

# ANNUAL REPORT

## Very Fortunate

Having updated facilities, equipment for teaching, and modern curriculum resources are all important for a progressive learning environment.

The majority of our improvement projects are paid for out of our depreciation and special building funds, all while lowering our tax asking each of the last four years.

## Student Business

We are developing plans to launch a student-run business that utilizes computer controlled equipment, including a plasma cutter and laser. Students will run all aspects of the business, from accounting to production. We hope to be "in business" in late winter of 2019.

## Amazing Eclipse

Our staff took advantage of the opportunity and designed a day of science activities prior to our viewing of the total eclipse. Students will remember this day for the rest of their lives!



## We appreciate your continued support!

We are very proud of the many accomplishments our students have achieved along with the help of teachers, staff members, parents, and our communities.

I encourage you to review the report to become more familiar with our school district. With your help we will be able to achieve our mission of a quality education for each and every student.

You may also review the progress of education across the state on the Nebraska Department of Education's website at <http://nep.education.ne.gov>. This site is dedicated to facts about public education in Nebraska and contains additional information specific to Heartland.

## Thank You!

If you have children in the Heartland schools, we hope that you are involved in their education as a partner with their teachers.

If you reside within our district, but your children are all out of school, there are plenty of ways to stay involved.

If you know those who are attending elsewhere, but live within our district, have them revisit and "come home" to a great, small-town, progressive district that is Heartland Community Schools.

Thank you for your continued support and feel free to stop in the office at any time.



Financial



State Aid (TEEOA) ⓘ

**\$0**

Peers ⓘ **\$1.08M**  
State **\$979.30M**

Peers

A calculation based on the 12 Nebraska public schools or districts most similar to this school/district based on a range of variables, including: school, district and community characteristics.



Other State Receipts ⓘ

**\$812,574**

Peers ⓘ **\$771,308**  
State **\$427.12M**



Expenditures ⓘ

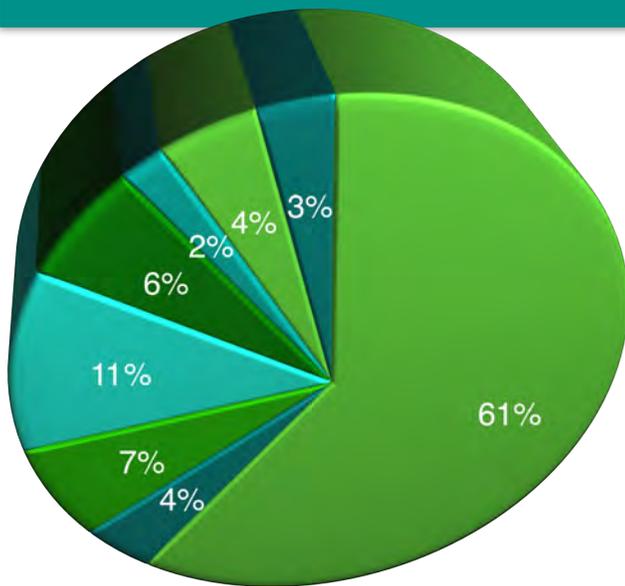
**\$4.77M**

Peers ⓘ **\$6.30M**  
State **\$3.69B**

School finance is a state funding issue, not a local taxing issue. In the 1998-99 school year, Heartland received \$576,000 in state aid. For the last several years, we have received \$0.

