



WELCOME NEW SUPERINTENDENTS FOR 2021-22

Amherst – Matt Gordon
Arapahoe – Brian Gegg
Centennial – Seth Ford
Cozad – Angela Simpson
Creighton – Josh Weber
Doniphan Trumbull – Jeremy Braden
Dundy County Stratton – Jackie Anderson
ESU 13 – Laura Barrett
Emerson Hubbard – Mike Pattee
Eustis-Farnam – Nick Hodge
Franklin – Chris Lecher
Friend – Derek Anderson
Gering – Nikki Regan
High Plains – Kim Berans
HTRS – George Griffith
Isanti – Todd Chessmore
Keya Paha – Jamie Isom
Leigh – Cole Fischer
Loup City – Dean Tickle
Lyons-Decatur – Lindsey Beaudette
McCool Junction – Dade McDonald
Minatare – Rocky Robbins
Oakland-Craig – Jessica Bland
Ogallala – Gene Russel
Pleasanton – Nathan Lightle
Ponca – Brendan Calahan
Ravenna – Brad Kjar
Raymond Central – Lynn Johnson
Scottsbluff – Andrew Dick
Shelby-Rising City – Tucker Tejkl
Shickley – Rex Pfeil
Springfield-Platteview – Ryan Saunders
Stapleton – Brian Redinger
Summerland – Kyle Finke
Sutherland – Steve Bristol
Syracuse-Dunbar-Avoca – Dave Kraus
Wakefield – Matt Farup
Wallace – Joel Ferguson
Wynot – Paul Hans

ALICAP RETURNING \$2.75 MILLION TO ITS MEMBERS

The ALICAP Board of Trustees is proud to announce that it is returning \$2.75 million back to member school districts and educational service units (ESUs) for the 2021-22 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 participating members to pool its assets together to provide insurance services to its members. This pooling concept has proven to be a success as over \$25 million has been returned back 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 provider's stockholders.

ALICAP provides coverage to 176 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, or pillars, to its members back in 1990 and we've stayed true to them over the past 31 years."

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



UPCOMING NETWORKING & EVENTS

AREA MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS - AUGUST THROUGH OCTOBER (SEE PAGE 3)

NASB LEGISLATIVE LUNCH - SEPTEMBER 1 IN NIOBRARA

FACILITIES & CONSTRUCTION WORKSHOP - SEPTEMBER 9 IN KEARNEY

Join NASB, as we travel the state for various workshops, meetings and events throughout the year.

To learn more, and register, visit the Events tab of www.NASBonline.org

<http://members.nasbonline.org/index.php/events>

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 800-422-4572 for assistance.



<http://members.nasbonline.org/index.php/news-resources/videos>



AUGUST

NEXT
WEEK!

AREA MEMBERSHIP MEETING - AUGUST 24 - GERING

AREA MEMBERSHIP MEETING - AUGUST 25 - NORTH PLATTE

NEXT
WEEK!

AREA MEMBERSHIP MEETING - AUGUST 31 - VALENTINE

SEPTEMBER

NASB LEGISLATIVE LUNCH - SEPTEMBER 1 - NIOBRARA W/ SEN. TIM GRAGERT

AREA MEMBERSHIP MEETING - SEPTEMBER 1 - NORFOLK

AREA MEMBERSHIP MEETING - SEPTEMBER 8 - KEARNEY

FACILITIES & CONSTRUCTION WORKSHOP - SEPTEMBER 9 - KEARNEY

AREA MEMBERSHIP MEETING - SEPTEMBER 15 - YORK

2021 THRIVING CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES CONFERENCE - SEPTEMBER 27 - VIRTUAL

AREA MEMBERSHIP MEETING - SEPTEMBER 29 - FREMONT

OCTOBER

AREA MEMBERSHIP MEETING - OCTOBER 5 - LA VISTA

AREA MEMBERSHIP MEETING - OCTOBER 6 - NEBRASKA CITY

LABOR RELATIONS CONFERENCE - OCTOBER 12-13 - LINCOLN

5TH ANNUAL SPARQ TAILGATE - OCTOBER 30 - EMBASSY SUITES - LINCOLN

NOVEMBER

2021 STATE EDUCATION CONFERENCE - NOVEMBER 17-19 - DOWNTOWN OMAHA

2021 AREA MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS: ON THE ROAD AGAIN!



LEADERSHIP

INNOVATION

VISION

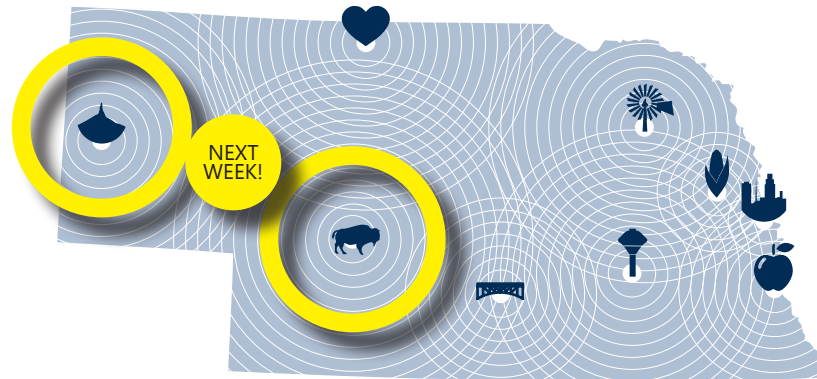
ENGAGEMENT

#liveNASB

#weLIVEhere

Training | Recognition | Networking | Together

Gering - North Platte - Valentine - Norfolk - Kearney - York - Fremont - La Vista - Nebraska City



VISION & TRAINING SESSIONS

5:00 PM - A REINTRODUCTION TO NASB: WHAT IT DOES. WHAT IT CAN DO FOR YOU.

