

# NASB BOARD NOTES

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION FROM THE NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BOARDS

FEBRUARY  
20-25



Leadership

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Vision

Engagement

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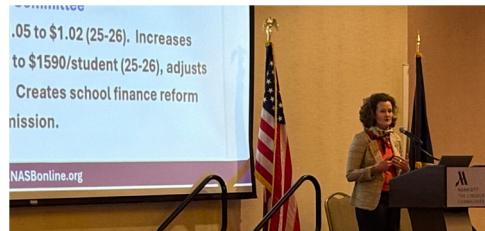
329,000 Students

1,700 Locally Elected School Board Members

260 Member Districts/ESUs

ONE NEBRASKA

## Snapshots



### IN THIS EDITION OF BOARD NOTES

THIS MONTH IN ...

TRAINING, NETWORKING, ENGAGEMENT & EVENTS

LINCOLN. LUNCH. LEGISLATORS. LIC IN PHOTOS

CALL TO ACTION ON LB 504 FROM SEN. BOSN

NASB'S ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DRIVE HAPPENING NOW!

AT THE BOARD TABLE

IS YOUR POLICY MANUAL ONLINE?

STATE EDUCATION CONFERENCE: CALL FOR PROPOSALS

YOUR 2025 NASB AFFILIATES

YOUR NASB BOARD OF DIRECTORS & STAFF

... AND MUCH MORE!

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

# THIS MONTH IN ...

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2,000,000 Nebraskans

329,000 Students

1,700 Locally Elected School Board Members

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

## THIS MONTH IN ...

A quick snapshot of the various programs, services, support and events NASB has planned for its members in the coming month!

### ADVOCACY & GOVERNMENT RELATIONS ...

We are over one-third of the way through the 109th Legislative Session. As mentioned in the Leg Update sent 2/13/25, we're following over 100 bills, testifying in favor or opposition to about half of those. We're also to the point of bills making their way onto the floor for full debate and moving through the process. As always, keep tabs on both the GR pages of NASBonline.org as well as the Bills page! Call Colby & Matt any time!

### ALICAP & INSURANCE ...

ALICAP's team would like to welcome two new schools.... WELCOME to Isanti Public School and WELCOME to Gordon-Rushville Community School. These two new members takes ALICAP's membership count to 217.

### BOARD LEADERSHIP ...

Check out "At the Board Table" on page 8 to learn about the Board Leadership Academy & more.

### DATA ANALYTICS ...

While the Legislature often strongly encourages districts to look at consolidation possibilities, NASB pushes back with the philosophy of advising local districts to determine their own futures. However, we do provide Consolidation Feasibility Studies for districts to give your Board helpful, detailed information about your district's various options. We provide information to facilitate the discussion – we never make recommendations ourselves since that decision should always be the responsibility of the Board. Jim Luebbe can give you further information about the scope of these studies and how the process works.

### EDUCATION LEADERSHIP SEARCH SERVICE ...

Contact us with questions on search protocol, to schedule a proposal, or inquire about a vacancy. While it may seem busy in the search world, we are on track to for about the same number of statewide vacancies as last year, although it is only the end of February. Contact Shari for information on Searches

### ENERGY PURCHASING ...

For those districts and ESUs who are not yet members of our NJUMP or CJUMP natural gas purchasing programs, we have Board Resolution forms to get you enrolled and ready for the official sign up period in late March or early April depending on the pipeline. NASB's natural gas programs on the two major natural gas pipelines in Nebraska were created to fulfill two needs that many local districts had in dealing with utility costs – obtaining competitive prices and budget certainty. NASB has over 110 school districts and ESUs across Nebraska participating in our CJUMP and NJUMP purchasing consortiums to leverage their purchasing power and achieve lower, more predictable utility bills.

