

## SCHOOL LAW SEMINAR – THURSDAY, October 25, 2018

### FEATURED SPEAKERS



**Sonja Trainor** is the Managing Director, Legal Advocacy, at the National School Boards Association. She coordinates and manages NSBA's appellate advocacy program; develops, writes and edits NSBA publications for the Office of General Counsel and the Council of School Attorneys (COSA); liaises with outside organizations; speaks on school law issues and NSBA legal advocacy work; and supports COSA programming and working groups. A former school attorney and COSA member, Trainor came to NSBA as a Senior Staff Attorney in 2010 and served as COSA Program Director from 2012 until 2018. Trainor graduated with honors from Washington University in St. Louis with a bachelor's degree in English literature and educational studies. She received her law degree from the University of Illinois, College of Law in Urbana-Champaign, where she served as a research assistant for the chair of the College of Education's Department of Educational Organization and Leadership.



**Lisa Edison-Smith** is an attorney with the Vogel Law Firm in its Fargo office practicing exclusively in the area of employment and labor law and litigation and is a MSBA Certified Labor and Employment Law Specialist. She focuses her practice on providing practical advice to North Dakota and Minnesota private and public sector employers, including schools and higher education, on a variety of issues related to discrimination and harassment, state and federal compliance issues, wage and hour law, employment contracts, policy review, hiring and termination, internal investigations, and employee benefits. She frequently provides training on harassment and other current issues in employment law to employers throughout the area. Lisa also represents employers in labor matters, negotiations, and arbitrations.



**KrisAnn Norby-Jahner** is also an attorney with the Vogel Law Firm in its Bismarck office and concentrates her practice in employment law, education law, and ERISA compliance and litigation. KrisAnn offers general advice and counsel to ensure school districts remain compliant with state and federal laws; and she assists in other policy development, negotiations, investigations, discipline, and discharge matters. Education law is a natural fit for KrisAnn because, in addition to her legal practice, KrisAnn has worked at several universities as an adjunct professor. She studied in both M.A. and Ph.D. programs, specializing in Law and Literature studies. She has taught legal research and writing, moot court, employment law, practical writing, composition, and other courses at the University of Minnesota Law School, Hamline University, Kent State University, North Dakota State University, University of Mary, and Bismarck State College. KrisAnn is also very active in United Way, Women United, and the Adopt-a-Classroom program offered in Bismarck elementary schools.