ASBSD Board of Directors Meetings
August 5, 2026
Denny Sanford Premier Center
Sioux Falls, SD

I. **Call to Order** – President Shane Roth called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. Present were board members, Eric Stroeder, Lisa Snedeker, Garret Bischoff, Anita Peterson, Marc Murren, Mark Winegar, Lexi Lux, Justin Jutting, Steve Kubik, Quinton Patzlaff, Ellie Saxer and Annelies Seffrood. Joining via Zoom Susan Humiston and Pam Haukaas. Jamie Clapham and Jamie Lindner arrived late.

II. **Welcome and Pledge** – President Roth welcomed the board members and asked the board to please stand and join in the Pledge of Allegiance. Introduction of new ASBSD Board of Director Justin Jutting, Meade School District was made. Each board member introduced themselves and shared what district they represented.

III. **Good News** - All board members briefly shared their good news within their districts. Good news was paused for the presentation on TeamMates.

IV. **Presentation: Teammates Mentoring SD** was presented by Jess Karim and Ashley Denton. Mentors and mentees connect weekly for 30-60 minutes during the school day. Mentors need to commit to at least three years and support a student from 3 grade through high school.

V. **Approval of Minutes** – Moved by Lexi Lux, second by Marc Murren to approve the April 24-25, 2026 minutes as presented. Motion carried.

VI. **Reorganization of the Board** – Justin Jutting, Meade School District (Sturgis) joins the ASBSD Board of Directors today for the Western Region and enrollment category 1,400-9,999. A vacancy to fill the open board position for Dan Cronin, Pierre School District, has been announced and applications are due near the end of August from that region and enrollment category. The position will be selected by appointment from incoming president Lisa Snedeker.

VII. **Election of Second Vice President** – Shane Roth reported Garret Bischoff has been recommended to the Board to serve as the Second Vice President. The Executive Committee will include: Lisa Snedeker, President; Eric Stroeder, 1st Vice President; Garret Bischoff, 2nd Vice President and, Shane Roth, Past President. On a motion by Lexi Lux, second by Ellie Saxer the nominating committee report was approved. Motion carried.

VIII. **Passing of the Gavel** - President Roth again thanked the board for his time as president and passed the Gavel to Lisa Snedeker and wished her well. Heath Larson thanked Shane for his time and presented him with parting gifts.

IX. **Gift Policy** - As part of its conflict of interest policy, ASBSD Board requires that directors, officers and employees decline to accept certain gifts, consideration or remuneration from individuals or companies that seek to do business with ASBSD. Heath Larson asked the board to please review ASBSD Policy GBI and return signed form to Katie Mitchell-Boe.

X. **Conflict of Interest Policy** – Heath Larson advised the board per ASBSD Policy BOF – Conflict of Interest each year the board members shall sign an acknowledgement of a conflict of interest policy. Board members were asked to please read, sign and return the form to Katie Mitchell-Boe.

XI. **Finance – X1.A. Financial Report -** Roxanne Heezen, CFO and Director of Protective Trust Services report June 30th marks the end of fiscal year 2026. We received $3,150,338 which exceeds our budget of $2,410,237 by 30.71%. We spent $2,156,960 which is under our $2,375,778 expenditure budget by 9.21%.

At the same time last year, the Association had total revenue of $2,781,659, or 18.27% over the 2025 revenue budget of $2,351,942. The total expenditures were $2,032,152 or 12.56% under the 2025 expenditure budget of $2,323,965.

Revenues from FY25 to FY26 saw an increase of $368,679 or 13.25%, mostly due to the following: 10 The Gains/Losses on Investment; 2) Support Functions; 3) Joint Convention; 4) Policy Services; and 5) Protective Trust.

Expenditures from FY25 to FY26 saw an increase of $124,808 or 6.14% mostly due to the following: 1) Salaries and Employee Benefits; 2) Property Services; 3) Joint Convention-Paid to SASD; and 4) Professional Services.

The revenue report, expenditure report and balance sheet have been updated with adjustments to accrued revenue, expenses and capital asset depreciation as year-to-date through June 30th.

The Unassigned Net Position of the Association at the end of June is $5,094,992 which is 214% of the FY26 expenditure budget of $2,375,778. The Unassigned Net Position increased by $822,241 from $4,272,751 in FY25.

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 which allows for adjustments should a revenue source be significantly decreased. Moved by Shane Roth and second by Eric Stroeder to accept the financial report. Motion carried.

XI.B. Protective Trust Update – Roxanne Heezen reported they have started working with Eide Bailly on the FY26 audit and they are planning to start field work in November and to have the report ready for distribution in March as they typically have done in the past. We plan to present the FY 25 audit report to the PT board in the near future.

Health – 74 members. Wessington Springs and White lake joined in the pool July 1, 2026, Armour and McCook Central left. Health Advisory committee met in late July. They reviewed the FY26 year-end financials, discussed claims trends, and will start focusing on FY28 renewals.

Property/Liability – 30 members. Property Liability fund had a favorable FY27 renewal with an overall 12% premium decrease. The cost savings came from the property portion of the premium. The liability side experienced an overall increase which is the trend seen by nearly all insureds. Only 1 school in our pool saw an increase in the premium during

FY27 renewal because they have minimal property and that is where the savings came from.

Worker's Comp – 76 members. Wakpala joined the pool for FY27. Work Comp also had a favorable renewal. The increase was a direct result of the change in salaries. All renewal paperwork is submitted, and premium payments are coming in. We will work on the WC premium audit soon to true-up premiums with actual payroll activity.

XII. **Policy and Resolution Committee Report** –Shane Roth advised the board the Policy and Resolution Committee met in July and he thanked committee members, Lisa Snedeker, Garret Bischoff, Eric Stroeder, Tyler Pickner, Naomi Cromwell and Heath Larson.

XIII. **2027 Legislative Resolutions and Standing Positions** - On a motion by Jamie Lindner, second Lexi Lux the proposed Resolutions were accepted with minor modifications to A-2 Curriculum Adoption; B-14 School District Election Mandates; D-1 Property Tax Reduction or Repeal and F-1 Unfunded Mandates together with the proposed Standing Positions. Motion carried. Attachment 1 & 2

XIV. **Policy Updates and Review** – Heath Larson advised the board the Executive Team and he had gone through Section A – Association Foundations. On a motion by Justin Jutting, second by Ellie Saxer to accept the following:

AA-Association Legal Status – Reviewed no changes – Attachment 3

ABA – School Board Membership – Modified – Attachment 4

ABAA – Member School Board Legal Status – Reviewed no changes – Attachment 5

AC – Nondiscrimination – Modified – Attachment 6

ACA – Sexual Harassment Policy – Modified – Attachment 7

AEE – Publications – Reviewed no changes – Attachment 8

AEF – Association Representation – Reviewed no changes – Attachment 9

AFB - Evaluation of Executive Director – Reviewed no changes – Attachment 10

AGA – Recognition for Accomplishments – Modified – Attachment 11

AH – Distribution of Mailing Lists – Reviewed no changes – Attachment 12

AI – ASBSD Brand Identity – Reviewed no changes – Attachment 13

XV. **NSBA Report** – Eric Stroeder reported NSBA has been busy with planning upcoming events CUBE will meet in Chicago, Advocacy Institute and the National Conference will both be held in Washington DC. Eric also reported that he is planning on running for Secretary-Treasurer and Shane will be running for a position as Director from the Central Region.

