

# 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



## "NEVER DOUBT THAT A SMALL GROUP OF THOUGHTFUL INDIVIDUALS CAN CHANGE THE WORLD."

The line was delivered in the fictional favorite, *The West Wing*, by President Jed Bartlet, portrayed by actor Martin Sheen, but seems rather apropos here. In late April, 20+ school board members and education leaders from across Nebraska joined NASB as we ventured to Washington, D.C., to strengthen relationships with our delegation, meet with the U.S. Department of Education and experience advocacy on the Federal level. An extremely productive & memorable trip, with some fun surprises along the way. Thanks to all who joined us this year. If you're interested in joining us for future trips, please reach out and let us know!

*"Thank you for the invite to D.C. and the great efforts you do on behalf of the Nebraska school boards. I thought it was a great experience, lots of information, and great sharing among the members that went." (Brian Copey, Gering BOE)*

*"Truly great conversations focused on K-12 public education with our elected Federal representatives and officials in the U.S. Department of Education. A memorable experience with friends and colleagues." (Stephanie Summers, David City BOE)*

*"This trip was a wonderful opportunity to build relationships and bridges that benefit students in Nebraska and across the country." (Brad Wilkins, Ainsworth BOE)*

*"@RepAdrianSmith - It was great seeing you and so many visiting Nebraskans at the breakfast. Thank you for taking time to meet with Nebraska school board members earlier in the week. Together we can lift up our teachers and ensure quality public education for our children." (Drew Blessing, Kearney BOE)*



CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

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)



# WASHINGTON, DC (CONTINUED)

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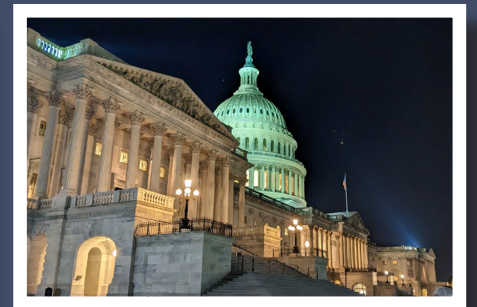
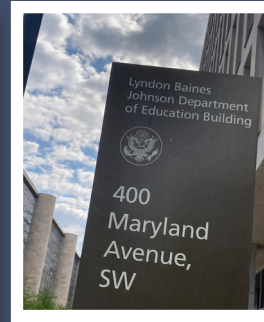
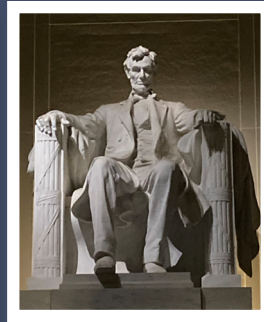
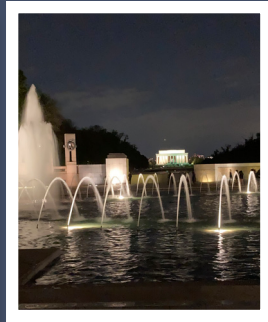
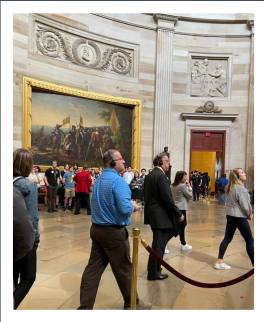
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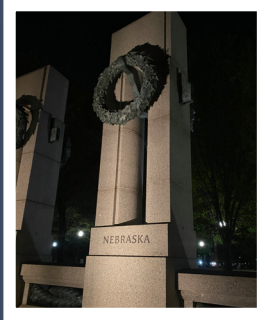
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# TRAINING, NETWORKING, ENGAGEMENT & EVENTS

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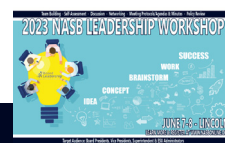
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<https://members.nasbonline.org/events>



## Your Monthly Board Agenda Update Video Links from NASB

<https://members.nasbonline.org/news-resources/video-library>



### NASB Leadership Workshop - June 7-8 - Lincoln

Team Building - Self-Assessment - Discussion - Networking - Meeting Protocols/Agendas & Minutes - Policy Review

FORE!

