

GAVEL - School Board Governance

This workshop helps board members better understand their unique role in public education and public service. Board members will be introduced to education law, policy making, board-superintendent relationships, the difference between governance and management, collective bargaining, human resources, and board meeting procedures.

GAVEL – Fiscal Responsibility

This workshop presents the basics on school district finances and helps board members understand school district fund accounting, the state’s new funding formula, the taxes and levies utilized by districts, how the opt-out process works, what a school district budget entails and the school board’s role in the internal financial controls of the district.

GAVEL – Strategic Planning

This workshop helps board members identify the key elements of strategic planning and gets them started on writing a strategic plan for their school district. Board members will learn the importance of district level vision, mission, beliefs, and goals. Board members will learn the importance of data-driven decision making, the value of accountability in tracking student achievement, the importance of creating a board learning community, and the importance of developing a continuous improvement plan.

New School Board Member Workshop

This is a course for new school board members. It will give new members a quick overview of responsibilities, expectations, and modes of operation of school board members. It will also outline some of the pitfalls of board membership, and guide members to the proper means to improve student achievement and learning. This course is based on the newly revised Code of Ethics for School Board members from the Associated School Boards of South Dakota (ASBSD) Policy Reference Manual. Some of the items from the Code of Ethics will be discussed separately, while others will be combined by subject matter or topic with similar items.

Ethical School Board Service

This course is based on the older Code of Ethics for School Board members sample policy (now revised) from the Associated School Boards of South Dakota (ASBSD) Policy Reference Manual. Each of the 15 items from the Code of Ethics will be listed separately and expounded upon. The course outlines and underscores school board members’ roles and responsibilities and expected ethical performance and behavior as a school board member. This course is recommended for new and veteran board members.

Board President & Superintendent Relationship

This course covers aspects of the interaction like communication, building trust, and fostering success, among many other features, with assistance from Lead-Deadwood Superintendent Dr. Dan Leikvold and Board Member, and former President, Orson Ward.

ASBSD Collective Bargaining Seminar

This course covers how districts must apply the new funding formula, the accountability requirements introduced by the new legislation and negotiating teacher salary and benefits.