



2025 LINCOLN CITY ELECTION VOTER GUIDE

BY VOTE WISE NEBRASKA

***The Salvation of the State is
Watchfulness in the Citizen***
- Hartley Burr Alexander

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General Information

Dates to Remember

April 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Friday, April 18th

Last day to register to vote or change political party affiliation via mail-in application or online.

Monday, April 21st

First day early/absentee ballots can be mailed to voters.

Monday, April 21st

First day a voter can vote at the election office.

Friday, April 25th

Last day to register to vote at election office by 6:00p.m.

Last day to request a mail ballot be sent to your home. Deadline is 6:00p.m.

Monday, May 5th

Last day a voter can vote at the election office by 5:00p.m.

Tuesday, May 6th

Election Day! Last day to return your ballot. Your ballot must be received by 8:00p.m. election day.

May 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Political Party and Candidate Information

Vote Wise Nebraska solicits statements from both political parties and individual candidates. Political parties are invited to submit a statement that argues for the success of their principles and the election of their candidates. These statements may also oppose the principles and candidates of other political parties or organizations. Candidates are invited to submit a statement explaining their views, goals, or qualifications for office.

Statements are printed as received, with only minor formatting adjustments for consistency and clarity.

The following political parties did not submit a statement for the 2025 Lincoln City General Election:

- Legal Marijuana NOW
- Lancaster County Republican Party

Candidate names will also appear without a statement if they did not submit one by the deadline.

Disclaimer

Information provided in statements or arguments by a candidate, a political party, or a person supporting or opposing a measure have not been verified for accuracy and are not endorsed by Vote Wise Nebraska.

Voter Registration Information

Who Can Register to Vote?

To register you must be:

- A United States Citizen
- A resident of Nebraska
- At least 18 years old; or if you will be 18 years old on or before November 4, 2025

Mentally Incompetent

If you have been found by a court to be mentally incompetent, you cannot register to vote.

Where Do I Register to Vote?

- In person at the Election Office, 601 N 46th St., Lincoln, NE 68503.
 - » Regular Lancaster county office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00a.m. to 4:30p.m.
- Online at nebraska.gov/apps-sos-voter-registration
- Through the Department of Motor Vehicles when you obtain or update your Nebraska driver license or state identification card.
- When applying for benefits through the State Department of Education or Department of Health and Human Services.
- Paper copies of the voter registration application are available. Those forms will need to be completed and returned to the Election Office. Registration applications are available at:
 - » Most post offices and libraries.
 - » Election Office at 402-441-7311.
 - » lancaster.ne.gov/DocumentCenter/View/354

When Do I need to Update my Voter Registration?

You must update your voter registration if you change:

- Your Name
- Address
- Political Party Affiliation

What are the Voter Registration Deadlines Before an Election?

- Mail-in registration applications must be postmarked no later than Friday, April 18th.
- When registering to vote through the DMV or another state agency, the application must be completed no later than Friday, April 18th.
- Online registration applications must be submitted before midnight on Friday, April 18th.
- In-person at the Election Office until 6:00p.m. on Friday, April 25th.

Am I Required to Choose a Political Party when I Register to Vote?

- You must choose a political party if you wish to vote for partisan candidates in a partisan primary election.
- Choose to register as “Nonpartisan” if you do not wish to vote for partisan candidates in a partisan primary election.
- Nonpartisan registrants may be eligible to vote on partisan ballots for certain established parties, depending on primary rules.

How is Residence Determined?

- Your residence is considered the place where you have established a “home.” It is the place that, when you depart, you intend to return.
- For voting purposes, if you leave your “home” for military service or school/college, you are allowed to maintain your “home” as your voting residence. However, if you choose, you may change your voter registration to the location of your military assignment or school.

Do I Have to be a Resident for a Certain Amount of Time to Register?

- No. You may register to vote the same day you move to Lancaster County.

Will I Receive Notice that my Registration Application has been Accepted and Processed?

- Yes. When you register to vote, an informational postcard will be mailed to you within 10 days.
- The postcard will inform you of the location of your polling place and some of your voting districts.

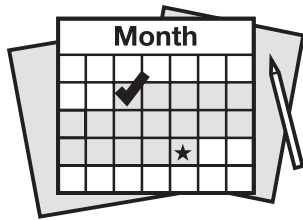
Felony Conviction

In October 2024, the Nebraska Supreme Court ruled that Nebraskans with felony convictions who have completed their sentences can immediately register to vote, upholding Legislative Bill 20 (LB20). This decision overturned a directive from the Secretary of State that had blocked voter registrations.

If you have completed all terms of your felony sentence, you are eligible to register to vote and cast a ballot in the 2025 Lincoln City elections. Nebraska law allows individuals with felony convictions to register to vote immediately after completing their sentence, including any parole or probation. To vote in the upcoming election, be sure to register before the deadline and check your voter registration status with your local election office.

Visit getmyvoteback.org or call (402) 999-8063 to learn more about your restored voting rights

Voting Methods



Early Vote/Absentee Vote

Deadlines 2025

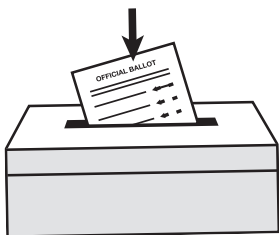
- You may apply for an early/absentee ballot
- Early vote/absentee ballots will be mailed to voters on Monday, April 21st
- Voters can vote at the Election Office beginning Monday, April 21st
- The last day to vote at the Election Office is Monday, May 5th

How do I submit my completed Early Vote/Absentee application?

