

NASB BOARD NOTES

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION FROM THE NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BOARDS



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329,000 Students

1,700 Locally Elected School Board Members

260 Member Districts/ESUs

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Snapshots



IN THIS EDITION OF BOARD NOTES

THIS MONTH IN ...

TRAINING, NETWORKING, ENGAGEMENT & EVENTS
NPLF AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS TO FUTURE EDUCATORS
SWING INTO THE SCHOOL LAW SEMINAR

AT THE BOARD TABLE - COMPLETE A QUICK CHECK OF YOUR BOARD'S GOVERNANCE EFFECTIVENESS...

** DOWN TO THE WIRE ... NASB LEGISLATIVE UPDATE & CALL TO ACTION!!! **

ELECTION INFORMATION FOR THE NASB BOARD
TEACHER SHORTAGE PLAYBOOK FOR YOUR BOARD
YOUR NASB BOARD OF DIRECTORS & STAFF
YOUR 2025 NASB AFFILIATES
... AND MUCH MORE!

CALL TO ACTION

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

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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 ... As we inch closer to Day 90, here are the bills in play for the remainder of the session, all in various stages of debate, some good, some bad, but we're engaging until the very end! LBs 89, 306, 440, 550, 645, 653, and 677. See page 7 for specifics on the LB 306 tree. As always, keep tabs on both the NASB GR page and Bills page. Call Colby & Matt any time!

ALICAP & INSURANCE ... ALICAP's Board of Trustees are scheduled to meet on Friday, May 23rd in Lincoln. Each year ALICAP's May Meeting primary focus is to discuss the possibility of declaring a dividend. Also, many thanks to all 218 members which have completed their Renewal Questionnaire for the upcoming 25-26 year. Summer is truly upon us! Stay safe!

AWARDS OF ACHIEVEMENT ... Contact NASB with questions about your points history or the Awards program. The points year runs from August 1 to July 31.

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

DATA ANALYTICS ... We can create a district data summary analysis for your district to provide a quick, clear means of showing how your own district compares to both nearby districts and similar-sized districts at a glance. As your district gets deep into the budget process for next year, these summaries are useful for answering questions of how your district's valuation, levy, cost per pupil, poverty indicators, and student test scores compare to others. Contact Jim Luebbe if you are interested in creating one of these summaries for your own school.

EDUCATION LEADERSHIP SEARCH SERVICE ... Contact NASB with questions on search protocol or to schedule a proposal for this summer.

ENERGY PURCHASING ... If you are an NJUMP or CJUMP gas purchasing program member and your district has added new buildings with additional gas meters in the past year, take note. Sometimes in the hectic pace of construction, your contractors may add the building meter without understanding it needs to be included in the gas purchasing program to get those benefits. This is a good time to make certain all your meters are included in the NJUMP or CJUMP program.

FOUNDATION ... The NPLF has awarded two, \$1,000 scholarships to high school seniors who are pursuing higher education to become a teacher in a Nebraska public school system. Learn more on page 4.

GALLUP STRENGTHS ... May's featured Gallup theme is **Achiever**. People with Achiever among their top themes are internally driven to get things done. They can set the pace for a team. They take pride in checking tasks off their list. Contact Shari to schedule a Gallup staff or leadership team retreat.

MEMBER ENGAGEMENT ... This month we enjoyed a Legislative Lunch in Wayne. Recent district visits include Logan View, Fort Calhoun, Blair, Bancroft-Rosalie, Bruning-Davenport, and Deshler. Be sure to join us in June for Golf, the networking reception and School Law Seminar in Kearney, and another Legislative Lunch, and then one of our three Leadership Workshops in July.

POLICY ... The Legislature passed LB 140 regarding cellphone usage limitations for students while in school facilities or during instruction hours. The bill does allow for cellphone use when determined appropriate by the board or otherwise allowed by an appropriate school employee, so your board will need to discuss this topic. Our model policy will reflect those options to consider.

TECHNOLOGY ... Welcome New Sparq Meeting Subscribers ... Learning Community of Douglas & Sarpy Counties, and Oakland-Craig Public Schools.

