

**ASBSD Board of Directors Meetings
April 22-23, 2022
2320 South Louise
Sioux Falls, SD**

- I. **Call to Order** – President Eric Stroeder called the meeting to order at 12:00 pm. Present were board members Lisa Snedeker, Louann Krogman, Duane Alm, Garret Bischoff, Tom Farrell, Susan Humston, Pam Haukaas, Jamie Lindner, Shane Roth, Julie Schwader, Anita Peterson and Ellie Saxer. Absent were board members: Angie Ross, Steve Kubik, Tanya Gray and Nan Baker.
- II. **Welcome and Pledge** – President Stroeder welcomed the board and asked that they please all stand and join him in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- III. **Good News-**
Jamie Lindner – Their board just completed a Policy Review and academically their students are performing well.

Ellie Saxer - Mary Poppins was performed by the Brandon Valley music department as their spring musical. Negotiations and renewal of superintendent's contract went well. Their DI team is competing at National and last piece of good news is the high school bid was approved.

Garret Bischoff – Negotiations are done with an 8% increase moving their starting salary to \$50,000. Class capacities continue to grow and district is working on how to increase graduation rates.

Tom Farrell – Negotiations are complete with a 6% increase to all staff including paras/bus drivers. They had 6 staff resignations with 5 of them filled already. Ground breaking for the new track/football stadium has taken place.

Duane Alm – On a personal note I am up for re-election and there are three people running for two positions. Completed negotiations with teachers and administrators receiving a 6% increase and \$2 an hour increase for classified staff. Aberdeen Central had a 10th grade female student use her CPR skills learned at school in saving her mother's life. Recognized 26 students for their accomplishments. Duane also noted he is being inducted into the Central High School Hall of Fame in September.

Eric Stroeder – American Indian student program is going well and he too has been re-elected locally.

Lisa Snedeker – Lisa thanked Tom for his service on the ASBSD board for being so open and welcoming and he was the reason she chose to run for the board. Community Leader of the Year was their superintendent. School has been challenged with the increase in special ed students.

Louann Krogman – Superintendent is retiring and moving to Lower Brule. Boys and Girls Basketball team went back to back trips to state championships tournaments.

Shane Roth – DeSmet has a new elementary pod, hired a new principal with experience, negotiations went well with a 6% increase, overall things are looking good for his district.

Julie Schwader – With her district receiving no state aid the 6% increase is going to be very challenging. They have restructured their school to be a K-5; 6-12, hired their interim superintendent full time for another year.

Anita Peterson – They have hired three new bus drivers and a new math teacher. The school year is winding down with the new air conditioning installation almost complete.

Susan Humiston – She thanked Tom for his leadership. School play was well done and received coverage from the Rapid City Journal. Discussion continues on school buildings and negotiations were complete. On a personal note she welcomed a new grandson into her family.

Pam Haukaas – Negotiations are complete with teachers receiving a 5% increase and classified were given a \$2 an hour increase. They have hired a new principal but are still in need of an ag teacher.

Dr. Wade Pogany – Dr. Pogany advised the board ongoing changes with NSBA and his weekly conversation with its new executive Director, John Heim, former Kansas School Boards executive director. Eric Stroeder assumed his role as NSBA Board of Director.

IV. Approval of Minutes - Moved by Garret Bischoff, second by Tom Farrell to approve the minutes of the February 21, 2022 meeting as presented. Motion carried.

V. Finance –

V.A. Financial Report – through March 2022 – Holly Nagel, Chief Financial Officer, reported that March 31st marks that we are 75% of the way through the year. As of March 31st, we have received \$1,674,749.98, or 78.52% of our revenue budget and expended \$1,435,826.30 or 68.15% of our expenditure budget.

At the same time last year, the Association had total revenue of \$1,941,348.20 or 92.35% of our revenue budget while expenditures were \$1,225,712.88 or 61.79% of our expenditure budget.

The Unassigned Net Position (Fund Balance) of the Association at the end of March is \$3,173,387 compared to last year at this time of \$3,130,983.

The difference between revenue and expenditures will not directly tie out to Unassigned Net Position. There are a few Net Position categories that are adjusted at year-end to recognize pre-paid expenses and capital assets.