- Mail or in-person: Election Office, 601 N. 46th St., Lincoln, NE 68503
- Email: earlyvote@lanaster.ne.gov
- Fax: (402) 441-6379
- Drop box: Drop boxes are available at several locations, and no postage is required if you use them or hand-deliver your application. These locations include the Election Office (on the north side of the building) and four libraries with 24/7 drop boxes: Anderson Library (Fremont & Touzalin), Eiseley Library (15th & Superior), Gere Library (56th & Normal), and Walt Library (14th St, between Old Cheney & Pine Lake).

How can I return my voted Early Vote/Absentee ballot?

- U.S. Postal Service; your ballot must be received by 8:00p.m. on election day
- Hand-deliver to the Election Office, 601 N. 46th St., Lincoln by 8:00p.m. on Election Day.
- A drop box is located on the north side of the Election Office.
- Early Vote/Absentee Ballots cannot be returned to a polling location on Election Day.



In-Person at Your Polling Place on Election Day

When will the polling place be open on Election Day?

- The polls are open from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Where do I vote?

- You must cast your ballot at your assigned polling place. If you do not know the location of your polling place, call the Election Office at (402) 441-7311 or log on to votercheck.necvr.ne.gov and click on "Polling Place".

Do I need to present a voting card or other ID to vote?

- Yes. Identification is required to vote.



Voting Accessibility for Individuals with Disabilities in Nebraska

The Help America Vote Act mandates states to enable voters with disabilities to cast independent and confidential ballots. Nebraska implemented measures to accommodate various disabilities including visual and hearing impairments, limited mobility, and manual dexterity issues. For the 2025 elections, all polling places are equipped with ExpressVote machines.

The ExpressVote facilitates private and independent ballot marking with features such as:

- Audio function with headset for visually impaired voters.
- Zoom option to enlarge text size on the ballot.
- Support for sip/puff tubes for those unable to use touchscreens.
- Ability to vote for write-in candidates.

Accessibility Standards for All Nebraska Polling Places

Nebraska enforces ADA standards for polling place accessibility. Requirements encompass parking, pathways, entrances, voting areas, and assistance. Parking areas must have van-accessible spaces, accessible pathways must be unobstructed, and entrances should be step-free or have ADA-approved ramps. Voting areas must include at least one accessible booth and an ExpressVote machine.

Services for Voters with Special Needs

Nebraska provides accessible voting options, including:

- Early in-person voting at county offices.
- Ballot delivery to homes, hospitals, or care facilities.
- Assistance from election officials or a chosen friend.
- Curbside voting for those unable to enter the polling place.
- TTY service for voters with hearing impairments.

Additional Assistance Available at Nebraska Polling Places

Nebraska polling places offer:

- Clear voter instructions.
- Help from Receiving Board judges.
- Magnifiers and signature guides.
- Seating for voters who need it.
- Materials for speech or hearing impaired voters.
- Prompts to request assistance.
- Curbside voting with bipartisan support.

Voter ID

All Nebraska voters are required to present an acceptable form of photo identification when voting in person.

For the most up-to-date information, visit VoterID.Nebraska.gov.

Acceptable Forms of Photo ID

Nebraska law allows voters to present any of the following valid or expired photo IDs:

- Nebraska Driver's License or State ID
- U.S. Passport
- Military ID (Department of Defense or Veterans Affairs)
- Tribal ID (Issued by a recognized Native American tribe)
- Nebraska College or University ID (Public or private institutions)
- Nebraska Political Subdivision ID (State, county, city, or public school-issued)
- Hospital, Assisted-Living Facility, or Nursing Home Record (With name and photograph)

Expired IDs are acceptable, as long as they include your name and photo.

How to Get a Free ID

Nebraska provides free state IDs for voters who need them:

- Visit the Nebraska DMV and apply for a free State ID for voting purposes (bring proof of identity and address).
- If you need a birth certificate to obtain an ID, you can request a free certified copy from the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services only for voting purposes.

For more information, visit VoterID.Nebraska.gov.

Reasonable Impediment Certification (RIC)

If a voter cannot obtain an acceptable photo ID, they may vote provisionally by completing a Reasonable Impediment Certification (RIC). Valid reasons include:

- **Disability or illness** preventing the voter from obtaining valid photo identification
- **Lack of required documents** (e.g., birth certificate) and an inability to obtain them without significant difficulty or expense
- **Religious objection** to being photographed

Voters using an RIC must vote provisionally. Their ballot will be counted if they complete and sign the RIC form and the signature matches their voter registration.

How Voter ID Works in Different Voting Methods

Voting in Person (at the polls or election office)

- Present an **acceptable photo ID** OR
- Complete a **Reasonable Impediment Certification** OR
- Vote **provisionally**

Voting Early by Mail

- Write **driver's license** or **state ID number** on the early voting application OR
- Enclose a **photocopy of an acceptable ID** OR
- Enclose a **photocopy of the Reasonable Impediment Certification**

Voting in By-Mail Precincts or Special By-Mail Elections

- Write **driver's license** or **state ID number** on the **ballot return envelope** OR
- Enclose a **photocopy of an acceptable ID** OR
- Enclose a **photocopy of the Reasonable Impediment Certification**

Need More Information?