TRAINING, NETWORKING, ENGAGEMENT & EVENTS

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US!

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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.



To the Class of 2025 ... We know that you're just getting started!



Final Day of the 2025 Legislative Session, Monday, June 9

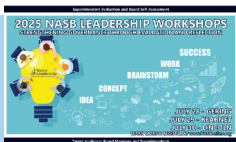
NASB Member Golf Outing - Wednesday, June 11 - Kearney

Email sendorf@NASBOnline.org for more information

School Law Seminar - June 11-12 - Kearney

NASB Legislative Lunch - Tuesday, June 17 - Logan View

Board Academy Collaboration Lunch & Learn - Wednesday, June 18 - Webinar



Leadership Workshop - Monday, July 28 - Gering
Leadership Workshop - Tuesday, July 29 - Kearney
Leadership Workshop - Wednesday, July 30 - Lincoln

Area Membership Meetings run Tuesday, August 19 through Wednesday, September 24

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



Other Events, October through December 2025 ...

Labor Relations - State Education Conference - New Board Member Workshop

NPLF AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS TO FUTURE EDUCATORS

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



The Nebraska Public Leadership Foundation (NPLF) recently awarded two \$1,000 scholarships to two high school seniors who are pursuing higher education to become a teacher in a Nebraska public school system. In thousands of classrooms across Nebraska, teachers lead our students to discover new and important facts and ideas, the stepping stones that shape their future. NPLF supports the students who want to give to the overall mission of success for every student in Nebraska. Applications were due in March, with NPLF receiving close to 100 individual applicants. This year's recipients are Lucy Mohr & Liam White!

Lucy Mohr - Papillion La Vista High School
University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Secondary Education

"I aim to further my education by gaining a deep understanding of teaching methods, leadership skills, and strategies to create an engaging learning environment. I want to create a classroom where students feel encouraged, motivated, and excited to learn—just like my great-grandmother did. As she grew older, our bond deepened through our shared love for learning. She would often tell me stories about her time in the classroom, the students she taught, and the joy she felt when she saw them grow. Her passion for education was infectious, and I found myself drawn to the idea of making a difference in the lives of others just as she had. She encouraged my curiosity, always answering my endless questions and pushing me to think critically. Because of her, I realized that education is more than just facts and figures—it's about connection, inspiration, and guiding others to reach their potential. Her influence has shaped my desire to become an educator, and I hope to carry on her legacy by inspiring future generations just as she inspired me." Lucy is pictured with Michelle Zlomke, NPLF board member.

Liam White - Osceola High School
University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Agricultural Leadership, Education & Communication

"I intend to pursue endorsements in both secondary-level agricultural and skilled and technical sciences education, because of the experiences I've had through my participation in the FFA and ag classroom. Through those opportunities, I've further realized the complexity and importance of agriculture, and every single aspect of it captivated me. A few years after I become a certified teacher I want to be teaching and advising in an ag ed program here in Nebraska. I hope to create a culture in that program that promotes success through cooperation and determination. My inspiration for becoming an educator comes from my parents and grandparents. My father was an eighth-grade history teacher, and my mother has been in multiple different teaching positions. My grandparents on my father's side were both educators, and my grandmother on my mother's side was also. I've been around education so long that I've seen the difference a good teacher can make, and I want to be part of that difference." Liam is pictured with Ed Swotek, NPLF board member.

You can learn more about NPLF and donating to this annual scholarship at
www.nepublicleadership.org

CONGRATS LUCY AND LIAM!

SWING INTO THE SCHOOL LAW SEMINAR

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<https://members.nasbonline.org/events/school-law-seminar>

SCHOOL LAW SEMINAR JUNE 11-12 - KEARNEY



2025

TO REGISTER

\$185 Member Registration
\$110 NCOSA Member Registration
Registration Deadline is June 6
\$25 Cancellation fee
15 Awards of Achievement points
<https://nasb.enviseams.com/>

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11

12:30 PM - NASB MEMBER GOLF OUTING

Kearney Country Club - \$82 (Includes lunch provided by ALICAP)
Email sendorf@NASBonline.org to register for golf



6:30 to 11:00 PM - Networking Reception & Hospitality Suite

Join us for an evening of networking, a light dinner buffet, and a hospitality suite.

