

Associated School Boards of South Dakota

|| asbsd.org/index.php/policy-alert-updated-coi-policy/

Policies of a school district, especially those negotiated with bargaining representatives for the protection of teachers, have the full force and effect of law, and legally bind the school district.

By Gerry Kaufman, ASBSD Director of Policy & Legal Services

ASBSD recently wrote a new **sample policy**: AH Conflict of Interest Disclosure and Authorization, which will replace the sample policy drafted last year following the **2016 legislative session**.

“It did not make sense to try to simply amend the current sample conflict of interest policy because **House Bill 1170**, passed **during this year’s session**, made such extensive revisions to the law the legislature passed last year,” ASBSD Director of **Policy & Legal Services** Gerry Kaufman said.



In addition to the new **sample policy**: AH Conflict of Interest Disclosure and Authorization, two new forms: AH-E(1) Conflict of Interest Disclosure and AH-E(2) School Board Action on Conflict of Interest Disclosure of a Direct Benefit, were prepared to accompany the sample policy.

To access the new **sample policy** and accompanying forms, school board members and administrators must login to the **ASBSD Online Policy** Reference Manual at <http://policy.asbsd.org>. Your district’s login and password information has been previously provided to your district’s administration.



If you are not able to access the online policy manual, please contact your district’s administration or **ASBSD Policy Services** Associate Kay Thompson-Tieszen at kay@asbsd.org.

In addition to the new sample policy, ASBSD has published and updated **2017 Conflict of Interest Q and A** document.

Download the Q and A here or find the document on the **Publications & Forms page** under the *Legislative Session Documents* header.

The **Q and A document** can be used to assist school district officials in understanding **the updates made to the law**, which will be effective July 1, 2017.

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 asbsd.org/index.php/2017-conflict-of-interest-q-and-a/

A bill updating the conflict of interest statute was passed by the legislature and signed into law by Gov. Dennis Daugaard during the **2017 legislative session**.

To assist school district officials understand **the updates made to the law**, ASBSD has put together a **[Q and A document](#)** to help you navigate through the law, **which will see the amendments made to it effective July 1, 2017**.

“We hope the information provided in the **[Q and A](#)** will assist school boards and administrators in their understanding of the complex and confusing language in the updated statute,” Director of Policy and Legal Services Gerry Kaufman said.

[Download the Q and A here](#) or find the document on the **[Publications & Forms page](#)** under the *Legislative Session Documents* header.

The **amended law** establishes a \$5,000 financial threshold for conflict of interest disclosures among other changes.

“Schools should consult with their local school attorneys on how to comply with **the statute**, as the opinions as to the application of **HB 1170** are solely those of ASBSD and should not be considered as legal advice,” Kaufman added.

If you have questions about the **[Q and A](#)**, please contact Gerry at **gkaufman@asbsd.org** or at 605-773-2513.

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 asbsd.org/index.php/sales-tax-talk-at-legis-exec-mtg/

What's going on with sales tax revenue was once again a topic of discussion during the legislative interim.

"We've got to keep this issue front and center if we're going to keep [funding public education](#) and social services," Rep. Mark Mickelson said during Monday's (5/15) [Legislative Executive Board](#) meeting.

[Legislative Executive Board members](#) received an update on the sales tax, which in Fiscal Year 2017 has had [one month of collection above](#) the previous fiscal year.

"We're lagging a little bit in terms of our sales tax revenue," [S.D. Bureau of Finance and Management](#) Deputy Director Jim Terwilliger said, adding that "in the last year and a half" the sales tax has been "softer than what we've seen historically."

[S.D. Legislative Research Council](#) Fiscal Analyst Jeff Mehlhaff expounded on Terwilliger's statement, saying "At the start of the new fiscal year...we've had a reduction in taxable sales."

[BFM's report](#) on [April, 2017's General Fund Receipts](#) showed sales tax was behind more than \$3 million from the revised FY17 revenue estimates adopted by the legislature in February, with total ongoing receipt collection coming in less than \$11.4 million than the revised estimates.

During the update the discussion on the effects online sales was having on sales tax was broached with Rep. Mickelson saying he was "kind of convincing myself the boogey man's this remote sales tax."

