State Central Committee Meeting

October 24-25, 2026
Day of Agenda Packet

The Nebraska Democratic Party looks forward to seeing you at our SCC Meeting in Kearney on Oct. 24-25, 2026! **All times are posted in Central Time (CST).**

SCC Meeting Location: Younes Conference Center South
416 Talmadge St, Kearney, NE 68845

If you have questions or can not attend the meeting, please email scc@nebraskademocrats.org.

Special Notes:

- **Dems Care:** We are collecting canned and dried food items to fill the Little Free Pantries on the Central Community College and University of Nebraska at Kearney campuses.

- **Accommodation Request:** If you need accommodation, please send an ADA request here or email scc@nebraskademocrats.org. Send your requests as soon as possible, as different accommodations require different timelines and considerations.

- **Agenda Time:** Each respective Chair decides the agenda items for their meeting. If you are requesting time on the SCC agenda, it needs to be requested before the 10-day packet was released.

- **Meal Tickets:** If you did not purchase a meal ticket ahead, there will be a QR code on site near the meals.

- **Hotel Rooms:** Rooming Blocks are now closed for the special price. You can still book at the following two hotels, where most of us are staying.
    - **Comfort Inn**, 118 3rd St, Kearney, and **Fairfield by Marriott Inn & Suites Kearney**, 510 Talmadge Road, Kearney.

Committee/Caucus/Council Meetings

NOTE: Because of the statewide canvass day on Oct. 24, we ask all committee, caucus, and council chairs to set a virtual meeting date if your group is meeting. Meetings will occur virtually between October 1 and 23, 2026.

Monday, October 5th

7 p.m. CT

- Secular Council, Chair Laurey Steinke

Monday, October 12th

7 p.m. CT

- County Chairs Caucus, Vice Chair of County Parties Ryan Griffin

Wednesday, October 14th

7 p.m. CT

- Environment & Climate Council, Chair April Thompson

Thursday, October 15th

6 p.m. CT

- Disabilities Caucus, Chair Shannon Graves

7:30 p.m. CT

- Black Caucus, Chair Mike Lee

NEBRASKA DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Monday, October 19th

6 p.m. CT

- Platform & Resolutions Committee, Co-Chairs Shannon Graves & Quinton Corwin

Wednesday, October 21st

7 p.m. CT

- Young Democrats, President Chloe Fowler
- Latino Caucus, President Jennifer Reyna

Thursday, October 22nd

6 p.m. CT

- Women's Caucus, Chair Kris Kinzie

7 p.m. CT

- Rural and Agriculture Council, Chair Larissa Schultz

Friday, October 23rd

6 p.m. CT

- Stonewall Caucus, Chair Michael Marcheck

Committees, Caucuses, and Councils meetings happening on different schedules:

- Veterans & Military Families Council will meet after the election.
- The Working Families Council will meet after the election.
- The Native Caucus will meet after the election.
- Rules, Platform, and State Convention Committees are meeting on a regular basis.
- The Technology Committee will meet after the election.

Saturday, October 24th - Statewide Canvassing & Welcome Reception

Statewide Get Out The Vote Canvass–Knocking 10k Doors in a Day

1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

"10K in a Day" will take place on Saturday, October 24, with the goal of knocking 10,000 doors across Nebraska. One statewide Mobilize signup will connect volunteers with county-led launch events, while NDP will provide the voter universe, turf, and county voter guides.

Please encourage volunteers to sign up via the Mobilize Link!

Counties must confirm a local contact, launch time, and location by October 11, recruit volunteers, and provide training. Candidates and campaigns may attend and speak, while NDP and county parties will manage the canvass and reporting. Counties will receive grants based on doors knocked. Rural counties may work together and agree on how to divide the grant. Results will be recorded through MiniVAN and verified in VAN.

Welcome Reception Sponsored by Chair Jane Kleeb & Vice Chair Ron Kaminski

5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

- Big Apple Fun Center, 500 W 4th St, Kearney, NE 68845
    - Bowling and pizza to celebrate 10k doors knocked and our path to victory!

Sunday, October 25th - CD Caucus Meetings & SCC Meeting

The use of recording devices, apps, or other types of electronic documentation is prohibited, except for individuals with approved ADA accommodations.

