

Mission: *To develop lifelong learners through effective teaching in a safe and caring environment.*

Vision: *Educational excellence for every child – setting the standard others aim for.*

AGENDA
BOARD OF EDUCATION – SPECIAL MEETING
Instructional Planning Center/Huron Arena
October 23, 2017
5:30 p.m.

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Roll Call**
3. **Pledge of Allegiance**
4. **Adoption of the Agenda**
5. **Dates to Remember**

October 23 & 24	HMS Parent/Teacher Conferences 3:30 – 6:45
October 26 & 30	2 nd /3 rd Grade Parent/Teacher Conferences 3:30 – 6:45
November 1	Early Release
November 2 & 6	Kindergarten / 1 st Grade Parent / Teacher Conferences 3:30 – 6:45
November 7 & 9	4 th /5 th Grade Parent / Teacher Conferences 3:30 – 6:45
November 11	Veteran’s Day Holiday – SATURDAY
November 13	Board of Education Meeting 5:30 p.m. - IPC
November 22-24	Holiday Break – No School
November 27	Board of Education Meeting 5:30 p.m. - IPC
6. **Community Input on Items Not on the Agenda**
7. **Conflict Disclosure and Consideration of Waivers** – The School Board will review the disclosures and determine if the transactions or the terms of the contracts are fair, reasonable, and not contrary to the public interest.
 - a)
8. **CONSENT AGENDA**

The Superintendent of Schools recommends approval of the following:

 - a) **Board Approval of New Hires**

As was mentioned previously, classified personnel and substitute teachers/classroom aides must be approved in order to be covered by our workers’ compensation plan.

 - 1) Cynthia Eckmann/Full-time Division 1 Administrative Ass./\$34,658 per year
 - 2) Lisa Balster/SPED Para-Educator/\$14.41 per hour
 - 3) DeAnn Arnott/TAP Program – Classroom Leader/\$17.20 per hour
 - 4) Jazmin Newton/Substitute Teacher and Para-Educator/\$120 per day – Substitute Teacher/\$13.66 per hour – Substitute Para-Educator
 - 5) Melinda Hoogland/Substitute Food Service/\$12.99 per hour
 - b) **Contracts for Board Approval**
 - 1)
 - c) **Resignations for Board Approval**
 - 1)
 - d) **Consideration and Approval of Bills** – See attached list

(The consent agenda may be approved with one motion. However, if a board member wishes to separate an item for discussion, he may do so.)

9. **CELEBRATE SUCCESSES IN THE DISTRICT:
CONGRATULATIONS:**

- **Win Storm** for being selected to 2nd Team All State in Boys Soccer
- **Hannah Pageler** for being named to the 2017 Academic All State Team in Girls Soccer

THANK YOU TO:

- Rex Sawvell for going above and beyond to help our students last Friday night.

10. **REPORTS TO THE BOARD:**

- a) **Classified Employee of the Month – Presented by Mr. Taplett**
Kendall Leichtenberg, Middle School – Grad Coach, has been selected as Classified Employee of the Month for October 2017. Nomination comments are included in this packet. Congratulations Kendall!
- b) **State Report Card** – Sherri Nelson
- c) **Superintendent’s Report**
- d) **Transportation Department** – Zonar Student Tracking System

11. **OLD BUSINESS**

a)

12. **NEW BUSINESS**

- a) **2018 ASBSD Legislative Resolutions**
- a) **2018 ASBSD Standing Positions**

14. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

1-25-2 Executive or closed meetings may be held for the sole purpose of:

- (4) Preparing for contract negotiations or negotiating with employees or employee representatives.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

1-25-2 Executive or closed meetings may be held for the sole purpose of:

- (1) Discussing the qualifications, competence, performance, character or fitness of any public employee or prospective public office or employee. The term “employee” does not include any independent contractor.

15. **ADJOURNMENT**

**Huron School District
New Hire Justification**

Date: October 11, 2017

Applicant Information

Applicant Name: Cynthia Eckmann
Address: 955 Nebraska Ave. S.W.
Phone: 605-350-5085
Education: N.W. College of Commerce
Experience: Asst. Director/Dispatch Supervisor
References: J. Pollock, T. Smith, M. Starr

Reason for New Hire

New Position: X
Replacement:

Position Information

Department: Transportation
Position: Full-time Division 1 Administrative Asst.
Supervisor: Kathie Bostrom
Responsibilities: Drive school bus, perform office duties
Hours: Varies.