Rep. Mickelson noted a previous year's report provided by Terwilliger cited up to \$56 million was lost in sales tax due to online purchases.

Terwilliger noted the amount lost is "probably smaller" this year because the state [reached an agreement with Amazon](#) where the online retailer began collecting and remitting sales tax of online purchases for the state earlier this year, but the amount gained remains uncertain.

"It's not an easy question to answer," Terwilliger said. He added that in addition to losses due to online sales, a stagnant farm economy and lack inflation, and in some cases deflation, were [contributing factors to lower sales tax revenue](#).

Two months of sales tax and ongoing receipt collections remain in the fiscal year and are likely to be topics discussed during [the legislative interim](#). The [Executive Board](#) and [Appropriations committee](#) are [scheduled to meet](#) on June 6 and June 7-9, respectively.

For updates on [the legislative interim](#), check the [ASBSD Blog](#) and [Twitter feed](#).

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 asbsd.org/index.php/states-essa-plan-presented/

The state has a plan in place to meet the requirements of the federal education policy.

At Monday's (5/15) [State Board of Education](#) meeting a summary of South Dakota's [plan for educating students under the Every Student Succeeds Act](#) was presented following a year's worth of discussion with educators and stakeholders in South Dakota, [including the ASBSD Board of Directors](#).

The full draft [of the plan](#) is expected to be released before month's end, which signals the beginning of the official [public comment period](#).

"South Dakota was in a solid position when [ESSA passed](#)," [Secretary of Education](#) Melody Schopp said in a statement.

Every Student Succeeds Act South Dakota State Plan Summary

"[Passage of ESSA](#) provided us the opportunity to assess our system and look for flexibilities within the new federal law that would support our state priorities for educating students."

South Dakota's [school accountability system](#) will not see extensive changes, but additional features [in the plan](#) include:

- At the high school level, South Dakota will expand its accountability indicator related to college and career readiness. This means schools would receive recognition for providing opportunities for students (e.g., dual credit courses, Advanced Placement courses and exams, and career and technical education courses) in addition to measuring performance on the ACT or Smarter Balanced test;
- South Dakota will look to emphasize the importance of a positive school climate by developing an accountability indicator around the idea of safe and healthy schools. This indicator would apply to elementary and middle schools;
- South Dakota will look to explore options for allowing schools to assess students not based on the strict structure of grade levels, but rather at their level of learning;
- South Dakota will place an emphasis on the progress of students, whose primary language is not English, in learning the English language.

"We took our time in developing [this plan](#) – knowing that the federal landscape was changing and with the driving idea of doing what is right for South Dakota students," Schopp said in the statement.

"We look forward to the release of [the draft plan](#) and [receiving additional input](#)."

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Register for the Premier Learning Event for Board Members and Administrators

convention.asbsd.org/asbsd-sasd-convention-2017/

South Dakota's premier learning event for school board members and administrators is now open for registration.

Interact with and learn from your fellow board members and administrators at the [2017 ASBSD-SASD Convention](#), which will feature insightful general session speakers and informative breakout sessions, as well as many different exhibitors offering great services to K-12 education, on Thursday and Friday, August 10-11 at the Sioux Falls Convention Center.



Districts registering **3** school board members will receive **FREE** registration for one administrator.

Registration for the two-day conference is \$185 per person for all registrations **completed by** Friday, July 14 and \$225 per person **after** July 14. For non-ASBSD and SASD members, the rate is \$370 per person by July 14 and \$450 after.



To make registering for the ASBSD and SASD Convention easier, we're asking business managers to complete registration for administrators and board members planning to attend.

[Registration page found here.](#)

Registration fees cover meals, all professional workshop fees, access to networking events and costs of all materials. A cancellation fee of \$50 is charged if the registration is cancelled **after July 14**.



A block of hotel rooms under "ASBSD-SASD Joint Convention" can be reserved for attendees:

- Sheraton Sioux Falls & Convention Center – 605-331-0100;
- Ramada Sioux Falls Airport Hotel & Suites – 605-336-1020.

Additional information about Convention will be posted at <http://convention.asbsd.org> in the coming months. We hope you'll join us at the **2017 ASBSD-SASD Convention** this August!

