

# NASB BOARD NOTES

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION FROM THE NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BOARDS

DECEMBER  
2022



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1,960,000 Nebraskans

324,000 Students

1,700 Locally Elected School Board Members

260 Member Districts/ESUs

ONE NEBRASKA

## THANK YOU, AND WELCOME

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

As this year's school board member "Graduating Class" make their final motions and leave their board room one last time, NASB would like to thank them for their time, commitment, and dedication to the betterment of all things public education in Nebraska. Your district, community, and the state is a better place because of you and the path you've paved for the next generation of school board members.

And to all of you newly elected school board members who will be sworn in this January, welcome.

We were fortunate to meet many of you this December at the six New Board Member Workshops across the state, and look forward to working with you as you begin your board service.



Thank you

The Nebraska Association of School Boards provides programs, services and advocacy to strengthen public education for all Nebraskans. Learn more at [www.NASBonline.org](http://www.NASBonline.org)

# TRAINING, NETWORKING, ENGAGEMENT & EVENTS

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



Your Monthly Board Agenda Update Video Links from NASB

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



NASB's Legislative Issues Conference - January 22-23 - Lincoln

NASB Board President Retreat - January 29-30 - York



NASB Board President Retreat - February 5-6 - Ogallala

Budget & Finance Workshop - February 8 - Kearney

Budget & Finance Workshop - February 15 - La Vista

NEW!

New Board Member Workshop - Virtual Webinar - February 22 - 7:00 PM CT



NAEP State Convention - March 28-29 - Grand Island



NASB is sad to announce the passing of Alan Moore. Alan was a member of the ESU 3 Board in La Vista for 24 years, also serving on the NASB Board of Directors for the past 12 years. Our thoughts & prayers go out to his family, friends, and anyone who got a chance to know Alan.



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# Welcome





# AT THE BOARD TABLE

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## BOARD CALENDAR AGENDA ITEMS FOR YOUR JANUARY MEETINGS

<http://members.nasbonline.org/index.php/board-leadership>

Each month, this space reflects the recommended and required upcoming agenda items to be included in the regular board meeting agenda. If you have questions about the monthly board meeting agenda items or recommendations for improving the Annual Board Calendar, please never hesitate to contact Marcia at 800-422-4572 or [mherring@NASBonline.org](mailto:mherring@NASBonline.org). View the full calendar at: <http://members.nasbonline.org/index.php/resources>

### ANNUAL BOARD REORGANIZATION MEETING

- Reorganization Meeting: Election of Officers
- The superintendent shall assume chairmanship of the meeting for the purpose of electing a board president. Ballots for officers may be cast in secret ballot but the total vote for each candidate shall be recorded by the secretary. \*Officers include: President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Note: Class III or IV School District; Treasurer shall within 10 days after his/her election, secure appropriate insurance bond per § 79-586. Note: ESU Boards 79-1218: Board; meetings; organization; duties. The board of each ESU shall meet and organize by naming one of its members as president, one as vice president, and one as secretary. The board shall employ a treasurer who shall be paid a salary to be fixed by the board. §79-1218.
- Review and Adopt Board Code of Conduct Policy
- Sign and file NADC form. [Conflict of Interest form] with School District Board Secretary
- Adopt 2023 NASB Annual Board Calendar and Board Meeting Schedule.
- Annually designate and approve. Legal Counsel, Depository bank(s), District Newspaper(s) of record
- Appoint annually. Non-discrimination Compliance Coordinator to meet federal Equal Employment Opportunity requirements and a Title IX Coordinator for Title IX enforcement.
- Readopt Existing Policies, Regulations, and Handbooks for the governance of the school district, pending any further actions of the board.

### MISSION, VISION & GOALS

- Annual Leadership Team Planning Meeting (Set Date); Strategic Plan Update; District Goals Update
- Annually review the District Mission, Vision, and Belief or Value Statements.

### POLICY GOVERNANCE

- Adopt Board Committee Assignments (per board policy).
- Establish and adopt a Board Policy Review Process to ensure the review, update, and adoption of board policy during monthly board meetings.
- Review the School District Report Card.

### ACCOUNTABILITY & STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

- District Assurance Statement Corrections. On or before February 1 corrections of violations must be submitted in writing to the NDE Office of Accountability, Accreditation, and Program Approval. \*Cross reference October.

