

Conference Program

2024 STATE EDUCATION CONFERENCE
NOVEMBER 20-22
CHI HEALTH CENTER - DOWNTOWN OMAHA

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and the Nebraska Association of School Administrators

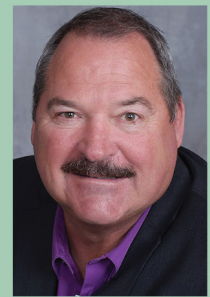


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2024 State Education Conference

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20

Pre-Conference Sessions
1:00 to 4:00 PM

Exhibitor Reception
4:00 to 5:30 PM

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21

Board Member/Mentor Collaboration
7:15 to 8:15 AM

Opening Keynote Speaker
8:15 to 9:30 AM

A - Breakout Sessions
9:45 to 10:45 AM

B - Breakout Sessions
11:15 AM to 12:15 PM

Thursday Luncheon Keynote Speaker
12:30 to 2:00 PM

C - Breakout Sessions
2:15 to 3:15 PM

D - Breakout Sessions
3:30 to 4:30 PM

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22

Classroom Showcase
8:00 to 11:30 AM

NASB Delegate Assembly
8:00 to 9:30 AM

NASA Membership Meeting
8:00 to 9:30 AM

E - Breakout Sessions
9:15 to 10:15 AM

F - Breakout Sessions
10:30 to 11:30 AM

Friday Luncheon Keynote Speaker
11:45 AM to 1:15 PM

WELCOME!

YOUR 2024 JOINT CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE

NASB MEMBERS

Jason Bartels - Meridian; Dana Dorn - Southern; Teresa Grabowski - Centura
Bob Hutt - Johnson County Central; Shelli Peterson - Garden County
Rusty Rhynalds - Minden; Scott Spohn - Friend; Jim Vlach - Lyons-Decatur
Lisa Wagner - Central City

NASB STAFF

Sharon Endorf - Director of Member Engagement
Colby Coash - Associate Executive Director
Marcia Herring - Director of Board Leadership
John Spatz - Executive Director

NCSA MEMBERS

Jeremy Christiansen - Laurel-Concord-Coleridge; Ted DeTurk - ESU 2
Holly Herzberg - Hampton; Brent Hollinger - Cross County
Stephanie Kaczor - Riverside; Jason Mundorf - Kearney; Phil Picquet - ESU 15
Aaron Plas - Bennington; Melissa Polonic - DC West

NCSA STAFF

Megan Hillabrand - Professional Development Manager
Mike Dulaney - Executive Director

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2024 State Education Conference

Wed

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20
GENERAL INFORMATION

REGISTRATION IS OPEN FROM 11:00 AM TO 5:30 PM IN ROOM 213



NASBO MEMBERSHIP MEETING
9:00 AM TO 1:00 PM - ROOM 215



NASB LEGISLATION COMMITTEE MEETING
11:00 AM TO 1:00 PM - ROOM 212



NASA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
11:30 AM TO 1:00 PM - ROOM 211



PRE-CONFERENCE SESSIONS
1:00 TO 4:00 PM - ROOMS 201-202 & 203-204



EXHIBITOR RECEPTION
4:00 TO 5:30 PM - PRE-FUNCTION AREA

BREAKOUT TRACKS



BOARDSMANSHIP



CAREER & COLLEGE READINESS



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



CURRICULUM



ESU



FACILITIES



LEGAL & POLICY



LEGISLATIVE & ADVOCACY



MANAGEMENT/ADMINISTRATION



NEW BOARD MEMBER



SAFETY



STUDENTS/EARLY CHILDHOOD



TECHNOLOGY



WELLNESS

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2024 State Education Conference

Pre

PRE-CONFERENCE SESSIONS
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20 - 1:00 TO 4:00 PM

**HARNESSING THE POWER OF AI:
PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS FOR SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS AND ADMINISTRATORS**
ROOM 201-202

Have you been hearing about the buzz around AI and wondering how it will impact your district? Join us for an engaging, hands-on workshop designed specifically for school board members and administrators. We'll start by showcasing how cutting-edge AI tools, like ChatGPT, can simplify daily tasks and enhance the efficiency of board work. From there, we'll explore real-world applications where AI is already benefiting educators—saving time, reducing burnout, and improving student support. Our session will wrap up with the latest research on AI in education, including how schools are crafting policies to leverage AI for better learning outcomes and streamlined operations. You'll leave with actionable insights and practical tools to help you navigate the evolving landscape of AI and make a meaningful difference in your district and community.

PRESENTERS: Lynne Herr - ESU 6; Andrew Easton - ESUCC; UNK AI Research Team

**INSIDE OUT:
NAVIGATING BOARD CONFLICT AND THE HIDDEN COSTS OF DYSFUNCTION**
ROOM 203-304

As Boards of Education evolve, long-standing teams often encounter new members with differing beliefs, styles, and agendas, which can challenge board dynamics. This session offers attendees a chance to delve into how respectful dialogue ensures diverse perspectives are heard and considered in the decision-making process. What can the board and superintendent do to prepare for change and explore strategies for managing communication and conflict when it occurs? Participants will learn to foster civility in governance and proactively address common challenges. Join us to enhance your skills in navigating board transitions and maintaining a productive, respectful environment that builds trust between the board and superintendent and ensures that decisions are made openly and with integrity.

PRESENTERS: David Kramer - Baird Holm Law Firm; Marcia Herring - NASB; Troy Loeffholz- NCSA



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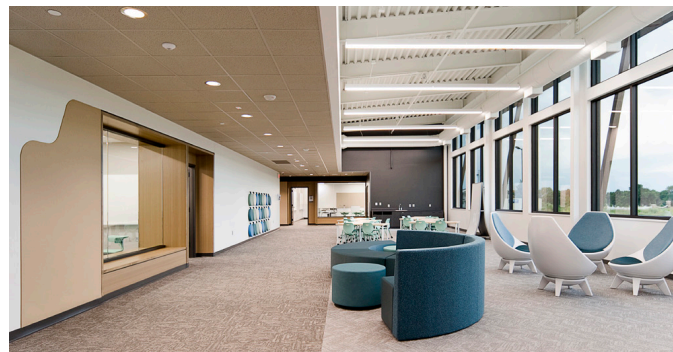
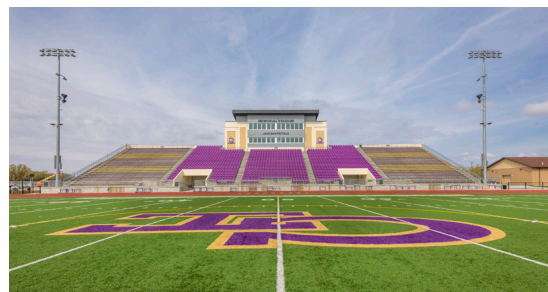
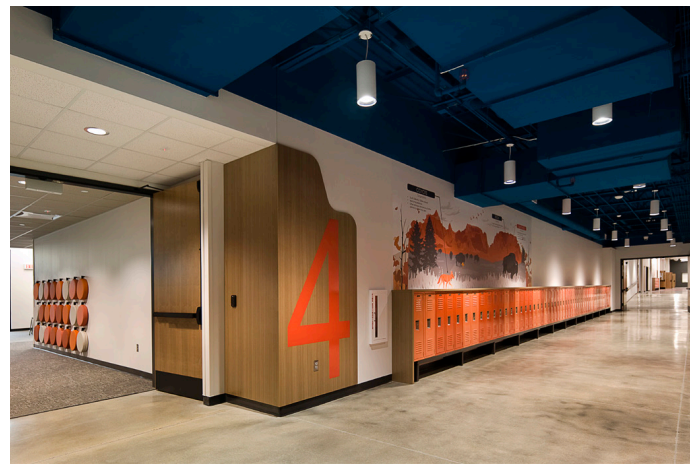
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Thurs

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21

OPENING KEYNOTE SPEAKER - 8:15 TO 9:30 AM - GRAND BALLROOM

REGISTRATION IS OPEN FROM 7:30 AM TO 4:00 PM IN ROOM 213

BOARD MEMBER / MENTOR COLLABORATION - 7:15 TO 8:15 AM - ROOM 208-209



INSPIRING HOPE THROUGH THE POWER OF COMMITMENT AND POSITIVITY BEYOND THE GAME: APPLYING "ALL IN" TO LIFE GIAN PAUL GONZALEZ

During the New York Giants' 2011 Super Bowl run, Gian Paul Gonzalez, a high school teacher from Union City, N.J., played a pivotal role in inspiring the team with his "ALL IN" rally cry. Before a crucial Christmas Eve game against the NY Jets, Gonzalez led a chapel service where he used poker chips to symbolize commitment, urging players to go "all in" with their dedication. The Giants, initially seen as unlikely playoff contenders, won that game 29-14 and carried their momentum through to victory in Super Bowl XLVI. Gonzalez, who turned down professional basketball opportunities to work with at-risk youth, is the founder of the Hope + Future Foundation. This organization provides health and wellness programs for youth in West New York, NJ, focusing on empowering students and fostering community unity. Gonzalez's "ALL IN" message, is not just a slogan it's a LIFeStyle.

