NDSBA Annual Convention Keynote Speakers Will Inspire

NDSBA’s 2013 Annual Convention keynote speakers will address issues critical to board members:

**Friday’s Keynote Speaker**

V.J. Smith is a professional speaker and published author. He graduated from South Dakota State University in 1978 and spent the decade of the 1980s working for the Allied Signal Aerospace Company in Kansas City. He returned to his alma mater in 1990, working for six years in the SDSU Athletic Department. He was appointed executive director of the SDSU Alumni Association in 1996. In January 2007, he left that position to pursue a career in professional speaking. Smith travels the country and makes over 100 speaking appearances a year. He is the author of the best-selling book, *The Richest Man in Town*. The book details Smith’s relationship with a little old man who ran a cash register at a local Wal-Mart. “That guy changed my life,” Smith says.

Smith is a two-time finalist in Toastmasters’ International “World’s Championship of Public Speaking.” He is also the author of the book, *Jackrabbit Tales*. He is the president of Life’s Great Moments and resides in Brookings, South Dakota.

**Saturday’s Keynote Speaker**

Dr. Ken Wesson, will share facts on the neuroscience of learning, the physiological basis of how learning occurs inside the human brain, and ways to create learning methods that are “brain-compatible.” Dr. Wesson helps his audience understand how the issues of early brain development, emotional intelligence, diversity in learning, design, and implementation of curriculum all impact how well our students are able to learn. Advancements in 21st century technology have allowed brain research to increase rapidly, thus providing educators with information never before available. School board members have a great responsibility to keep up to date on the latest information.

**Pre-register and Join Us**

Mark your calendar for October 25-26 and join us at the Ramkota Hotel in Bismarck for the 2013 NDSBA Annual Convention. By sending in the early registration form (which will be arriving at your school in early September), you can take advantage of the lower registration fee and ensure receipt of printed material when checking in as a pre-registered participant. Be sure your board designates delegates and alternates on the registration form.

We look forward to seeing you at convention!

**IMPORTANT CONVENTION REMINDERS**

**Service Award Deadline**

Service Award forms must be submitted by **September 30**.

**Convention Rooms**

If you have sleeping rooms reserved at the Ramkota Hotel for the 2013 NDSBA Annual Convention, you must give them a specific name for each reserved room by **October 2**, or the rooms will be released.

If a room is reserved for both Thursday and Friday nights and the guest does not arrive on Thursday, the reservation will automatically be canceled for the second night.

**Ramkota Hotel reservations** (701)258-7700; fax (701)224-8212.

**Convention Delegate Designations**

Convention delegates and alternates must be clearly noted on the district’s registration form which must be received in the NDSBA office no later than October 11 in order to vote at Delegate Assembly. Only those registered as alternates BY THIS DEADLINE will be allowed to substitute for a registered delegate. There will be no exceptions!
Providing Medication to Students

House Bill 1276 (effective August 1, 2013) authorizes schools, for the first time, to provide medication to students. Under law, school medication providers must receive education and training in providing medication and parental consent prior to performing this service.

The North Dakota School Boards Association (NDSBA) is pleased to sponsor medication training for North Dakota schools. Training will be hosted by the eight Regional Education Association centers and will be taught by a registered nurse from Minnesota State Community and Technical College, a community college that has provided medication training to other North Dakota employers.

Training topics will include:

- Individual’s authority and role in providing medication
- Proper medication storage, inventory and disposal
- Proper techniques for providing medication including, but not limited to, understanding pharmacy labels, standard precautions for infection control, six rights of medication administration, and measuring and dispensing protocols
- Appropriate documentation of all medication provided and confidentiality requirements
- Basic medical terminology, abbreviations and symbols related to providing medication
- Appropriate action if unusual circumstances occur (e.g., medication error, adverse reactions, student refusal, and how and when to seek medical consultation or assistance)

**Training locations and dates:**
- Grand Forks, Sept 17
- Fargo, Sept 18
- Devils Lake, Sept 23
- Bottineau, Sept 24
- Bismarck, Sept 26
- Minot, Sept 30
- Williston, Oct 1
- Dickinson, Oct 2

Districts may register for this training at www.ndsba.org. Each district may send up to two individuals to these workshops.