Hiring Information

Wages: \$34,658.00/yr
Classification: Class 1
Wage Justification: 2017-2018 Support Staff Hiring Schedule
Start Date: October 10, 2017
Requested by: Rex Sawvell (Administrator)

**Huron School District
New Hire Justification**

Date: 9/25/17

Applicant Information

Applicant Name: Lisa Balster

Address: 565 Idaho NE, Huron SD

Phone: 605-354-3798

Education: BS in Nursing .

Experience: 16 years

References: Ann Diehl, Meagon Moser, Deb Olson

Reason for New Hire

New Position:

Replacement: Replace Amy Williams transfer

Position Information

Department: SPED

Position: Para at MS

Supervisor: Amanda Katzenberger

Responsibilities: SPED Para

Hours: 7.5 Hours

Hiring Information

Wages: \$14.41

Classification: SPED Para

Wage Justification: 16 Years at Center for Ind.

Start Date: Oct. 9, 2017

Requested by: - Lori Wehlander (Administrator)

8/25/14

**Huron School District
New Hire Justification**

Date: 10-16-2017

Applicant Information

Applicant Name: DeAnn Arnott

Address: 833 Lawnridge SE, Huron, SD 57350

Phone: 605-354-2549

Education: High School

Experience: Nursing Home, Corner Pantry, Fair City Deli

References: Charlie Ward, Betty Browner, Darlene Brand

Reason for New Hire

New Position: n/a

Replacement: Adding TAP staff to reduce overtime expenses

Position Information

Department: TAP

Position: Classroom Leader

Supervisor: Sherri Nelson

Responsibilities: Implement after-school learning activities

Hours: Schedule varies - 3:00-5:30 pm

Hiring Information

Wages: \$17.20/hr (classroom leader)

Classification: Classified/Certified

Wage Justification: Pre-determined hourly rate

Start Date: October 23, 2017

Requested by: Sherri Nelson

**Huron School District
New Hire Justification**

Date: October 16, 2017

Applicant Information

Applicant Name: Melinda Hoogland
Address: 1042 Wisconsin SW
Phone: 461-9422
Education: Wayne State College, Nebraska
Experience: Food Service Cashier/AM Prep Person at HS
References: Kathy Retzlaff, Amy Duin, Diana Hoefenke

Reason for New Hire

New Position: ---
Replacement: ---

Position Information

Department: School Nutrition
Position: Substitute for Food service
Supervisor: Carol Tompkins
Responsibilities: Working where needed as Sub
Hours: Varied as needed

Hiring Information

Wages: \$12.99 per hour
Classification: Level II
Wage Justification: Subs start at Level II probation on the Food Service hiring schedule
Start Date: November 14, 2017
Requested by: Carol Tompkins (Administrator)

<u>Vendor Name</u>		<u>Vendor Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>	
<u>Checking</u>				
	1			
Checking	1	Fund: 10 GENERAL FUND		
DAYS INN PIERRE		TRAVEL	362.00	
NORTHWESTERN ENERGY		UTILITIES	18,409.98	
		Fund Total:		18,771.98
Checking	1	Fund: 21 CAPITAL OUTLAY FUND		
STANDARD & POOR'S		ISSUANCE COSTS	10,500.00	
		Fund Total:		10,500.00
		Checking Account Total:		29,271.98

Classified Employee of the Month

Name	<u>Kendall Leichtenberg</u>
Position	<u>Middle School – Grad Coach</u>
Date	<u>October 2017</u>

“Kendall is always willing to go the extra mile in providing help to both staff and students. He is flexible with his scheduling and willing to help any staff member who needs help with covering a class or providing one-on-one help to any student in any subject area. His easy going manner draws students to him as they are comfortable around him. He has a way of connecting with ‘those hard to reach’ students.”