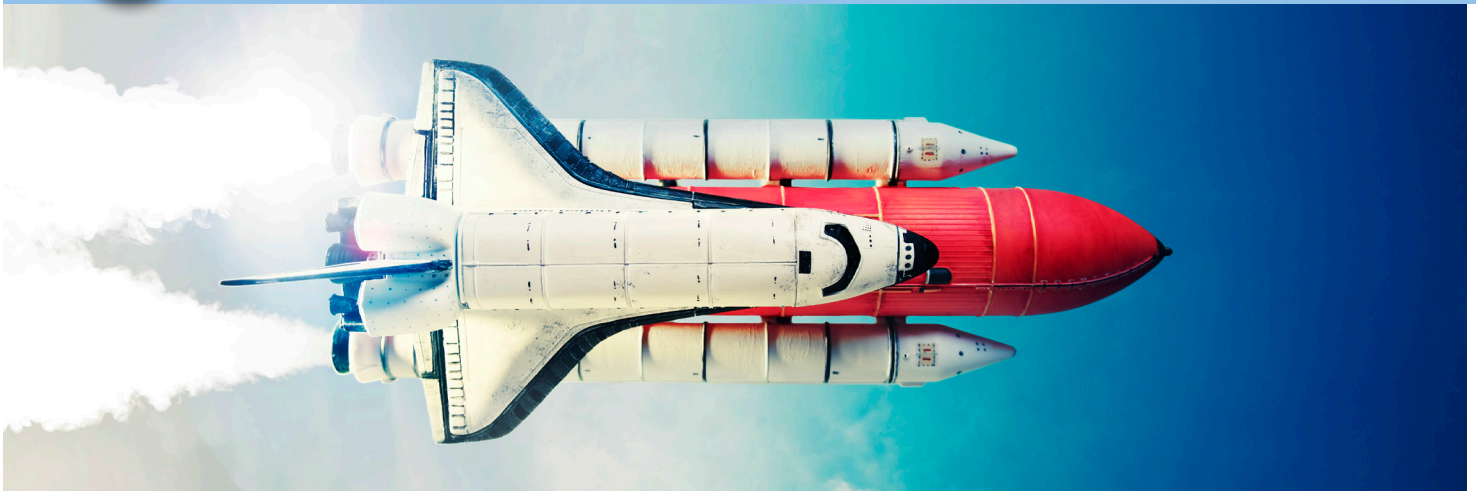


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**PRESIDING: Sandy Noffsinger - NASB President (Dundy County Stratton)
Chris Prosocki - NASA President (Southern)**



PRESENTATION OF COLORS BELLEVUE WEST AIR FORCE JROTC HONOR GUARD



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2024 State Education Conference

A

A - BREAKOUT SESSIONS THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21 - 9:45 TO 10:45 AM



A1 A "SPECIAL" KIND OF YEAR (ROOM 211-212)

While the 2024 legislative session ended in April and included many provisions that impacted K-12 education, Senators were not done. Called back in July for a Special Session, K-12 education was once again a target for change. Come learn what the legislature did (and didn't do) this year, and what ed leaders should be thinking about for 2025.

PRESENTERS: Colby Coash - NASB; Mike Dulaney - NCSA

MODERATOR: Todd Thiesen - Cedar Bluffs



A2 BOARD GOVERNANCE: WHERE DO I BEGIN? WHAT HAVE I GOTTEN MYSELF INTO? (ROOM 204)

Welcome to board service! What is the secret to preparing effectively to transition as a new board member? What are the demands of the role and responsibilities of the board? This session will cover frequently asked questions, highlight the NASB Board Governance Standards, and will engage you in interactive discussion, present scenarios to challenge your understanding of overstepping or proper board oversight.

PRESENTERS: Marcia Herring, Stacie Higgins & Stephanie Summers - NASB

MODERATOR: Alicia Beavers - Elm Creek



A3 SCHOOL FUNDING FOR CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS, INCLUDING LEASE PURCHASE (ROOM 215-216)

This session will explore the alternatives to a bond election to finance school buildings and equipment, including lease-purchase agreements directly with banks, lease-purchase agreements for equipment, "QCPUF" financings which now permit financing for "school safety infrastructure concerns," and other financing ideas.

PRESENTERS: Mike Rogers - Gilmore & Bell Law Firm

MODERATOR: Sallie Horky - NASB



A4 STOP CALLING IT MARIJUANA. WHAT SCHOOLS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT HIGH POTENCY THC, VAPING, & FENTANYL (ROOM 203)

It is not ditch weed. The marijuana industry has changed the script. High potency THC (the psycho-active ingredient in marijuana) is what students are using in vapes or edible cannabis products. Neighboring states and countries legalizing this new drug along with clever marketing by the cannabis industry has lowered our sense of risk with these products. Learn how the new gateway drug and vape industries are impacting a new generation of users leading them to other deadly substances like fentanyl. What can schools do to be more aware and aid students in curbing these drug trends?

PRESENTER: Jay Martin - Nebraska Department of Education

MODERATOR: Lindsey Wooten - NASB



A5 PAIN IN THE APP, V. 10.0 (ROOM 201-202)

It's the diamond anniversary of this topic, and Karen and Sara have a real gem in store! Come get the latest legal trends and troubles regarding student and staff use of social media and technology.

PRESENTERS: Karen Haase & Sara Hento - KSB School Law

MODERATOR: Annie Mumgaard - Lincoln



A6 COMMUNICATION STRATEGIES & TOOLS FOR DISTRICTS LARGE & SMALL (ROOM 209)

Effective communication is the cornerstone of a successful school district. This how-to session is designed to empower school board members and superintendents with the tools and strategies they need to establish clear, consistent, and impactful communication within their districts. The session will cover the essential steps for building a robust communication plan, engaging the community, and ensuring that communication efforts resonate across districts of all sizes. Participants will leave this session with a clear, actionable plan for establishing effective communication in their districts, practical tools for implementation, and strategies for engaging their communities.

PRESENTER: Annette Eyman - Kordica Communications

MODERATOR: Adam Erdkamp - Exeter-Milligan



2024 State Education Conference

A7 WAKE UP CALL: SPECIAL EDUCATION AND SECTION 504 ISSUES FOR BOARDS AND ADMINISTRATORS (ROOM 206-207)

The fastest developing areas for school litigation surround students with disabilities. The rights of parents with students that have disabilities are actively enforced by government agencies such as the Department of Education, the Office of Civil Rights, and the Department of Justice. We will go through best practices and common pitfalls under the IDEA and Section 504 to help your district develop specialized plans, respond to parent complaints, create plans for difficult behaviors, and more!



PRESENTER: Haleigh Carlson - Perry Law Firm

MODERATOR: Brad Kalkwarf - Wilber-Clatonia

 **A8 GROW YOUR OWN: NURTURING FUTURE EDUCATORS IN RURAL NEBRASKA (ROOM 214)**
 Passionate about tackling Nebraska's educator shortage? Join us to explore ESUs 6 & 9 Education Career Pathway pilot program, focusing on rural schools' needs with replicability statewide. Dive into details spanning 15 districts, and 66 high school students supported by NDE. Learn about the free curriculum, work-based learning, and dual-credit opportunities at Wayne State College. Discover Educators Rising CTSO's impact in fostering community among aspiring educators. Gain valuable insights into addressing teacher shortages and discuss implementation strategies.



PRESENTERS: Lynne Herr - ESU 6; Kristen Slechta & Katie Soto - ESU 9

MODERATOR: Brenda Sherman - ESU 3

 **A9 BANCROFT-ROSALIE EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL (ROOM 208)**
 Bancroft-Rosalie School graduated their first class of six Associate Degree-earning high school seniors in 2023. The students will share their Early College experience in a rural school and the transition from high school to a college junior curriculum. School administration will provide information on the process of identifying and supporting high ability in an accelerated academic program with limited resources.