XVI. **Executive Director Report** – Heath Larson reported on the following:

Region Meetings: Learning with Larson – Plans are being made for Region Meetings

2025-26 ALL Awards – More districts have qualified for the ALL Awards

Legislative Update – ASBSD sent out an Alert advising the member districts of the AG Opinion recently issued official opinion concerning public school construction contracts. Official Opinion 26-03 (AGO 26-03) provides the Attorney General's formal opinion that South Dakota school districts cannot use out-of-state cooperative purchasing arrangements to bypass local competitive bidding requirements for construction projects costing $100,000 or more.

Convention Update – Heath reported we have over 42 breakout sessions, our opening speaker, Mark Leinweaver, is an MLB Agent who represents over 75 professional players and a frequent speaker on Why Characters Matters.

XVII. Adjournment – Moved by Lexi Lux, second by Ellie Saxer the meeting was adjourned. Motion carried.

2027 ASBSD Legislative Resolutions

(DRAFT AS OF 8/5)

Overview

ASBSD Resolutions are policy statements adopted by the ASBSD membership that guide your Association's advocacy efforts at the state and federal levels. A subcommittee of the ASBSD Board of Directors – called the ASBSD Policy and Resolutions Committee – develops draft policy statements for consideration by the full membership at the ASBSD Delegate Assembly.

A. Achievement and Equity

1. STATE FUNDED PRESCHOOL

RESOLUTION
ASBSD supports state funding of public voluntary preschool education programs so long as it does not jeopardize or repurpose current funding of public K-12 education.

RATIONALE
State funding for voluntary pre-school programs, consistent with the SD Early Learning Guidelines, would be a welcome addition to the public K-12 funding model. However, that funding would need to be a supplement to the current funding model, not utilized to supplant it, in any way. Any adjustment to the current funding model, which did not add new money to the model, would jeopardize academic opportunities currently in place in public school districts.

ADOPTED: 2017
REVISED: 2019

2. CURRICULUM ADOPTION, INSTRUCTION & EDUCATION RESOURCES & MATERIALS (PROPOSED AMENDMENT)

RESOLUTION
ASBSD supports the authority of the local school board to implement curriculum, as well as utilize the instruction methods and education resources and materials best suited for their local school district within the content standards adopted and implemented by the State Board of Education without statutory intrusion.

RATIONALE
Local school boards across the state are best suited to make decisions regarding what curriculum is best for their K-12 students. New laws dictating curriculum, required instruction or the use of specific education resources or materials in the public schools of South Dakota would be a hinderance to the state and local boards, who are the knowledgeable decision makers in these areas, and potentially limit the education of students.

ADOPTED: 2021
REVISED: 2026

Includes in the title, resolution and rationale reference to instruction methods and education resources and materials to address ASBSD opposition to possible legislation dictating either, or both, in addition to curriculum, that must be used by a public school district as those decisions should be left to local control.

B. Local Governance

1. STUDENTS RECEIVING ALTERNATIVE INSTRUCTION (HOMESCHOOL) FOLLOWING LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT POLICIES AND RULES

RESOLUTION
ASBSD supports all local school district eligibility requirements, policies and rules related to student participation in extracurricular, co-curricular and all other school sponsored activities be obeyed by alternative instruction (homeschool) students planning to participate.

RATIONALE
The statute does require an alternative instruction (homeschool) student participating in public school district activities be held to the same local training rules. ASBSD believes all students, regardless of path of education, participating in an activity be held to the same standard and follow all protocols.

ADOPTED: 2008
REVISED: 2022

2. SCHOOL DISTRICT IDENTIFICATION SYMBOLS and EVENTS

RESOLUTION
ASBSD supports the local control by public school boards, and encourages them to seek input from community stakeholders on matters that involve symbols and events they believe uniquely identify their school.

RATIONALE
Public school districts are sensitive to the representation and depiction of all people through the use of mascots, nicknames, logos or other symbols and school events. Public school boards are open to discussion with local Native American tribes, community organizations and members on the utilization of these symbols and maintain their local control to make determinations on usage based on these discussions and what is best for the district, as a whole.

ADOPTED: 2016
REVISED: 2020

3. DECISION-MAKING AUTHORITY REGARDING TRANSGENDER LEGISLATION

RESOLUTION
ASBSD supports the judgment, integrity and local control of public school boards and school districts to act in the best interest of all their students, school and community and show respect for all students, staff and other individuals, when making decisions on transgender matters that impact their local policies, facilities and other school procedures within the parameters set by state statute.

RATIONALE
Local public school boards and districts have been met with these matters previously and have prudently reached a decision that works best for all parties involved.

ADOPTED: 2016
REVISED: 2025

B. Local Governance

4. LEGAL AND FINANCIAL PROTECTION FOR COMPLIANCE WITH STATE LAW

RESOLUTION
ASBSD supports provisions in law that would require the South Dakota Attorney General's office to represent a public school district, should it face a lawsuit while complying with the state law, and indemnify the public school district for any financial liability incurred by the district rising out of the lawsuit.

RATIONALE
Public school districts respect the letter of the law and implement statutory requirements enacted by the legislature. Should a district face litigation for complying with state law, ASBSD believes a legal and financial partnership with the State of South Dakota is necessary. There is precedent in law related to this request as SDCL 13-67-5, 13-34-25, 13-24-24 and 20-13-63 states the attorney general would represent a school district at no cost should it be sued for complying with state statute related to use of textbooks or the display of the national motto and we believe this right should be extended to all laws requiring school district compliance with state law.

ADOPTED: 2016
REVISED: 2025

5. SCHOOL BOARD AND SCHOOL BOND ELECTIONS

RESOLUTION
ASBSD supports an option being provided to school boards to set the date of their school board election or school bond, capital outlay certificates or other special elections without impediment from state law.

RATIONALE
It is important for locally elected school boards to be able to decide the date they will hold their school board, school bond, capital outlay certificates or other special elections, in order to maintain the non-partisan nature of these elections. School bond elections should also be left to local control of the school board so the district can meet construction project timelines and favorable interest rates, should the bond be passed by the local voters.

ADOPTED: 2020
REVISED: 2025

6. SCHOOL ADMISSION IMMUNIZATION EXEMPTION AND REQUIREMENTS

RESOLUTION
ASBSD opposes the repeal of immunization requirements or expansion of the immunization exemptions for students for public school admission beyond what is currently permitted in state law.

RATIONALE
The current immunization requirements and exemptions for students for school admission in school law provide sufficient personal rights and protection to families and students who fall within those criteria, as well as a safe environment for fellow students and school staff. Expansion or repeal of these exemptions would endanger the health of students and staff and the safe environment provided within the school.

ADOPTED: 2021
REVISED: 2024

B. Local Governance

7. BOARD MEMBER RECALL PROCESS

RESOLUTION
ASBSD opposes legislation implementing a recall process for school board members.

RATIONALE
State law (SDCL 3-17-6) currently contains a process for the removal of a school board member for multiple reasons making the implementation of a recall process unnecessary.

