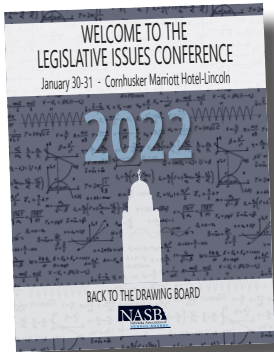


## "THIS WAS THE BEST LIC I HAVE EVER ATTENDED ..." 36 SENATORS TAKE TIME OUT OF THEIR DAY TO JOIN SCHOOL LEADERS



Day 17 of the 60-day session saw impactful bills debated in the morning session, and a number of key hearings that afternoon. In spite of that, 36 Senators took time out of their day to join their constituents to discuss education, policy, leadership, and much more at the annual Legislative Issues Conference. Here is what those in attendance had to say!

*"It's always good when you see legislators face to face."*

*"It was great receiving a personal feel of what is going on the legislature."*

*"Having a mixed bag of Senators attend and speak was a great move."*

*"This is a great opportunity to network and talk with Senators."*

*"I thought that the Senators valued being there. I also respected the fact that Senator Brieze was willing to come when he actually had differing views."*

*"I really enjoyed Senator Walz' method of asking a question first and having audience members answer the question."*

*"Hearing directly from Senators, and the explanation of bills is invaluable."*

*"The networking with other schools in our legislative districts is always a valuable takeaway."*

*"It was great to hear directly from the Senators and get their perceptions and rationale around educationally relevant bills."*

**Share Your Story - Know Your District's Data - Understand the Data that Will Make a Difference**

Continue to communicate with your Senator(s) about particular bills of interest and how they could impact what is going on in your buildings. Share your story and stay engaged in all of the bills NASB is following. Reach out to us to find out all the ways you can be heard.

### KEY ADVOCACY RESOURCES

<http://members.nasbonline.org/index.php/government-relations>

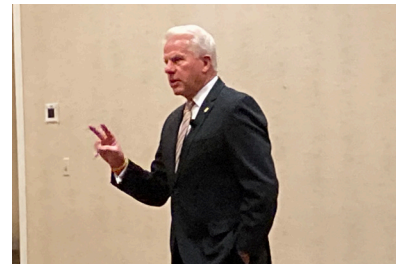
<https://nasb.envisiams.com/legislative-bills>

[www.facebook.com/NASBOnline](http://www.facebook.com/NASBOnline)

[www.twitter.com/NASBOnline](http://www.twitter.com/NASBOnline)

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

<https://nebraskalegislature.gov/>



# NASB TRAINING, NETWORKING, ENGAGEMENT & EVENTS

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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://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>



## MARCH



BUDGET & FINANCE WORKSHOP - MARCH 1 - YORK

BUDGET & FINANCE WORKSHOP - MARCH 23 - OGALLALA

NAEP STATE CONVENTION - MARCH 29-30 - GRAND ISLAND

## APRIL



NEBRASKA RECEPTION AT THE NSBA CONFERENCE - APRIL 2 - SAN DIEGO

MAKE YOUR MEETINGS MATTER - APRIL 7 - WEST POINT

MAKE YOUR MEETINGS MATTER - APRIL 12 - GERING

MAKE YOUR MEETINGS MATTER - APRIL 13 - KEARNEY



## OTHER KEY DATES



LINCOLN MARATHON - MAY 1 - LET MATT OR MEGAN KNOW IF YOU'RE PARTICIPATING

NASB MEMBER GOLF OUTING - JUNE 22 - KEARNEY

SCHOOL LEADERS & LAW CONFERENCE - JUNE 22-23 - KEARNEY

NASB ORIENTATION - JULY 20 - LINCOLN

AREA MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS - AUGUST THROUGH SEPTEMBER

ANNUAL SPARQ DATA SOLUTIONS TAILGATE PARTY - SEPTEMBER 17 - LINCOLN

FACILITIES & CONSTRUCTION - SEPTEMBER 22 - KEARNEY

LABOR RELATIONS - FALL 2022

STATE EDUCATION CONFERENCE - NOVEMBER 16-18 - OMAHA

NEW BOARD MEMBER WORKSHOPS - DECEMBER

GERING - NORTH PLATTE - YORK - BROKEN BOW - WEST POINT - LA VISTA



# YOUR 2022 MEMBERSHIP GUIDE IS HERE!



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Thirty-two pages of all NASB is and does, for you, our members, have arrived and will be delivered to your district/ESU in the upcoming weeks, if they have not already.