THURSDAY, JUNE 12

9:00 AM - Legislative Update - Derek Aldridge, Perry Law Firm

10:30 AM - Protecting Student Data in a World of Data Pirates - Gray Derrick & Bob Kardell, Baird Holm

11:15 AM - From DOGE to the Fork in the Road: What Happens in D.C. Seldom Stays There
David Kramer, Baird Holm

12:15 PM - Lunch

1:00 PM - Parental Rights in Schools - Coady Pruett & Amanda Dabney, KSB School Law

2:00 PM - Doobie Do's and Doobie Don'ts - Nick Lesiak, Westside

2:45 PM - Immigration and the Teacher Shortage
Megan Neiles Brasch, Omaha Public Schools; Kara Stockdale, Baird Holm

3:30 PM - Title IX Update - Coady Pruett & Amanda Dabney, KSB School Law

UP TO 4.5 CLE CREDITS FOR ATTORNEYS ATTENDING THE SEMINAR

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

Upcoming Board Leadership Events

June 18 - Virtual Lunch & Learn
Board Academy Collaboration

June 25 - Virtual Lunch & Learn
President Circle

Leadership Workshops

July 28 - Gering

July 29 - Kearney

July 30 - Lincoln

JUNE BOARD AGENDA ITEMS

Please see the May 15 email from shiggins@NASBonline.org for the draft of the June 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.

COMPLETE A QUICK CHECK OF YOUR BOARD'S GOVERNANCE EFFECTIVENESS...

Mission, Vision, and Goals: To what extent do board discussions and decisions reflect a clear commitment to the district's mission, vision, and long-term goals?

Policy Governance: Are we effectively following a purposeful review of the board policy manual to guide district operations?

Stakeholder & Community Engagement: How effectively does the board gather input from stakeholders and communicate the district vision and board decisions?

Accountability & Student Achievement: How consistently do we use data and evidence to monitor student outcomes and hold ourselves accountable for academic success for all students?

Advocacy: Are we actively advocating at the local and state levels for policies and resources that support student success?

District Resources: Are we ensuring that the district's budget and resource allocations are aligned with strategic priorities and used responsibly to support student success?

Board Operations: Are board meetings efficient, focused on governance-level issues, and conducted in a way that fosters respectful dialogue and informed decision-making?

Board-Superintendent Relations: Do all board members maintain a respectful, collaborative working relationship with the superintendent, clearly defining roles and expectations to support effective leadership?

Professional Development: Do we regularly seek opportunities to grow our knowledge and skills as board members to strengthen our governance effectiveness?

These questions aim to prompt your reflection on the board's core governance responsibilities.

If you would like the board to complete a board self-assessment, email kcorfield@NASBonline.org or jspatz@NASBonline.org to enter your district's name into a drawing for a FREE Board Self-Assessment and Board Goal Planning Session!

DOWN TO THE WIRE ... NASB LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

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

We've passed the 80-day mark of the 90-day Session. There are now TWO Education Priority Bills still in play on General File. The small remainder of days decreases the likelihood the bills will have enough time for debate on three rounds this Session. We broke down the LB 653 tree in the April edition of *Board Notes*, so let's unpack the provisions of LB 306 which was voted out earlier this month. There are a number of items contained within LB 306 which include LBs 440, 550, and 682. Debate is tentatively scheduled for LB 306 this Wednesday (5/21). ***It would be a great time to reach out to your Senator if you have not already. If you need assistance in reaching out to/communicating with your Senator, please reach out!***

ASK YOUR SENATOR TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING:

- 1) Support the amendment which redirects excess leave funds to be used for substitutes outside of FMLA leave. (LB 440)
- 2) Assure the permissive language "shall" to "may" remains in the bill. (LB 550)
- 3) Remove language allowing for civil action against districts (LB 550)
- 4) Reject language usurping board authority re: Superintendent contracts. (LB 682)
- 5) Reject the inclusion of LB 653 in the bill.