### ADVOCACY

- Review 2023 Legislative Calendar; Review the NASB Advocacy Handbook; Legislative representative and contact information; Appoint a local board Legislative Committee to monitor and support district response and action;

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5



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## BOARD CALENDAR AGENDA ITEMS FOR YOUR JANUARY MEETINGS

<http://members.nasbonline.org/index.php/board-leadership>

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

### DISTRICT/ESU RESOURCES (BUDGET)

- Budget - Review Monthly Financial Reports and Finance Committee Monthly Report.
- Collective Bargaining on or before February 8. If an agreement is not reached, the parties shall submit to mandatory mediation or fact-finding as ordered by the commission, unless the parties mutually agree, in writing, to forgo mandatory mediation or fact finding. NOTE: The negotiations process begins in August.

### REPORTS

- Negotiations Committee; Superintendent; Administrators;

### BOARD OPERATIONS

- Reference Annual Board Reorganization Meeting Agenda Items

### BOARD-SUPERINTENDENT RELATIONS

- Collaborate with superintendent/ESU Administrator to develop new and/or updated goals to align to the individual's recent evaluation summary.

### BOARD LEADERSHIP

- Administer the NASB Board Self-Assessment Survey via NASB Online Survey System.
- Review the New Board Member Orientation Agenda and Schedule
- Register for NASB Board Leadership President Retreat – See NASB Event Calendar for details.
- Register for NASB Legislative Issues Conference – See NASB Event Calendar for details.

### LEARNING COMMUNITY

- Diversity plan; contents; approval; report. On or before February 1 of each odd-numbered year the Learning Community Coordinating Council shall report electronically to the Education Committee of the Legislature the diversity and changes in diversity at each grade level in each school building within the learning community and on the academic achievement for different demographic groups in each school building within the learning community. § 79-2118

THE 2023 ANNUAL BOARD CALENDAR AND BOARD MEETING GUIDE IS NOW AVAILABLE.

NASB STAFF HAS BEEN DISTRIBUTING COPIES AT EACH NASB EVENT AT THE REGISTRATION TABLE.

YOU MAY REQUEST A FREE COPY FOR EACH BOARD MEMBER AND THE SUPERINTENDENT BY CONTACTING MARCIA AT [mherring@NASBonline.org](mailto:mherring@NASBonline.org)

### NASB NEW BOARD MEMBER (LIVE) WEBINAR ... WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22 AT 7:00 PM CT

To support our members who did not have the opportunity to participate in the New Board Member Workshops, the NASB New Board Member Webinar (Live) will be presented on Wednesday, February 22, at 7:00 PM CT. Please register at [www.NASBonline.org](http://www.NASBonline.org), the registration for this event will include the Fundamentals of Board Governance binder.

If you prefer the in-person discussion and opportunity for all board members to participate, consider a Board Retreat to engage with your newly elected board members to support their transition into this new role. Please contact Marcia Herring, NASB Director of Board Leadership at [mherring@NASBonline.org](mailto:mherring@NASBonline.org) or 402-817-0296 to schedule at the convenience of the board.



# YOUR 2023 ADVOCACY HANDBOOK IS NOW POSTED

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## DIRECT DOWNLOAD

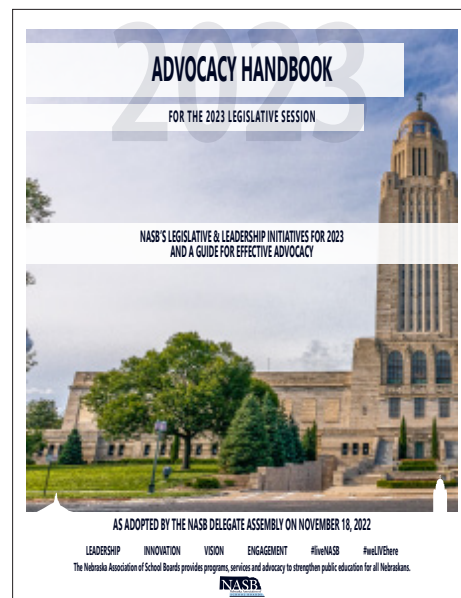
<http://members.nasbonline.org/index.php/advocacy-handbook>

With the official approvals taking place by you and your peer school board members at this year's Delegate Assembly, we are now able to post the 2023 Advocacy Handbook, to be used as a guideline during the upcoming Legislative Session which begins Wednesday, January 4th.