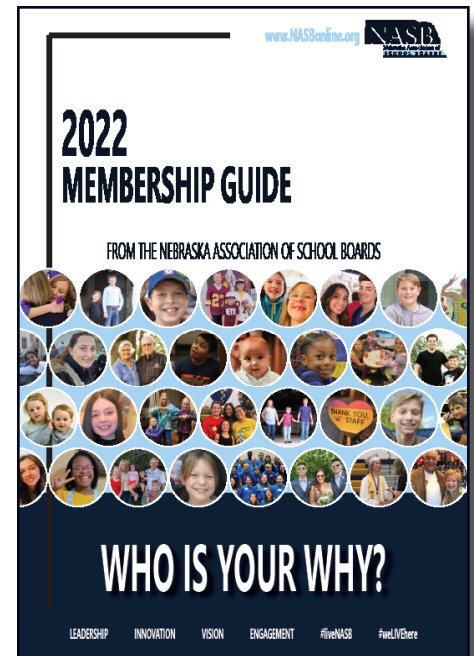
Throughout this year's Membership Guide, you will see and learn about the people, programs, services and vision that bring value to your board, your district, and your community. From the NASB staff, to the Board of Directors, to the Legislation Committee, to your fellow board members across the state.

This year's focus is Who Is Your Why?

Every photo in our Guide was sent to us as being someone's WHY!

This is a great reference to keep close throughout the year, as it includes the history of NASB and school boards in Nebraska, all of the organizations for which NASB is responsible, advocacy, engagement, awards, your NASB programs, services and staff, School Board Member of the Year info, and more!

Thank you for making Nebraska a great place to LIVE!



## YOUR SCHOOL BUS PROVIDER

### USED BUSES

Browse our new and used school bus inventory where you'll find a broad selection of small, mid-size and large capacity Collins, Blue Bird and Thomas school buses.

### SHORT-TERM RENTAL

Master's provides bus leasing options which can help you scale your fleet for targeted periods during the school year, providing you with a flexible and cost-effective transportation plan.

### SCHOOL BUS SERVICE

Master's can also provide service and repair, nationwide, with trained, certified technicians who will happily assist you with your Collins, Thomas or Blue Bird bus repair and maintenance needs.

[www.MastersTransportation.com](http://www.MastersTransportation.com)  
800 QuikTrip Way, Belton, MO 64012  
(800) 783-3613



## RETREATS, ELECTIONS, PREPARING TO SERVE, ANNUAL CALENDAR & MORE

### 2022 NASB PRESIDENT RETREAT

We would like to extend our immense thanks and appreciation to each of the attendees who attended and participated in this year's President Retreat. We appreciate the positive feedback and look forward to the opportunities to support the leadership

### 2022 BOARD ELECTIONS

The incumbent deadline to file for office has now passed. The deadline for non-incumbents who are interested in filing is March 1. Of course, those that miss or change their mind may consider a write-in-campaign to secure their seat on the board. The filing deadline as a primary write-in candidate is May 2, and the General write-in candidate deadline will be October 28.

### PREPARING TO SERVE

This NASB Board Leadership publication is designed to provide basic information for individuals interested in serving on a school board, educational service unit board, or learning community council. The rewards of board service can be an enormously fulfilling experience; however, achievement of success can only be derived when boards plan for success, work collaboratively as a leadership team, and unite during times of challenge. You may download a copy of *Preparing To Serve* below or contact Marcia at [mherring@NASBOnline.org](mailto:mherring@NASBOnline.org).

[https://nasb.envisiams.com/docs/default-source/board-leadership-resources/nasb---preparing-to-serve.pdf?sfvrsn=e9b0097\\_2](https://nasb.envisiams.com/docs/default-source/board-leadership-resources/nasb---preparing-to-serve.pdf?sfvrsn=e9b0097_2)

### 2022 NASB ANNUAL BOARD CALENDAR

To download your copy of the *2022 NASB Annual Board Calendar* click the link below or email Katie Coble at [kcoble@NASBOnline.org](mailto:kcoble@NASBOnline.org). Each school district and ESU will receive two copies along with the 2022 NASB Membership Guide special delivery by NASB staff.

