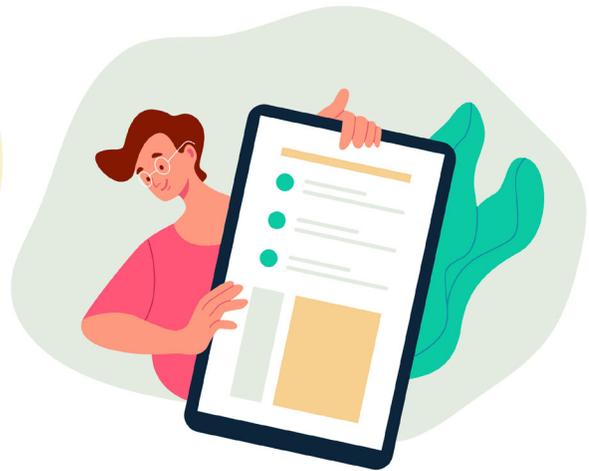
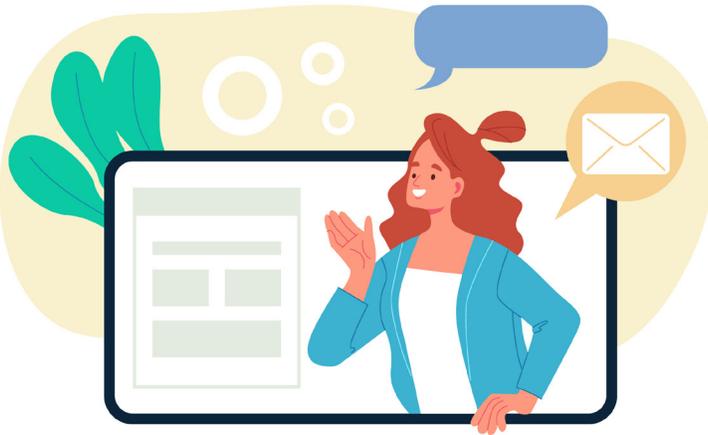
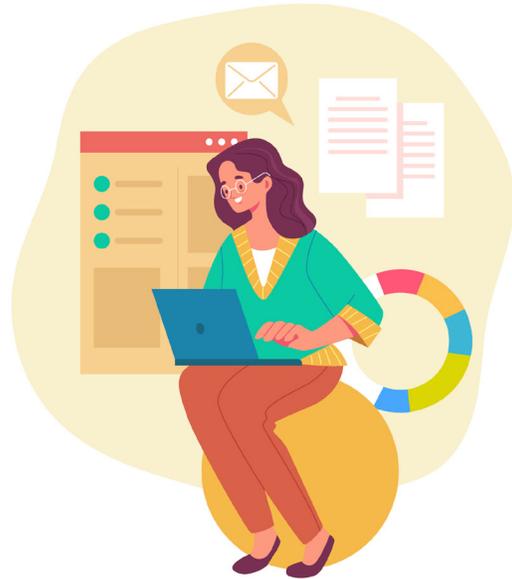
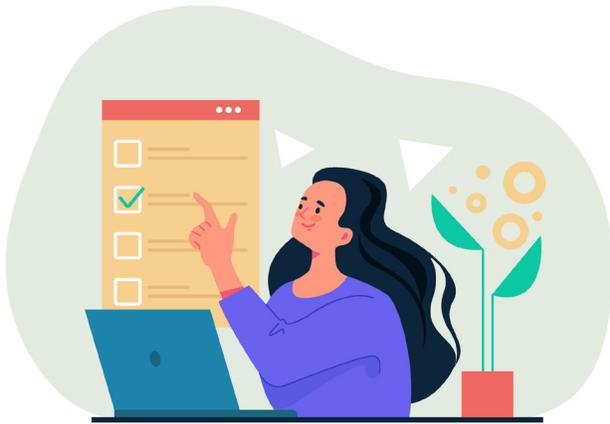


# 2026 NAEP STATE CONVENTION

MARCH 24-25 - KEARNEY



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



# 2026 NAEP STATE CONVENTION - KEARNEY

## TUESDAY, MARCH 24

1:15 PM - REGISTRATION  
1:30 PM - WELCOME  
2:00 PM - BREAKOUT SESSIONS  
3:10 PM - BREAKOUT SESSIONS  
4:20 PM - TABLE TALKS  
4:50 PM - GENERAL SESSION  
5:50 PM - HOTEL CHECK-IN  
6:15 PM - SOCIAL HOUR  
6:45 PM - DINNER  
7:30 PM - HOSPITALITY SUITE

## WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25

6:30 AM - FIT & FRESH  
8:00 AM - REGISTRATION  
8:15 AM - KEYNOTE  
10:00 AM - TABLE TALKS  
11:15 AM - BREAKOUT SESSIONS  
12:15 PM - GROUP PHOTO  
12:30 PM - LUNCH  
1:15 PM - TABLE TALKS  
1:45 PM - VISION PLANNING  
2:30 PM - CLOSING & EVALS  
2:45 PM - ADJOURN

## REGISTRATION

Log in using your username and password at [www.NASBonline.org](http://www.NASBonline.org)

There is a \$25 cancellation fee by the registration deadline, no refunds after the deadline. Fees are as follows up to the Registration Deadline:

**NAEP MEMBERS: \$ 120**

**NON-MEMBERS: \$ 185**

Registration Deadline: March 17

Late/Onsite Registration: \$125/\$190

# TUESDAY, MARCH 24

REGISTER NOW AT [WWW.NASBONLINE.ORG](http://WWW.NASBONLINE.ORG)



1:15 PM

### Registration

1:30 PM

### Welcome

Table Introductions and Discussion: Parking lot - What is taking up space in your mind, creating stress for you and/or distracting you from being fully present? This is your opportunity to "park" these thoughts and free you to maximize your impact during and after this conference.