PRESENTER: Jon Cerny - Bancroft-Rosalie Public Schools

MODERATOR: Lila Koop - Wallace

 **A10 HARVESTING HOPE (ROOM 205)**
 UNPS Three Sisters Farm-to-School Program has embarked on an exciting venture to address the concern of food insecurity and sovereignty on the Omaha Reservation. This school based 7-acre farm blends traditional and modern farming practices to produce over 16,000 pounds of fresh organic produce that is distributed to the school and community. This project offers vocational training, paid employment, and cultural experiences to the students of UNPS. This is a one-of-a-kind project that has become a model for other schools and has revitalized the cultural ties and customs of the Omaha people. This is just one of seven CTE pathways we have introduced as part of the new Against the Current Career Academy. Please join us as we will demonstrate a unique and progressive look at student development and vocational training.

PRESENTERS: Stacie Hardy & Kari Bappe - Umo"ho" Nation Public Schools

MODERATOR: Josh Streiff - McPherson County

 **A11 A SYSTEMATIC APPROACH TO DELIVERING ON-GOING PROFESSIONAL LEARNING AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT (ROOM 210)**

Millard Public Schools believes our People are our greatest resource. In order to best support our staff, Millard implements a systematic approach to deliver on-going and embedded professional learning and leadership development. In this session, Millard will share specific plans and strategies used to develop and retain staff. Examples that will be shared include action research, the Millard Graduate Program, and leadership development.

PRESENTERS: Kim Saum-Mills, John Schwartz & Todd Tripple - Millard Public Schools

MODERATOR: Bree Brown - Wakefield

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B

B - BREAKOUT SESSIONS THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21 - 11:15 AM TO 12:15 PM



B1 NSAA COMPETITIVE BALANCE UPDATE (ROOM 211-212)

This session will provide an overview of the NSAA's adoption of a Competitive Balance Committee and its implementation.

PRESENTERS: Jennifer Schwartz & Jeff Johnson - NSAA

MODERATOR: Mike Apple - Conestoga



B2 EMPOWERING SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS AS COMMUNITY CATALYSTS: STRATEGIES FOR EFFECTIVE CROSS-SECTOR PARTNERSHIPS (ROOM 204)

Explore the critical role of school board members as community leaders in fostering effective cross-sector partnerships. The session emphasizes the importance of partner identification, alignment of goals, and establishing a clear governance structure for decision-making. We will highlight the central role of relationship building, underpinned by trust and understanding of diverse organizational cultures. We will cover transparency in all processes and communication, along with strategies for project monitoring, evaluation, and continuous improvement.

PRESENTERS: Joe DiCostanzo - Nebraska Children & Families Foundation; Caden Frank - NASB

MODERATOR: Justin Glanzer - Minden



B3 HOLD YOUR FIRE - ISSUES IN TERMINATIONS (ROOM 215-216)

Everyone knows the Teacher Tenure Act provides numerous protections to certificated employees. But, various state and federal laws and rules also impact a school's ability to part ways with employees, including classified staff. In this session, attorneys from the Perry Law Firm will address and provide guidance on things to consider before firing, or even demoting or reassigning, any employee.

PRESENTER: Josh Schauer - Perry Law Firm

MODERATOR: Chris Woerner - Wilber-Clatonia



B4 BUILDING SAFE AND SECURE SCHOOLS (ROOM 203)

We know learning can only happen when students and staff feel safe in their educational environment. So, how do we build safe and secure schools? Become a Diamond Status member with NDE School Safety & Security Diamond Badge Certification. Schools across the state are completing the safety protocols. The Badge being displayed on buildings, social media platforms, and websites provides the confirmation to school communities that best practices and requirements are being met. Get the latest guidance and support from the Nebraska Department of Education, School Safety & Security Director on what is needed to put your school district in Diamond Badge Certification.

PRESENTER: Jay Martin - NDE

MODERATOR: Peter Sample - Neligh-Oakdale



B5 SUPERINTENDENT CONTRACTS: WHAT DOES IT ALL MEAN?! (ROOM 201-202)

We get dozens of questions each fall about the same sections of the superintendent contract. How long is our contract, and how and when does the contract "renew"? Do we have to do anything at our meeting to approve the renewal or extension? What if we don't approve it? What about the pay transparency law--when does that apply if we're just adding a year? This presentation will cover these critical contract sections and decisions so that all board members and superintendents understand how they affect the contract length, costs, and obligations.

PRESENTERS: Bobby Truhe & Steve Williams - KSB School Law

MODERATOR: Pepper Papineau - York



B6 MAKING DOLLARS AND SENSE OF SCHOOL FINANCE (ROOM 214)

The learning curve for understanding school finance is never ending. Learn about long standing practices and recent changes that affect your district's financial position.

PRESENTERS: Bryce Wilson - NDE; Matt Fisher - Grand Island Public Schools; Carl Dietz - Northland Securities

MODERATOR: Nick Emanuel - North Bend Central



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 **B7 THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT: FROM THE BASICS TO THE UNEXPECTED (ROOM 206-207)**
Most board meetings may run smoothly. But every once in awhile, a board member may make an unexpected motion, a member of the public may object to the board considering an item that was added to the agenda late. Occasionally, public comment can present challenges in the middle of the meeting. These scenarios can create confusion and contention among the board and community. We will walk through these types of situations and offer proactive advice under Nebraska's Open Meetings Act and real-world examples.




PRESENTER: Justin Knight - Perry Law Firm
MODERATOR: JoAnn Lundgreen - North Platte

 **B8 BUILDING AND GROWING OUR FUTURE: A BOARD VISION OF INVESTMENT (ROOM 210)**
Gering Public Schools highlights two national priorities: Workforce development and early intervention. The Board and district leadership identified how to maximize programs effectively while leveraging resources efficiently. The growing school district has opened a new preschool center constructed by their own high school students. As a response to the expanding need for early childhood education in the community, GPS has embraced the "cradle-to-cap" concept by empowering their construction trade students to apply their skills of woodworking, machinery, electrical and masonry. The 4-year high school program offers a strong background in construction trades and apprenticeship experience for students.




PRESENTERS: Nicole Regan, Stacy Rodriguez, Brian Copsey & Greg Trautman - Gering Public Schools
MODERATOR: Jim Ayres - Ogallala

 **B9 HOW TO CREATIVELY FUND A SCHOOL FACILITIES UPDATE (ROOM 205)**
Wauneta-Palisade used creative funding options to complete an addition and renovation project creating a better learning environment. WP was faced with aging facilities in two locations and deciding how to improve them without passing a bond issue. We worked with business partners to find funding and design options to fit our budget and resources. WP utilized a lease purchase for new construction, QCPUF for ADA and HVAC improvements and leveraged our strong financial resources.




PRESENTERS: Allison Sandman & Randy Geier - Wauneta-Palisade Public Schools; Jacob Sertich - Wilkins ADP; Tobin Buchanan - Northland Securities
MODERATOR: Heidi Proskocil - Ord

 **B10 NAVIGATING FUTURES: HAWK HERD & NEBRASKA CAREER CLUSTERS (ROOM 209)**
Come and learn how one local producer's beef donation for the school lunch program has evolved into a hands-on "grow your own" beef program at Hampton Public School. The session will highlight the four key areas of the Nebraska Career Education Model - Core Academics/College and Career Readiness, Career Fields, Career Clusters, and Employability and Entrepreneurship. The Hawk Herd engages students in community partnerships within each of the six career clusters utilizing real-world experiences to help guide potential career choices while supporting "Farm to Fork" in our school lunch program two days a week.



PRESENTERS: Holly Herzberg, Carson Klute & Grant Dose - Hampton Public School
MODERATOR: Michelle Reikofski - Osmond

 **B11 WHAT EVERY SCHOOL DISTRICT NEEDS TO KNOW ABOUT HIRING FOREIGN-TRAINED TEACHERS (ROOM 208)**
Hiring a Foreign-Trained Teacher has become a creative way for school districts to overcome the teacher shortage. Superintendents and board members will both benefit from learning the essential details of hiring a foreign-trained teacher.

