

Dear Readers,

For most Kansans, a new school year has begun. I've had so many text messages, emails and calls that every few hours my phone's battery is drained. However, the emotions of my friends whose children have returned to school have been Energizer-Bunny-charged and all over the place, ranging from tearful, apprehensive, and a bit lost to ecstatically relieved and joyful. And some have told me they feel all those things at once. Nearly all of them have told me they are just glad to have extra time to tell me about it.

I know it's been a big week for teachers, too. But I never expect to hear from my teacher friends until they get the first five days, maybe ten, under their belts. About two weeks before school starts, I make sure they are ready for the roller-coaster and that I'm here if they need me. I also remind them how much I respect the work they do. And then I leave them alone to do one of the most important jobs in the universe.

First Day of School photos have also flooded my social media this week. And kids' emotions seem to be running as high as their parents and, possibly, along a similar gamut. I was one of those nerds who always looked forward to school starting. The First Days of School I recall most vividly are those Tuesdays after Labor Day that kicked off my grade school years. Images of wide hallways and high ceilings fill my mind's eye; children's chatter rings in my ears and rows of desks facing blank chalkboards flood my memories. And then, I smell that First Day of School smell, that Ivory Soap optimism and lemony curiosity mixed with Prell potential that announces an ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE CLEAN SLATE.

Anyone who has or works with young children (educationally or otherwise) knows that smell. And knows that it is fleeting at best, and most often dispersing in a heartbeat. The small in stature have a beguiling and bedeviling capability to attract or create very big messes, even when sitting still and hands kept to themselves, to attract very big messes. Or create them out of absolutely nothing. It's not for the faint of heart or the delicate of snout.

No doubt the 2026 First Day of School smell is long gone, but may it not be forgotten. May the fresh start it promised carry enthusiasm and inspiration into the school year for all Kansas students…and our heroic teachers.

Until next week—keep your eyes on the stars and your back to the wind.





LEGAL

First Published in the Dighton Herald on 8/26, 9/2, 9/9/26

in the district court of LANE county, kansas

LANE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS,

PLAINTIFFS

vs.

CASE # LE-2026-CV-000004

SHARP BROS. SEED COMPANY, ET AL.

DEFENDANTS.

SHERIFF'S NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that under and by virtue of an Order of Sale issued to me out of the District Court of Lane County, Kansas, in the above-entitled action, I will, on October 6, 2026 at 1:00 o'clock p.m. on said day, in the Courtroom of the Lane County Courthouse in the City of Dighton, Lane County, Kansas, offer at public sale, and sell to the highest and best bidder for cash in hand, all of the property described below:

Parcel # 1
Tax ID: 1-01746
Redemption Costs: $7987.58
Legal and Approximate Location: Northeast Quarter (NE/4) Section 1 Township 20 Range 30, Lane County, Kansas - Surface Only
Owner of Record: Loren Glenn Witt

Parcel # 47
Tax ID: 1-02563
Redemption Costs: $26252.81
Legal and Approximate Location: 244 E Long St, Dighton, Lane County, KS S01B3L1-3&N25'of E 23' Lot 4 less N 25' of W 2' of Lot 3
Owner of Record: The Inn, LLC

Parcel # 48
Tax ID: 1-02568
Redemption Costs: $17540.98
Legal and Approximate Location: 225 E Long St, Dighton, Lane County, KS S01B3L6
Owner of Record: Melanie Sue Baalman

Parcel # 49
Tax ID: 1-02572
Redemption Costs: $6330.44
Legal and Approximate Location: 212 E Long St, Dighton, Lane County, KS S01B3L8-9 and the E 15' of 10
Owner of Record: Billy Joe Dandurand

Parcel # 54
Tax ID: 1-02594
Redemption Costs: $6129.05
Legal and Approximate Location: 520 S Whichita Ave, Dighton, Lane County, KS D01B38L184-188 even
Owner of Record: Henry Chester Chadwell Jr and Linda Chadwell

Parcel # 55
Tax ID: 1-02626
Redemption Costs: $6603.41
Legal and Approximate Location: 240 S Lane St, Dighton, Lane County, KS 67839 S01B6 west 80' of lot 7 and sourth 25'of the w 80' lot 8
Owner of Record: Cory D Shapland c/o Cory D Shapland

