A MONTHLY PUBLICATION FROM THE NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BOARDS







SOUTH SIOUX CITY MIDDLE SCHOOL RECEIVES TOP MARKS FOR GRADE LEVEL IMPROVEMENT

https://www.ktiv.com/2023/02/01/south-sioux-city-middle-school-receives-top-marks-grade-level-improvement/

By Matt Hoffmann

SIOUX CITY (KTIV) - At first, South Sioux City middle school teachers weren't thrilled with a new method of teaching dubbed "well made schools."

Teachers were asked to praise students four times more than they criticized them, and explain what may sound like trivial tasks, like how to work in groups. But a few years in, the middle school is in the 98th percentile when it comes to catching students up to the appropriate grade level.

"And, you know, some people don't want to go through that process, because it takes time. But in the end, you'll make up that time with having less of the behaviors and more of the time for learning," said Debbie McCoy, the counselor at the middle school.

When researchers looked at the data, they found many middle school students were entering the school underperforming, likely because of socioeconomic factors, and students moving into the district.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



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.

All Dates & Locations Tentative & Subject to Change

SSC MIDDLE SCHOOL RECEIVES TOP MARKS (CONTINUED)

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Under the new system, teachers reduce unwanted behaviors, like failing to listen to specific categories. Pulling up a placard with action steps like "look at the teacher" and "refer to notes."

"Are you more apt to do something if someone's happy and, you know, teaching you and praising you? Or, just yelling at you and handing out punishment?" asked Heidi Nearman, a seventh-grade teacher.

While non-traditional, the "well made schools" method has made South Sioux City Middle School into a case study. With researchers asking: What is the school doing right?

"And I think this is even more proof. This is what you want to see you want to see students achieve at a very high rate," said Todd Strom, the district superintendent.

The non-profit studying South Sioux City Middle School is "The New Teacher Project." TNTP studied data collected by Stanford University and found South Sioux City is near the top in grade-level improvement.

Now, researchers are turning to study the intangibles or the "art" of teaching. They'll come back to South Sioux City multiple times over the semester to shadow teachers, and find out what's working there. "Yeah, so when we think about trajectory, changing schools, they all have a very clear definition of success. They have very strong and consistent structures for progress monitoring," said Dr. Kristin Burt, the Analytics Director at TNTP.



South Sioux City Community Schools

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> Enrollment = 3,783 NASB Region #11

https://www.ssccardinals.org/

In addition to in-class observation, the non-profit will conduct student and parent surveys. Their national report is expected to be released this fall. -- Copyright 2023 KTIV. All rights reserved.





Each month, this space reflects recommended regular board meeting agenda items to include in the upcoming board meeting agenda. Please contact Marcia at <u>mherring@NASBonline.org</u> if you have questions or recommendations for improving the Board Meeting Annual Calendar. View the full calendar at: <u>http://members.nasbonline.org/index.php/resources</u>

مَنْ MARCH BOARD AGENDA ITEMS

In addition to routine agenda items, time sensitive topics include:

- Policy: 1) Review Student Attendance policies. 2) Option Enrollment Application period.
- Advocacy Review NASB Website: NASB 2023 Legislative Bills to Watch
- Budget [Staffing]: 1) ESU Certificated employee; contract amendment, termination, or nonrenewal; procedure. 2) School District Certificated employee, contract amendment, termination, nonrenewal, or cancellation.
 **Review the full March Agenda on page 23 of the 2023 NASB Board Meeting Guide & Annual Board Calendar.

SEC NEW BOARD MEMBER TRANSITION

To support the effective transition of the newly elected board members, each month Board Leadership will highlight items to review with the new board members.

- i. Review Board of Education policy section and Superintendent Job Description and Responsibilities policies
- ii. Share the Chain of Command policy and Complaint Process policy for public, staff, student, etc.
- iii. Explain Board meeting procedures, agenda preparation.
- iv. Identify who board members contact regarding questions about agenda items or when they need additional background information?
- v. Review communication, including use of email, text messages, and communicating outside of board meetings. Note: Contact the NASB Board Leadership team for resources to support effective board governance.

