

JUNE
2025

NASB BOARD NOTES

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION FROM THE NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BOARDS



Leadership

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Engagement

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2,000,000 Nebraskans

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

SCHOOL LAW & SUNK PUTTS: IN PICTURES

LEADERSHIP WORKSHOPS: STRENGTHENING GOVERNANCE

AT THE BOARD TABLE

SCHOOL FINANCE COMMISSION, DC & MORE

NASB CALL FOR LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS DUE JULY 1

WE ARE 50 DAYS FROM AREA MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

YOUR NASB BOARD OF DIRECTORS & STAFF

YOUR 2025 NASB AFFILIATES

... AND MUCH MORE!

The NASB provides programs, services, and advocacy to strengthen public education for all Nebraskans. Learn more at www.NASBonline.org

THIS MONTH IN ...

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<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 ... The 2025 90-Day Session has reached its end but the work continues. This Summer the NASB Legislation Committee meets to look toward 2026, we are following some Interim Studies and are excited to share a number of updates with you all this Fall at Area Membership Meetings! As always, keep tabs on both the NASB GR page and Bills page, and you'll see a quick Federal Update on Page 7 as well. Call Colby & Matt any time!

ALICAP & INSURANCE ... On July 18th the ALICAP Board of Trustees will be meeting to set budget for the 25-26 year. Billing statements to all ALICAP members will be sent out shortly thereafter. All ALICAP Members can expect to see their 25-26 Contribution Statements by August 1st. We're looking forward to another great year of pooling!

AWARDS OF ACHIEVEMENT ... We request board members and school districts check board member points for accuracy. The points year will close on July 31. We will recognize board members at our Area Membership Meetings.

BOARD LEADERSHIP ... Check out "At the Board Table" on page 6 to learn about all things Board Leadership.

DATA ANALYTICS ... NASB's Data Analytics can help you to evaluate your standardized testing data in a meaningful way to provide an evidence-based foundation to target your district's curriculum changes where they can have the most impact. It's a good way of comparing those raw data scores as meaningful levels of achievement compared to similar districts or districts near you, then letting that knowledge guide your planning discussions.

EDUCATION LEADERSHIP SEARCH SERVICE ... We are filling requests for proposals for districts who anticipate a change in leadership after the 25-26 school year. Contact us with questions on search protocol or to schedule a proposal for this Summer.

ENERGY PURCHASING ... Natural gas prices are up, and thoughts of a slowing economy have now been overtaken by turmoil in the Mideast. NASB has over 115 school districts and ESUs across Nebraska participating in our NJUMP and CJUMP purchasing consortiums to leverage their purchasing power and achieve lower, more predictable utility bills. Our market consultants continue to watch the trends daily to ensure our districts can stretch their utility dollars as far as possible.

GALLUP STRENGTHS ... Our featured Gallup theme this month is **Input**. People with Input in their Dominant Strengths bring information, insights, and resources. They appreciate opportunities to share what they have acquired.

MEMBER ENGAGEMENT ... It has been GREAT to connect with so many of you at the NASB golf outing, School Law Seminar, and Legislative Lunch at Logan View. Thank you for your engagement! Recent visits have been to Norris, Milford, ESU #6, East Butler, Osceola, and Hyannis.

POLICY ... LB 383 has defined the creation of deepfake files as a violation of Nebraska state statutes. Deepfakes are images or video files that have been manipulated using artificial intelligence (AI) to replace one person's likeness with another's. It is already a violation of school policy to employ school resources for inappropriate uses but for dealing with deepfakes, administrators will now need to consider the involvement of law enforcement.

TECHNOLOGY ... Welcome New Superintendents! Congratulations on your new role, whether this is your first year or you're starting at a new district! If your district isn't currently using Sparq Data for board meetings and staff negotiations, consider us a great addition for the new school year. We're here to help make your district's operations more streamlined and efficient. For current subscribers needing training on any of our software, we're always happy to assist. Please feel free to reach out with any questions about how Sparq Data can support your district's success!