[https://nasb.envisiams.com/docs/default-source/board-leadership-resources/2022nasb-bdlrshpannualboardcalendarbcbee54-86b8-4ac6-aa55-bb25d4cd833f.pdf?Status=Master&sfvrsn=d97977d\\_3](https://nasb.envisiams.com/docs/default-source/board-leadership-resources/2022nasb-bdlrshpannualboardcalendarbcbee54-86b8-4ac6-aa55-bb25d4cd833f.pdf?Status=Master&sfvrsn=d97977d_3)

### BOARD SELF-ASSESSMENT

A board that aspires to operate effectively will periodically engage in some form of self-assessment. Conducting a self-assessment is an opportunity for the board to evaluate how well it is functioning as a body while enabling the board-superintendent leadership team to determine areas of improvement to operate more effectively in the future. It is important that expectations and standards on how to improve the team's practices and behaviors are clearly articulated during this process. The NASB Board Leadership team will administer the Board Self-Assessment on behalf of the board. We will:

- work collaboratively with the board to define an assessment timeline
- distribute the link to the board to complete the self-assessment
- send reminders to board members who have not completed the assessment prior to the deadline
- compile the feedback
- develop an Executive Summary highlighting board strengths and areas of need
- distribute the assessment reports to the board president

Each year, the board is provided with a comparative board self-assessment report to provide comparative data measuring growth of leadership. To learn more about the NASB Board Self-Assessment, please contact Katie Coble at 800-422-4572 or [kcoble@NASBOnline.org](mailto:kcoble@NASBOnline.org) or to obtain a copy of the NASB Board Self-Assessment Handbook.



# AT THE BOARD TABLE

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## BOARD CALENDAR AGENDA ITEMS FOR YOUR MARCH 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, update, and adopt policy
- Review Student Attendance policies. A child is of mandatory attendance age if the child (a) will reach six years of age prior to January 1 of the then-current school year and (b) has not reached eighteen years of age.
- Option Enrollment Application period. On or before April 1, the option school districts shall provide the resident school district with the name of the applicant.

### ACCOUNTABILITY & STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

- Review School Improvement Plan; Review Alternative Education Program

### ADVOCACY

- Review 2022 Legislative Calendar, discuss NASB Legislative Updates; Consider Senator outreach and/or visit Capitol

### DISTRICT/ESU RESOURCES (BUDGET)

- Board/Administrators Budget Work Session
- ESU staff - Tenure; certificated employee; contract amendment, termination, or nonrenewal; procedure; on or before April 15, any certificated employee whose contract of employment may be amended, terminated, or not renewed for the following school year shall be notified in writing of such possible action on the contract. Final action by the board shall be taken on or before May 15 of each year.
- School District staff - Certificated employee; contract amendment, termination, nonrenewal, or cancellation; On or before April 15, for any probationary or permanent certificated employee, written notice must be given if the district plans on amending, terminating, or not renewing the employee's contract for the next school year. Final action on this contract must be taken on or before May 15.
- Board Finance Committee Report

### REPORTS

Board Committees; Superintendent; Administrators

### BOARD LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

- March 1, 2022 – Last day for non-Incumbents to file for office.
- Review and discuss Board Governance Standard I. Mission, Vision, and Goals
- Renew NASB Membership
- NASB Budget & Finance Workshops

### LEARNING COMMUNITY

- Learning Community Attendance Application. On or before April 1, a Learning Community Attendance Application is due. A school district must accept or reject any applications made by a parent or guardian requesting to attend a school that is not in an attendance area where the applicant resides

**FAST**  
**SEAMLESS**  
**CLOUD-BASED**  
**FULLY-LINKABLE**  
**SEARCHABLE**  
**UP-TO-DATE**



With Sparq Online Policy Publishing let NASB host your School Board policy manual online to make it easier and faster to use than ever before. Hosting your manual with Sparq Online Policy Publishing will provide you with a fully searchable version of your present manual online, easily linked from your district website. In addition, all Nebraska legal references will be linked online directly from your individual policies, allowing administrators quick access to the relevant statutory language. Cross references to other relevant policies within the board policy manual will also be linked.

Through a password protected access, you can allow selected employees to make changes or additions to the online manual. Also, as your board works through its board agenda in Sparq Meetings, once the board approves new or revised policies and makes that entry into the meeting agenda, those policies will automatically flow through to your online manual to update it.

*Just imagine how greatly this will simplify the process of keeping your manual current!*

All this offers a huge improvement toward making your School Board policy manual more useful, more informative, and easier to search or revise in a rapidly changing educational environment.