From the people to the programs, services and advocacy efforts at the Capitol, NASB offers all Nebraska school districts and ESUs the resources and expertise to strengthen public education for all Nebraskans, and empower you as locally elected school board members to be community leaders.

6:00 PM - TRAINING SESSIONS 1

A REFRESHER ON THE OPEN MEETINGS LAW AND ISSUES THAT KEEP COMING UP

SCHOOL EMPLOYEE SHORTAGE

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT + DISTRICT IDENTIFIED NEEDS = LONG-TERM GOALS

6:45 PM - TRAINING SESSIONS 2

THE GOOD & THE BAD OF THE 2021 LEGISLATIVE SESSION: WHAT PASSED, WHAT DIDN'T, WHAT'S TO COME

THE MOST IMPORTANT JOB - SUPERINTENDENT EVALUATION

CRITICAL RISKS, DIGITAL BOUNDARIES

REGISTER NOW FOR THE MEETING NEAREST YOU

NEXT WEEK!

Tuesday, August 24 - Gering

Wednesday, August 25 - North Platte

Tuesday, August 31 - Valentine

Wednesday, September 1 - Norfolk

Wednesday, September 8 - Kearney

Wednesday, September 15 - York

Wednesday, September 29 - Fremont

Tuesday, October 5 - La Vista

Wednesday, October 6 - Nebraska City

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 25, 2021. For further details you may visit the Board Leadership section of www.NASBonline.org or contact Marcia Herring at 800-422-4572. Previous winners include:



2021 | _____
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



3 Reasons You Should Be Continuously Monitoring

- ✓ Verifies New Criminal Activity Post-Hire
- ✓ Helps Reduce Workplace Concerns
- ✓ Streamlines & Simplifies Processes



We make sure your standards are continuously met, so you don't have to.

Connect today to learn more!

Neal Josten | 402.933.9999 ext. 5600
njosten@onesourcebackground.com
onesourcebackground.com

Trusted by Nebraska Schools Since 2004

NASB PARTNERS WITH AMERICAN FIDELITY FOR EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

AMERICAN FIDELITY
SCHOOL BOARDS

LEADERSHIP

INNOVATION

VISION

ENGAGEMENT

#liveNASB

#weLIVEhere



NASB has partnered with American Fidelity to bring members an enhanced employee benefits package. We believe this partnership can elevate the current services we provide and that their industry experience can have a significant impact on your budget.

"We are happy to introduce American Fidelity as our partnered provider for Section 125 Administration, Flexible Spending Accounts, and Health Savings Accounts," said Sallie Horky, NASB's Chief Operating Officer. "Our decision came down to American Fidelity's ability to offer these services at no cost to our members, and their outstanding service to over 4,000 schools nationwide."

WATCH HOW AMERICAN FIDELITY HELPS WITH SECTION 125 COMPLIANCE:

https://americanfidelity.com/support/videos/year-round-admin/?utm_source=nasb&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=nasb-2021&utm_content=video

American Fidelity offers a streamlined solution to enhance your program.

- Section 125 Compliance
- FSA and HSA Administration
- Year-Round Benefits Education
- Online Benefits Enrollment Software
- Employee Supplemental Insurance Benefits

To learn more, contact your dedicated representative.

Ryan Wedel | Nebraska State Manager | ryan.wedel@americanfidelity.com | 785-783-0375 | americanfidelity.com/nebraska

HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW YOUR BOARD'S POLICIES?

Your Board Policy Manual holds the collective decisions of your School Board, providing expectations and direction to your district when the Board is not in session. It serves as the continuing plan by which you govern your district and move it toward the goals and vision you and your staff have created together.

Updating and reorganizing your board policy manual while keeping previous decisions of the board in place is a time intensive process. Each district has a different history and, over the years, has made numerous important local board decisions differently than its neighboring districts. NASB provides the only Policy Update and Customization Service that keeps those previous decisions in place rather than throwing out your policy manual to replace it with a generic one.



Unfortunately, your policy manual may have obsolete, inaccurate, or unnecessary information that misleads or confuses your board members and staff. Worse yet, it may be missing important policy revisions that have occurred over the past several years and are critically important in setting expectations for the governance of your district or the direction of board discussions.

There are also basic protections that must be in place for your students, their parents, and your employees which may be reviewed prior to receiving important grants, funds, or certifications. Many of the most recently revised policies are quite lengthy and detailed due to the Every Student Succeeds Act and may be audited by state or federal agencies.

The goal of the NASB Policy Customization Service is to create a completed, customized policy manual with legal referencing and indexing that reflects in writing the operation of your own district. It should serve as a starting point on many of the important questions that come before the board over the course of the year.

This is a great time to consider beginning a board manual customization to give your board and administrators a much more accurate, complete, and user-friendly board policy manual for the future.



BOARD MEETINGS – A MEETING HELD IN PUBLIC, NOT A PUBLIC MEETING

A body may not be required to allow citizens to speak at each meeting, but it may not prohibit public participation at all meetings. The public has the right to observe the meeting and hear all comments made by board members as business is conducted by the board. School board meetings are a meeting held in public; however, the meetings are not public meetings. The board must periodically allow for the public to express their views. Typically, boards allow a public comment period monthly. The board may, from time to time, omit public comment from the agenda. Public comment is rarely allowed during a special meeting or board retreat.