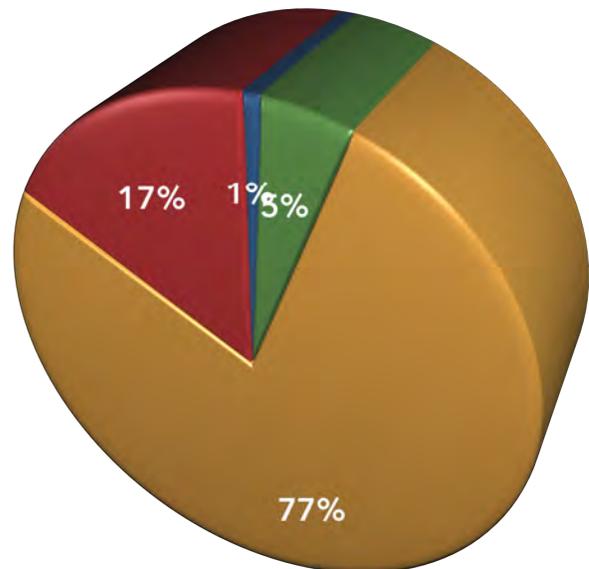
Trends Over the Last Four Years

Land Values	Tax Asking	Tax Levy	Total Budget
Up 34%	Down 17%	Down 38%	Down 2%



- All Instruction
- Federal
- General Administration
- Maintenance & Operation
- Office of the Principal
- Support Services - Pupils
- Transportation
- Support Services - Staff

- County Receipts
- Federal Receipts
- Local Receipts
- State Receipts other than State Aid