For more information, to schedule a training, or discuss joining us in hosting your board policy manual online, please contact Jim Luebbe at [jluebbe@NASBonline.org](mailto:jluebbe@NASBonline.org) or 800-422-4572

**FAST SEAMLESS CLOUD-BASED FULLY-LINKABLE SEARCHABLE UP-TO-DATE**





# HELP STEM TEACHERS GAIN REAL-WORLD EXPERIENCE



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American Fidelity is offering an excellent program providing teachers professional growth and real-world experience to help prepare their students for their careers. We are opening this program up to Nebraska educators for the first time. We hope you can help us recruit qualified candidates and get the message out to those who may be interested.

The American Fidelity Teacher Fellowship program is available for third through 12th grade STEM teachers. It allows them to come to our corporate headquarters and immerse themselves into our IT team to teach them about software development, enterprise information management, security and infrastructure projects. This program is essentially a summer internship with a flexible schedule to accommodate various school calendars. Not only will they gain skills to help them in the classroom and better prepare their students for the future, but they will also:



Collaborate with other teachers



Earn a corporate IT salary for the time they work during the summer



Receive a \$2,000 stipend to use for their classroom

Applications will be accepted through Feb. 25. Selected applicants will be required to attend a virtual interview on March 18. The 2022 program lasts up to 8 weeks with a mix of virtual and in-person training in Oklahoma City. Applicants need to be available for in-person training the first week and last week of the internship. American Fidelity will provide accommodations like airfare and hotel.

Teachers interested in this program may fill out an application at <https://americanfidelity.com/about-us/af-teacher-fellowship/>



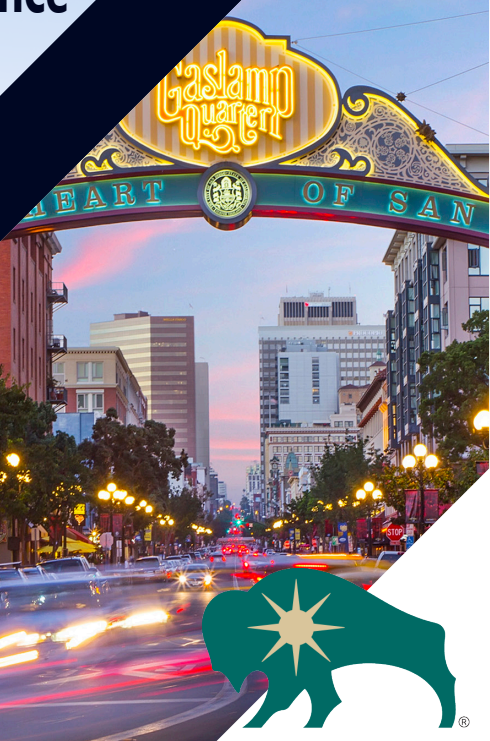
## Bringing the Good Life to the 6-1-9 Nebraska Reception at the NSBA Conference

Saturday, April 2 - 4:00 to 7:00 PM  
Rustic Root Rooftop  
Downtown San Diego

RSVP to Sharon Endorf at [sendorf@NASBonline.org](mailto:sendorf@NASBonline.org)  
Conference attendees and their guests are welcome to attend



Sponsored by D.A. Davidson & Co.  
member SIPC and FINRA





## BUDGET & FINANCE WORKSHOPS

MARCH 1 - YORK

MARCH 23 - OGALLALA

School finance is a complex task. The Leadership Team, comprised of both the board and Superintendent/ESU Administrator is responsible for managing the finances within their district/ESU. This evening workshop will feature school finance experts, who will structure the presentation around all aspects of the school district finances.



**NAEP**  
Nebraska Administrative Education Professionals

## 2022 NAEP STATE CONVENTION

MARCH 29-30 - GRAND ISLAND

## MAKE YOUR MEETINGS MATTER

BUILDING EFFECTIVE BOARD MEETINGS FOR YOUR DISTRICT AND COMMUNITY

APRIL 7 - WEST POINT

APRIL 12 - GERING

APRIL 13 - KEARNEY

School board meetings are changing at a rapid pace. These unique meetings where boards and superintendents conduct the business of the district are governed by the Nebraska Open Meetings Law. Community interest in and attendance at school board meetings has greatly increased in recent months. Attend this workshop to learn how to best educate your community about your meetings and how you can include them while still adhering to the Open Meetings Law.





# LET'S NOT THROW OUT THE BABY WITH THE BATH WATER

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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.*

At the September 2021 State Board of Education meeting, the board voted to postpone indefinitely the development of the Nebraska Health Education Standards. The development was postponed due to objections from members of the public related to two of the eight strands in the first and second standards drafts and because of demands being made on school systems in addition to the pandemic. Many of the opponents of the first two drafts suggested that the health education standards be scrapped.

