



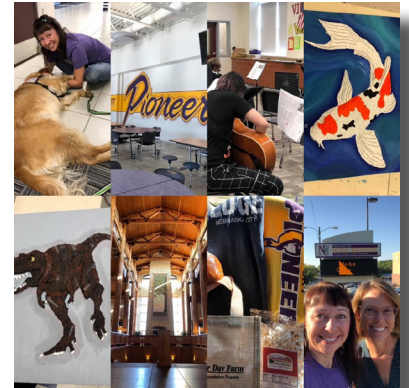
From Millard to Nebraska City to Dundly County Stratton to Bayard to Ainsworth to West Point to Bellevue! Earlier this month, NASB Region Director Stacy Jolley of Millard set out on a statewide loop to see what makes Nebraska schools special at a few of her peers' districts! To see ALL of the quick videos, photos and reports, check out Stacy's facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/stacy.l.jolley>

NEBRASKA CITY

Wow! I just had an awesome visit to Nebraska City Public Schools with my good friend, Stacie Higgins, who serves on their school board and also is the President of NASB.

This outstanding district is doing such great things. Two of my favorite programs I learned about are Jobs for America's Graduates and a high school/elementary school mentoring program that was started by their high school student council.

In the JAG program, high school students learn 35+ traits that are critical for success in their careers. Their dynamic principal listed several of these traits/skills but the three that jumped out at me are (I'm paraphrasing here): how to apply for a job, how to get along with a boss you don't like, and how to quit a job without burning bridges. These REAL LIFE SKILLS are so important as younger workers change jobs more frequently. And anything we can do to address the crippling labor shortage in Nebraska deserves our time, attention, and funding.



The high school/elementary school program sends the big kids to the elementary school once a week for recess, simply to play with the little kids. They serve as fun role models with no agenda other than making connections and inspiring kids to work hard and have fun in school. Isn't that awesome?! I mean, when I was a kid, I would have thought it was SO cool to have an older kid playing four square and tetherball with us!

In education, we talk a lot about vertical integration of curriculum. In other words, does what a student learn in Kg/1/2/3 adequately prepare them for the skills they need to learn in 4th grade? This play/mentorship program seems to me to vertically integrate community, school pride, and aspirations for young students to stay engaged with school.

And after visiting their high school and their younger-grades elementary school, I also got a guided tour of their beautiful town. Nebraska City is really gorgeous and so vibrant. Of course, Arbor Lodge is stunning, as is the Lied Lodge/Conference Center. And to top it all off, I got

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an awesome goodie bag from my dear friend and colleague.

Thank you Stacie and all the welcoming folks I met in your outstanding district! What a great morning. Now I'm headed to Benkelman to tour Dundy County Stratton Schools tomorrow. Go west, young woman!

DUNDY COUNTY STRATTON

It has been a long and wonderful day. Huge, huge respect to people who live in rural areas and who drive long distances every single day. All hail rural school bus drivers! It takes a toll, but I also love all the book-listening time and the spectacular scenery. Nebraska truly is beautiful.

Speaking of beautiful... the people and community in Dundy County Stratton were amazing. The things I saw and the stories I heard brought me to tears a couple times. This is a very small district, with a total enrollment around 300 kids. And the caring administrators, teachers, and staff who teach and guide these kids are just the best example of what's right with public education. These people care about all kids and making sure that each one gets opportunities in their corner of the world. (And I mean corner both figuratively and literally...we were only 1 mile from KS and 32 miles from CO.)



I spent my day with my NASB friend Sandy Noffsinger, and the DCS Superintendent, Jackie Anderson. The high school and middle school are housed together in the same building. The elementary school is down the hill. And there's a second (much smaller) elementary school in Stratton. Here's an interesting fact...they operate in two time zones! Stratton is Central and Benkelman is Mountain.

At each school, I ask what they're most proud of and what they'd like to brag about. At DCS, they are proudest of their community. They have several generous community members who have started foundations which give every single graduating senior a scholarship worth thousands of dollars. The way the community cares for its youth and helps prepare and then launch them into the world is beautiful. They're also proud of their fiscal conservatism. They have a very low levy and work hard to keep it that way. They're about to do an expansion at the high school and they've raised/saved the money they need before they break ground.