ADOPTED: 2025

8. LOCAL CONTROL OF FACILITIES AND ACTIVITIES

RESOLUTION
ASBSD supports the decision-making ability of local school boards to determine, based on state law and/or their local school board policies, the appropriate use of their facilities and the activities sponsored by the district.

RATIONALE
Local school boards are best equipped to determine the best use of their facilities, as well as the activities the district chooses to sponsor, in accordance with state law and/or their local school board policies.

ADOPTED: 2023

9. PARENT AND GUARDIAN RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

RESOLUTION
ASBSD supports the engagement of parents and guardians in education and encourages collaboration between parents or guardians and schools with the goal of supporting student learning, growth and development, so long as it doesn't limit the authority of the local school board or abridge or intrude upon the educational process.

RATIONALE
Parents/guardians have a fundamental right to oversee the care, custody and control of their children. Educators, administrators and school boards want parents and guardians to be invested and involved in their child's education. Schools welcome their input and influence on their child's intellectual development with the understanding between the two parties that an open dialogue be maintained in accordance with school board policy regarding the classroom and its materials, instead of actions that disrupt student learning. Parents have a responsibility to present concerns in a matter that aligns with established board policy and models respectful discourse for all students involved.

ADOPTED: 2023

B. Local Governance

10. SCHOOL, INSTRUCTIONAL AND LIBRARY MATERIALS REVIEW

RESOLUTION
ASBSD supports adherence to local school board policies for review of school, instructional and library materials for both school district employees and the public.

RATIONALE
Locally elected school board members adopt school board policies that best fit their school district. Policies governing review of school, instructional and library materials have been thoroughly vetted by the school board and administration and are best suited for the review process in the district. These policies should be regularly reviewed by the school board and district's administration to ensure they meet the needs of the district.

ADOPTED: 2023
REVISED: 2024

11. NONPARTISAN SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS

RESOLUTION
ASBSD supports the provision in state statute (SDCL 13-7-13) maintaining the nonpartisanship of public school board elections.

RATIONALE
The purpose of South Dakota's public school system is to educate children. Education to students is provided in an unbiased and nonpartisan manner for the best possible learning environment to be achieved and successful outcomes to be attained. Locally elected leaders of public schools within the state's public education system must remain unbiased and nonpartisan when making decisions in the best interest of students and school systems. Therefore, local public school board elections should maintain their nonpartisan status, allowing local voters to focus on the individual candidate running and not their political party affiliation.

ADOPTED: 2023

12. SCHOOL BOARD POLICY

RESOLUTION
ASBSD supports the local control of school boards in creating, reviewing, adopting, implementing and maintaining their school board policies.

RATIONALE
Local school boards thoroughly develop school board policies that best fit the needs of their students and staff and represent the interests of the local community, which elected them, and implement the policies through a rigorous process. School boards complete the policy process in an open forum with input available from the public throughout the policy adoption proceedings. Finally, school boards are well aware of educational and societal issues that affect their district and develop school board policies promptly to address these matters. A mandate removing the local control of school boards in the policy process would hinder its right to govern.

ADOPTED: 2024

B. Local Governance

13. MANDATES ON DISPLAYS IN SCHOOL BUILDINGS

RESOLUTION
ASBSD opposes mandate requiring or limiting displays in any area of public school buildings beyond what is currently required in state statute.

RATIONALE
Beyond what is currently required in state law, mandates that require or limit displays, in any manner, are unnecessary. Local school leaders can decide what should or should not be displayed in common areas in school buildings and classrooms. Local school boards have the authority to implement policies managing displays in their buildings and are trusted to do so by their communities. Further laws diminishing this power are an erosion of local control.

ADOPTED: 2024

14. SCHOOL DISTRICT ELECTION MANDATES (PROPOSED ADOPTION)

RESOLUTION
ASBSD opposes changes to state laws mandating certain school district elections, adjusting petition submission deadlines and requirements for referral of certain school district elections or increasing the posting of election notice requirements.

RATIONALE
Current state statute requirements in all aspects of school district elections adequately enable the public to participate in the referrable decisions of school boards. Notice posting requirements in state law accurately inform voters in the district of the election deadlines and date, while petition signature and deadline statutes provide ample time for voters to refer the allowed decisions of school boards. Making changes to state law to mandate certain school district elections adds an unnecessary and expensive requirement on school boards – who make thoughtful and fiscally sound decisions in these areas.

ADOPTED: 2026

Opposes state law mandating certain school district elections, adjustments in petition statutes to refer a school board decision and amendments to posting notice laws in response to the multitude of bills introduced in 2026 that sought to make those changes.

C. School Finance

1. CONSISTENT SPARSITY FUNDING

RESOLUTION
ASBSD supports consistent funding provided by the state for sparse public school districts as defined in SDCL 13-13-78.

RATIONALE
The state's sparse funding has provided much needed resources to the state's smallest and most rural schools. However, since the funding has been instituted, the amount of funding delivered to districts has declined and has been threatened for repeal. Given that sparsity funding amounts to more than 10 percent of the operating budget in some rural districts, the state's smallest most geographically isolated districts deserve consistent state supplemental funding.

ADOPTED: 2009
REVISED: 2014

2. SCHOOL FUNDING – ENROLLMENT AVERAGING

RESOLUTION
ASBSD supports the implementation of enrollment averaging or current enrollment, whichever is larger, in place of the singular use of the fall enrollment count for the state aid formula calculation.

RATIONALE
The provision in the state aid formula that allowed for two-year averaging of school district enrollment was eliminated in 2016, but with year to year fluctuations in student enrollment, public schools would benefit from enrollment averaging to provide stability in their budgeting process.

ADOPTED: 2016
REVISED: 2024

3. CAPITAL OUTLAY ADJUSTMENTS

RESOLUTION
ASBSD supports legislation amending Capital Outlay fund caps in SDCL 13-16-7.2 to allow a school district flexibility within the levy.

RATIONALE
Since the implementation of the Capital Outlay growth caps, schools have experienced growing pressure on the Capital Outlay fund. Inflation has led to rising costs and resulted in schools having to postpone projects due to the inability to raise the needed funds because of the caps imposed on the Capital Outlay levy. Legislation amending the caps and providing more flexibility to districts would benefit fiscally responsible building projects.

ADOPTED: 2018
REVISED: 2023

C. School Finance

4. GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND ELECTION

RESOLUTION
ASBSD supports legislation allowing a school bond to be approved by a simple majority vote.

RATIONALE
With the growth caps placed on Capital Outlay, schools are finding it increasingly difficult to fund major Capital Outlay projects, such as facility construction. School districts need the ability to pass bonds on local construction whereby a majority vote of the electorate is enough for it to pass. Under current law SDCL 7-24-2 county bonds only require a simple majority, while school related bonding requires a 60 percent vote to pass. Thus, the change would be consistent with another government subdivision requirement.

ADOPTED: 2018

5. INCREASING STATE AID

RESOLUTION
ASBSD supports an annual increase to State Aid without a growth cap, but rather a focus on public school districts receiving the maximum amount of state budget dollars available.

RATIONALE
The Governor and the Legislature have a constitutional obligation to maintain a state education funding system that provides for public schools to deliver a high-quality education and competitively compensate district employees. To accomplish that, an annual increase in state aid must be provided without a percentage limit.