*From Shari Lord
8th Science & History*



2018 ASBSD Legislative Resolutions

Revised: August 9, 2017

Overview

ASBSD Resolutions are policy statements adopted by the ASBSD membership that guide your Association's advocacy efforts at the state and federal levels. A subcommittee of the ASBSD Board of Directors – called the ASBSD Policy and Resolutions Committee – develops draft policy statements for consideration by the full membership at the ASBSD Delegate Assembly.

A. Achievement and Equity

1. PRE-KINDERGARTEN PRESCHOOL STANDARDS (PROPOSED AMENDMENT)

RESOLUTION

ASBSD supports the South Dakota Early Learning Guidelines for voluntary ~~pre-kindergarten~~ preschool education programs.

RATIONALE

Pre-kindergarten Preschool is defined as any public education program for children under age 5. Research points to clear short and long-term benefits of pre-k (pre-school) programs. It's widely accepted that early experiences form vital connections in a child's brain and influence how a child learns and develops throughout life. According to research, quality pre-k (pre-school) programs reduce the number of students in need of special education services and the number of students that have to repeat grades. Research has also documented long-term efficiency of pre-kindergarten (pre-school) programs through a reduction in the juvenile crime rate and lessening later reliance on public assistance programs.

ADOPTED: 2008

REVISED: 2017

2. STATE FUNDED PRESCHOOL (NEW RESOLUTION)

RESOLUTION

ASBSD supports state funding of public voluntary preschool education programs so long as it does not jeopardize or repurpose current funding of public K-12 education.

RATIONALE

State funding for voluntary pre-school programs would be a welcome addition to the public K-12 funding model. However, that funding would need to be a supplement to the current funding model, not utilized to supplant it, in any way. Any adjustment to the current funding model, which did not add new money to the model, would jeopardize academic opportunities currently in place in public school districts.

ADOPTED: 2017

A. Achievement and Equity

3. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (PROPOSED AMENDMENT)

RESOLUTION

ASBSD supports full funding for ~~state~~-mandated professional development.

RATIONALE

ASBSD supports professional development for teachers and administrators. Because of ~~state~~-mandates for new innovations, we believe ~~state~~-full funding to train professionals is essential.

ADOPTED: 2008

REVISED: 2017

4. COMPULSORY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

RESOLUTION

ASBSD supports compulsory attendance in public school to age 18 or until a student graduates.

RATIONALE

In today's global economy, every South Dakota student deserves the lasting benefits of a high school diploma. Maintaining compulsory attendance age until 18 will make public school policy mirror BIE policy, minimizing the potential for students to transfer to public school in order to drop-out of high school.

ADOPTED: 2008

5. SOUTH DAKOTA ACADEMIC CONTENT STANDARDS AND STATE ASSESSMENT EXAMS

RESOLUTION

ASBSD supports South Dakota academic content standards with sufficient financial resources and professional development for school staff, to facilitate implementation of the standards and the full participation of students in state assessment exams.

RATIONALE

South Dakota academic content standards serve as expectations for what students should know and be able to do by the end of each grade. The review, revision, development, and feedback process involves stakeholders throughout the state of South Dakota and is an ongoing and critical component to ensure South Dakota students in every classroom receive current and relevant learning experiences. The goal is that all students will graduate college, career, and life ready.

ADOPTED: 2010

REVISED: 2016

A. Achievement and Equity

6. EXTRA AND CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES – FREE PARTICIPATION

RESOLUTION

ASBSD supports extra and co-curricular activities as an important component of South Dakota's system of public education and opposes legislation that will in any way establish fees for participation in extra and co-curricular offerings.

RATIONALE

The South Dakota Constitution guarantees a free public education to all students. Extra-curricular and co-curricular activities, though not always offered for academic credit, are a valuable part of a child's education and should remain free to all public school students.

ADOPTED: 2010

REVISED: 2014

7. SCHOOL EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION (PROPOSED AMENDMENT)

RESOLUTION

ASBSD supports continued commitment by the legislature to enhance the ability to attract, recruit and retain quality personnel in South Dakota public schools.