One more example of community: this past January, a fire started in a pasture outside of town, in the middle of the night. As the fire raced toward town, 70+ rural/volunteer firefighters from 14

different fire departments in three states came to the rescue. The hospital and the town were evacuated. It didn't look like Benkelman would survive. But through the heroism of community, the fire was stopped, right before it hit the town. In the end, only one shed on the edge of town was lost and the school and hospital were spared. At a recent football game, both football teams formed lines and the first responders did the tunnel walk out of the locker room and on to the field. The entire crowd was on its feet as the line of heroes covered almost the entire length of the field. I have shivers all over just writing this. What did I tell you...beautiful!

BAYARD

Day 3 is in the books! I spent the morning in the Nebraska panhandle in Bayard Public Schools and the two words that immediately come to mind to describe them are opportunity and ingenuity!

I was blown away by the wealth of opportunities these kids have! Bayard is a small district with big goals and big creativity. They have fully embraced distance learning and they won't let their small size dictate a ceiling on what their students can access. They contract with other districts to provide "zoom" learning in Spanish, math, history, etc. when they have students who need more classes than their current schedule can accommodate. They're also using staff sharing with other districts to provide mental health services and access to a school psychologist.



And they have found ingenious solutions to solve any obstacle that comes their way. As we walked around and I heard about the way they shift teachers around between grade levels for small group instruction, or utilize the counselor to teach some sections of English, and on and on, my head swam thinking of their master schedule.

They hustle for grants; their high schoolers walk across the street to eat lunch at the elementary school to combine operations; they host monthly Community Coffees that bring in town leaders to collaborate on solutions to challenges in education/housing/healthcare/staffing; they host a spring community service clean up day where every single K-12 student works on the school, the community, the local museum, even local homes that need some TLC; they really engage every stakeholder to keep their schools strong and vibrant. And their community believes in that mission and supports them wholeheartedly.

Best of all, I got to spend the morning with my wonderful friend,

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"MY WEEK-LONG ADVENTURE CONTINUES!"

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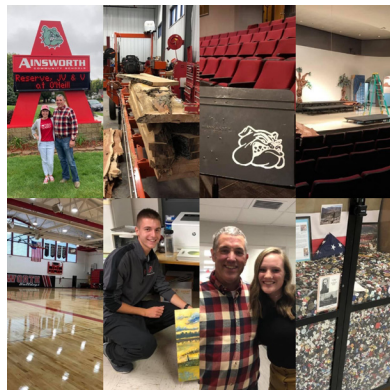
Kimberly Burry! Thank you to her for the fun gifts from The Vault/ Mercantile, a local coffee shop and store that you **MUST** visit if you are in the panhandle. (Seriously, I felt like I had stepped into an episode of HGTV gorgeousness!) She arranged a private visit to the Depot Museum (a beautiful collection of Bayard's history); special thanks to town historian Evelyn for opening it for us. And thanks also for the awesome BPS swag! It reflects the brilliant branding and school spirit you see in every hallway and classroom in their schools.

This district, with its rockstar superintendent and staff, is the definition of Maximizer and I love it!

AINSWORTH

Oh man, I am so incredibly grateful for today's host. Brad Wilkins is the president-elect of NASB and a board member for Ainsworth Community Schools. Before I tell you about their super schools, I just have to say a special thanks to Brad. He puts up with my **ENDLESS** questions about agriculture and livestock. The poor guy has had to provide so many answers and he always does so with good cheer and a teacher's heart. He never makes me feel stupid for my utter lack of ag knowledge. (The Ag Ed teachers and FFA sponsors have been equally helpful in this! Lettuce comes from a plastic bag in my world, so learning more about food production has been wonderful!) So...thank you, Brad!

On to amazing Ainsworth! Super fun, see-new-things tour today. Ainsworth houses its preK-12th grade population of about 425 students in one building. As we spoke to the elementary principal, he talked about blasting out some hallway tunes on the Friday walk-out and having the high school students dancing alongside the elementary kids. How precious is that!