### FOUNDATION ...

The NPLF is awarding two, \$1,000 scholarships to high school seniors who are pursuing higher education to become a teacher in a Nebraska public school system. Students with plans to attend college or university in Nebraska, have a minimum GPA of 3.0, and whose school district is a member of NASB qualify to apply. Deadline to apply is March 14 The application can be found at [www.nepublicleadership.org](http://www.nepublicleadership.org)

### GALLUP STRENGTHS ...

This month's featured Gallup theme is **Positivity**. Those with Positivity are naturally optimistic. Their contagious enthusiasm can lift others' spirits and reassure team members as they navigate challenges. Their optimistic energy creates a supportive environment where recognition, collaboration and engagement can thrive. The hope and encouragement they can bring is an asset to any team. Contact Shari to schedule a Gallup retreat.

### MEMBER ENGAGEMENT ...

A busy start to 2025, with LIC, the President Retreat, Open Meetings Law and Finance Workshops, the New Board Member Webinar, and DC! Start thinking about submitting a session proposal for State Conference, due March 14. I've also been out and about with visits to Crofton, Homer, Pender, Ponca, Tekamah-Herman, Walthill, Wausa, and Weeping Water.

### POLICY ...

The NDE is increasingly being directed by the Legislature to create model policies to meet their directives. Two of these are intended for the next school year – a Behavioral Intervention and Classroom Management Policy and a Dress Code Policy. We generally rework these a bit and release them with our other Policy Updates, giving everyone a choice of using the NDE version or our own.

### TECHNOLOGY ...

We want to hear from you! Take our quick survey and let us know how we're doing. Your feedback helps us improve our services to better meet your needs ... <https://bit.ly/3X6zJn9> click the link to get started! REMINDER: As Negotiated Agreements for 2025-26 are finalized, please load them into the Contract Settlement Form or send them to Darion.

# TRAINING, NETWORKING, ENGAGEMENT & EVENTS



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<https://members.nasbonline.org/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 402-423-4951 for assistance.



**Budget & Finance Workshop - Tuesday, March 4 - Kearney**

**Budget & Finance Workshop - Tuesday, March 11 - Crete**

**State Conference Call for Proposals - Due March 14**

**Federal Advocacy Fly In - March 16-19 - Washington, D.C.**

**NAEP State Convention "Set For Success" - March 19-20 - Kearney**

**New Board Member Webinar - Monday, March 24 - 7:00 to 9:00 PM CT**

**Open Meetings Law Workshop - Tuesday, March 25 - Gering**

**Open Meetings Law Workshop - Wednesday, March 26 - Kearney**

**\*Amplified Finance Workshop - Thursday, March 27 - Kearney**

**Open Meetings Law Workshop - Monday, March 31 - Norfolk**



**Open Meetings Law Workshop - Tuesday, April 1 - Lincoln**

**Budget & Finance Workshop - Wednesday, April 9 - Norfolk**



**NASB Member Golf Outing - Wednesday, June 11 - Kearney**

**School Law Seminar - June 11-12 - Kearney**

**Other Events, July through December 2025 ... Leadership Workshops - Area Membership Meetings  
Labor Relations - State Education Conference - New Board Member Workshop**

# SPEAKING OF UPCOMING EVENTS ...

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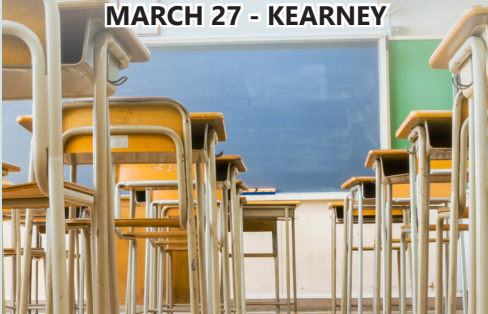
## 2025 NASB FINANCE WORKSHOPS



Both new and veteran school board members must have a fundamental understanding of school finance. Superintendents, business managers, and bookkeepers are required to have a deep and comprehensive understanding of finance because taxpayers and citizens are asking districts to provide more detailed information about their finances. These workshops will feature Carl Dietz and Matt Fisher, two school finance experts, who will structure the presentation around all aspects of school district finance.