PRESENTER: Decua Jean-Baptiste & Katelyn Larson - NDE
MODERATOR: Tracy Casady - Omaha

B

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Mandy Heermann
Public Alliance for Community Energy (ACE)
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2024 State Education Conference



ANN MACTIER - SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER OF THE YEAR WILL BE PRESENTED AT THE THURSDAY LUNCHEON

Previous Winners Include:

2023 - ALLISON WELCH, CONESTOGA

2022 - MARCIA MAHON, SOUTH SIOUX CITY

2021 - STEVE KOCH, HERSHEY

2020 - MARIAN HOLSTEIN, WINNEBAGO

2019 - VALERIE FISHER, PAPILLON-LA VISTA

2018 - KATHY DANEK, LINCOLN

2017 - BONNIE HINKLE, GRAND ISLAND

2016 - TERRI HAYNES, CHADRON

2015 - LINDA RICHARDS, RALSTON

2014 - BRAD KRIVOHLAVEK, NORFOLK

2013 - PATTY BENTZINGER, NORRIS

2012 - KATHY BARTEK, FALLS CITY

2011 - JULIE AGARD, KEARNEY

2010 - KIM FASSE, ELKHORN

2009 - RON PEARSON, ESU #3

2008 - SANDRA JENSEN, OMAHA

2007 - JOHN HANSEN, BELLEVUE

2006 - FRED TAFOYA, PAPILLON-LA VISTA

2005 - WAYNE ERICKSON, WISNER-PILGER

2004 - ANN MACTIER, OMAHA

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21

LUNCHEON KEYNOTE SPEAKER - 12:30 TO 2:00 PM - GRAND BALLROOM

18 INCHES TO HEART-LED LEADERSHIP TOMMY SPAULDING



Eighteen inches may seem like a short distance—from your head to your heart—but many leaders never take that journey. Those who embrace heart-led leadership often experience greater success and achieve more meaningful results. Tommy Spaulding exemplifies this philosophy, dedicating his life to fostering deep, authentic relationships that can transform cultures and organizations. He served as the youngest president and CEO of the esteemed leadership organization Up with People from 2005 to 2008. A *New York Times* and *Wall Street Journal* best-selling author, Tommy has written impactful works such as *It's Not Just Who You Know*, *The Heart-Led Leader*, and *The Gift of Influence*.

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PRESIDING: Sandy Noffsinger - NASB President (Dundy County Stratton)



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C - BREAKOUT SESSIONS THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21 - 2:15 TO 3:15 PM



C1 STUDENT VOICES (ROOM 211-212)

Students from Nebraska high schools share their perspectives on issues that are important to the leaders of tomorrow.

STUDENTS: Wyatt Doerr - Plainview Public Schools

Jozi Edgington - Callaway Public Schools

Kolton Goff - Cozad Community Schools

Carter Korth - Laurel-Concord-Coleridge Public Schools

Esten Johnsen & AJ Utecht - Seward Public Schools

FACILITATOR: Chris Loofe - Kearney Public Schools

MODERATOR: Lisa Wagner - Central City



C2 AT THE BOARD TABLE - AN INTERACTIVE MOCK BOARD MEETING (ROOM 204)

Join us at the boardroom table and experience the dynamics of a school board meeting. This session will provide a practical understanding of how board meetings are conducted, including the procedures, protocols, and decision-making processes. Through a simulated mock board meeting, participants will gain confidence in their ability to navigate real meetings, and the importance of what boards communicate through the public meeting.

PRESENTERS: Marcia Herring, Stacie Higgins & Stephanie Summers - NASB

MODERATOR: Tony Roth - Milford



C3 BUILDING, FACILITIES, AND REAL ESTATE – WHAT KEEPS A SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER UP AT NIGHT? (ROOM 206-207)



In this session, the Perry Law Firm will talk about various legal issues relating to school buildings, facilities, and real estate, including potential legal issues that can arise with facility maintenance, construction and other expenditure and revenue issues with school property.

PRESENTERS: Derek Aldridge - Perry Law Firm

MODERATOR: Josh Hawley - Grand Island



C4 EMPOWERING DECISION SUPPORT FOR EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT IN NEBRASKA (ROOM 205)

Since the fall of 2020, the Nebraska Statewide Workforce & Educational Reporting System (NSWERS) has been working to create a state-of-the-art education and workforce information source. These efforts have culminated in the establishment of a unique and strategic asset designed to bolster decision making and empower decision makers by mitigating uncertainty surrounding education and workforce planning. This session will provide an overview of NSWERS and the innovative analytic tools being created to support schools.

PRESENTER: Matt Hastings - NSWERS

MODERATOR: Rusty Rhynalds - Minden



C5 MEETING OF THE MINDS: LET'S GET CLOSED SESSION RIGHT! (ROOM 201-202)



Enough said. Leave your preconceptions at the door. If you are thinking, "I know all about closed session, so I don't need to attend that one," you're probably our target demographic for this presentation.

PRESENTERS: KSB School Law

MODERATOR: Mark Bejot - Maywood

2024 State Education Conference



C6 INNOVATIVE PREPARATION FOR EDUCATORS: HOW UNL IS MEETING THE CHALLENGE (ROOM 210)

Innovative educator preparation, including alternative certification and grow your own programs, are necessary to ensure we have qualified teachers and administrators as we work with the educator workforce challenge. Join me to learn about UNL's teacher apprenticeship program, school administrator preparation innovations, professional development for Career Education Permit teachers, alternative certification and accelerated programs, and how to grow your own school psychologist. These innovative approaches ensure the preparation of quality educators while meeting the immediate needs of school districts.

PRESENTER: Sara Skretta - UNL

MODERATOR: Monica Huber - O'Neill



C7 COACH & RELEASE - WAIVERS & RELEASES IN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES (ROOM 215-216)

Extracurricular activities are a significant part of public education. They are also a potential source of significant liabilities for your district. From concussions to motor vehicle accidents, risks are everywhere. A recent decision from the Nebraska Supreme Court indicates that schools could mitigate some of these risks with releases and waivers. We will discuss everything from the implications of using waivers and releases to the standards of care applicable to coaches and volunteers.

PRESENTER: Josh Schauer - Perry Law Firm

MODERATOR: Garlyn Grosse - Cedar Bluffs



C8 SCHOOL SAFETY 101: TAKING SCHOOL SAFETY TO THE NEXT LEVEL (ROOM 214)

Norris School District 160 has centralized and streamlined our safety and security efforts on our campus. While you can never be fully prepared for a critical incident, understanding and testing your District's Emergency Operation Plan is a starting point. This session will provide insight into updating and testing your District's EOP, community partnerships, grant opportunities, use of technology, and more to create a better understanding for staff, students, and parents/guardians.

PRESENTERS: Derrick Joel, Sean Molloy & Gary Kubicek - Norris School District 160

MODERATOR: Steve Blocher - West Point



C9 BUILDING BOW TOGETHER - LESSONS FROM BROKEN BOW BOND ELECTION (ROOM 203)

This session will be a panel presentation and Q&A on lessons learned from the Broken Bow Bond Elections - a bond failure that turned into a yes vote and win for the community. Panel participants will include representatives from Broken Bow Public Schools and the business partners that helped make the project a success.

PRESENTERS: Ashley Abramson & Steve Thiel - Hausmann Construction, Inc.; Darren Tobey - Broken Bow Public Schools; Tobin Buchanan - Northland Securities; Jacob Sertich - Wilkins ADP

MODERATOR: Dana Dorn - Southern



C10 ESU BOARD MEMBER UPDATE (ROOM 209)

Especially for our ESU attendees, get the latest from the ESUCC, NDE, and NASB about statewide ESU activities and issues.

PRESENTERS: Larianne Polk - ESUCC; Brad Dirksen - NDE; Colby Coash - NASB

MODERATOR: Jim Luebbe - NASB



C11 CONNECTING EDUCATIONAL LEARNING TO WORKPLACE SUCCESS (ROOM 208)

Today's careers have multiple entry and exit points, and it is important for young people to recognize how to navigate effectively to reach their fullest potential. Experiential learning opportunities assist youth with developing knowledge and skills that will lead to greater persistence in college and the workplace. This session provides a unique platform where education, business, and industry professionals collaborate through a variety of school enrichment and community programming. They will share personal perspectives and discuss strategies to collectively enhance college and career readiness for the next generation.

PRESENTERS: Dawn Lindsley - UNL & ESU 7; Jacie Milius - UNL & Fairbury Public Schools;

Representatives from the Ag and Energy sectors

MODERATOR: Robin Richards - Ralston



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2024 State Education Conference

D

D - BREAKOUT SESSIONS THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21 - 3:30 TO 4:30 PM



D1 UNLOCKING EFFICIENCY: MASTERING PAPERLESS BOARD MEETINGS & STAFF NEGOTIATIONS (ROOM 210)



Embark on a transformative journey with paperless board meeting and teacher negotiations systems, redefining school board governance. Uncover the secrets to streamlined meetings, harnessing transparency for better decision-making, and unlocking invaluable data insights. Dive into tips and tricks to maximize your efficiency and effectiveness in managing school affairs. Join us in embracing this innovative approach to governance, where simplicity and productivity are paramount.

PRESENTERS: Chris Kuncil - Mullen; Darion Miller & Nicole Kobus - Sparq Data Solutions

MODERATOR: Amy Jo Rowse - O'Neill



D2 EHA BENEFITS UPDATE (ROOM 205)

In this session we will provide an up-to-date look at the benefits programs available to EHA members and allow time to address any questions attendees may have.