For voter ID FAQs, a full list of acceptable IDs, or how to obtain a free ID, visit: VoterID.Nebraska.gov.

About the City Council Election

All three City Council seats on the ballot are **At-Large**, meaning all residents of Lincoln may vote for up to three candidates.

The **top three candidates** receiving the most votes citywide will be elected.

Important: If a voter selects four or more candidates, the City Council portion of the ballot will not be counted.

Voters may request a replacement ballot from the Lancaster County Election Commission if needed.

Political Party Statements

Lancaster County Democratic Party

Our Commitment to Lancaster County

At the Lancaster County Democratic Party, we believe that the government should work for everyone, not just a select few. Our mission is to build a community where fairness, opportunity, and justice guide every decision, ensuring that all residents—no matter their background—have a voice and a fair shot at success.

Our Priorities

Protecting Reproductive Freedom

Everyone deserves the right to make personal healthcare decisions without government interference. With reproductive rights under attack, we are committed to safeguarding access to healthcare services in Lancaster County and advocating for policies that support individuals, families, and local healthcare providers.

Strengthening Our Local Economy

Lancaster County thrives when workers and small businesses succeed. We support fair wages, paid sick leave, and the right to unionize. Investing in local businesses and workforce development will create a stronger economy that benefits everyone, not just the wealthy.

Supporting Agriculture and Rural Communities

Our county's farmers and ranchers are the backbone of Nebraska's agricultural industry. We stand with family farms, sustainable agricultural practices, and policies that ensure our rural communities remain strong and prosperous.

Honoring Veterans and Military Families

Those who serve our country deserve our support long after their service ends. We advocate for access to quality healthcare, mental health services, and career opportunities to help Lancaster County's veterans and military families build stable, fulfilling lives.

Investing in Education

Every child deserves access to a quality education, from early childhood through higher education. We believe in fully funding Lancaster County's public schools, supporting our teachers, and expanding opportunities for affordable college and vocational training.

Protecting Our Environment

Lancaster County's air, water, and land must be preserved for future generations. We support clean energy initiatives, responsible urban development, and conservation efforts that make our community a leader in sustainability.

The Lancaster County Democratic Party is dedicated to building a better future for our community. We work to ensure that every resident—no matter who they are—has the opportunity to succeed and a government that truly represents them. Join us in making Lancaster County a place where fairness, opportunity, and justice are at the core of every decision.

NELancasterDems.org

(This information furnished by the Lancaster County Democrats)

Lancaster County Libertarian Party

The objective of the Libertarian Party is to maximize individual liberty. While it is a coalition comprising people of various beliefs, it is founded on a common core set of libertarian principles. At the foundation is the Non-Aggression Principle: none shall initiate aggression upon another except in defense of oneself or one's property. From this, many positions, such as those on property rights, gun rights, etc., can be deduced. Other important principles are freedom of speech, right to free association, and self-determination. In addition, libertarians are informed on practical matters through the works of the Austrian economists, such as Ludwig von Mises and Murray Rothbard. The principles developed by these thinkers form a logical framework essential to understanding human action—the basis of any economic system. These principles are the foundation on which libertarians' economic positions are formed, such as those on taxation, regulations, etc. For more info, visit nelclp.org or lpne.org. While libertarians may vary on particulars, the following are typical positions:

Minimize government: The government is founded purely upon aggression and coercion, and any service it provides can be provided by the free market more efficiently. Thus, the size of the government at all levels should be reduced, although the desired size by any particular libertarian may vary from small to zero.

Reduce taxes: The government can only exist through coercive seizure of private property—taxation. Not only is this a violation of the Non-Aggression Principle, practically it is a pure harm upon the economy. Thus, taxation should be reduced across the board; some believe it should be eliminated entirely. Think of the absurdity of having to pay the government to live on one's own property.

Eliminate regulations: The government harms the economy not only through taxation; it prohibits mutually beneficial transactions from taking place through regulations. Not only is this intrusion morally abhorrent, bureaucratic restrictions placed by the government stifle economic growth and therefore tend to reduce the standard of living. For example, minimum wage laws and price fixing fall into this category and should be eliminated.

Abolish subsidies: A wrong is already committed when the government forcibly takes money through taxation; a further infraction occurs when it then hands some of this money to certain favored entities in particular industries through subsidies. Practically, this distorts the price structure in the economy, misleading entrepreneurs and disrupting economic activity. Thus, all subsidies must be abolished, whether they be farm or child care subsidies.

Cut welfare: Every individual is responsible for one's own well-being and cannot demand financial tribute from another. Much like subsidies, government welfare is simply a way to take from the taxpayer to give to some specific favored group—income redistribution. Food stamps, unemployment benefits, and social security, to name a few, fall into this category and should be cut.

Legalize drugs: One ought to be allowed to use any substance whatsoever. In practice prohibition has only fueled criminal activity, harming society rather than improving it. However, this is not an endorsement of drug use; like all other aspects of adult life, one must understand the risks and take responsibility accordingly.