**BUDGET & FINANCE WORKSHOPS**  
MARCH 4 - KEARNEY  
MARCH 11 - CRETE  
APRIL 9 - NORFOLK

**AMPLIFIED FINANCE WORKSHOP**  
MARCH 27 - KEARNEY



## FEDERAL ADVOCACY FLY-IN: MARCH 16-19



**2025 NAEP STATE CONVENTION**  
MARCH 19-20 - KEARNEY



*Set For Success*

The mission of NAEP is to provide opportunities for fellowship and collaboration to support the success of the board of education, administration, staff, students, and communities.



The NAEP State Convention will offer opportunities for district and ESU bookkeepers, business managers, secretaries, administrative assistants, and other office staff to engage in presentations and conversations on a variety of topics!



**NEW BOARD MEMBER WEBINAR**  
MARCH 24  
7:00 TO 9:00 PM CT



## OPEN MEETINGS LAW WORKSHOPS



**MARCH 25 - GERING**  
**MARCH 26 - KEARNEY**  
**MARCH 31 - NORFOLK**  
**APRIL 1 - LINCOLN**

AGENDA - NOTICE - MINUTES  
CLOSED SESSION - SPECIAL MEETING  
EMERGENCY MEETING  
PUBLIC COMMENT - Q&A

We're excited to invite you to an informative workshop on the **Nebraska Open Meetings Law**, designed to help you understand the importance of transparency and compliance in public meetings. This interactive, scenario based, workshop is specifically designed for locally elected officials.

Attendance at this workshop will provide valuable insights and practical tips. Join us for an engaging session with NASB Executive Director, John Spatz. He will break down the essentials, answer your questions, and share best practices. Don't miss this opportunity to enhance your knowledge and stay informed!

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<https://members.nasbonline.org/events/legislative-issues-conference>

## 2025 Legislative Issues Conference Beyond the Numbers - January 26-27

LIC speakers included Speaker Arch,  
Sens von Gillern, Hughes, and Murman

Thanks to those who joined us for lunch too!



# CALL TO ACTION ON LB 504 FROM SENATOR BOSN

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



**LB 504 (Bosn at the request of the Governor) Adopt the Age-Appropriate Online Design Code Act** ... this bill was heard February 3rd in the Banking Committee, and is on General File to be heard by the full Legislature as early as Monday, February 24.

View a quick video with Sen. Bosn on LB 504 at <https://vimeo.com/1059800113>

Contact your Senator(s) now regarding LB 504 [https://nebraskalegislature.gov/senators/senator\\_list.php](https://nebraskalegislature.gov/senators/senator_list.php)



Colby,  
Would you be willing to get School Board Members, Superintendents/ESU Administrators to contact their senators in support of my Age Appropriate Design Code bill?

The bill protects minors from having their private information shared, provides parents with tools to monitor their child's online safety, and requires design features to prevent compulsive use of social media. I introduced this bill because we have seen our children being taken advantage of by tech companies. Their apps and platforms have been designed to be addictive and keep our kids scrolling. We are also learning that excessive cell phone and social media usage is also causing a mental health crisis in our youth.

Any help that NASB can provide would be greatly appreciated!

Senator Carolyn Bosn - District 25



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

# OF BILLS TRACKED

107

BILLS WE ARE TESTIFYING ON

54

THOSE WE SUPPORT

25

THOSE WE OPPOSE

29

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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, the Capitol, or in your districts. The annual Membership Drive is happening now. We appreciate your membership and look forward to a great 2025-2026 serving you!

*Reminder ... 2% discount on dues paid by April 1, 2025*



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# AT THE BOARD TABLE

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## BOARD AGENDA ITEMS FOR YOUR MONTHLY MEETINGS

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



### MARCH BOARD AGENDA ITEMS

Please see the January 18<sup>th</sup> email from [mherring@NASBOnline.org](mailto:mherring@NASBOnline.org) and [shiggins@NASBOnline.org](mailto:shiggins@NASBOnline.org) for the draft of the March Board Meeting Agenda. If you have questions or need us to resend the email, please feel free to contact Marcia at 402-450-5152 or Stacie at 402-209-1608.

