

# bulletin



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*Excellence in North Dakota public education through local school board governance* ■VOL XXXIX ISSUE 10

## 2014 NDSBA Convention Will Inform and Inspire

NDSBA's Annual Convention will be held **October 23-24** at the Best Western Ramkota Hotel in Bismarck. The convention will open with a keynote speaker on Thursday. Friday begins with a general session speaker and continues with a day full of educational sessions.

Individual board members will not be able to attend all sessions; therefore, it is a good idea for boards to review clinic sessions in advance, attend as many different sessions as possible, and later share what was learned. Issues presented during general sessions and clinic sessions will be important to board members, business managers, and superintendents.

### Keynote Speakers

Thursday,  
3:00 p.m.  
*Leading  
with Levity*  
**Juli Burney**



Friday,  
8:00 a.m.  
*Preventing  
Juvenile Violence  
and School  
Rampage  
Shootings*  
**Dr. Jack Levin**



Featured clinic session speakers and topics include:

Past President of the National School Boards Association C. Ed Massey, from Kentucky, will lead a discussion for current school board chairpersons and aspiring leaders. Mr. Massey will provide training in parliamentary procedure and encouraging and managing public input at 9:30.

At 10:30 Executive Director Glenn Koocher, Massachusetts Association of School Committees, will share his experience as a local board member and as a state association executive director working with local districts in his home state of Massachusetts. He will discuss challenges in dealing with difficult people around the school board table and in the meeting room.

Chief Justice Gerald VandeWalle will share his extensive experience on kids, courts, and schools at 11:30.

An informal conversation with State Superintendent Kirsten Baesler will be at 1:15. Superintendent Baesler will also answer questions from attendees.

Also at 1:15, State Senator Dwight Cook (District 34, Mandan), Chair of the Finance and Taxation Committee, and State Representative Mike Nathe (District 30, Bismarck), Chair of the Education Committee, will have an interactive conversation with attendees about education funding, tax issues, efforts to provide the public greater

access to school budgets, and a bill to decrease school district carry over funds.

A leadership track for experienced board members will be offered throughout the afternoon sessions.

Clinic Sessions include the following topics:

- What is Drug Court and How Does it Work?
- Navigating the Employee Discipline Tightrope
- Positive Impact of Career and Technical Education
- Education Data Collection and How it is used by Regional Education Associations
- School Administrators Discuss Education Funding
- What's New at TFFR: 2014 Update
- Standards for College and Career Readiness (ND State Standards)
- Drug Awareness
- Keeping it Legal; The Employee's Perspective
- Leadership Track for Board Officers: Informal Discussion with Ed Massey and Glenn Koocher
- Leadership Track for Board Officers: Top Three Challenges Inherent in the Role of President or Vice President of the Board
- Potpourri of Legislative Issues with Senator Dwight Cook and Rep. Mike Nathe

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## State Law Requires New Members to Attend Seminar

North Dakota Century Code section 15.1-09-32 requires new school board members to attend an inservice training workshop hosted by the North Dakota School Boards Association or its designee within one year of assuming office. NDSBA hosts a seminar for new board members the day before convention. Topics will include the role of a school

board member, the duties of a school board, and school finance. A panel of experienced school board members will also present their experiences.

Registration for the New Member Seminar is available at [www.ndsba.org/Events/2014Convention/registration.pdf](http://www.ndsba.org/Events/2014Convention/registration.pdf)

# 2014 Convention

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- Understanding Budgets, Mill Levies, and Property Values in North Dakota
- ND Indian Education Summit/ ND Native American Essential Understandings Development
- Introduction to the Online ND State Assessment System
- The Common Schools Trust Fund – the gift that keeps on giving
- Never Give Up: Lessons Learned and Tips about Passing a Bond Issue
- Getting the Most out of Apps
- Preparing for the 2015 Legislative Session
- Small Organized Schools Board Meeting and Legislative Issues
- Small Organized Schools: Blended Learning – An Enhancement for Student Growth

Consult <http://www.ndsba.org/Events/Convention.asp> to view all clinic session times.

See you October 23-24 in Bismarck!

## bulletin

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Jennifer Johnson, Larimore

Jim Johnson, Fargo

Mike Lautenschlager, Berthold

## 2014 Convention Committees

NDSBA President Greg Allen appointed members to four committees for the Annual Convention. Members are:

**Nominating Committee**

Holly Stromsodt, Finley-Sharon, Chair  
Lodee Arnold, Wilton  
Bonnie Goldsberry, South Heart

**Credentials Committee**

Dinah Goldenberg, Fargo, Chair  
Carolyn Kueber, Dakota Prairie  
Mark Schmidt, Tioga  
Ann Ueland, Central Cass

**Ballot Counting Committee**

Steve Halldorson, Devils Lake  
Rick Gillund, Enderlin  
Ed Procive, Belfield

**Governmental Affairs Committee**

Angela Korsmo, West Fargo, Chair  
Kris Fehr, Dickinson  
Dianne Hensen, Glenburn  
Jim Johnson, Fargo  
Lawrence King, Bismarck  
Mike Lautenschlager, Lewis & Clark, Berthold  
Lisa Longnecker, New Rockford-Sheyenne  
Don Nygaard, Finley-Sharon  
David Richter, Williston  
Jim Rostad, Minot

Thank you to each of these members for their willingness to serve the association!