It is important for the board president to remain firmly in charge of the meeting. It is entirely appropriate, per board policy, to manage public comment accordingly. The policy may include a defined number of minutes each individual may have to address the board, and the total number of minutes that public comment will be allowed. The board president must be careful to ensure any rules, such as time limits, are applied uniformly to all members of the public. Boards should not act upon a citizen's concerns at the board meeting unless the issue is already part of the official agenda. The common practice is to refer the item to the administration for review and reference the importance of the patron following policy describing the chain of command as a resource for addressing the concern in an appropriate manner. If the patron has exhausted the chain of command, the

concern should be brought before the board through the complaint or grievance process outlined in board policy.

The Association recommends an opening statement be read by the board president to ensure the patrons who wish to address the board are aware the board will not engage or respond to questions, during public comment.

Example Public Comment Statement: This is the only time during this meeting when the public may speak. Any person wishing to make public comment must abide by and adhere to applicable board policies, including, but not limited to the following:

- Each person wishing to speak must sign in on the sign-in sheet (location of the document)
- Each person who comes forward to speak should state your name and the topic you are addressing before you begin.
- A time limit (per board policy No. xxxx) of X minutes is allotted for each speaker.
- There is a total time limit of X minutes allotted for all speakers.
- The board will not respond to comments or questions.
- The board will not act on any comments but will direct the comments to appropriate staff members.
- Offensive language and hostile or disorderly conduct will not be tolerated. In the event the board president determines any statement or comment constitutes offensive language or hostile or disorderly conduct, the board president will declare the person out of order and the person will be prohibited from speaking further.

- In the event that any person is unruly, abusive, or otherwise disrupts the meeting or the board's conduct of business, such person may be asked to leave the meeting or be removed.

Board Vacancy

From time to time, the board will have a vacant position during the midst of a term. A vacancy may be due to resignation, the board member is no longer a resident of the district/ward, candidate who received the highest number of votes is ineligible, disqualified, deceased, or for any other reason unable to assume the office for which he or she was a candidate, the elected official decides not to continue to serve, or the board member is convicted of a felony or a public offense involving the violation of the oath of office.

In the event the board must fill a vacancy, the Association recommends the board reference board policy for guidance pertaining to filling the vacancy. In the absence of policy, the Association will provide a free board leadership resource that includes a press release, application for interested patrons, sample interview questions, and an assessment resource to support the selection of the individual who will be appointed to the board. Please contact NASB at 800-422-4572 and ask for the Board Leadership department.

AT THE BOARD TABLE

LEADERSHIP

INNOVATION

VISION

ENGAGEMENT

#liveNASB

#weLIVEhere

BOARD CALENDAR AGENDA ITEMS FOR YOUR SEPTEMBER MEETINGS

View the full, detailed calendar at: <http://members.nasbonline.org/index.php/resources>

MISSION, VISION & GOALS

Strategic Plan Update; District Goals Update;

POLICY GOVERNANCE

Review Annual District Report; Review, update, and adopt policy;

ACCOUNTABILITY & STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Review Summer School Programs; Review ACT Results; Review Certified Staff Professional Development Calendar and Budget; Review School Improvement Plan; District Membership Report on or before October 15; Pending in Legislature - Distance Education Incentives Denial Appeal due October 1

DISTRICT/ESU RESOURCES [BUDGET]

Negotiations contract dispute decision (year of contract, if needed) due September 15; Collective Bargaining Timeline on or before September 1 of the year preceding the contract year in question; Collective Bargaining Mediation Decision on or before September 15; Elementary site allowance calculation on or before October 15; Tax Request Hearing for Fund Levies on or before October 13; ESU Audit on or before January 31

REPORTS

Board Committees; Superintendent; Administrators; Annual Emergency Safety Plan – Annual Adoption

LEARNING COMMUNITY

Learning Community Coordinating Council Only - The learning community levies and total assessed valuation due October 15

[HTTPS://SITES.ED.GOV/ROADMAP/](https://sites.ed.gov/roadmap/)



U.S. Department of Education



**RETURN TO SCHOOL
ROADMAP**



Prior to her election to the State Board of Education in November 2020, Patti Gubbels served on the Norfolk Board of Education, and was a member of the NASB Board of Directors, and the NASB Legislation Committee since 2016. We reached out to Patti to see if she, and her peers on the State Board of Education would like to give you all updates and answer any questions you may have.

"... REMEMBER, SCHOOLS ARE A MICROCOSM OF SOCIETY."

One of my favorite college professor's mantra was "remember, schools are a microcosm of society." I have been reminded of that expression frequently over the past six months as I have observed that the tumultuous and tense times being experienced in our society are now being directed not only at the Nebraska State Board of Education level but also the school district level.



During difficult times when it is easy to become distracted and to lose focus, I find solace by engaging in self reflection. I would like to share three of the questions I posed to myself and the answers I generated that have helped me maintain some important perspectives during these challenging times. I hope they will be helpful to you as well.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF EDUCATION? In other words, why do public schools exist? My personal philosophy of education is that schools exist to provide students with the skills and knowledge they need in order to be successful, productive adults and citizens. That notion certainly includes academic preparation, but it also includes educating the whole child by providing a caring environment where students are understood as physical, social and emotional individuals.