NEBRASKA DEMOCRATIC PARTY

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

- Registration Open

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Room: Diamond 4&5

- Build Your Own Breakfast Bowls and Burritos
  - Eggs
  - Breakfast Sausage
  - Bacon
  - Tortillas
  - Crispy Tater Rounds
  - Toppings: Shredded Cheese, Salsa, Green Onions, Pico de Gallo, Sour Cream
  - Cinnamon Churro Donuts
  - Fresh Fruit
  - Freshly Brewed Colombian Coffee, Hot Herbal Tea, Ice-Cold Milk with Orange, Cranberry, and Apple Juices

10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

- CD1 Caucus **Room: Diamond 3**
  - Chair Melinda Mead
- CD2 Caucus **Room: Diamond 7**
  - Chair Sarah Hanify
- CD3 Caucus **Room: Diamond 8**
  - Chair Jo-El Chiles

11:30 a.m. - Noon **Room: Diamond 9&10**

- Lunch Taco Bar
  - Chicken Fajita
  - Beef Taco Meat
  - Cilantro Lime Rice
  - Refried Beans

- Tortilla Chips
- Flour Tortillas
- Toppings: Shredded Cheese, Green Onions, Pico de Gallo, Sour Cream, Guacamole, Diced Tomatoes, Jalapenos, Shredded Lettuce, Black Bean Corn Salsa, Sliced Black Olives, Hot Cheese Sauce
- Beverages
- Assorted Cookies
- Mega Brownies

Agenda for SCC Meeting (12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m)

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- **Meeting Called to Order at 12:00 p.m. Room: Diamond 9&10**
  - SCC Meeting
    - We will gavel in at 12:00 p.m.
  - Land Acknowledgment
    - Led by Native American Caucus Chair Melanie Parker
  - Pledge of Allegiance
    - Led by Veterans & Military Families Council Chair Terry Tilson

- **Actions of the NDP Secretary, Stephanie Matejka**
  - Quorum
  - Seating of Delegates
    - CD Chairs report any actions from their caucus on the seating of delegates.
  - **VOTE: Approval of Minutes**
    - Minutes from the State Convention & August SCC Meeting

- **Chair Jane Kleeb**
  - DNC & ASDC Updates

NEBRASKA DEMOCRATIC PARTY

■ Democracy Protectors and Early Vote

- https://www.democraticstateparties.com/
- Sign up to be a Democracy Protector!

■ Standing with Starbucks Baristas

- https://www.boycottstarbucks.net/
- Boycott Starbucks Social Toolkit & Messaging

■ VOTE: SCC 2027 Proposed Schedule

- Feb. 21, 2027, Virtual
- April 10-11, 2027, Lincoln
  - ■ Mayor's re-election is May 4
- Sept. 18-19, 2027, Nebraska City
- Dec. 4, 2027, Virtual

Looking ahead to 2028...not voting on this yet :)

- Feb. 2028, Virtual
- April 2028, Lexington
- June 2028 is the probable month for the NDP State Convention
  - Avoiding Friday, June 16 through Monday, June 26, 2028, since that is the College World Series; we also need to watch for Pride and Juneteenth to avoid overlap.

NEBRASKA DEMOCRATIC PARTY

- August 8-10, 2028 is the DNC Convention (location TBA)

- September/October 2028
    - Open to ideas for location…this also might be the time we do Ben Nelson Gala

- December 2028, Virtual

- **NDP Officer Reports**
    - Vice Chair Kaminski
    - DNC Members LaMere and Schwenninger

- **CD Caucus Reports, Chairs Melinda Mead, Sarah Hanify, and Jo-El Chiles**
    - Reports and updates

- **Staff and Electoral Updates**
    - Precious McKesson, Executive Director
        - Overview of 2026 work
        - Detailed Finance & Field Plan for December Meeting
    - Ron Rivera, Political Director
        - Vote by Mail, Voter Guides, Voter Registration, and Voter File updates
    - Gina Frank, Outreach Director
        - Block Captain and County Party updates
    - José Flores Jr., Communications Director
        - Candidate video project, digital ads, and general press outreach
        - https://www.youtube.com/@NebraskaDemParty/shorts

- Chloe Fowler, Finance Director
    - Monthly donor updates, fundraising event updates
    - 10k goal reached!!!

