





NASB MISSION STATEMENT

The Nebraska Association of School Boards provides programs, services, and advocacy to strengthen public education for all Nebraskans.

NASB BOARD LEADERSHIP TEAM MISSION

To promote and advance effective board governance and leadership to support learning for all students.



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Since 1918, NASB has been committed to serving school boards across the state. Our mission is "to provide programs, services, and advocacy to strengthen public education for all Nebraskans." We are here to support the work of the school board to meet the charge of ensuring that all students within our public schools receive a quality education in a safe learning environment. The effective school board is committed to the improvement and growth of student achievement.

While at its core NASB is a resource for board training and an advocate on behalf of public education, the value of your district's membership in NASB is far reaching. As a board member you have access to staff with experience in school law, policy, governance leadership, insurance, advocacy, communications, superintendent evaluation, board self-assessment, community engagement, strategic planning, superintendent search services, negotiations data, etc.

Support services are only part of the story. NASB works collaboratively with many educational and governmental partners representing the interests of school boards and the development of policy. We continually aspire to grow and improve our programs and services to ensure cost-savings to our members and to support your goal to provide a quality education for all students. The NASB Board Leadership Team designed this publication to support you in your role as a school board member at the board meeting table. The first section is devoted to providing a quick reference guide that includes the board Code of Conduct, board meeting protocols, outlined responsibilities defined in law, rights of the public during a board meeting, a sample board meeting agenda, suggested content for meeting minutes, and more.

The 2025 NASB Annual Board Calendar highlights monthly board meeting agenda items. The material referenced in the annual calendar is not an exhaustive list, but rather provides guidance for the board president and superintendent each month when designing the draft board meeting agenda.

Thank you for your service to public education, the students, staff members, and the communities of Nebraska. NASB staff members are here to support you in your role and service as a board member.

If you wish to download an electronic copy of this publication, you can find a copy posted on the NASB website. (www.NASBonline.org > Board Leadership > Resources > 2025 NASB Board Meeting Guide and Annual Calendar.)

Please direct your questions regarding this publication to Marcia Herring, NASB Director of Board Leadership, at mherring@NASBonline.org or 800-422-4572.

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NASB CODE OF CONDUCT/

To ensure the district provides a safe and successful learning environment for all students, the Board of Education is committed to governing through policy. In accordance with this belief and by adoption of this policy, each board member commits to following the Code of Conduct/Code of Ethics.

Board members' actions, verbal and nonverbal, reflect the attitude and the beliefs of the school district. Therefore, board members must conduct themselves professionally and in a manner fitting to the responsibility of duty.

In addition to the following, board members should be familiar with and abide by their district's Code of Conduct/Code of Ethics.

AS A BOARD MEMBER, I WILL:

- Recognize that my authority rests not with individual members of the board, but within a legal session of the board, respecting and abiding by the majority decision of the board.
- Consistently uphold all applicable local, state, and federal laws, rules, and policies.
- Attend all regularly scheduled board meetings, insofar as possible, and diligently prepare for meetings by reviewing in advance the material provided.
- Remain informed of local, state, and national educational developments of significance, remaining current on needs and requirements pertaining to educational issues through individual study and participation in board development opportunities.
- Consider the needs of the entire community and vote in the best interest of students, staff, and the educational program.
- Encourage individual board member free expression of ideas, listen without judgement, engage in thoughtful deliberation, and maintain open communication between all stakeholders.
- Complete the Conflict of Interest form and not use the school district or any part of the school district program for my own personal advantage or for the advantage of my friends or supporters.
- Abide by the Open Meetings Law and only enter closed session of the board if the situation requires it. I will consider "secret" sessions of board members in violation of the law.
- Recognize that promising in advance of a meeting how I will vote on any item prohibits open discussion and inhibits transparency.

- Retain independent judgement and refuse to surrender that judgment to individuals or special interest groups.
- Respect the confidentiality of privileged information, as prescribed by law.
- Prioritize policymaking, budget, goal setting, strategic planning, and the effects on student learning and achievement, ensuring efficient use of education resources.
- Act only as a member of the board, do not assume any individual authority when the board is not in session, and take no private action that will compromise the board or administration.
- Request recommendations from the superintendent and consider legal counsel advice for the board when required for full and informed board consideration of issues requiring legal expertise.
- Acknowledge that the superintendent of schools and his or her staff are responsible and accountable for the delivery of the educational programs and the conduct of school operations.
- Adhere to and encourage others to follow the Chain of Command regarding complaints, requests, and concerns related to the school district.
- Ensure strong management of the school system by hiring and evaluating the superintendent, collaborating toward a common vision and goals for the district.
- Hold the superintendent accountable by jointly creating job performance standards and at least annually performing a comprehensive evaluation based on the job description, contract, and superintendent goals.
- Provide policy support for school administrators in the performance of their duties and delegate authority commensurate with those responsibilities.
- Perform a liaison communications role by respecting the needs of both the community and the school by engaging stakeholders in the strategic planning process.
- Recognize the board president (or designee) will speak as the official voice of the board. A
 single board member will not represent the board without the consent of the board, and
 board members making personal statements (in any format, including speeches, articles,
 social media posts, etc.) should clearly state these statements are their opinion and not
 the position of the board.
- Acknowledge the different roles that we play as individuals (board member, patron, parent, etc.).

STANDARDS OF EFFECTIVE BOARD GOVERNANCE

THE PURPOSE OF THE NASB BOARD GOVERNANCE STANDARDS:

- Defines effective best practice and governance of the board
- Outlines the proper roles and responsibilities of the governance team
- Provides a mechanism for evaluating the leadership governance of the board
- Informs district and community stakeholders of the role of the board and the importance of working with district leadership to grow and improve education for all students

THE VALUE OF THE NASB BOARD GOVERNANCE STANDARDS BENEFIT THE BOARD BY:

- Affirming the board's commitment to the mission, vision, and goals of the school district
- Ensuring the governance team sustains a focus on the support of improving and growing learning for all students
- Modeling and supporting a positive and focused climate/culture of the board and school district
- Building trust and fostering a better understanding of the responsibility of the board and what it means to govern effectively
- Emphasizing the willingness of board members' accountability to each other and the district and community stakeholders
- Equipping district and community stakeholders with a meaningful basis for assessing the effectiveness of the governing board
- Aligning to the board self-assessment to support the evaluation of the board's effectiveness
- Helping to build and sustain a positive governance culture when new members are elected or appointed to serve on the board
- Educating aspiring board candidates and voters about the important role and authority of the board

NASB STANDARDS OF EFFECTIVE BOARD GOVERNANCE

To promote student growth and achievement, an effective school board will adopt and adhere to board leadership and governance standards.

MISSION, VISION, AND GOALS

The board annually reviews the district's mission, annually adopting board and district goals to support the long-term vision.

POLICY GOVERNANCE

The board annually reviews, revises, and develops policies and procedures to ensure accountability focused on growth and student achievement.

STAKEHOLDER AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The board establishes effective communication with internal and external stakeholders to promote the district's image and to build and sustain long-term partnerships that serve education.

ACCOUNTABILITY AND STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

The board continuously monitors the progress of district goals utilizing data to support growth and promote shared accountability for maximizing student achievement.

ADVOCACY

The board advocates for children, public education, learning, and equity to support improved student achievement for all students.

DISTRICT RESOURCES

The board aligns and manages district resources in a responsible manner to meet goals and to promote growth of student achievement.

BOARD OPERATIONS

The board ensures meetings are effective, efficient, and orderly, focused on policy and proper board governance and conduct.

BOARD-SUPERINTENDENT RELATIONS

The board and superintendent establish and sustain a professional and collaborative working relationship to support and advocate for growth and student achievement.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The board aligns and manages district resources in a responsible manner to meet goals and to promote growth of student achievement.

BOARD PROTOCOLS

Disclaimer: Board Meeting Procedures are not law based; the list is a recommended method of effectivey conducting board meetings.

Motion	Debateable	Amendable	Vote
Main Motion	Yes	No	Majority
Amend Main Motion	Yes	Yes	Majority
Amend Amendment	Yes	No	Majority
Object Consideration	No	No	Majority
Refer to Committee	Yes	Yes	Majority
Postpone Indefinitely	Yes	Yes	Majority
Call for Question	Yes	No	Majority
Motion	Debateable	Amendable	Vote
Lay on Table	No	No	Majority
Close Debate	No	No	2/3 Majority
Recess	No	Yes	Majority
Adjourn	No	No	Majority
Abstention	To abstain means to count as a vote.	refrain from voting. Ar	n abstention does not
Change of Vote	A member may change the results of the vot	e their vote if it is befor e.	e the chair announces
Point of Order	A member may raise a point of order to question a ruling or parliamentary procedure; this does not require a second, is not debatable or amendable. Chair rules on the point of order and a vote is not required.		
Lay on the Table	A temporary delay of action that does not kill the motion. The motion to delay must be seconded, is not debatable or amendable, and requires a majority vote. If action is not taken by the next regular meeting, the motion dies.		
Reconsider	must be made by a policy lost, at the same mee	correct a decision. The erson on the prevailing eting; the reconsiderat requires a majority vo	g side, carried or ion is debatable,

Rescind	A motion to rescind cancels a previous motion, must be seconded, and is debatable. A board cannot rescind a motion that has been carried out. Example, to accept a resignation, or for actions electing or expelling a person from membership or office.
Statement of Record	A statement for the record may be included in the minutes if a board member makes the request to the secretary before adjournment.
Withdraw a Motion	A motion may be withdrawn if requested by the member who made the motion. The motion is not debatable, cannot be amended, and requires a majority vote to be granted.

Purpose: Proposed change to the main motion

- Amendment must be relevent to the main motion
- Amendment requires a second
- Motion to amend is debatable and discussion must pertain to the amendment
- Amendment requires a majority to pass
- If amendment is adopted, the proposed amendment then becomes a part of the main motion
- Board returns to the original motion adding the modification, discuss, and vote

	BOARD MEETING ASSESSMENT:
	Questions to consider at conclusion of the meeting.
,	Did I/we arrive prepared to participate in the discussion and debate of items
1.	on the board meeting agenda?
2.	Did the board focus on topics that align to goals and policy?
3.	Did all board members have an opportunity to be heard?
4	Did we consider the expertise of staff and the data and needs of the school
4.	district?
5 .	Did we treat each other with respect?
6.	Did we follow appropriate rules of meeting procedure and decorum?
7.	Did we welcome community or staff observers as valued guests?
8.	Did we offer recognition to celebrate the accomplishments of students, staff,
0.	or volunteers?
9.	Did we commit time to our own learning to support informed decision
7.	making?
10.	Did we impact student achievement through the discussion and action of the
	meeting?

DID YOU KNOW?

Board Meeting Agenda

- Board meeting agenda is official 24 hours before the advertised time of the board meeting
- Agenda items shall not be changed later than 24 hours before the meeting
- Board should consider a special meeting if the item cannot wait until the next regular board meeting
- Board is required by law to post six months of current board meeting agendas and minutes
 on the school district website. The post and/or link to the board meeting agendas and
 minutes must be easy to locate on the district website. [Effective July 1, 2022]

Closed/Executive Session

- Closed/Executive Session must be clearly necessary to ensure:
 - 1. protection of the public interest; or
 - 2. prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual, and if such individual has not requested a public meeting.
- Majority of the board must vote to move into closed session and the motion must include
 the subject matter and the reason necessitating the closed session in the motion to close.

 Example: "I move to go into closed session to discuss negotiations (subject matter) for the
 protection of the public's interest (reason necessitating the closed session)."
 - "I move to go into closed session to discuss a performance evaluation to protect the reputation of an individual."
- Board meeting minutes must include the entire motion, the vote of each member, time in which the closed session started and ended.
- If the motion to close passes, the presiding officer shall restate for the record the limitation of the subject matter of the closed session immediately and prior to moving into closed session.
- During the closed session, the board may not discuss issues not directly related to the reason for going into closed session, and the board may not take formal action or reach a collective decision, i.e., vote.

If during the closed session a member believes the discussion has strayed away from the reason or motion for the closed session, the board member may challenge the continuation of the closed session. If the board member believes the discussion is inappropriate, next steps:

- If a challenge is made, the board will return to open session, note the time, and vote in public.
- If a majority of the board members vote against the challenge to terminate [i.e., motion failed], the board will return to the closed session referencing the original motion to enter closed session, note the time, and continue.
- If the challenge is made, it shall be reflected in the minutes, and it will list how each member voted.