RATIONALE

To ensure our public schools can recruit and retain quality employees, the state must maintain a long-term financial commitment to our schools in order to provide competitive salaries for their school employees. ~~In order to provide competitive salaries for their school employees. The State Aid increase of "3% or inflation, whichever is less," is not realistic. The annual increase should more closely resemble the State's typical salary and benefit per FTE increase for its own employees of 4.2% per year.~~

ADOPTED: 2013

REVISED: 2017

B. Local Governance

1. STUDENTS RECEIVING ALTERNATIVE INSTRUCTION (HOME SCHOOL INSTRUCTION) (PROPOSED AMENDMENT)

RESOLUTION

ASBSD supports state guidelines for evaluating the academic progress of students receiving alternative instruction, ~~and the establishment of effective state regulations to ensure exempted students receive a high quality education-~~ and the right of the local public school board to decide criteria for allowing alternative instruction students to participate in extra-curricular and co-curricular activities.

RATIONALE

School boards and the Department of Education are responsible for the education of students receiving alternative instruction. State guidelines and regulations would provide school boards with criteria to determine if revocation of an application is warranted. When issues of participation in public school activities arise, the authority to determine who may participate should rest solely with the local public school board.

ADOPTED: 2008

REVISED: 2017

2. SCHOOL FINANCES

RESOLUTION

ASBSD supports local governance in the management of district funds.

RATIONALE

Control of school finances should rest with the local public school board within the district.

ADOPTED: 2009

REVISED: 2012

3. CHARTER SCHOOLS

RESOLUTION

ASBSD opposes any new legislation that creates charter schools beyond what is currently authorized in statute, which permits Pilot Charter Schools for American Indian Students.

RATIONALE

Any expansion beyond what is currently allowed in state statute has the potential to introduce charter schools that could take public school funding from current schools, receive waivers from state standards of accreditation and teacher certification, be elective in the students who may enroll, and be detrimental to local public schools.

ADOPTED: 2012

REVISED: 2015

B. Local Governance

4. PUBLIC FUNDING FOR NON-PUBLIC EDUCATION

RESOLUTION

ASBSD opposes any law that diverts public dollars to fund non-public education in any manner.

RATIONALE

Legislation that diverts public dollars to non-public schools would be detrimental to the public education system.

ADOPTED: 2015

REVISED: 2016

5. PRIVATE SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

RESOLUTION

ASBSD opposes state law allowing tax credits from the insurance company premium and annuity tax to fund a private school scholarship program and permits contributions made by the insurance companies to remain anonymous.

RATIONALE

The state law allowing the diversion of public dollars to non-public schools is detrimental to the public education system and, in the opinion of ASBSD, is unconstitutional. In addition, the scholarship program is based on an antiquated school funding system and may result in the program no longer remaining fiscally neutral for the state. Permitting contributions made by insurance companies to remain anonymous places their special interests above their tax obligation to the state and undermines transparency established in other state laws. ASBSD supports amending SDCL 13-65 to require contributions to the scholarship fund to become public information. ASBSD also supports amending SDCL 13-65 to require any school receiving funds under SDCL 13-65 to follow all state requirements that public schools follow, including (but not limited to) accepting students under the State's Open Enrollment statutes and requiring the school to continue educating all accepted students until tuition/scholarship dollars are no longer paid or the student is expelled pursuant to State law.

ADOPTED: 2016

6. SCHOOL DISTRICT IDENTIFICATION SYMBOLS

RESOLUTION

ASBSD supports the local control by public school boards, and encourages them to seek input from community stakeholders on matters that involve symbols and events they believe uniquely identify their school.

RATIONALE

Public school districts are sensitive to the representation and depiction of all people through the use of mascots, nicknames, logos or other symbols and school events. Public school boards are open to discussion with local Native American tribes, community organizations and members on the utilization of these symbols and maintain their local control to make determinations on usage based on these discussions and what is best for the district, as a whole.

ADOPTED: 2016

B. Local Governance

7. USE OF BATHROOM, LOCKER ROOM AND OTHER FACILITIES

RESOLUTION

ASBSD supports the judgment and integrity of local public school boards and school districts to act in the best interest of their students, school and community and show respect for all students, staff and other individuals including using bathrooms, locker rooms and other facilities.