TRAINING, NETWORKING, ENGAGEMENT & EVENTS

JOIN
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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.

Now Hiring - Part-time, Events & Engagement Assistant

Visit the ABOUT US page for more information!

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



Call for Legislative Proposals Due July 1

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



Leadership Workshop - Monday, July 28 - Gering

Leadership Workshop - Tuesday, July 29 - Kearney

Leadership Workshop - Wednesday, July 30 - Lincoln



Area Membership Meetings begin August 19



Tuesday, August 19 - Valentine

Wednesday, August 20 - Gering

Thursday, August 21 - Kearney

Tuesday, August 26 - York

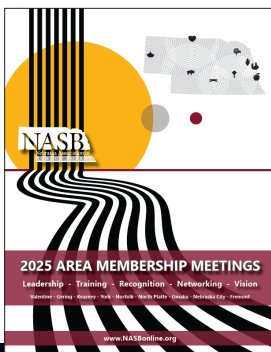
Wednesday, August 27 - Norfolk

Wednesday, September 3 - North Platte

Tuesday, September 9 - Omaha

Wednesday, September 10 - Nebraska City

Wednesday, September 24 - Fremont



Other Events, October through December 2025 ...

Labor Relations - State Education Conference - New Board Member Workshop

SCHOOL LAW & SUNK PUTTS: IN PICTURES

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We appreciate everyone who joined us in Kearney earlier this month for another fantastic golf outing, followed by the School Law Seminar! An incredible way to kick off Summer with some sun, networking, and learning!



LEADERSHIP WORKSHOPS: STRENGTHENING GOVERNANCE

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

REGISTER NOW FOR THE 2025 NASB LEADERSHIP WORKSHOPS

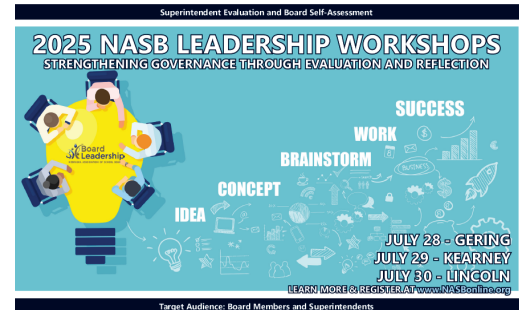
MONDAY, JULY 28 - GERING CIVIC CENTER

TUESDAY, JULY 29 - KEARNEY HOLIDAY INN

WEDNESDAY, JULY 30 - COURTYARD MARRIOTT LINCOLN

Registration Deadline - Wednesday, July 23

Whether you are in your first term or bring years of experience to the board table, this workshop is for you and your superintendent.



Join us for a hands-on workshop designed to elevate your board's leadership through effective superintendent evaluation and meaningful board self-assessment.

Newly elected? Receive an understanding of your legal responsibilities and how evaluation processes shape strong governance from the start.

Experienced board member? Refine practices, bring clarity to superintendent evaluation, and deepen your board's collective impact.

Superintendent? Collaborate with your board in shaping an evaluation process that incorporates your input, reflects your professional goals, and defines what you need from the board to lead effectively.

We will discuss and address:

- Board's legal responsibility to evaluate
- Contents of an effective evaluation tool
- Importance of a superintendent self-evaluation
- Value and role of all board members in the process
- How to turn the results into goals to improve student success
- Importance of board self-assessment
- Impact of effective board governance on superintendent leadership
- Value of board goals to support superintendent and student success

Leave with the resources and shared understanding needed to strengthen governance, enhance board-superintendent collaboration, and support long-term student success.