### NASB Member Golf Outing - June 14 - Kearney Country Club

### School Leaders & Law Conference - June 14-15 - Kearney



### ALICAP Summer Workshops - July 10 - Gering

### ALICAP Summer Workshops - July 11 - Kearney

### ALICAP Summer Workshops - July 12 - Lincoln



JOIN US!

## Area Membership Meetings Begin August 22nd!!!

AUGUST 22 - VALENTINE

AUGUST 23 - GERING

AUGUST 24 - YORK

AUGUST 29 - NORTH PLATTE

SEPTEMBER 6 - NORFOLK

SEPTEMBER 13 - KEARNEY

SEPTEMBER 19 - LA VISTA

SEPTEMBER 20 - FREMONT

SEPTEMBER 27 - NEBRASKA CITY



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.



# AT THE BOARD TABLE

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## BOARD CALENDAR AGENDA ITEMS FOR YOUR JUNE MEETINGS

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

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

### JUNE BOARD AGENDA ITEMS

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

- Policy Review
    - I. Parent and Family Engagement Policy on or before July 1 per § 79-532; § 79-533;
    - II. Bully Prevention Policy on or before July 1 per § 79-2,137;
    - III. Annual review of policy pertaining to Appropriate Relationships with Students;
  - Student Accountability
    - I. Reports; filing requirements; contents. On or before July 20 in all school districts, the superintendent shall file with the State Department of Education a report showing the number of children from five through eighteen years of age belonging to the school district according to the census taken as provided in sections § 79-524 and 79-578. Neglect to report may result in penalty.
  - Budget - Review staff Report for the 2023-24 School Year including:
    - I. Administrators – demographics, # of positions needed, # of tenured, # of non-tenured
    - II. Certificate Staff - demographics, # of positions needed by building/district, # of tenured, # of non-tenured, teaching assignments, # of positions open, etc.
    - III. Classified Staff – demographics, # of positions needed by building/district, # of positions open, etc.
  - Advocacy – Submit Legislative Resolution or Standing Position to the NASB Legislation Committee
- \*\*Review the full June Agenda on page 25 of the 2023 NASB Board Meeting Guide & Annual Board Calendar.**

### 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 [mherring@NASBonline.org](mailto:mherring@NASBonline.org) 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** – Schedule for the remainder of 2023 to be determined. The lunch and learn time block for the Board President Circle will be sustained at 12:00 p.m. CST and 12:00 p.m. MT. However, I do anticipate offering an evening time block during the fall to engage with those who are not able to set aside time for a meeting during their day-time schedule.

**NASB Leadership Workshop – June 7 and 8, 2023** – Join us in Lincoln for a working retreat to further develop the Superintendent/ESU Administrator, Board President, and Vice President leadership team. The day and a half agenda will include team building activities addressing a superintendent/ESU Administrator-board governance audit, healthy leadership working relationships, meeting protocols including the agenda and minutes, committee structure, Open Meetings Law, scenarios, goal planning, superintendent evaluation, policy, and more. Register now at <https://members.nasbonline.org/events/nasb-leadership-workshop>.



# AN ALICAP MARKET OUTLOOK

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<https://www.alicap.org/>

## NASB WORKERS' COMPENSATION POOL

Before 1990, Nebraska public school boards managed the risk associated with operating a school district by transferring those risks to the commercial insurance market. In 1990 financial conditions in the insurance marketplace were creating havoc for some Nebraska schools seeking to acquire Workers' Compensation coverage. Those districts having trouble were faced with the possibility of participating in the Nebraska State Assigned Risk Workers' Compensation Program, a very expensive and heavily surcharged option. A board of eleven trustees formed to govern the NASB Workers' Compensation Pool with 32 districts. Since then, the NASB self-insurance pool for worker compensation has evolved for schools to obtain other coverages essential for protecting their risks and on 9/1/1996, the workers' compensation pool became:

## NASB ALL LINES INTERLOCAL COOPERATIVE AGGREGATE POOL

The Pool expanded coverage to include Property, General Liability, Automobile, School Board Errors and Omissions, Crime and Employee Dishonesty. ALICAP continues to grow by providing additional services and new coverage while assisting districts with their risk management needs. Pollution and Cyber Liability were two coverages added for members effective 9/1/2017.