Repeal Gun Laws: An armed populace cannot be easily subdued by the government. This is why under the guise of "public safety," the government wishes to restrict our gun rights, undermining our ability to defend ourselves. Every single gun law is an infringement and should be repealed. Certain laws that uphold our rights are supported, such as Constitutional Carry.

End foreign wars: Engaging in conflicts in foreign countries not only invites animosity against us, it prompts the government to direct scarce resources toward war production. This lowers our living standards to the benefit of the war industry and their puppet politicians, not to mention the human costs of unnecessary destruction. War also brings severe restrictions on individual liberty under the guise of "national security."

Support sound money: Whenever the government spends more than it takes through taxes, it makes up the difference by having the Federal Reserve print money for itself and its cronies. The end result is higher prices for all of us. Sound money free from government counterfeiting operations is essential for a properly functioning free society.

For more info, visit nelclp.org or lpne.org.

(This information furnished by the Lancaster County Libertarian Party)

Candidates for Office



Lincoln City Council At-Large



Tom Beckius
Democrat

Occupation: Small business owner, construction/real estate

Educational Background: B.A., English,
University of Nebraska-Lincoln, 2003

Prior Governmental Experience: Lincoln City Council 2021-Present,
Lincoln/Lancaster County Planning Commission, 2017 to 2021

Hello! I am Tom Beckius and I am running for re-election to the Lincoln City Council. First elected in 2021, I am a proud son of Lincoln, Nebraska, having been born and raised here. As a husband, stepfather and small business owner, I am running to continue the legacy of keeping Lincoln a great place to raise a family, build a career and enjoy our lives together.

I support policies that ensure the highest level of public safety, a great quality of life, safe neighborhoods, affordable housing and robust economic development for everyone. During my time on City Council, I have supported pay, budget, facility and equipment initiatives to grow public safety and will continue to do so. I have worked to provide safe neighborhoods, great parks, engaging libraries and a shared commitment to strong schools in our community. I have incentivized hundreds of millions of dollars in new growth and worked to bring down the cost of housing.

Going forward, we have more work to do. Everyone is feeling the burden of inflation and we must work to bring down the costs of housing, energy and everyday items. Growing our economy, and everyone's individual skills, will be key in increasing wages. Making smart investments and planning wisely for a growing community will help lower our city's tax levy, which I have successfully done for years.

Community involvement is important to me. I serve on the Community Advisory Council for Lincoln Public Schools and Board of Counselors for University of Nebraska Medical Center. On the national level, I serve on the Federal Advocacy Committee for Public Safety and Crime Prevention for the National League of Cities, working with Congress and the current administration to develop policy positions on issues involving crime prevention, corrections, municipal fire policy, homeland security and domestic terrorism.

Tom Beckius

(This information furnished by Tom Beckius for City Council)

TomForLincoln.com



Jerry Shoecraft
Republican

Occupation: Manager of The 50/50, private student housing

Educational Background: Studied at UNL with emphasis in
Business and Accounting

Prior Governmental Experience: Lincoln City Council, 1993 to 2001

Jerry Shoecraft brings eight years of experience as a former member and two-time Chair of the Lincoln City Council. He feels called to serve on the Council again to bring leadership and fiscal responsibility back to the City of Lincoln.

Shoecraft currently serves as the Manager of a private student housing operation on the UNL campus called The 50/50. His wife Susan is a law partner with Cline Williams and together they own SappCraft Properties, LLC. He is a native of Indiana, having come to UNL to play basketball as he pursued his undergraduate studies in business and accounting. He and his wife, Susan, have adult children and young grandchildren, and they enjoy attending sporting events in and around Lincoln and Omaha.

Shoecraft's platform highlights a commitment to addressing property taxes, remedying the lack of intentional design for our infrastructure in Lincoln, improving inadequate and poorly maintained streets and roads, and supporting our local business owners. His campaign also focuses on public safety, with a commitment to supporting first responders and ensuring safe neighborhoods.

Jerry Shoecraft

(This information furnished by Citizens for Shoecraft)

CitizensForShoecraft.com



Sandra Washington
Democrat

Occupation: Retired, National Park Service

Educational Background: Bachelor of Science and Master of Science, Ohio State University

Prior Governmental Experience: Lincoln Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (2001–2006), Lincoln-Lancaster County Planning Commission (2016–2019), Lincoln City Council (2019–present)

I believe Lincoln is a great city, and I'm committed to making it even better. I've been a frontline worker, union member, mid-level manager, director, planning commissioner, and councilwoman. In each place, I've learned to lead where I am, gather input from many sources, seek multiple perspectives, and always listen.

Budgets are tight, and times are tough, so I've put Lincoln residents first by championing efforts to prevent price gouging and expand affordable housing while repeatedly voting to cut the city's property tax levy over the past four years. I feel strongly that my job as a councilwoman is to balance community needs while being mindful of how we use public tax dollars, including property taxes.

Public safety is my key priority, and I've supported historic investments in police, firefighters, and paramedics. I will continue to invest in our infrastructure and workforce, create effective public-private solutions, and invest in the amenities, like parks, trails, and libraries, that make Lincoln a great place to live.

I was proud to be unanimously appointed by my fellow members to fill a vacancy on the city council in 2019. Even more rewarding was the support I received from the voters of Lincoln in 2021. When it came time to decide to run for another term, I felt that while we had accomplished so much, there was more work to be done. I am committed to serving all of Lincoln and want everyone to have a place at the table and a stake in the future of our city.