The Advocacy Handbook, which includes NASB's legislative and leadership initiatives, as well as tips for effective advocacy and much more, is now available to view, download and print at the Government Relations section of the NASB website.

We look forward to working for and with you this session ... do not hesitate to reach out to NASB at anytime with questions on particular bills, initiatives, becoming more engaged, or the overall legislative process in general.

Matt, Colby, John & Lindsey  
Your NASB Legislative Team



REG  
NOW!

## NEW FACES - NASB'S LEGISLATIVE ISSUES CONFERENCE

<http://members.nasbonline.org/index.php/legislative-issues-conference>

New Governor, State Senators, Speaker, Committee Chairs, New Faces On Your Board, Etc Etc. Presented annually, the Legislative Issues Conference is where you'll hear from the movers and shakers inside the Legislature about the key issues affecting Nebraska's public schools.

The Governor's Office, Speaker, key Committee Chairs, a number of other Senators and education stakeholders are invited to share their respective views throughout the morning.

See what key bills are in play and get a first hand look at anything that will have an impact on public education in Nebraska during this year's legislative session.

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 22

6:00 PM

Reception, Dinner & Program. Hospitality Event to Follow.  
"UP THE MOUNTAIN" with Senators Tom Brewer & Justin Wayne

### MONDAY, JANUARY 23

8:00 AM

Registration

8:30 AM

Welcome, Introductions & Speakers

12:00 PM

Lunch with the Senators

1:30 PM

Adjournment (Speaker list subject to change)

Register now at <https://nasb.enviseams.com/>





# LOOKING AT THE BIG (SCHOOL ASSESSMENT) PICTURE

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*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. This month, she is joined by Norfolk Superintendent, Jami Jo Thompson.*

The highly-decorated American gymnast, Shannon Miller, once said, “I think it’s really important to look at the big picture instead of just one competition”. The same is true when you look at student assessment.

If a person were to focus solely on a school’s Nebraska Student Centered Assessment System (NSCAS) results, he/she could get the impression that Nebraska public schools are not doing very well. However, that is only one small piece of a much bigger picture. You need to look at the entire (bigger) picture if you truly want to understand how Nebraska public schools are performing.



In its quest for academic excellence, the Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) has set our state proficiency benchmarks extremely high. Every Junior attending a Nebraska Public School is required to take the American College Test (ACT). This is the assessment that the Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) uses to determine NSCAS proficiency. However, NDE does not use ACT benchmarks – NDE sets their own benchmarks, which are even higher. These benchmarks make our performance seem low, when in fact we are doing very well.

When you compare Nebraska’s ACT results with the average of states across our nation that have at least an 80 percent participation rate, you see that Nebraska has the 2nd highest score. In addition, when you compare Nebraska’s performance on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) to other states you see that Nebraska’s fourth and eighth graders (the only grade levels assessed) scored higher than the national average in reading and math. In fact, they scored higher than most other states across the country.

- No other state scored higher than Nebraska in fourth-grade math.
- Only one state scored higher in eighth-grade math.
- Only three states outscored Nebraska in fourth grade reading.
- Only seven states scored higher than Nebraska in eighth grade reading.

On the other hand, when you look at our NSCAS data, you see that fewer than 50% of our students met the NSCAS proficiency benchmarks set by NDE in English-language arts and math. That doesn’t fit well with the rest of the picture and occurs because of the high benchmarks set by the Nebraska Department of Education.

The Nebraska Department of Education and State Board of Education understand the importance of setting high performance expectations and that high proficiency benchmarks report deflated performance levels in comparison to ACT and NAEP. Because NSCAS results are used for accountability, and are most visible to the public, they may negatively impact how the public perceives Nebraska schools’ academic performance. The results also underrepresent the high levels of academic performance occurring in Nebraska schools. To reduce the inconsistencies between NSCAS proficiency benchmarks and ACT and NAEP the Nebraska Department of Education will be reviewing and revising proficiency benchmarks in 2023.

We are doing extremely well in comparison to other states across the nation. The high NDE benchmarks have pushed us to work hard, make smart decisions for our students and to perform even better...but they do not portray a complete picture of our performance. Nebraska is ranked the ninth best school system in the nation by both Wallethub and U.S. News and World Report!