The Nebraska Department of Education's philosophy is revealed through its vision statement "To lead and support the preparation of all Nebraskans for earning, learning, and living". Early 20th century English author and philosopher Gilbert K. Chesterton stated, "Education is simply the soul of a society as it passes from one generation to another".

My personal philosophy of education, the NDE vision, and Chesterton's quote remind me of why school board work is so important. I hope when you think of your school district's mission or vision statement, you are reminded of how significant your role is as a local school board member.

HOW MUCH AND WHICH RESPONSIBILITIES CAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS TAKE ON TO EDUCATE AND HELP RAISE NEBRASKA'S CHILDREN? I posed that question because over the years schools have taken on responsibilities that once were reserved for families. Humorist Erma Bombeck, in a column from many years ago, lamented that schools even have fluoride rinse programs to protect children's teeth.

The lines between parental/familial and school responsibilities have become blurred. As schools have taken on more responsibilities, school structure and funding have not been reimagined in a way that schools alone can do and be everything to everyone. Schools have found innovative ways, through partnerships with parents, communities, businesses, and other groups, to provide necessary supports and services for students and their families. Educating children is a shared responsibility that relies on positive partnerships and educational allies.

IF PHILOSOPHIES OR MISSIONS/VISION STATEMENTS SPEAK TO EDUCATING ALL CHILDREN, WHAT DOES THAT MEAN IN TERMS OF EQUITY? My definition of equity is "providing equal access and opportunity and providing appropriate resources so all students can succeed." But, opportunity is not the same as outcome and success is not a given. Learners must grasp opportunities and recognize that their actions influence outcomes. School missions/vision statements imply an attitude of equity as they focus on all of the students in their districts.

As you face the difficulties of managing another school year impacted by divisiveness and the pandemic, rely on your vision/mission to guide you as you make important decisions, relish the support you have from partners who help you provide access and opportunities for all of your students, and remember that the focus of education is your students and their learning.

Best wishes as you begin the 2021-2022 school year!

Patti Gubbels

Nebraska State Board of Education - District 3

Disclaimer: The opinions from Dr. Patti S. Gubbels are hers and do not represent the Nebraska State Board of Education.

SPARQ SOCIAL ... JOIN US!



LEADERSHIP

INNOVATION

VISION

ENGAGEMENT

#liveNASB

#weLIVEhere

5TH ANNUAL TAILGATE PARTY

NEBRASKA VS PURDUE

NEW CLOSER INDOOR LOCATION!

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2021

Embassy Suites 1040 P Street
Regents Ballroom

FOOD | DRINKS | PRIZES!

RSVP to Nicole Kobus | nkobus@sparqdata.com | 402-817-0229



PLEASE JOIN US FOR AN

OPEN HOUSE

THE OLD MATTRESS
FACTORY BAR & GRILL

501 North 13th St.
Omaha, NE 68102

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16 | 7-11PM

GIFT CARD GIVEAWAYS EVERY HOUR

APPETIZERS & DRINKS

ALL SPONSORED BY SPARQ

RSVP to Nicole at nkobus@nasbonline.org

... DATA ANALYTICS

As the new school year begins, your district may be implementing new programs and curriculum. Data Analytics can help you monitor and evaluate the effect of those changes in your educational system to provide a basis to determine their worth or to improve your efforts going forward.

Contact Jim to learn more!

... MEMBER ENGAGEMENT

Registration is now open for all nine Area Membership Meetings, and the Facilities & Construction Workshop! Save the Date for 2021 State Education Conference ... November 17-19 at CHI Center in downtown Omaha.

Sharon

... SEARCH, STRENGTHS & AWARDS

EDUCATION LEADERSHIP SEARCH SERVICE

Is your district or ESU in need of a new Superintendent/Administrator due to retirement or resignation? Email sbecker@NASBonline.org with any questions you have about best practice, or for a proposal.

GALLUP STRENGTHSFINDER

People with *Ideation* think outside the box and bring a new and fresh perspective. Contact Shari for a Code to complete the individual assessment and access your Gallup Top 5 or to schedule a Gallup leadership team session.

AWARDS OF ACHIEVEMENT

Board members who earned new levels of success in the 2020 – 2021 points year will be recognized at Area Membership Meetings starting next week. Register for AMM on the NASB website now!

- Shari -

... POLICY

In a recent Pennsylvania school district case, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that school officials lacked the authority to discipline a student for a vulgar social media post made after not making the varsity cheerleading squad. This is the sort of major court decision that shapes policies relating to free speech issues and how they affect student discipline and disruptions of the learning environment.

This case will need to be considered by administrators in the future when students post attention-getting comments on their own time away from school.

Contact Jim to learn more!



Paul Grieger
(800) 528-5145
pgrieger@dadco.com



Cody Wickham
(866) 809-5596
cwickham@dadco.com



Andy Forney
(866) 809-5443
aforney@dadco.com

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.

Our public finance professionals take a personal interest and a hands-on approach, carrying our deals from start to finish. Because you deserve solutions tailored to fit you.

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



D | A | DAVIDSON

450 Regency Parkway, Suite 400 | Omaha, NE 68114
dadavidson.com | D.A. Davidson & Co. member FINRA and SIPC

... ENERGY PURCHASING

Following last winter's extreme weather during the February polar vortex, many direct purchasers of utility natural gas will see added surcharges to their gas bills for the next several years. Our gas consortium members have avoided those surcharges by the timely purchase of supplies in advance, preventing a negative impact on your future budgets.

Contact Jim to learn more!

... BOARD LEADERSHIP

Check out "At the Board Table" on pages 6-7.