Sandra Washington

(This information furnished by Washington for Lincoln)

SandraForLincoln.com



Stan Parker
Republican

Occupation: Founder and Executive Director of MyBridge, a nonprofit, faith-based ministry, including MyBridge Radio, MyBridge Momentum, through which I provide leadership coaching, and MyBridge to the Nations.

Educational Background: BS in Business Administration, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, 1986.

Prior Governmental Experience: None.

I'm running for City Council because I deeply believe in our city—our people, our values, and our shared future. Lincoln is a special place I proudly call home, and I'm committed to representing all residents with integrity and purpose. Simply put, I'm running because I care. I care about the small business owner wondering if Lincoln remains a good place to grow. I care about families trying to make ends meet while costs continue to rise. I care about every person who feels their values deserve representation in our local government.

I am committed to stewardship. I pledge to ensure our city's resources are used effectively and transparently. Taxpayer dollars deserve careful management, and I will work to maximize the impact of every dollar spent.

I am committed to solidarity. I reject extreme partisanship that divides our community. I will fight for common-sense solutions that unite Lincoln residents across political lines, focusing on what brings us together rather than what drives us apart.

I am committed to service. I will listen to your concerns, engage with community stakeholders, and advocate for policies that truly benefit Lincoln residents.

As the founder and leader of a nonprofit organization, I have worked with diverse stakeholders, managed financial stewardship with limited resources, and built systems of accountability. I also provide leadership coaching to executive teams, helping them develop clear strategic priorities, effective decision-making structures, and high-functioning collaboration. City government operates under similar principles, and my experience will serve Lincoln well.

My vision for Lincoln embraces economic growth while preserving our community values. I believe in supporting our small businesses, making Lincoln affordable for working families, and ensuring everyone has a voice in our city's governance. I am committed to being a servant leader—accessible, accountable, and dedicated to our city's prosperous future.

Stan Parker

(This information furnished by Stan For Lincoln)

StanForLincoln.com



Lincoln City Council At-Large



Bennie Shobe
Democrat

Occupation: Program Analyst at the Nebraska Department of Labor

Educational Background: PhD University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Prior Governmental Experience: Lincoln City Council (2017-Present)

I'm running for re-election to continue being a voice for working people — for those who are too often left out of the conversation when it comes to the future of our city. I believe Lincoln grows stronger when every resident has a seat at the table. That's why I'm committed to meeting with and listening to people from every walk of life, and making sure their concerns are part of the decisions that shape our community.

I came to Nebraska in 1998 to pursue my doctorate at UNL, drawn by the university's commitment to diversity — and I stayed because I fell in love with the people and values of Lincoln. I'm a Kentuckian by birth, but a Nebraskan by choice.

Over the past 20 years, I've served on numerous boards and committees, including the NAACP, Malone Center, and the Lincoln Commission on Human Rights. Whether as a community leader, educator, or public servant, I've always worked to bridge gaps — between residents and government, between differing viewpoints, and between where we are and where we can be.

I've seen how meaningful engagement can make a difference. But I've also seen how easily trust breaks down when people feel unheard. I ran for City Council to help rebuild that trust. That work is far from over.

I believe in moving our city forward — together. And I ask for your vote to continue that work.

Bennie Shobe

(This information furnished by Bennie Shobe for Lincoln City Council)

BennieForLnk.com

Candidate did not
provide a photo.

Maher Aurang Zeb
Republican

As a city council of Lincoln, Nebraska I'll enhance public transportation, public safety and health, and focus on affordable housing initiatives to ensure Lincoln remains a great place to live for everyone.

I'll foster a business-friendly environment by reducing unnecessary regulations, streamlining permit processes, and investing in workforce development. Supporting small businesses and startups is essential to Lincoln's economic vitality. I will advocate for policies that encourage entrepreneurship and attract new businesses while ensuring our existing businesses have the resources they need to thrive.

Maher Aurang Zeb

(This information furnished by Maher Aurang Zeb)

ZebForLincoln.com



Lincoln Airport Authority



Vanessa Emlich
Democrat

Occupation: Director of Audit Operations

Educational Background: Master of Business Administration with an emphasis in Business Analytics from University of South Dakota, Master of Arts in Translation from the University of Surrey (UK), Bachelor of Arts in German from Humboldt State University

Prior Governmental Experience: Lincoln Airport Authority Board (September 2023 to Present)

I am running as the incumbent for the Lincoln Airport Authority Board to continue building on the momentum we've created to move LNK forward. I am committed to expanding air service opportunities, advancing the development of Enterprise Park, and strengthening partnerships with our general aviation and military partners.

In my 1.5 years on the Board, I have focused on actionable strategies to grow the airport, improve its operations, and position it as a key player in Lincoln's economic development. I played a pivotal role in establishing a community-based Air Service Advisory Council to foster community collaboration and transparency, drafting the airport's first strategic plan to guide the airport's short- and long-term growth, and making progress in air service recruitment efforts to expand travel options and boost the regional economy.

I bring to the Board a strong foundation in strategic planning, governance and financial oversight. I focus on identifying efficiencies, evaluating financial sustainability, and ensuring that investments align with our long-term strategic goals, bring more revenue opportunities to the airport, and ensure that LNK remains a cornerstone of Lincoln's growth.