Like the other schools I've visited, Ainsworth has huge heart and a great sense of community. Their community foundation has been integral with grants to improve their school. A few years ago, their auditorium was refurbished, in part, with one of those grants.

I feel like this district is doing a remarkable job of, as Brad calls it, "growing their own." Small towns everywhere are battling shrinking numbers. And while some students move away, many wish to remain in this very special place. Those students will become the future farmers, plumbers, auto mechanics, builders, etc. in their town. This school is making **SO** many opportunities available for its kids to find their passion both through school and through

COE (Cooperative Occupational Education) and OJT (On the Job Training). They work with community businesses to give these experiences/internships and it's a win-win-win for the student, the business, and the town. And they're also mindful that many careers that previously required you to move away, now can be done from anywhere. ACS are showing students how they don't need to leave their beloved town to find career opportunities.

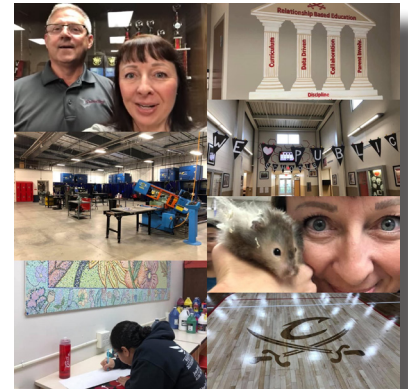
Thank you to all the awesome administrators and staff who made me feel so welcome in Ainsworth today!

WEST POINT

I spent my Friday in wonderful West Point! This town holds a special place in my heart, as my grandma lived here when I was little, and many of my cousins attended this school and still live here.

West Point Public Schools has a total enrollment of about 730 students. Their K-12 students are housed in one large building with three separate wings.

This year, they replaced all the lighting in the building with LEDs. The lighting is so bright and clean and makes learning so much better.



This project is a great example of the wise use of tax dollars. The cost of the lights is \$35k per year for five years. But the WPS energy bill will be \$40-43k less **EVERY YEAR**. So the lights more than pay for themselves each year and at the end of five years, the savings really roll in. And the fact that it's a better work environment and better for the planet...win-win-win!

According to their superintendent, WPS has the best band teacher in the world. And guess what, she's a Millard High School grad! It was great talking to Mrs. Sellhorst about how she's grown the band from eight students to 50 students during her time at WPS.

And in Mrs. Schuetze's class, I got to hold Lucy, the teddy bear hamster. Mrs. Schuetze is a fourth grade teacher so she painted a NE mural on her wall. The pics don't do it justice!

WPS has found success through the development and use of their Cadet Code and their Vision pillars. Over the years they've had many students arrive at their district the age of a senior, but with the skills and credit hours of a freshman. They welcome every student and do all they can to advance each child academically, socially, and emotionally. Their processes are key to helping as many kids as possible to succeed.

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We also got to tour their amazing career academy building that is a partnership with Northeast Community College and several school districts. The students who attend can earn their CNA, Med Assistant, EMT, and other professional training/certifications like welding, manufacturing, etc. What a cool collaboration!

Thank you to my local host, Steve Blocher, and his superintendent for the awesome tour of his special district!

BELLEVUE

My last stop...beautiful Bellevue! If you're not from Bellevue, you might think that Bellevue is "part of Omaha." And while it's certainly part of the metro area, it definitely has its own identity and a strong sense of community.

With Offutt Air Force Base being in their town, about 28% of their schools are made up of military families. What a gift that is! When you're in a history class and you're discussing a faraway country, there's a chance that one of those kids has lived there!

BPS also receives some federal dollars because of military impact (no property taxes are collected on the huge land area of the base). Unfortunately, that aid has been drastically cut over the last few years (about \$7-10 million less per year). Ouch.

I loved everything I saw, starting with their new mobile health clinic, which is a partnership with One World Community Health. It alternates being parked at their middle school and high school and can provide basic care (covid and other diagnostic tests, sports physicals, etc.). What an awesome resource! We toured it at Bellevue East HS, and then got a quick listen to their marching band... GORGEOUS SOUND!