Marcia, Tori, Kari, Katie & Melissa

LEADERSHIP

INNOVATION

VISION

ENGAGEMENT

#liveNASB

#weLIVEhere

... ADVOCACY & GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

Our next Legislative Lunch ...
September 1st in Niobrara!

The Legislature has begun its work on studying school finance through LR 141. Senators will be travelling the State engaging School Board members, Administrators and community members about school finance. NASB has been engaging members in those districts to be visited. Share your story, know your data, and understand the data that will make a difference!

Call Colby & Matt with any questions!

... ALICAP & INSURANCE

Check out the article on Page 1!

We look forward to seeing you all as we hit the road for the Area Membership Meetings here next week. Come check out our specific breakout on Critical Risks & Digital Boundaries!

And as always, one of my favorite parts of Area Meetings ... PRIZES!!!

Thanks, Megan!

... TECHNOLOGY

Join us for the 5th Annual Sparq Tailgate at the Embassy Suites, Lincoln, on Saturday, October 30 as Nebraska faces Purdue. RSVP now to nkobus@sparqdata.com

Welcome New Sparq Subscribers
Callaway Public Schools
Arapahoe-Holbrook Public Schools
Aurora Public Schools
Syracuse-Dunbar-Avoca Public Schools

Darion - dmiller@NASBonline.org
Nicole - nkobus@NASBonline.org
www.sparqdata.com



**NASB
FACILITIES & CONSTRUCTION
WORKSHOP**

KEARNEY

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2021 | HOLIDAY INN - KEARNEY

9:00 TO 9:45 AM - OPENING SESSION

GETTING IT RIGHT FROM DAY 1

9:45 TO 10:00 AM - VENDOR BREAK

10:00 TO 10:45 AM - A SESSIONS

**WHAT YOUR INSURANCE COMPANY WANTS YOU TO KNOW
FOUR WALLS, A ROOF AND DON'T FORGET YOUR TECHNOLOGY NEEDS!**

BUILDING PROJECTS USING ESSERS FUNDS

10:45 TO 11:15 AM - VENDOR BREAK

11:15 AM TO 12:00 PM - B SESSIONS

FACILITIES PLANNING

A DISCUSSION WITH BUILDERS

FROM FACILITY COMMITTEE TO FINANCING YOUR PROJECT

12:00 TO 12:45 PM - LUNCH

12:45 TO 1:30 PM - C SESSIONS

A DISCUSSION WITH ARCHITECTS

TRENDS IN CONSTRUCTION & SUPPLY CHAIN ISSUES

ESSER FUNDING GUIDANCE

1:30 TO 1:45 PM - VENDOR BREAK

1:45 TO 2:30 PM - D SESSIONS

**EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW FROM THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL
UNDERSTANDING THE BUILDING FUNDS AND HOW TO FINANCE FACILITIES
COMMUNICATION ABOUT CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS**

2:30 TO 3:15 PM - CLOSING SESSION

THE INS AND OUT OF CONTRACTS FOR BUILDING PROJECTS

Board Notes is published on a monthly basis as a member service. Advertising is available in every issue. To advertise or become an Affiliate, please contact Matt Belka for further information. Articles or advertising contained herein do not necessarily represent the views or policies of NASB.

Nebraska Association of School Boards | 1311 Stockwell Street - Lincoln, NE 68502 | Matt Belka, Editor | John Spatz, Publisher

HOW NEBRASKA SCHOOLS CAN OVERCOME BUDGET SHORTFALLS IN 2021

Nebraska Association of
SCHOOL BOARDS

LEADERSHIP

INNOVATION

VISION

ENGAGEMENT

#liveNASB

#weLIVEhere

Every budget season presents a challenge for district leaders, but this upcoming 2021-2022 school year might be tougher than most. Over the past year and a half, schools across the country were forced to rapidly respond to the unforeseen challenges and shifting priorities created by the COVID-19 pandemic. For many, this also upended carefully laid financial plans and already stretched budgets. Federal funding became available but may not cover the gaps that are widening with every passing day.

After speaking with school leaders nationwide, we found many were facing a similar – and growing – set of financial challenges:

Existing Challenges

- Aging facilities and equipment leads to a pile-up of deferred maintenance
- Desire to modernize and invest in best in class learning
- Need to reduce risk, create secure budgets, and streamline operations

New Challenges

- Sharp decline in public school enrollment, potentially impacting funding
- Rising costs of creating healthy indoor environments
- State and local municipalities are facing shortfalls of their own and unable to fill the gap

Overlaid with these pressures is the ever-present need to modernize schools and/or tackle deferred maintenance. Understandably, many short- and long-term projects to improve facilities and infrastructure were put on hold. The conversation about the new STEM lab became how to improve air quality; the plan for upgraded athletic facilities into upgraded technology for remote learning.

Before eliminating plans for much-needed critical infrastructure improvements, explore alternative funding opportunities. There is a pathway to addressing both old and new challenges while creating stability in the budget.

To maximize short-term funding opportunities while creating long-term stability in their budget, districts may use this modernization mandate in combination with an Energy Savings Performance Contract (ESPC) to accomplish more.

Are you ready to take advantage of funding opportunities?

Federal stimulus resources for K-12 schools can be used in a variety of ways, including to address critical infrastructure and aging facilities. This checklist will help district leaders determine what steps to take to ensure your district can get funding fast.

Create Partnerships Early

Finding experienced partners to support your district with the planning, design and implementation of expenditures will fast track approval. It also affords administrators with the opportunity to be strategic and intentional about how the program is financed, implemented, and maintained in the short- and long-term.