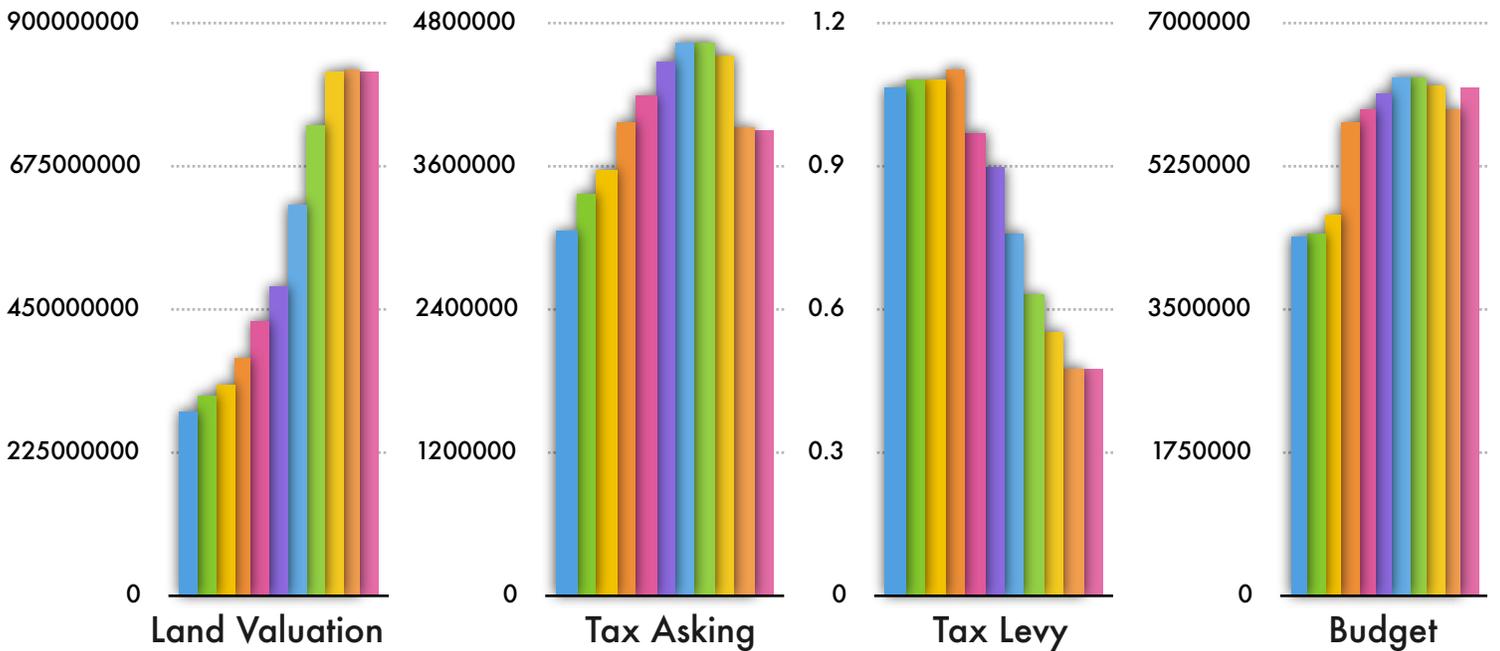


# Fiscal Responsibility

While land values increased sharply, we have decreased our tax asking four years in a row in consideration of our patrons. Our levy has decreased from \$1.10 in 2010-11 to just \$0.47 in 2017-18. Our budget for 2017-18 was at a level less than in 2013-14.



■ 2007-08    ■ 2008-09    ■ 2009-10    ■ 2010-11    ■ 2011-12    ■ 2012-13  
■ 2013-14    ■ 2014-15    ■ 2015-16    ■ 2016-17    ■ 2017-18



## School Board & Administration - 2017/2018



Gary Braun  
Board President

Boyd Stuhr, Jr.  
Treasurer

Brad Best  
Superintendent

Paul Brune  
Vice President

Kent Allen  
Board Member

Tim Carr  
Secondary Principal

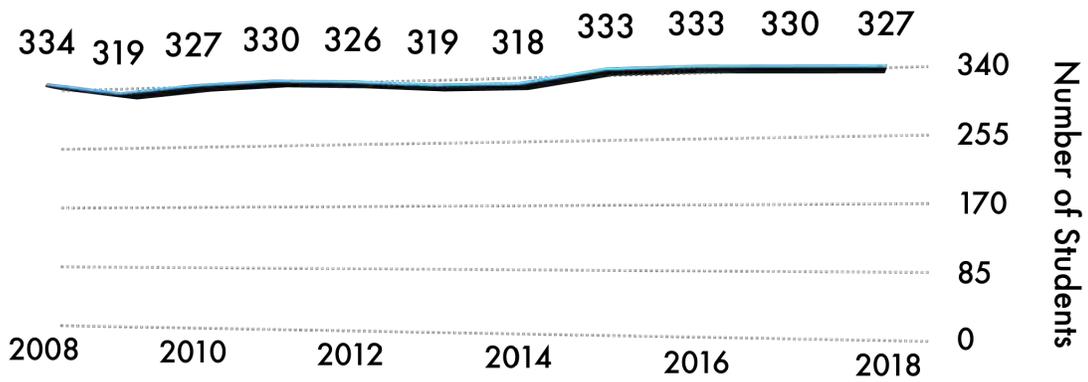
Glen Ott  
Secretary

Glenn Larson  
Board Member

Sadie Coffey  
Elementary Principal



*Enrollment Holds Steady ...*



**Demographics**



**Student Membership** ⓘ

**327**

Peers ⓘ  
495  
State  
323,391



**Teachers** ⓘ

**29**

Peers ⓘ  
40  
State  
23,492

**Program Participation**



**English Learners** ⓘ

**\***

Peers ⓘ  
1%  
State  
7%



**Free/Reduced Lunch** ⓘ

**34%**

Peers ⓘ  
27%  
State  
46%



**Gifted** ⓘ

**18%**

Peers ⓘ  
15%  
State  
13%



**Special Education** ⓘ

**16%**

Peers ⓘ  
16%  
State  
15%

**Metrics**



**Attendance Rate** ⓘ

**97%**

Peers ⓘ  
96%  
State  
94%



**Dropout Rate** ⓘ

**\***

Peers ⓘ  
\*  
State  
1%

\* Data for groups with 10 or fewer students are hidden to protect confidential information about individual students as required by federal law.

Schools are classified by the state as: Excellent, Great, Good, or Needs Improvement. Classification is one way that Nebraska provides information about how each school and district is serving its students. Classification is determined by adjusting a school or district’s beginning status by certain factors and also considering limitations placed on how an adjustment may be earned.