Appropriating funds for public schools is a constitutional requirement of South Dakota under Article 8, section 1, and must be a state budget priority. State Aid is critical to schools in order for them to maintain a consistent revenue source and without it, schools would not be able to withstand the inflationary increases of salaries, and operational expenses of schools and thus not meet the standard of education expected. In addition, schools are required by state law to meet accountability rules to maintain teacher salaries. Without State Aid schools could not meet those state mandated requirements.

Schools need State Aid and the Legislature needs to fund it annually with maximum amount of dollars available. School districts must be appropriated the maximum amount of dollars available to pay for the growing needs within school districts to:

a. provide the best quality education for each student;
b. provide salary increases to teachers, as well as maintain salaries for all personnel, and remain competitive in regional teacher salaries to attract and retain our best teachers;
c. meet inflationary increases in the operation of the schools;
d. maintain safety and health related services;
e. provide current technology and instructional materials.

ADOPTED: 2018
REVISED: 2024

C. School Finance

6. ACCOUNTABILITY WAIVERS

RESOLUTION
ASBSD supports the waiver process option for school districts to seek relief from accountability requirements, including, but not limited to, meeting the average teacher compensation, minimum teacher salary and the general fund reserve cash caps.

RATIONALE
There must be a balance between accountability and flexibility regarding funds for enhancing teacher salaries and general fund cash reserves. Each school district faces unique challenges and situations and the waiver process is an important component in guaranteeing flexible options for schools to meet the teacher salary targets and general fund cash reserve caps.

ADOPTED: 2018
REVISED: 2025

7. PROTECTING SCHOOL DISTRICT VALUATIONS

RESOLUTION
ASBSD opposes legislation that would reduce or cap any property valuations without the inclusion of a hold harmless clause for school districts or unless an increase in the state aid percentage is provided to meet the full amount in local need to account for the decrease in local effort.

RATIONALE
ASBSD believes protecting property valuations to support school funding must be a priority in South Dakota. Any legislation that significantly reduces or implements a cap on property valuations without a hold harmless clause or increase in the state aid percentage for schools would have a drastic negative effect on school finance.

ADOPTED: 2019
REVISED: 2025

8. TRANSFERS FROM CAPITAL OUTLAY TO GENERAL FUND

RESOLUTION
ASBSD supports the increase of the percentage amount a school district can transfer from its capital outlay fund to its general fund.

RATIONALE
With the change in teacher pay accountabilities public school districts will need to explore different funding options to ensure they meet what's required in state law. Increasing the percentage amount a school district can transfer from its capital outlay fund to its general fund presents a different option to public school districts to utilize in their general fund to meet the teacher pay accountabilities without having to raise taxes through an opt-out, which would put increased property tax pressure on constituents. Providing this additional funding option benefits the public school districts and, most importantly, their local taxpayers.

ADOPTED: 2024

C. School Finance

9. SUSPENSION OF TEACHER PAY ACCOUNTABILITIES

RESOLUTION
ASBSD supports the suspension of accountability requirements related to average teacher compensation and minimum teacher salary in a fiscal year where school districts are not provided the statutorily required increase in state aid or suffer a loss in local effort due to a state-imposed cap on property tax collection.

RATIONALE
In fiscal years where school districts are not provided with the annual percentage change required by the Index Factor in state law, a suspension of teacher pay accountabilities is necessary in order for school districts to meet their financial obligations within their budgets.

ADOPTED: 2025

D. Taxation

1. PROPERTY TAX REDUCTION OR REPEAL (PROPOSED AMENDMENT)

RESOLUTION
ASBSD opposes the reduction or repeal of property tax without a new source of revenue being implemented to replace those dollars lost, a hold harmless clause being included in any proposal, a growth factor being included to meet increases in property valuation or unless an increase in the state aid percentage is provided to meet the full amount in local need to account for the decrease in local effort.

RATIONALE
Property tax dollars are the main source of local revenue for South Dakota's public school districts and any reduction or repeal of these dollars removes much needed funding from these districts. Any repeal or reduction of a property tax must be replaced with a new revenue source, include a hold harmless clause or increase in the state aid percentage in order for the district to meet its budget obligations.

ADOPTED: 2022
REVISED: 2026

Adds a line supporting a growth factor to meet increases in property valuation which could be introduced in future legislation.

2. STATE REVENUE COLLECTION

RESOLUTION
ASBSD opposes the repeal or reduction of a state revenue source without the increase to an existing revenue source or implementation of a new revenue source to replace the lost dollars.

RATIONALE
The state aid funding formula relies on two funding sources in local property tax dollars and state revenue collection. If either source of revenue for the state aid funding formula receives a cut the other must make up the loss in funding or, if the revenue is not made up, funding for public schools will be cut. A reduction or repeal of a state revenue source without it being recouped from another or new revenue source would be detrimental to public schools.

ADOPTED: 2024

E. Personnel

1. HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

RESOLUTION
ASBSD supports a local public school district's ability to develop hiring, evaluation and compensation policies to develop performance and market-based compensation mechanisms that support local efforts to recruit and retain quality staff.

RATIONALE
School boards, administrators and teachers are in the best position to decide whether the school district has the financial resources, personnel, data systems and desire to implement local policy. Districts should have the flexibility to adopt effective hiring, evaluation and compensation policies.

ADOPTED: 2010
REVISED: 2012

F. Unfunded Mandates

1. STATE EDUCATION MANDATES (PROPOSED AMENDMENT)

RESOLUTION
ASBSD supports legislative action to review and subsequently require the state to supply the necessary full funding for ~~all~~ mandates ~~placed on~~ and programs implemented in local public school districts by the legislature or state departments.

RATIONALE
When state mandates place additional burdens on school boards, funds should be allocated to compensate expenses incurred. Therefore, it should be the policy of the legislature to review and subsequently require the funding necessary to meet the fiscal impact on public school districts and consider providing additional funding, if determined as being needed, prior to the passage of all mandates placed on local public school districts.

ADOPTED: 2008
REVISED: 2026

Amendment to resolution addresses position to support full funding by the state if they mandate a program be implemented in a public school district either through the legislature or a state department.

2. FUNDING FEDERAL MANDATES AND PROGRAMS

RESOLUTION
ASBSD supports full funding for all federal mandates and programs funded by federal dollars.

RATIONALE
When federal policymakers enact laws intended to foster higher levels of school performance and academic achievement, Congress must adequately fund federal mandates and programs to avoid causing local school boards to shift local resources to meet the demands of federal education policies.

ADOPTED: 2008
REVISED: 2025

G. Federal Relations

1. MEDICAID SERVICE REIMBURSEMENT

RESOLUTION
ASBSD supports the continuation of federal Medicaid Service provided to public school K-12 for providing health services to Medicaid-eligible students.

RATIONALE
Public schools play a key role in identifying eligible children for Medicaid, connecting children to needed services in schools and communities. Medicaid service reimbursement funds help South Dakota public school districts provide outreach and coordination services that ultimately helps eligible children receive health services in a timely manner.