Strengthening Governance Through Evaluation & Reflection

**Stacie Higgins, NASB Board Leadership Associate - Marcia Herring, NASB Director of Board Leadership
Troy Loeffelholz, NCSA Associate Executive Director**

4:30 PM - Registration

5:00 PM - Welcome and Workshop Takeaways

5:15 PM - The Why Behind Evaluation

6:00 PM - Dinner Break

6:30 PM - Conducting an Effective Superintendent Evaluation

7:15 PM - Board Self-Assessment—Why It Matters

8:00 PM - Closing: From Reflection to Action

See the full agenda at



AT THE BOARD TABLE

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YOUR NASB BOARD LEADERSHIP UPDATE

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



2025

For more information about NASB Board Leadership Services, including: Board Retreats, Strategic Planning, Community Engagement and Alignment, Online Survey Services/Superintendent Evaluation, Board Self-Assessment, Board Resources, or Board Governance publications, please contact:

Marcia Herring - Katie Corfield - Caden Frank - Stacie Higgins - Ben Anderjaska
Stephanie Summers - Avary Pansing-Brooks - Becky Erdkamp

JULY BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEMS

Please see the June 13 email from shiggins@NASBonline.org for the draft of the July 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.

Upcoming Board Leadership Events

Leadership Workshops

July 28 - Gering

July 29 - Kearney

July 30 - Lincoln

JOIN US FOR THE NASB LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP NEAREST YOU!

Join us for a hands-on workshop designed to elevate your board's leadership through effective superintendent evaluation and meaningful board self-assessment.

For newly elected board members ... For experienced board members ... For superintendents ...
Learn more on page 5, or <https://members.nasbonline.org/events/nasb-leadership-workshop>

We will discuss and address:

- Board's legal responsibility to evaluate
- Contents of an effective evaluation tool
- Importance of a superintendent self-evaluation
- Value and role of all board members in the process
- How to turn the results into goals to improve student success
- Importance of board self-assessment
- Impact of effective board governance on superintendent leadership
- Value of board goals to support superintendent and student success

See the full agenda at



Leave with the resources and shared understanding needed to strengthen governance, enhance board-superintendent collaboration, and support long-term student success.

SCHOOL FINANCE COMMISSION, DC & MORE

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<https://members.nasbonline.org/government-relations>
<https://nasb.envisiams.com/legislative-bills>

Applications for the School Financing Review Commission, created by LB 303, are open.

This board needs representatives from all school sizes which includes board members, superintendents, and members of the public. The law requires the appointments be made within 30 days of the bill becoming law making the deadline to apply July 4th.

If you are interested in serving on this Commission apply here:

<https://governor.nebraska.gov/boards-commissions-open-positions>



NASB CALL FOR LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS DUE JULY 1

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

If there is anything you'd like to see added, amended, or removed from the Advocacy Handbook in future years, submit your proposal or idea by July 1.

BILLS TRACKED / TESTIFIED

112 / 67

SUPPORT / OPPOSE



31

35



SBMs WHO SAT IN THE
CHAIR ON OUR BEHALF!

13!



I'M JUST A BILL ...

Introduction
Committee
General File
Select File
Final Reading
Governor
Law

FEDERAL UPDATE

... While Nebraska advocacy is cooling off, our work at the federal level has started to heat up. NASB's leadership has been engaged in discussions with our federal delegation on these issues and will continue to share the stories of districts from across the State!

Congress is currently working on passage of President Trump's "Big Beautiful Bill". The House has already passed their version, with the Senate currently debating its version. These two will be combined in a "reconciliation" process. There are two components of these bills which NASB continues to engage:

1) Medicaid and SNAP: Both the Senate and House version of the bill have cuts to each program. While not directly tied to education, we should be paying attention. Should federal dollars be cut as proposed it would have a big impact on our state budget, resulting in the loss of federal funding. If the past is to be any indication of the future, we know that State Aid to K-12 education will be one place lawmakers will look to make up the loss in federal funding. We also know that cuts to both SNAP and Medicaid will impact kids, which will be felt by classroom teachers.

2) Federal tax credits for non-public education: Within both the House and Senate bills is a provision providing for tax credits for donations to scholarship granting organizations that provide funding for non-public schools. Nebraskans have already spoken on this issue and showed their support for our public K-12 system. If this is approved, it will add between \$23.2 and \$67 Billion to the national deficit depending on which version is passed.