If a challenge is made by a member and the board votes against it, the member making the motion should consider leaving the meeting if he/she believes the board is discussing material that is not relevant to the reason for the closed session. The board member may also return to the closed session.

Note: The board under no circumstances may meet in closed session to discuss the appointment of someone to fill a vacancy on the board.

The board must follow the law which distinctively outlines the board's responsibility to transact business through the official meeting of the board.

§ 79-554. Class I, II, or III school district; school board; quorum; meetings; open to public.

In all meetings of a school board of a Class I, II, or III school district, a majority of the members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Regular meetings shall be held on or before the third Monday of every month. All meetings of the board shall be subject to the Open Meetings Act. Special meetings may be called by the president or any two members, but all members shall have notice of the time and place of meeting. If a school district is participating in an approved unified system as provided in section 79-4,108, regular meetings of such district's school board shall be held at least twice during the school year.

§79-560. Class IV school district; board of education; meetings; open to public.

The board of education of a Class IV school district shall hold one or more regular meetings each month, the time of which shall be fixed by the bylaws adopted by such board. Special meetings may be held as circumstances may demand. All meetings of the board shall be subject to the Open Meetings Act.

§79-561. Class V school district; board of education; meetings; open to public.

The regular meetings of the board of education of a Class V school district shall be held one or more times each month. Special meetings may be held as circumstances may demand at the call of the president of the board or on petition of a majority of the members of the board. All meetings of the board shall be subject to the Open Meetings Act.

MEETING NOTICE

§ 84-1411. Meetings of public body; notice; method; contents; when available; right to modify; duties concerning notice; virtual conferencing authorized; requirements; emergency meeting without notice; appearance before public body.

- (2) Beginning January 1, 2025:
- (a) Except as provided in subsection (10) of this section, each public body shall give reasonable advance publicized notice of the time and place of each meeting as provided in this subsection. Such notice shall be transmitted to all members of the public body and to the public.
- (b)(i) Except as provided in subdivision (2)(b)(ii) of this section, in the case of a public body described in subdivision (1)(a)(i) of section 84-1409 or such body's advisory committees, such notice shall be given by:
- (A)(I) Publication in a newspaper of general circulation within the public body's jurisdiction that is finalized for printing prior to the time and date of the meeting, (II) posting on such newspaper's

website, if available, and (III) posting on a statewide website established and maintained as a repository for such notices by a majority of Nebraska newspapers. Such notice shall be placed in the newspaper and on the websites by the newspaper; or

- (B)(I) Posting to the newspaper's website, if available, and (II) posting to a statewide website established and maintained as a repository for such notices by a majority of Nebraska newspapers if no edition of a newspaper of general circulation within the public body's jurisdiction is to be finalized for printing prior to the time and date of the meeting. Such notice shall be placed in the newspaper and on the websites by the newspaper.
- (ii) In the case of the governing body of a city of the second class or village, any advisory committee of such governing body, or the governing body of a rural or suburban fire protection district, such notice shall be given by:
- (A)(I) Publication in a newspaper of general circulation within the public body's jurisdiction that is finalized for printing prior to the time and date of the meeting, (II) posting on such newspaper's website, if available, and (III) posting on a statewide website established and maintained as a repository for such notices by a majority of Nebraska newspapers. Such notice shall be placed in the newspaper and on the websites by the newspaper;
- (B)(I) Posting to the newspaper's website, if available, and (II) posting on a statewide website established and maintained as a repository for such notices by a majority of Nebraska newspapers if no edition of a newspaper of general circulation within the public body's jurisdiction is to be finalized for printing prior to the time and date of the meeting. Such notice shall be placed in the newspaper and on the websites by the newspaper; or
- (C) Posting written notice in three conspicuous public places in such city, village, or district. Such notice shall be posted by the public body in the same three places for each meeting.
- (iii) In the case of a public body not described in subdivision (2)(b)(i) or (ii) of this section, such notice shall be given by a method designated by the public body.
- (iv) In case of refusal, neglect, or inability of the newspaper to publish the notice, the public body shall (A) post such notice on its website, if available, (B) submit a post on a statewide website established and maintained as a repository for such notices by a majority of Nebraska newspapers, and (C) post such notice in a conspicuous public place in such public body's jurisdiction. The public body shall keep a written record of such posting. The record of such posting shall be evidence that such posting was done as required and shall be sufficient to fulfill the requirement of publication.
- (3)(a) The following entities may hold a meeting by means of virtual conferencing if the requirements of subdivision (3)(b) of this section are met:
- (i) A state agency, state board, state commission, state council, or state committee, or an advisory committee of any such state entity;
- (ii) An organization, including the governing body, created under the Interlocal Cooperation Act, the Joint Public Agency Act, or the Municipal Cooperative Financing Act;
- (iii) The governing body of a public power district having a chartered territory of more than one county in this state;

- (iv) The governing body of a public power and irrigation district having a chartered territory of more than one county in this state;
- (v) An educational service unit;
- (vi) The Educational Service Unit Coordinating Council;
- (vii) An organization, including the governing body, of a risk management pool or its advisory committees organized in accordance with the Intergovernmental Risk Management Act;
- (viii) A community college board of governors;
- (ix) The Nebraska Brand Committee;
- (x) A local public health department;
- (xi) A metropolitan utilities district;
- (xii) A regional metropolitan transit authority; and
- (xiii) A natural resources district.
- (b) The requirements for holding a meeting by means of virtual conferencing are as follows:
- (i) Reasonable advance publicized notice is given as provided in subsections (1) and (2) of this section, including providing access to a dial-in number or link to the virtual conference;
- (ii) In addition to the public's right to participate by virtual conferencing, reasonable arrangements are made to accommodate the public's right to attend at a physical site and participate as provided in section 84-1412, including reasonable seating, in at least one designated site in a building open to the public and identified in the notice, with: At least one member of the entity holding such meeting, or his or her designee, present at each site; a recording of the hearing by audio or visual recording devices; and a reasonable opportunity for input, such as public comment or questions, is provided to at least the same extent as would be provided if virtual conferencing was not used;
- (iii) At least one copy of all documents being considered at the meeting is available at any physical site open to the public where individuals may attend the virtual conference. The public body shall also provide links to an electronic copy of the agenda, all documents being considered at the meeting, and the current version of the Open Meetings Act; and
- (iv) Except as otherwise provided in this subdivision, subsection (1) of section 70-1014, subsection (2) of section 70-1014.02, or subsection (4) of section 79-2204, no more than one-half of the meetings of the state entities, advisory committees, boards, councils, organizations, or governing bodies are held by virtual conferencing in a calendar year. In the case of (A) an organization created under the Interlocal Cooperation Act that sells electricity or natural gas, (B) an organization created under the Municipal Cooperative Financing Act, (C) a governing body of a risk management pool and any advisory committee of such governing body, or (D) any advisory committee of any state entity created in response to the Opioid Prevention and Treatment Act, such organization, governing body, or committee may hold more than one-half of its meetings by virtual conferencing if such organization holds at least one meeting each calendar year that is not by virtual conferencing.
- (4) Virtual conferencing, emails, faxes, or other electronic communication shall not be used to

circumvent any of the public government purposes established in the Open Meetings Act.

- (5) The secretary or other designee of each public body shall maintain a list of the news media requesting notification of meetings and shall make reasonable efforts to provide advance notification to them of the time and place of each meeting and the subjects to be discussed at that meeting.
- (6) When it is necessary to hold an emergency meeting without reasonable advance public notice, the nature of the emergency shall be stated in the minutes and any formal action taken in such meeting shall pertain only to the emergency. Such emergency meetings may be held by virtual conferencing. The provisions of subsection (5) of this section shall be complied with in conducting emergency meetings. Complete minutes of such emergency meetings specifying the nature of the emergency and any formal action taken at the meeting shall be made available to the public by no later than the end of the next regular business day.
- (7) A public body may allow a member of the public or any other witness to appear before the public body by means of virtual conferencing.
- (8)(a) Notwithstanding subsections (3) and (6) of this section, if an emergency is declared by the Governor pursuant to the Emergency Management Act as defined in section 81-829.39, a public body the territorial jurisdiction of which is included in the emergency declaration, in whole or in part, may hold a meeting by virtual conferencing during such emergency if the public body gives reasonable advance publicized notice as described in subsections (1) and (2) of this section. The notice shall include information regarding access for the public and news media. In addition to any formal action taken pertaining to the emergency, the public body may hold such meeting for the purpose of briefing, discussion of public business, formation of tentative policy, or the taking of any action by the public body.
- (b) The public body shall provide access by providing a dial-in number or a link to the virtual conference. The public body shall also provide links to an electronic copy of the agenda, all documents being considered at the meeting, and the current version of the Open Meetings Act. Reasonable arrangements shall be made to accommodate the public's right to hear and speak at the meeting and record the meeting. Subsection (5) of this section shall be complied with in conducting such meetings.
- (c) The nature of the emergency shall be stated in the minutes. Complete minutes of such meeting specifying the nature of the emergency and any formal action taken at the meeting shall be made available for inspection as provided in subsection (5) of section 84-1413.
- (9) In addition to any other statutory authorization for virtual conferencing, any public body not listed in subdivision (3)(a) of this section may hold a meeting by virtual conferencing if:
- (a) The purpose of the virtual meeting is to discuss items that are scheduled to be discussed or acted upon at a subsequent non-virtual open meeting of the public body;
- (b) No action is taken by the public body at the virtual meeting; and
- (c) The public body complies with subdivisions (3)(b)(i) and (ii) of this section.

RIGHTS OF THE PUBLIC

§ 84-1412. Meetings of public body; rights of public; public body; powers and duties.

- (1) Subject to the Open Meetings Act, the public has the right to attend and the right to speak at meetings of public bodies, and all or any part of a meeting of a public body, except for closed sessions called pursuant to section 84-1410, may be videotaped, televised, photographed, broadcast, or recorded by any person in attendance by means of a tape recorder, camera, video equipment, or any other means of pictorial or sonic reproduction or in writing. Except for closed sessions called pursuant to section 84-1410, a public body shall allow members of the public an opportunity to speak at each meeting.
- (2) It shall not be a violation of subsection (1) of this section for any public body to make and enforce reasonable rules and regulations regarding the conduct of persons attending, speaking at, videotaping, televising, photographing, broadcasting, or recording its meetings, including meetings held by virtual conferencing.
- (3) No public body shall require members of the public to identify themselves as a condition for admission to the meeting nor shall such body require that the name of any member of the public be placed on the agenda prior to such meeting in order to speak about items on the agenda. The body shall require any member of the public desiring to address the body to identify himself or herself, including an address and the name of any organization represented by such person unless the address requirement is waived to protect the security of the individual.
- (4) No public body shall, for the purpose of circumventing the Open Meetings Act, hold a meeting in a place known by the body to be too small to accommodate the anticipated audience.
- (5) No public body shall be deemed in violation of this section if it holds its meeting in its traditional meeting place which is located in this state.
- (6) No public body shall be deemed in violation of this section if it holds a meeting outside of this state if, but only if:
- 7) Each public body shall, upon request, make a reasonable effort to accommodate the public's right to hear the discussion and testimony presented at a meeting.
- (8) Public bodies shall make available at the meeting or the instate location for virtual conferencing as required by subdivision (6)(c) of this section, for examination and copying by members of the public, at least one copy of all reproducible written material to be discussed at an open meeting, either in paper or electronic form. Public bodies shall make available at least one current copy of the Open Meetings Act posted in the meeting room at a location accessible to members of the public. At the beginning of the meeting, the public shall be informed about the location of the posted information.

§ 84-1413. Meetings; minutes; roll call vote; secret ballot; when; agenda and minutes; required on website; when.