Parcel # 59
Tax ID: 1-02777
Redemption Costs: $2335.66
Legal and Approximate Location: 220 E Plum, Dighton, Lane County, KS D01B55L74-82 even
Owner of Record: Roberta Shay

Parcel # 63
Tax ID: 1-02851
Redemption Costs: $16347.02
Legal and Approximate Location: 205 W Annabella St, Dighton, Lane County, KS W05B7L4-6
Owner of Record: Jan Rae Morris

Parcel # 67
Tax ID: 1-02913
Redemption Costs: $22660.8
Legal and Approximate Location: 101 W Long St, Dighton, Lane County, KS W05B15L7-12
Owner of Record: Ajit & Hem, LLC

Parcel # 71
Tax ID: 1-03023
Redemption Costs: $29147.98
Legal and Approximate Location: 340 W Pearl St, Dighton, Lane County, KS W04B6L11-12
Owner of Record: Mitchell Lee Edmundson

Parcel # 74
Tax ID: 1-03155
Redemption Costs: $3020.56
Legal and Approximate Location: 305 N Wichita Ave, Dighton, Lane County, KS D01B5L33-35 odd
Owner of Record: Sandra Carrillo

Parcel # 81
Tax ID: 1-03341
Redemption Costs: $8805.58
Legal and Approximate Location: 415 N High St, Dighton, Lane County, KS W01B3L1
Owner of Record: Sheryl D Bain

Parcel # 85
Tax ID: 1-03406
Redemption Costs: $1972.61
Legal and Approximate Location: 8 S Rowdy Rd, Dighton, Lane County, KS Farm Site
Owner of Record: Marie Alice Schaffer c/o Dale Pike

The above-described real estate is taken as property of the respective Defendants designated herein as the owner thereof and is to be sold and will be sold without appraisement to satisfy said Order of Sale and the respective liens adjudged thereon.

WITNESS my hand at Dighton, Lane County, Kansas, this August 18, 2026.

/s/ Ron Ridley
Sheriff of Lane County, Kansas

Jacob T. Gayer
Lane County Attorney
145 S Lane / PO Box 45
Dighton, KS 67839
(620) 394-2450
Attorney for Plaintiff
Board of Commissioners of Lane County, Kansas



LEGAL

First Published in the Dighton Herald on 8/19 , 8/26/26

State of Kansas
Budget Form USD-A

USD #482
2026-2027

Notice of Hearing 2026-2027 Budget

The governing body of Unified School District 482 will meet on the 14th day of September 2026 at 5:35 PM at 710 E Lincoln, Dighton, KS 67839 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 be available at this hearing.

The Amount of 2026 Tax to be Levied and Expenditures (published below) establish the maximum limits of the 2026-2027 Budget. The 'Est. Tax Rate' (column 7), shown for comparative purposes, is subject to slight change depending on final assessed valuation.

	Code 99 Line	2024-2025 Actual Expenditures (1)	2024-2025 Actual Tax Rate* (2)	2025-2026 Actual Expenditures (3)	2025-2026 Actual Tax Rate* (4)	2026-2027 Proposed Budget Budgeted Expenditures (5)	Amount of 2026 Tax to be Levied (6)	Est. Tax Rate* (7)
OPERATING								
General	06	2,598,112	20.000	2,530,681	20.000	2,838,154	595,064	20.000
Supplemental General (LOB)	08	876,876	23.452	726,895	19.172	948,516	807,722	23.455
SPECIAL REVENUE								
Federal Funds	07	80,590		81,517		81,706		
Adult Education	10	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
Preschool-Aged At-Risk	11	37,050		23,980		17,001		
Adult Supplemental Education	12	0		0		0		
At-Risk Education Fund	13	271,075		310,582		378,243		
Bilingual Education	14	7,536		4,991		11,000		
Virtual Education	15	0		0		0		
Capital Outlay	16	461,711	7.954	261,707	7.896	285,900	275,497	8.000
Driver Training	18	0		3,968		9,756		
Declining Enrollment	19	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
Extraordinary School Program	22	0		0		0		
Food Service	24	220,968		191,985		199,300		
Professional Development	26	10,821		13,288		16,550		
Parent Education Program	28	35,460		37,989		41,333		
Summer School	29	0		0		0		
Special Education	30	296,392		350,398		580,720		
Cost of Living	33	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
Career and Postsecondary Education	34	59,514		18,838		57,926		
Gifts and Grants	35	5,270		107,354		150,151		
Special Liability Expense Fund	42	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
Extraordinary Growth Facilities	45	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
Special Reserve Fund	47	0		0				
KPERS Special Retirement Contribution	51	220,429		212,009		232,521		
Contingency Reserve	53	0		0				
Textbook & Student Material Revolving	55	0		0				
Activity Fund	56	134,070		27,812				
DEBT SERVICE								
Bond and Interest #1	62	878,233	22.391	878,365	22.455	910,098	811,789	23.573
Bond and Interest #2	63	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	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	0	0.000
COOPERATIVES[1]								
Special Education	78	0		0		0		
TOTAL USD EXPENDITURES	100	6,194,107	73.797	5,782,359	69.523	6,758,875	2,490,072	75.028
Less: Transfers	105	873,920		848,047		868,000		
NET USD EXPENDITURES	110	5,320,187		4,934,312		5,890,875		
TOTAL USD TAXES LEVIED	115	2,620,163		2,491,857		2,490,072		

