

NASB BOARD NOTES

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION FROM THE NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BOARDS



Leadership

Innovation

Vision

Engagement

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2,000,000 Nebraskans

329,000 Students

1,700 Locally Elected School Board Members

260 Member Districts/ESUs

ONE NEBRASKA

IN THIS MONTH'S EDITION OF BOARD NOTES

This Month In ...

Training, Networking, Engagement & Upcoming Events

At The Board Table

ALICAP Returning \$2.6 Million To Its Members

Welcome New Superintendents for 2026-27

Miles, Meetings, and Our Members ... Join us!

Building Strong Futures: State Conference Update

Legislative Candidate Resources Prior To November

School Board Member of the Year Nominations: Due September 18

Thriving Children, Families, and Communities

Healthy Foods/Rural Health Grant Opportunity: Due August 31

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Your NASB Board of Directors & Staff

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This Month In ... Photos



THIS MONTH IN ...

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<https://members.nasbonline.org/>



A quick snapshot of the various programs, services, support and events NASB has planned for its members in the coming month!

ADVOCACY & GOVERNMENT RELATIONS ... Your NASB Legislation Committee met earlier this August to look at the 2027 game plan. Colby continues to meet with Legislative candidates one-on-one, AND we've conducted some Meet & Greets in select areas (see the Events page!) Keep tabs with our GR page as interim hearings are being scheduled as well. Stay engaged. Share your stories. Call Colby & Matt any time!

ALICAP ... ALICAP members should have their 2026-27 annual billing statements. We are pleased to be declaring a \$2.6 million dividend, as a credit on this year's bills. Reminder that payment is due September 30th. Let Megan know if you have any questions.

AWARDS OF ACHIEVEMENT ... We are pleased to have the opportunity to present individual and board awards at our Area Membership Meetings that kicked off August 18 and run through September.

BOARD LEADERSHIP ... Check out "At the Board Table" on Page 4 to learn about all things Board Leadership!

EDUCATION LEADERSHIP SEARCH SERVICE ... Is your district or ESU facing a leadership vacancy? Now is the time to contact us for information on search protocols and procedures. Catch up with Shari at the Area Membership Meetings or email sbecker@NASBonline.org - we can talk about the process, field questions, or get a date on the calendar to begin your search.

ENERGY PURCHASING ... As we head into winter, recent headlines have highlighted the potential for a Super El Niño and the possibility of unpredictable weather patterns across Nebraska. With weather often driving significant fluctuations in natural gas demand and pricing, it is more important than ever for schools to have greater certainty when planning their energy budgets. Through participation in NASB's CJUMP and NJUMP natural gas purchasing groups, schools benefit from a collaborative purchasing approach designed to provide greater budget stability and help protect against dramatic swings in natural gas prices. While no program can eliminate all market volatility, CJUMP and NJUMP provide participating schools with the security and purchasing strength that comes from working together.

GALLUP STRENGTHS ... The August featured theme is **Analytical**. Analytical belongs to the Strategic Thinking domain. People exceptionally talented in the Analytical theme search for reasons and causes and are comfortable questioning assumptions. They see themselves as objective and logical. They value data to uncover truth. Sound like you? Contact Shari for a Gallup assessment.

MEMBER ENGAGEMENT ... This is my favorite time of year! We get to see so many members at the Area Membership Meetings and the State Education Conference is right around the corner (We are just over 80 days away!) Be sure to read the Conference mailer email closely – we have some BIG changes to the schedule this year! You will want to be sure and stay for Friday morning of Conference. We have packed it with great breakout sessions, two Super Sessions, the NASB Delegate Assembly, NASA Membership Meeting, Classroom Showcase, and closing keynote speaker, Danny Steele.

POLICY SERVICES ... Policy serves as the foundation for effective governance, but strong systems require more than adoption alone. To learn more about what the NASB Policy Support Service offers the board and superintendent contact Lindsey at lheadrick@NASBonline.org or Marcia at mherring@NASBonline.org or Josh at jwall@NASBonline.org. The updated service offers a manual authored by Perry Law Firm, integration into SPARQ Online Publishing, and so much more.