WE ARE 50 DAYS FROM AREA MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

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<https://members.nasbonline.org/events/area-membership-meetings>

2025 AREA MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

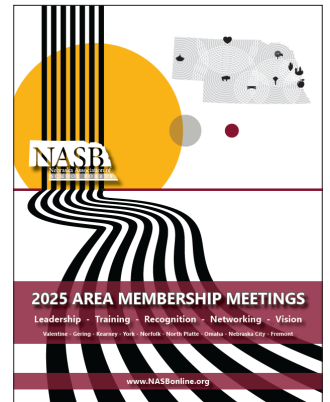
Leadership - Training - Recognition - Networking - Vision

Valentine - Gering - Kearney - York - Norfolk - North Platte - Omaha - Nebraska City - Fremont

WELCOME & OPENING SESSION - LEGISLATIVE UPDATE - TRAINING SESSIONS

BRAIN SCIENCE – FEAR AND ANXIETY VS EXECUTIVE FUNCTION ... The mental health of students and staff has taken center stage in recent years, especially as social media and other external influences increasingly affect brain development. This session will explore the neuroscience behind fear and anxiety and how they interact with executive function – the brain's ability to manage emotions, focus attention, and make decisions. We will discuss how toxic stress impacts brain development and how we can develop more resilient school districts, school buildings, classrooms, and students. - *John Spatz*

WHAT'S NEW WITH SPARQ DATA SOLUTIONS? ... Learn about our newest product, Sparq Online Publishing. We will walk you through the functionality and how this new application will increase visibility, improve your ability to update your policies quickly and efficiently, and streamline how you receive updates from NASB. Additionally, we will walk through changes and updates to our Sparq Negotiations and Meetings platforms. - *Darion Miller & Nicole Kobus*



IT'S NOT JUST WHAT YOU DO, IT'S HOW YOU DO IT: STRATEGIES TO TAKE YOUR GOVERNANCE TEAM TO THE NEXT LEVEL ... Evaluation of the superintendent and board is the first step toward reciprocal accountability and contributes to a high functioning board-superintendent relationship. Explore board responsibilities, with a focus on cultivating a high-performing leadership team. Whether you are a new board member or an experienced leader, you will gain practical insights and resources to help the board lead with purpose and model accountability through evaluation and self-assessment. - *Marcia Herring, Caden Frank, Stacie Higgins, and Stephanie Summers*

WHAT MAKES POOLING UNIQUE AND BENEFICIAL FOR SCHOOLS? ... If you're new to your district, new to serving on the school board, or your district is new to ALICAP, this session is perfect for you! We will cover how being a member owner of a pool is exceptional, but also fiscally savvy, for your public school. Public entities are allowed to self-insure, and ALICAP is a prime example of that permission. Come listen to how pooling works best for you and how your school can maximize membership. - *Megan Boldt*

CELL PHONES, DRESS CODES, PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT, AND WHAT!? ... The big topics our Legislature dealt with this year, plus the ones they still aren't done with. We haven't seen the last of a few big ideas that were tabled this time around. - *Jim Luebbe*

FROM VISION TO IMPACT: DRIVING STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT THROUGH COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT ... Strategic planning is a visionary roadmap sustained through community trust. We will explore how the board leads and supports a process that is inclusive, transparent, and aligned with district priorities. Learn how to engage stakeholders to ensure goals, initiatives, and resources are connected, and get the tools and strategies to help align vision with action to drive lasting impact. - *Marcia Herring, Caden Frank, Stacie Higgins, and Stephanie Summers*

SEE PHOTOS FROM LAST YEAR'S AMMs ON PAGE 9



SEE YOU SOON!