BOARD RETREAT

To support our members who did not have the opportunity to participate in the New Board Member Workshops consider a Board Retreat to engage with your newly elected board members as they continue to transition into their new role. Please contact Marcia Herring, NASB Director of Board Leadership at <u>mherring@NASBonline.org</u> or 402-817-0296 to schedule a board retreat or private sessions through Microsoft Teams to review the board role and responsibilities.

UPCOMING NASB BOARD LEADERSHIP EVENTS

Board President Circle Team Meeting – Wednesday, March 15 at 12:00 PM CT, and to support our membership in the Panhandle, we will repeat the Team Meeting at 12:00 PM MT. Join the NASB Board Leadership Team for a one-hour question and discussion of hot topics identified by the participating board presidents.

NASB'S ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DRIVE HAPPENING NOW!

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NASB is here to be your partner and resource. We love the time we spend with you, whether it is at events, at the Capitol, or in your districts. The annual Membership Drive is happening now. We appreciate your membership and look forward to a great 2023-2024 serving you!



NASB LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY DAY ... APRIL 17

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STATE EDUCATION CONFERENCE - CALL FOR PROPOSALS!

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https://nasb.enviseams.com/proposals



The time has come to begin planning for the 2023 State Education Conference. The Conference will be held November 15-17, 2023 at the CHI Health Center. We are looking forward to this opportunity to gather and grow in our role as school leaders.

You are invited to submit a proposal for a breakout session. This is an opportunity to showcase innovation in your district. Each breakout session must focus on topics of interest to Nebraska's public school board members and administrators. Student presenters are encouraged where possible! Reminder: the Conference does not reimburse session presenters for any expenses.

Visit https://nasb.enviseams.com/proposals and login with your email and password to submit a breakout session proposal.

DEADLINE FOR PROPOSAL SUBMISSIONS IS 5:00 PM CT, FRIDAY, MARCH 17TH

The Conference Planning Committee will meet March 27th to make selections for the 2023 State Education Conference. Please contact Sharon Endorf at 402-423-4951 or <u>sendorf@NASBonline.org</u> with any questions.

YOUR 2023 MEMBERSHIP GUIDE IS HERE!



Thirty-two pages of all NASB is and does, for you, our members, are being delivered to you and your district/ESU!

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 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 and Leading By Example!

IS YOUR POLICY MANUAL ONLINE?

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http://members.nasbonline.org/index.php/programs-services/policy-services

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



With **Sparq Online Policy Publishing** let us host your NASB School Board policy manual online to make it easier and faster to use than ever before. Once your manual has been revised with NASB policies, hosting it with Sparq Online Policy Publishing will provide you with a fully searchable online version, 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 <u>jluebbe@NASBonline.org</u> or 800-422-4572

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

Check out NASB's Video Library at http://members.nasbonline.org/index.php/news-resources/videos

WATCH: 1/3 THROUGH ... DAY 30 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

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

CHECK OUT NASB'S LEGISLATIVE QUICK VIDEO ON THE FIRST 1/3 OF THIS YEAR'S SESSION, WITH INFO ON THE GOVERNOR'S LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE, AS WELL AS BILLS ON OPTION ENROLLMENT, SPECIAL EDUCATION, OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIPS AND MORE!