ADOPTED: 2008
REVISED: 2012

2. SCHOOL NUTRITION

RESOLUTION
ASBSD supports flexibility in federal law for state and local food service personnel to adjust the nutrition requirements including changes to the calorie maximum, to ensure they are providing school meals that meet the needs of their diverse student body in their communities.

RATIONALE
A one-size-fits-all policy ties the hands of local public school lunch providers. According to recent report, the USDA's regulations have led to hungrier students, wasted food, and increased costs for schools.

ADOPTED: 2010
REVISED: 2025

3. E-RATE

RESOLUTION
ASBSD supports action by Congress and the Federal Communications Commission to strengthen the E-Rate program and improve the quality and speed of Internet connectivity in our nation's public K-12 schools.

RATIONALE
The E-rate program, officially called the Schools and Libraries Program Universal Service Fund, provides significant discounts to schools and libraries to help them build technology infrastructure and provide telecommunications and Internet services for students in low-income and rural areas. The program is a vital source of funding to maintain and improve Internet connectivity in public K-12 schools. Expansion of the federal E-rate program would improve access to technology for public K-12 schools and students.

ADOPTED: 2010
REVISED: 2012

G. Federal Relations

4. EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS ACT (ESSA)

RESOLUTION
ASBSD supports the federal education policy emphasizing the importance of local governance, providing states with more control over education standards and strengthening support for local control in managing school administration, budget development and related operations for public school district responsibilities.

RATIONALE
ESSA affirms state control of education standards by allowing them to set their own benchmarks for student achievement in math and reading. In addition, ESSA reaffirms the importance of local governance as state education standards will be up for peer review by public school board members, administrators, parents and other groups. A local governance measure included in the bill strengthens support for local control which will enhance the local district's goal of consistent student achievement.

ADOPTED: 2016

2027 ASBSD Standing Positions
(DRAFT AS OF 8/5)

OVERVIEW

Standing positions are broad policy statements that reflect the core beliefs of South Dakota's locally elected public school board members. Standing positions provide your school board association with general direction and guidance on a range of education policy issues.

EQUITY IN EDUCATION

School boards are encouraged to recognize and to understand the needs and strengths of all students. School boards should provide resources that will facilitate access to a high-quality, safe, and supportive education that prepares students for success. ASBSD urges local school boards to promote and to support the significant benefits of learning in racially, ethnically, and socio-economically diverse settings, to commit to equity and excellence for all students, and to support the needs of English-language learners.

Adopted: 2018
Revised: 2023

HEALTH & WELLNESS

ASBSD believes that wellness is related to staff and students' mental and physical well-being and their readiness to teach and learn. A growing body of research links student wellness to positive academic results, affirming the important role the overall wellness plays in student achievement.

Mental health is also vital to the wellbeing of all students and has become increasingly important as schools often serve as the first line of defense in providing mental health services or counseling to students. Additional State and Federal resources and funding to support the behavioral and mental health of students are needed to support both students and staff members.

ASBSD believes local public school boards should work with community stakeholders in a coordinated approach to promote policies and practices that encourage and enable wellness, including healthy food choices, nutrition education, personal care and hygiene and regular physical activity, and physical and mental wellbeing, including behavioral resources.

Comprehensive local policy includes multiple aspects of student/staff well-being, including drug resistance, suicide prevention, violence prevention and all forms of bullying.

ASBSD urges local public school boards to adopt policy that promotes healthy lifestyles and student safety, but opposes state mandates, whether funded or unfunded, which would limit the authority of local public school districts to design appropriate wellness programs that reflect school and community standards.

Adopted: 2008
Revised: 2024

INVESTMENT IN EDUCATION

ASBSD believes devoting public funds to elementary and secondary education is an investment in the social and economic future of our children, our communities, our state and our nation. There is no impoverishment of public education that is not eventually an impoverishment of South Dakota.

In South Dakota, public schools deliver an outstanding return on investment. The personal and economic benefits of a quality education have a direct and dramatic impact on individuals, families and communities. Investments in the public education system serve multiple ends, but none are more important to the economic future of our country than ensuring every child graduates from high school ready for the postsecondary education or the workplace.

ASBSD believes investing in elementary and secondary education leads to improved student outcomes, particularly when investments strengthen teacher quality, improve access to high quality public K-12 programs and provide extended learning opportunities for students at-risk.

South Dakota's Constitution prescribes the commitment to public education in Article 8, Section 1; "The stability of a republican form of government depending on the morality and intelligence of the people, it shall be the duty of the Legislature to establish and maintain a general and uniform system of public schools wherein tuition shall be without charge, and equally open to all; and to adopt all suitable means to secure to the people the advantages and opportunities of education."

The State Aid inflationary index factor defined in SDCL 13-13-10.1 requires school districts to annually receive an increase in state aid. This law requires an increase in the investment in public education be made by the state each year and is the only such legal requirement amongst the state's institutions.

Investment in education should also come in attracting teachers to the profession. State funds and/or programs for an undergraduate scholarship for education majors in each K-12 education certification area or for a teacher academy for public school teachers holding a preliminary alternative certification or an alternative certification to assist in their completion of requirements for full certification are two options that could be explored.

ASBSD encourages the exploration of new funding sources for public schools, including, but not limited to, utilizing a transfer for excess funds in the state general fund balance or establishing a trust or accessing available trust fund dollars from the state to provide much needed additional funding to schools.

Adopted: 2011
Revised: 2025

LOCAL GOVERNANCE (PROPOSED AMENDMENT)

Public school districts are governed by elected leaders, who are responsive and accountable to local citizens. An informed, active citizenry is essential to our democratic and representative form of government.

Local boards, within parameters established by state law, are vested with authority to make local education decisions. Local board members, as the elected representatives closest to the students, families and communities in which they live, are best positioned to understand student and community needs and identify effective solutions. A local public school board cannot delegate statutory duties and responsibilities. State law must allow governance flexibility to ensure all school boards are positioned to meet the needs of their community and the changing public school environment.

Public school boards are accountable to students, citizens and staff for: providing education programs; striving for excellence; identifying needs; adopting clearly defined written policies; measuring program success; and interpreting and disseminating information to the public; and setting the school calendar that best fits their district.

Public school boards function best in a non-partisan, broadly representative, team-spirited manner while putting district needs ahead of partisanship, special or personal interest – be they political, racial, religious, geographic, economic, social, civic or any other form.

The board and superintendent, along with other key personnel, serve as a local governance leadership team that works together to effectively and efficiently operate a public school district.

ASBSD supports the judgment and integrity of South Dakota public school board members and opposes initiatives ~~or~~ and legislation that ~~impedes~~ limits ~~a~~ school board~~'~~s' ability to govern and advocate.

It is ASBSD's expectation that school board members be fully invested in the concept of public school education and the purpose for which public schools are created.

Adopted: 2007
Revised: 2026

Legislation has been introduced in recent years to limit the advocacy abilities and use of resources and the amendment to the Standing Position clarifies the Association's position on those types of bills.

NATIVE AMERICAN CURRICULUM

ASBSD believes South Dakotans must continue to work toward embracing the pride, heritage and dignity of Native American culture, fostering collaboration and establishing long-term commitments, including consideration of the implementation of the Oceti Sakowin Essential Understandings or other curriculum and coursework in South Dakota Native American history and culture, to improving public educational outcomes for Native American students.