CALL TO ACTION

LB 306 (Education) Change provisions relating to the Board of Trustees of the Nebraska State Colleges, the Nebraska Career Scholarship Act, the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education Act, the Door to College Scholarship Act, and budget limitations for community colleges

- Originally brought on behalf of State College systems, it changes admissions requirements for admission by allowing for an alternative admission test

LB 440 (Spivey) Adopt the Education Leave and Support Act

- Has been further amended to limit leave under the act to 3 weeks (from 6)
- Excess funds above 20% to be used for: Substitute reimbursement for educator absence due to professional development (NASB's recommendation); the payment of loan forgiveness for students going into special education ... It is unclear which of these two provisions would take priority.

LB 550 (Lippincott) Require school districts to adopt a policy that excuses students to attend a released time course for religious instruction

- Language amended to make it permissive, not mandatory that boards adopt a policy
- Includes language which needs removed allowing for a civil action against districts.

LB 682 (Education) ...

- With AM 566, LB 682 is basically the former LB 300 regarding Superintendent contract requirements. Requires Superintendents to file income with the Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission; prohibits contract outside of work as a Superintendent with some exceptions (higher ed teaching, coaching, refereeing, judging, or family farming); attempts to remedy an issue with budget lid authority regarding the leave in LB 440 and LB 645.

OF BILLS TRACKED

111

BILLS WE TESTIFIED ON

67

BILLS WE SUPPORT

31

BILLS WE OPPOSE

35

NEUTRAL

1

SBMs WHO SAT IN THE CHAIR ON OUR BEHALF!

12!



I'M JUST A BILL ...

Introduction
Committee
General File
Select File
Final Reading
Governor
Law



SHARE YOUR STORY - BUILD TRUST - ADVOCATE FOR LOCAL CONTROL

ELECTION INFORMATION FOR THE NASB BOARD

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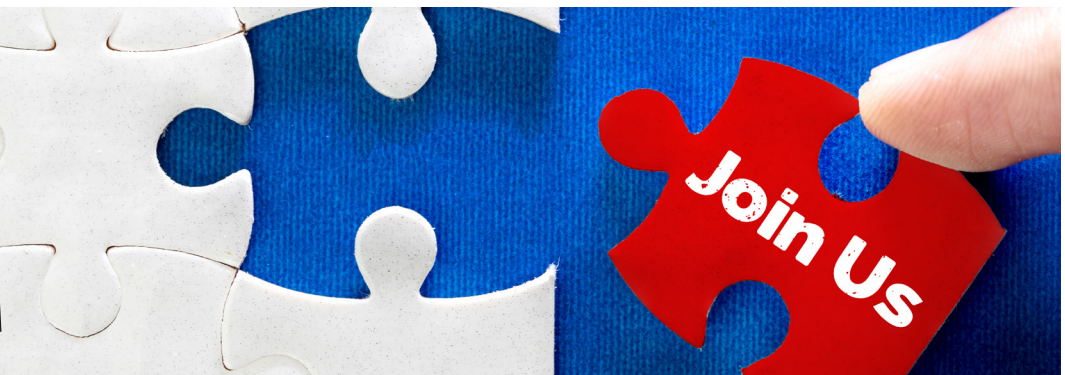
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<https://members.nasbonline.org/board-of-directors>



Board Members,

This year we will have one at-large seat on our Nominating Committee and two at-large seats on our Board of Directors that will need to be filled by the end of our annual Delegate Assembly.

Please consider nominating yourself or someone on your board for these seats!

The duties of these seats were attached as PDFs in an email sent to you on May 8. If you are interested in serving, please complete the form(s) and return them to Sallie Horky at shorky@NASBonline.org no later than June 27.