## Superintendent Evaluations

North Dakota law requires that school boards complete a formative evaluation of superintendents before **December 15** [NDCC 15.1-14-03].

This evaluation must take place at an open public meeting. One purpose of the December evaluation is to highlight areas of performance in need of improvement and provide an improvement plan and timeline for expected enhanced performance. The law regarding superintendent evaluations states that if the superintendent is found to be unsatisfactory in any area, the board shall detail its findings in the report and make recommendations. This process allows opportunity for professional growth before the superintendent's formal evaluation in April.

A sample evaluation form is available on NDSBA's website at: [www.ndsba.org/resources/form.SuperintendentEvaluation.doc](http://www.ndsba.org/resources/form.SuperintendentEvaluation.doc)

## 2015 North Dakota Teacher of the Year Announced

Gov. Jack Dalrymple and State Superintendent of Public Instruction Kirsten Baesler recently presented Dean Aamodt, a vocal and classroom music teacher with Wahpeton Public Schools, with the 2015 North Dakota Teacher of the Year award. The announcement was made during a ceremony at Wahpeton High School which was attended by administrators, educators, representatives from the state's education associations, and students.

"North Dakota has one of the best



Pictured left to right are Superintendent of Public Instruction Kirsten Baesler, 2015 North Dakota Teacher of the Year - Dean Aamodt, Governor Jack Dalrymple and First Lady Betsy Dalrymple.

educational systems in the nation and that is due in large part to the great work that is going on in classrooms

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# Meet the 2014 North Dakota School Board Association Candidates

## Candidate For President



### **Jim Rostad, Minot**

As a resident of rural Minot, Jim brings a unique blend of experiences to the NDSBA. Rostad graduated from Carpio High School and attended Minot State University. Jim is

retired from a 40-year career in the auto collision repair industry. Founder of Minot's Finest Collision Center, Jim was active in state and national auto body industry organizations and was a columnist for "Body Shop Business," the most highly recognized industry journal in the nation. Jim served as a board member and president of the North Dakota Auto Body Association and as chairman of the state convention. His contributions to the auto body industry in the state were recognized when he was inducted into the ND Auto Body Association's Hall of Fame in 2012. His 40 years of management experience helped him develop valuable decision-making skills.

Jim's school board experience includes serving as a member of the Minot Public School Board from 1988-1992, and from 2004 to present. Jim was president from 1990-1992 and again from 2012 to the present. Rostad has attended several NSBA conferences and, as the board's liaison to the Minot Air Force Base School Board, he has attended several National Association of Federally Impacted Schools (NAFIS) conferences in Washington, D.C., where he has also met with our congressional delegation. Jim has served on NDSBA's Governmental Affairs Committee for the last eight years. He was elected to the NDSBA Board of Directors as the representative from the Northwest region in 2010 and has served as vice president since 2012.

Jim is a past board member and chairman of the Minot Housing Authority, a member of the Minot Area Development Corporation, and a former member and chairman of the Board of Trustees of his church, where he and his wife, Verla are active members. Jim and Verla have two grown children and three grandchildren.

## Candidate For Vice President

### **Ben Auch, Mott/Regent**

Ben graduated from Mott High School in 1993, attended NDSCS, and graduated in 1996 with an Associate's Degree in Diesel Technology. Ben was elected to the Mott/Regent School Board in 2004. Ben has



served on several board committees, including 8 years on negotiations--twice as chief negotiator. He recently finished four years on the NDHSAA board of directors. Ben has served the past two years as NDSBA Southwest Director. He is a former Barb Norby Scholarship recipient, has attended NSBA's National Advocacy Institute, and lobbied the ND legislature several times.

Ben is a salesman for Dakota Farm Equipment. He is very active in his community working with the county fair board and 4-H and is a former EMT and volunteer fireman. He is active in his local church, serving on many committees, and is a member of the Knights of Columbus. He has been married to Nadra for 17 years and has two children, Kaden (11) and Kendra (8).

## Candidate For Northwest Director

### **Mike Lautenschlager, Lewis and Clark, Berthold**



Mike is a graduate of Berthold Public School. He spent five years in Leeds, North Dakota, as herdsman for Kenner Simmentals and then returned to Berthold where he is

involved in the family farm and employed by Farden Construction.

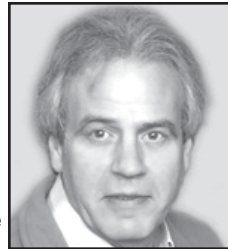
Mike has been on the school board for 18 years and has served on many committees. He has presented on reorganizations at the NDSBA Convention and on labor/management issues at Negotiation Seminars. Mike currently serves as Northwest Director on NDSBA's board and is a member of the Governmental Affairs Committee. He has attended NSBA's National Conferences and has participated in the National Advocacy Institute in Washington, D. C.