Together, we can build a stronger, more vibrant, and better-connected Lincoln.

Vanessa Emlich

(This information furnished by Vote Vanessa For Lincoln Airport Authority)

VanessaLnk.com



Tom Trumble
Republican

Mr. Trumble did not submit a statement by the deadline.

To learn more about his campaign, visit:

TrumbleAirportAuthority.com



Lincoln School Board, District 1



John Cartier
Democrat

Occupation: Lawyer and Partner at Omnus Law.

Educational Background: J.D., University of Nebraska College of Law, 2017

Prior Governmental Experience: None

My name is John Cartier, and I am honored to announce my candidacy for the Lincoln Public Schools Board of Education, District 1. As a dedicated advocate for education, families, and the future of our community, I am committed to empowering every student through strong public schools and active community engagement.

I earned my J.D. in Constitutional Law from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 2017. Prior to that, I completed my B.S. in Business Marketing at Concordia University, Nebraska, in 2014, and I was a six-time All-American in track and field specializing in sprints.

Professionally, I am a partner at Omnus Law in Lincoln, focusing on civil litigation, election law, government relations, and regulatory compliance. My legal career has equipped me with extensive experience in administrative law, corporate governance, lobbying, and employment matters, allowing me to provide strategic counsel to businesses, nonprofits, and individuals alike.

As a member of the Lincoln Public Schools Board of Education, I will focus on ensuring that educational resources are accessible to every student, expanding opportunities through strengthened community partnerships, and implementing initiatives to support and retain dedicated teachers in our schools. I believe that by fostering curiosity, creativity, and lifelong learning, we can help each student achieve their dreams.

Together, we can build a brighter future for all students in Lincoln. I humbly ask for your support and your vote.

John Cartier, J.D.

(This information furnished by John Cartier)

CartierForLincoln.com



John Goodwin
Democrat

Occupation: CEO, Malone Center

Educational Background: Bachelor's in Security Management, Bellevue University

Prior Governmental Experience: None

I'm John Goodwin, and I'm running for the LPS Board in District 1 because I believe in the power of education to change lives. Lincoln is my home—it's where I'm raising my family and where my children attend school. I want every family in our community to have access to strong, successful schools that prepare students for a bright future.

For the past six years, I have served as the CEO of the Malone Center, where I've expanded programs to better serve Lincoln's youth and led a \$23 million capital campaign to improve our facilities. This experience has prepared me to be a leader who listens to the community, makes responsible financial decisions, and ensures resources are used effectively to support students. Beyond my work at Malone, I serve on the LPS Communications Advisory Council, coach football at North Star High School, and actively volunteer with community organizations. I believe that a strong public school system is the foundation of a thriving community, and I am committed to making sure LPS continues to provide a great education for all students. When elected, I will focus on:

- Improving student academic achievement
 - Expanding career pathway programs to prepare students for college and the workforce
 - Addressing behavioral issues in classrooms to create a better learning environment
 - Filling teacher and staff shortages to support both students and educators
- Maintaining fiscally responsible budgets to balance quality education with financial sustainability for families

I believe in transparency, accountability, and collaboration with Lincoln community residents to ensure our schools meet the needs of students, parents, and teachers. I promise to always be available to listen to your concerns and ideas.

I would be honored to earn your vote on April 8th and May 6th. Let's work together to build a stronger future for Lincoln's schools!

John Goodwin

(This information furnished by Goodwin for Lincoln)

GoodwinForLnk.com



Lincoln School Board, District 3



Barbara A Baier
Democrat

Occupation: Grants Administrator-Writer, City of Lincoln

Educational Background: English and Sociology,
University of Nebraska-Lincoln, 1980

Prior Governmental Experience: Lincoln
Board of Education, 2005 to Present

With five terms of experience, Barbara Baier can provide stable leadership on the Lincoln Board of Education. It is important in these changing times that we maintain a thorough understanding of the value of public education for our community's children and families and for the maintenance of our fine democracy. Barbara's campaign issues are:

- Continued advocacy for ALL students, inclusive of LGBT and minorities, so they can realize their potential.
- Address teacher need for respect and support.
- Create opportunities for interested people so they can pursue a career in education.
- Address increased student mental health needs.

During her service, Barbara has been instrumental in passing three school bonds resulting in the construction of six elementary, two middle schools, and two high schools, including Northwest and Standing Bear High Schools. She ensured that all zip codes and neighborhoods benefitted from the bonds. She ensured fairness for the Arnold Heights neighborhood by facilitating the construction of Arnold Elementary and School Middle Schools, and not a K-8 alternative. Additionally, she has championed the opening of more Early Childhood Education options, serving Northwest Lincoln and other neighborhoods.

Barbara has advocated for equal access to benefits for LGBT staff and advocated for transgender students and staff. She was instrumental in developing an MOU between Lincoln Public Schools and the City delineating the roles for administrators and School Resource Officers (SROs) regarding student discipline and development of data collection tracking disparities in discipline and juvenile justice referrals, resulting in a reduction of disparities.

Background: For 25 years, Barbara has worked as the City of Lincoln, Nebraska's Grants Administrator-Writer. Other board service: The Salvation Army, Lincoln Arts Council, Lincoln Children's Museum, Lincoln Municipal Band, Sacred Winds Church, People First. She and her wife of 38 years (10 years legally married) have a son, now 25.