- Tim Heine, Campaign Services Director
    - Legislative Project
    - 10k in a Day

- Neil McCarthy, Vote Protection Director
    - Plan for early vote and election day on Democracy Protectors, poll observing, legal

- Kris Kinzie & Kathy Jensen, Rural Organizers / Alma Rosa, Latino Organizer / Jo-El Chiles, African American Organizer
    - Overview of outreach to communities (events, social media, paid ads)

- **Committee Reports**
    - Rules Committee
        - Chair Ben Cass
            - Code of Conduct status update
            - **VOTE: Bylaw 5.5.1 Amendment - State Chair Calls SCC Meetings**
              2026-10-11 Bylaw 5.5.1 - State Chair Calls SCC Meetings

- **Announcements**

CLOSED SESSION

- **Updates from Legal Team**
    - Re: Forbes and Working People Party lawsuits
    - Overseas voters lawsuit

- Voter Protection preparation

- **Treasurer's Report, Ted Kessler**
  - Summary of accounts.
    - Detailed P&L statement available from Ted.
  - Reports filed with the FEC and NADC.
    - Ted has copies of the latest FEC and NADC reports.

- **Adjournment**

Additional Information

Statewide Officers, Standing and Special Committee Chairs: Party operations happen in our committees, caucuses, councils, and county parties. Thank you to the Chairs, SCC Members, County Officers, and Committee Members for serving.

SCC Governing and Training Documents: All of our SCC meeting documents, resolutions, agendas, bylaws, and the training manual for SCC Delegates are on the NDP website.

- SCC Delegate Training Manual
- County Chair Manual
- Block Captain Program
- SCC Resolutions
- SCC Agenda Packets
  - When available, we stream the SCC meeting on Facebook.

Events: We post our events and volunteer opportunities on Mobilize: https://www.mobilize.us/nebdems/

- Please email Gina if you need a mobile office (e.g., materials for use at county fairs, parades, etc.) or if you require materials to be sent to you for meetings and events.

- Counties, candidates, caucuses, and councils can all use our Mobilize page to post events.

Listservs: We email lists with key information, messaging memos, and updates. If you are not on one of the following listservs and need to be, please email precious@nebraskademocrats.org

- SCC Members
- SEC Members
- County Chairs
- County Officers
- Block Captains
- Elected Officials
- State Senators
- 2026 Candidates

Candidate Manual + Trainings: We now have a Candidate Manual (thank you, Sen. Blood and staff!) and a monthly candidate training series. We do not publish these on the website. Candidates must first complete the MOU—please email ronr@nebraskademocrats.org.

- Please share this link if you or someone you know is interested in running for office. Once a person completes this form, staff hold a meeting with the candidate, and then they get added to a listserv and trainings: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe6kCBwlpu5YNR7e4ylUrA_776V5saFxCGMylV9l_sbIcCthw/viewform

Trainings: The NDP offers trainings regularly. We also have access to other national training resources.

- **Blue Bench Training:** We have a training page focused on what we, officer candidates, and staff can do to help a Democrat launch their campaign.

- **NDP and National Democratic Training Committee:** The NDP partners with the DNC and the National Democratic Training Committee to train candidates and party leaders and help elect Democrats. You can access a free training account to support your local work.

- **DNC Trainings and Resources:** The DNC offers an in-depth online training program for volunteers, party leaders, and elected officials!

Block Captains: Gina Frank is our Block Captain Director. We currently have 700 Block Captains—email gina@nebraskademocrats.org for more information on the Block Captain program.

#NebDems Store: Buy t-shirts and sweatshirts to show your #NebDems pride!

Monthly Donor Program:

At least $10 a month:

- Exclusive Monthly Donor Sticker

$25 a month:

- 1 ticket to the annual Salute to State Senators
- Exclusive Monthly Donor Sticker
- Exclusive Lapel Pin & Coin

$50 a month:

- 1 ticket to the annual Ben Nelson Gala
- Invitation to Donor Briefings with Party Leaders and Elected Officials
- Exclusive Monthly Donor Sticker
- Exclusive Lapel Pin & Coin

$100 a month:

- 1 ticket to the annual Salute to State Senators and Ben Nelson Gala with VIP Receptions
- Invitation to Donor Briefings with Party Leaders and Elected Officials
- First access and reserved seats to NDP special events and national events for which we receive tickets (e.g., special guest speakers).
- Exclusive Monthly Donor Sticker
- Exclusive Lapel Pin & Coin

NEBRASKA DEMOCRATIC PARTY

NDP Contact Info:

Phone:
LNK: 402-434-2180
OMA: 531-867-4343

Email: info@nebraskademocrats.org

NDP Offices:
LNK: 3701 O Street, Suite 200
Lincoln, NE 68510

OMA: 1102 S 76th Ave,
Omaha NE 68124

Socials:
Facebook
Twitter: @NebDems
Instagram: @nebraskadems
TikTok: @NebDems
Youtube: @NebraskaDemParty

Hashtags: #NebDems, #NELeg

Party Members:
Staff
Party Leaders
Elected Democrats