No development or revision of the draft standards has occurred since the September meeting. However, State Board of Education President Nickels appointed an ad hoc committee to review the current standards development process and to make recommendations for improvement, not only as it relates to health education, but for all content area standards development.

One of the ad hoc committee recommendations shared at the February State Board meeting calls for the board to approve content area standards for all subject matter areas. It is anticipated that the State Board of Education will vote on the recommendations at the March meeting.

The Nebraska Department of Education, as required by State Statute 79.760.01, has developed content area standards for reading, writing, mathematics, social studies, science, as well as financial literacy. In addition to these statutorily required standards, as a service to local school districts, the State Department of Education has developed content area standards for fine arts, physical education, world languages and career and technical education. These content areas must be taught for schools to be accredited or approved to operate in Nebraska. The only content area without state-level standards is health education. According to the Education Commission of the States, there is only one other state that does not have state-level health education standards.



*Content-area standards required by state statute are mandates. Schools have to implement them as written. Content area standards not required by state statute are recommendations. Local school districts may adopt the standards, pick and choose the standards they believe are appropriate for their schools, or develop standards locally. Curriculum directors, school board members, and superintendents I have spoken with say they appreciate having standards as guidance documents so they do not have to use their resources to develop standards from scratch.*

If the ad hoc committee recommendations are approved, I expect the Department to focus on implementing recommendations that will enhance the standards development process. It is my hope that after the standards development process is refined and issues that contributed to concerns with the first and second standards drafts are resolved, the development of the health education standards will be reinitiated.

Health education is as important as any other content area taught in Nebraska schools. Personal health, physical activity, disease, substance abuse and injury prevention, safety, and nutrition, topics included in the first and second drafts of the standards, matter if one of the purposes of education is to help children use information to make decisions that enhance health. The fact that opponents objected only to standards related to Human Growth/Development and Social Emotional Health suggests either they were comfortable with the other strands or they were unaware that the standards included more than those two strands.

Reports from Nebraska teachers and administrators indicate that the most concerning consequence of the pandemic on students is increased mental health issues. As a result, the argument could be made that health education is more important than ever. If/when the health education standards development is resumed, it is imperative that the Nebraska Department of Education build on existing draft standards that help children gain an understanding of anxiety and depression and attain mental health skills such as resilience, self-regulation, and mindfulness.

The first two drafts of the standards were developed over an extended period of time and as a result of much effort on the part of Nebraska Department of Education staff and educators who served on the writing team. Because public objections were only related to two strands, it seems wasteful to disregard the draft Nebraska Health Education standards as a whole. We don't need to discard the health education standards just because some elements are unwanted. In other words, let's not throw out the baby with the bath water.

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

## ... SEARCH, STRENGTHS & AWARDS

### EDUCATION LEADERSHIP

#### SEARCH SERVICE

Contact Shari for questions about your application, best practice for superintendent searches, or a proposal to fill your superintendent vacancy at [sbecker@nasbonline.org](mailto:sbecker@nasbonline.org)

### GALLUP STRENGTHSFINDER

CliftonStrengths has a new Podcast. Strengths experts discuss leadership and the unique qualities of each theme. Click the link for more information. The CliftonStrengths Podcast can be found at <https://www.gallup.com/cliftonstrengths/en/388469/cliftonstrengths-podcast.aspx>

We are scheduling Gallup work sessions for Spring and Summer for board/ leadership teams to understand each other's talents and create a culture for leadership success. Call Shari today to get on the calendar.

- Shari -

## ... ALICAP & INSURANCE

ALICAP welcomes its newest member, Kenesaw Public Schools.

This new addition takes the pool's membership to 180 participating schools and ESUs.

*Thanks, Megan!*

## ... DATA ANALYTICS

The downward pressure on student enrollments continues across rural Nebraska.

Over 30 percent of Nebraska's counties reached their peak populations by the 1890's, and over 70 counties saw their peaks by the 1930's. Your board may be interested in looking at the options of consolidation with one or more neighboring districts.

Making those difficult decisions is the duty of the board, but NASB can assist your board and district in reaching the most informed decision possible based on all the facts with a Consolidation Feasibility Study.