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





NAEP STATE CONVENTIONTUESDAY, MARCH 28WEDNESI1:15 PM - REGISTRATION6:30 AM -1:30 PM - WELCOME8:00 AM -2:00 PM - STRENGTHS8:15 AM -3:10 PM - BREAKOUT SESSIONS10:00 AM4:10 PM - VISION PLANNING11:15 AM5:10 PM - ONLINE SERVICES12:15 PM6:00 PM - HOTEL CHECK-IN1:00 PM -6:15 PM - SOCIAL HOUR2:00 PM -6:45 PM - DINNER2:15 PM -

8:00 PM - HOSPITALITY SUITE

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29 6:30 AM - FIT & FRESH 8:00 AM - REGISTRATION 8:15 AM - "JAKE" SESSION 10:00 AM - TABLE TALKS 11:15 AM - BREAKOUT SESSIONS 12:15 PM - LUNCH 1:00 PM - TABLE TALKS 2:00 PM - CLOSING & EVALS 2:15 PM - ADJOURN

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... ADVOCACY & **GOVERNMENT RELATIONS**

Over 1/3 of the way done with this year's 90-Day Session ...

Stay up to speed and see how you can help advocate for your school, your community & Nebraska by sharing your story! Bookmark and frequent NASB's Bills Page now at https://nasb.enviseams.com/legislative-bills as it is continually updated!

Mark Your Calendars & Join Us NASB's Legislative Advocacy Day April 17 - Lincoln

Call Colby & Matt with any questions!

... ENERGY PURCHASING

Periods of extreme cold in late December and again this month have shown how volatile the spot markets for high demand days can be. Still, with Europe having a milder than normal winter and U.S. usage about average overall, producers have been pulling drilling rigs out of service, worried that summer prices may not support current drilling costs. NJUMP and CJUMP monitor these trends all year round to

remove the burden of decision-making on administrators and stretch your valuable resource dollars.

Contact Jim to learn more!

... SEARCH, STRENGTHS & AWARDS

EDUCATION LEADERSHIP SEARCH SERVICE Contact us with questions on superintendent search protocol, to schedule a proposal, or inquire about a vacancy. Deadlines approaching soon for Bennington and Brady https://nasb.myrevelus.com

GALLUP STRENGTHSFINDER People exceptionally talented in the Consistency theme are keenly aware of the need to treat people the same. You crave stable routines and clear rules and procedures that everyone can follow. Shari has this theme in her Top 5.

Contact Shari at sbecker@NASBonline.org for searches or to schedule a Gallup team session.

... TECHNOLOGY

Welcome New Sparq Meetings Subscribers: City of Blue Hill, & Three Rivers Health Department

As you near settlement for staff negotiations, please remember to load your contract information into the Contract Settlement Form. If you have any questions, please reach out to Darion at dmiller@nasbonline.org

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

... DATA ANALYTICS

Trying to make sense of your students' NSCAS standardized test scores can be confusing. The state provides percent proficient data with a comparison to state averages, but there may be more helpful comparisons to consider. NASB's Data Analytics can help you to compare your proficiency scores and average scale scores along with other relevant data to nearby districts or to districts of a similar size to better evaluate your students' academic achievement.

Contact Jim to learn more!

... ALICAP & INSURANCE

For the month of February, ALICAP's safety topic is "Basic Classroom Safety." Chairs, Rugs, Cords, Clutter, it's all relevant. During the second semester, the school classrooms and hallways can become cluttered. ALICAP is encouraging school staff to be disciplined and intentional in keeping a tidy classroom or workspace.

Thanks, Megan!

... BOARD LEADERSHIP

Check out "At the Board Table" on page 4.

BOARD PRESIDENT CIRCLE TEAM MEETING March 15

Marcia, Kari, Katie, Caden & Stacie

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... MEMBER ENGAGEMENT

We are working the annual Membership Drive. Renewal information went out earlier this month. We look forward to working with you and providing services for you again this year!

Contact Sharon with any questions. sendorf@nasbonline.org

... POLICY

This is a good time to review your district's policies and procedures regarding special education. NDE does audits of district policies throughout the year, and we can assist you with having your guidelines ready for inspection.

Contact Jim to learn more!