1. Sponsoring District Only
**Tax Rates are expressed in Mills*

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OTHER								
Historical Museum	80	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
Public Library Board/District	82	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
Public Library Board Employee Benefits	83	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
Recreation Commission	84	40,472	1.000	38,186	1.000	35,653	34,421	1.000
Rec Comm Emp Benefits & Spec Liab	86	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
TOTAL OTHER	120	40,472	1.000	38,186	1.000	35,653	34,421	1.000
TOTAL TAXES LEVIED	125	$2,656,845		$2,529,173		$2,524,493		
Assessed Valuation - General Fund	128	$32,338,365		$32,192,208		$29,753,175		
Assessed Valuation - All Other Funds	130	$36,682,263		$36,839,301		$34,437,067		
Assessed Valuation - Capital Outlay	129	$36,682,263		$36,839,301		$34,437,067		
Outstanding Indebtedness, July 1		2024		2025		2026		
General Obligation Bonds	135	8,290,000		7,625,000		8,045,000		
Capital Outlay Bonds	140	0		0		0		
Temporary Note	145	0		0		0		
No-Fund Warrant	150	0		0		0		
Lease Purchase Principal	153	0		0		0		
TOTAL USD DEBT	155	8,290,000		7,625,000		8,045,000		

**Tax Rates are expressed in Mills*

Board President

Clerk of the Board

Exceeding Revenue Neutral for the 2026-2027 School Year

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Revenue Neutral

	2025-2026 Actual Taxes Levied (1)	2025-2026 Actual Tax Rate (2)	2025-2026 Revenue Neutral Taxes (3)	2025-2026 Revenue Neutral Tax Rate (4)	2026-2027 Proposed Taxes to be Levied (5)	2026-2027 Proposed Tax Rate (6)
General	$643,844	20.000	$643,844	21.640	$595,064	20.000
ALL OTHER FUNDS						
Supplemental General (LOB)	$715,427	19.172	$706,283	20.775	$807,722	23.455
Adult Education	$0	0.000			$0	0.000
Capital Outlay	$294,649	7.896	$290,883	8.556	$275,497	8.000
Cost of Living	$0	0.000			$0	0.000
Special Liability Expense Fund	$0	0.000			$0	0.000
Extraordinary Growth Facilities	$0	0.000			$0	0.000
Bond and Interest #1	$837,937	22.455	$827,227	24.332	$811,789	23.573
Bond and Interest #2	$0	0.000			$0	0.000
No-Fund Warrant	$0	0.000			$0	0.000
Special Assessment	$0	0.000			$0	0.000
Temporary Note	$0	0.000			$0	0.000
Historical Museum	$0	0.000			$0	0.000
Public Library Board/District	$0	0.000			$0	0.000
Public Library Board Employee Benefits	$0	0.000			$0	0.000

Revenue Neutral Calculation

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State of Kansas
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2026-2027

Notice of Hearing 2026-2027 Budget

Total Taxes Levied Including General Fund	$2,491,857	69.523	$2,468,237	75.303	$2,490,072	75.028
Total Taxes Levied Excluding General Fund	$1,848,013	49.523	$1,824,393	53.663	$1,895,008	55.028

Board President

Clerk of the Board