Associated School Boards of South Dakota

 asbsd.org/index.php/p-card-generates-66k-rebates/

For the fifth year in a row the p-Card Program grew.

Sponsored by ASBSD, in partnership with the [Illinois Association of Business Officials](#) (IASBO), the [p-Card Program](#) reached 28 members who received more than \$66,000 in rebates.

[The p-Card operates](#) similarly to a credit card and with more districts participating in the program and more dollars spent with the p-Card, the higher the increases for the rebate percentage for the entire group.

In 2012, two districts earned more than \$10,000 in rebates, seven member districts earned \$16,000 in total rebates in 2013, then 14 members in 2014 reached a rebate amount of \$39,000, the following year (2015) 22 districts earned a total rebate of more than \$48,000 and last year rebates totaling more than \$55,000 were given to 24 p-Card members.

This year South Dakota's p-Card members spent enough to push the program into a higher rebate tier, which means rebate dollars will likely increase exponentially next year.

["Financial efficiency"](#) is a staple of [the p-Card Program](#), as is the rebate that comes with using the card, and our participants are earning those benefits," ASBSD CFO Matt Flett said.

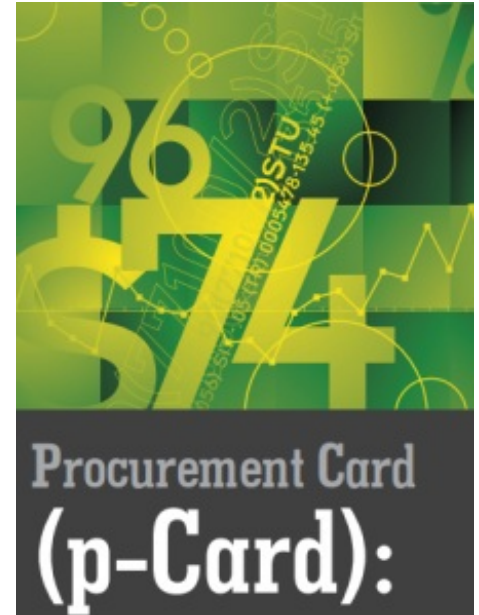
The [p-Card offers districts](#) customizable credit limits for each card with no maintenance fees, helps reduce office work load and allows administrators to customize purchasing authority and spending levels to fit their district.

"p-Card members' choice to utilize the program shows they are a [model of financial efficiency](#)," Flett said. "We look forward to continuing to work with them and invite any district or cooperative to join and take advantage of this flexible, secure and competitive program."

If you are interested in joining the program, please contact Matt at mflett@asbsd.org or 605-773-2515.

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Associated School Boards of South Dakota

 asbsd.org/index.php/videos-stand-up-4-public-schools/

For everyone who understands and appreciates the value of public education, the National School Boards Association is providing an excellent platform to demonstrate their support for public education.

NSBA's The **Stand Up 4 Public Schools** campaign has been refreshed and the new strategic concept is aimed at telling the full and rich story of public schools.

The campaign highlights the creative, innovative, and extraordinary ways public schools are helping students prepare for their future, enhancing the quality of life in their communities and helping generate future prosperity.

The **Stand Up campaign's** new focus and redesigned website (www.standup4publicschools.org) enables **NSBA** to tell the story through first person accounts and by showcasing programs and people doing great work.

A key feature within the site is the short movie, *No Ordinary Day*, which brings the strategy and story to life in a compelling way.

ASBSD encourages you to [go to the website](#) to highlight programs and people deserving recognition. You can provide a little information on the Contact Us page on the website and **NSBA** staff will follow up with the appropriate people so their story can be featured.

It's imperative we do a better job of telling public education's story so the public and policymakers understand that every single day something great is happening in public schools.

"School board members play such an important role in public education and **NSBA is the national voice** for all of our work," ASBSD Executive Director Wade Pogany said.

"This campaign highlights all the great things about public education and we encourage you to take a look at its highlights and what you can do to."

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Associated School Boards of South Dakota

asbsd.org/index.php/all-points-add-up-as-yr-nears-end/

Although the school year is near the end and summer set to begin, school boards will continue their work.