I also enjoyed a delicious cup of coffee from their Beast Brew coffee shop. And saw their indoor plant space, which is maintained by their horticulture club.

One thing they recently offered was a FAFSA day, cosponsored by the Latino Center of Omaha, which brought in Education Quest to help families understand and fill out the FAFSA. The FAFSA makes so many more financial resources available to graduating students. Such a great school/community partnership.

Next we visited Birchcrest Elementary. Their principal and entire school have done so much to utilize their outside spaces to grow vegetables and flowers and other plants. When you're measuring

spaces for planting, you not only get a great experience, you're also doing math and science and many other lessons.

Students were using Spheros (electronic rolling balls you can program and drive around) to find certain authors on the library shelves. Here's an interesting concept that we all take for granted, but at some point someone TAUGHT us. They were looking for the author "Wallace" but the label said "V-Z." Where's the "W?" It's a great reminder of all the little things that teachers teach. I also got a cool iPad music-making lesson!

Finally we stopped at their Frank Kumor Career Center which houses their health sciences and auto repair career academies, with the goal to grow opportunities for more and more students. Both areas are beautiful. The auto shop is so amazing! Kids learn all about servicing a vehicle, how to use all the tools, how to patch a tire, etc. So cool.

Thank you to Sarah and everyone at BPS for the fun swag and a wonderful morning! There are so many great things happening in your schools!

My 1100-mile journey solidified for me an important truth... public education in Nebraska is thriving! On my week-long tour, I saw all different sizes of districts. Each place had its own unique feeling and offerings. Each had specific challenges and obstacles. But one thing was universal: EVERY school is providing amazing opportunities for its students and EVERY district is the beating heart of its community.

If anyone tries to tell you that public education in Nebraska is broken...they're wrong. If they try to tell you that public education is failing...they're not telling you the truth. Is every single school perfect? Of course not. But in every town and community I visited, school boards and administrators are passionate about how to offer as many opportunities as possible with fewer dollars. Nebraska public schools are thrifty, creative, and VITAL, and I am proud to be part of that team!



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://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>



OCTOBER

NEEDS - RESOURCES WORKSHOP - OCTOBER 26 - OGALLALA

NEXT
WEEK!

NEEDS - RESOURCES WORKSHOP - OCTOBER 27 - ALLIANCE

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

RSVP
NOW!

NOVEMBER

NEEDS - RESOURCES WORKSHOP - NOVEMBER 2 - BARTLEY

NEEDS - RESOURCES WORKSHOP - NOVEMBER 3 - GRAND ISLAND

REG
NOW!

STATE EDUCATION CONFERENCE - NOVEMBER 17-19 - DOWNTOWN OMAHA

NASB DELEGATE ASSEMBLY - NOVEMBER 19 - OMAHA



DECEMBER

NEEDS - RESOURCES WORKSHOP - DECEMBER 7 - BROKEN BOW



**WE ARE
HIRING**

NASB IS LOOKING FOR A PART-TIME EVENT & ENGAGEMENT ASSOCIATE!

THIS PERSON WILL PROVIDE SUPPORT TO THE EVENTS DEPARTMENT AND DIRECTOR OF MEMBER ENGAGEMENT. THIS POSITION WILL POSITIVELY REPRESENT NASB AT ALL EVENTS AND MAINTAIN EXCELLENT RELATIONSHIPS WITH NASB MEMBERSHIP. THE POSITION WILL ALSO ASSIST IN VARIOUS ASPECTS OF THE CRM DATABASE SYSTEM.

IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW IS INTERESTED, LEARN MORE & APPLY AT

<http://members.nasbonline.org/index.php/about-us>



MENTEES & MENTORS WANTED!

Mentees Wanted: Were you elected in 2020 or recently appointed to the board of education?

Mentors Wanted: Are you interested in serving as a mentor to a newly elected/appointed board member?

The State Education Conference will be held in Omaha at the CHI Convention Center on November 17-19, 2021. If you're a first-time attendee, you have the opportunity to participate in the **Board Member Mentee-Mentor Program**. The Mentor Program connects experienced board members with newly appointed board members.