Tuesday, August 19 - Valentine
 Wednesday, August 20 - Gering
 Thursday, August 21 - Kearney
 Tuesday, August 26 - York
 Wednesday, August 27 - Norfolk
 Wednesday, September 3 - North Platte
 Tuesday, September 9 - Omaha
 Wednesday, September 10 - Nebraska City
 Wednesday, September 24 - Fremont

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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 - John Goodwin
Lincoln



Region 9 - Mara Krivohlavek
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



Sallie Horky
Chief Operating Officer



Galina Slobonyuk
Executive Administrative
Assistant



Ben Anderjaska
Board Leadership
Engagement Specialist



Megan Boldt
Associate Executive Director
Director of ALICAP



Katie Corfield
Board Leadership Online
Survey Specialist



Lindsey Headrick
Administrative Specialist



Rachel Horstman
Business Manager



Stephanie Summers
Board Leadership Associate



Makenzie Barry
ALICAP Data &
Financial Specialist



Craig Caples
Director of Technology



Sharon Endorf
Director of
Member Engagement



Marcia Herring
Director of Board Leadership



Jim Luebke
Director of Policy Services



Shari Becker
Director of Education
Leadership Search Service



Colby Coash
Associate Executive Director
Dir. of Government Relations



Becky Erdkamp
Board Leadership Associate



Stacie Higgins
Board Leadership Specialist



Avary Pansing Brooks
Board Leadership
Engagement Specialist

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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.

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- Lease-Purchase Financing
- QCPUF Bonds
- Refinancing Bond Issues



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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 - Envisi - 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 - OneSource The Background Check Company - 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.

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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



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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
PLATINUM LEVEL AFFILIATE

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.
GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

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
GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

Opaa! Food Management

FUNDRAISING

Omaha Public Schools Foundation
GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

INSURANCE SERVICES

American Fidelity
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Blue Cross Blue Shield of Nebraska
GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

National Insurance Services

Public Risk Management/ALICAP
PLATINUM LEVEL AFFILIATE

LEGAL SERVICES

Mueller Robak, LLC

PLAYGROUND/SCOREBOARDS/SURFACING

Creative Sites, LLC
SILVER LEVEL AFFILIATE

Cunningham Recreation/GameTime

Fisher Tracks, Inc.

SAFETY & SECURITY

OneSource - The Background Check Company
SILVER LEVEL AFFILIATE

STUDENT SERVICES

Amergis Educational Staffing
SILVER LEVEL AFFILIATE

TeamMates Mentoring Program
SILVER LEVEL AFFILIATE

TECHNOLOGY/SOFTWARE

Envisi
PLATINUM LEVEL AFFILIATE

Hamilton
PLATINUM LEVEL AFFILIATE

Sparq Data Solutions
PLATINUM LEVEL AFFILIATE

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Nebraska Safety Center

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PLATINUM LEVEL AFFILIATE

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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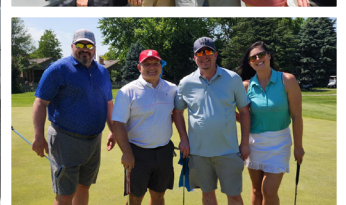
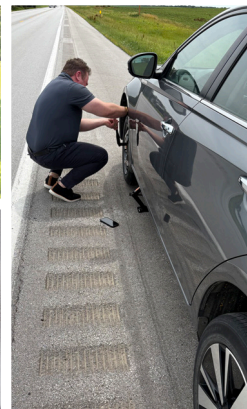
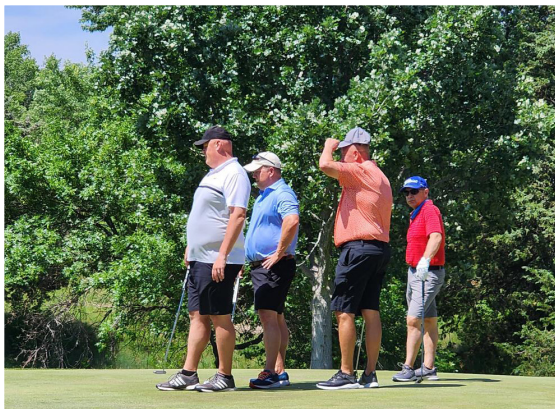
2,000,000 Nebraskans

329,000 Students

1,700 Locally Elected School Board Members

260 Member Districts/ESUs

ONE NEBRASKA



The NASB provides programs, services and advocacy to strengthen public education for all Nebraskans. Learn more at www.NASBOnline.org