QUORUMS ... Periodically, questions arise when a quorum of a school board attends an NASB workshop, convention, or other educational event. **Is that allowed under the Nebraska Open Meetings Act?** Yes. Nebraska Statute § 84-1410 specifically exempts travel to and attendance at workshops, conferences, and similar events from the definition of a meeting, even when a quorum of the board is present. The important limitation is that board members should not use the occasion to discuss or take action on business that is specifically related to their own school district. Attend, learn, network, and enjoy the opportunity - but save your district's business for a properly noticed board meeting!

TECHNOLOGY ... Negotiations season is here! If you are a new superintendent or someone who needs a refresher, please don't hesitate to reach out to Darion to schedule a training.

TRAINING, NETWORKING, ENGAGEMENT & EVENTS



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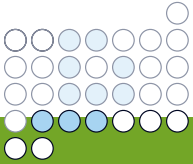
<https://members.nasbonline.org/events>



JOIN US *For the*

To register for an NASB event, click on the 'My Membership' link, then navigate to the 'Events' dropdown and select 'Register'. If you do not have an email and password to log in or have forgotten it, please contact NASB at 402-423-4951 for assistance.

SMTWTF S



**AUGUST
2026**

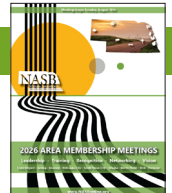
AUGUST

Area Membership Meetings

Cody-Kilgore - Gering - Kearney ✓

Tuesday, August 25 - Nebraska City

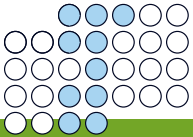
Wednesday, August 26 - South Sioux City



Legislative Candidate Meet & Greets

Monday, August 24 - Legislative Districts 30 & 32 - Beatrice

SMTWTF S



**SEPTEMBER
2026**

SEPTEMBER

Area Membership Meetings

Tuesday, September 1 - Omaha

Wednesday, September 2 - North Platte

Wednesday, September 9 - York

Wednesday, September 23 - Fremont



Legislative Candidate Meet & Greets

Thursday, September 3 - Legislative District 38 - Holdrege

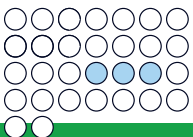
Tuesday, September 8 - State Board of Education District 5 - Milford

Sparq Meetings Webinar - Thursday, September 17 at 11:00 AM CT

Thriving Children, Families, and Communities Conference - Tuesday, September 22 - Kearney

Labor Relations - September 29-30 - Lincoln

SMTWTF S

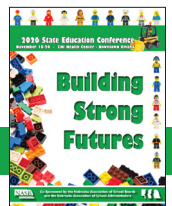


**NOVEMBER
2026**

NOVEMBER

State Education Conference - November 18-20 - Omaha

Registration Opens Wednesday, September 16



NASB *Better for Being There*
Nebraska Association of
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AT THE BOARD TABLE

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ONE NEBRASKA



YOUR NASB BOARD LEADERSHIP UPDATE

<https://members.nasbonline.org/board-leadership>



2026

SEPTEMBER BOARD MEETING AGENDA TEMPLATE

Board Presidents and Superintendents: Please check your inbox for the [sample] **September Board Meeting Agenda** that was emailed to you on Wednesday, August 14, 2026, from shiggins@NASBonline.org. The agendas are aligned with the NASB Annual Board Calendar. If you have any questions or would like the email resent, please contact Stacie at 402-209-1608.

NASB POLICY SERVICE PARTNERS: PERRY LAW FIRM & SPARQ DATA

Interested in learning more about the NASB Policy Manual/authored by Perry Law Firm and Sparq Online Publishing? Reach out to:

Lindsey - lheadrick@NASBonline.org

Marcia - mherring@NASBonline.org

Josh - jwall@NASBonline.org

NASB NEW BOARD MEMBER WORKSHOP SCHEDULE - JOIN US!