- (1) Each public body shall keep minutes of all meetings showing the time, place, members present and absent, and the substance of all matters discussed.
- (2) Any action taken on any question or motion duly moved and seconded shall be by roll call vote of the public body in open session, and the record shall state how each member voted or if the member was absent or not voting. The requirements of a roll call or viva voce vote shall be satisfied by a public body which utilizes an electronic voting device which allows the yeas and nays of each member of such public body to be readily seen by the public.
- (3) The vote to elect leadership within a public body may be taken by secret ballot, but the total number of votes for each candidate shall be recorded in the minutes.
- (4) The minutes of all meetings and evidence and documentation received or disclosed in open session shall be public records and open to public inspection during normal business hours.
- (5) Minutes shall be written or kept as an electronic record and shall be available for inspection within ten working days or prior to the next convened meeting, whichever occurs earlier, except that cities of the second class and villages may have an additional ten working days if the employee responsible for writing or keeping the minutes is absent due to a serious illness or emergency.
- (6) Beginning July 31, 2022, the school board of a school district shall make available on such entity's public website the agenda and minutes of any meeting of the governing body. The agenda shall be placed on the website at least twnty four hours before the meeting of

REGULAR MEETING

The regular monthly board meeting is one of the primary duties of the Board of Education. The board meeting is the primary setting for the board to transact regular monthly board business, addressing the growth of instruction and student learning. Through the work of the board and administration, the district's mission, vision, and goals define direction for education, define policy which delegates authority and governs decision-making, continually monitors instruction and learning and how resources are managed to ensure the students, staff, and facilities receive appropriate and necessary funding to meet district needs. In short, the board meeting provides the platform for the board to conduct board duties and responsibilities. The board must include the opportunity for public comment on every regular board meeting agenda.

NASB (SAMPLE) BOARD MEETING AGENDA

MONTH YEAR BOARD MEETING AGENDA (SAMPLE)

SCHOOL DISTRICT - BOARD OF EDUCATION DAY/DATE/TIME

Welcome to the (District Name) Schools Board of Education Meeting. Our adopted mission: (District Name and Mission Statement)

Thank you for attending the regular meeting of the board. (School Board meetings in Nebraska are meetings held in public, not public meetings). During agenda item X "public comment" the public may address the board. The public comment agenda item is the only opportunity for the public to speak during a board meeting.

1. OPENING THE MEETING

- A. Call to Order: The regular monthly meeting of (District Name) Board of Education is called to order on (day/date) at _____P.M., in the (District Name and Address)
- B. District Mission Statement: (District Name and Mission Statement)
- C. Nebraska Open Meetings Law-posted in room
- D. Publication of Meeting-notice was provided according to policy. (Policy XXXX)
- E. Board Member Roll Call: (per policy, excused/unexcused)
 - Excused Absence:
 - Unexcused Absence:
 - Motion to approve absence of
- 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- 3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA (motion to approve)
- 4. **CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE** (Staff and Student Presentations, etc.)
- **5. PUBLIC COMMENT** -agenda item specific (District Name) Schools (**Policy XXXX**) (President reads Opening Statement regarding public comment)
- 6. INFORMATION ITEMS: Reports
 - A. Building/District Administrators
 - B. Curriculum and Instruction
 - Student Learning (i.e. data review, goals and/or strategic plan update, School Improvement Plan update)
 - Professional Development Update

7. SUPERINTENDENT

- A. *District Assurance Statement (Due on or before November 1 to NDE)
- B. *Fall Membership Report (Due on or before November 1 to NDE)

8. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Buildings and Grounds
- B. Education and Curriculum (Committee on Americanism (Policy XXXX)
- C. Policy
 - Update on Policy Review Cycle

- *Review Superintendent Evaluation Timeline (including alignment of contract language to policy, and review superintendent contract language outlining the responsibilities of superintendent and board regarding the contract extension or renewal. Place items on future agendas as specified).
- A. Finance
- B. Negotiations
 - *Review Collective Bargaining Timeline (on or before Nov 1, Negotiations shall begin)
- C. Advocacy/Legislative
 - *Consider Press Release/Letter Updating Public on Budget Decisions/History
 - NASB Legislative Update
- D. Strategic Plan Update/District Goals Update

9. CONSENT AGENDA

(Unless removed from the consent agenda, items identified will be considered under one motion.)

- A. Minutes of (date) meeting of the board
- B. Financial reports, Claims and Accounts (Policy XXXX)
- C. Certificated/Classified Hire(s)/Reassignment(s)/Resignation(s)
- D. Adopt Board Policy No. XXXX

10. DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS

- A. Policy Review/First Reading
- B. Policy Review per State Statute
- C. Policy Updates from 2024 Legislative Session/NDE

11. UPCOMING LEARNING EVENTS:

- A. *Annual State Education Conference (details here)
- B. *2024 Newly Elected/Appointed Mentor-Mentee Mtg at State Conference (Mentors Needed, contact shiggins@nasbonline.org if interested)
- C. *New Board Member Workshops (details here)
- D. Schedule a Board Retreat with NASB (possible topics)

12. ACTION ITEMS

- A. *Authorize School District Audit
- B. Policy Final Reading and Adoption including all new policy updates (Policy XXXX)

13. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

14. ADJOURN

Note: Agenda items flagged with an (*) may indicate the item is a statutory requirement resulting in documentation in board minutes signifying board review and/or action.

Closed/Executive Session: If, during the course of the meeting, discussion of items on the agenda should be held in a closed meeting, the board will conduct a closed meeting in accordance with the Nebraska Open Meetings Law.

Action Item: The board reserves the right to take action on an item that is on the adopted board agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENT OPENING STATEMENTS

This is the only time during this meeting when the public may speak. Any person wishing to make public comment must abide by and adhere to applicable board policies, including, but not limited to the following:

- Each person wishing to speak must sign in on the sign-in sheet (location of the document). Sign-in must include name, address, and name of any organization represented by such person unless the address requirement is waived to protect the security of the individual.
- Each person who comes forward to speak should state your name, and the topic you are addressing before you begin.
- A time limit (per board policy No. XXXX) of X minutes is allotted for each speaker.
- Consider public comment at the beginning of the meeting for agenda items and an additional public comment at the conclusion of the meeting for non-agenda items.
- There is a total time limit of XX minutes allotted for all speakers.
- The board will not respond to comments or questions.
- The board will not take action on any comments but will direct the comments to appropriate staff members.
- Offensive language and hostile or disorderly conduct will not be tolerated. If the board
 president determines any statement or comment constitutes offensive language or hostile
 or disorderly conduct, then the board president will declare the person out of the order and
 the person will be prohibited from speaking further.
- Patrons who wish to address a personnel-related matter are asked to follow the district Chain of Command Policy No. XXXX.
- If any person is unruly, abusive, or otherwise disrupts the meeting or the board's conduct of business, such person may be removed from the meeting by law enforcement.

SPECIAL MEETING

If a special meeting is necessary to address a district matter, the statute states that "...special meetings may be called by the president or any two members, but all members shall have notice of the time and place of meeting." (§ 79-554) Once a special meeting is called, the district shall provide "reasonable advanced publicized notice" of the special meeting, which is the same legal standard as for a regular meeting of the board. However, be certain to review policy to ensure specific guidelines are followed. The board must include the opportunity for public comment on a special board meeting agenda.

EMERGENCY BOARD MEETING

If conditions warrant, an emergency meeting of a public body is allowed without providing reasonable advanced public notice. State law provides that the board shall make reasonable efforts to provide advance notification to the news media of the time and place of each meeting and the subjects to be discussed at the meeting. The district is to maintain a list of the news media that request such notification. To determine if it is acceptable to hold an emergency meeting, you must assess the circumstance and need. There are two criteria you must consider

when assessing whether you have a need for an emergency meeting:

- 1. Was the "emergency" that created the need for a meeting unforeseen or unanticipated? State law provides that public bodies can hold a meeting where it is not possible to provide reasonable advanced public notice. However, the meeting must be conducted due to an "emergency." The most important area of inquiry is whether the event qualifies as an "emergency" for the purposes of the law. According to case law discussing these issues, an emergency is defined as: any event or occasional combination of circumstances which calls for immediate action or remedy; pressing necessity; exigency; a sudden or unexpected happening; an unforeseen occurrence or condition.
- 2. Can the board wait to address the issue at the next regularly scheduled meeting or schedule a special meeting in order to allow reasonable advanced publicized notice to the public and interested parties?

If the emergency was not anticipated and the board cannot wait to address the emergency until a special meeting can be called, the board may legitimately call an "emergency" meeting. These same two criteria should be applied when trying to determine whether or not to alter the agenda less than 24 hours before a meeting.

If such emergency exists, then the board must state the reason for the emergency in the public minutes; be careful to limit discussion and any actions to issues associated with the actual emergency during the meeting; make sure minutes and the reason for the emergency meeting will be made available to the public by no later than the end of the next regular business day; and make certain a reasonable effort is made to notify news media members, include in your notification the time, place, and the subject matter to be discussed at the meeting. Note: In addition, according to § 84-1411(6) "emergency meetings may be held by virtual conferencing."

It is rare for a board to call an emergency meeting; however, it does happen. If an issue can wait, it is recommended that the best approach would be to call a special meeting.

If during the course of the emergency meeting, discussion of any item on the agenda should be held in a closed session, the board will conduct a closed session in accordance with the Nebraska Open Meeting Laws. Before any closed session is convened, the presiding officer will publicly identify the subject matter immediately prior to going into the session. All final votes, actions, or decisions will be taken in open meeting.

BOARD RETREAT/WORK SESSION

A board retreat/work session provides a setting for the board, superintendent, administrators, and appropriate staff to discuss board-and district-related business. A retreat/work session must be advertised in the same fashion as a board meeting if a quorum of the board is attending. The board may take formal action at a retreat/work session; however, an agenda is required to state the matters to be discussed at the time of the publicized notice which shall be kept continually current and readily available for public inspection. The board is required to receive public comment during a board retreat/work session.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS

A subcommittee meeting of the board does not require advanced publicized notice unless a quorum of the board attends and the committee is holding hearings, making policy, or taking formal action on behalf of the board.

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

§79-580 Class I, II, or III school district; board of education; claims against; record of proceedings; secretary; duty to publish.

The secretary of the school board or board of education of each Class I, II, or III school district shall, within ten days after any regular or special meetings of the board, publish one time in a legal newspaper published in or of general circulation in such district a list of the claims, arising on contract or tort, allowed at the meeting. The list shall set forth the name of the claimant and the amount and nature of the claim allowed, to consist of not more than ten words in stating the nature of each such claim. The secretary shall likewise cause to be published a concise summary of all other proceedings of such meetings. Publication of such claims or proceedings in a legal newspaper shall not be required unless the publication can be done at an expense not exceeding the rates provided by law for the publication of proceedings of county boards.

CONTENT OF MEETING MINUTES

Each public body shall keep minutes of all meetings showing the time, place, members present and absent, and the substance of all matters discussed. The minutes shall also include:

- The identity of the school board by district name, number, and county
- School board members recorded as either present or absent and how each member votes
- A statement by the president declaring a quorum present following the list of members identified as present or absent
- A statement that the meeting was called to order by whom, the hour and whether the meeting was a regular, reconvened, special, or emergency meeting

(Note: If it is a reconvened meeting, the original meeting date should be noted. If it is a special or emergency meeting, a copy of the official notice and agenda should be included or referenced. This provides record to the public should the meeting be challenged as a violation of the Nebraska Open Meetings Law.)

 A statement that the meeting was advertised according to the Nebraska Open Meetings Law, the agenda was kept current and available to the public, and the location or room is referenced where the agenda will be made available to the public for review

(Note: The district should be certain the copy of the Open Meetings Law posted in the boardroom is kept current at all times.)

- Notation of any board members who arrive late or leave early, including a record of the time
- Record of reports from committees and members of the board
- Record of reports requested from administrative staff, such as the business manager, the architect, the athletic director, principals, etc. If written, the reports may be filed as documents and reference made to them in the minutes by file and document number
- Record of reports from the superintendent
- A summary of discussion on all agenda items proposed, deliberated, or decided, and a record of any vote taken
- The "yeas" and the "nays" of each board member should be recorded on all agenda items requiring a roll call vote
- The motions should include the names of the board member making the motion and the second (if needed)
- The time and vote of each board member present when a vote is taken to hold a closed session and the reason for the closed session
- Record of any motion to close the meeting to the public and the votes of individual members
 of the board on the motion; record of the times at which the meeting was closed, purpose
 for the closed session, and restated motion prior to entering closed session by the president,
 and time the board resumed to open session
- Record of action taken in open session immediately following closed session

Record of the motion to adjourn and time of adjournment

**As of July 1, 2022, the board is required by law to post six months of current board meeting minutes on the school district website. The board meeting minutes must be easy to locate on the district website.

CLOSED/EXECUTIVE SESSION

The closed session is a private meeting of the board to protect the reputation of an individual or to protect the interest of the public. The board cannot take formal action in closed session and must move into open session to do so.