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

## Sources:

American College Test (2022). <https://www.act.org/content/act/en/research/services-and-resources/data-and-visualization/grad-class-database-2022.html>  
-- Nebraska Department of Education (2022) [https://www.education.ne.gov/press\\_release/nebraska-students-score-among-the-best-in-the-country-on-2022-national-math-and-reading-assessments/#:~:text=Nebraska's%202022%20fourth%20and%20eighth,Nebraska%20in%20fourth%20Dgrade%20math](https://www.education.ne.gov/press_release/nebraska-students-score-among-the-best-in-the-country-on-2022-national-math-and-reading-assessments/#:~:text=Nebraska's%202022%20fourth%20and%20eighth,Nebraska%20in%20fourth%20Dgrade%20math) -- Nebraska Education Profile (2022) <https://nep.education.ne.gov/> -- U.S. News and World Report (2022) <https://www.usnews.com/news/best-states/rankings/education>  
-- Wallethub (2022) <https://wallethub.com/edu/the/states-with-the-best-schools/5335>

# JOIN US THIS JANUARY & FEBRUARY

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## 2023 NASB Board President Retreat

JANUARY 29-30 - YORK  
Holthus Center

Hotel Room Block: Holiday Inn Express & Suites - \$98  
Call 402-745-6272 by January 15 and ask for the NASB block

FEBRUARY 5-6 - OGALLALA  
Driftwood (Sunday), Kathleen Lute Public Library (Monday)  
Hotel Room Block: Holiday Inn Express & Suites - \$98  
Call 308-284-6080 by January 22 and ask for the NASB block

### AGENDA

Sunday - 4:30 PM CT - Training, Social & Dinner  
Monday - 7:30 AM to 3:00 PM CT - President Training

Register for the Retreat today at [www.NASBonline.org](http://www.NASBonline.org)  
Log in using your email and password  
Register by January 25 for York  
Register by February 1 for Ogallala

REGISTRATION FEE: \$165  
Earn 15 Awards of Achievement Points  
\$20 cancellation fee by the registration deadline  
No refunds after the deadline.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE:  
Board President, Aspiring Presidents,  
Superintendents and/or ESU Administrators



JANUARY 29-30 - YORK  
Holthus Center

Hotel Room Block: Holiday Inn Express & Suites - \$98  
Call 402-745-6272 by January 15 and ask for the NASB block  
Register by January 25

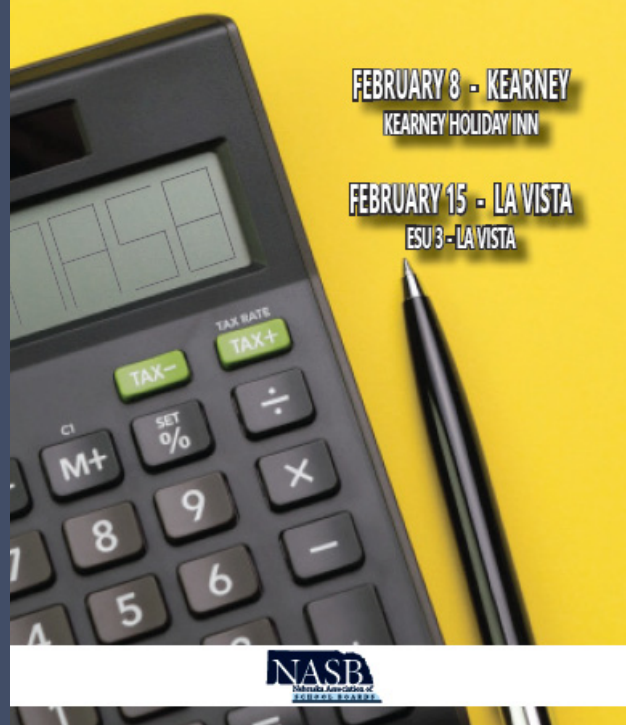
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Driftwood (Sunday), Kathleen Lute Public Library (Monday)

Hotel Room Block: Holiday Inn Express & Suites - \$98  
Call 308-284-6080 by January 22 and ask for the NASB block  
Register by February 1

## BUDGET & FINANCE WORKSHOPS

FEBRUARY 8 - KEARNEY  
KEARNEY HOLIDAY INN

FEBRUARY 15 - LA VISTA  
ESU 3 - LA VISTA



FEBRUARY 8 - KEARNEY - HOLIDAY INN  
Register by February 3

FEBRUARY 15 - LA VISTA - ESU 3  
Register by February 10

Both new and veteran school board members need to have a fundamental understanding of school finance. Superintendents, business managers, and bookkeepers are required to have a deep and comprehensive understanding of finance. Taxpayers and citizens are asking districts to provide more detailed information about their finances, so now is the time to learn! This evening workshop will feature former superintendents Carl Dietz and Matt Fisher, two school finance experts, who will structure the presentation around all aspects of the school district finances.