ASBSD continues to have a strong balance sheet and financial position. The building currently has four tenants, Board of Regents, School Administrators of South Dakota, Tieszen Law Office and Aegis Custody. The strong financial position allows for adjustments should a revenue source be significantly decreased. Moved by Pam Haukaas, second by Ellie Saxer to approve as presented.

V.B. 2022-2023 Budget Proposal – Moved by Garrett Bischoff, second by Tom Farrell to approve the proposed budget as presented including a 4% increase in salary for employees and the creation and hiring of a new position, Member Services Coordinator. Motion carried.

V.C. Protective Trust Update – Holly Nagel reported the By-Laws of the Protective Trust were updated from the 2010 version and membership approved. Annual meetings with membership and vendors making presentations happened. She reported the Health Pool has

three new members totaling 79; Property Liability has a total of 23 members and Workers' Comp has two new members, Todd County and Hot Springs bringing that pools number to 76.

VI. ASBSD Awards

Dr. Pogany asked the board to think about nominations for the School Bell Award as this is our most prestigious award. He reminded them the recipient must consistently promote the welfare and achievement of children fo South Dakota K-12 children. Has worked to secure and provide quality facilities and equipment; worked to secure quality teaching and learning, worked toward the introduction ad passage of legislation to enhance K-12 education opportunities; an individual who stands out as a leader for improving public K-12 education in South Dakota. The following nominations were given for the Executive Committee to consider: Denise Lutkemeier; Game, Fish and Parks; 4-H/SDSU Extension; Jared Larson; Troy Heinert, Diana Miller; Don Kirkegaard; Maxine Schoenmeier; Joe Hauge, Black Hills Special Services; Kristi Noem. The board was asked if they thought of other nominees to please let the committee know as soon as possible.

Dr. Pogany advised the board of nominations being sought for the following awards:
Community Service Award
Outstanding School Board Member
School Board Award of Excellence
Longevity Award

VII. Advocacy

VI.A Reflection #1

Dr. Pogany gave an update of the outcomes on the 97th Legislative Session and provided the board with a confidential voting record.

The meeting was recessed until Saturday, April 23, 2022, 8:15 a.m. The meeting was called back to order at 8:17 a.m. by President Stroeder.

VI.B Reflection #2 - Legislative Issues

The issue of low voter participation in local school board and municipal elections created a lot of discussion in the 2022 legislative session (HB 1300). ASBSD has been successful in pushing back bills that take away local control of elections. However, even though HB 1300 died in the Senate, the momentum seems to be shifting to find a solution to bring more voters to the polls.

- **Should ASBSD continue to fight for local control of school board elections or should we explore the idea of promoting a "local government election day" that would put all school board (and potentially municipal elections) on a single date in the spring, or give boards the option of one April election and the June primary date.**
- **Are there other, non-legislative solutions, to increase voter participation?**

2. The issue of tax reform and pressure to control increases in property taxes became a widely debated topic in this year's session. Bills designed to reduce taxes and/or valuations on property taxes, especially in western South Dakota; bills to repeal the ½ penny sales tax; and bills to repeal sales tax on food, all had the effect of reducing state government

revenues. Schools are dependent upon revenue from the state for state aid to schools, so reductions in revenue could have a long term impact on school funding. These are complex issue, but it's one that is important to school district funding

- **What, if anything, should ASBSD do to become involved in the property tax discussions that could take place prior to the 2022 legislative session?**
- **What positions should ASBSD take on property valuation adjustments?**
- **What positions should ASBSD take on efforts to reduce revenue from sales tax?**

3. The issue of Native American education came up again in SB139 (charter school bill). ASBSD opposed the bill using similar arguments in the past related to change in governance and funding, however the issue of poor academic achievement among native students remains a problem.

- **Moving forward what should ASBSD's response be to the issue of Native American academic achievement?**
- **Should local boards be concerned about the Native American educational problems?**
- **What direction of leadership on this issue should ASBSD take, if any, on this issue?**

4. The issue of juvenile justice problems came up with the introduction of SB 198. Discipline problems and disruptions in classrooms are a direct result of the changes in the Dept. of Corrections response to juveniles since 2016. SB198 attempted to form a task force to study the issue and make recommendations to the legislature, but was defeated. The problems still remain.