§ 84-1410. Closed session; when; purpose; reasons listed; procedure; right to challenge; prohibited acts; chance meetings, conventions, or workshops.

- (1) Any public body may hold a closed session by the affirmative vote of a majority of its voting members if a closed session is clearly necessary for the protection of the public interest or for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual and if such individual has not requested a public meeting. The subject matter and the reason necessitating the closed session shall be identified in the motion to close. Closed sessions may be held for, but shall not be limited to, such reasons as:
- (a) <u>Strategy sessions with respect to collective bargaining, real estate purchases, pending litigation, or litigation which is imminent as evidenced by communication of a claim or threat of litigation to or by the public body:</u>
 - (b) Discussion regarding deployment of security personnel or devices:
 - (c) Investigative proceedings regarding allegations of criminal misconduct; or
- (d) Evaluation of the job performance of a person when necessary to prevent needless injury to the reputation of a person and if such person has not requested a public meeting; ... Nothing in this section shall permit a closed meeting for discussion of the appointment or election of a new member to any public body.
- (2) The vote to hold a closed session shall be taken in open session. The entire motion, the vote of each member on the question of holding a closed session, and the time when the closed session commenced and concluded shall be recorded in the minutes. If the motion to close passes, then the presiding officer immediately prior to the closed session shall restate on the record the limitation of the subject matter of the closed session. The public body holding such a closed session shall restrict its consideration of matters during the closed portions to only those purposes set forth in the motion to close as the reason for the closed session. The meeting shall be reconvened in open session before any formal action may be taken. For purposes of this section, formal action shall mean a collective decision or a collective commitment or promise to make a decision on any question, motion, proposal, resolution, order, or ordinance or formation of a position or policy but shall not include negotiating guidance given by members of the public body to legal counsel or other negotiators in closed sessions authorized under subdivision (1) (a) of this section.

- (3) Any member of any public body shall have the right to challenge the continuation of a closed session if the member determines that the session has exceeded the reason stated in the original motion to hold a closed session or if the member contends that the closed session is neither clearly necessary for (a) the protection of the public interest or (b) the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual. Such challenge shall be overruled only by a majority vote of the members of the public body. Such challenge and its disposition shall be recorded in the minutes.
- (4) Nothing in this section shall be construed to require that any meeting be closed to the public. No person or public body shall fail to invite a portion of its members to a meeting, and no public body shall designate itself a subcommittee of the whole body for the purpose of circumventing the Open Meetings Act. No closed session, informal meeting, chance meeting, social gathering, email, fax, or other electronic communication shall be used for the purpose of circumventing the requirements of the act.
- (5) The act does not apply to chance meetings or to attendance at or travel to conventions or workshops of members of a public body at which there is no meeting of the body then intentionally convened, if there is no vote or other action taken regarding any matter over which the public body has supervision, control, jurisdiction, or advisory power.

The principal reason for open meetings is the public's right to know the business of the governing board. The provisions for a closed session enable the board to receive information on certain matters which are not suited for public discussion. The board must adhere to the very narrow purpose of the law to gain public trust. Once a board convenes a closed session, no action can be taken, minutes are not taken, and discussion must be limited to the specific matter and information related to the matter for which the session was convened. A closed session must be conducted within an open meeting due to the language of state statute.

Note: The minutes must reflect the motion stating the purpose, including the legal limitations for the closed session, the time the board entered closed session, and the time the board exited closed session.

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SUPERINTENDENT PAY TRANSPARENCY ACT STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

Current Superintendent / ESU Administrator

(Prior to Board Action.)

CURRENT

Superintendent or ESU Administrator

At least three days before the board meeting:

- Publish/Post meeting notice to approve proposed contract or amendment to the contract that provides detailed contract costs, date, time, and location of the board meeting.
- Publish/Post a PDF of the proposed contract or amendment.
- Publish in a newspaper or post the proposed contract or amendment and proposed costs on the school district website in a prominent location that is accessible to the public.

New Hire Superintendent / ESU Administrator

(Following Board Action.)

NEW HIRE

of the Superintendent or ESU Administrator

At least **two days** following board action to approve the contract or amendment:

- Publish/Post a PDF of the approved contract or amendment.
- Publish/Post the contract/amendment costs for current year and estimate of costs for future years of the contract.
- Publish in a newspaper or post the contract or amendment and complete proposed cost information on the school district website in a prominent location that is accessible to the public.

Administrator

Annual Contract Requirements

Annually, on or before

August 1

The school district Superintendent or ESU Administrator will submit a PDF copy of the approved contract or contract with amendment through the Consolidated Data Collection (CDC) in the NDE Portal.

Instructions for filing may be found at: https://cdc.education.ne.gov/STPA/Instructions/STPA_ Instructions.pdf

Annually, on or before September 20

The school district Superintendent or ESU Administrator will submit Budget Schedule D with the budget documents.

Annually, on October 1

NDE will withhold state and local funds for those districts/ESUs that have not submitted their approved contract/contract with amendment for the current year.

Note: If the school district and/or ESU has a change in the superintendent or ESU Administrator during the school year, the respective district or ESU must update the information with NDE and post according to the guidelines outlined above. Remove the old information including contracts and/or amendments and update with the new contract.

§ 79-2402. School board; board of educational service unit; contract or amendment; publication; contents; contract approval; publication.

(1) Before the school board of any school district or the board of any educational service unit approves a proposed contract, or any proposed amendment to an existing contract, for future superintendent services to be rendered to such school district by the current superintendent or future administrator services to be rendered to such educational service unit by the current administrator, the board shall publish a copy of such proposed contract or amendment, and a reasonable estimate and description of all current and future costs to the school district or educational service unit if the proposed contract or amendment were to be approved, at least three days before the meeting of the board at which such proposed contract or amendment will be considered. Such publication shall also specify the date, time, and place of the public meeting at which the proposed contract or amendment will be considered. Electronic publication on the

website of the school district or educational service unit shall satisfy the requirement of this subsection if such electronic publication is prominently displayed and allows public access to the entire proposed contract or amendment.

(2) After the school board of any school district or the board of any educational service unit approves a contract for future superintendent services to be rendered to such school district by a new superintendent or future administrator services to be rendered to such educational service unit by a new administrator, the board shall publish a copy of such contract, and a reasonable estimate and description of all current and future costs to the school district or educational service unit that will be incurred as a result of such contract, within two days after the meeting of the board at which such contract was approved. Electronic publication on the website of the school district or educational service unit shall satisfy the requirement of this subsection if such electronic publication is prominently displayed and allows public access to the entire contract.

§ 79-2403. Contract or amendment; filing with State Department of Education; public posting.

After approval of a contract, or any amendments thereto, for superintendent services or educational service unit administrator services, the approving board shall file a copy of such contract or amendment with the State Department of Education on or before the next succeeding August 1. The department shall have no duty to review such contracts or amendments but shall publicly post all such contracts or amendments received on the web site of the department.

§ 79-2404. Failure to file approved contract or contract amendment; Commissioner of Education; withhold funds; duties; county treasurer; duty.

If the school board of any school district or the board of any educational service unit fails to timely file a copy of an approved contract, or contract amendment, for superintendent services or educational service unit administrator services with the State Department of Education as required in section 79-2403, the Commissioner of Education, after notice to the board president and either the superintendent or educational service unit administrator and an opportunity to be heard, shall direct that any state aid granted pursuant to the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act to the school district or core services and technology infrastructure funds granted pursuant to section 79-1241.03 to the educational service unit be withheld until such time as the contract or amendment is received by the department. In addition, the commissioner shall direct each county treasurer of a county with territory in the school district or educational service unit to withhold all money belonging to the school district or educational service unit until such time as the commissioner notifies such county treasurer of receipt of such contract or amendment. Each such county treasurer shall withhold such money. For school districts that are members of learning communities, a determination of school money belonging to the school district shall be based on the proportionate share of property tax receipts allocated to the school district pursuant to section 79-1073 in addition to the other property tax receipts belonging to the school district. If the board does not comply with this section prior to October 1 following the school fiscal year for which the state aid or core services and technology infrastructure funding was calculated, the funds shall revert to the General Fund. The amount of any reverted funds shall be included in data provided to the Governor, the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature, and the Education Committee of the Legislature in accordance with section 79-1031.

§ 79-2405. Amendments to contracts, subject to act.

All amendments to a contract for superintendent services or educational service unit administrator services shall be subject to the Superintendent Pay Transparency Act, including, but not limited to, amendments involving salary increases or benefit changes.

BOARD CALENDAR

The NASB Annual Board Calendar is a dynamic document to assist school boards regarding important conference dates, reporting deadlines, recommended work sessions, and planning reminders. The calendar is constantly evolving as issues and interests unfold. The board president and superintendent collectively should review and update the calendar monthly and include it in the board packet.

*Please note, this calendar does not include all items a board needs to be aware of but should serve as a starting point which includes some primary planning and policy functions. NASB is not responsible for any missing information or dates. The user is responsible for reading and understanding the requirements of each statute and deadline. Neither this document, nor any of the information in this document, is to be used as a formal legal opinion, nor is it intended to be used as a substitute for the advice of the user's school attorney. NASB recommends the user contact the board school attorney for formal legal advice.

Superintendent Reports: note there are various reports superintendents must file that are not all included in the calendar. NASB suggests that the board work collaboratively with the superintendent to add any required superintendent reporting to this calendar, as needed. Many of these reports can be found in § 79-528. There are various federal laws and regulations, which require school districts to adopt certain policies, written procedures, and/or notices.

To access a more extensive list of federal policies, please visit: U.S. Department of Education at https://www2.ed.gov/policy/landing.jhtml?src=ft

*NASB does not verify the accuracy or update the federal policies on the above link, and users should check for updates, or consult the board's school attorney.

Download the 2025 NASB Annual Board Calendar at www.NASBonline.org, which is posted under the Board Leadership Department tile.

If you have suggestions for improving the calendar or identify a task that will add value to the calendar, please contact Marcia Herring at mherring@NASBonline.org.

Agenda items flagged with an (*) may indicate the item is a statutory requirement resulting in documentation in board minutes signifying board review and/or action.

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	*B
	*Reorganization Meeting: Election of Officers
BOARD ZATION NG	The superintendent shall assume chairmanship of the meeting for the purpose of electing a board president. Ballots for officers may be cast in secret ballot, but the total vote for each candidate shall be recorded by the secretary. *Officers include: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer *Note: Class III or IV School District; Treasurer shall within 10 days after his/her election, secure appropriate insurance bond per §79-586. *Note: Board; meetings; organization; duties. The board of each ESU shall meet and organize by naming one of its members as president, one as vice president, and one as secretary. The board shall employ a treasurer who shall be paid a salary to be fixed by the board. §79-1218.
	Review and Adopt Board Code of Conduct Policy
A A L	Sign and file NADC form. [Conflict of Interest form] with School District Board Secretary
O W W	Adopt 2025 NASB Annual Board Calendar and Board Meeting Schedule.
Z & Z	Review District Strategic Plan and Progress Update
Z O	*Annually designate and approve: legal counsel, depository bank(s), district newspaper(s) of record
~	*Appoint annually: Non-discrimination Compliance Coordinator to meet federal Equal Employment Opportunity requirements and a Title IX Coordinator for Title IX enforcement.
	*Re-adopt existing policies, regulations, and handbooks for the governance of the school district, pending any further actions of the board.
MISSION, VISION,	Annual Leadership Team Planning Meeting (Set Date); Strategic Plan Update; District Goals Update
& GOALS	Annually review the District Mission, Vision, and Belief or Value Statements.
POLICY GOVERNANCE	Adopt Board Committee Assignments (per board policy) including Rule 10: 012.01D American Civics Committee . Each public school board, at the beginning of each calendar year, will appoint three members to a committee on American civics and ensure the committee carries out its duties as specified in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-724. Establish and adopt a Board Policy Review Process and Schedule to ensure the review, update, and adoption of board policy during
	*Rule 10: 012.01A Written Board Policies Accessible. The governing body has a written set of policies for the school system. These policies are accessible in each school building. Annually the board will report how/where the public may access board policies.