Adopted: 2010
Revised: 2022

NON-PUBLIC SCHOOLS OR ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION FUNDING OR ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW NON-PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEMS (PROPOSED AMENDMENT)

The defunding of public education through the diversion of state funds to non-public schools or alternative education systems is a detriment to the state of South Dakota.

More than 140,000 students are enrolled in the public school district system, which accounts for more than 80 percent of the total K-12 school aged children in the state. With four out of every five K-12 school aged children in South Dakota enrolled in public schools, it is imperative for the good of the state the available public funds be utilized for public education and no other education systems.

Article 8, Section 1 of the South Dakota Constitution, which states, "...it shall be the duty of the legislature to establish and maintain a general uniform system of public schools..." further supports the sentiment of funding public schools in place of any other education system or delivery method.

Funding a private school scholarship, savings account, voucher program or other method or establishing a charter school or other education system or providing a property tax exemption or subsidy benefitting a non-public or alternative education structure beyond the public education system harms the state and impairs the students enrolled in South Dakota public schools.

ASBSD opposes the establishment and funding of a federal school choice program that does not also include a funding mechanism for public schools to utilize the dollars. Federal dollars should not be reallocated to solely fund a school choice program – charter schools, private education, etc. Federal funding should ~~continue to~~ be utilized to fund the programs already in place, which are utilized by public schools. ~~A decrease in federal funding for public schools and education programs in order to be reallocated to fund a school choice program would be detrimental to public education.~~

Adopted: 2024
Revised: 2026

New language supports public schools being able to utilize federal funding program being implemented in 2027 that permits the distribution of dollars through scholarship granting organizations while maintaining opposition to federal funding being used solely for school choice programs and eliminating redundant language.

OPEN GOVERNMENT AND TRANSPARENCY

As public bodies, school boards operate in a transparent manner that promotes active civic engagement and public discourse. Effective and efficient governance respects the public's right to observe, respectfully record a board meeting and petition government while operating under the legal framework of school board, state and federal policy. Public school boards, as government entities closest to citizens, provide a wealth of public information, including thorough financial records.

ASBSD believes it is incumbent upon each public school board member to have a working knowledge of both open meeting laws and privacy laws.

ASBSD supports state policies and potential legislation allowing public school boards the local option to post official minutes and public notices online.

ASBSD supports full disclosure of conflicts of interest as prescribed by law (reference SDCL 3-23-6 through 3-23-9).

Adopted: 2009
Revised: 2019

PUBLIC SCHOOL CHOICE

ASBSD believes South Dakota's public education system, through South Dakota's open enrollment laws, does provide parents and students the choice to attend any of South Dakota's public schools.

ASBSD supports open enrollment laws that work to promote cooperation among public school districts that help meet the educational needs of all students and families.

ASBSD supports partnerships between schools and parents to offer diverse and multiple high quality educational options to meet the individual needs of students.

ASBSD believes public education offers communities the best way to educate all children including those who have disabilities and students from culturally diverse backgrounds.

Adopted: 2007
Revised: 2022

SAFE AND SECURE SCHOOLS

ASBSD believes South Dakota public school students deserve to learn in a safe and secure school environment.

That safe and secure environment can be achieved through additional federal, state and local resources and funding for schools to implement or add school safety measures, which may include school resource officers, physical security improvements, or related student supports, so long as the resources and funding aren't accompanied by mandates that bypass local control.

A growing body of research has linked student achievement and behavior, as well as staff morale, to physical building conditions. Every child deserves a safe, technologically-ready school facility designed for student learning.

ASBSD believes local public school boards are responsible for the adoption of plans to prevent and respond to situations that threaten the safety or well-being of students and staff. School districts are encouraged to work with a variety of state and local government agencies and to prepare effective emergency response plans.

State and local government agencies are encouraged to inform and collaborate with school districts to obtain and utilize appropriate resources that will enhance the safety and security of school buildings.

ASBSD believes local public school boards, acting in compliance with federal and state law, must have the authority to enact and implement policies and procedures that maintain safe, orderly schools and create supportive learning cultures.

ASBSD supports current laws designed to keep convicted criminals from employment in schools and illegal drugs and weapons away from school buildings, as well as South Dakota School Safety Program, which provides many resources and training opportunities schools can use to keep students and staff safe.

ASBSD urges parents, businesses, communities, local law enforcement and state agencies to work with local school boards to provide safe, crime-free schools.

ASBSD recognizes the crucial role law enforcement, the juvenile justice system, social services, court-appointed advisors, mental health providers, and the medical community play in serving students and their families in protecting the school environment.

Adopted: 2010
Revised: 2024

SCHOOL FINANCE (PROPOSED AMENDMENT)

South Dakota's public school students deserve a comprehensive school finance system. School finance decisions, whether at the local, state or federal level, should build the capacity of the public education system to expand learning opportunities for students. Policy makers at all levels should fulfill commitments and obligations to public schools before providing financial support to non-public schools.

ASBSD supports a school finance system that:

- Provides necessary equitable, predictable and timely funding; and
- Provides equal opportunities to all public school students while addressing South Dakota's diverse student needs; and
- Provides judicious funding based on relief for enrollment fluctuations; and
- Provides locally elected public school boards the authority and responsibility to prioritize and allocate funding, within the mandates and parameters of each fund set in state statute, to best meet student needs; and
- Provides an appropriate level of funding that meets the evolving and growing needs of ~~for~~ special education programs; and
- Provides additional funding to meet state and federal expectations.

In addition, ASBSD supports the local control of school boards in the management of district funds.

Adopted: 2007
Revised: 2026

Acknowledges the need for special education funding to evolve and grow to meet the important and ever-changing needs of these programs.

SCHOOL REORGANIZATION

ASBSD believes school district reorganization, resource sharing and cooperative arrangements are in the best interest of South Dakota's public school students when:

- Educational outcomes, measured in expanded educational opportunities with expectations for improved achievement, is the most important consideration; and
- Geographical issues are considered, including the amount of student travel time and allowing for continued community participation; and
- Reorganization is voluntary – initiated at the local level by the board or citizens and approved by the citizens of the public school district.

Adopted: 2006
Revised: 2020

STATE REQUIREMENTS & OVERSIGHT (PROPOSED AMENDMENT)

Decisions made by the State Board of Education and the process of implementation of those decisions by the state Department of Education should be done so with full consideration of the effect on students, educators, administrators and school boards.

Outcomes affecting South Dakota academic content standards, graduation requirements and state assessment exams should be reached with sufficient input from stakeholders in public education as they serve as expectations for what students should know and be able to do by the end of each grade level and upon graduation with the goal being all students continue their education, ultimately becoming career and life ready.

The state assessment should be an innovative assessment system that meets the requirements in state law while accurately measuring student growth in reading aligned with evidence-based literacy practices, founded upon the science of reading, and in mathematics, with a focus on the mastery of foundational mathematics skills. South Dakota's education stakeholders should be engaged in review and implementation of a state assessment by the state Department of Education.

An appropriated guarantee of sufficient financial resources and professional development opportunities being made available to public schools and staff members to ensure all students can achieve the benchmarks is also needed.