# FROM OUR FAMILIES TO YOURS, MERRY CHRISTMAS

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## ... SEARCH, STRENGTHS & AWARDS

### EDUCATION LEADERSHIP SEARCH SERVICE

Contact us with questions on superintendent search protocol, to schedule a proposal, or inquire about a vacancy. Current vacancies include

Creek Valley and Sidney

<https://nasb.myrevelus.com>

NASB is also facilitating the Interim Superintendent search at Grand Island Public Schools. Contact Shari for information.

### GALLUP STRENGTHSFINDER

Those with Futuristic can see the possibilities, are inspired by their vision and can inspire others by what they see. They can leverage their talents to provide hope and inspire change.

Email Shari Becker today at [sbecker@NASBonline.org](mailto:sbecker@NASBonline.org) for searches or to schedule a Gallup team session.

- Shari -

## ... BOARD LEADERSHIP

Check out "At the Board Table" on pages 4 & 5.

### BOARD PRESIDENT RETREATS

January 29-30 - York

February 5-6 - Ogallala

### NEW BOARD MEMBER WORKSHOPS

February 22 - Virtual Webinar

Marcia, Kari, Katie, Caden & Stacie

## ... ADVOCACY & GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

We know the "New Faces"! Here are some upcoming dates to keep in mind and be prepared for. Plan to join us to help advocate for public education in your district, community, and Nebraska!

### 1st Day of the 2023 Legislative Session

Wednesday, January 4

### Day 10 ... Final Day to Introduce Bills

January 18

### Legislative Issues Conference

NEW FACES

January 22-23 - Embassy Suites Lincoln

*Register Now!*

Your 2023 Advocacy Handbook is now available as well. Check out Page 6 to learn more and access your copy!

*Call Colby & Matt with any questions!*

## ... TECHNOLOGY

As staff negotiations begin to wind down, please remember to enter your 2023-2024 negotiated agreement into the Contract Settlement Form. If you need assistance, please email Darion at [dmiller@nasbonline.org](mailto:dmiller@nasbonline.org).

Darion - [dmiller@NASBonline.org](mailto:dmiller@NASBonline.org)

Nicole - [nkobus@NASBonline.org](mailto:nkobus@NASBonline.org)

[www.sparqdata.com](http://www.sparqdata.com)

## ... ALICAP & INSURANCE

ALICAP's December Safety Topic is Winter Driver Safety. ALICAP is encouraging schools to assign SafeSchools courses with the topic of winter driving. In short, remember "SPACE" – Speed, Patience, Awareness, Concentration and Exit. It's a great reminder for all drivers:

- Speed is the #1 cause of winter driving incidents.
- Patience and courtesy saves lives and property.
- Awareness of other vehicles and your environment is essential.
- Concentration is required for winter driving.
- Exit – always leave yourself an out.

*Happy New Year ... Thanks, Megan!*

## ... ENERGY PURCHASING

Natural gas storage levels have nearly reached their 5-year average, a good sign going into cold weather. With all the economic uncertainties this year, price volatility is very high and spot prices for covering demand during extreme weather seem to spike very quickly. Our natural gas purchasing programs, NJUMP and CJUMP, have hedged substantial supplies for this winter to protect our districts' budgets. If your district is not one of the 111 members enrolled in one of the programs, consider visiting with our staff about getting enrolled this spring.

*Contact Jim to learn more!*



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## ... POLICY

Prior to your Board's January meeting, it is worth reviewing the language of your Organizational Meeting Policy. Since this is the time of year you elect officers and appoint committees, it's important to know the process your board has in place. State statutes say very little about this, so your local policy will guide the details. Statutes allow a secret vote for the officer positions, but the total vote for or against each officer election must be recorded in the minutes. Again, while not mentioned in statutes, your policy should describe a process for resolving repeated ties during these votes since many prolonged tie votes may create ill will within the board. Officers must be in place to continue the meeting.

Whether your method employs a coin flip, continuing with the highest returning officer as President until a vote decides otherwise, or some other agreed upon method, it is important to be able to hold your meetings and handle routine business in a timely manner. Committees are generally appointed by the Board President.