	Review the School District Report Card.
ACCOUNTABILITY	
& STUDENT	*District Assurance Statement Corrections. On or before February 1 corrections of violations must be submitted in writing to the NDE
ACHIEVEMENT	Office of Accountability, Accreditation, and Program Approval. *Cross
	reference October.
ADVOCACY	Legislative Session begins. Bookmark and review the NASB Government Relations pages with the Legislative Calendar, NASB Advocacy Handbook, NASB's Bills page, and NASB Legislation Committee; Join us in Lincoln for the Legislative Issues Conference; Discuss NASB Legislative Updates; Reach out to your Senator(s); Consider a visit to the Capitol; Share your story; Appoint a local board Legislative Committee to monitor and support district response and action; What will your Board's impact be on the Session? Advocacy is year-round.
	Budget - Review Monthly Financial Reports and Finance Committee Monthly Report.
DISTRICT/ESU	Collective Bargaining on or before February 8. If an agreement is not
RESOURCES	reached, the parties shall submit to mandatory mediation or fact- finding as ordered by the commission, unless the parties mutually
[BUDGET]	agree, in writing, to forgo mandatory mediation or fact finding. NOTE:
	The negotiations process begins in August. §48-818.01
REPORTS	Negotiations Committee; Superintendent; Administrators
BOARD OPERATIONS	Reference Annual Board Reorganization Meeting Agenda Items
	Administer the NASB Board Self-Assessment Survey via NASB Online Survey System.
BOARD- SUPERINTENDENT RELATIONS	Collaborate with superintendent/ESU Administrator to develop new and/or updated goals to align to the individual's recent evaluation summary.
	Register for NASB Board President Retreat - See NASB Events page for details.
NASB EVENTS	Register for NASB Legislative Issues Conference - See NASB Event page for details.
LVENIS	Legislative Issues Conference - Lincoln
	School Board Member Week – Thank You School Boards
LEARNING COMMUNITY	Diversity plan; contents; approval; report. On or before February 1 of each odd-numbered year the Learning Community Coordinating Council shall report electronically to the Education Committee of the Legislature the diversity and changes in diversity at each grade level in each school building within the learning community and on the academic achievement for different demographic groups in each school building within the learning community. §79-2118



MISSION, VISION,	Review update from administration regarding the Strategic Plan
& GOALS	Update; District Goals Update.
POLICY GOVERNANCE	Review, update, and adopt policy per the board-adopted Policy Review Process and Schedule.
ACCOUNTABILITY & STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT	Accountability of school and district performance. Review each school performance score and district performance score measured by graduation rates, student growth, and student improvement on the assessment instruments provided in section § 79-760.03 , student discipline, and other performance indicators. Review the district-adopted Mentor Teacher Program. Per NDE developed guidelines. § 79-761
	Review district-adopted Staff On-Boarding Process.
ADVOCACY	Monitor the NASB Government Relations and Bills page and discuss NASB Legislative Updates; Reach out to your Senator(s); Consider a visit to the Capitol; Share your story; Make an impact.
DISTRICT/ESU RESOURCES [BUDGET]	*Collective Bargaining. On or before March 25 (or within 25 days after certification of amounts, whichever occurs last in time). Negotiations, mediation, and fact-finding shall end. If no agreement is reached by this date, either party may, within fourteen days after such date, file a petition with the commission. § 48-818.01 Budget - Review Monthly Financial Reports and Board Finance Committee Report
REPORTS	Board Committees; Superintendent; Administrators
BOARD OPERATIONS	Review NASB Board Self-Assessment Summary
	Renew NASB Membership
NASB	NASB Board President Retreat - Kearney
EVENTS	Register for the NASB March Events - See NASB Events page for details.
LEARNING COMMUNITY	Diversity plan; limitations; school building maximum capacity; attendance areas; school board; duties. The board shall provide notice to parent whose student is currently attending a school outside of the attendance area state what school the student shall be allowed to attend as a continuing student. § 79-2110



MISSION, VISION, & GOALS	Strategic Plan Update; District Goals Update
	Review, update, and adopt policy per the board-adopted Policy Review Process and Schedule.
	Review Student Attendance policies. A child is of mandatory attendance age if the child (a) will reach six years of age prior to January 1 of the then-current school year and (b) has not reached eighteen years of age. § 79-201
POLICY GOVERNANCE	*Option Enrollment Application period. On or before April 1, the option school district shall provide the resident school district with the name of the applicant. *Note: If the application is submitted after March 15, within sixty days after submission. The option school shall notify, in writing, the parent or legal guardian of the student and the resident school district whether the application is accepted or rejected on or before April 1, or in the case of an application submitted after March 15, within sixty days after submission. § 79-237
ACCOUNTABILITY	Review School Improvement Plan
& STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT	Review Alternative Education Program
ADVOCACY	Monitor the NASB Government Relations and Bills page and discuss NASB Legislative Updates; Reach out to your Senator(s); Consider a visit to the Capitol; Share your story; Make an impact.
	Board/Administrators Budget Work Session
DISTRICT/ESU RESOURCES [BUDGET]	*ESU staff - Tenure; certificated employee; contract amendment, termination, or nonrenewal; procedure; on or before April 15, of each year, any certificated employee whose contract of employment may be amended, terminated, or not renewed for the following school year shall be notified in writing of such possible action on the contract. Final action by the board shall be taken on or before May 15 of each year. § 79-1236
	*School District staff - Certificated employee; contract amendment, termination, nonrenewal, or cancellation; On or before April 15, of each year, for any probationary or permanent certificated employee, written notice must be given if the district plans on amending, terminating, or not renewing the employee's contract for the next school year. Final action on this contract must be taken on or before May 15. § 79-831 Board Finance Committee Report;
REPORTS	Board Committees; Superintendent; Administrators

BOARD OPERATIONS	Review and discuss Board Governance - Standard I. Mission, Vision, and Goals		
	Renew NASB Membership		
	NASB Board President Circle Call *Invitation to participate by call/ Microsoft Team Meeting is distributed through email.		
NASB	Finance Workshops - Kearney, Crete, Norfolk		
EVENTS	Federal Advocacy Fly In - Washington, DC		
	NAEP State Convention - Kearney		
	Open Meetings Law Workshops - Gering, Kearney, Norfolk, Lincoln		
LEARNING COMMUNITY	Learning Community Attendance Application. On or before April 1, a Learning Community Attendance Application is due. A school district must accept or reject any applications made by a parent or guardian requesting to attend a school that is not in an attendance area where the applicant resides. § 79-232 through § 79-246		

Set clear expectations: Focus on identifying the most critical student learning needs, set high expectations for improvement, and establish clear, specific goals and targets for progress.



MISSION, VISION,	Strategic Plan Update; District Goals Update	
& GOALS	Review, update, and adopt policy per the board-adopted Policy Review Process and Schedule.	
POLICY GOVERNANCE	*Review Student Handbooks and relative policies; review, update, and adopt policies. Include the following in the district student handbook.	
	Federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). Annual notice provided to parents/guardians and eligible students of their rights to inspect and review educational records, amend education records, consent to disclose personally identifiable information in education records, and file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education.	
	Federal Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA). Requires school districts to have an asbestos management plan for each school building in the district (whether lease or own). Annually, school districts must notify parents, teachers, and employee organizations of the availability of the asbestos management plan. All members of the custodial staff who work in a building containing asbestos must have awareness training, and all new custodial staff must be training within the first 60 days of hiring.	
	*Rule 10: 007.06A Certificated Staff Evaluation. The public school district has a written school board policy for the evaluation of certificated employees. The policy is approved by the Commissioner or designee as required by subdivision (5)(h) of Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-318. Board will annually review the policy and current certified and administrator evaluation tools.	
	Review ELL Program	
ACCOUNTABILITY & STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT	*Academic Content Standards; school district; duties. Review district adopted measurable quality academic content standards in the subject areas of reading, writing, mathematics, science, and social studies. Note: The standards may be equal to or exceed in rigor, the measurable academic content standards adopted by the state board and shall cover at least the same grade levels.	
	*Review and adopt the school calendar for the upcoming school year. Reference Rule 10: 012.01B Policy on Instructional hours. The school system has a written policy which assures that each school will meet the statutory requirement of at least 400 hours for kindergarten, at least 1,032 hours for students up through grade eight, and at least 1,080 hours for students in grades nine through twelve. The policy(ies) or regulations stipulate the conditions for which individual students may be excused from the regular school day.	

ADVOCACY	Monitor the NASB Government Relations and Bills page and discuss NASB Legislative Updates; Reach out to your Senator(s); Consider a visit to the Capitol; Share your story; Make an impact.		
DISTRICT/ESU	Board Finance Committee Report		
RESOURCES [BUDGET]	Review all Grants [Current grant status, term, purpose, value received, and proposed grant applications.]		
	Remind board members to review their NASB Awards of Achievement points report.		
	Board Committees; Superintendent; Administrators		
*Provide an administrative report verifying § 79-729 High students; graduation requirements; exceptions. (1) The Le recognizes the importance of assuring that all persons who get from Nebraska high schools possess certain minimum I knowledge, skills, and understanding. Each high school stud complete a minimum of two hundred high school credit how to graduation. At least eighty percent of the minimum credit shall be core curriculum courses prescribed by the State I Education. (2) For students attending a public school: (a) Beg school year 2023-24, at least five of the minimum credit how be a high school course in personal finance or financial liter (b) Beginning in school year 2027-28, at least five of the recredit hours shall include computer science and technology eas required under section 79-3304.			
BOARD OPERATIONS	Review and discuss Board Governance - Standard II. Policy Governance		
	*Certified Staff Non-Renewal, RIF, and Termination Notices; Due April 15 § 79-831		
STAFF	*Certificated Employee of ESU Non-Renewal, Termination, Amendment Notices; Due April 15 § 79-1236		
FOUNDATION FILING DEADLINE	School Board will Review the Annual Foundation Board Filing Form Original tax deadline for exempt organizations (Form 990): On before May 15, 2025 » Extension tax deadline for exempt organizations: Novemb 15, 2025 (must complete IRS Form 8868 Application f Automatic Extension of Time to File an Exempt Organization Return Foundation Boards – Schedule A (Form 990 or 990-E2) Public Charity Status and Public Support		



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MISSION, VISION, & GOALS	Strategic Plan Update; District Goals Update
	Review, update, and adopt policy per the board-adopted Policy Review Process and Schedule.
	*Student Discipline/Law Enforcement Policies. On or before August 1 the board will annually review board adopted policies, rules, and standards pertaining to student conduct and review with county attorney. § 79-262
	*Student Attendance; Nonattendance; Referral to County Attorney. Annual review of policy on attendance, excessive absences due to illness, services to address barriers to attendance, and collaboration with county attorney. § 79-209
POLICY GOVERNANCE	*\$79-2,158 Dress code and grooming policy; school board; adopt; enforcement; requirements. (1) On or before July 1, 2025, the school board of each school district shall adopt a written dress code and grooming policy to be implemented at the start of the 2025-26 school year that is consistent with the model policy developed by the State Department of Education in accordance with section 79-2,159 and may include any other procedures and provisions the school board deems appropriate. (2) Enforcement of violations of the written dress code and grooming policy shall:(a) Be treated as minor on the continuum of school rule violations and shall not constitute student conduct subject to long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment as provided in section 79-267; (b) Not require the student to miss substantial classroom time, instruction time, or school activities; and (c) Not, under any circumstance, allow an administrator, teacher, other member of the staff, or contractor to permanently or temporarily alter or cut a student's hair. (3) No student shall be disproportionately affected by a dress code or grooming policy enforcement because of the student's gender, race, color, religion, disability, or national origin. *\$79-262.01 Behavioral intervention, behavioral management, classroom management, and removal of a student from a classroom in school; model policy; school district policy; training. (1) On or before July 1, 2025, the State Department of Education shall develop and adopt a model policy relating to behavioral intervention, behavioral management, classroom management, and removal of a student from a classroom in school. The model policy shall include appropriate training for school employees on behavioral intervention, behavioral management, classroom management, and removal of a student from a classroom in schools and how frequently such training shall be required. The length of such training shall be a reasonable amount as determined by each school board.