2026

Monday, December 7
Monday, December 7
Monday, December 7
Tuesday, December 8
Wednesday, December 9
Wednesday, December 9

Community/Site

Ainsworth - ESU 17
Alliance - Western Community College
Kearney - Holiday Inn
O'Neill - Northeast Community College
Ogallala - Ogallala Library
Beatrice - Beatrice Country Club

Registration Deadline

Tuesday, December 1

2027

Tuesday, January 5
Tuesday, January 5
Wednesday, January 6
Wednesday, January 6

Community/Site

McCook - McCook Community College
Wayne - Wayne State College
Hastings - ESU 9
Bellevue - Courtyard by Marriott Bellevue

Registration Deadline

Wednesday, December 23



Contact your school district office and ask them to register you. Registration for the workshop and lunch:

- NASB Member Registration Fee \$160* / Cancellation Fee (After Registration Deadlines) \$50

For more information, visit <https://members.nasbonline.org/events> or call Marcia Herring, Stacie Higgins, or Stephanie Summers at the NASB Office, 402-423-4951.

For more information about **NASB Board Leadership Services**, including: Board Retreats, Strategic Planning, Community Engagement and Alignment, Online Survey Services/Superintendent Evaluation, Board Self-Assessment, Board Resources, Communication Support Services or Board Governance publications, please contact:

Marcia Herring - Katie Corfield - Stacie Higgins - Ben Anderjaska
Stephanie Summers - Avary Pansing-Brooks - Josh Wall - Galina Slobonyuk

ALICAP RETURNING \$2.6 MILLION TO ITS MEMBERS

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<https://alicap.org/> 

The ALICAP Board of Trustees is proud to announce that it is returning \$2.6 million to member school districts and educational service units (ESUs) for the 2026-2027 school year in the form of a dividend.

ALICAP provides property, liability, errors and omissions, auto, workers' compensation, pollution, and cyber security insurance to school districts and ESUs that choose to join.

ALICAP is formed under Nebraska's Intergovernmental Risk Management Act, which allows Nebraska's public schools to pool their assets together to provide insurance services to its members. This pooling concept has proven to be a success as over \$36 million has been returned to schools and ESUs in the form of a dividend since 1990. This concept of shared risk management has demonstrated cost savings for Nebraska schools, ESUs, and taxpayers.

Returning dividends to the members is a key characteristic that sets ALICAP apart from the typical insurance provider. Each member district/ESU is an owner of the ALICAP pool, and when the pool has a surplus from any given year, those dollars may be returned to the owners, instead of the traditional insurance providers' stockholders.

ALICAP provides coverage to 233 school districts and ESUs in Nebraska and is governed by school board members and administrators representing its participating members. "I'm proud of ALICAP and what we've been able to do for Nebraska's schools," said Megan Boldt, NASB Associate Executive Director and Director of ALICAP. "ALICAP made six promises to its members back in 1990 and we've stayed true to them over the past 36 years."

To learn more, visit www.ALICAP.org, or contact Megan Boldt, at mboldt@NASBonline.org



Welcome new Superintendents for 2026-27

Axtell - Chelsea Feusner
Bancroft-Rosalie - Troy Lurz
Bayard - Zach Nesbitt
Blair - Don Johnson
Blue Hill - Shane Alexander
Conestoga - Rob Geise
Cross County - Josh Warren
Elm Creek - Brandon Marquez
Emerson-Hubbard - Dustin Nielsen
Fairbury - Roger Stumpff
Fullerton - Joel Ruybalid
Gering - Kory Knight

Hampton - Carson Klute
Hastings - John Hauser
Hay Springs - Sadie Coffey
Hayes Center - Kris Freeland
Hitchcock County - Kelly Erickson
Lexington - John Whetzal
Loup City - George Clear
McCook - Jeff Gross
Meridian - Alex Hull
Morrill - Tom Peacock
Newman Grove - Tyler Beranek
Niobrara - Brian Hof
Norfolk - Erik Wilson
North Platte - Virginia Moon

Paxton - Stacy McAbee
Perkins County - Ben Jones
Potter-Dix - Blake Dahlberg
Red Cloud - Randy Gilson
Sandy Creek - Rod Foley
Scribner Snyder - Malia Nemecek
Shelby-Rising City - Dana Wiseman
Southern (Wymore) - Mark Jolliffe
Superior - Randy Kort
Thedford - Jeff Anderson
Verdigre - Matt Farup
Wakefield - Ted DeTurk
Winside - April Knust

MILES, MEETINGS, AND OUR MEMBERS ... JOIN US!