Prioritize Projects Based on Impact

Stimulus funds should be viewed as one piece of the funding puzzle for schools searching for revenue streams. This often means prioritizing projects that support your district's long-term goals and objectives in addition to the most pressing short-term needs.

Prepare Contingency Plans

Don't let your operational budget depend on stimulus funding alone. In today's environment alternative financing and project delivery vehicles have become ideal ways to unlock funds trapped in your budget and still make critical infrastructure upgrades.

Through ESPC, most school districts are able to reduce their energy and operational costs by 20-30% while addressing a backlog of deferred maintenance and making much-needed improvements.

These projects:

- Identify and capture untapped revenue
- Lower your operational costs
- Free up capital to be re-allocated where most needed
- Create stability in your budget

What's more, when ESPCs are combined with other funding sources, such as stimulus, utility rebates, grants or even third-party financing, districts can make huge progress on their master facilities plans and set their district up for long-term success.



We can help!

Tom Bachkora

(913) 634-2349

Tom.Bachkora@se.com

se.com/us/enable

Life Is On

Schneider
Electric

YOUR NASB BOARD OF DIRECTORS & STAFF



YOUR NASB LEADERSHIP TEAM



Stacie Higgins
President
Nebraska City



Brad Wilkins
President-Elect
Ainsworth



Kim Burry
Vice President
Bayard



Steve Blocher
Past President
West Point

YOUR REGION DIRECTORS



Region 1
Neal Kanel
HTRS



Region 2
Sarah Centineo
Bellevue



Regions 3, 6 & 7
Shavonna Holman
Omaha



Regions 3, 6 & 7
Tracy Casady
Omaha



Regions 3, 6 & 7
Nancy Kratky
Omaha



Regions 4 & 5
Bob Rauner
Lincoln



Regions 4 & 5
Annie Mumgaard
Lincoln



Region 8
Robin Richards
Ralston



Region 9
Alan Moore
ESU 3



Region 10
Ed Swotek
Malcolm



Region 11
Jim Vlach
Lyons-Decatur Northeast



Region 12
Lisa Wagner
Central City



Region 13
Marilyn Bohn
ESU 10



Region 14
Sandy Noffsinger
Dundy County Stratton



Region 15
Joel Carlson
Cozad



Region 16
Stephanie Summers
David City



Region 17
Michelle Reikofski
Osmond



Region 18
Doug Keener
Mitchell



Region 19
Stacy Jolley
Millard

YOUR NASB STAFF

Matt Belka
Director of Marketing,
Communications & Advocacy



John Spatz
Executive Director



Megan Boldt
Associate Executive Director/
Director of ALICAP



Makenzie Barry
Events Manager &
Accounting Associate



Shari Becker
Director of Education
Leadership Search Service



Sharon Endorf
Director of
Member Engagement



Marcia Herring
Director of Board Leadership



Craig Caples
Director of Technology



Colby Coash
Associate Executive Director/
Dir. of Government Relations



Jim Luebke
Director of Policy Services



Melissa Lusk
Board Leadership Associate



Sallie Horky
Chief Operating Officer



Rachel Horstman
Business Manager



Katie Coble
Board Leadership/ALICAP
Admin. Assistant



Lisa Steinkuhler
Executive Admin. Assistant



Tori Pierce
Board Leadership Associate



Anne Silknitter
Education Leadership Search
Service Associate



Kari Stephens
Board Leadership Associate



Vicki Walter-Winters
Legal Admin. Assistant



LEADERSHIP

INNOVATION

VISION

ENGAGEMENT

#liveNASB

#weLIVEhere

ARCHITECTS



BCDM
Pat Carson - 402-384-6422
pcarson@bcdm.net - bcdm.net
* GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

BVH Architecture
Cleve Reeves - 402-475-4551
creeves@bvh.com - bvh.com
* GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

Clark & Enersen
Steve Miller - 402-477-9291
steve.miller@clarkenersen.com - clarkenersen.com
* GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

CMBA Architects
Brad Kissler - kissler.b@cmbaarchitects.com
Jim Brisnehan - brisnehan.j@cmbaarchitects.com
Troy Keilig - keilig.t@cmbaarchitects.com
308-384-4444 - cmbaarchitects.com
(Architecture, Master Planning, Interiors, Bond Promotion/Community Engagement)
* GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

Carlson West Povondra Architects
Jamie Eckmann - 402-551-1500
jeckmann@cwpaarchitects.com - cwpaarchitects.com
(Architecture, planning, feasibility studies)
* GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

DLR Group
Vanessa Schutte - 402-393-4100
vschutte@dlrgroup.com - dlrgroup.com
(Architecture, engineering, Ed. facility planning)

AWARDS

Awards Unlimited
Tim Moravec - 402-474-0815
tmoravec@awardsunlimited.com - awardsunlimited.com
(Trophies, awards, plaques, etc.)

BUILDING CONTROLS/SERVICES

Control Management Inc.
Nathan Haug - 402-571-9454
nathan@cmiomaha.com - cmiomaha.com
(Building Automation, Security and Energy Optimization for New and Existing Systems)

Johnson Controls
Dave Schwerdtfeger - 402-350-6062
Dave.w.Schwerdtfeger@JCI.com
Shane Breitfelder - 402-450-9677
Shane.Breitfelder@JCI.com - jci.com
(HVAC, Building Automation, Service Agreements, Security and Fire, among others)

CONSULTING

Akagi Consulting LLC
Mark Akagi
markakagi3@gmail.com
Construction Consulting

BOARD NOTES IS PUBLISHED ON A MONTHLY BASIS AS A MEMBER SERVICE. ADVERTISING IS AVAILABLE IN EVERY ISSUE. TO ADVERTISE OR BECOME AN AFFILIATE, PLEASE CONTACT MATT BELKA FOR FURTHER INFORMATION. ARTICLES OR ADVERTISING CONTAINED HEREIN DO NOT NECESSARILY REPRESENT THE VIEWS OR POLICIES OF NASB.

