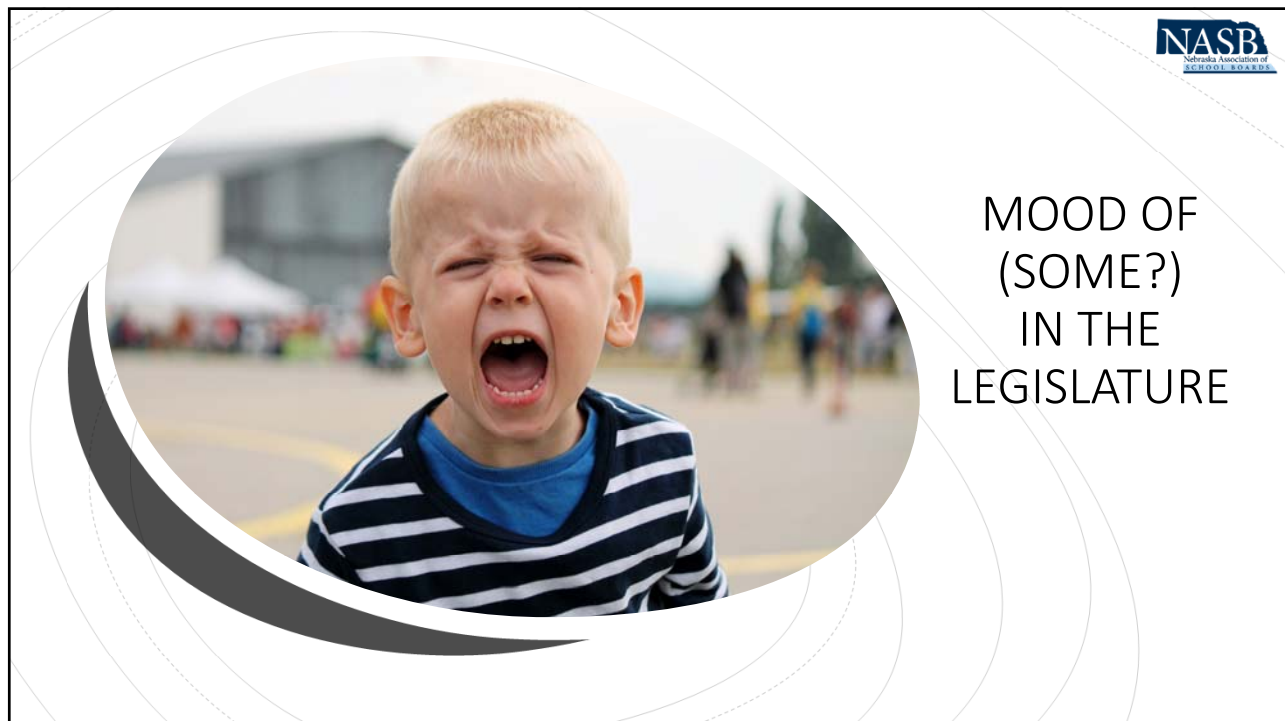


1



2

MOOD OF (SOME?) IN THE LEGISLATURE

- Distrustful of local control
- School Boards don't listen to their constituents and are not accountable to the taxpayers
- Continue sending message that school spending is "out of control"



3

MOOD OF (SOME?) IN THE LEGISLATURE

Evidence:

- LB 103: Change procedure for setting a political subdivision's property tax request
- Passed into law 2019
- LB 148: Change requirements for public hearings on proposed budget statements and notices of meetings of public bodies. (Sent to Governor 2/6/20)
- LB 674: Change base limitation of schools to CPI
- LR 8 CA: Constitutional AM to put a 3% cap in property tax asking.



4

MOOD OF (SOME?) IN THE LEGISLATURE

Evidence (partial list):

- LB 1167: Allows for unregulated public comment at each meeting, not tied to an agenda item.
- LB 1211: Change requirements for budget processes. Unworkable method of budgeting by determining tax asking prior to making budget.
- LB 1212: Requires costly and unnecessary changes to the budget hearing process.
- LB 1193: Eliminates ability to put bonds to voters in a special election



NASB
Nebraska Association of
SCHOOL BOARDS

5

MOOD OF (SOME?) IN THE LEGISLATURE

- Legislature will tell you what you need to do with regard to curriculum, buildings, graduation requirements, etc. ...without regard to cost.



NASB
Nebraska Association of
SCHOOL BOARDS

6

MOOD OF (SOME?) IN THE LEGISLATURE

Evidence 2019

- LB 399: Change provisions related to the Committee on Americanism
- LB 206 - Protect free speech rights of student journalists and student media advisers



7

MOOD OF (SOME?) IN THE LEGISLATURE

Evidence (partial list) NASB opposed all.

- LB 1089: Requires the FAFSA as a graduation requirement
- LB 1116: Requires more drinking fountains in new school construction
- LB 1186: Requires district payment of workers comp within the first 7 days.
- LB 846: Moves workers comp payments from 7 to 3 day wait window.



8

MOOD OF THE LEGISLATURE: GOOD BILLS

Senators have listened to us!