(800) 528-5145 pgrieger@dadco.com



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



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

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Katie Coble Board Leadership Associate



View the full directory of the Board and staff bios at www.NASBonline.org













YOUR 2023 NASB AFFILIATES

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construction

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 - (Creating environments that form people) - PLATINUM LEVEL AFFILIATE

BVH Architecture - Cleve Reeves - 402-475-4551 - creeves@bvh.com - www.bvh.com - (We are a design-centered critical practice. We embrace a creative and collaborative process to design architecture that enhances the community in which it serves.) - PLATINUM LEVEL AFFILIATE

Clark & Enersen - Steve Miller - 402-477-9291 - steve.miller@clarkenersen.com - www.clarkenersen.com - (From the very beginning, partnership has defined us. We're continuing that tradition through our new brand by returning to our original name with a refreshed look.) PLATINUM LEVEL AFFILIATE

CMBA Architects - Jim Brisnehan - 308-384-4444 - brisnehan.j@cmbaarchitects.com - Troy Keilig - 308-384-4444 - keilig.t@cmbaarchitects.com - Courtney Koch - 308-384-4444 - koch.c@cmbaarchitects.com - www.cmbaarchitects.com - (Architecture, Master Planning, Interiors, Bond Assistance/Community Engagement) - PLATINUM LEVEL AFFILIATE **CONTINUED ON PAGE 14**

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ARCHITECTS (CONTINUED)

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

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

Wilkins Architecture Design Planning - Jacob Sertich

jsertich@wilkinsadp.com - 308-237-5787 - www.wilkinsadp.com - Our success is based on a "yes, and..." approach. Our clients believe in us because we're collaborative, adaptive, innovative, and genuine. - PLATINUM LEVEL AFFILIATE

AWARDS & PLAQUES

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

CONSTRUCTION SERVICES

BD Construction - Marsha Wilkerson - 308-234-1836 mwilkerson@bdconstruction.com - www.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 Management, 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

Hausmann Construction - Ashley Abramson - 402-438-3230 ashleya@hausmannconstruction.com - https://hausmannconstruction.com/ PLATINUM LEVEL AFFILIATE

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

Project Control - Adam Hoebelheinrich - ahoebelheinrich@projectcontrol.com Caleb Swanson - cswanson@projectcontrol.com - Justin Short jshort@projectcontrol.com - Patti McAtee - pmcatee@projectcontrol.com 402-477-0487 - https://projectcontrol.com/ - (With over 1,000 completed school projects, Project Control provides public and private schools expertise in managing capital projects, from non-bond large capital improvement planning and budgeting, bond preparation, and facility assessments through design and construction to occupancy.) - GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

Sampson Construction, Co., Inc. - Bob Everitt - 402-434-5450 bob.everitt@sampson-construction.com - https://www.sampson-construction.com/ (With over six decades of professional construction expertise and knowledge, quality is an uncompromising standard.) - PLATINUM LEVEL AFFILIATE

CONSULTING

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

DATA SECURITY, VIDEO & COMMUNICATIONS

Filament Essential Services - Lisa Lewis - 402-479-6661 - lisal@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 - Ryan Terry - 402-840-0370 - rterry@navitas.us.com https://navitas.us.com/ - (Energy Savings, Building Construction, Energy Management, Guaranteed Results) - 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

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

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

Nebraska Liquid Asset Fund - NLAF - Barry Ballou - 402-705-0350 - balloub@pfmam.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.opaafood.com - (Contract Food Service Management)

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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.) - Silver Level Affiliate

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 Cross Blue Shield of Nebraska - Brett Young - 402-630-5117 brett.young@nebraskablue.com - www.nebraskablue.com (Group health insurance) - GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

National Insurance Services - Megan Ware - 402-506-2170 mware@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@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 (We help consult and guide school districts in the best commercial grade playground equipment, shade, surfacing, site furnishings, and splash pads that fits their budget.) - 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

Hamilton - Megan Anderson - 402.694.5101 megan.anderson@hamiltontel.com - https://hamiltontel.com/ (Connecting Your World - Telecommunications and Technology Solutions) PLATINUM LEVEL AFFILIATE

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