In August, the current NASB Board will review the nominations for the at-large seat on the Nominating Committee and send their choice to the Delegate Assembly for a final vote. That person will serve a 2-year term from November 2025 to November 2027. In September, the current Nominating Committee will review the nominations for the at-large positions for the Board of Directors, sending those names to the Delegate Assembly for a final vote as well. They will also serve a 2-year term from November 2025 to November 2027. (If your district or ESU currently has a board member on our Board of Directors, you will be unable to nominate a board member per our Bylaws, Article IX – Board of Directors, subsection 1e.). If you have any questions about these positions, or the process in general, please let Sallie know!

NASB CALL FOR LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS DUE JULY 1

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



STRENGTHENING GOVERNANCE THROUGH EVALUATION AND REFLECTION

July 28 - Gering July 29 - Kearney July 30 - Lincoln

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

Learn more, and register now! See the full agenda at

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

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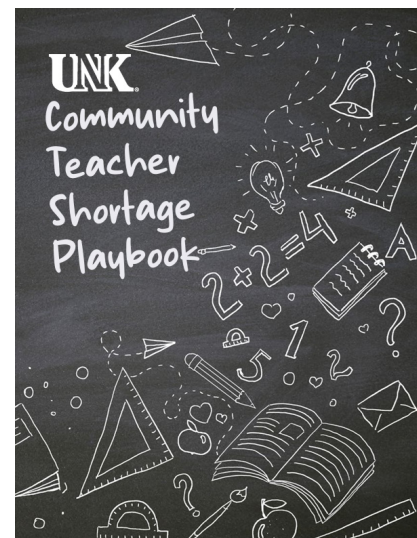
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https://www.unk.edu/academics/coe/_files/teacher-shortage-booklet-web.pdf

Last June, the University of Nebraska at Kearney's Nebraska Department of Education Teacher Shortage Grant Committee convened a diverse group of education stakeholders including teachers, parents, administrators, and college professors to address the ongoing teacher shortage in Nebraska.

This collaborative effort focused on exploring strategies and actionable solutions that various stakeholders such as parents, school boards, administrators, service organizations (e.g., churches, Rotary, YMCA), foundations, nonprofits, and business/economic groups, can implement to support and strengthen the education workforce. The goal was to develop a resource that helps communities actively engage in addressing this pressing issue.

As a result of these discussions, the Teacher Shortage Playbook was created. A practical guide designed to assist school districts and community leaders in their efforts to attract, support, and retain educators. Above is a link to download the digital playbook to share with your organization for distribution among administrators, board members, and other key stakeholders.



"The project originated from faculty conversations focused on being proactive and solution-oriented. Our goal was to support district leaders in collaboratively identifying strategies that could benefit all districts," said Dr. Chelsea Feusner, Assistant Professor, Educational Administration with UNK. "The format is intentionally designed as a working document, providing space for brainstorming, the generation of ideas, and robust collaboration among school boards, community leaders, and administrators. Our goal is for the document to be a tool communities can use to continue to discuss and brainstorm ways to support our schools."

"We were fortunate to receive initial funding for the project and print version through the NDE grant. Although the grant has since been cut, a digital version remains available for access and printing. We hope this resource will help spark community conversations around raising awareness and identifying ways to support and address the teacher shortage." Dr. Aprille Phillips, Associate Professor, Educational Administration, UNK.

NASB Mourns the Passing of 2007 President, Glen Larsen

Glen, pictured front row right, was very involved not only in our Association, but many other aspects of education across Nebraska. Born in Ainsworth, he attended school in Keya Paha and Springview. He began his career as a teacher which took him to Rocksburg, Longpine, and Ashland. He then became a Principal in Deshler where he later became Superintendent at age 30. He later served at Fullerton, Adams Central, Blue Hill, and Wymore Southern. He was selected as the 1992 Nebraska Superintendent of the Year. In total, 45+ years in education, 38 as school superintendent.



From there, he served on various committees and educational organizations like the ESU 9 board, which led him to serve on both the NASB Board of Directors for seven years, including President in 2007, and the NASB Legislation Committee.

Education was a lifelong passion. He impacted an untold number of staff, students, and peer leaders across the state, and instilled the importance of hard work and education in the lives of many.



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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 - 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



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

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
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