RATIONALE

Public school boards, as elected leaders, are responsive and accountable to local citizens, and, as noted by Gov. Dennis Daugaard in his 2016 veto message of House Bill 1008, “can, and have, made necessary restroom and locker room accommodations that serve the best interests of all students, regardless of biological sex or gender identity.” Local public school boards and districts who have been met with these matters previously have prudently reached a decision that works best for all parties involved.

ADOPTED: 2016

8. LEGAL AND FINANCIAL PROTECTION FOR COMPLIANCE WITH STATE LAW

RESOLUTION

ASBSD supports a provision in law that would require the South Dakota Attorney General’s office to represent a public school district, should it face a lawsuit while complying with the state law, and indemnify the public school district for any financial liability incurred by the district rising out of the lawsuit.

RATIONALE

Public school districts respect the letter of the law and implement statutory requirements handed down to them by the legislature. Should a district face litigation for complying with state law, ASBSD believes a legal and financial partnership with the State of South Dakota is necessary. There is precedent in law related to this request as SDCL 13-34-25 states the attorney general would represent a school district at no cost should it be sued for complying with state statute related to use of textbooks, and we believe this right should be extended to all laws requiring school district compliance with state law.

ADOPTED: 2016

9. FOUR-DAY SCHOOL WEEK REFERRAL (PROPOSED DELETION)

RESOLUTION

~~ASBSD supports potential legislation allowing only school boards to refer a decision on the district implementing or repealing a four-day school week to voters.~~

RATIONALE

~~The decision to adjust a school week is one that should be made by a district as a whole, including school board members, administrators, parents and community members. Thus, a vote by district patrons is the best option for a district. The decision to refer should remain solely in the hands of the school board, as they best understand the implications a change in school week schedule would have on student achievement, district finances and other matters of the district.~~

ADOPTED: 2016

REVISED: 2017

B. Local Governance

10. CONFLICT OF INTEREST (PROPOSED DELETION)

RESOLUTION

ASBSD supports amending the newly enacted Conflict of Interest laws (SDCL3-23-6 through 9, inclusive) to clarify and simplify: to whom the reporting requirements apply, the circumstances in which reporting is required, and the reporting requirement and process.

RATIONALE

The newly enacted conflict of interest laws are under review and need further clarification.

ADOPTED: 2016

REVISED: 2017

C. School Finance

1. SCHOOL FUNDING (PROPOSED AMENDMENT)

RESOLUTION

ASBSD supports a state education funding system that provides adequate aid for public schools to deliver a high quality education to all students, competitively compensate district employees and allow local management of funds through the following provisions:

- Utilizes revenue, and any potential growth, generated by the half-cent increase to the state's sales tax dedicated to teacher salaries;
- Raises the state average teacher salary to at least \$48,500 or higher and continues to review teacher salaries in order to stay competitive in region markets;
- Allows school districts to negotiate salary agreements that best fit their teaching staff within the mandated allocations set in statute;
- Covers the additional cost of benefits and overhead expenditures school districts incur;
- Sets student-to-teacher ratio levels that judiciously distribute dollars to school districts;
- Maintains the flexibility provision for districts to use capital outlay dollars for general fund expenses;
- Continues to review the distribution of other revenue funds;
- Ensures school districts have a process should they need a waiver from any piece of the funding system's statutory requirements;
- Appropriates funding to increase efficiencies through technology improvement grants, utilization of shared services, e-Learning programs, a teacher mentoring program and for national board certification for teachers;
- Allows school districts whose maximum per student capital outlay levy is under the state average to maintain or increase their Capital Outlay up to \$3.000 per thousand at the discretion of the school board.

RATIONALE

The historic passage of the half-cent sales tax increase, new funding formula and innovative funding options package ushered in a new era of funding for South Dakota's public schools in 2016. The new funding system brings sweeping changes to the variety of methods our districts have to fund their schools. While the system may continue to evolve over time as we see the implications of its implementation, the current provisions in the resolution have been established with the best collective interest of our public schools in mind. In 2016 historic legislation was passed in HB 1182, SB132 and SB 133. Referenced statutes: SDCL 13-13-10.1, 13-13-73.6; 10-45-2 through 10-45-8; 10-45-71

ADOPTED: 2008

REVISED: 2017

2. EDUCATION SERVICE AGENCIES (PROPOSED DELETION)

RESOLUTION

ASBSD supports the reinstatement of full funding for Educational Service Agencies.