- **What direction should ASBSD take in regard to the juvenile justice concerns?**
- **Should ASBSD lead a group to come up with legislative solutions? We know there is currently a discussion among the Dept. of Education, Dept of Corrections and the Governor's Office on this topic, post session, so there appears to be interest from the Executive branch on this issue now. We also know the legislature has approved a summer study to look at this issue. Should ASBSD seek to be involved in those conversations, if so, in what capacity?**

5. Open meetings discussions continue to be an issue. Last session a bill to revise open forums during all school board meetings, (regular sessions and others) got a lot of traction. We also saw news media grousing about not having enough access to information regarding personnel matters discussed in executive session.

- **What position should ASBSD consider regarding more mandates on school board meetings; open forum and executive sessions?**

6. How should ASBSD approach all the infringements on local control that were brought this past legislative session? It seems that the erosion of local control continues to be a push by certain legislators and the Governor to take control of education away from school

boards. We defeated issues like: moment of silence (HB's 1015), dictating curriculum (HB's 1172 & 1337), graduation activities (HB 1184), mascots/symbols (HB 1185), state seal posting (HB 1198), open enrollment (HB 1207), parental rights (HB 1246) and policy referendum (HB 1111).

- **Are these issues you are facing in your district or are there similar ones you are dealing with?**
- **Are your local legislators bringing concerns on these subjects or related ones to you before session?**
- **How can boards be proactive in handling these or similar issues to avoid legislation?**

7. Are there other advocacy issues we should be considering? The Policy and Resolutions Committee will be meeting this summer to write resolutions and your input into topics is very important.

Discussion followed with the Board thanking Dr. Pogany for his work with the Legislators and the whole legislative process. He asked the board to think about all that had been discussed and if they had any thoughts on what the impact might be on our Standing Positions and Resolutions to please let him know.

VI.C Reflection #3

The ASBSD Board has suggested we develop a strategy to help schools promote a positive view of their schools and public schools throughout the state. Given past legislation that has tried to undermine public schools, some strategy to promote the good in public education would be appropriate.

- **What should the specific focus of a public relations campaign be? What are we trying accomplish and to whom do the efforts focus? A clear vision of such a project is essential.**
- **Who would be effective partners to work with toward this goal?**

VIII. Strategic Planning

VIII.A – Strategic Plan Review and Reflections

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- **What should the specific focus of a public relations campaign be? What are we trying accomplish and to whom do the efforts focus? A clear vision of such a project is essential.**
- **Who would be effective partners to work with toward this goal?**

Discussion followed and below are highlights of said discussion:

ASBSD needs to work on stopping the erosion of public education;

Public education is the cornerstone of democracy;

Children have the same opportunities in public education there is no division of the have/have nots;

The value of education versus the entitled education;

How do we communicate the value of our schools to the community;

Value of service to others through our public schools;

Value of multimedia covering our schools (local newspapers covering events)

All-around narrative of our schools and their value in providing the workforce in the communities
Public education “It works” and provide stories of the teacher success stories, students using their
CPR lessons in real life situations.

Education partners that were suggested included: South Dakota Public Broadcasting; Black Hills
Special Services; Board of Regents; South Dakota High School Activities Association; South Dakota
Education Association; School Administrators of South Dakota; Wellmark; South Dakota Public
Education Foundation; South Dakota Public Education Academic Hall of Fame and school board
volunteers.

Dr. Pogany shared with the board Strategic Plan Progress Report and the ALL Scoreboard.

VIII.B – ASBSD Regional Engagement Review

Dr. Pogany lead the discussion on what we've experienced in the last two Board Engagement
sessions, he asked the Board how would they evaluate the sessions and should the Board
continue to host future webinars. Discussion followed and consensus of the board was they
wished to continue the platform and try to schedule them two times a year.

After a break President Stroeder went into Executive Session to discuss Dr. Pogany's evaluation.
Following Executive Session Garret Bischoff moved, second by Tom Farrell motion to adjourn.