PRESENTER: Greg Long - EHA; Cortney Ray - Blue Cross Blue Shield of NE

MODERATOR: Kem Loecker - NASB



D3 WE ARE FAMILY: USING ADVISORY GROUPS TO GATHER FEEDBACK & ENGAGE STAKEHOLDERS (ROOM 214)



Papillion La Vista Community Schools is a suburban school district in the Omaha metro area with over 12,000 students. The purpose of this session is to describe how PLCS utilizes a variety of internal and external advisory groups to solicit feedback on critical topics and to engage its community members. A specific focus will be placed on the purpose, selection process, and structure of its Student Advisory Council and other groups including teacher, classified staff, and business/elected official advisories.

PRESENTERS: Valerie Fisher, Christopher Villarreal & Andy Rikli - Papillion La Vista Community Schools

MODERATOR: Bob Arp - ESU 7



D4 THE POWER OF STAY SURVEYS IN RETAINING HIGH QUALITY STAFF (ROOM 204)

Every school district is making plans to recruit and hire the next generation of teachers. We are considering hiring incentives, perks, and salary increases for these new staff members. What are we doing to keep our very best teachers in our school district? In this presentation, you will hear from practicing administrators regarding a "stay" survey that was implemented during the 2023-2024 school year, as well as ideas and thoughts regarding retaining staff from administrators and board members with emphasis on teacher voice, leadership, and culture.

PRESENTERS: Matt Dominy, Josh Fields, Paul Duer, Shawn Svoboda, Ryne Seaman, Matt Hastings, Jill Hochstein, Danielle Shipley & Jessica Dominy - Seward Public Schools

MODERATOR: Liz Kumru - Ralston



D5 HOT TOPICS WITH JIM AND KAREN (ROOM 201-202)



Veteran school attorneys, Jim Gessford from the Perry Law Firm and Karen Haase from KSB School Law, will cover a variety of "hot topics" that school board members from Nebraska should know. Come learn about the legal issues that your board will be (or maybe already is) dealing with while you also get to listen to Jim and Karen bicker and banter.

PRESENTERS: Karen Haase - KSB School Law; Jim Gessford - Perry Law firm

MODERATOR: Caden Frank - NASB

2024 State Education Conference



D6 RULE 10: REQUIREMENTS, REGULATIONS, REPORTS AND COMPLIANCE. HOW BOARD MEMBERS CAN SUPPORT THEIR SUPERINTENDENT (ROOM 209)

Rule 10 has several sections, numerous statutes and over 200 regulations. This session is for board members who want to support their superintendent through having a better understanding of what it means to be accredited through Rule 10.

PRESENTER: Decua Jean-Baptiste, Todd Wolverton & Sandy Suiter - NDE

MODERATOR: Allison Sandman - Wauneta-Palisade



D7 NAVIGATING TRANSGENDER STUDENT POLICIES IN SCHOOLS (ROOM 215-216)

Can our school have a policy relating to transgender students? Should our school have a policy on transgender students? Which state and federal laws do we need to consider? Is this about bathrooms or athletics? Can we just ignore the discourse on this topic? Join attorneys from Perry Law Firm as we answer these questions and more!

PRESENTER: Haleigh Carlson - Perry Law Firm

MODERATOR: Gary Kubicek - Norris



D8 DEVELOPING THE SCHOOL DISTRICT AND SCHOOL FOUNDATION RELATIONSHIP (ROOM 208)

As public schools continue to be top of mind across the nation, the need for school districts and school foundations to work hand in hand increases. During this session you will learn how developing a relationship with the superintendent and communications department can move your foundation forward. You will learn how aligning success stories can increase goodwill for the district as well as giving to the foundation.

PRESENTER: Nicole Anderson - Columbus Public Schools

MODERATOR: John Neal - NASB

D



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Conference Quick Glance

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21

ROOM A - BREAKOUTS 9:45 TO 10:45 AM B - BREAKOUTS 11:15 AM TO 12:15 PM C - BREAKOUTS 2:15 TO 3:15 PM D - BREAKOUTS 3:30 TO 4:30 PM

REGISTRATION IS OPEN FROM 7:30 AM TO 4:00 PM IN ROOM 213
BOARD MEMBER / MENTOR COLLABORATION - 7:15 TO 8:15 AM - ROOM 208-209

OPENING KEYNOTE SPEAKER - 8:15 TO 9:30 AM - "APPLYING 'ALL IN' TO LIFE"

ROOM	A - BREAKOUTS 9:45 TO 10:45 AM	B - BREAKOUTS 11:15 AM TO 12:15 PM	C - BREAKOUTS 2:15 TO 3:15 PM	D - BREAKOUTS 3:30 TO 4:30 PM
201-202	A5 PAIN IN THE APP, V. 10.0	B5 SUPERINTENDENT CONTRACTS: WHAT DOES IT ALL MEAN?!	C5 MEETING OF THE MINDS: LET'S GET CLOSED SESSION RIGHT!	D5 HOT TOPICS WITH JIM AND KAREN
203	A4 STOP CALLING IT MARIJUANA	B4 BUILDING SAFE AND SECURE SCHOOLS	C9 LESSONS FROM BROKEN BOW BOND ELECTION	
204	A2 BOARD GOVERNANCE: WHERE DO I BEGIN?	B2 EMPOWERING SBMS AS COMMUNITY CATALYSTS	C2 AN INTERACTIVE MOCK BOARD MEETING	D4 POWER OF STAY SURVEYS IN RETAINING HIGH-QUALITY STAFF
205	A10 HARVESTING HOPE	B9 HOW TO CREATIVELY FUND A SCHOOL FACILITIES UPDATE	C4 SUPPORT FOR EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT	D2 EHA BENEFITS UPDATE
206-207	A7 SPECIAL EDUCATION AND SECTION 504 ISSUES	B7 THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT: THE BASICS TO THE UNEXPECTED	C3 BUILDING, FACILITIES, AND REAL ESTATE	
208	A9 BANCROFT-ROSALIE EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL	B11 HIRING FOREIGN-TRAINED TEACHERS	C11 CONNECTING ED LEARNING TO WORKPLACE SUCCESS	D8 DEVELOPING THE DISTRICT AND FOUNDATION RELATIONSHIP
209	A6 COMMUNICATION FOR DISTRICTS LARGE & SMALL	B10 NAVIGATING FUTURES	C10 ESU BOARD MEMBER UPDATE	D6 RULE 10: HOW SBMS CAN SUPPORT THEIR SUPERINTENDENT
210	A11 PROFESSIONAL LEARNING AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT	B8 BUILDING AND GROWING OUR FUTURE	C6 INNOVATIVE PREPARATION FOR EDUCATORS	D1 MASTERING PAPERLESS BOARD MEETINGS & NEGOTIATIONS
211-212	A1 LEGISLATIVE OUTLOOK: A "SPECIAL" KIND OF YEAR	B1 NSAA COMPETITIVE BALANCE UPDATE	C1 STUDENT VOICES	
214	A8 NURTURING FUTURE EDUCATORS IN RURAL NEBRASKA	B6 MAKING DOLLARS AND SENSE OF SCHOOL FINANCE	C8 TAKING SCHOOL SAFETY TO THE NEXT LEVEL	D3 THE USE OF ADVISORY GROUPS TO ENGAGE STAKEHOLDERS
215-216	A3 CONSTRUCTION FUNDING	B3 HOLD YOUR FIRE - ISSUES IN TERMINATIONS	C7 WAIVERS & RELEASES IN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES	D7 NAVIGATING TRANSGENDER STUDENT POLICIES IN SCHOOLS

THURSDAY LUNCHEON KEYNOTE SPEAKER - 12:30 TO 2:00 PM - "18 INCHES TO HEART-LED LEADERSHIP"



Conference Quick Glance

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22

ROOM E - BREAKOUTS F - BREAKOUTS
 9:15 TO 10:15 AM 10:30 TO 11:30 AM

ROOM	E - BREAKOUTS 9:15 TO 10:15 AM	F - BREAKOUTS 10:30 TO 11:30 AM
201-202	E5 SOCIAL MEDIA AND THE BOARD MEMBER	F5 TITLE IX: NEW OR IMPROVED?
203	E6 ADDRESSING THE EDUCATOR WORKFORCE	F6 CENTRAL NEBRASKA TEACHER RECRUITMENT
204	E2 LEADERSHIP THROUGH LONG-TERM PLANNING	
205	E9 BEHAVIOR INTERVENTION & TEACHER SUPPORT	F4 STRENGTHENING YOUR BEEF IN SCHOOLS
206-207	E3 HOT LEGAL TOPICS FOR BOARD PRESIDENTS	F3 NEGOTIATING FROM THE BOARD'S SIDE
208		
209		
210	E1 MENTAL HEALTH & WELLNESS RESOURCES	F2 CAREER ACADEMIES FIND YOUR PATH
211-212	E8 CONSTRUCTION MANAGER AT RISK METHOD	F8 A LISTENING SESSION WITH THE STATE BOARD
214	E4 CITIZEN'S ACADEMY CREATES DEEP PARTNERS	F1 SYSTEMS FOR SUPPORTING STUDENT BEHAVIOR
215-216	E7 OPEN MEETINGS AND PUBLIC RECORDS	F7 ATHLETICS, NIL, AND COPYRIGHT