### NASB UPCOMING ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

#### President Circle Calls

Thursday, March 27 12:00 PM CT and 12:00 PM MT

### UPCOMING BOARD LEADERSHIP ACADEMY ACTIVITIES

#### NASB New Board Member Webinar

Monday, March 24, 2025, at 7:00 PM

#### Nebraska Open Meetings Law Workshops

Tuesday, March 25 - Gering

Wednesday, March 26 - Kearney

Monday, March 31 - Norfolk

Tuesday, April 1 - Lincoln

#### Register for Board Leadership Academy Events at

[www.NASBOnline.org](http://www.NASBOnline.org)

### SUPERINTENDENT EVALUATION POINTS TO PONDER

The board successfully completed the evaluation of the superintendent in recent months. Complete this quick check list to ensure you are supporting your superintendent:

- The board met with the superintendent to develop goals to support the growth and advancement of his/her leadership. **Yes or No**
- The board formally adopted the goals and will receive updates from the superintendent periodically throughout the coming months. **Yes or No**
- The board will include the goals in the superintendent evaluation to assess progress and success of the goals during this year's evaluation. **Yes or No**
- The board will review the superintendent evaluation tool in the coming months to ensure the tool is providing effective accountability assessment of the superintendent's leadership. **Yes or No**
- The board will complete a board self-assessment, review the results, and set goals to ensure growth of the board governance leadership. **Yes or No**

**If you are struggling to check "yes" the Board Leadership Team is here to support you, the board, and the superintendent. Do not hesitate to reach out to the team at 402-423-4951.**

### 2025 NASB Activities and Events Aligned to the Board Leadership Academy

The NASB Board Member Academy offers numerous opportunities to expand your knowledge, deepen your understanding of board governance, and connect with board members from across the state.

March/April 2025 - Open Meetings Law Workshops  
Gering, Kearney, Norfolk, Lincoln

April 2025 - Virtual Lunch & Learn Board Academy Collaboration

July 2025 - Virtual Lunch & Learn Board Academy Collaboration

July 2025 - Leadership Workshops  
Gering, Kearney, Omaha

August & September 2025  
Area Membership Meetings  
Valentine, Gering, Kearney, York, Norfolk, North Platte, Omaha, Nebraska City, Fremont

October 2025 - Virtual Lunch & Learn Board Academy Collaboration

November 2025 - State Education Conference

December 2025 - Board Member Academy  
Module I & II - Kearney



# IS YOUR POLICY MANUAL ONLINE?

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<https://members.nasbonline.org/programs-services/online-policy-services>

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



For quite some time we have anticipated being able to host your NASB School Board policy manual online in a partnership with Sparq to make it easier and faster to use than ever before. With our newly completed Sparq Online Policy Publishing software, we can now provide you with a fully searchable online version, easily linked from your district website to your Sparq Meetings platform and back again. Through this new software, once the board approves your new or revised policies and makes that entry into your Sparq Meetings agenda, those policies will automatically flow through to your online manual to update it.

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 password protected access, you can allow selected employees to make changes or additions to the online manual. Just imagine how much this will simplify the process of keeping your manual current! For those of you already subscribing to the NASB Policy Updates, over the rest of this semester and this summer we will be working with your policy team to be certain we have all the needed changes to your manual to get it onto Sparq Online Policy Publishing. We are excited at the prospect of having all this up and running for our districts for the next school year.

This huge improvement offers a one-of-a-kind approach toward making your School Board policy manual more useful, more informative, and easier to search or revise in a rapidly changing educational environment. It was all developed here by the team at Sparq Data Solutions and provides an online manual capability possessed by no other software anywhere.

**For more information, to schedule a training, or discuss joining us in hosting your board policy manual online, please contact Jim Luebbe at [jluebbe@NASBonline.org](mailto:jluebbe@NASBonline.org) or 402-423-4951**

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

# STATE EDUCATION CONFERENCE: CALL FOR PROPOSALS

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NOVEMBER 19-21  
CHI CENTER  
OMAHA

SUBMIT  
YOUR  
PROPOSALS  
NOW



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CHI CENTER  
OMAHA

CONTACT  
SHARON  
WITH  
QUESTIONS

NOVEMBER 19-21 ... CHI CENTER ... OMAHA

SUBMIT YOUR PROPOSALS NOW

CONTACT SHARON WITH QUESTIONS

SENDORF@NASBONLINE.ORG

Login to <https://nasb.envisiams.com/proposals> to submit a breakout session proposal.  
Deadline for proposal submissions is 5:00 PM CT, Friday, March 14th.