## MARKET OUTLOOK

Essentially, ALICAP formed because it was difficult to get coverage at a competitive price. We are witnessing these tough times once again, especially in the property market. Hurricanes, floods, tornados, wildfires, and windstorms continue to put pressure on reinsurers. These catastrophes are the major factor driving costs higher coupled with inflation, supply chain disruptions, labor shortages, depleted capital, and Hurricane IAN. For years, escalating loss trends have outpaced rate increases, and expect to see rates rise again this year to close the gap.

Underwriters are being selective and will continue to focus on valuation issues. We are witnessing a deterioration in market conditions on Catastrophic property, especially wind exposed programs. Carriers will look favorably on risks with accurate valuations and ALICAP prepared for this by partnering with Kroll Fixed Asset Advisory Services. Kroll conducted physical inspections and provided replacement cost values for markets this year and we should expect premiums will reflect these higher values.

***More details regarding the market and how it will affect ALICAP's renewal will be presented at the NASB Summer Safety Workshops coming up in July!***



School Administrators and central office staff are invited to attend the 2023 ALICAP Summer Safety Workshops!

ALICAP is once again hosting a FREE\* Summer Safety Workshop! This workshop offers a great opportunity for school administrators and central office staff to get the latest information from:

Megan Boldt, Director of ALICAP

Sheri Shonka, Coverage Expert at Public Risk Management

Jay Martin, the new Safety Director at NDE.

### JOIN US AT ONE OF THREE LOCATIONS

July 10 - Gering

July 11 - Kearney

July 12 - Lincoln

Registration desk opens at 9:30 AM and the workshop will adjourn by 2:30 PM. Lunch will be provided. You won't want to miss this workshop!

\*Each ALICAP member district receives 3 complimentary registrations. Non-member and additional registrations can be purchased for \$40. Register by Wednesday, July 5.



# OH CHRISTMAS TREES ... A LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

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

In the May 2nd edition of **NASB's Legislative Notes**, we broke down this year's Education Committee's "Christmas Tree" and its 17 "ornaments", among other key items. Since then, 4 more ornaments have been added through additional rounds of debate.

The "Tree" is still LB 705 (Murman) - *Change provisions for the distribution of lottery funds used for education, transfer powers and duties, create new acts and funds, and change education provisions.* The original 17 bills mentioned all remain. Since then, the bill is now on Final Reading, and 4 additional bills have made their way onto the tree, LB 201 (Provide a HS graduation requirement relating to federal student aid), LB 585 (Change a duty of the state school security director and require behavioral and mental health training for certain school personnel), LB 774 (Change provisions relating to the Student Discipline Act), & LB 805 (Require schools to allow certain youth organizations to provide information, services, and activities.). It should be noted LB 800 (Change provisions relating to the Superintendent Pay Transparency Act and provide a limit for superintendent and ESU administrator compensation) was NOT added, although there was a lot of discussion that it was going to be a part of the tree. Again, there are bills both NASB supports and opposes within this package. We've continued to work on improving those bills we oppose and supporting others.