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST SERVED IN THE SOUTH BALLROOM - 7:00 TO 9:00 AM

REGISTRATION IS OPEN FROM 8:00 TO 11:00 AM IN ROOM 213

NASB DELEGATE ASSEMBLY - 8:00 TO 9:30 AM - NORTH BALLROOM

NASA MEMBERSHIP MEETING - 8:00 TO 9:30 AM - ROOM 208-209

CLASSROOM SHOWCASE - 8:00 TO 11:30 AM - PRE-FUNCTION AREA

FRIDAY LUNCHEON SPEAKER - 11:45 TO 1:15 PM - "WHAT'S ON THE HORIZON AT THE NDE?"

ADJOURN - 1:15 PM - PLEASE COMPLETE YOUR EVALUATIONS ONLINE AT WWW.NASBONLINE.ORG

SEE YOU NEXT YEAR BACK HERE AT THE CHI HEALTH CENTER OMAHA - NOVEMBER 19-21, 2025



NOTE TO PARTICIPANTS: NEITHER NASB NOR NASA ENDORSES ANY INDIVIDUAL, GROUPS, OR SENTIMENT EXPRESSED BY ANY SPEAKER OR OTHER PARTICIPANT IN THE NASB/NASA STATE EDUCATION CONFERENCE.



2024 State Education Conference

Fri

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22
GENERAL INFORMATION

REGISTRATION IS OPEN FROM 8:00 TO 11:00 AM IN ROOM 213



CLASSROOM SHOWCASE
8:00 TO 11:30 AM - PRE-FUNCTION AREA



NASB DELEGATE ASSEMBLY
8:00 TO 9:30 AM - NORTH BALLROOM



NASA MEMBERSHIP MEETING
8:00 TO 9:30 AM - ROOM 203-209



E - BREAKOUT SESSIONS
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22 - 9:15 TO 10:15 AM



E1 SUPPORTING AND ENGAGING YOUR COMMUNITY THROUGH MENTAL HEALTH & WELLNESS (ROOM 210)

It is critical to build the collective capacity of families and staff to align efforts and create consistency between school and home while also creating balance in the lives of school staff to ensure learners and families thrive! This district has worked to build out mental health, social-emotional, personal development, and family wellness resources in connection with community supports to engage families, creating agency and ownership. The district also partners with various mental health and wellness resources in an effort to provide high quality options for families to have the care necessary for their children.

PRESENTER: Summer Stephens, Christine Ostermeyer, Michelle Walker, Dawn Deuel-Rutt & Carrie Sheldon - Grand Island Public Schools

MODERATOR: George Robertson - ESU 2



E2 ARE WE THERE YET? HOW DO WE KNOW IF WE HAVE ARRIVED, IF WE DO NOT KNOW WHERE WE ARE GOING? (ROOM 204)

Effective board governance and superintendent leadership requires the board to provide clarity of purpose and a vision for success for the school district. Through purposeful engagement of stakeholders, the board gathers valuable insights into the needs and expectations of the school district. Regular communication with stakeholders ensures that they are kept informed about the progress and direction of the district. This builds transparency and trust and ensures alignment between the district and the community. During this session, you will learn about three important characteristics of effective board and superintendent leadership through long-term planning.

PRESENTERS: Marcia Herring, Stacie Higgins & Stephanie Summers - NASB

MODERATOR: June Bowers - Falls City



E3 HOT LEGAL TOPICS FOR BOARD PRESIDENTS (ROOM 206-207)

This session will focus on current and forthcoming legal hot topics, with a specific focus on Board Presidents. This will include policy and handbook updates, constructing and managing the agenda, public comment, closed session, recent court decisions, legislative proposals, and other happenings in school law.

PRESENTER: Justin Knight - Perry Law Firm

MODERATOR: Rachel Horstman - NASB

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E4 CITIZEN'S ACADEMY CREATES DEEP COMMUNITY PARTNERS (ROOM 214)

Learn how the LPS Citizen's Academy works and walk through steps to replicate it in a way that fits your community. The LPS Citizen's Academy is a unique, no-charge public outreach program that engages approximately 30 adult members of our community in four evening sessions during the first semester, all on-site at different buildings within the district. The relationships built and information shared with academy participants have paid important dividends in future efforts by the district.

PRESENTERS: Mindy Burbach, Paul Gausman, Kathy Danek & Lanny Boswell - Lincoln Public Schools

MODERATOR: Rhonda Burbach - Norris



E5 SOCIAL MEDIA & THE BOARD MEMBER - DOS & DON'TS AND OTHER LEGAL ISSUES (ROOM 201-202)

Social media plays a big part in board governance these days, whether we like it or not. Many board members actively use social media for community engagement...and all board members employ staff who do the same. This presentation will cover the top things every board member must know about their own social media use, official school accounts, and the most recent court cases and real life examples where things can go wrong.

PRESENTERS: KSB School Law

MODERATOR: Lynette Mitchell - Elm Creek



E6 ADDRESSING THE EDUCATOR WORKFORCE THROUGH INNOVATION & PARTNERSHIPS (ROOM 203)

Recruiting and retaining the educator workforce is critical to successful schools and student achievement. Join us to learn about grow your own initiatives like teacher apprenticeships, rural school psychologist training programs, and principal preparation programs, the results of collaboration between school districts and educator preparation programs. Other recruitment strategies, including those specific to special education teachers, will also be shared. We'll discuss actions for retention of both teachers and administrators with a focus on the importance of collaboration and conversation between school districts and educator preparation programs. We look forward to having you join us!

PRESENTERS: Sara Skretta - UNL; Andrea Haynes - Westside Community Schools

MODERATOR: Doug Willoughby - Columbus



E7 OPEN MEETINGS & PUBLIC RECORDS - ARE YOU READY FOR THE NEW CHANGES? (ROOM 215-216)

In this session, lawyers from the Perry Law Firm will discuss some of the new changes to the Open Meetings Act and Public Records Laws that were recently made by the Legislature.

PRESENTER: Derek Aldridge - Perry Law Firm

MODERATOR: Holly Hunke - West Point



E8 USING THE CONSTRUCTION MANAGER AT RISK METHOD TO DESIGN, CONTRACT, AND BUILD YOUR BOND PROJECTS. (ROOM 211-212)

Join us for an insightful session where a school superintendent and a legal expert will discuss the benefits of using a Construction Manager at Risk (CM@R) approach. Discover how a school district can effectively collaborate with architects, attorneys, and construction firms to successfully manage bond projects from inception to completion. Gain valuable perspectives on optimizing the process to ensure timely and efficient project delivery.

PRESENTERS: Jason Buckingham - Ralston Public Schools; Coady Pruett - KSB School Law

MODERATOR: Mary Roarty - Ralston



E9 HOW DOES MY SCHOOL TRAIN AND REPORT FOR THE BEHAVIOR INTERVENTION & TEACHER SUPPORT ACT (BITS) (ROOM 205)

Does my school have to train everyone this year? Does my school have to train everyone? Does my school have to watch videos? If my school recertified in MANDT or CPI in June, does that count? Does my school have to use Canvas? How do we record the staff who took the training? Join us this fine Friday morning as we help to answer these questions and more.

PRESENTERS: Larianne Polk & Andrew Easton - ESUCC

MODERATOR: Tom Menke - Chadron

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F

F - BREAKOUT SESSIONS FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22 - 10:30 TO 11:30 AM



F1 GETTING YOUR SYSTEMS FOR SUPPORTING STUDENT BEHAVIOR ON PAR (ROOM 214)

Student behavior is a common concern among stakeholders. During the 2023-24 school year, Lincoln Public Schools developed a comprehensive PK-12 behavior framework. The Prevention, Accountability, and Restorative (PAR) Behavior Framework is designed to equip teachers, staff, administrators, and collaborators with the tools, strategies, and practices necessary to cultivate a positive, supportive environment for teaching and learning with greater consistency. PAR encompasses evidence-based practices, preventative strategies, and accountability in conjunction with restorative practice to address a range of behavior needs across educational settings. Join us for an overview of the framework.