CONSTRUCTION SERVICES



Ayars & Ayars, Inc.
Darl Naumann - 402-435-8600 - 402-570-9214
dnaumann@ayarsayars.com - ayarsayars.com
(Design-build leader building beneficial relationships, processes, and projects)
* GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

BD Construction
Marsha Wilkerson - 308-234-1836
mwilkerson@bdconstruction.com - BDconstruction.com
(Construction Management, Facility Planning, Site Selection, Pre-bond Community Education, Stakeholder Engagement)
* GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

Boyd Jones Construction
Emily Bannick - 402-550-1808
ebannick@boydjones.biz - boydjones.biz
(Construction Management, Pre-Bond, Pre-Construction, Facility Evaluation, Early Stage Planning)
* GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

Kingery Construction Co
Rod Berens - 402-465-4400
rodb@kccobuilders.com - kccobuilders.com
(Design-Bid-Build, Design-Build, Construction Management, General Contractor, Pre-Bond/Pre-Construction Assistance)
* GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

MCL Construction
Heather Fredrick - 402-339-2221
haf@mclconstruction.com - mclconstruction.com
(Navigating the entire construction process)
* GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

Nemaha Sports Construction Inc
Don Traska - 402-434-5488
don.traska@nemaha.net - www.nemaha.net
(Athletic Fields, Parks & Recreation, Hardscapes)
* GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

Sampson Construction
Joseph Young - 402-434-5450
joseph.young@sampson-construction.com
www.sampson-construction.com
(Design-Build, Design-Bid-Build, Construction Manager, Small Projects)
* GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

Tetrad Property Group
Cassie Paben - 402-580-2355
cpaben@tetradpropertygroup.com - tetradpropertygroup.com
(Owner's Representative, Facility Planning, Site Selection, Pre-Bond Community Education, Stakeholder Engagement, Facility Management)
* GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

W. A. Klinger
Matt Thompson - 712-233-3233
mthompson@waklinger.com - waklinger.com
(Pre-Construction, Construction Management, Design-Build, and General Contracting)
* GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

ENERGY SERVICES



Ameresco, Inc.
David Goebel - 308-392-3283 - 402-370-8822
dgoebel@ameresco.com - www.ameresco.com
(Capital Improvements, Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy Solutions for Buildings)
* GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

Facility Advocates
Dave Raymond - 402-206-8777
draymond@facilityadvocates.com - facilityadvocates.com
(Building Construction & Energy Services)
* GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

Navitas
Nick Rosenberry - 402-840-0370
nrosenberry@navitas.us.com - navitas.us.com
(Energy Savings, Building Construction, Energy Management, Guaranteed Results)
* GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

Optimized Systems
Mike Taylor - 402-981-1005
mike.taylor@optimized-systems.com
Optimized-Systems.com
(Energy Optimization, Management & Studies, Metering, Mechanical System Assessments)
* GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

Schneider Electric
Tom Bachkora - 402-302-2721
tom.bachkora@se.com - Se.com/us/enable
(Committed to helping schools reach big ambitions through an energy savings project)
* GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

TRANE
Andy Vinckier - 402-596-8000
avinckier@trane.com - trane.com/omaha
(Building Construction & Energy Services)
* GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

FINANCIAL SERVICES



Ameritas Investment Company
Michael Shoemaker - 402-467-6986
michael.shoemaker@ameritas.com (Public Finance)
* GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

D.A. Davidson & Co.
Paul Grieger - 402-392-7986 - pgrieger@dadco.com
Cody Wickham - 402-392-7989 - cwickham@dadco.com
Andy Forney - 402-392-7988 - aforney@dadco.com
dadavidson.com
(Bonds/Election Services, Lease Purchase)
* GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

First National Capital Markets
Tobin Buchanan - 308-352-8328 - tbuchanan@fnni.com
Carl Dietz - 308-289-3920 - carldietz@fnni.com
Matt Fisher - 308-380-3831 - mfisher@fnni.com
fncapitalmarkets.com
(Public Finance, Election Guidance)
* GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

YOUR 2021 NASB AFFILIATES



LEADERSHIP

INNOVATION

VISION

ENGAGEMENT

#liveNASB

#weLIVEhere

FINANCIAL SERVICES

First Nebraska Credit Union
Michele Byrnes - 402-492-9100
marketing@firstnebraska.org - firstnebraska.org
(Taking care of your financial needs!)

