



Happy New Year from NASB!

A lot in store, and it starts quick with the 105th Legislature reconvening tomorrow! Follow that with a number of great learning and networking opportunities on Advocacy, Legislative Issues, Budget & Finance, the annual Education Forum, and more makes for a busy January and February. We hope you utilize as many of our resources as possible to provide a highcaliber educational experience not only in your district, but for all Nebraska children. 2018 also marks NASB's 100th year serving school boards! Look for some exciting items throughout the year to honor this milestone. School boards make Nebraska a great place to LIVE! Through Leadership, Innovation, Vision and Engagement Nebraska's school boards are making a difference for students across the state.

School Board Recognition Week starts January 22nd!!!



The 105th Legislature, 2nd Session starts TOMORROW!

Stay informed, involved, and engaged with NASB's legislative communication starting this week through our *Legislative Notes* e-updates, *Board Notes* and *Board Quicks*, and by downloading and referencing NASB's *Advocacy Handbook* for 2018 at the Government Relations section of www.NASBonline.org. Check out the advocacy tips on Page 2 as well! For those wanting to be more involved this session, don't hesitate to reach out. NASB's legislative team is always here to answer any questions you may have, or help as you or your district look to get more engaged in the overall process. When it comes to advocating for public education, a little can do a lot!



Legislative Issues Conference | January 21-22 | Lincoln Budget & Finance Workshop | January 22 | Lincoln

Registration is open for the Legislative Issues Conference, as well as the Monday afternoon workshop on Budget & Finance. Sunday evening's presentation will be from former State Senator Colby Coash on "Public Education in Nebraska - It's YOUR Story To Tell! Change The Narrative And Get Results." Monday morning we have invited the Governor, Speaker, select Committee Chairs, and 2018 candidates to address the audience. Lunch with Senators will follow the morning speakers. Following lunch, we encourage you to extend your day by attending the Budget & Finance Workshop featuring Superintendents Matt Fisher of Northwest Public Schools and Carl Dietz of Wilcox-Hildreth Public Schools, two school finance experts. Register now at www.NASBonline.org



President's Retreat - RSVP!

February 18-19 | Lincoln February 25-26 | North Platte

Board Presidents, and those who aspire to be President are invited to attend the NASB President's Retreat, "Developing a Board President Leadership Plan." Sunday night starts with a social, dinner & training, followed by an all day work session Monday. RSVP to mherring@NASBonline.org to register.



Education Forum | February 21-22 | Kearney

Look for more details online and in your mailbox shortly!

LEADERSHIP

INNOVATION

VISION

ENGAGEMENT

Advocacy 101 - We Are All In This Together!!!

WHAT IS MY ROLE?

YOU are an advocate for Public Education!

As a school board member, YOU are in an excellent position to **educate** and **influence** the legislative process!

YOU are seen as a key resource on ed policy.

Be a resource.

Stay informed.

Communicate TO and FOR your district.

Stay in your comfort zone.

Build relationships.

Know your Senator ... AND THE OTHER 48!

Find your fit.

As an elected official, you are a community leader.

No one is more qualified to talk about your school district, your community, and your needs related to providing your students a quality education than you!

Don't take for granted the access we have as Nebraskans to our State Senators & Federal Representatives.

It is not like that everywhere!

The 2018 Legislative Session kicks off January 3!

Stay informed, involved, and engaged with NASB's legislative communication and these tips to be a better advocate for your district, community, and all of Nebraska!



Last year, there were:

- 667 Bills Introduced, 130 Bills related to Education and/or Taxes
- 114 Bills that remain on General/Select File
- 173 Bills that became Law
- 30 Bills held by the Education Committee

Your role as an advocate for education and **EDUCATING** is more important than ever!



With term limits and the like, in the past 10 years, there have been more than 100 new Senators elected. In 2018:

- 24 of 49 seats are up for election.
- 16 seated Senators face re-election.
- At least 8 new Senators will be elected. (6 Senators are term-limited, 2 not re-running)
- 74% of the current body has less than 4-years experience. (36 of 49 are new as of 2014)

You are likely educating them on the good or bad of the particular bill.

RESOURCES:

- Bookmark the Government Relations page of www.NASBonline.org
- Have a copy of NASB's Advocacy Handbook close at all times
- Utilize NASB's Legislative Notes summarizing all pertinent items
- Know your representative on NASB's Legislation Committee
- www.NebraskaLegislature.gov
- Your local TV/Print/Radio outlets
- Twitter/Facebook/Social Media: #neleg

TWITTER:

- @NASBOnline - @UnicamUpdate - @Nebraskagov - @nebraskanews
- Follow your (and all) State Senators, as well as State, Regional and Local reporters/outlets ... @PaulHammelOWH - @fredmknapp
- @stoddardOWH - @LJSdon

Senators value a school board member taking their personal time to testify.

- Speak to your experiences as a sbm
- Use data, financials
- OFFER SOLUTIONS!

ADVOCACY

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