POLICY GOVERNANCE Continued	(2) On or before August 1, 2025, each school district shall develop and adopt a policy consistent with or comparable to the model policy developed by the State Department of Education pursuant to subsection (1) of this section, which shall be a requirement for accreditation in accordance with section 79-703. Such policy shall be filed with the Commissioner of Education. The policy developed and adopted by a school district pursuant to this subsection shall be included with any notifications required under the Student Discipline Act. (3)(a) Beginning in school year 2026-27, each school district shall ensure that any school employee who has behavioral management responsibilities participates in behavioral awareness and intervention training consistent with the school district policy developed and adopted in accordance with subsection (2) of this section. Such training shall be provided by the school district or such school district's educational service unit. The length of such training shall be a reasonable amount as determined by the school board. (b) Each school district shall, either independently, or through the educational service unit of which such school district is a member, develop and provide behavioral awareness and intervention training to employees from such school who have behavioral management responsibilities. If such training is provided by the educational service unit, such training shall be available to any educational service unit employee and any member school district employee that works in a school and has behavioral management responsibilities. Such training shall be consistent with the model policy developed by the State Department of Education pursuant to subsection (1) of this section. (4) The State Board of Education may adopt and promulgate rules and regulations to carry out this section.
	*Review Statewide Assessment Results
	*Review current District Graduation Requirements and proposed changes as appropriate.
ACCOUNTABILITY & STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT	Review all expanded learning opportunities [Report: Career College Readiness courses, community partnerships, Advanced Placement courses, Distance Learning courses, Inter-local Agreements]
	Review English Language Learners Program [Report: enrollment, programming provided, staff support, curriculum]
	Review Early Childhood Program [Report: enrollment, programming, staff support, curriculum, etc.]
	Review Special Education Program [Report: supports provided, # of certified and classified staff, other]
	Review HAL Program [Content: current # of students identified, staff, curriculum, etc.]
ADVOCACY	Monitor the NASB Government Relations and Bills page and discuss NASB Legislative Updates; Reach out to your Senator(s); Consider a visit to the Capitol; Share your story; Make an impact.

DISTRICT/ESH	State Aid Certification and Distribution §79-1022	
DISTRICT/ESU RESOURCES [BUDGET]	Board and Administrator Budget Work Session	
	NSAA Cooperative Sponsorship Agreement submit request for new program or renewals to NSAA on or before July 1 for fall activities, September 1 for winter and January 1 for spring.	
	Board Committees; Superintendent; Administrators;	
PORTS	Rule 10 Compliance Checklist (Rule10-Checklist.pdf - www. educationne.gov): Accreditation is granted for one school year from each July 1 through the following June 30. Renewal is based upon the school system's compliance with Rule 10 during the prior school year. Failure to comply with mandatory requirements for legal operation in Section 003 of Rule 10 may cause a school system to lose its accreditation during the school year.	
	Reports; filing requirements; contents. On or before June 30, the superintendent of each school district shall file with the Commissioner of Education a report described as an end-of-the-school-year annual statistical summary showing (a) the number of children attending school during the year under five years of age, (b) the length of time the school has been taught during the year by a qualified teacher, (c) the length of time taught by each substitute teacher, and (d) such other information as the Commissioner of Education directs. § 79-528	
ш	Option Enrollment Report: On or before July 1, schools will provide option enrollment information to NDE and identify capacity for upcoming year: §79-238	
	Review annually the compliance with Federal Requirements for Asbestos Management including the Asbestos Management Plan (AMP). Every three years the district must retain the services of a licensed asbestos inspector to reinspect each area of every building that is leased, owned, or otherwise used as a school building. The AMP/Records retained by the district must include a copy of prior inspections, documentation related to training provided to district staff, periodic surveillance forms, dated statements regarding operations and maintenance activities, a copy of the annual notice of the plan availability, copy of all reports on response/actions taken, and a copy of the updated management plan in each school.	
BOARD OPERATIONS	Review and discuss Board Governance Standard III - Community Engagement.	
BOARD ELECTIONS	ESU Board - On or before June 15, the ESU must notify County Clerk or Election Commissioners of member seats to be filled at general election. § 32-404 and § 32-601	
NASB EVENTS	Register for the School Law Seminar in June – See NASB Events page for details.	



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	&	GO	A L	S		

Board Self-Assessment and Goal Planning; Strategic Plan Progress Report/Update; District Goals Update

Review, update, and adopt policy per the board-adopted Policy Review Process and Schedule.

*Bully Prevention Policy Review. On or before July 1, the board will annually review and update (as needed) the bullying prevention policy. § 79-2,137/ Rule 10: 011.01E Bullying

*Policy regarding appropriate relationships with students; contents. The board shall adopt/review policy regarding appropriate relationships between a student and a school employee, a student teacher, or intern. § 79-879/Rule 10: 01101G Dating Violence Policy

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*Annual Review Parental and Family Engagement Policy; § 79-531 Involvement of parents, guardians, and educational decisionmakers; public school district; adopt policy. term, defined; legislative findings. On or before July 1, 2025, each public school district in the state shall develop and adopt a policy stating how the district will involve parents, guardians, or educational decisionmakers in the education of their children and the rights of each parent, guardian, or educational decisionmaker to: (a) Access testing information and curriculum; and (b) Request that a child be excused from specific instruction or activities. (2) The policy of each public school will seek to involve parents in the schools and what rights parents have relating to access to schools that is in effect prior to July 19, 2024, shall remain in effect until a new policy is developed and adopted on or before July 1, 2025. 79-532 Involvement of parents, guardians, and educational decisionmakers; policy; contents. (1) The policy required by section 79-531 shall include, but need not be limited to, the following: (a) How the school district will provide access to parents, guardians, or educational decisionmakers concerning textbooks; tests; activities information; digital materials; websites or applications used for learning; training materials for teachers, administrators, and staff; procedures for the review and approval of training materials, learning materials, and activities; and other curriculum materials used in the school district; b) How the school district will accommodate requests by parents, guardians, or educational decisionmakers to attend and monitor courses, assemblies, counseling sessions, and other instructional activities; c) Under what circumstances parents, guardians, or educational decisionmakers may ask that their children be excused from testing, classroom instruction, learning materials, activities, guest speaker events, and other school experiences the parents, guardians, or educational decisionmakers may find objectionable;

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	(d) How the school district will provide access to records of students; (e)
	What the school district's testing policy will be; and (f) How the school
	district participates in surveys of students and the right of parents,
	guardians, or educational decisionmakers to remove their children
	from such surveys. (2) Nothing in this section shall be construed to
	require disclosure of information in violation of the federal Family
	Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, 20 U.S.C.
	1232g, or any federal regulations and applicable guidelines adopted
POLICY	in accordance with such act, as such act, regulations, and guidelines
GOVERNANCE	existed on January 1, 2024.
Continued	§79-533 Involvement of parents, guardians, and educational
Commuta	decisionmakers; policy; hearing; review. The policy required by
	section 79-531 shall be developed with input from parents, guardians,
	and educational decisionmakers and shall be the subject of a public
	hearing before the school board or board of education of the school
	district before adoption by the board. The policy shall be reviewed
	annually and either altered and adopted as altered or reaffirmed by
	the board following a public hearing. Any public hearing under this
	section shall include a reasonable opportunity for public comments.
	*Reports; filing requirements; contents. On or before July 20 in
	all school districts, the superintendent shall file with the State
ACCOUNTABILITY	Department of Education a report showing the number of children
	from five through eighteen years of age belonging to the school
& STUDENT	district according to the census taken as provided in sections § 79-
ACHIEVEMENT	524 and 79-578. Neglect to report may result in penalty.
	Year End Assessment and Curriculum Review
	*Review School Improvement Plan
	Legislative Session wraps up; Review the 2025 Legislative Session and
	your board's impact. Review upcoming policy changes; What passed
ADVOCACY	and what did not; Invite your Senator(s) to your buildings in the interim;
	Share your story; Submit a Legislative Proposals for consideration by
	the NASB Legislation Committee by July 1.

	Board/Administrators Budget Work Session
	Review certificated staff [Report: staff demographics, positions needed
	by building, # of tenured, # of non-tenured, teaching assignments,
	etc.]
	Review all Maintenance and Upkeep Contracts [Report: status,
	renewal, cost, ROI, etc.]
	Review the Food Service Program [Report: staff, finances, lunch
	prices, guidelines for collection of delinquent meal charges, equipment
DISTRICT/ESU	maintenance and upkeep, summer food services, backpack program,
RESOURCES	etc.]
[BUDGET]	Review TeamMates Program [Report: # of Mentors, # of Mentees,
	etc.]
	Review Backpack Program [Report: partners, # students served, need,
	etc.]
	Review Transportation Program [Report: staff, bus and vehicle fleet
	age condition, replacement cycle for vehicles, drivers, mechanics, etc.]
	Review classified staff [Report: staff, positions by building and
	department, etc.]
	Board Committees; Superintendent; Administrators
	Remind board members to review their NASB Awards of Achievement
	points report.
	*§ 79-239 Application; request for release; rejection; notice; appeal;
	school district; Commissioner of Education; duties. On or before
REPORTS	July 1 of each year, each school district shall provide to the State
	Department of Education information prescribed by the Commissioner
	of Education relating to all applications rejected by the option school
	district. Administration will report to the board that the required
	paperwork outlining the applications rejected by the school district
	was filed on or before the July 1 deadline.
BOARD	Review and discuss Board Governance - Standard IV. Accountability
OPERATIONS	and Student Achievement
	NASB Member Golf Outing - Kearney
NASB	NASB School Law Seminar - Kearney
EVENTS	NASB Board President Circle Call *Invitation to participate by call/
	Microsoft Team Meeting is distributed through email.



MISSION, VISION, & GOALS	Strategic Plan Update; District Goals Update	
	Review, update, and adopt policy per the board-adopted Policy Review Process and Schedule.	
POLICY GOVERNANCE	*Student Fees Policy. On or before August 1, every school board is required to hold a public hearing proposing a student fee policy. In the meeting, the board shall review the amount of money collected from student fees (per policy) the prior year. They shall then propose and adopt the upcoming school year policy and publish in the student handbook. The written Meal Charge Policy and guidelines shall be in place and ready to be communicated to staff and households. § 79-2,134	
	*Student Conduct. On or before August 1, each year, all school boards shall annually review in collaboration with the county attorney of the county in which the principal office of the school district is located the rules and standards concerning student conduct adopted by the school board. § 79-262	
	*Review Summer School Program [Content of report: staff, # students served, purpose and value, etc.]	
	*Review the Alternative Education Program [Content of report: staff, # students served, curriculum, etc.]	
	*Review Multi-Cultural Education Program	
ACCOUNTABILITY & STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT	Apply for Distance Education Incentives. On or before August 1, School districts and educational service units shall apply for Distance Education Incentives (through 2024) § 79-1337	
	Students receiving instruction in another district; contracts authorized. On or before August 15, if the school district is contracting with a neighboring district(s) for instruction of all or any part of pupils residing in the district, written contracts shall be filed in the office of the superintendent of the primary high school district. § 79-598	
ADVOCACY	Meet with your Senator(s) in the interim; Share your story; Deadline for Legislative Proposals to NASB is July 1. Advocacy is year-round.	