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<https://members.nasbonline.org/events/area-membership-meetings>



2026 AREA MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

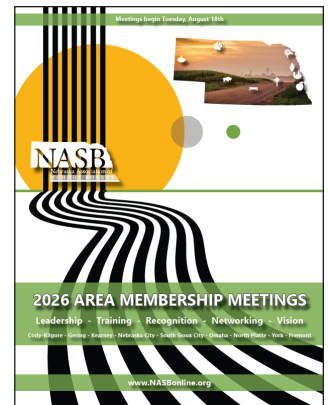
Leadership - Training - Recognition - Networking - Vision

Cody-Kilgore - Gering - Kearney - Nebraska City - South Sioux City - Omaha - North Platte - York - Fremont

Week one is in the books with incredible stops in Cody-Kilgore, Gering, and Kearney to kick off the 2026 Area Membership Meetings.

This year's agenda includes a general welcome from members of the NASB Board of Directors, an update on all things NASB from John Spatz, followed by a Legislative Update from Colby. Two rounds of breakout sessions follow, with dinner and recognition after that! Congrats to all those boards and board members being honored this year on either an individual or full board level.

We jump back on the road this week as we head to Nebraska City on Tuesday, and South Sioux City on Wednesday. We then continue on into September with stops in Omaha, North Platte, York and Fremont! Register now if you have not already done so, or feel free to join us on-site if online registration has already closed for your desired location. We will always make room for more members to join us at these learning and networking events!



CODY-KILGORE



2026 LABOR RELATIONS - SEPTEMBER 29-30

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<https://members.nasbonline.org/events> 

2026 Labor Relations - September 29-30 - Embassy Suites – Lincoln

Tuesday, September 29 - Preconference & Social

The ABCs of Negotiations with The Perry Law Firm

Wednesday, September 30 - Keynote & Concurrent Sessions

Choosing to Care: How Curiosity Creates Community in the Workplace with James Robilotta

Concurrent Session Topics Include: Wages and Payment Collection; Negotiations and Arrays; Communication in Labor Relations; School Retirement Plan; EHA Health Care Member Support; HR Hot Topics; Legal Updates; Workers Comp; FLSA; Federal Labor Case Law; Superintendent Role in Board Relations; And more!

For more information and to register go to <https://members.nasbonline.org/events/labor-relations-conference>

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BUILDING STRONG FUTURES: STATE CONFERENCE UPDATE

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<https://members.nasbonline.org/events/state-education-conference> 

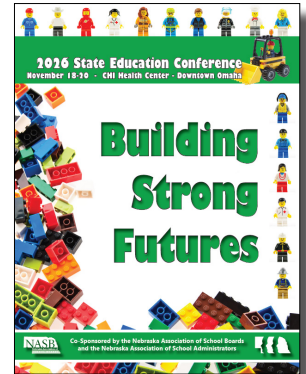
We look forward to seeing you at the 2026 State Education Conference
November 18-20, at the CHI Health Conference Center in Omaha

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW!

- Registration opens on Wednesday, September 16
- Hotel room requests open at 10:00 AM CT on Wednesday, September 30
- New this year ... SUPER SESSIONS on Thursday and Fri-YAY!
- A Legal Showcase Pre-Conference: Wednesday, November 18 from 1:00 to 4:00 PM.
- New Exhibitor days, with the Exhibitor Reception on Thursday this year!

Registration for the State Education Conference is a process consisting of two steps. First, you will register for the Conference; second, you will submit your request for a room at the Conference hotels.