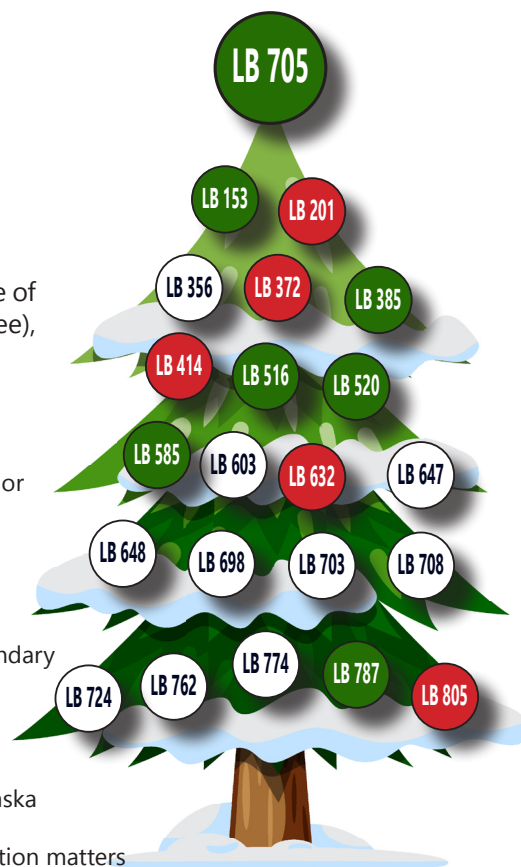
LB 153	LB 201*	LB 372	LB 385	LB 414
LB 516	LB 520	LB 585*	LB 603	LB 632
LB 647	LB 708	LB 724	LB 774*	LB 762
LB 787	LB 805*	*NEW		

## OTHER BILLS

We are also paying close attention to the Budget and the Governor's Finance Package of Bills (LB 243, LB 583, & LB 818), as well as LB 727 (Revenue Committee's Christmas Tree), and LB 753 (Adopt the Opportunity Scholarships Act and provide tax credits).

## THE FOLLOWING INTERIM STUDIES HAVE BEEN INTRODUCED

- LR 125 (Conrad) - Review juvenile justice involvement for youth who are excessively absent or truant from school.
- LR 129 (DeKay) - Examine the shortage of sports officials in Nebraska
- LR 144 (Erdman) - Examine the subject of school choice where all education funding is distributed on a per student basis and follows the student to the school of their choice
- LR 147 (Murman) - Parental involvement in public schools
- LR 148 (Murman) - Examine the use of federal funds from the federal Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund and the use of the Launch Nebraska Website
- LR 149 (Murman) - Social-emotional learning
- LR 152 (Hughes) - Examine all factors that may impact a school district's ability to attract and retain qualified superintendents and administrators
- LR 158 (McDonnell) - Carry out the provisions of section 13-2402, which requires the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee to monitor underfunded defined benefit plans
- LR 192 (Linehan) - Examine the relationship between joint public agencies and public education matters



## NASB CALL FOR LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS - DUE JULY 1

<https://registrations.nasbonline.org//ProposedResolution.aspx>

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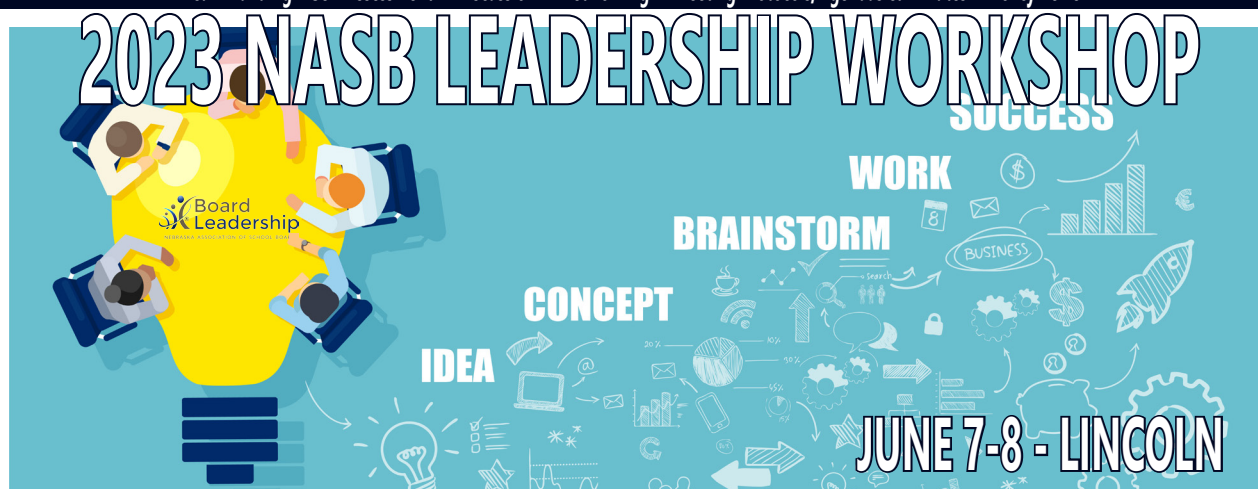
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<https://members.nasbonline.org/events/nasb-leadership-workshop>