Mike serves on the county ambulance board of directors and is a volunteer for the Berthold ambulance service. He and his wife Ginger have three sons, ranging in age from 16-24.

## Candidate For Southeast Director

### **Jim Johnson, Fargo**

Jim has been on the Fargo School Board since 2001 and has served on all of the board's standing committees at one time or another during his years on the board. He served five terms as president.



On the state level, Jim has been a strong advocate for k-12 education. He currently serves as a member of the NDSBA Governmental Affairs Committee. He has presented at past state conventions, testified several

times before the education committees of the legislature, and has traveled to Washington, D. C., to discuss the impact of federal legislation with our congressional delegation.

In addition, Johnson is vice president of the South East Education Cooperative (SEEC) Board of Directors and serves on the Executive Committee. His work on the SEEC board has given him a unique perspective of the differing needs that districts face based on their size and location. He has been a strong voice in Bismarck for the continued support and development of the Regional Education Associations (REAs) throughout the state.

Jim grew up in Fargo where he graduated from Fargo South High School and was lucky enough to go on to college. Jim and his wife Kay (West Fargo graduate) have two pretty darn good daughters, Robin and Emma. And thanks to the cost of their college education, he is still working as vice president of Hallett Financial Group, a Minneapolis-based financial services firm.

## Candidate For Southwest Director

### **Lawrence King, Bismarck**

Lawrence King is the proud father of three: Samantha (Century High School 2009), Erik (Century High School 2011), and Isaac (7th grader). He has been married to his wife, Tammy, for 26 years.



Lawrence graduated with a political science degree with a minor in criminal justice in 1989 from UND. He then attended UND law school and graduated in 1992. He has been a partner with Zuger Kirmis & Smith for over 22 years.

Lawrence was elected to the Bismarck School Board in 2008. He served as vice president one year and president for two years. Lawrence has attended every NDSBA meeting since he was elected to the board and almost every National School Boards Association meeting as well. He serves on the Governmental Affairs Committee of NDSBA; he served one year on the NDSBA Nominating Committee; and has served one year on the Credentials Committee. Lawrence also served four years on the Missouri River Education Cooperative and two years on the Bismarck Public Schools Foundation.

Lawrence is active in his community including past chairman of the finance committee at his Methodist Church; past president of Bridging the Dental Gap, a local nonprofit entity; past president of the Big Muddy Bar Association; past president of the Young Lawyers Section; and past president of the State Bar Association of North Dakota. Lawrence also serves on the North Dakota Board of Law Examiners.



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## ■2015 Teacher of the Year

*Continued from page 2*

across our state,” Dalrymple said. “Dean and the Teacher of the Year finalists exemplify the innovative and inspiring work being performed by North Dakota’s teachers and their dedication to shaping the lives and futures of our young people.”

Aamodt was selected from a pool of four finalists that included Chris Harvey, an instrumental music teacher with Hazen Public School; Dawn Adair Johnson, a reading coach at Prairie View Elementary School in Devils Lake; and Melissa Stanley, an elementary teacher at Edison Elementary School in Minot.

“These educators who were nominated for Teacher of the Year are shining examples of the best our teaching profession has to offer, in North Dakota or anywhere else,” Baesler said. “Our children, and all of us, are honored and blessed by their passion, their honesty, their humility, and their willingness to push their students to reach their full potential.”

Aamodt has been teaching for

more than 35 years and has been with Wahpeton Public Schools for the past five years. He teaches women’s ensemble, concert choir, show choir, and guitar at WHS to students in grades 9-12 and classroom music to

“Teaching has never felt like a job, but a calling to interact with students to encourage, guide, motivate, create and learn together solid life skills.”  
Dean Aamodt

kindergarten and first-grade students at Zimmerman Elementary School in Wahpeton. He also serves as student council advisor.

“I am pleased to share this accolade with all the students, staff, and community of Wahpeton and to represent the North Dakota education community and the thousands of dedicated educators in our state,” Aamodt said. “How fortunate I am to be a part of this noble profession that is charged with preparing students for lifelong productivity and fulfillment. Teaching has never felt like a job, but

a calling to interact with students to encourage, guide, motivate, create and learn together solid life skills.”

The Teacher of the Year program recognizes and honors the contributions of America’s classroom teachers. The state’s Teacher of the Year program is sponsored by the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction in conjunction with the Council of Chief State School Officers.

Nominations for Teacher of the Year must come from a teacher, school administrator, school district trustee, local education association, student or parent, and are reviewed by a seven-member selection panel. Aamodt will advance to the national Teacher of the Year program.



**mark** your calendar

**2015 NSBA Annual Conference**  
March 21-23, 2015  
Nashville, TN

**2015 NDSBA Annual Convention**  
October 29-30, 2015  
Ramkota Hotel, Bismarck