Barbara A. Baier

(This information furnished by Barb Baier for School Board)

BaierForSchoolBoard.com



Candidate did not
provide a photo.

Seth Duncan
Republican

Mr. Duncan did not submit a statement by the deadline.

To learn more about his campaign, visit:
SethDuncanForBoardOfEducation.com



Lincoln School Board, District 5



Mara Krivohlavek
Democrat

Occupation: Former Registered Nurse.

Educational Background: B.A. in Kinesiology, B.A. in Art History, 2008. University of Texas Health Science Center, B.S. in Nursing, 2010.

Prior Governmental Experience: None

My name is Mara Krivohlavek. I live in Southeast Lincoln with my husband, Jeff, our three boys, and our goldendoodle, Sherry. I started my career as a registered nurse and worked at the Nebraska Medical Center. When my husband and I decided to start a family, we chose to move to Lincoln because of the terrific school district. As I've watched my boys move through LPS, I have been inspired by the staff who serve our students every day and decided to get more involved.

I have been a volunteer with LPS for the last six years. I currently serve as the president of Maxey Elementary's PTO and the treasurer for Lux Middle School's booster club. I also volunteer with nonprofits that support all schools in Lincoln by helping fill gaps in resources. As a parent of three young boys in LPS, I see my "why" for running every day. When elected, I will be the only parent of young children in LPS serving on the board, which I believe is a crucial perspective that is currently missing.

My fundamental goal is to continue LPS's history of being a great school district. My main priority will be working with staff to improve student academic outcomes, which have suffered in the aftermath of COVID-19. I will look to expand access to extracurricular activities and invest in mental health resources, as studies show these investments improve learning outcomes, mitigate behavioral issues, and lead to greater success later in life. I believe all parents should play an active role in the education of their children, so I will work to improve communication between the district and families. Finally, at a time when many are struggling with rising costs, I will be a voice for fiscally responsible budgets because our kids do better when our families have more money in their pockets.

Mara Krivohlavek

(This information furnished by Mara for Lincoln)

MaraForLincoln.com



Lincoln School Board, District 7



Marilyn Johnson-Farr
Democrat

Occupation: Professor of Education, Doane,
Twenty years teaching at LPS.

Educational Background: Ph.D. in Adult Education. M.A. in Adult Education and Social Foundations, University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Undergraduate degree, Nebraska Wesleyan.

Prior Governmental Experience: None

I'm Marilyn Johnson-Farr, your candidate for the LPS Board. Born and raised in Lincoln, I started my career at LPS, spending 20 years working for the district. I spent a decade as a teacher before serving as a team leader, where I helped develop the next generation of educators. After my time at LPS, I joined Doane University as a professor of education, where I have spent the last 30 years. I have remained engaged with LPS and have been an active community volunteer with more than 20 organizations dedicated to growing the Good Life here in Lincoln.

I am now running for the LPS Board to use my 50 years of experience in education to give back to the school district that helped raise me. As the only lifelong Lincoln resident, LPS student, and LPS employee in this race, I believe my deep involvement in our schools and community has given me the skills necessary to be an effective board member from day one. I am proud to be endorsed by current school board member Don Mayhew, who has helped lead the district for 24 years.

Every child deserves a high-quality education that prepares them for success in life. For LPS to continue serving students, I will focus on a few key priorities. First, I will bring solutions to address LPS's teacher shortage to ensure that every student has a quality instructor in the classroom. Second, I will work to expand partnerships between LPS, colleges, trade schools, and businesses to create alternative pathways to success, such as The Career Academy. Finally, I will ensure that LPS continues to be a good steward of taxpayer dollars, keeping costs low for families without compromising the quality of education for our children.

Marilyn Johnson-Farr

(This information furnished by Marilyn Johnson Far For LPS Board)

FarrForLincoln.com



Cheryl Meyer-Thompson
Republican

Occupation: Public School Teacher; retired, UNL student teach supervisor; Talbots client specialist

Educational Background: BS UNL

Prior Governmental Experience: None

I am seeking a seat on the LPS Board of Education because I want to see LPS continue to be a great school system educating ALL students. My focus is a three prong platform:

- Student outcomes through instruction and services.
- Teacher and staff retention.
- Fiscally responsible budget.

I grew up on a farm in northeast Nebraska before attending UNL. After college graduation, I took a position at Milford Jr.-Sr. high school teaching Family and Consumer Science. I spent 38 years at Milford Public Schools where I sponsored the student organization: Family, Career and Community Leaders of American and taught a college credit culinary class through the National Restaurant Association: ProStart. After retirement, I was employed by UNL as a FCS student teacher supervisor for eight years.

My husband, Gary and I became foster parents in September 2013 to our grandson and then his legal guardians in February, 2018. I enjoy spending time with my husband, grandson and friends.

I bring leadership and experience to serve on the LPS Board of Education. I was elected to the National FCCLA Board of Directors and served as Chairperson overseeing 50 different state organizations. As a secondary educator, UNL supervisor, and a guardian of an 8th grader at Scott Middle School, I bring different perspectives of educational systems. We need to focus on the needs of ALL students in LPS.

My web site is: CherylForLps.com

Educationally yours,
Cheryl Meyer-Thompson

(This information furnished by Cheryl for LPS Board)

Ballot Issues

Initiative Petition to Amend the Lincoln Housing Code (Title 11) to Add Protections for Lawful Sources of Income.