Team Building - Self-Assessment - Discussion - Networking - Meeting Protocols/Agendas & Minutes - Policy Review



Target Audience: Board Presidents, Vice Presidents, Superintendents & ESU Administrators

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

## ANNUAL NASB MEMBER GOLF OUTING

JUNE 14 - KEARNEY COUNTRY CLUB - EMAIL [SENDORF@NASBONLINE.ORG](mailto:SENDORF@NASBONLINE.ORG) TO PARTICIPATE

<https://members.nasbonline.org/events/school-leaders-and-law-conference>

## NASB SCHOOL LEADERS & LAW CONFERENCE

JUNE 14-15 - KEARNEY

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14 - 6:30 TO 11:00 PM

**NETWORKING RECEPTION & HOSPITALITY SUITE**

AN EVENING OF NETWORKING THAT WILL INCLUDE PRIZES FROM THE GOLF OUTING, A LIGHT DINNER BUFFET, LIVE MUSIC, AND A HOSPITALITY SUITE.

THURSDAY, JUNE 15 - 9:00 AM TO 3:15 PM

**SCHOOL LEADERS & LAW CONFERENCE**

JOIN US FOR TOPICS LIKE KNOW YOUR ROLE ... THE SCHOOL BOARD AS JUDGE & JURY. THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT: BE OPEN-MINDED ABOUT CLOSED SESSION. CHECKING THE PULSE OF YOUR DISTRICT & STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT. SCHOOL LIABILITY – EVERYTHING FROM DISCRIMINATION CLAIMS TO WORKPLACE INJURIES. CIVILITY IN GOVERNANCE. IT'S NOT JUST WHAT YOU DO ... IT'S HOW YOU DO IT. DON'T GET (PARENT) RIGHTS WRONG. SLOW AS MOLASSES IN JANUARY ... AND FEB, AND MAR, AND APR, AND MAY, AND JUNE. WHAT THE LEGISLATURE WAS FINALLY ABLE TO GET DONE IN A STICKY SITUATION. BEST PRACTICES IN SCHOOL SAFETY & SECURITY. HOT LEGAL TOPICS. AND MORE ...



# TRANSPARENCY & TRUST

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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.***



Some school board and community members call for transparency when referring to the need to share education-related information, data, and processes. They say things like “we need to be transparent” or “you are not being transparent”. When I hear those kinds of statements, I am left wondering what it is they are trying to accomplish or what information needs to be shared and why it should or should not be shared.

Transparency is defined as the quality of being visible or giving others access to information, data, or processes especially as it relates to business practices. It is also defined as being free from deceit and being open to public scrutiny.

It might appear that transparency for transparency’s sake would be a good policy. However, social science and business researchers have identified the existence of toxic transparency or “the dark side of transparency”. Toxic transparency is transparency that is unfounded or that has negative consequences.

In the work we do as school board members it is imperative that we make information accessible and share data to inform the public and ourselves, but we must do it in ways that don’t lead to unintended consequences. As community members it is important to understand that just because a board or organization does not give us access to everything we might want them to share, it does not mean that they are being deceitful or lack transparency.

When calling for transparency or when determining how to be transparent, it is important to consider factors that lead to effective information access rather than contribute to unintended consequences such as mistrust.

The first factor is the purpose for requesting or providing transparency. There are numerous reasons “why” individuals and groups request transparency as well as many reasons why individuals make information and processes available such as “be transparent”, “inform others”, “build trust”, “improve decision making”, “gain credibility”, “spur debate”, “insight anger” or “build mistrust.”