*Contact Jim to learn more!*

## ... DATA ANALYTICS

Your fellow board members and administrators will soon be visiting with state senators about your district's educational needs. It's worth taking a look at recent years' changes in your levy rates, per pupil costs, mobility, and poverty rates. They can tell you much about the future your district faces and the issues your representative should understand. We can give you a picture of how that data compares with nearby districts or districts of a similar size. Our staff can help you examine what those changes may mean for your schools.

*Contact Jim to learn more!*

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

## 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



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## ... MEMBER ENGAGEMENT

Our staff has been on the road for New Board Member Workshops throughout December. It's been wonderful to meet the newly elected board members.

Thank you to the veteran board members and superintendents that have taken the time to attend with the new folks. You are setting a great example of service!

*Merry Christmas! Sharon*



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



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



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

# YOUR NASB BOARD OF DIRECTORS & STAFF

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## YOUR NASB OFFICERS

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



Kim Burry - President  
Bayard



Sandy Noffsinger - President-Elect  
Dundy County Stratton



Stacy Jolley - Vice President  
Millard



Brad Wilkins - Past President  
Ainsworth

## YOUR NASB REGION DIRECTORS

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



Region 1 - Neal Kanel  
HTRS



Region 2 - Sarah Centineo  
Bellevue



Region 3 - Vacant



Region 4 - Elizabeth Kumru  
Ralston



Region 5 - Shavonna Holman  
Omaha



Region 6 - Ricky Smith  
Omaha



Region 7 - Tracy Casady  
Omaha



Region 8 - Bob Rauner  
Lincoln



Region 9 - Annie Mumgaard  
Lincoln



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 - Steve Koch  
Hershey



Region 15 - Joel Carlson  
Cozad



Region 16 - Stephanie Summers  
David City



Region 17 - Michelle Reikofski  
Osmond



Region 18 - Susan Ernest  
Leyton



Region 19 - Amanda McGill Johnson  
Millard

## YOUR NASB STAFF

<http://members.nasbonline.org/index.php/nasb-staff>

John Spatz  
Executive Director



Makenzie Barry  
ALICAP Data &  
Financial Specialist



Shari Becker  
Director of Education  
Leadership Search Service



Matt Belka  
Director of Marketing,  
Communications & Advocacy



Megan Boldt  
Associate Executive Director/  
Director of ALICAP



Craig Caples  
Director of Technology



Abi Carlson  
Event & Search Service  
Associate



Colby Coash  
Associate Executive Director/  
Dir. of Government Relations



Katie Coble  
Board Leadership Associate



Sharon Endorf  
Director of  
Member Engagement



Caden Frank  
Board Leadership Associate



Marcia Herring  
Director of Board Leadership



Stacie Higgins  
Board Leadership Associate



Sallie Horky  
Chief Operating Officer



Rachel Horstman  
Business Manager



Nicole Kraus  
Events & Engagement  
Associate



Kem Loecker  
Executive Administrative  
Assistant



Jim Luebke  
Director of Policy Services



Kari Stephens  
Board Leadership Associate



Lindsey Wooton  
Administrative Specialist





# YOUR 2022 NASB AFFILIATES

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## YOUR 2022 PLATINUM AFFILIATES

<http://members.nasbonline.org/index.php/affiliate-member>

**ALICAP**

**AMERICAN FIDELITY**  
a different opinion

**Ameritas**  
Ameritas Investment Corp.  
Member FINRA/SIPC

**BCDM**  
architects

**Boyd Jones**

**BVH**  
ARCHITECTURE

**CLARK & ENERSEN**

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## YOUR 2022 GOLD AFFILIATES

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TRUCKS

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**Facility Advocates**  
Dave Raymond

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Tech connected. Lives protected.

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**Nemaha**  
DESIGN CONSTRUCTION

**onesource**  
The Background Check Company

**Optimized**  
Systems

**Outdoor Recreation Products**

**TRANE**

### ACCOUNTING

Watts and Hershberger, P.C.  
Jim Watts  
402-483-7512 - jw1cpa@aol.com - <https://gowh.com/>  
(CPA, Accounting)

### ARCHITECTS

BCDM Architects  
Pat Carson - 402-384-6422  
pcarson@bcdm.net - [www.bcdm.net](http://www.bcdm.net)  
(Creating environments that form people)  
\* PLATINUM LEVEL AFFILIATE