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**Andy Forney**  
Senior Vice President,  
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- QCPUF Bonds
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**2025 Platinum Level Affiliates** - American Fidelity - BCDM Architects - Boyd Jones Construction - BVH Architecture - Carlson West Povondra Architects - Clark & Enersen - CMBA Architects - D.A. Davidson - Enviser - Facility Advocates - Hamilton - Hausmann Construction - Nebraska Liquid Asset Fund - Northland, a First National Nebraska Company - Piper Sandler - Public Risk Management - Sampson Construction - Sparq Data Solutions - Third Rail Content

**2025 Gold Level Affiliates** - 914 Coatings - ABcreative, Inc. - BD Construction - Blue Cross Blue Shield of Nebraska - Cornhusker International - Darland - DLR Group - Lunchtime Solutions - MCL Construction - Navitas - Omaha Public Schools Foundation

**2025 Silver Level Affiliates** - Amergis Staffing - Creative Sites - TeamMates Mentoring

**2025 Bronze Level Affiliates** - Alley Poyner Macchietto Architecture - Ameritas Investment Company - Community Building Solutions - Cunningham Recreation - Demco - Fisher Tracks, Inc. - Mueller Robak, LLC - National Insurance Services - Nebraska Safety Center - Opaa! Food Management of Nebraska - RSW Floors and More - Watts and Hershberger, P.C.

# YOUR NASB BOARD OF DIRECTORS & STAFF

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



Region 1 - Neal Kanel  
HTRS



Region 2 - Brenda Sherman  
ESU 3



Region 3 - Kyle Fisher  
Springfield Platteview



Region 4 - Elizabeth Kumru  
Ralston



Region 5 - Shavonna Holman  
Omaha



Region 6 - Ricky Smith  
Omaha



Region 7 - Nancy Kratky  
Omaha



Region 8 - Don Mayhew  
Lincoln



Region 9 - Piyush Srivastav  
Lincoln



Region 10 - Ed Swotek  
Malcolm  
NASB Vice President



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 - Allison Sandman  
Wauneta-Palisade



Region 16 - Suzanne Sapp  
Ashland-Greenwood  
NASB Secretary



Region 17 - Michelle Reikofski  
Osmond



Region 18 - Susan Ernest  
Leyton



Region 19 - Stacy Jolley  
Millard  
NASB President



At-Large - Lisa Albers  
Grand Island



At-Large - Steve Blocher  
West Point  
NASB Treasurer



At-Large - Pam Holcomb  
Broken Bow



At-Large - Erick Lee  
Arapahoe-Holbrook

## YOUR NASB STAFF

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



John Spatz  
Executive Director



Nate Alspaugh  
IT Specialist



Matt Belka  
Director of Marketing,  
Communications & Advocacy



Lily Coash-Johnson  
Events & Engagement  
Assistant



Caden Frank  
Board Leadership Community  
Engagement Specialist



Rachel Horstman  
Business Manager



Stephanie Summers  
Board Leadership Associate



Ben Anderjaska  
Board Leadership  
Engagement Specialist



Megan Boldt  
Associate Executive Director  
Director of ALICAP



Katie Corfield  
Board Leadership Online  
Survey Specialist



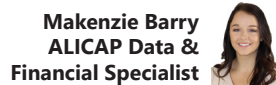
Marcia Herring  
Director of Board Leadership



Jim Luebbe  
Director of Policy Services



Lindsey Wooton  
Administrative Specialist



Makenzie Barry  
ALICAP Data &  
Financial Specialist



Craig Caples  
Director of Technology



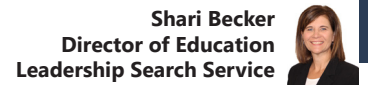
Sharon Endorf  
Director of  
Member Engagement