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*Conduct a Public Hearing on the Proposed Budget Statement. §13-506 The hearing shall be held separately from any regularly scheduled meeting and shall not be limited by time. Notice of place and time of such hearing, together with a summary of the proposed budget statement, shall be published at least four calendar days prior to the date set for hearing in a newspaper of general circulation within the governing body's jurisdiction. For purposes of such notice, the four calendar days shall include the day of publication but not the day of hearing. When the total operating budget, not including reserves, does not exceed ten thousand dollars per year or twenty thousand dollars per biennial period, the proposed budget summary may be posted at the governing body's principal headquarters. At such hearing, the governing body shall make at least three copies of the proposed budget statement available to the public and shall make a presentation outlining key provisions of the proposed budget statement, including, but not limited to, a comparison with the prior year's budget. Any member of the public desiring to speak on the proposed budget statement shall be allowed to address the governing body at the hearing and shall be given a reasonable amount of time to do so. After such hearing, the proposed budget statement shall be adopted, or amended and adopted as amended, and a written record shall be kept of such hearing. The amount to be received from personal and real property taxation shall be certified to the levying board after the proposed budget statement is adopted or is amended and adopted as amended. If the levying board represents more than one county, a member or a representative of the governing board shall, upon the written request of any represented county, appear and present its budget at the hearing of the requesting county. The certification of the amount to be received from personal and real property taxation shall specify separately (a) the amount to be applied to the payment of principal or interest on bonds issued by the governing body and (b) the amount to be received for all other purposes. If the adopted budget statement reflects a change from that shown in the published proposed budget statement, a summary of such changes shall be published within twenty calendar days after its adoption in the manner provided in this section, but without provision for hearing, setting forth the items changed and the reasons for such changes. (2) Upon approval by the governing body, the budget shall be filed with the auditor. The auditor may review the budget for errors in mathematics, improper accounting, and noncompliance with the Nebraska Budget Act or sections § 13-518 to § 13-522. If the auditor detects such errors, he or she shall immediately notify the governing body of such errors. The governing body shall correct any such error as provided in § 13-511. Warrants for the payment of expenditures provided in the budget adopted under this section shall be valid notwithstanding any errors or noncompliance for which the auditor has notified the governing body. (3) Each school district shall include in the notice required pursuant to subsection (1) of this section the following

DISTRICT/ESU RESOURCES [BUDGET] Continued	statement: For more information on statewide receipts and expenditures, and to compare cost per pupil and performance to other school districts, go to: https://nep.education.ne.gov. In addition, each school district shall electronically publish such statement on the school district website. Such electronic publication shall be prominently displayed with an active link to the Internet address for the website established pursuant to § 79-302.01 to allow the public access to the information. *Budget Authority and Allowable Reserve Percentage Certification §79-1023		
BOARD- SUPERINTENDENT RELATIONS	Complete first-year superintendents second evaluation and review goals. *Superintendent Pay Transparency Act. On or before August 1, file with NDE a copy of approved contracts or any amendments, for superintendent/ESU administrator services. § 79-2403 the board shall publish a copy of such contract, and a reasonable estimate and description of all current and future costs to the school district or educational service unit that will be incurred as a result of such contract, within two days after the meeting of the board at which such contract was approved.		
REPORTS	Board Committees; Superintendent; Administrators		
BOARD OPERATIONS	Review and discuss Board Governance - Standard V. Advocacy.		
NASB EVENTS	NASB New Member Orientation (New Superintendents, Board President, District Administrative Assistant) Review NASB Board Awards of Achievement Points (July 31st deadline for updating points earned.) NASB Leadership Workshops – Gering, Kearney, Omaha Register for the NASB Area Membership Meetings – See NASB Events page for details.		

Create conditions for success: Show commitment to improvement through board actions, support quality professional development for staff, and build a strong, unified leadership team between the board and superintendent.



MISSION, VISION, & GOALS	Strategic Plan Update; District Goals Update
	Review, update, and adopt policy per the board-adopted Policy Review Process and Schedule.
N A N	*Option Enrollment Application period. School districts will accept option enrollment applications between September 1 and March 15 for attendance during the following and subsequent school years. The option school district shall provide the resident school district with the name of the applicant on or before April 1 or, in the case of an application submitted after March 15, within sixty days after submission. The option school district shall notify, in writing, the parent or legal guardian of the student and the resident school district whether the application is accepted or rejected on or before April 1 or, in the case of an application submitted after March 15, within sixty days after submission. ** An option school district that is a member of a learning community may not approve an application pursuant to this section for a student who resides in such learning community. § 79-237
>	Personnel Report. On or before September 15, all schools shall file with the Department of Education a fall personnel report, which shall specify the names of all individuals employed by the school who are certificated. § 79-804
0	Federal Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA). Annual notice provided to parents of the policies regarding surveys of students, instructional materials, physical examinations, personal information used for marketing.
POLICY	Federal Child Nutrition Programs. If school districts participate in National School Lunch Programs the School Breakfast Program or the Special Milk Program, they must provide parents and the public information about free and reduced-price meals and/or free milk and must provide parents with an application form. Federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act. Requires public notice of the education rights of homeless students. The notice must
	be disseminated in places where homeless students receive services including schools, family shelters, and soup kitchens. They must be understandable to homeless students and their parents and when necessary, in their native language. Downloadable poster: http://center.serve.org/nche/pr/er_poster.php#youth
	Federal Non-Discrimination. Requires all recipients of federal funds to notify their students, parents, and others that they do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, and age, and if applicable, that they provide equal access to the Boy Scouts of America and other designated youth groups.

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POLICY GOVERNANCE Continued	Federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Annual notice to parents of a child with a disability of the district's procedural safeguards. A notice must also be placed on the district's website. The notice must be easily understandable and in the native language of the parents. Sample Notice: http://idea.ed.gov/download/modelform_Procedural_Safeguards_June_2009.pdf
ADVOCACY	Review the NASB Government Relations pages and discuss NASB Legislative Updates on potential Interim Hearings or upcoming items; Meet with your Senator(s) in the interim; Share your story; Make an Impact.
	Collective Bargaining; Timelines. On or before September 15, negotiations contract dispute decision; Boards may enter into collective bargaining agreements for periods not to exceed four years. § 48-811, § 48-816, and § 48-818
	Collective Bargaining Timeline. On or before September 1, of the year preceding the contract year in question, the certificated and instructional employees' collective-bargaining agent shall request recognition as bargaining agent. The governing board shall respond to such request not later than the following October 1 § 48-818.01
	Board/Administrators Budget Work Session
DISTRICT/ESU RESOURCES [BUDGET]	*Certification of District's Assessed Valuation Public Budget Hearing / Adopt Budget; Due on or before September 20 § 13-508, § 79-1084, § 79-1085, § 79-1086, § 13-506, §13-518
	*Board Adopted Budget. On or before September 30, General Budget Adoption. The board shall file with, certify to the levying board, and file with the auditor a copy of the adopted budget statement together with the amount of the tax required to fund the adopted budget. § 13-508
	Report to County Board. On or before September 30, a [Class I, II, or III school district boards] are required to report to the county board and the learning community coordinating council (if applicable) the entire revenue raised by taxation and all other sources for the previous fiscal year and a budget for the ensuing fiscal year. § 79-1084
	Class IV District Report to County Board. On or before September 30, [Class IV school district boards] are required to report to the county board an estimate of the amount of funds required for the next school fiscal year. § 79-1085
	Class V District Report to County Board. On or before September 20, [Class V school district boards] that is a member of a learning community is required to report to the county board and the learning community coordinating council the entire revenue raised by taxation and all other sources for the previous school fiscal year and a budget for the ensuing school fiscal year. § 79-1086.
	*Provision is subject to revision in the 2025 Legislative Session. NASB will update. § 77-1632 Property tax request; procedure; public hearing; resolution or ordinance; contents. [LB 644] This does not apply to ESUs.

	Board Committees; Superintendent; Administrators
REPORTS	*American Civics Committee. Beginning of every school year, the school board must appoint a committee of three to be known as the Committee on American Civics. The committee will hold no fewer than two public meetings annually, at least one when public testimony is accepted. Examine and ensure that the social studies curriculum used in the district is aligned with the social studies standards adopted pursuant to section § 79-724. *Reference: (January) Board Committee Appointments.
BOARD	Review and discuss Board Governance - Standard VI. District
OPERATIONS	Resources.
	Resources.
NASB EVENTS	NASB Area Membership Meetings – Valentine, Gering, Kearney, York, Norfolk
LEARNING COMMUNITY	Learning Community Attendance Reports. On or before September 1, each district that is a member of a learning community needs to report to the learning community coordinating council attendance reports including violations of attendance, results of attendance investigations, policies on excessive absenteeism and records of notices and reports. § 79-201
	Learning Community Budget. On or before September 1, the Learning Community shall file a copy of the adopted budget statement with member school districts. § 13-508

Ensure the school district is accountable to the expectations: Create metrics that generate reliable data to inform decision-making for both the board and the district.



MISSION VISION	
MISSION, VISION, & GOALS	Strategic Plan Update; District Goals Update
POLICY GOVERNANCE	Review Annual District Report. *Rule 10: 010.01A Annual Written Report. The school system annually prepares a written report which includes at least student academic performance as required in Section 005.02, school system demographics, school improvement goals and progress and, in the case of public schools, financial information. School systems report the information in accordance with the policy in Section 010.01B of this Chapter. *Rule 10: 010.01B Policy for Performance Reports. The school system has a written policy for annually preparing and distributing the performance report(s) required in Section 010.01A to the residents of the public school district. The policy assures that individual test scores are kept confidential. If the school has fewer than ten students in the grades being reported, or if reporting would allow for the identification of students because they all had comparable scores, no public reports of student performance are provided for those grades. Review, update, and adopt policy per the board-adopted Policy Review
	Process and Schedule.
	Review Summer School Programs
	Review ACT Results
	*Review Certified Staff Professional Development Calendar and Budget
	*District Professional Development Calendar must include: § 79-
ACCOUNTABILITY	2,146 Behavioral and mental health training; suicide awareness
& STUDENT	and prevention training; requirements. (1) Beginning in school year
ACHIEVEMENT	2023-24, all public school employees who interact with students and any other appropriate personnel, as determined by the school
ACHIEVEMENT	superintendent, shall receive behavioral and mental health training with a focus on suicide awareness and prevention training each year. The superintendent will ensure this training is provided and is included in the District Professional Development Calendar and presented to the board for review.
	*Review School Improvement Plan
ADVOCACY	Review the NASB Government Relations pages and discuss NASB Legislative Updates on potential Interim Hearings or upcoming items; Invite your Senator(s) to your buildings in the interim; Share your story; Make an Impact.

ACCOUNTABILITY & STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT Continued	*District Membership Report. On or before October 15, of each year, the superintendent of each school district shall file with the commissioner the fall school district membership report, which shall include the number of children from birth through twenty years of age enrolled in the district on October 1 of a given school year. The report shall enumerate (i) students by grade level, (ii) school district levies and total assessed valuation for the current fiscal year, (iii) students enrolled in the district as option students, resident students enrolled in another district as option students, students enrolled in the district as open enrollment students, and resident students enrolled in another district as open enrollment students, and (iv) such other information as the Commissioner of Education directs. § 79-528 *Pending in Legislature - Distance Education Incentives Denial Appeal – Due October 1 (through 2028) § 79-1337
	Negotiations contract dispute decision (year of contract, if needed); Due September 15 § 48-818.01
DISTRICT/ESU RESOURCES [BUDGET]	*Collective Bargaining Timeline. On or before September 1 of the year preceding the contract year in question, the certificated and instructional employees' collective-bargaining agent shall request recognition as bargaining agent. The governing board shall respond to such request not later than the following October 1. § 48-818.01
	*Elementary site allowance; calculation. On or before October 15, each school district who qualifies for an elementary site allowance to submit the applicable form to the NDE. § 79-1007.15
	*Poverty Allowance Calculation. Each school district shall designate a maximum poverty allowance on a form prescribed by the department on or before October 15, of the school fiscal year immediately preceding the fiscal year for which the aid is being calculated. §79-1007.07
	*Limited English Proficiency Calculation Allowance. Each school district shall designate a maximum limited English Limited Proficiency Allowance on or before October 15 of the school fiscal year immediately preceding the fiscal year for which aid is being calculated. §79-1007.09 The school district may decline to participate in the LEPA by providing NDE a maximum limited LEPA allowance of zero dollars on such form on or before October 15.
REPORTS	Board Committees; Superintendent; Administrators Annual Emergency Safety Plan – Annual Adoption. Rule 10: 011.01B Safety Plan. Each school system has a safety and security plan for the schools in the system. The plan addresses the safety and security of students, staff, and visitors. The plan is approved by the governing body. *Administrators also report the district's compliance of Rule 10: 011.01C Safety Committee and 011.01D Safety and Security Visit.

BOARD OPERATIONS	Review and discuss Board Governance - Standard VII. Board Operations
NASB EVENTS	NASB Area Membership Meetings – North Platte, Omaha, Nebraska City, Fremont
	Register for Labor Relations Conference - See NASB Event page for details.
	Register for the State Education Conference - See NASB Events page for details
	NASB Board President Circle Call *Invitation to participate by call/ Microsoft Team Meeting is distributed through email.
BOARD- SUPERINTENDENT RELATIONS	Review current superintendent evaluation policy specific to the evaluation, contract language to ensure it aligns to the policy, and review superintendent contract language outlining the responsibilities of the superintendent and board regarding the contract extension or renewal. Place each item on the board meeting agenda as specified.
LEARNING COMMUNITY	Learning Community Coordinating Council Only. On or before October 15, the learning community levies and total assessed valuation for the current fiscal year; § 77-1632

Engage community stakeholders and build public will: Foster a shared understanding of accountability for student success and effectively communicate the district's needs to stakeholders regarding the vision for improvement and growth.