We invite you to join us on Thursday, November 18 in Room 208 & 209 from 7:15 to 8:15 AM to collaborate with one another. Please RSVP to Kari Stephens at kstephens@NASBonline.org by Friday, November 5 at noon CT.



Thank you for the work you are doing for Nebraska's students. Your NASB Board Leadership Team - Marcia, Tori, Kari, and Katie – are here for you. Please call us if we can support you in any way 402-423-4951.

BOARD CALENDAR AGENDA ITEMS FOR YOUR NOVEMBER 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

ACCOUNTABILITY & STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT: Review District and [each] Building AQuESTT Classification

ADVOCACY: Appoint Local Board NASB Delegate Assembly Representative

DISTRICT/ESU RESOURCES [BUDGET]: Review District Audit Report;

BOARD-SUPERINTENDENT RELATIONS: Distribute the superintendent evaluation to be completed by each board member.

REPORTS: Board Committees; Superintendent; Administrators

NEGOTIATIONS TIMELINE

On or before September 1 = Bargaining agent must request recognition

On or before October 1 = Board must respond to recognition request

On or before November 1 = Negotiations must begin (on or before)

On or before February 8 = If no agreement, parties must submit to mediation or fact-finding (unless both parties agree in writing to forgo)

On or before March 25 = Negotiations must end on or before or within 25 days after certification of amounts

On or before September 15 = CIR must render decision on industrial dispute

THREE DISTRICTS RECEIVE PRESIDENT'S BOARD AWARD



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EIGHT OTHERS RECEIVE THE BOARD OF EXCELLENCE AWARD

As NASB wraps up our annual Area Membership Meetings, we would like to take a moment to highlight this year's boards who were honored for their collective volunteer time and commitment to education.

This year, David City Public Schools, Gretna Public Schools and Ralston Public Schools achieved NASB's highest full-board honor, earning the President's Board Award. Some of the criteria for this award include: having a voting delegate participate in the annual NASB Delegate Assembly; members of the board must each attend a minimum of three learning opportunities during the year from this list: State Education Conference, Labor Relations, Area Membership Meetings, Budget & Finance Workshop, Legislative Issues Conference, and School Leaders & Law Conference; and each board member must participate in at least one local leadership team planning retreat per year. The full criteria can be found at <http://members.nasbonline.org/index.php/president-s-board-award>



DAVID CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

DARRELL ALLEN, JUSTIN KRAKA, KASEY KUHLMAN, DON MORAVEC, STEPHANIE SUMMERS & MARCUS THOENDEL
SUPERINTENDENT: CHAD DENKER



GRETTA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

DAVID GULIZIA, MARK HAUPTMAN, RICK HOLLENDIECK, KYLE JANSSEN, DAWN STOCK & ANN WRIGHT
SUPERINTENDENT: RICH BERAN



RALSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

JAY IRWIN, ELIZABETH KUMRU, ROBIN RICHARDS, MERV RIEPE, MARY ROARTY & SAMANTHA WILLEY
SUPERINTENDENT: MARK ADLER

In addition to the three President's Board Award winners, 8 boards received the Board of Excellence Award. Some of the criteria for this award includes having a voting delegate participate in the annual NASB Delegate Assembly; members must each attend a minimum of two learning opportunities during the year; and board member's must participate in at least one local leadership team planning retreat per year. The full criteria can be found at <http://members.nasbonline.org/index.php/board-of-excellence-criteria>



DISTRICT OR-1



ESU 3



HERSHEY



KIMBALL



NEBRASKA CITY



RAYMOND CENTRAL



SEWARD



YORK

Technically it is glass, wood and metal, but yes, this year 27 locally elected, volunteer school board and ESU members serving their districts and communities were recognized as a Level VII, VIII, IX or X during this year's Area Membership Meetings for achieving new levels of success during the awards year. Board members are awarded for their advocacy efforts, participation in NASB Services and Programs, as well as attendance at NASB workshops and events. Just as board members have made a commitment to provide a quality education for students in their districts, NASB strives to provide quality resources and opportunities for its members. There are ten total levels.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2 LEVEL X RECIPIENTS FOR 2021