Introduction of Officers:

*South Central Region – Kim Vaught, Aurora Public Schools*

*Eastern Region – Jessica Carson, Millard Public Schools*

*North Central Region – Katie Smith, Wausa Public Schools*

*Western Region – Sandi Morava, Alliance Public Schools*

Review Bylaws & Officer Elections (Eastern and SC Regions)

Recognition of Retiring NAEP Members & New NAEP Members

2:00 PM

### Breakout Sessions - Round 1

Compliance through Board Meeting Documents

Marcia Herring, NASB Director of Board Leadership

Annual Financial Report

Stephanie DeGroot and Kelsey Larsen, NDE School Finance Specialists

FLSA Fundamentals: Preventing Wage & Hour Mistakes Before They Become Claims

Lily Amare, Cline Williams Wright Johnson & Oldfather, L.L.P. Partner

3:00 PM

### Break

3:10 PM

### Breakout Sessions - Round 2

Through the Eyes of the Public: Transparency and Trust

Marcia Herring, NASB Director of Board Leadership

Grant Compliance Fundamentals

Lisa Laws, NDE Grants Training Specialist

What's New with SPARQ Meetings and Negotiations?

Nicole Kobus and Darion Miller, SPARQ Client Service Managers

4:10 PM

### Break

4:20 PM

### Table Talk Timeout - Round 1

Engage in general discussion of topics related to the work and responsibilities of your role. What challenges do you face, and what tips and tricks would you recommend to others?

4:50 PM

### ChatGPT & Google Gemini: AI Tools for Efficiency and Fun

Lynne Herr, ESU 6 PD Technology Consultant

5:50 PM

### Break for Hotel Check-In

6:15 PM

### Social Hour & Dinner

7:30 PM

### Hospitality Suite

# 2026 NAEP STATE CONVENTION - KEARNEY

## WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25

REGISTER NOW AT [WWW.NASBONLINE.ORG](http://WWW.NASBONLINE.ORG)



**6:30 AM**      **Fit and Fresh: Optional Walk Outside**

**8:00 AM**      **Registration**

**8:15 AM**      **A Lesson from a Coffee Can – Relationships Matter**

Peter Ferguson proudly identifies as a "Coffee Can Kid," a leadership perspective shaped by early experiences in community spaces where storytime and conversations built trust and belonging that were lived daily. Where relationships are the foundation of thriving schools, organizations, and communities. This engagement challenges participants to recognize the power of everyday moments through three practices: listening with intention, connecting to build culture and collaboration, and extending purposeful hospitality so individuals feel seen, valued, and inspired to contribute. When consistency, care, presence, and respect guide our interactions, they compound into measurable impact. Interactive and high-energy, this experience reimagines inclusion and belonging, sharpens the power of feedback, challenges our assumptions, and calls each of us to illustrate how relationships lead and purpose lifts.

**9:45 AM**      **Break**

**10:00 AM**    **Table Talk Timeout - Round 2**

Choose TWO 30-minute sessions at a table of your choice. Topics will be based on recent NAEP Discussion Board posts.

**11:00 AM**    **Break**

**11:15 AM**    **Breakout Sessions - Round 3**

Dealing the Deck: Playing Your Card in Relationships That Matter  
Peter Ferguson, Engagement Speaker

School Nutrition Essentials for Bookkeepers: Compliance, Claims, and Controls  
Kayte Partch, NDE Child Nutrition Program Director

NPERS – Reporting, Forms, and Accounting  
NPERS Staff



**12:15 PM**    **Group Photo and Lunch**

**1:15 PM**      **Table Talk Timeout - Round 3**

Scenarios & Solutions – sit in groups of like positions and engage in general discussion to problem solve situations.

**1:45 PM**      **NAEP Vision Planning: Where We Were, Where We Are, Where We're Going**

Discussion and development of a vision to improve and grow the NAEP group. Are we meeting your needs? How do we expand our support and services? We need your voice to be heard so that we know what you need from NAEP! Plus, updates from NASB.

**2:30 PM**      **Questions, Closing and Evaluation**

**2:45 PM**      **Adjourn 2026 NAEP State Convention**

## HOTEL RESERVATIONS

There is a block of hotel rooms at the Holiday Inn (308-237-5971) for \$149.95 per night. Mention Nebraska Association of School Boards (NASB) when booking your room. Rooms must be booked by February 24, 2026 to receive the discounted rate.