As you continue your work, your board still has a chance to earn points towards [ASBSD's Board Recognition Program – ALL: Act, Learn, Lead](#).

ALL recognizes board members' participation in outside activities, board development and training, and demonstrated leadership at a variety of levels, with points earned by participating in ASBSD activities, training opportunities and demonstrating leadership at the local, state and national level throughout the fiscal year (July 1-June 30).



ASBSD Board Recognition Program – ALL

Through April of this year, we've tallied up [ASBSD's "ALL Scoreboard"](#) which shows the ten most active school boards thus far:

1. Howard School Board – 1010 points
2. Todd County School Board – 1005 points
3. Rapid City School Board – 905 points
4. Yankton School Board – 855 points
5. Newell School Board – 790 points
6. Douglas – 645 points
7. (Tie) Hot Springs and Platte-Geddes School Boards – 630 points
8. Haakon School Board – 615 points
9. Bon Homme School Board – 570 points

Thus far through the fiscal year, 143 school boards have accumulated **ALL points** with boards able to earn Gold, Silver and Bronze awards for their point totals.

Gold level status has been earned by 14 boards, nine boards have reached the silver level and 24 boards are on the bronze level; meaning nearly 1/3 of the total number of school boards in South Dakota earning an ALL award in the inaugural year of the program!

If you would like to know how many points your district has earned, email Tyler at tpickner@asbsd.org for more

information.

“We’re ecstatic about the level of participation and commitment South Dakota’s school boards have shown this year,” **ASBSD Leadership Development** Director Randy Royer said.

“With almost 50 boards having earned an ALL award and nearly 100 netting 100 points, we’re seeing what we already knew: the state’s school boards are dedicated to bettering themselves in order to enhance the education provided to their district’s students.”

There’s still time for your school board to earn points this year by scheduling a **GAVEL training** or registering for and completing a **School Board U course**.

Contact Leadership Develop Director Dr. Randall Royer at 605-773-2504 or rroyer@asbsd.org for more information about these learning opportunities.

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 asbsd.org/index.php/honor-efforts-enhancing-edu/

It's time to honor those who give their time and effort to enhance education in their district.

We're encouraging your district to submit [candidates for ASBSD's](#) School Board Award of Excellence, Outstanding School Board Member of the Year, Community Service Award and Longevity Award.

"Those individuals and boards who dedicate their time and effort to enhancing the education of all students in their district deserve our thanks and recognition," ASBSD Executive Director Wade Pogany said. "These awards provide the opportunity to show them our appreciation."

ASBSD School Board Award of Excellence: The School Board Award of Excellence is given annually to a public school board that consistently demonstrates outstanding leadership that enhances the achievement for all students. A plaque and a scholarship award of \$1,000, which may be used, at the discretion of the board, will be presented to the recipient.

Download the [application here](#) or visit the [Publications and Forms page](#) where the application can be found under the Awards heading.

Outstanding School Board Member: Nominate a local board member who exemplifies extraordinary leadership of public education by implementing initiatives that spur student achievement, advocating for secure funding sources for K-12 education and setting high expectations for the district and themselves among other high-quality characteristics.

Download the [application here](#) or visit the [Publications and Forms page](#) where the application can be found under the Awards heading.

ASBSD Community Service Award: is presented to individuals or groups serving their local school district in exemplary fashion. Award nominees have shown personal involvement to improve the quality of South Dakota public education.

Download the [application here](#) or visit the [Publications and Forms page](#) where the application can be found under the Awards heading.

ASBSD Longevity Award: If you have a board member who has served 20 or more years **AND** is leaving your board at the end of the 2017 fiscal year, please submit their name to Katie@asbsd.org, along with number of years the individual(s) served on your local board.

The deadline for application and name submission for each award is **Friday, June 16**. Applications for [each award](#) should be submitted to ASBSD Executive Secretary Katie Mitchell-Boe by mail to: PO Box 1059, Pierre, SD 57501 or by email to: katie@asbsd.org.

Award recipients will be honored at the [2017 ASBSD-SASD Convention](#) in Sioux Falls on August 10.

If you have questions, please contact Katie via email at katie@asbsd.org or by phone at 605-773-2502.

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