BVH Architecture  
Cleve Reeves - 402-475-4551  
creeves@bvh.com - [www.bvh.com](http://www.bvh.com)  
(A design-centered critical practice embracing a creative and collaborative process to design architecture that enhances the community in which it serves.)  
\* PLATINUM LEVEL AFFILIATE

### ARCHITECTS

Clark & Enersen  
Steve Miller - 402-477-9291  
steve.miller@clarkenersen.com - [www.clarkenersen.com](http://www.clarkenersen.com)  
(From the very beginning, partnership has defined us.)  
\* PLATINUM LEVEL AFFILIATE

CMBA Architects  
Jim Brisnehan - [brisnehan.j@cmbaarchitects.com](mailto:brisnehan.j@cmbaarchitects.com)  
Troy Keilig - [keilig.t@cmbaarchitects.com](mailto:keilig.t@cmbaarchitects.com)  
Courtney Koch - [koch.c@cmbaarchitects.com](mailto:koch.c@cmbaarchitects.com)  
308-384-4444 - [www.cmbaarchitects.com](http://www.cmbaarchitects.com)  
(Architecture, Master Planning, Interiors, Bond Assistance/Community Engagement)  
\* PLATINUM LEVEL AFFILIATE

Carlson West Povondra Architects  
Jamie Eckmann - 402-551-1500  
jeckmann@cwpaarchitects.com - [www.cwpaarchitects.com](http://www.cwpaarchitects.com)  
(Architecture, planning, feasibility studies)  
\* GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

### ARCHITECTS

DLR Group  
Vanessa Schutte - 402-393-4100  
vschutte@dlrgroup.com - [www.dlrgroup.com](http://www.dlrgroup.com)  
(Architecture, engineering, Ed. facility planning)

### AWARDS & PLAQUES

Awards Unlimited  
Tim Moravec - 402-474-0815  
tmoravec@awardsunlimited.com  
[www.awardsunlimited.com](http://www.awardsunlimited.com)  
(Trophies, awards, plaques, etc.)

### BUILDING CONTROLS/SERVICES

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

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Engagement

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## CONSULTING

Akagi Consulting LLC  
Mark Akagi - markakagi3@gmail.com

## CONSTRUCTION SERVICES

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

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

Cheever Construction  
Douglas Klute - 402-477-6745  
dklute@cheeverconstruction.com  
www.cheeverconstruction.com  
\* GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

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

MCL Construction  
Heather Fredrick - 402-339-2221  
haf@mcconstruction.com - www.mcconstruction.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

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)

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

## DATA SECURITY, VIDEO & COMMUNICATIONS

Filament Essential Services  
Lisa Lewis - 402-479-6661  
lisa@fes.org - www.filamentservices.org  
(SOCS websites+apps, Marketing/Branding/Video, Data,  
Filament Essential Services is a new division of FES)  
\* PLATINUM LEVEL AFFILIATE

## DESIGN BUILD

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

## ENERGY SERVICES

Community Building Solutions  
Jacob Hurla - 785-580-3014  
jhurla@communitybuildingsolutions.com  
(Providing a cost-effective avenue for school districts  
to address outdated equipment, resolve comfort  
challenges, and reduce energy and maintenance  
costs. Serving underserved rural communities cost-  
effectively is the core of our mission.)  
\* PLATINUM LEVEL AFFILIATE

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

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

Optimized Systems  
Peter Larson - 605-212-0783  
peter.larson@optimized-systems.com  
www.Optimized-Systems.com  
(Energy Optimization, Energy Management,  
Commissioning, Metering, Energy Studies,  
Mechanical System Assessments, Troubleshooting)  
\* GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

TRANE  
Matt Foertsch - 402-596-8007  
mfoertsch@trane.com - www.trane.com/omaha  
(Building Construction & Energy Services. A global  
provider of indoor comfort systems)  
\* GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

## FINANCIAL SERVICES

Ameritas Investment Company  
Jennifer Kobza - 402-214-2118  
jennifer.kobza@ameritas.com - (Public Finance)  
\* PLATINUM 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  
www.dadavidson.com  
(Bonds/Election Services, Lease Purchase)  
\* PLATINUM LEVEL AFFILIATE

## FINANCIAL SERVICES

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  
www.fncapitalmarkets.com  
(Public Finance, Election Guidance)  
\* GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

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

Piper Sandler  
Jay Spearman - 402-599-0307  
jay.spearman@psc.com  
(Financing for Capital Construction Products, Bonds,  
Refunding Bonds, Notes, NASB Lease Purchase)  
\* PLATINUM LEVEL AFFILIATE

## FOOD SERVICE

Lunchtime Solutions  
Susan Gracey - 402-984-4546  
s.gracey@lunchtimesolutions.com  
www.lunchtimesolutions.com  
(Progressive Food Service Management)  
\* GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

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

## FUNDRAISING

Omaha Public Schools Foundation  
Toba Cohen-Dunning  
402-502-3003 - toba.cohendunning@ops.org  
https://omahapublicschoolsfoundation.org  
(The Omaha Public Schools Foundation enriches  
students' lives by funding opportunities for success.)