Evidence

- LB 920: Allocates more lottery funds to K-12 education. Includes funds for behavioral health training and career readiness/dual credit education. Keeps distance learning funds.
- LB 759: Requires consultation with school districts from DHHS prior to the placement of children
- LB 1023: Adopts the Extraordinary Increase in Special Ed. Cost Act. Appropriates funds to cover unexpected funds incurred by school districts.
- LR 306: Urges Congress to fully fund IDEA



9

MOOD OF THE LEGISLATURE: GOOD BILLS

- Students must be better protected from predatory school personnel.
- *We support these bills!*



10

MOOD OF THE LEGISLATURE: GOOD BILLS

Evidence

- LB 1048: Creates offense of sexual assault by a school employee and requires notification to NDE Commissioner
- LB 1080: Requires school policies that prohibit sexual conduct with students and former students
- LB 1210: Creates offense of sexual exploitation of a student
- Also monitoring: LB 766 & 991: Create similar offenses in criminal statute.



11

LB 974

- Reduces agland both in/out of forumal by 20% over 2 years. Residential/Commercial by 15% over 3 years.
- Utilizes revenue growth as a funding source. Growth may not cover the amount lost due to valuation decreases.
- Eliminates averaging adjustment and allocated income tax distributions.



12

LB 974 CONTINUED

- Changes net option funding resulting in decrease
- Changes max levy to the lesser of 1.06 OR local formula contribution in year 4 (which is the prior year's valuation increased by CPI, but no less than 9% and no more than 2.5% plus valuation growth.
- Allocates foundation aid on a per pupil basis equal to 5% (year 1), 10% (year 2), and 15% (year 3)



13

LB 974 CONTINUED

- Spending restraints
 - Reduces building fund from 0.14 to \$0.06. No new construction without vote of people.
 - Limits growth of spending to CPI and no more than 2.5%.
 - Not a good measure of school spending and does not take into consideration local control or budget needs



14

LB 974 CONTINUED

- Concerns
 - Funds returned via foundation aid will be less than funds lost because of decreased valuation.
 - Revenue growth may not be sufficient to fund proposal. If cuts/economy downturn occurs, school funding will be lost.

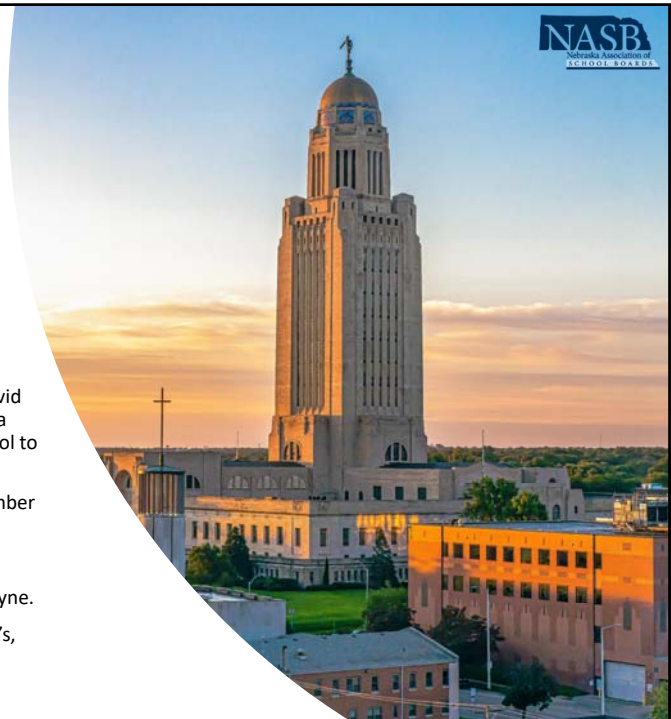


15

ADVOCACY. OUR VOICE IS BEING HEARD

In 2019 NASB ...

- Took a position on 57 bills and closely followed another 49.
- Was represented in testimony in 12 of the 14 Committees.
- SBMs from Ainsworth, Alliance, Bellevue, Blair, Central City, David City, Grand Island, Lewiston, Lincoln, Milford, Minden, Nebraska City, Norris, Omaha, Sterling, York, and more came to the Capitol to testify.
- Facilitated 1-on-1's with the Revenue Committee, w/ each member meeting with a SBM from the shared region.
- Held conference calls w/ Sen. Brewer and his constituents
- Hosted Leg Lunches in Lincoln, Falls City, Fremont, Stuart & Wayne.
- Was aware of, and helped with countless emails, letters, Op-Ed's, etc. from education leaders to their Senators.



16

ADVOCACY. OUR VOICE IS BEING HEARD

Already in 2020 NASB ... 20 days into the 60-Days

- Added 20+ bills we support/oppose, following an added 30.
- Already represented in testimony in 9 of the 14 Committees.
- SBMs from Grand Island, Loup County, Milford, Omaha, Sterling, and more have come to the Capitol.
- Holding conference calls w/ Sens. Brewer, Gragert, Murman, & Slama and their constituents this session.
- Looking to host Leg Lunches in Lincoln, and across the state ...
- ***Are aware of, and know we'll help with countless emails, letters, Op-Ed's, etc. from education leaders to their Senators!***



17

ADVOCACY TAKE AWAYS

- KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!
- School Board members are NOT a special interest group.
- You are accountable to the taxpayer!
- Hey Senator ... Be mindful when you want to "help". Unfunded mandates. Etc.
- What are the tough decisions you have had to make as a district? What cuts have you had to make?
- Why don't legislators trust local school boards to make local decisions?
- How can you fund tax credits for school choice while looking at cutting current resources? (LB 1202)
- State Spending has growth has outpaced school spending growth in recent years.



18