Steve Koch - Hershey; Kyle Fisher - Springfield Platteview

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 4 LEVEL IX RECIPIENTS FOR 2021

Steve Diemoz - ESU 13; John Martin - Falls City; Stacie Higgins - Nebraska City; Bill Ziegler - Ord

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 9 LEVEL VIII RECIPIENTS FOR 2021

Sandy Noffsinger - Dundy County Stratton; Bill Knapper - ESU 13; Laura Schneider - Hastings; Shaun Jensen - Holdrege; Kathy Wolfe - Palmer; Richard Dohma - Ponca; Richard Brabec - Schuyler; Dan Scheer - St. Paul; David Raabe - Wisner-Pilger

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 12 LEVEL VII RECIPIENTS FOR 2021

Brad Wilkins - Ainsworth; Kimberly Kildow - Bayard; B.J. Peters - Gering; Kim Wadkins - Gibbon; Rick Hollendieck - Gretna; Tony Roth - Milford; Kent Blum - Nebraska City; Craig Gana - Norris; Jim Ayres - Ogallala; Allison Sandman - Wauneta-Palisade/ESU 15; Andy Grosshans - Waverly; Mark Glaubius - Wisner-Pilger

TEN CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS HAVE REACHED LEVEL X

Ron Pearson - ESU 3; Steve Koch - Hershey; Kathy Danek - Lincoln; Linda Poole - Millard; Patty Bentzinger - Norris; Nancy Kratky - Omaha; Marilyn Bohn - ESU 10; Kyle Fisher - Springfield Platteview; Lila Koop - Wallace; Robert Sykes - Wilber-Clatonia

To learn more, visit <http://members.nasbonline.org/index.php/programs-services/awards-of-achievement-program>



BACKGROUND

SCREENING

YOU CAN

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TEACHER SHORTAGES

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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. We reached out to Patti to see if she would like to give you all updates and answer any questions you may have from time to time.

The US Department of Education Teacher Shortage Areas Report for 2021-2022 reveals extreme teacher shortages across the United States. Nebraska school districts have shortages in 29 content areas such as Art Education, Special Education, and Early Childhood Education. There are also shortages in five support staff areas such as Counseling, Speech Pathology, and English as a Second Language. Five years ago the same report revealed teacher shortages in 15 content areas and four areas of support staff. Fifteen years ago teacher shortages were reported in five content areas and one support staff area.



These increasing shortages have led schools to find creative ways to provide instruction and services when certified educators are not available. For example, a school enlisted the high school principal, qualified to teach science, to teach one or two science courses. Multiple schools have asked for waivers from the State Board of Education so they can hire a person to teach who has not completed teacher certification requirements, because no certified teachers applied for an open teaching position. These solutions address immediate individual shortages, however, they act as a stop gap and are not sustainable.

Long-term solutions to educator shortages are being considered by education organizations and the Nebraska Department of Education. Organizations such as the NSEA (Nebraska State Education Association) and NCTE (Nebraska Council on Teacher Education), an advisory body to the Nebraska State Board of Education, have identified barriers that keep students from being admitted to teacher education programs. One of the barriers attracting Nebraska State Board of Education, education organization, and state legislator attention is the Praxis Core Exam. Nebraska law requires that entry-level teacher candidates demonstrate basic skills competency in Math, Reading, and Writing. According to reports from teacher education preparation colleges, the Praxis Core, used to assess basic skills competency, is a barrier because significant numbers of aspiring teacher education students do not pass the test, the test is expensive, and it disadvantages some groups of students.

Alternatives to Praxis Core and/or multiple measures of basic skills competency need to be developed to demonstrate that teacher candidates possess basic skills competency and yet assure candidates with the potential to be effective teachers who possess basic skills are not screened out of the education profession.

Modifying basic skills competency measures, however, is only one piece of the solution needed to increase the educator workforce. In addition to changes in program entrance requirements such as Praxis Core, programs and strategies that address the reasons individuals are not pursuing teaching careers need to be created. For example, generating interest in the teaching profession, reexamining and reframing teacher certification requirements, developing multiple pathways to become a teacher and finding ways to adequately compensate educators are important initiatives necessary to mitigate extreme teacher shortages.