The purpose or “why” of transparency is intertwined with the information to be accessed. Consider an example of a superintendent and school board. Board members may request that they be included in staff hiring processes. The superintendent could include board members in that process. However, school boards do not run the school, they see that the school is well run through the establishment of sound policies. It is the superintendent’s responsibility to recommend staff to be hired. The “why” for not sharing the process with board members is that it would give authority to the board that is not afforded them as board members.

If the “why” or purpose for providing information is to create mistrust or to anger others, individuals may share false information or make unfounded accusations under the guise of being transparent. This is the epitome of the dark side of transparency.

The Little Boy Who Cried Wolf, one of Aesop’s Fables is another example

that illuminates the dark side of transparency. In the fable the little shepherd boy tells the villagers, on multiple occasions, that the wolf is coming to get the sheep when there is no wolf. Each time, the villagers come running. When the wolf does come, the shepherd boy’s call for help goes unheeded because the villagers do not believe him. Sharing unfounded information is toxic transparency that leads to a lack of trust.

The second factor is to consider the benefits vs. risks of sharing information. For example, an individual might request access to information that is confidential. Although the official who has access to the information does not want to be accused of deceit for not sharing the information, the negative implications of providing information that should not be shared outweighs the potential perception of the person who has made the request. So, just because processes, information, or data could be shared does not mean that it is always wise or appropriate to do so.

A third transparency factor to consider is the timing of when the requested information is provided. For example, if the “why” is to help colleagues make a decision, information needs to be provided with ample time for study, questioning, and reflection. If it is shared too late, colleagues may not view the access to information as being transparent. On the other hand, if information is shared prematurely, by the time the information is needed it is likely to be discounted. In both situations the result of poor timing can lead to a lack of trust.

Although we think of lack of trust coming from lack of transparency, it is clear seeking and providing transparency, if not done wisely and honestly, can lead to a lack of trust.

As Board members, we have an obligation to the public and to ourselves to make pertinent, accurate information available in a timely fashion, while being careful not to unwittingly build mistrust within our ranks or with the public.

As community members, we need to analyze why we or others are requesting transparency, recognize that transparency does not mean getting access just because we want it, and not assume that transparency is always well intended.

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

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## ... SEARCH, STRENGTHS & AWARDS

### GALLUP STRENGTHSFINDER

Schedule a Gallup retreat for the district leadership team, staff or board. On May 8, the Strengthsfinder Assessment was completed for the 30 millionth time.

In the trainings I have led, *Empathy* seems to be a common theme among educators. Do you have *Empathy* in your Top 5? Descriptor words: listening, sensitive, aware, intuitive, expressive, emotional.

### EDUCATION LEADERSHIP SEARCH SERVICE

It is not too early to request a proposal if you have a superintendent retiring in June of 2024. Contact us for questions on protocol, procedures, or a proposal.

### AWARDS OF ACHIEVEMENT

An email reminder will be coming soon to check points.

Contact Shari at [sbecker@NASBonline.org](mailto:sbecker@NASBonline.org) for these programs/services!

## ... BOARD LEADERSHIP

Check out "At the Board Table" on page 5.

### NASB LEADERSHIP RETREAT June 7-8 - Lincoln

Marcia, Kari, Katie, Caden & Stacie

## ... ADVOCACY & GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

A few weeks left in this year's 90-Day Session ... In the last month we've had incredible engagement from so many of you at our inaugural NASB Legislative Advocacy Day, in Washington D.C., at local Legislative Lunches, and in many other ways!

See the latest update on page 7 including the latest on all key bills, and future interim hearings.

Bookmark and frequent NASB's Bills Page now at <https://nasb.envisiams.com/legislative-bills> as it is continually updated!

### CALL FOR PROPOSALS

NASB's Call for Legislative Proposals is due July 1 ... start thinking of items you and your board might like to submit.

Call Colby & Matt with questions any time!