**Heartland Elementary**

- Excellent
- Great
- Good
- Needs Improvement

**Heartland Jr. High**

- Excellent
- Great
- Good
- Needs Improvement

**Heartland High School**

- Excellent
- Great
- Good
- Needs Improvement

**Heartland Overall**

- Excellent
- Great
- Good
- Needs Improvement

**Performance**



**NSCAS English Language Arts**  
**66%**

Peers 59%  
State 51%



**NSCAS Mathematics**  
**65%**

Peers 62%  
State 51%



**NSCAS Science**  
**85%**

Peers 76%  
State 68%



**NSCAS ACT (11th Grade)**  
**74% 70% 70%**

<b>ELA</b>	<b>Math</b>	<b>Science</b>
Peers 67%	Peers 67%	Peers 74%
State 50%	State 50%	State 54%

**Achievement**



**Graduation Rate**  
**100%**

Peers 97%  
State 89%

The Nebraska Student-Centered Assessment System (NSCAS), pronounced “en-skass,” is a new statewide assessment system that helps students prepare for success in postsecondary education, career, and civic life. It uses multiple measures throughout the year to provide educators and decision makers at all levels with the insights they need to support student learning.

## Giving Back

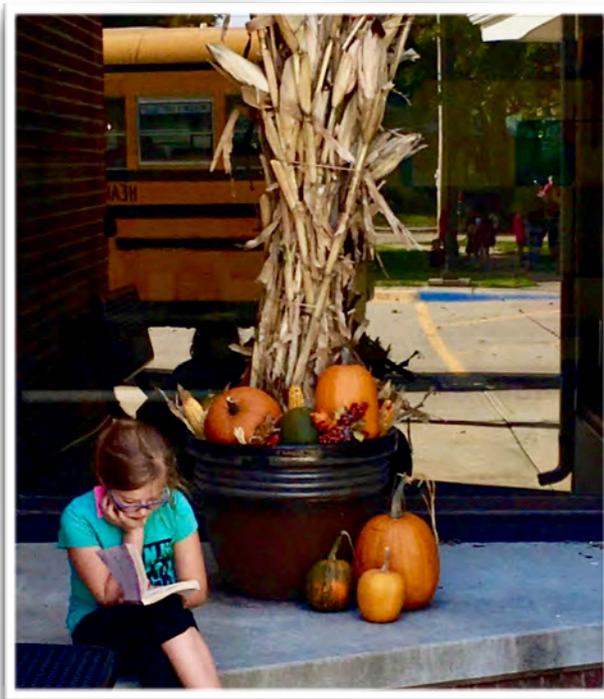
The staff and students of Heartland Community Schools find many ways to give back to our local communities. Here are just a few of their efforts ...

- Harvest meals for farmers.
- Food drive for the holidays that distributes nearly 1,000 items to 30 families.
- Helping with community celebrations.
- Visiting with residents at our local care center.
- Hosting a blood drive.
- Recycling paper and plastic drink bottles.
- York County Fair volunteers.
- Highway cleanup with the Henderson Area Chamber of Commerce.
- Musical performances in both communities during the holidays.
- Spring cleanup in the city park.
- Streaming school activities over the internet for the general public.
- Re-painting a downtown building mural.
- Relay for Life volunteers.

Heartland Community School District, sixty miles west of Lincoln, formed when the Henderson Community School and Bradshaw Public School districts consolidated in 1998-99.

## Our Mission

Heartland Community School strives to provide challenging educational opportunities for ALL students to reach their highest level of excellence.



## Who Is Heartland?

**We proudly serve families in the Bradshaw and Henderson areas and beyond.**

**Our enrollment is steady!**

As many smaller districts across the state are seeing plummeting enrollments, ours has held steady over the last number of years. This enables us to continue to offer a wide choice of programs.

**Our staff puts students first!**

Even an outside agency noticed that our staff focuses on what is best for kids. It is our daily mission.