Nebraska Liquid Asset Fund - NLAF
Barry Ballou - 402-705-0350
balloub@pfm.com - NLAFpool.org
(Liquid Asset Fund, financing programs)
* GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

Piper Sandler
Jay Spearman - 402-599-0307
jay.spearman@psc.com
(Lease Purchase, Construction Notes, Voted Bonds,
Refunding Bonds, QCPUF Bonds)
* GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

Wells Fargo Bank
Joseph Finnegan - 402-498-5019
joseph.p.finnegan@wellsfargo.com - wellsfargo.com
(Financial Services, Banking)
* GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

FOOD SERVICE



Lunchtime Solutions
Deni Winter - 605-235-0939 Ext 106
deni@lunchtimesolutions.com
lunchtimesolutions.com
(Progressive Food Service Management)
* GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

Opaal Food Management of Nebraska
Greg Frost - 816-210-9359
gfrost@opaafod.com - opaafod.com
(Contract Food Service Management)

INSURANCE SERVICES



Blue Cross Blue Shield of Nebraska
Cortney Ray - 402-458-4823
cortney.ray@nebraskablue.com - nebraskablue.com
(Group health insurance)
* GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

National Insurance Services
Steve Ott - 800-627-3660 - sott@nisbenefits.com
www.nisbenefits.com
(Group LTD, Life, Vision, Special Pay Plans, HRA's)

Public Risk Management
Sheri Shonka - 402-884-3751 - 877-649-4612
sheri.shonka@prmmne.com - alicap.org
(ALICAP, Insurance services)
* GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

LEGAL SERVICES

Mueller Robak, LLC
William Mueller - 402-434-3399
mueller@muellerrobak.com
(Lobby firm)

MENTORING

TeamMates Mentoring
Hannah Miller - 319-610-8538 - hannah@teammates.org
teammates.org - (Together we transform lives)
* Silver Level Affiliate

PLAYGROUND/SCOREBOARDS/SURFACING



Creative Sites, LLC
Julie Kutilek - 402-614-4606 - 800-266-1250
julie@creativesitesllc.com
(Playground equipment, Site furnishings)
* GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

Crouch Recreation
Eric Crouch - 402-496-2669
eric@crouchrec.com - crouchrec.com
(Playgrounds, Shelters, Scoreboards, Safety Surfacing &
Site Amenities Manufacturers Rep)
* GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

Fisher Tracks, Inc.
Jordan Fisher - 800-432-3191 - 515-432-3191
jfisher@fishertracks.com - fishertracks.com
(Installation, Refurbishment & Design Build of
All-Weather Running Tracks)

PUBLIC RELATIONS SERVICES



Idea Bank Education
Jack Sheard - 402-463-0588
jack@ideabankmarketing.com
IdeaBankEducation.com
(Full-service agency in Central NE for communication &
marketing strategy, creative services & web/mobile design
& development)
* GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

SAFETY & SECURITY SERVICES



One Source
The Background Check Company
Neal Josten - 402-933-9999 Ext 5600
njosten@onesourcebackground.com
onesourcebackground.com
(Employment, Volunteer, Contractor Screening)
* GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

TECHNOLOGY CONSULTING

PRISM advisors
Jason Richards - 402-593-8911
jprichards@prism-advisors.com - prism-advisors.com
(PEOPLE, PROCESS & SYSTEMS. IT strategic planning
and project management)

TECHNOLOGY/SOFTWARE



Filament Essential Services
Dan Kunzman - 402-479-6663
dank@fes.org - www.filamentservices.org
(SOCS websites+apps, Marketing/Branding/Video, Data.
A new division of FES)
* GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

Sparq Data Solutions
Craig Caples - 402-423-4951
ccaples@sparqdata.com - sparqdata.com
(Paperless Board Meetings, Staff Negotiations,
Public Document Management, Document
Imaging & Scanning)
* GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

THERAPY SERVICES

Central Nebraska Rehabilitation Services
Mary Walsh-Sterup
308-675-1853 ext. 3222
mary@cnrehab.com - cnrehab.com
(Providing PT, OT and Speech therapy
in the school system)

TRANSPORTATION



Master's Transportation
Amber Bryant - 800-783-3613
abryant@masterstransportation.com
www.masterstransportation.com
(Your trusted source for safe, reliable, and innovative
group transportation solutions.)
* GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE





1311 STOCKWELL STREET
LINCOLN, NE 68502
WWW.NASBONLINE.ORG

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



NASB BOARD NOTES

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION FROM THE NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BOARDS



LEADERSHIP

INNOVATION

VISION

ENGAGEMENT

#liveNASB

#weLIVEhere

IN THIS EDITION

ALICAP RETURNING \$2.75 MILLION TO ITS MEMBERS
NEW SUPERINTENDENTS FOR 2021-22
TRAINING, NETWORKING, ENGAGEMENT & EVENTS
2021 AREA MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS: ON THE ROAD AGAIN!
SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER OF THE YEAR NOMINATIONS DUE
NASB PARTNERS WITH AMERICAN FIDELITY FOR EMPLOYEE BENEFITS
HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW YOUR BOARD'S POLICIES?
AT THE BOARD TABLE - BOARD MEETINGS – A MEETING HELD IN PUBLIC, NOT A PUBLIC MEETING
AN UPDATE FROM THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPARQ SOCIAL ... JOIN US!
HOW NEBRASKA SCHOOLS CAN OVERCOME BUDGET SHORTFALLS IN 2021
YOUR NASB BOARD OF DIRECTORS & STAFF
YOUR 2021 NASB AFFILIATES
... AND MUCH MORE!

AS WELL AS "THIS MONTH IN ..."

... ADVOCACY & GOVERNMENT RELATIONS
... ALICAP & INSURANCE
... BOARD LEADERSHIP
... DATA ANALYTICS
... ENERGY PURCHASING
... MEMBER ENGAGEMENT
... POLICY
... SEARCH, STRENGTHS & AWARDS
... TECHNOLOGY

AUGUST 2021

#liveNASB

#weLIVEhere

www.NASBonline.org