Legislative intervention to halt or repeal content standards approved by the State Board of Education Standards should not be broached as any intervention in the process could result in unintended consequences for our schools in the future; and erodes local control or undermining the board.

The inclusion of multiple K-12 educators or those with a background in K-12 education to serve on the South Dakota State Board of Education Standards should be strongly considered by the Governor when making appointments. The Senate Education committee and Senate body as a whole must thoroughly review any proposed appointments before voting to confirm the individual.

Establishing parameters for membership or adjusting the Governor's appointment or Senate confirmation process made in state statute may compromise the integrity of the board and its membership in the future and should be avoided.

Adopted: 2024
Revised: 2026

Expresses support for review and implementation of a state assessment that best aligns with the education system and properly represents the learning outcomes of our students.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT (PROPOSED AMENDMENT)

One of a local public school board's core responsibilities is to develop, adopt and oversee policies focused on improving student achievement and eliminating achievement gaps between low achieving students and students performing at or above grade level.

Every student can achieve at high levels when the state, local public school boards and communities establish high expectations and provide necessary resources and support for students. In order for a student to achieve those high levels, enrollment in school should be required until the student graduates, earns their GED or reaches the age of 18.

Today's public school boards strive to develop instructional policy that provides for multiple paths to knowledge that moves students to develop more critical thinking, collaborative problem solving and self - reliance skills.

As community leaders, public school board members focus on providing programs and working collaboratively with other agencies.

Public school administrators and teachers provide an excellent education to their students and to ensure that remains, each should be fully certified and stay up-to-date on their continuing education credits. Educators not certified should be working toward certification.

Initial and continuing education of school board members is also important in order to enhance their knowledge base resulting in strong and effective leadership for the district and to set a good example for students, administrators and staff.

Student achievement should be gauged using an accountability system based on multiple assessments that are valid, reliable, defensible, credible and diagnostically meaningful to a variety of stakeholders.

Public schools in South Dakota offer students multiple avenues to reach their potential success that is not measured strictly by assessments.

ASBSD urges policymakers at all levels to support programs that promote high level skills such as digital literacy, innovative thinking, and interactive communication to engage learners leading students to succeed in today's highly competitive, global economy.

In addition, as education needs of students change, educational opportunities need to continue to evolve, to help guide students down pathways of success for their future career goals and an expansion and creation of Career and Technical Education (CTE) options through new state funding and ~~created~~ grant opportunities so districts may provide that avenue.

Adopted: 2010
Revised: 2026

Includes language supporting new state funding for CTE programs.

TECHNOLOGY IN EDUCATION

Technology has an essential and expanding role in our global society. Emerging information and communication technologies will reshape how students learn and how they apply their knowledge, skills and abilities.

ASBSD believes technology transforms public K-12 education. The infrastructure, hardware, software, and platforms are either available or being developed that will continue to change the nature of how we teach our children in profound and far-reaching ways.

ASBSD believes technology is a powerful, important tool for public education to be used in combination with proven teaching and learning strategies to ensure a high-quality education.

ASBSD supports technology initiatives that are focused on improved student outcomes and that reflect the need for ongoing support and renewal in the ever-changing technological landscape. Digital technology using virtual learning strategies, blended learning, and other cutting edge teaching coupled with quality training, will advance our students in the highly competitive global environment.

South Dakota's public school systems should embrace technology as a catalyst to improve teaching and learning. School district staff need support, through high-quality, embedded professional development, to integrate technology into their instruction. Technology integration is a critical tool to prepare our students for digital world that is transforming around them.

The use of Artificial Intelligence in schools should be determined by local school board policy that best fits the district's needs.

Adopted: 2012
Revised: 2024

Attachment 3

ASBSD CODE: AA

ASSOCIATION LEGAL STATUS

1. The name of the Association is the Associated School Boards of South Dakota, Incorporated.

2. The Association shall have perpetual existence and is incorporated pursuant to the provisions of the South Dakota Codified Laws.

3. This Association is a private non-profit, non-stock corporation and there shall not be any monetary gain or profit to the members thereof, and this Association shall be non-partisan and non-sectarian, and shall take no part in, or lend its support or influence to any political party.

4. The purposes and activities of ASBSD shall be within the meaning of Section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law.) "No part of the net earnings of the Corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributed to, its members, trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that the corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered, and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of its exempt purposes."

Ref: Constitution and By-Laws, ASBSD

DATE APPROVED: 08-08-79
DATE REVISED: 04-17-04; 05-17-08
DATE REVIEWED: 07-11-2026

Attachment 4
ASBSD CODE: ABA

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERSHIP

Any school board of any public school district in the State of South Dakota may be a member of this Association by payment of the annual dues.

Regular dues notices will be sent to each public school district in South Dakota each year and shall be due and payable on a date set by ASBSD of each year.

School districts which have not submitted payment of dues on a date set by ASBSD shall forthwith cease to be a member and shall lose all of its rights and powers as a member, but its membership may be reinstated upon payment of its dues.

In unusual circumstances, if requested by a school district, the Executive Director may allow an extension of time or semi-annual payments.

AFFILIATE MEMBERSHIP

A governing board other than a public school which is operating a school program in South Dakota upon approval by the Board of Directors and payment of dues as set by the Board of Directors may become an affiliate member of the Association.

Affiliate members will be entitled to the privileges of other members except for the selection of officers or directors and making constitutional changes.

DATE APPROVED: 08-08-79
DATE REVISED: 11-08-80; 09-12-82; 08-19-98; 08-08-01; 06-10-26; 08-05-26
DATE REVIEWED: 07-11-26

Attachment 5
ASBSD CODE: ABAA

MEMBER SCHOOL BOARD LEGAL STATUS

1. Member school boards shall retain all legal rights as granted under South Dakota law.

2. Membership in the Association is a decision of each local school board and solely dependent upon payment of membership dues.

3. The Association has no responsibility or obligation to furnish membership services to non-members, although it may choose to do so at the discretion of the Executive Director and/or Board of Directors.

4. No person shall act as a school board delegate or retain membership in the Association after he or she ceases to be a member of a district school board which is a member of this Association; provided, however, that officers and directors of the Association who have ceased to be regular members of a district school board may continue to hold their offices until the next annual meeting of the Association.

DATE APPROVED: 08-08-79
DATE REVISED:
DATE REVIEWED: 07-11-26

Attachment 6
ASBSD CODE: AC

NONDISCRIMINATION

The Association is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination, subscribing to the equal and fair treatment of all persons - students, staff, members, vendors, and others - regardless of age, race, religion, color, sex, creed, national origin, ancestry, disability or poliltical affiliation, in all aspects of the Association's affairs.

The Association further subscribes to the guidelines of equal employment opportunity, and all rights of the individual as prescribed by the U. S. Constitution, the Constitution of the State of South Dakota, and all related federal and state statutes.

DATE APPROVED: 11-17-79
DATE REVISED: 06-10-26; 08-06-26
DATE REVIEWED: 07-11-26

Attachment 7
ASBSD CODE: ACA

SEXUAL HARASSMENT POLICY

POLICY

It is the ASBSD's policy that sexual harassment is illegal, unacceptable and shall not be tolerated; that no employee or employee of the Association may sexually harass another. Any employee will be subject to disciplinary action including possible termination or expulsion for violation of this policy.