Stacie Higgins  
Board Leadership Specialist



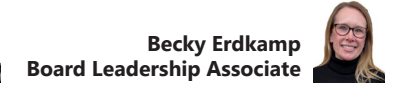
Avary Pansing Brooks  
Board Leadership  
Engagement Specialist



Shari Becker  
Director of Education  
Leadership Search Service



Colby Coash  
Associate Executive Director  
Dir. of Government Relations



Becky Erdkamp  
Board Leadership Associate



Sallie Horky  
Chief Operating Officer



Galina Slobonyuk  
Executive Administrative  
Assistant

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## YOUR 2025 PLATINUM AFFILIATES

If your business would like to become an Affiliate Member of NASB, please visit: <https://members.nasbonline.org/about-us/affiliate-members>


## YOUR 2025 GOLD AFFILIATES


# YOUR 2025 NASB AFFILIATES

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View the full, detailed listings with contact info at:  
<https://members.nasbonline.org/about-us/affiliate-members>

## ACCOUNTING

Watts and Hershberger, P.C.

## ARCHITECTS

Alley Poyner Macchietto Architecture

**BCDM Architects**  
PLATINUM LEVEL AFFILIATE

**BVH Architecture**  
PLATINUM LEVEL AFFILIATE

**Carlson West Povondra Architects**  
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**Clark & Enersen**  
PLATINUM LEVEL AFFILIATE

**CMBA Architects**  
PLATINUM LEVEL AFFILIATE

**DLR Group**  
GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

## BUILDING CONTROLS AND BUILDING SERVICES

**Navitas**  
GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

## CONSTRUCTION SERVICES

**914 Coatings**  
GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

**BD Construction**  
GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

**Boyd Jones**  
PLATINUM LEVEL AFFILIATE

**Darland**  
GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

**Hausmann Construction**  
PLATINUM LEVEL AFFILIATE

**MCL Construction**  
GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

**RSW Floors and More**

**Sampson Construction**  
PLATINUM LEVEL AFFILIATE

## ENERGY SERVICES

Community Building Solutions

**Facility Advocates**  
PLATINUM LEVEL AFFILIATE

## EQUIPMENT AND FURNITURE

**ABcreative, Inc.**  
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Demco

## FINANCIAL SERVICES

Ameritas Investment Company

**D.A. Davidson & CO.**  
PLATINUM LEVEL AFFILIATE

**Nebraska Liquid Asset Fund**  
PLATINUM LEVEL AFFILIATE

**Northland, a First National Nebraska Company**  
PLATINUM LEVEL AFFILIATE

**Piper Sandler**  
PLATINUM LEVEL AFFILIATE

## FOOD SERVICE

**Lunchtime Solutions**  
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Opaa! Food Management

## FUNDRAISING

**Omaha Public Schools Foundation**  
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## INSURANCE SERVICES

**American Fidelity**  
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**Blue Cross Blue Shield of Nebraska**  
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National Insurance Services

**Public Risk Management/ALICAP**  
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## LEGAL SERVICES

Mueller Robak, LLC

## PLAYGROUND/SCOREBOARDS/SURFACING

**Creative Sites, LLC**  
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Cunningham Recreation/GameTime

Fisher Tracks, Inc.

## STUDENT SERVICES

**Amergis Educational Staffing**  
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**TeamMates Mentoring Program**  
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## TECHNOLOGY/SOFTWARE

**Envisi**  
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**Hamilton**  
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**Sparq Data Solutions**  
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## TRANSPORTATION PRODUCTS

**Cornhusker International**  
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Nebraska Safety Center

## VIDEO CREATION & PRODUCTION

**Third Rail Content, Inc.**  
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# NASB BOARD NOTES

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<b>Leadership</b>	<b>Innovation</b>	<b>Vision</b>	<b>Engagement</b>	<b>#liveNASB</b>	<b>#weLIVEhere</b>
2,000,000 Nebraskans	329,000 Students	1,700 Locally Elected School Board Members	260 Member Districts/ESUs	ONE NEBRASKA	



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