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**Nominating Committee Slates Candidates**

In accordance with the NDSBA Constitution, NDSBA President Greg Allen named the following to serve on the Nominating Committee for the purpose of slating candidates for the association’s elections at the annual convention: Don Nygaard, Finley-Sharon (Chair); Dianne Hensen, Glenburn; and Leah Madler, New England.

The committee met on August 16 and voted to forward the following slate of candidates:

- President (one-year term): Greg Allen, Jamestown
- Vice President (one-year term): Jim Rostad, Minot
- Southwest Director (two-year term): Ben Auch, Mott-Regent
- Northeast Director (two-year term): Jennifer Johnson, Larimore

Delegates will vote between 7:30 and 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 26, at the NDSBA Convention.

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**NSBA and Kennedy Center Seeking School Boards for Arts Education Award**

Nominations are now open for the annual arts education award for school boards given by the National School Boards Association (NSBA) and the Kennedy Center Alliance for Arts Education Network (KCAAEN). The award, which comes with a $10,000 check, honors a school board that has provided high-quality arts education in its school district.

The KCAAEN and NSBA Award recognizes districts that have included all four major artistic disciplines—visual arts, music, theater, and dance—in their programs.

The program accepts only one nomination per U.S. state, which must be coordinated with the local state school boards association, state alliance for arts education, or both organizations jointly. School boards in every U.S. state are eligible for nomination regardless of whether their state has a state alliance. Final selection is made by a national panel of arts educators and arts administrators including representatives of the KCAAEN and NSBA.

The national award is presented at NSBA’s Annual Conference, which will be held April 5 to 7, 2014, in New Orleans.

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**Policy Services Renewal Reminder**

NDSBA mailed Policy Services renewal notices to school districts in June. Districts that would like to access renewal information online can download it at http://www.ndsba.org/Policies/2013-14member.pdf.

Policy Services membership is $250 annually and includes access to a monthly online policy newsletter, sample policies, and policy consultation. Districts that join this program may elect to participate in other fee-based plans such as our required policy manual and customized policy manual services.
NDSBA’s Governmental Affairs Committee (GAC) met August 21 to act on resolutions for consideration by the Delegate Assembly at the Annual Convention. Resolutions remain as standing resolutions for four years unless significant legislative or staff action prompt an earlier review. At the end of four years they are dropped unless readopted by the Delegate Assembly. There were no new resolutions submitted by school boards by the deadline of August 12. However, boards may bring a resolution to the convention floor for consideration by the Delegate Assembly.

Following are recommendations of the GAC:

RESOLUTIONS THAT ARE FOUR YEARS OLD AND SCHEDULED TO BE DROPPED

The following resolution was accomplished legislatively:

Hiring in Difficult-to-fill Positions
NDSBA shall support legislation that provides flexibility for school boards to hire off the salary schedule, without reference to the negotiated agreement, when necessary to hire in an area required for school approval or accreditation.

RESOLUTIONS THAT ARE FOUR YEARS OLD AND RECOMMENDED FOR READOPTION AS WRITTEN

Taxing Authority of the State
NDSBA shall support legislation that provides flexibility for school boards to hire off the salary schedule, without reference to the negotiated agreement, when necessary to hire in an area required for school approval or accreditation.

RESOLUTIONS THAT ARE FOUR YEARS OLD AND RECOMMENDED FOR READOPTION AS AMENDED

Regional Education Associations
NDSBA shall support the State of North Dakota providing separate and additional funding increasing financial support to REAs that are in place and work toward expanding resources available to these REAs so educational opportunities for students all across the state can be improved.
Congressman Kevin Cramer met with NDEA President Nick Archuleta, Superintendent of Public Instruction Kirsten Baesler, NDCEL Executive Director Aimee Copas, and NDSBA Executive Director Jon Martinson.