**Our facilities and technology are awesome!**

Many updates to the facilities create an enjoyable atmosphere in which to learn. Laptops for students and other technology will be updated for 2018-19.

**We have a wide variety of offerings and are always looking for ways to improve!**

Our students have access to a solid list of course offerings from our staff in addition to online and interactive video conferencing. We also have a number of students involved in earning college credits and experiences through a career academy.

**Our communities are actively involved in and supportive of the school!**

We are blessed to have such supportive families in Henderson and Bradshaw. Being actively involved with and supportive of the school is critical in a child's development. We enjoy this partnership!

### *An independent study found Heartland to be “Impressive”*

AdvancED is the global leader in providing continuous improvement and accreditation services to over 32,000 institutions serving 20 million students worldwide. A team of trained experts visited our school for two days in March and analyzed nearly a dozen different areas, from the effectiveness of our teaching to leadership.

Scores were based upon standardized measures from personal interviews, observations of teaching, and data collections. Most schools score above average in some areas and below in multiple others. The external evaluators found that Heartland exceeded the average scores from their large network of schools in nearly every domain, which is quite rare in their experience.

### *Powerful Practices Identified At Heartland*

- The staff is invested in the lives and success of the student body.
- The school offers students robust and varied courses with differentiated learning opportunities, including early childhood programming with support for students with special education needs, and various extra-curricular activities.
- The community is actively involved with and supportive of the school.

### *New Programs and Updates*

Through our curriculum development process, which typically takes a full year per subject, we have recently evaluated and updated every core subject. Studying student data to see if the changes have increased student learning is a critical piece of this evaluation. So far, the changes have produced positive results.

All students in grades 7-12 and all teachers received a laptop to aid in the learning process. iPads provide learning activities and reading assessments “on the fly” for students in grades PK-6.

- 2013 Reading Curriculum
- 2013 New Technology
- 2015 Math Curriculum
- 2016 Science Curriculum
- 2017 Soc. Studies Curriculum
- 2018 Health Curriculum
- 2018 New Technology

### *Student Recognition*

Students were recognized at a football game to celebrate their outstanding performance on the state level assessments in math, English, and science.

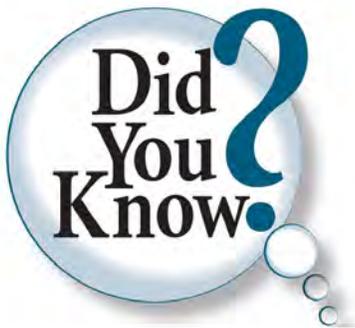




Office of the Superintendent  
Heartland Community Schools  
1501 Front St.  
Henderson, NE 68371

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage PAID  
Permit 26  
Henderson, NE 68371

## ECRWSS POSTAL CUSTOMER



- Our attendance & graduation rates are higher than the state average?
- A higher percentage of our budget goes directly to instruction than the average school in Nebraska?
- 100% of our students participated in at least one extra-curricular activity?
- Over 40% of our teachers hold Master's degrees and all teachers receive 8 full days of training each year?
- Over the last 5 years, more than 90% of our graduates attended a post-secondary institution?

## Find Us Online...

**Keep updated on everything from current news and archived stories to lunch menus and instructional strategies on our school district website:**

**<http://www.heartlandschools.org>**



**On Facebook:**

**<http://www.facebook.com/heartlandcommunityschools>**



**On Twitter:**

**@hcsdogpound #heartlandhuskies**

*It is the policy of the Heartland Community School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, creed, age, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity and socioeconomic status in its educational programs and its employment practices. There is a grievance procedure for processing complaints of discrimination. If you have questions or a grievance related to this policy please contact the district's Equity Coordinator, Brad Best, Superintendent of Schools, 1501 Front St., Henderson, NE 68371, 402.723.4434, [bbest@heartlandschools.net](mailto:bbest@heartlandschools.net)*