## ... TECHNOLOGY

### Welcome New Subscribers

City of Imperial

West Point Public Schools

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

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

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

## ... POLICY

Late spring or early summer is a great time to review and update school safety and emergency operations plans (EOP). As you update your safety plan policy and guidelines, remember to check related policies to avoid problematic policy contradictions. This would include those dealing with safety drills, video surveillance, visitors to the school, search and seizure, vape and metal detectors, and access to buildings. The Nebraska Department of Education will also be providing an EOP seminar for assistance and has great planning materials on their website.

Contact Jim to learn more!

## ... ALICAP & INSURANCE

ALICAP is once again hosting our Summer Safety Workshop! This workshop offers a great opportunity for school administrators and central office staff to get the latest information! See page 6 for more details!

Monday, July 10 - Gering  
Tuesday, July 11 - Kearney  
Wednesday, July 12 - Lincoln

Thanks, Megan!



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## ... ENERGY PURCHASING

Natural gas prices have seen sideways movement for the last six weeks with weak demand from the mild winter creating higher storage volumes balanced off against surprising strength in the economy and a gradual reduction in the numbers of drilling rigs because of higher drilling costs. In many ways this parallels the sideways moves of the major markets in the country for recent months. Our NJUMP and CJUMP consultants are keeping a close watch for the point at which a definite direction to all this begins to take shape to help our members stay ahead of the changes.

Contact Jim to learn more!

## ... DATA ANALYTICS

We create district data summary analyses for districts who would like to have a quick, clear means of showing parents, political representatives, and patrons how your own district compares to both nearby districts and similar-sized districts at a glance. As your district gets deep into the budget process for next year, these summaries are useful for answering questions of how your district's valuation, levy, cost per pupil, and poverty indicators compare to others. Contact Jim Luebke if you are interested in creating one of these summaries for your own school.

Contact Jim to learn more!



Paul Grieger  
Managing Director,  
Public Finance  
402-392-7986  
pgrieger@dadco.com



Cody Wickham  
Senior Vice President,  
Public Finance  
402-392-7989  
cwickham@dadco.com



Andy Forney  
Senior Vice President,  
Public Finance  
402-392-7988  
aforney@dadco.com

## Building a Better Future with Nebraska's Public Finance Partner

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

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

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



D|A|DAVIDSON

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

## ... MEMBER ENGAGEMENT

There is still time to register and join us for our June events and networking!  
NASB Leadership Workshop - June 7-8 in Lincoln  
School Leaders & Law Conference, and the NASB Golf Outing  
June 14-15 in Kearney  
Those interested in golfing, please email me at [sendorf@NASBOnline.org](mailto:sendorf@NASBOnline.org)

Exciting news, we are expanding the networking opportunities this year! Whether you are golfing on June 14 or not, plan to join us for an evening of live music, a light dinner buffet and time spent with your peers.

Contact Sharon with any questions.