*Contact Jim to learn more!*

## ... POLICY

Although LB 83 passed by last year's Legislature does not take effect until July 31 of this year, board members may be fielding questions about it much sooner. It will require your district to display the School Board meeting agenda on the district's website at least 24 hours prior to the meeting. It also requires the board meeting minutes to be posted on the district's website for at least six months from the time the minutes become available.

*Contact Jim to learn more!*

## ... BOARD LEADERSHIP

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

*Marcia, Tori, Kari & Katie*

## ... ADVOCACY & GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

The 107<sup>th</sup> Legislature, 2nd Session is over halfway through.

Stay engaged with NASB's Bills page, and the Government Relations page at: <http://members.nasbonline.org/index.php/government-relations>

Check out the latest edition of NASB's *Legislative Notes* as well!

*Call Colby & Matt with any questions!*  
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## ... TECHNOLOGY

New Sparq Meetings enhancements are set to release this weekend! Be on the lookout for the newsletter with all the details.

Please remember to load your newly updated Negotiated Agreements into the Contract Settlement Form. If you have questions or need help, please email Darion!

Darion - [dmiller@NASBonline.org](mailto:dmiller@NASBonline.org)  
Nicole - [nkobus@NASBonline.org](mailto:nkobus@NASBonline.org)  
[www.sparqdata.com](http://www.sparqdata.com)



## ... MEMBER ENGAGEMENT

Whew – it's been a busy month for Engagement and Events! In the last month, NASB has held two President's Retreats, the Legislative Issues Conference, and two Needs-Resources Workshops. It's been great to see so many members again!

In addition to Events, our staff is making rounds across Nebraska to hand-deliver 2022 Membership Guides and Annual Board Calendars. If we haven't stopped by to see you yet, we will be there soon!

Engagement Visits in the last month include Auburn, Hartington-Newcastle, Howells-Dodge, Laurel-Concord-Coleridge, Lyons-Decatur, Nebraska City, Ponca, Tekamah-Herman, Wakefield, Wisner-Pilger & Wynot.

*Sharon*

## ... ENERGY PURCHASING

Natural gas prices have been rising again with weather, economics, and world events creating a great deal of volatility. Several districts have inquired about joining our natural gas purchasing programs, NJUMP and CJUMP, for next year. If you wish to ensure having reliable utility costs for next year's budget at competitive prices, we are nearing the annual sign-up period for these programs.

*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



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

## YOUR NASB LEADERSHIP TEAM



**Brad Wilkins**  
President  
Ainsworth



**Kim Burry**  
President-Elect  
Bayard



**Sandy Noffsinger**  
Vice President  
Dundy County Stratton



**Stacie Higgins**  
Past President  
Nebraska City

## 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**  
**Steve Koch**  
Hershey



**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

**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



**Marcia Herring**  
Director of Board Leadership



**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



**Tori Pierce**  
Board Leadership Associate



**Kari Stephens**  
Board Leadership Associate



**Lindsey Wooton**  
Administrative Specialist





# YOUR 2022 NASB AFFILIATES



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## YOUR 2022 PLATINUM AFFILIATES



## YOUR 2022 GOLD AFFILIATES



## 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@cwparhitects.com - [www.cwparhitects.com](http://www.cwparhitects.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)

## LEADERSHIP

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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  
Dan Kunzman - 402-479-6663  
dank@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  
Mike Taylor - 402-981-1005  
mike.taylor@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 syste)  
\* 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@pfm.com - www.NLAFpool.org  
(Liquid Asset Fund, financing programs)  
\* GOLD 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  
Ryan Wedel  
785-783-0375 - ryan.wedel@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)



# YOUR 2022 NASB AFFILIATES



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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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A MONTHLY PUBLICATION FROM THE NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BOARDS



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## IN THIS EDITION

"THIS WAS THE BEST LIC I HAVE EVER ATTENDED ..."

TRAINING, NETWORKING, ENGAGEMENT & EVENTS

YOUR 2022 MEMBERSHIP GUIDE IS HERE!

AT THE BOARD TABLE - RETREATS, ELECTIONS, PREPARING TO SERVE, ANNUAL CALENDAR & MORE

IS YOUR POLICY MANUAL ONLINE?

HELP STEM TEACHERS GAIN REAL-WORLD EXPERIENCE

NEBRASKA RECEPTION AT THE NSBA CONFERENCE

UPCOMING EVENTS & NETWORKING

LET'S NOT THROW OUT THE BABY WITH THE BATH WATER

YOUR NASB BOARD OF DIRECTORS & STAFF

YOUR 2022 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

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