

NORTH DAKOTA SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

Government Affairs Committee

Friday, August 30, 2024

10:00 a.m.

Minutes

The meeting was called to order by chairman Lembke at 10:02 a.m. Participating in the meeting were the following:

Committee Members

Karl Lembke, Chair, Bismarck

Patti Stedman, West Fargo

Marlana Knudson, May-Port CG

Jason Rohr, Jamestown

Robin Nelson, Fargo

Michelle Orton, Dickinson

Lee Ann Johnston, Devils Lake

Collette Hertz, Harvey

Mike Lautenschlager, Lewis & Clark

Staff

Amy De Kok

Taylor Lassiter

Committee Members Absent

Lucas Greff, Mott/Regent

De Kok reviewed the agenda and the options available to the committee for four-year-old resolutions and resolutions submitted to the committee. Discussion was had on the recommendation of "Not Recommended." Two new resolutions were submitted by member district Fargo Public School District for consideration.

RESOLUTIONS THAT ARE FOUR YEARS OLD AND SCHEDULED TO BE DROPPED

A. FUNDING

1. STATE AID FOR GROWING SCHOOL DISTRICTS. NDSBA shall support legislation that modifies the Foundation Aid Program to allow the use of fall enrollment to provide adequate state support to districts with increasing enrollment.

Adopted in 2012; readopted in 2016 and 2020.

2. STATE TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION. NDSBA believes the cost of maintaining, supporting, and enhancing this system should continue to be financed with state dollars and there should be no transfer of the cost associated with this network back to the local school districts.

Adopted in 2004; readopted in 2008, 2012, 2016, and 2020.

3. STATE FUNDING OF SPECIAL EDUCATION AND GIFTED AND TALENTED PROGRAMS. NDSBA supports the state ensuring program funding equity and full funding of special education costs to districts including gifted and talented education and to provide a permanent mechanism for the distribution of any surplus special education dollars. *Adopted in 2004; readopted in 2008 and 2012; amended and readopted in 2016; and readopted in 2020.*

D. PERSONNEL

1. BUSINESS MANAGER CERTIFICATION PROGRAM. School boards support the Business Manager Certification Program by providing financial support through the use of school district funds to encourage business managers to participate in this voluntary professional development opportunity. *Adopted in 2012; readopted in 2016 and 2020.*

E. NEGOTIATIONS

1. DEADLINE FOR NEGOTIATIONS. NDSBA shall support legislation that would require and/or encourage contract negotiations to be pursued in good faith, diligently, and within a reasonable period of time in order to have an agreement reached between the school board and recognized representative organization by a specified deadline or impasse will be automatically declared. *Adopted in 2020.*

2. COLLECTIVE BARGAINING. NDSBA shall oppose legislation mandating school boards to collectively bargain with employees other than those currently required by 15.1-16-01: "...public school employee(s) licensed to teach by the ESPB or approved to teach by the ESPB and employed primarily as a classroom teacher." *Adopted in 2008; readopted in 2012, 2016, and 2020.*

F. PROGRAM

1. SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM. NDSBA shall work with the North Dakota Department of Agriculture, the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction, and the North Dakota Congressional Delegation to encourage the USDA to amend their federal regulations related to the School Lunch Program, School Breakfast Program, and "a la carte" food sales to allow for local control. *Adopted in 2012; amended and readopted in 2016; and readopted in 2020.*

G. BOARD AUTHORITY AND BOARD MEETINGS

1. POSTING OF BILLS IN AN ALTERNATE FORMAT. NDSBA shall support state law changes to allow school districts the flexibility to post their bills using an electronic format such as the district's Website. *Adopted in 2004; amended and readopted in 2008; readopted in 2012, 2016, and 2020.*

Stedman moved to recommend resolutions A1, A2, A3, D1, E2, F1, and G1 for re-adoption as written and drop E1. Knudson seconded the motion, and it carried.

Nelson explained to the committee the resolutions proposed by member district, Fargo Public School District. Discussion ensued by the committee on the first submitted resolution, Public Dollars for Public Education.

Johnston moved to recommend the Public Dollars for Public Education resolution for adoption as written. Hertz seconded the motion, and it carried.

Discussion by the committee continued on the second proposed resolution, Advocacy for All.

Nelson withdrew the Advocacy for All resolution upon constructive discussion on what the resolution would mean logistically in the future for NDSBA, legislative session, and school districts across North Dakota.

Having completed committee business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:41 a.m.

Taylor Lassiter, Recording Secretary