DEFINITION

Any unwelcome sexual advances, solicitation or sexual activity by promise of rewards, coercion of sexual activity by threat of punishment, verbal sexist remarks, or physical sexual assaults constitute sexual harassment. This conduct has the effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work performance or of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive employment environment regardless of intent.

RESPONSIBILITY

Association officers and employees are responsible for maintaining a working environment free from sexual harassment. Careful scrutiny will be undertaken of all allegations of sexual harassment. If the investigation reveals tht the charge was brought falsely and with malicious intent, the charging party may be subject to disciplinary action, including termination. Copies of the policy will be available.

COMPLAINTS

Any employee who believes that he or she has been a subject of sexual harassment by an association employee or officer will be expected to report this incident immediately to his or her immediate supervisor. If the immediate supervisor is involved in the activity, the violation should be reported to the supervisor's immediate supervisor. All reported incidents will be thoroughly investigated and subject to disciplinary action. Confidentiality consistent with due process will be maintained.

An employee may file a written complaint because of dissatisfaction with the handling of the complaint.

DATE APPROVED: 04-24-99
DATE REVISED: 06-10-26; 08-06-26
DATE REVIEWED: 07-11-26

Attachment 8
ASBSD CODE: AEE

PUBLICATIONS

To keep board members and administrators throughout the state informed on matters of educational interest, the Association will research, create and disseminate information that supports association goals. ASBSD publications should leverage technology, to the fullest extent possible, to maximize effectiveness and efficiency in association communications. Publications shall be reviewed annually to make sure they are accomplishing intended purpose.

DATE APPROVED: 08-08-79
DATE REVISED: 04-27-91; 02-01-94; 08-08-01; 04-17-04; 01-25-06; 11-17-07; 11-20-14; 11-16-23
DATE REVIEWED: 07-11-26

Attachment 9
ASBSD CODE: AEF

ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATION

The Executive Director or appropriate staff members shall:

1. Serve as the official spokesperson for the Association during legislative sessions and to other legislative or governmental commissions.

2. State the position of the Associated School Boards of South Dakota as adopted at Delegate Assembly or as modified by the board of directors on a ¾ vote.

3. Make it a policy to supply objective, complete and reliable information to the members of the legislature at all times, always bearing in mind the long term reputation of the Association as a source of trustworthy information. State the position of the Association on public school legislation sponsored by other persons, organizations or agencies.

4. Consider only legislation having statewide applications as adopted at Delegate Assembly or as modified by the board of director on a ¾ vote.

DATE APPROVED: 08-08-79
DATE REVISED: 08-14-02; 04-27-19
DATE REVIEWED: 07-11-2026

Attachment 10
ASBSD CODE: AFB

EVALUATION OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Through evaluation of the Executive Director the Board shall strive to accomplish the following:

1. Clarify for the Executive Director his/her role in the Association as seen by the Board.

2. Clarify for all Board members the role of the Executive Director in the light of his/her job description and the immediate priorities among his responsibilities as agreed upon by the Board and the Executive Director.

3. Develop harmonious working relationships between Board and Executive Director.

4. Provide administrative leadership for the Association.

The Board shall periodically develop with the Executive Director a set of performance objectives based on the needs of the Association. The board shall, at least annually, review the performance of the Executive Director in accordance with these specific goals. Additional objectives shall be established at intervals agreed upon with the Executive Director.

DATE APPROVED: 11-17-79
DATE REVISED: 08-14-02; 04-17-04
DATE REVIEWED: 07-11-2026

Attachment 11
ASBSD CODE: AGA

RECOGNITION FOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

It will be the intent of the Board of Directors and Officers of the Association to honor distinguished or exceptional achievements of citizens, students, staff members, or school board members when, in the opinion of the Board, such recognition is deserved and in the best interests of education.

Such recognition will generally be carried out when designated by the board, and at least annually.

The ASBSD School Bell Award shall be presented to a person in the state who has served statewide public education in an exemplary fashion. This award shall be presented only when there is a deserving candidate. Recipients shall be chosen by the Board of Directors in consultation with the Executive Director.

Each year one school board member shall be honored as Outstanding School Board Member of the Year. Nominations for the award may be made by school boards or by individuals. Nominations must be active members of a school board in the state. Selection shall be made by an impartial committee.

Each year one school board shall be honored as School Board Award of Excellence. Nominations can be made by an administrator or school board and must follow the required procedures and necessary documents included in the application. Selection shall be made by an impartial committee.

The ASBSD Community Service Award shall be presented to a person, persons or group for exemplary service to their school district. This award shall be presented only when there is a deserving candidate. Recipients shall be selected by the Board of Directors in consultation with the Executive Director.

Each year school board members shall be honored for longevity. The name of the award will be the Distinguished Service Award. If a school board member has served their local board for 5 or more years they would be honored in the following ways:

a. Beginning with their 6th year of service, ASBSD will send a certificate of appreciation and letter from the ASBSD President, thanking them for their service to public education.
b. At 10 years of service, ASBSD will send a certificate, thank you letter from the President, small award, and free registration to the Joint Convention.
c. At 15 years of service, ASBSD will invite the board member to the Joint Convention and present an award along with a free registration to the Joint Convention.
d. At 20 years of service, ASBSD will invite the board member to the Joint Convention and present an award along with a free registration to the Joint Convention.

DATE APPROVED: 08-08-79
DATE REVISED: 01-20-98; 08-18-99; 06-17-08; 04-27-19; 04-21-23; 06-10-26; 08-05-26
DATE REVIEWED: 07-11-26

e. Any board member achieving 25 years or more of service will be invited to the Joint Convention, presented an award, given a free registration to the Joint Convention, and be honored by the Legislature with a Commemoration in their name.

DATE APPROVED: 08-08-79
DATE REVISED: 01-20-98; 08-18-99; 06-17-08; 04-27-19; 04-21-23; 06-10-26; 08-05-26
DATE REVIEWED: 07-11-26

Attachment 12
ASBSD CODE: AH

DISTRIBUTION OF MAILING LISTS

The Association will not provide lists of local school board members' names, addresses, email addresses or telephone numbers. This policy prevents such lists from being sold or distributed for use other than Association business. It shall be the responsibility of the Executive Director to determine what is considered Association business. If such determination is in question, the Executive Director shall confer with the President.

DATE APPROVED: 08-14-96
DATE REVISED:
DATE REVIEWED: 07-11-26

Attachment 13
ASBSD CODE: AI

ASBSD BRAND IDENTITY

ASBSD Brand Identity

The ASBSD identity represents the Associated School Boards of South Dakota and what it stands for. Just as each of us is rightly proud of who we are and what our names stand for, we all should also be proud of ASBSD and what its name stands for.

USES OF THE IDENTITY

The ASBSD identity serves as a signature that should appear on all official publications of the Associated School Boards of South Dakota, and in all situations where the ASBSD name is presented. Materials published jointly by ASBSD and other organizations may include the ASBSD identity, subject to approval of the Executive Director or Director of Communications.

DATE APPROVED: 01-25-06
DATE REVISED: 11-20-2014
DATE REVIEWED: 07-11-2026