Conference registration will open Wednesday, September 16. Once your Conference registration is complete, you will receive an email with your NASB Registration code and a Conference Hotel Room Request link. The room request process will open on Wednesday, September 30. If you would like to request a room at the Hilton hotel, you must register for the Conference and complete the room request before October 28, or until full. If you would like to request a room at the Marriott hotel, you must register for the Conference and complete the room request before October 27, or until full. You will receive an email with specific registration instructions right before registration opens. Call NASB at 402-423-4951 or email sendorf@NASBonline.org with questions.



We look forward to seeing you in November!

Keep Your School Out of the News

Even the best IT teams can't prepare for every cyber threat alone.

A midwest nonprofit providing at-cost security services for Nebraska schools:

- Compliance Assessments
- Incident Response Plans
- Policy Development
- Fractional Information Security Officer
- Penetration Testing
- Tabletops and Exercises


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LEGISLATIVE CANDIDATE RESOURCES PRIOR TO NOVEMBER

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<https://members.nasbonline.org/government-relations/candidate-questionnaires-videos>



VISIT OUR 2026 legislative candidate page



Check out

CANDIDATE THOUGHTS ON:

- LOCAL CONTROL
- SCHOOL FUNDING
- THE ROLE OF EDUCATION IN NEBRASKA
- EDUCATIONAL WORKFORCE
- MANDATES

AND

CANDIDATE MEET & GREET DATES AND LOCATIONS



WWW.NASBONLINE.ORG

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER OF THE YEAR NOMINATIONS DUE

NASB and the State Board of Education are now seeking nominations for the annual Ann Mactier Award, recognizing one local school board member for their policy leadership and contributions to curriculum and instruction in Nebraska public schools. Please consider nominating a deserving board member for this honor. Application deadline for deserving candidates is September 18, 2026. For further details and application guidelines visit the link below or contact Marcia Herring at 402-423-4951.



<https://members.nasbonline.org/board-leadership/ann-mactier-school-board-member-of-the-year-award>

PREVIOUS WINNERS INCLUDE:

2025 - Jim Vlach - Lyons Decatur Northeast

2024 - Brad Wilkins - Ainsworth

2023 - Allison Welch - Conestoga

2022 - Marcia Mahon - South Sioux City

2021 - Steve Koch - Hershey

2020 - Marian Holstein - Winnebago

2019 - Valerie Fisher - Papillion La Vista

2018 - Kathy Danek - Lincoln

2017 - Bonnie Hinkle - Grand Island

2016 - Terri Haynes - Chadron

2015 - Linda Richards - Ralston

2014 - Brad Krivohlavek - Norfolk

2013 - Patty Bentzinger - Norris

2012 - Kathy Bartek - Falls City

2011 - Julie Agard - Kearney

2010 - Kim Fasse - Elkhorn

2009 - Ron Pearson - ESU #3

2008 - Sandra Jensen - Omaha

2007 - John Hansen - Bellevue

2006 - Fred Tafoya - Papillion La Vista

2005 - Wayne Erickson - Wisner-Pilger

2004 - Ann Mactier - Omaha

THRIVING CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES

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<https://thrivingchildrenconference.vfairs.com/>



I'M PRESENTING

AT THE THRIVING
CHILDREN, FAMILIES,
AND COMMUNITIES
CONFERENCE

September 22
Kearney, NE
Free to attend!



THRIVINGCHILDRENCONFERENCE.ORG

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EARLY CHILDHOOD
PROFESSIONALS,
SCHOOL DISTRICTS,
HIGHER EDUCATION,
ECONOMIC
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BUSINESS & INDUSTRY
PARTNERS,
POLICYMAKERS,
STATE AGENCIES,
ADVOCATES

THRIVING
CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES CONFERENCE

thrivingchildrenconference.org

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CONFERENCE

September 22
Kearney, NE
Free to attend!



THRIVINGCHILDRENCONFERENCE.ORG

HEALTHY FOODS/RURAL HEALTH GRANT OPPORTUNITY

At the end of last week, NASB was informed of the funding opportunity for schools through the Nebraska Rural Health Transformation Program. As part of DHHS's/ Nebraska Rural Health Transformation Program (RHTP) it was announced they would **"provide grants totaling \$2,234,048.00 (with a maximum award of \$100,000.00 per school or school district per year) to rural or frontier schools to transition their food preparation and storage infrastructure to support the integration of more scratch-cooking and increased use of whole foods."** The deadline is fast approaching, and we recommend reaching out to the contact listed on the DHHS document linked below to learn more about this opportunity for rural schools.