PRESENTERS: Lanny Boswell, Kathy Danek, Mike Gillotti & Karmin Pedroza - Lincoln Public Schools

MODERATOR: Jason Mundorf - Kearney



F2 2024 PHS CAREER ACADEMIES - FIND YOUR PATH IN HIGH SCHOOL (ROOM 210)

Plattsmouth High School Wall-to-Wall Career Academies began in 2016 after years of visioning and planning by students, staff, and stakeholders. Our academies are led by student academy core leaders (ACL), the business/community advisory committee, and our district and PHS staff. Learn about our journey to becoming a National Model High School and how wall-to-wall career academies differ from pocket academies with every student in an academy. Join us at our session and also hear about our new website, marketing, updated course guides, and pathways for our three career academies.

PRESENTERS: Tina Harvey, Richard Hasty, Todd Halvorsen & Cherie Larson - Plattsmouth Community Schools

MODERATOR: Brad Wilkins - Ainsworth



F3 NEGOTIATING FROM THE BOARD'S SIDE: SUPERINTENDENTS, TEACHERS, & CLASSIFIED STAFF (ROOM 206-207)

Negotiations is one of the most important functions of a school board. In fact, "personnel" is the largest item of a school district's budget, and one of the Board's main responsibilities is to oversee the Superintendent. This session will walk through statutory requirements for negotiations with teachers, as well as common pitfalls in Superintendent Contracts and classified staff agreements. We will also give boards an update on ideas for the 2024-25 negotiations season.

PRESENTER: Justin Knight - Perry Law Firm

MODERATOR: Kyle Fisher - Springfield Platteview



F4 STRENGTHENING YOUR BEEF IN SCHOOLS PROGRAM WHILE SUPPORTING YOUR STUDENTS IN 4H (ROOM 205)

Arnold Public Schools has spent the last two years partnering with local businesses to purchase market heifers or steers at the Custer County Fair Livestock Auction. The school pays the base set at current market, and the sponsoring business pays the premium. They are then processed at our USDA Inspected Processor. What started with one steer, quickly jumped to 4 at the 2023 auction. After the first year, businesses were requesting to participate in the program. Attend this session to learn more about seizing this opportunity to buy local and support our local farmers and ranchers.

PRESENTER: Joel Morgan - Arnold Public Schools

MODERATOR: Douglas Keener - Mitchell



F5 TITLE IX: NEW OR IMPROVED? (ROOM 201-202)

Every year there's one topic we hope won't surface yet again, and every year Title IX and all things sex discrimination and gender identity see trends or changes we can't ignore. This year, we have new regulations, new cases, and a Supreme Court content with punting on 3rd down. From complaints of sex discrimination to athletic participation, it's been another busy year. We can't cover everything, but we'll hit the high points all board members and administrators need to know.

PRESENTERS: Jordan Johnson & Coady Pruett - KSB School Law

MODERATOR: Jane Erdenberger - Omaha

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F6 CENTRAL NEBRASKA TEACHER RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION (ROOM 203)

Nationally, there is a recognized teacher shortage and ongoing conversation and collaborations among policymakers, school leaders, and education preparation programs focused on recruiting and retaining teachers. Funded by the Nebraska Department of Education's Educator Shortage grant, UNK researchers delved into the experiences of Central Nebraska teachers. Their research captured teacher perceptions of their jobs, identified factors boosting professional satisfaction, and pinpointed interventions supporting their growth and development. During this session, the UNK Research team will share findings and ideas on how to support early career educators.

PRESENTERS: Chelsea Feusner, Janet Eckerson, Aprille Phillips, Jami Holbein Swanson & Chadra Diaz - University of Nebraska-Kearney

MODERATOR: Tom Osmond - Broken Bow



F7 SCOREBOARD UPDATE: ATHLETICS, NIL, AND COPYRIGHT (ROOM 215-216)

In this session, lawyers from Perry Law firm will discuss various issues that can arise with athletic equity and booster clubs, student-athlete name-image-likeness issues, and school and third-party copyrights and trademarks.

PRESENTER: Derek Aldridge- Perry Law Firm

MODERATOR: Pam Holcomb - Broken Bow



F8 A LISTENING SESSION WITH MEMBERS OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION (ROOM 211-212)

Share your thoughts on statewide education policy with members of the State Board of Education. State Board members are particularly interested in what is currently affecting local school boards and districts, and the solutions you have to offer for these issues. Topics may include school accountability, accreditation and approval, educator certification, and statewide assessment, among others. Attending this session is a great opportunity for you to have your voice heard among members of the State Board of Education.

PRESENTERS: Members of the State Board of Education - Nebraska Department of Education

MODERATOR: Colby Coash - NASB



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SUPERINTENDENT OF THE YEAR WILL BE RECOGNIZED AT THE FRIDAY LUNCHEON

Previous Winners Include:

2024 - ANDY RIKLI, PAPHILLION LA VISTA	2012 - BILL MOWINKEL, GRAND ISLAND NW	2000 - STEVE JOEL, BEATRICE
2023 - MARK LENIHAN, WAYNE	2011 - MIKE CUNNING, HERSHEY	1999 - KENNETH ANDERSON, HASTINGS
2022 - TERRY HAACK, BENNINGTON	2010 - KEITH LUTZ, MILLARD	1998 - KEN BIRD, WESTSIDE
2021 - JIM SUTFIN, MILLARD	2009 - STEVE RECTOR, SOUTH SIOUX CITY	1997 - RICK BLACK, CONESTOGA
2020 - MARK ADLER, RALSTON	2008 - LARRY RAMAEKERS, AURORA	1996 - GARY HAMMACK, KEARNEY
2019 - MIKE TEAHON, GOTHENBURG	2007 - ROGER BREED, ELKHORN	1995 - MARTIN PETERSEN, ALLIANCE
2018 - JOHN SKRETTA, NORRIS	2006 - RICHARD EISENHAUER, LEXINGTON	1994 - VANDLE PHILLIPS, SOUTH SIOUX CITY
2017 - CAROLINE WINCHESTER, CHADRON	2005 - ROY BAKER, NORRIS	1993 - FRED BELLUM, COLUMBUS
2016 - JAY BELLAR, BATTLE CREEK	2004 - DAN ERNST, WAVERLY	1992 - GLENN LARSEN, ADAMS CENTRAL
2015 - BRIAN MAHER, KEARNEY	2003 - RANDY NELSON, NORFOLK	1991 - NORBERT SCHUERMAN, OMAHA
2014 - STEVE BAKER, ELKHORN	2002 - PHILIP SCHOO, LINCOLN	1990 - DOUG CHRISTENSEN, NORTH PLATTE
2013 - KEVIN RILEY, GRETNA	2001 - KEITH ROHWER, NEBRASKA CITY	1989 - DONALD STROH, MILLARD

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22

LUNCHEON KEYNOTE SPEAKER - 11:45 AM TO 1:15 PM - GRAND BALLROOM



WHAT'S ON THE HORIZON AT THE NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION?

BRIAN MAHER

Join Commissioner Maher as he embarks on his second year at the helm of the Nebraska Department of Education (NDE), leading the charge in shaping the future of education across the state. In this pivotal year, he is poised to build upon the progress of his inaugural term, introducing a range of new developments and initiatives designed to enhance educational outcomes. As he outlines his strategic priorities, we will gain insight into his vision for fostering educational excellence, addressing key challenges, and driving meaningful change within Nebraska's schools. This comprehensive look at the goals and aspirations guiding Commissioner Maher's second year, highlighting the dynamic efforts underway to ensure that every student in Nebraska has access to high-quality education.

SPONSOR: Hamilton Business Technologies

PRESIDING: Chris Prosocki - NASA President (Southern)

SEE YOU NEXT YEAR! NOVEMBER 19-21, 2025

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Your Conference Exhibitors



EXHIBITOR RECEPTION

4:00 TO 5:30 PM - PRE-FUNCTION AREA



914 Coatings

Mike Bennett
45095 Kilgore Rd - Gibbon, NE 68840
888-812-9947
mike@914coatings.com

Amplify

Samantha Sparkman
4304 S. 176th Ave. - Omaha, NE 68135
312-972-1082
ssparkman@amplify.com



Acme Printing Company

Elise Stevens
702 W. D Street - McCook, NE 69021
308-345-3655
info@acmeprint.co

Anatamage, Inc

Tracy Tang
3350 Thomas Rd Suite 150 - Santa Clara, CA 95054
312-894-9255
tracy.tang@anatamage.com

ALICAP/Public Risk Management, Inc.

