.000	O	ol	0.000
Extraordinary Growth Facilities	45	0	0.000	0	0.000	O.	ol	0.000
Special Reserve Fund	47	0		0				
KPERS Special Retirement Contribution	51	412,463	1	408,993		469,524	l	
Contingency Reserve	53	0	1	17.501			ŀ	
Textbook & Student Material Revolving	55	23,542	1	6,448			i	
Activity Fund	56	101.394	1	121,591				
DEBT SERVICE								
Bond and Interest #1	62	0	0.000	0	0.000	o	اه	0.000
Bond and Interest #2	63	0	0.000	0	0.000	Ö	0	0.000
No-Fund Warrant	66	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
Special Assessment	67	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
Temporary Note	68	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	ol	0.000
COOPERATIVES1							"	
	1 1						,	
Special Education	78	٥		0	[]	01	i	
Special Education TOTAL USD EXPENDITURES	78 100	0 8,667.536	48,533	9,423.653	49.838	0 <u> </u> 10,576,778	3,017,031	52.905
		8,667,536 1,473,393		9,423,653 1,911,587	49.838	01 10,576,7781 1,652,7681	3,017,031	52.905
TOTAL USD EXPENDITURES	100						3,017,031	52.905
TOTAL USD EXPENDITURES Less: Transfers	100 105	1,473,393		1,911,587		1,652,768	3,017,031	52.905

1. Sponsoring District Only							_	
*Tax Rates are expressed in Mills								
	·		tual	2024-2025 Ad	ctual	2025-2026 Proposed Budget		
	l		Actual		Actual		Amount of	Est.
	Code	Actual	Tax	Actual	Tax	Budgeted	2025 Tax to	Tax
	99	Expenditures	Rate*	Expenditures	Rate*	Expenditures	be Levied	Rate*
	Line	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
OTHER		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·						***************************************
Historical Museum	80	0	0.000	0	0.000	o	o	0.000
Public Library Board	82	0	0.000	0	0.000	01	0	0.000
Public Library Board Employee Benefits	83	0	0,000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
Recreation Commission	84	145,000	1.984	164,636	1.995	120,800	121,437	2.011
Rec Comm Emp Benefits & Spec Liab	86	0	0,000	19,082	0.499	37,250	30,183	0.500
TOTAL OTHER	120	145,000	1.984	183,718	2.494	158,050	151,620	2,511
TOTAL TAXES LEVIED	125	\$3,111,557		\$3,037,425		\$3,168,651		
Assessed Valuation - General Fund	128	\$58,292,558	[\$52,643,511		\$51,514,338		
Assessed Valuation - All Other Funds	130	\$63,650,635	[\$61,380,572		\$60,378,950		1
Assessed Valuation - Capital Outlay	129	\$63,650,635	[\$61,336,325		\$60,378,950		
Outstanding indebtedness, July 1		2023		2024		2025		
General Obligation Bonds	135	0		0	i 1	0		1
Capital Outlay Bonds	140	0		0	1 1	0		
Temporary Note	145	0		0		0		
No-Fund Warrant	150	0		0		0		
Lease Purchase Principal	153	1,605,766		1,331,305	l i	1,126,631		
TOTAL USD DEBT	155	1,605,766		1,331,305		1,126,631		
*Tay Pates and everessed in Mills -					ر .		_	

First published in The Oakley Graphic on September 3, 2025