# YOUR NASB BOARD OF DIRECTORS & STAFF

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## YOUR NASB OFFICERS

<https://members.nasbonline.org/board-of-directors>



**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

<https://members.nasbonline.org/board-of-directors>



**Region 1 - Neal Kanel**  
HTRS



**Region 2 - Sarah Centineo**  
Bellevue



**Region 3 - Renee Vokt**  
Elkhorn



**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

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



**John Spatz**  
Executive Director



**Megan Boldt**  
Associate Executive Director/  
Director of ALICAP



**Katie Coble**  
Board Leadership Associate



**Stacie Higgins**  
Board Leadership Associate



**Kem Loecker**  
Executive Administrative  
Assistant



**Makenzie Barry**  
ALICAP Data &  
Financial Specialist



**Craig Caples**  
Director of Technology



**Sharon Endorf**  
Director of  
Member Engagement



**Sallie Horky**  
Chief Operating Officer



**Jim Luebbe**  
Director of Policy Services



**Shari Becker**  
Director of Education  
Leadership Search Service



**Abi Carlson**  
Event & Search Service  
Associate



**Caden Frank**  
Board Leadership Associate



**Rachel Horstman**  
Business Manager



**Kari Stephens**  
Board Leadership Associate



**Matt Belka**  
Director of Marketing,  
Communications & Advocacy



**Colby Coash**  
Associate Executive Director/  
Dir. of Government Relations



**Marcia Herring**  
Director of Board Leadership



**Nicole Kraus**  
Events & Engagement  
Associate



**Lindsey Wooton**  
Administrative Specialist



# YOUR 2023 NASB AFFILIATES

Leadership

Innovation

Vision

Engagement

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1,960,000 Nebraskans

324,000 Students

1,700 Locally Elected School Board Members

260 Member Districts/ESUs

ONE NEBRASKA

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## YOUR 2023 PLATINUM & 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@bv.com - [www.bv.com](http://www.bv.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](http://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](http://www.cmbaarchitects.com) - (Architecture, Master Planning, Interiors, Bond Assistance/Community Engagement) - PLATINUM LEVEL AFFILIATE

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## ARCHITECTS (CONTINUED)

**Carlson West Povondra Architects** - Jamie Eckmann - 402-551-1500  
jeckmann@cwparhitects.com - www.cwparhitects.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

**Global Roofing Company** - Job LeRay - 800-257-3758  
leray@globalroofingcompany.com - www.globalroofingcompany.com/  
(Full service roofing company specializing in commercial, industrial, and multi-family re-roofing installations with a focus on flat, low sloped, and metal re-roofing applications.) - PLATINUM 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 - 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** - Ryan Terry & Shane Alexander - 402-840-0370  
salexandereds@gmail.com - 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 systems) - 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@fnmi.com - Carl Dietz - 308-289-3920 carldietz@fnmi.com  
www.fnncapitalmarkets.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) - 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

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## FOOD SERVICE

**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.) - Silver Level Affiliate

## INSURANCE SERVICES

**American Fidelity** - Stacey Anderson - 402-432-2251  
stacey.anderson@americanfidelity.com - [www.americanfidelity.com/nebraska](http://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](http://www.nebraskablue.com)  
(Group health insurance) - GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

**National Insurance Services** - Megan Ware - 402-506-2170  
mware@nisbenefits.com - [www.nisbenefits.com](http://www.nisbenefits.com)  
(Group LTD, Life, Vision, Special Pay Plans, HRA's)

**Public Risk Management** - Sheri Shonka - 402-884-3751  
sheri.shonka@prmn.com - [www.alicap.org](http://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](http://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](http://eric@crouchrec.com)  
[www.crouchrec.com](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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@hamiltonel.com - <https://hamiltonel.com/>  
(Connecting Your World - Telecommunications and Technology Solutions)  
PLATINUM LEVEL AFFILIATE

**Renaissance** - <https://www.renaissance.com/>  
Valerie Vallejo - 480-329-0398 - [valerie.vallejo@renaissance.com](mailto:valerie.vallejo@renaissance.com)  
Sparkle Oehlert - 928-514-2901 - [Sparkle.oehlert@renaissance.com](mailto:Sparkle.oehlert@renaissance.com)  
Mark Kessler - 503-616-6246 - [Mark.kessler@renaissance.com](mailto:Mark.kessler@renaissance.com)  
(Continually innovating with bold, connected products ... Insights and actions for education) - PLATINUM LEVEL AFFILIATE

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

## TRANSPORTATION

**Cornhusker International** - Russ Folts - 402-466-8461 ext 206  
russ.folts@cornhuskerinternational.com - [www.cornhuskerinternational.com](http://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](http://www.masterstransportation.com)  
(Your trusted source for safe, reliable, and innovative group transportation solutions.) - GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE



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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

NEVER DOUBT THAT A SMALL GROUP OF THOUGHTFUL INDIVIDUALS CAN CHANGE THE WORLD

AT THE BOARD TABLE

AN ALICAP MARKET OUTLOOK

OH CHRISTMAS TREES ... A LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

NASB CALL FOR LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS - DUE JULY 1

JOIN US IN JUNE!

TRANSPARENCY & TRUST

YOUR 2023 NASB AFFILIATES

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)