Sheri Shonka
3528 Dodge Street, Suite 120 - Omaha, NE 68131
402-884-3751
sheri.shonka@prmne.com

Applied Connective Technologies

Justin Niewohner
2585 State Highway 14, PO Box 446 - Albion, NE 68620
402-395-6924
jniewohner@appliedconnective.com

Amergis Educational Staffing

Paula Valdez-Nuguid
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ATS Facility Services

Paul Cadwallader
13227 B Street - Omaha, NE 68144
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American Fidelity

Wayne Ryan
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wayne.ryan@americanfidelity.com

AVI Systems

William Gockel-Figge
5055 South 111th St. - Omaha, NE 68137
402-384-4441
william.gockel-figge@avisystems.com

American Playground and Recreation

Steve Meloccaro
12330 Cary Cir - La Vista, NE 68128
s.meloccaro@theamericanplayground.com



Bailey Education Group, LLC

Karen Norwood
201 Park Court, Suite B - Ridgeland, MS 39157
601-441-2825
knorwood@baileyarch.com

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BCDM Architects

Matthew Erion
1015 N 98th St Ste 300 - Omaha, NE 68114
402-391-2211
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BD Construction, Inc.

Mark Lewis
PO Box 726 - 209 E 6th St - Kearney, NE 68847
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mlewis@bdconstruction.com

Bishop Business Equipment

Peg Carlson
4125 S 94th St. - Omaha, NE 68127
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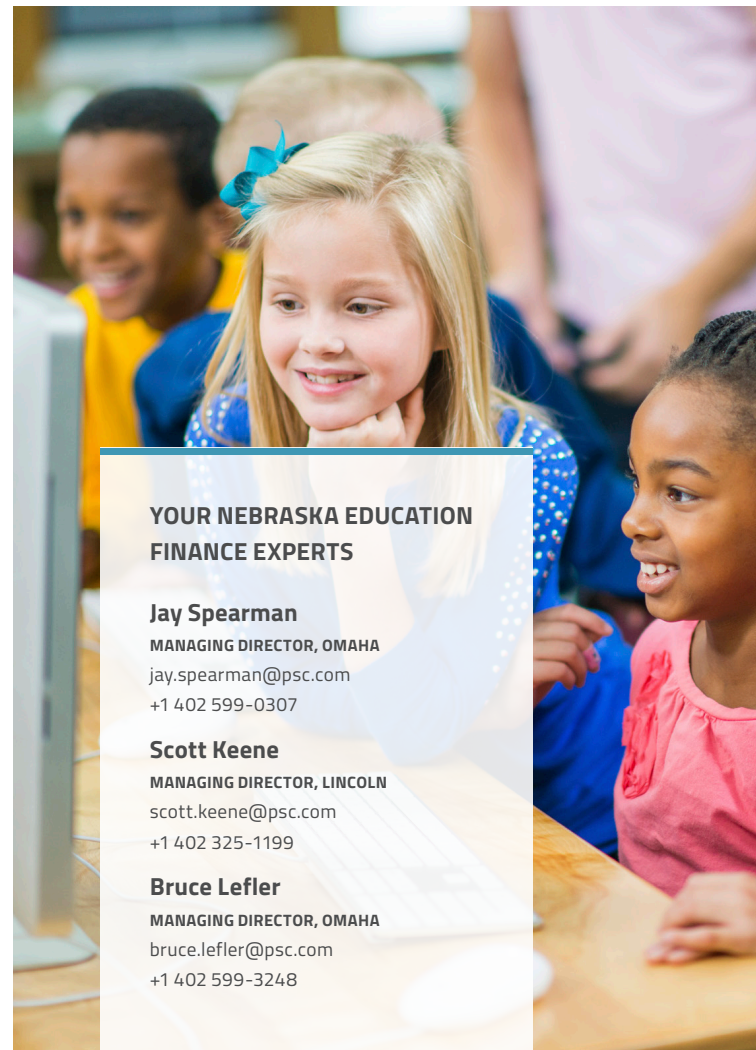
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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21

A - BREAKOUT SESSIONS - 9:45 TO 10:45 AM

- A1 LEGISLATIVE OUTLOOK: A "SPECIAL" KIND OF YEAR
- A2 BOARD GOVERNANCE: WHERE DO I BEGIN?
- A3 CONSTRUCTION FUNDING
- A4 STOP CALLING IT MARIJUANA
- A5 PAIN IN THE APP, V. 10.0
- A6 COMMUNICATION FOR DISTRICTS LARGE & SMALL
- A7 SPECIAL EDUCATION AND SECTION 504 ISSUES
- A8 NURTURING FUTURE EDUCATORS IN RURAL NEBRASKA
- A9 BANCROFT-ROSALIE EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL
- A10 HARVESTING HOPE
- A11 PROFESSIONAL LEARNING AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

B - BREAKOUT SESSIONS - 11:15 AM TO 12:15 PM

- B1 NSAA COMPETITIVE BALANCE UPDATE
- B2 EMPOWERING SBMS AS COMMUNITY CATALYSTS
- B3 HOLD YOUR FIRE - ISSUES IN TERMINATIONS
- B4 BUILDING SAFE AND SECURE SCHOOLS
- B5 SUPERINTENDENT CONTRACTS: WHAT DOES IT ALL MEAN?!
- B6 MAKING DOLLARS AND SENSE OF SCHOOL FINANCE
- B7 THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT: THE BASICS TO THE UNEXPECTED
- B8 BUILDING AND GROWING OUR FUTURE
- B9 HOW TO CREATIVELY FUND A SCHOOL FACILITIES UPDATE
- B10 NAVIGATING FUTURES
- B11 HIRING FOREIGN-TRAINED TEACHERS

C - BREAKOUT SESSIONS - 2:15 TO 3:15 PM

- C1 STUDENT VOICES
- C2 AN INTERACTIVE MOCK BOARD MEETING
- C3 BUILDING, FACILITIES, AND REAL ESTATE
- C4 SUPPORT FOR EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
- C5 MEETING OF THE MINDS: LET'S GET CLOSED SESSION RIGHT!
- C6 INNOVATIVE PREPARATION FOR EDUCATORS
- C7 WAIVERS & RELEASES IN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES
- C8 TAKING SCHOOL SAFETY TO THE NEXT LEVEL
- C9 LESSONS FROM BROKEN BOW BOND ELECTION
- C10 ESU BOARD MEMBER UPDATE
- C11 CONNECTING ED LEARNING TO WORKPLACE SUCCESS

D - BREAKOUT SESSIONS - 3:30 TO 4:30 PM

- D1 MASTERING PAPERLESS BOARD MEETINGS & NEGOTIATIONS
- D2 EHA BENEFITS UPDATE
- D3 THE USE OF ADVISORY GROUPS TO ENGAGE STAKEHOLDERS
- D4 POWER OF STAY SURVEYS IN RETAINING HIGH-QUALITY STAFF
- D5 HOT TOPICS WITH JIM AND KAREN
- D6 RULE 10: HOW SBMS CAN SUPPORT THEIR SUPERINTENDENT
- D7 NAVIGATING TRANSGENDER STUDENT POLICIES IN SCHOOLS
- D8 DEVELOPING THE DISTRICT AND FOUNDATION RELATIONSHIP

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21

E - BREAKOUT SESSIONS - 9:15 TO 10:15 AM

- E1 MENTAL HEALTH & WELLNESS RESOURCES
- E2 LEADERSHIP THROUGH LONG-TERM PLANNING
- E3 HOT LEGAL TOPICS FOR BOARD PRESIDENTS
- E4 CITIZEN'S ACADEMY CREATES DEEP PARTNERS
- E5 SOCIAL MEDIA AND THE BOARD MEMBER
- E6 ADDRESSING THE EDUCATOR WORKFORCE
- E7 OPEN MEETINGS AND PUBLIC RECORDS
- E8 CONSTRUCTION MANAGER AT RISK METHOD
- E9 BEHAVIOR INTERVENTION & TEACHER SUPPORT

F - BREAKOUT SESSIONS - 10:30 TO 11:30 AM

- F1 SYSTEMS FOR SUPPORTING STUDENT BEHAVIOR
- F2 CAREER ACADEMIES - FIND YOUR PATH
- F3 NEGOTIATING FROM THE BOARD'S SIDE
- F4 STRENGTHENING YOUR BEEF IN SCHOOLS
- F5 TITLE IX: NEW OR IMPROVED?
- F6 CENTRAL NEBRASKA TEACHER RECRUITMENT
- F7 ATHLETICS, NIL, AND COPYRIGHT
- F8 A LISTENING SESSION WITH THE STATE BOARD



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