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

NEEDS - RESOURCES WORKSHOPS: UNDERSTANDING HOW THE STATE FUNDS YOUR DISTRICT

October 26 – Ogallala October 27 – Alliance
November 2 – Bartley November 3 – Grand Island
December 7 – Broken Bow

NEXT
WEEK!

PARTICIPANTS WILL LEARN

How "Needs" are calculated; How "Resources", both State and Local are calculated; A historical perspective of how school funding has changed; The Legislative "levers" that are manipulated to achieve school funding outcomes; Past and current legislative initiatives that could impact school funding

... SEARCH, STRENGTHS & AWARDS

EDUCATION LEADERSHIP SEARCH SERVICE

Check out the Superintendent Searches NASB is facilitating at www.nasbsuptsearch.org. If you have questions about your application, contact Anne. If your district or ESU is in need of a new Superintendent/Administrator, contact Shari with any questions on best practice, or for a proposal.

asilknitter@NASBonline.org

sbecker@NASBonline.org

MEDIATION SERVICES

NASB now offers Mediation Services. Shari is an ODR Approved Mediator.

GALLUP STRENGTHSFINDER

People with the Restorative Theme as a dominant strength love to solve problems. They enjoy analyzing the symptoms, identifying what is wrong and finding a solution. Have you completed your CliftonStrengths Assessment?

- Shari -

... POLICY

With cold weather coming, districts are reminded that your policies require at least one emergency exit and relocation drill (typically a fire drill) to be conducted every month your facility is in session.

In months when the weather is severe the drills may be deferred provided that the total required number of drills is achieved and at least four are conducted before the drills are deferred. In other words, do several drills before the snow flies.

Contact Jim to learn more!

... DATA ANALYTICS

As you consider meeting with your Senator before the start of next year's Unicameral session, you might want a clearer picture of how your district fares under the TEEOSA funding formula and its impact on your tax levy. NASB can provide you and your patrons with an accurate summary of that information with handy graphs to illustrate the challenges your particular district faces under Nebraska's system of school funding.

Contact Jim to learn more!



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



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



Andy Forney
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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

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dadavidson.com | D.A. Davidson & Co. member FINRA and SIPC

... TECHNOLOGY

NEXT
WEEK!

FOOD! PRIZES! FUN!

Join us next Saturday, October 30 for the
5th Annual Sparq Tailgate
Embassy Suites, Regents A Ballroom

11:30 AM start ...

1:30 PM prize drawings!

RSVP to nkobus@sparqdata.com

Welcome New Subscribers:
Doniphan-Trumbull Public Schools
Shickley Public Schools
Kimball Public Schools

Darion - dmiller@NASBonline.org

Nicole - nkobus@NASBonline.org

www.sparqdata.com

... ADVOCACY & GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

The *2021 Advocacy Handout* which includes proposed changes to NASB's Bylaws, Standing Positions & Legislative Resolutions for your approval at the 2021 NASB Delegate Assembly is now posted! The annual NASB Delegate Assembly will be November 19 at 8:00 AM CT in Omaha, the Friday of State Conference. Speaking of State Conference, here are a few key breakouts on Advocacy & Government Relations! A1 - 2021 Legislative Recap and Look to 2022 (Thursday at 9:45 AM); C2 - Rethinking TEEOSA Through an Education Stabilization Trust Fund (Thursday at 2:15 PM); and D1 - A Conversation with the Education Committee (Thursday at 3:30 PM). Share your story, know your data, and understand the data that will make a difference!

Call Colby & Matt with any questions!

... ENERGY PURCHASING

Natural gas prices going into winter in the U.S. are at the highest level in a decade, while Europe and Asia are seeing their highest prices ever. The low storage volumes and tight demand for natural gas are even leading to cuts in fertilizer and steel manufacturing around the world. These volatile natural gas prices are another good reason for joining our NJUMP and CJUMP gas purchasing consortiums to help stretch your scarce resource dollars and provide budget certainty for utility costs.

Contact Jim to learn more!