Initiative summary: This proposal would make it illegal for landlords or sellers to refuse to rent or sell housing in Lincoln based on a person's legal source of income, such as wages, child support, or housing vouchers.

The following is the full ballot ordinance language as it will appear for voters:

Shall Title 11 of the Lincoln Municipal Code (LMC) be amended to prohibit discrimination in renting or buying housing in the City of Lincoln on the basis of a person's lawful source of income; to provide a definition of lawful source of income; to specify certain unlawful discriminatory acts; and to establish related administration and enforcement powers. Specifically:

Lawful source of income shall mean any lawful and verifiable source of money paid to or on behalf of a renter or buyer of housing, including any related program requirements. Lawful sources of income include but are not limited to:

- (1) Income from a lawful profession, occupation, or job;
- (2) Income derived from Social Security or any form of federal, state, or local public assistance or housing assistance, including a housing choice voucher issued pursuant to Section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937, whether or not such income is paid or attributed directly to a landlord, and even if such income includes additional federal, state, or local requirements; or
- (3) A pension, annuity, alimony, child support, foster care subsidies, or any other recurring, lawful, and verifiable monetary consideration or benefit.

Grant the Commission on Human Rights for the City of Lincoln the power to investigate complaints in housing based on lawful source of income, under LMC 11.02.040.

Prohibit as unlawful, under LMC 11.06.020 and 11.06.065:

- (1) the refusal to show, negotiate, receive an offer, or sell or rent a dwelling because of a person's lawful source of income;
- (2) discrimination against any person in the terms and conditions of sale or rental of a dwelling because of a person's lawful source of income;
- (3) the making, printing, or publishing of any notice or advertisement indicating preference, limitation or discrimination on the basis of a person's lawful source of income;
- (4) representing to any person because of lawful source of income that any dwelling is not available for inspection, sale, or rental, when such dwelling is, in fact, available;
- (5) any written or oral inquiry or record concerning the lawful source of income of a person;
- (6) inducing or attempting to induce, for profit, any person to sell or rent any dwelling by representation regarding the entry or prospective entry into the neighborhood of a person with a particular lawful source of income; and
- (7) discrimination against any person, in making a residential real estate transaction available, or in the terms or condition of such a transaction because of a person's lawful source of income.

VOTE FOR or AGAINST the proposed ordinance amending Title 11 of the Lincoln Municipal code.

About Vote Wise Nebraska

Vote Wise Nebraska is a new 501(c)(3) nonprofit working to make elections more accessible by delivering clear, comprehensive voter guides directly to Nebraskans. Our diverse Board of Directors—representing the state’s top three political affiliations—helps ensure our materials remain neutral and informative for all voters.

This voter guide is part of a **pilot program** reaching a limited number of voters. Feedback from this phase will help us improve and expand our reach in future elections.

We rely on **grassroots donations** to grow. At just **40 cents per guide** to produce and mail, even small contributions go a long way.

This guide was made possible with support from:



- **Nebraska Civic Engagement Table**, a nonprofit that strengthens 501(c)(3) organizations through training and resources. Learn more at nebraskatable.org.
- **Nonpartisan Nebraska**, a 501(c)(3) dedicated to protecting and preserving Nebraska’s unique nonpartisan legislature. Learn more and consider a donation at npnebraska.org.

Support Us on Give to Lincoln Day

Vote Wise Nebraska is proud to participate in **Give to Lincoln Day 2025**, an annual community fundraising event hosted by the **Lincoln Community Foundation**. Donations made through the event are **partially matched**, making every dollar go further.

Give to Lincoln Day is **May 29, 2025**, but early giving is open throughout the month of May.

You can support **Vote Wise Nebraska**, **Nonpartisan Nebraska**, **Nebraska Civic Engagement Table**, and other local nonprofits by visiting: GiveToLincoln.com

Your support helps us and other nonprofits continue providing trusted, accessible services—and strengthens the civic health of our entire community.

How to Give for Give to Lincoln Day

Support us and other nonprofits during Give to Lincoln Day 2025—your donation will be partially matched, helping it go even further. Giving is open May 1–29, with the main event on May 29.

Donation methods:

- **Online (preferred):** Visit GiveToLincoln.com. Minimum: \$10. Eligible for leaderboard and Allo Daily Drawing.
- **IRA Gifts (age 70½+):** Donate directly from your IRA. Submit the required form by May 16 and ensure the gift arrives by May 29.
- **By Check:** Mail or drop off checks (min. \$10) to:
Lincoln Community Foundation
215 Centennial Mall S, Ste 100, Lincoln, NE 68508
Postmark by **May 22**.
Be sure to write the nonprofit’s name in the memo line.
Checks can also be dropped off at **West Gate Bank** branches, May 1–29.

Tommy Blanton
Executive Director
Vote Wise Nebraska

give
TO LINCOLN DAY
THURSDAY, MAY 29

**Starting May 1st, donate to
Vote Wise Nebraska for
Give to Lincoln Day!**



[GiveToLincoln.com/nonprofits/
Vote-Wise-Nebraska](https://GiveToLincoln.com/nonprofits/Vote-Wise-Nebraska)

Vote Wise Nebraska

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