MISSION, VISION, & GOALS	Strategic Plan Update; District Goals Update
POLICY GOVERNANCE	Review, update, and adopt policy per the board-adopted Policy Review Process and Schedule.
	Review Statewide Assessment Results
ACCOUNTABILITY & STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT	*District Assurance Statement. On or before November 1, the school district must submit their Rule 10 Accreditation Assurance Statement to NDE. The statement must be signed either by the superintendent and/or a member of the governing board. The Assurance Statement should be presented to the board for review once complete. *ESU Assurance Statement. On or before November 1, the ESU must submit their Rule 84 Assurance Statement to NDE. This rule is intended to support educational service units in effectively and efficiently supporting school systems in this state and to establish the minimum level of performance for accreditation of the Nebraska education service units.
	*Fall Membership Report. On or before November 1, the superintendent of each school district shall submit to the Commissioner of Education a report described as the annual financial report showing (i) the amount of money received from all sources during the year and the amount of money expended by the school district during the year, (ii) the amount of bonded indebtedness, (iii) such other information as shall be necessary to fulfill the requirements of the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act and section § 79-1114, and (iv) such other information as the Commissioner of Education directs. § 79-528
	*Fall Membership Report (Failure to meet deadline). If a school district fails to submit the fall membership report by November 1, the commissioner shall, after notice to the district and an opportunity to be heard, direct that any state aid granted pursuant to the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act be withheld until such time as the report is received by the department. In addition, the commissioner shall direct the county treasurer to withhold all school money belonging to the school district until such time as the commissioner notifies the county treasurer of receipt of such report. The county treasurer shall withhold such money. § 79-528
ADVOCACY	Review the NASB Government Relations pages and discuss NASB Legislative Updates on potential Interim Hearings or upcoming items; Review the NASB Delegate Handout and appoint one of your board members to be your NASB Delegate Assembly Representative at State Conference in November; Reach out to your Senator(s); Share your story; Make an Impact.

DISTRICT/ESU RESOURCES [BUDGET]	*Superintendent file Financial Report. On or before November 1, all superintendents must submit to the Commissioner of Education, an Annual Financial Report. § 79-528
	*Authorize School District Audit. On or before November 5, a copy of the Audit Report shall be filed with the Commissioner of Education and Auditor of Public Accounts. Annually, the school district shall authorize the examination of all financial records. The audit is to be conducted by a public accountant or by a certified public accountant. § 79-1089
	*Collective Bargaining. On or before November 1, negotiations shall begin. No fewer than four negotiations meetings between the certificated and instructional employees' collective-bargaining agent and the board's bargaining agent. § 48-818.01
REPORTS	Board Committees; Superintendent; Administrators;
	*Educational Service Unit Yearly Report. On or before November 1, each ESU is required to publish a Report of Yearly Activities of the ESU Board. The report shall include the amount of the revenue received and expenditures itemized by categories. This publication shall be for one time in a newspaper of general circulation distributed in each county in the educational service unit. A copy of the report shall be distributed to each member school district. § 79-1228
	*Review Annual Emergency Safety Plan as filed with the State School Security Director. § 79-2,144
BOARD OPERATIONS	Review and discuss Board Governance - Standard VIII. Board- Superintendent Relations.
BOARD- SUPERINTENDENT RELATIONS	Distribute the superintendent evaluation to be completed by each board member. *NASB Online Survey System, direct the Association to distribute links to each individual board member to complete the superintendent evaluation. Note: Review board policy and superintendent contract to ensure the board is meeting the directives of both documents.
NASB EVENTS	Labor Relations Conference - Lincoln

	School Board will Review the Annual Foundation Board Filing Forms
	Original tax deadline for exempt organizations (Form 990): On or
	before May 15, 2025
	» Extension tax deadline for exempt organizations: November
	15, 2025 (must complete IRS Form 8868 Application for
	Automatic Extension of Time to File an Exempt Organization
FOUNDATION	Return
	» Foundation Boards – Schedule A (Form 990 or 990-EZ), Public
FILING	Charity Status and Public Support
DEADLINE	» Form 990 is not complete without fully completing Parts I
	through XI and a proper signature in Part II, Signature Block.
	» An officer of the organization must sign the return. This
	signature must come from the Superintendent if the foundation
	does not have a designated tax officer.
	» Schedule B Parts I and II must also be completed if
	contributions totaling \$5,000 or more (in money or property)
	were recognized from any one contributor.
	Report Evaluation and Research Results. On or before January 1, each
LEARNING	learning community coordinating council shall use any funds received
COMMUNITY	pursuant to section § 79-1241.03 for evaluation of programs related
	to the community achievement plan. § 79-2104.02
	to the community achievement plan. 3 // 2104.02

Learn together as a board team: Actively listen and engage with one another as a board, commit to district academic excellence, and foster a readiness for board development.



MISSION, VISION, AND GOALS	Strategic Plan Update; District Goals Update
POLICY GOVERNANCE	Review, update, and adopt policy per the board-adopted Policy Review Process and Schedule.
ADVOCACY	Review the NASB Government Relations pages and discuss NASB Legislative Updates on potential Interim Hearings or upcoming items; Be represented at the NASB Delegate Assembly at State Conference; Reach out to your Senator(s); Share your story; Make an Impact.
	*Review District and [each] Building AQuESTT Classification
ACCOUNTABILITY & STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT	On or before December 31, 2025, and on or before December 31 of each year thereafter, in order to promote and support financial literacy education, each school district shall provide an annual financial literacy status report to its school board, including, but not limited to, student progress in financial literacy courses and other district-determined measures of financial literacy progress from the previous school year. §79-3004
	*Review District Audit Report
DISTRICT/ESU RESOURCES [BUDGET]	Distribute the superintendent evaluation to be completed by each board member. *NASB Online Survey System, direct the Association to distribute links to each individual board member to complete the superintendent evaluation. *Note: Review board policy and superintendent contract to ensure the board is meeting the directives of both documents.
BOARD- SUPERINTENDENT RELATIONS	Board Committees; Superintendent; Administrators
REPORTS	Review and discuss Board Governance - Standard IX. Professional Development.
NASB EVENTS	NASA/NASB State Education Conference - Omaha
	NASB Delegate Assembly – Omaha



MISSION, VISION,	Review School Improvement Plan
AND GOALS	Strategic Plan Update; District Goals Update
POLICY GOVERNANCE	Review, update, and adopt policy per the board-adopted Policy Review Process and Schedule.
ADVOCACY	Look ahead; Review the NASB Government Relations pages in preparation for the upcoming Legislative Session beginning in January. Reach out to your Senator(s); Share your story; Make an Impact.
DISTRICT/ESU RESOURCES [BUDGET]	ESU Annual Financial Report – On or before January 31, the ESU Administrator of each ESU will submit to the Commissioner of Education an Annual Financial Report. *ESU Audit. On or before January 31, the ESU Audit Report will be presented to the ESU board for review. The board of each educational service unit shall cause a complete and comprehensive annual audit to be made of the books, accounts, records, and affairs of the educational service unit. The audits shall be conducted annually, except that the Auditor of Public Accounts may determine an audit of less frequency to be appropriate but not less than once in any three-year period. § 79-1229
BOARD- SUPERINTENDENT RELATIONS	*Review the Superintendent Evaluation Summary
DEDODIC	Board Committees; Superintendent; Administrators
REPORTS	Review the NDE State of Schools Report
NASB EVENTS	NASB New Board Member Workshop – Kearney
	Register for the Legislative Issues Conference - See NASB Events page for details.
BOARD ELECTIONS	Notify the County Clerk/Election Commissioner. On or before February 1, the board must notify the County Clerk of Election Commissioner of the member seats open for the upcoming election.

NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BOARDS

PROGRAMS & SERVICES



2,000,000 NEBRASKANS 329,000 STUDENTS 24,000 TEACHERS

21,000 ANNUAL HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

530 COMMUNITIES

1,700 LOCALLY ELECTED, VOLUNTEER SCHOOL/ESU BOARD MEMBERS

ONE NEBRASKA

Advocacy ALICAP

Awards of Achievement Program

Board Leadership

Board Retreats/Work Sessions

CJUMP/NJUMP Natural Gas Purchasing

Climate Surveys

Community Alignment & Engagement

Data Analytics

District Training Opportunities

Educator's Health Alliance

Education Leadership Search Service

e~Funds for Schools

Envise

Gallup StrengthsFinder

Leasing Corporation

Legal Resources

Mediation

Nebraska Administrative Education Professionals

Nebraska Liquid Asset Fund

Nebraska Public Leadership Foundation

Online Assessments/Surveys

Paperless Board Meetings

Policy Services/Online Policy Publishing

SafeSchools

Sparq Data Solutions

Staff Negotiation Software

Strategic Planning



www.NASBonline.org

NASB Twitter: www.twitter.com/NASBonline
NASB Facebook: www.facebook.com/NASBonline

NASB is a private, nonprofit organization that provides programs, services and advocacy to strengthen public education for all Nebraskans since 1918. We provide consultation, board development and training, as well as district support service programs for our 260 member school districts and educational service units across Nebraska. The programs are managed by a professional staff, and governance oversight is carried out by a statewide Board of Directors consisting of local school board members from across the state, elected by you as peer board members.

NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BOARDS

1311 Stockwell Street - Lincoln, NE 68502 - 800-422-4572 - www.NASBonline.org

BOARD RETREATS

Build, Support, and Sustain a Cohesive Board-Superintendent Working Relationship



CUSTOM RETREAT

A board retreat where the discussion is focused on the needs and priorities of the district. The facilitator will work with board leadership to develop a retreat that meets the vision and purpose of the meeting.



BOARD PROTOCOLS

Cohesive board governance is achieved by developing protocols focused on communication practices and adherence to the Board Code of Ethics. This retreat will focus your board on best practices so the important work of student achievement can thrive in your district.



BOARD GOALS

This retreat will result in a plan specific to your board. The plan includes goals that specify performance indicators, responsibilities, and timelines for prioritized, actionable progress intended to keep boards focused and organized to achieve successful outcomes.

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POLICY

The purpose of a policy retreat is to focus on the essential role of policy. Board members will be equipped with tools to develop a systematic review of current policy and strategies to embed policy review into the monthly board meeting.



ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

Using the Standards for Effective Board Governance as a guide, board members will have an opportunity to work through the roles and responsibilities of serving as an elected board member.

EFFECTIVE BOARD MEETINGS

This retreat is designed to address agenda development, Open Meetings Law, public comment, minutes publication, and more. The facilitator will help board members to consider the before, during, and after aspects of the meeting.



ONLINE SURVEY SERVICES

SUPERINTENDENT EVALUATION

Utilized by over 90 districts in Nebraska, our evaluation service is designed to:

- Streamline response collection
- · Support the work of the board president
- Create a professional, comprehensive report
- Identify strengths and leadership qualities of the educational leader

BOARD SELF-ASSESSMENT

Evaluate how well the board is functioning as a body while enabling the board-superintendent leadership team to identify and celebrate strengths of the team and determine areas of improvement to operate more efficiently in the future.

OTHER SURVEYS INCLUDE:

- ADMINISTRATION EVALUATION
- FACILITY-BOND REFERENDUM SURVEYS
- DISTRICT REORGANIZATION SURVEYS
- CUSTOM SURVEYS

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Online Survey Specialist

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COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT / ALIGNMENT

THE VIABILITY OF THE COMMUNITY IS DEPENDENT UPON THE VIABILITY OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT AND VICE VERSA.

SCHOOL DISTRICTS CAN:



Involve a wide variety of stakeholders



Discover mutually beneficial solutions



Gather data to support development



Build community and develop a collective identity

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER:

What are the community's expectations of the school district?

What are the major challenges facing your community?

What external factors are having an impact on students? Teachers and staff? Administration and the board?

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NASB STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS

THE NASB PROCESS IS DESIGNED TO MEET 2 CENTRAL GOALS:

- The collection of high-quality data necessary for the creation of prioritized strategies
- To engage stakeholders' perspective, ideas, and suggestions for growing education

Validates the mission, vision, and beliefs of the district

Informs through internal and external engagement

Produces qualitative and quantitative data to identify needs

Empowers the district leadership team to prioritize and focus on target areas

Enables the district to allocate and align resources to address priorities

Provides a mechanism for the board to monitor and assess progress/success

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NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BOARDS

BOARD LEADERSHIP TEAM

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The Nebraska Association of School Boards provides programs, services, and advocacy to strengthen public education for all Nebraskans.