... ALICAP & INSURANCE

ALICAP's annual membership meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 17th from 4:00 to 5:00 PM at the CHI Center in conjunction with the State Education Conference.

All ALICAP Superintendents and School Board Members are invited to attend. Prizes will be given out, but must be present to win!

Thanks, Megan!

... MEMBER ENGAGEMENT

NEEDS-RESOURCES WORKSHOPS
Added to provide better training for board members about how the State funds their school district. See Page 9 for dates and registration.

2021 STATE ED CONFERENCE
It's almost here! November 17-19.
Registration is open, see you soon!

Sharon

... BOARD LEADERSHIP

Check out "At the Board Table" on page 6.

Marcia, Tori, Kari & Katie



THE ALICAP LOSS CONTROL PROGRAM AND NASB ARE HEARTBROKEN AT THE PASSING OF ED JOHNSON EARLIER THIS MONTH.

ED, A RETIRED SUPT FROM SYRACUSE, SERVED AS AN ALICAP LOSS CONTROL CONSULTANT FOR THE PAST 20 YEARS. HE WAS A WONDERFUL MAN AND WILL BE MISSED BY MANY.

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

Just Hit Play

Registration is Open! Registration Deadline is November 5
Hotel Room Reservations Are Open Now And Filling Up Fast ...

View the Full Agenda At:

<http://members.nasbonline.org/index.php/state-education-conference>

Wednesday, November 17

Pre-Conference Sessions - 1:00 to 4:00 PM

Starting & Continuing the Equity Conversation

The First Amendment and Schools: "It's My Right!" & "Cancel Culture"

Exhibitor Reception - 4:00 to 5:30 PM

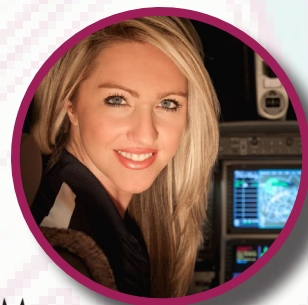


Thursday, November 18

Over 50 Keynotes & Breakouts Begin

Control the Controllables - Inky Johnson

Opening Keynote Speaker - 8:15 to 9:30 AM



The Ups and the Downs of Turbulence - Amelia Rose Earhart

Luncheon Keynote Speaker - 12:30 to 2:00 PM

Friday, November 19

State of the Associations Address - NASB & NCSA Leadership

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Regions 3, 6 & 7
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Region 15
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Region 17
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Region 19
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Executive Director



Makenzie Barry
ALICAP Data &
Financial Specialist



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Katie Coble
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Megan Boldt
Associate Executive Director/
Director of ALICAP



Craig Caples
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Colby Coash
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BUILDING CONTROLS/SERVICES

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

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Rod Berens - 402-465-4400
rodb@kccobuilders.com - kccobuilders.com
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marketing@firstnebraska.org - firstnebraska.org
(Taking care of your financial needs!)

Nebraska Liquid Asset Fund - NLAf
Barry Ballou - 402-705-0350
ballou@pfm.com - NLAfpool.org
(Liquid Asset Fund, financing programs)
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deni@lunchtimesolutions.com
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Opa! Food Management of Nebraska
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(Contract Food Service Management)

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www.americanfidelity.com/nebraska
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IN THIS EDITION

"MY WEEK-LONG ADVENTURE BEGINS!"
TRAINING, NETWORKING, ENGAGEMENT & EVENTS
AT THE BOARD TABLE
MENTEES & MENTORS WANTED!
THREE DISTRICTS RECEIVE PRESIDENT'S BOARD AWARD
27 SBM'S SEE THEIR NAMES ETCHED IN STONE ...
TEACHER SHORTAGES
IT'S ALMOST TIME TO JUST HIT PLAY
YOUR NASB BOARD OF DIRECTORS & STAFF
YOUR 2021 NASB AFFILIATES
... AND MUCH MORE!

AS WELL AS "THIS MONTH IN ..."

... ADVOCACY & GOVERNMENT RELATIONS
... ALICAP & INSURANCE
... BOARD LEADERSHIP
... DATA ANALYTICS
... ENERGY PURCHASING
... MEMBER ENGAGEMENT
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