## INSURANCE SERVICES

American Fidelity  
Stacey Anderson  
402-432-2251 - Stacey.anderson@americanfidelity.com  
www.americanfidelity.com/nebraska  
(Solutions built for the education community)  
\* PLATINUM LEVEL AFFILIATE

Blue Shield of Nebraska  
Cortney Ray - 402-458-4823  
cortney.ray@nebraskablue.com  
www.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)



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## INSURANCE SERVICES

Public Risk Management  
Sheri Shonka - 402-884-3751 - 877-649-4612  
sheri.shonka@prmne.com - www.alicap.org  
(ALICAP, Insurance services)  
\* PLATINUM 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 - www.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 and site furnishings)  
\* GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

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

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

Outdoor Recreation Products  
Don Wilson - 402-289-0400 - don@outdoorrec.net  
www.outdoorrecreationproducts.com  
(Your choice for a reputable playground and splashpad company serving Nebraska)  
\* GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

## SAFETY & SECURITY SERVICES

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

## TECHNOLOGY CONSULTING

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

## TECHNOLOGY/SOFTWARE

JMC  
Shelby Valkos - 800-524-8182  
shelby@jmcinc.com - https://www.jmcinc.com/  
(Smart software for even smarter schools)  
\* PLATINUM LEVEL AFFILIATE

Midwest Alarm Services  
Mike Wells - 402-331-6111 - 402-474-3737  
Mike.Wells@mw-as.com  
(Life Safety Systems provider)  
\* GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

Sparq Data Solutions  
Craig Caples - 402-423-4951  
ccaples@sparqdata.com - www.sparqdata.com  
(Paperless Board Meetings, Teacher Negotiations, Public Document Management, Document Imaging & Scanning, Online Policy)  
\* PLATINUM LEVEL AFFILIATE

## THERAPY SERVICES

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

## TRANSPORTATION

Cornhusker International  
Russ Folts - 402-466-8461 ext 206  
russ.folts@cornhuskerinternational.com  
www.cornhuskerinternational.com  
(With six locations across Nebraska, Cornhusker International offers your best choice in new and pre-owned School Buses, Compliant Activity Buses, plus full parts and service for all makes and models)  
\* GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

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

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## TO THE CLASS OF ...

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

As this year's School Board Member Graduating Class make their final motions and leave their board room one last time we asked them what exactly they would like the next crop of school board members to know.

And thank you, to the Class of 2022 for your time, commitment, and dedication to the betterment of all things public education in Nebraska. Your district, community, and the state is a better place because of you and the path you've paved for the next generation of school board members.

Thanks to our sponsors of this video: ALICAP, American Fidelity, Boyd Jones, BVH Architecture, Crouch Recreation, DA Davidson, DLR Group, Facility Advocates, First National Capital Markets, Sparq Data Solutions, & VS America.



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# NASB BOARD NOTES

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION FROM THE NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BOARDS



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1,960,000 Nebraskans 324,000 Students 1,700 Locally Elected School Board Members 260 Member Districts/ESUs ONE NEBRASKA

THANK YOU, AND WELCOME

AT THE BOARD TABLE

YOUR 2023 ADVOCACY HANDBOOK IS NOW POSTED  
NEW FACES - NASB'S LEGISLATIVE ISSUES CONFERENCE  
LOOKING AT THE BIG (SCHOOL ASSESSMENT) PICTURE  
JOIN US THIS JANUARY & FEBRUARY

FROM OUR FAMILIES TO YOURS, MERRY CHRISTMAS  
THIS MONTH IN ...  
... AND MUCH MORE!

The Nebraska Association of School Boards provides programs, services and advocacy to strengthen public education for all Nebraskans. Learn more at [www.NASBonline.org](http://www.NASBonline.org)