



ACTION LINE...

Your ticket to NASB governance

Do you have a resolution NASB should consider?

The successes which NASB realizes in the Legislature are due to the participation of our membership throughout the year. It begins in the spring and summer with the collection of legislative resolutions drawn from member districts.

So the cycle will begin anew with this call for 2012 resolutions, standing positions, and changes to the organizational bylaws. This is a process which helps the NASB staff represent board members throughout the state in an effective manner. Through this process, when school board members talk to senators, they are able to talk with the voices of all school board members behind them.

Each proposal is received and reviewed by the NASB Legislation Committee, which is comprised of school board members from throughout the state. The Committee makes recommendations to the NASB Board of Directors, which reviews the Committee's work and can add its own proposals to the final slate of resolutions and positions to be sent to the Delegate Assembly. The Delegate Assembly then uses a "one district, one vote" format to finalize NASB's legislative agenda.

Setting our legislative agenda is a thoughtful, deliberate process. It is an inclusive process which creates a strong legislative force for the needs of Nebraska's school children. This Action Line is the beginning of the road to the Delegate Assem-



bly, which will be at LaVista Convention Center on Friday, Nov. 18, 2011.

Resolution proposals should be submitted by member boards.

Resolutions are statements of intended and desired legislative actions on items of current needs or problems. Resolutions are in effect for one year, and may be submitted on any topic of statewide concern for school board members.

Try to be as clear and concise as possible with the wording of your resolution so the intent, as well as the requested action, is understandable. If your resolution is not self-explanatory, include a rationale (or history) with your resolution. If your board would like help in drafting a proposal, please contact the NASB staff. We are eager to get a wide array of perspectives, and we stand willing to help your board get the issues of importance to you on NASB's agenda. Don't hesitate to call us.

Standing positions are statements of policy and purpose and, once adopted, remain in effect until amended or repealed.

A complete listing of NASB's current standing positions and legislative resolutions was distributed in a handbook last January. It is also posted on the "Government Relations" section of our web site. If you need another hard copy of this publication, please call the NASB office at (800) 422-4572.

Proposed resolutions or standing positions must be received in the NASB office no later than July 8, 2011.

Legislative Resolutions and Standing Positions are due by July 8. Don't let your board be shut out. Submit your proposal soon.

Proposed Resolution or Standing Position for the 2012 Session

Topic _____

Board _____

This is a: Resolution _____ **Standing Position** _____

Proposed Resolution or Position _____

Rationale _____

Contact Person _____ **Phone** _____

**Return this form by July 8, 2011 to:
Chair, Legislation Committee
Nebraska Association of School Boards
1311 Stockwell Street, Lincoln, NE 68502
FAX (402) 423-4961**

Sample Resolutions

...NASB urges the Legislature to adequately fund local school districts in a manner which allows successful implementation of the student assessment process being created by the Nebraska Department of Education.

...NASB urges the Legislature to consider the effect of the growth rate of salaries and fringe benefits when applying a lid on local school district expenditures.

Sample Standing Positions

...NASB opposes any change in the present state law that would allow public school employees the right to strike.

...NASB supports quality early childhood education programs that provide age-appropriate activities to prepare children for school.

The Legislative Process

The NASB Delegate Assembly is the cornerstone of our legislative program. NASB's legislative effort begins with the distribution of this Action Line. Dozens of districts take advantage of this annual opportunity to suggest legislative resolutions and standing positions.

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With the desires and concerns of the Delegate Assembly to provide direction, the NASB staff sets out to implement our membership's agenda. The Government Relations Network is a collection of individuals from each member board which are appointed to be the board's legislative point person. As issues come to the forefront, that person may be called on to contact a senator, or write a letter, or testify in a committee hearing. We encourage districts to appoint a GRN representative on the next page to serve as the point person for breaking issues and, perhaps, serve as the district's voting delegate at the Delegate Assembly.

Setting our legislative agenda is a thoughtful, deliberate process. It is an inclusive process which creates a strong legislative force for the needs of Nebraska's school children. This Action Line is the beginning of the road to the Delegate Assembly, which will be at LaVista Convention Center on Friday, Nov. 18, 2011. Please take advantage of this opportunity to get involved in your organization.

Proposed resolutions or standing positions must be received in the NASB office no later than July 8, 2011.

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS NETWORK (GRN) —2011-12

Getting School Board Members Involved In The Legislative Process

The Nebraska Association of School Boards (NASB) would like to encourage all member boards to get involved in the legislative process. In our three years, the GRN has received timely updates on the issues in play at the State Capitol, in Congress, and in the Departments of Education at the state and federal levels.

As we pick up the pieces from the 2011 session, it is time to look to 2012. We are asking each district to appoint one board member to be its GRN representative. The individual appointed to the GRN must supply us with a current email address.

NASB will involve GRN representatives in the daily legislative process in the following ways:

1. Forwarding important legislative information on local, state, and federal levels.
2. Connect GRN representatives with Senators and Congressional Representatives.
3. Use GRN representatives to get local feedback and share their opinions and legislative goals.
4. Involvement in the Legislative Issues Conference and lobbying efforts across the state.
5. Improve a statewide understanding for all districts of legislative issues and how they affect local boards and districts.
6. As you consider a person for this position, you might discuss the possibility that the GRN representative serve as a voting delegate at the November Delegate Assembly in LaVista (metro Omaha).

Please note: If an email address does not work for the GRN representative you appoint, your district may be asked to update the current representative's email address or appoint another board member.

Nearly 200 of our members have a representative for the 2010-11 legislative season. If your district is currently represented, please reaffirm the desire of this person to continue to serve as your contact point.

Return to NASB, 1311 Stockwell St., Lincoln, NE, 68502 FAX (402) 423-4961
at your earliest convenience

_____ would like to appoint

School District

Name _____

Please use the following Email _____

I, _____, agree to be appointed as the GRN representative for my district. I understand that most of the communication will occur through email and agree to receive this information.

Date _____

Signed _____
GRN Representative