Applications Due: August 31, 2026

Learn more now at <https://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/Grant-Opportunities.aspx>



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or anyone who wants a refresher.



LIVE
WEBINAR



THURSDAY
SEPTEMBER 17, 2026



11:00 AM
CST



OPEN TO ALL
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WHAT YOU'LL LEARN:



How to create
a meeting



How to add
and edit items



Using Meeting Statuses
to Publish Agendas



Adding Agenda Items
from a Committee



Understanding
templates



How to manage
attachments



Organizing and
reordering agenda items



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Building a Better Future with Nebraska's Public Finance Partner

D.A. Davidson & Co. has long been a leader in innovative debt financing for school districts. What we're most proud of are the relationships we've nourished and the strong community improvements that are made as a result.

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- Tax Anticipation / Construction Notes
- Lease-Purchase Financing
- QCPUF Bonds
- Refinancing Bond Issues



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<https://members.nasbonline.org/about-us/affiliate-members>



2026 Platinum Level Affiliates - American Fidelity - American Playground and Recreation - BCDM Architects - Boyd Jones Construction - BVH Architecture - Clark & Enersen - CMBA - Cannon Moss Brygger Architects - D.A. Davidson & Co. - Diamond Communications - Enviser Facility Advocates - Hamilton Business Technologies - Hausmann - Helm Service - Nebraska Liquid Asset Fund - Northland Securities - Piper Sandler & Co. - Public Risk Management - Revolution Wraps - Sampson Construction - Sparq Data Solutions - Third Rail Content - Wilkins Architecture Design Planning

2026 Gold Level Affiliates - BD Construction, Inc./Kearney - Blue Cross Blue Shield of Nebraska - Carlson West Povondra Architects - Chief Construction - Cornhusker International - Darland - DLR Group - JEO Consulting Group, Inc. - Johnson Controls - Lunchtime Solutions - MCL Construction - Navitas - One Source | A Verified Credentials Company - Outdoor Recreation Products

2026 Silver Level Affiliates - Creative Sites, LLC - UNO Innovative Learning-Centric Initiatives

2026 Bronze Level Affiliates - Ameritas Investment Company, LLC - Community Building Solutions - Cunningham Recreation - Fisher Tracks, Inc. - James D. Watts & Associates, PC - Mueller Robak Schaefer Hruza & Hassebrook - National Insurance Services - Nebraska Safety Center - Opaa! Food Management of Nebraska - Trane U.S. Inc. - Twotrees Technologies, LLC

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YOUR 2026 PLATINUM AFFILIATES

If your business would like to become an Affiliate Member of NASB, please visit:
<https://members.nasbonline.org/about-us/affiliate-members>



ALICAP

AMERICAN FIDELITY
a different opinion

**AMERICAN
PLAYGROUND
& RECREATION**

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architects

Boyd Jones

BVH
ARCHITECTURE

**CLARK &
ENERSEN**

CMBA
ARCHITECTS

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MANAGEMENT
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REVOLUTION
WRAPS

Sampson
Construction

SPARQ DATA
SOLUTIONS

**THIRD RAIL
CONTENT**

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construction

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Outdoor Recreation Products

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View the full, detailed listings with contact info at:
<https://members.nasbonline.org/about-us/affiliate-members>



ACCOUNTING

James D. Watts & Associates, PC

ARCHITECTS

BCDM Architects
PLATINUM LEVEL AFFILIATE



BVH Architecture
PLATINUM LEVEL AFFILIATE



Carlson West Povondra Architects
GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

Clark & Enersen
PLATINUM LEVEL AFFILIATE



CMBA Architects
PLATINUM LEVEL AFFILIATE



DLR Group
GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

JEO Consulting Group, Inc.
GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

Wilkins Architecture Design Planning
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