RATIONALE

The Education Service Agencies have provided valuable services and resources for public schools in South Dakota. Previous years' budget cuts by the legislation have negatively impacted services provided by ESAs to schools.

ADOPTED: 2009

REVISED: 2017

C. School Finance

2. CONSISTENT SPARSITY FUNDING

RESOLUTION

ASBSD supports consistent district-level funding provided by the state for sparse public school districts as defined in SDCL 13-13-78.

RATIONALE

The state's sparse funding has provided much needed resources to the state's smallest and most rural schools. However, since the funding has been instituted, the amount of funding delivered to districts has declined and has been threatened for repeal. Given that sparsity funding amounts to more than 10 percent of the operating budget in some rural districts, the state's smallest most geographically isolated districts deserve consistent state supplemental funding.

ADOPTED: 2009

REVISED: 2014

3. SCHOOL FUNDING – TWO YEAR ENROLLMENT AVERAGING

RESOLUTION

ASBSD supports reinstating two-year enrollment averaging or current enrollment, whichever is larger, in place of the fall enrollment count for the state aid formula calculation.

RATIONALE

With the passage of SB 131 the provision of the state aid formula that allowed for two year averaging of school district enrollment was eliminated. With year to year fluctuations in student enrollment, public schools depend on two year averaging to provide stability in their budgeting process.

ADOPTED: 2016

D. Taxation

1. SALES TAX REVENUE (PROPOSED AMENDMENT)

RESOLUTION

ASBSD supports the utilization of revenue collected from the half-cent increase to the sales tax for state funding of public K-12 education dedicated to teacher salaries.

RATIONALE

The half-cent increase to the sales tax provides the additional funding needed to support public education, especially in maintaining competitive teacher salary levels with neighboring states. ~~In 2016~~ historic legislation was passed in ~~HB 1182, SB132 and SB 133.~~ Reference: SDCL 13-13-10.1, 13-13-73.6; 10-45-2 through 10-45-8; 10-45-71

ADOPTED: 2015

REVISED: **2017**

E. Personnel

1. CONTINUING CONTRACT

RESOLUTION

ASBSD supports legislation to deny continuing contract rights to teachers who have received two consecutive years of unsatisfactory evaluations.

RATIONALE

ASBSD believes students should have the best teachers in the classroom. Using the state mandated evaluation process, a teacher whose performance is determined to be deficient should lose their continuing contract rights.

ADOPTED: 2008

REVISED: 2013

2. HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

RESOLUTION

ASBSD supports a local public school district's ability to develop hiring, evaluation and compensation policies to develop performance and market-based compensation mechanisms that support local efforts to recruit and retain quality staff.

RATIONALE

School boards, administrators and teachers are in the best position to decide whether the school district has the financial resources, personnel, data systems and desire to implement local policy. Districts should have the flexibility to adopt effective hiring, evaluation and compensation policies.

ADOPTED: 2010

REVISED: 2012

F. Unfunded Mandates

1. STATE EDUCATION MANDATES (PROPOSED AMENDMENT)

RESOLUTION

ASBSD supports legislative action to require the State to adopt a fiscal note associated with and providing funding for all new mandates placed on local public school districts.

RATIONALE

When state mandates place additional burdens on school boards, funds should be allocated to compensate expenses incurred. Therefore, it should be the policy of the State Department of Education to adopt fiscal notes and request funding from the legislature, prior to the passage of all new mandates placed on local public school districts.

ADOPTED: 2008

REVISED: 2017

2. FEDERAL MANDATES

RESOLUTION

ASBSD supports full funding for all federal mandates.

RATIONALE

When federal policymakers enact laws intended to foster higher levels of school performance and academic achievement, Congress must adequately fund federal mandates to avoid causing local school boards to shift local resources to meet the demands of federal education policies.

ADOPTED: 2008

REVISED: 2016

G. Federal Relations

1. MEDICAID SERVICE REIMBURSEMENT

RESOLUTION

ASBSD supports the continuation of federal Medicaid Service provided to public school K-12 for providing health services to Medicaid-eligible students.

RATIONALE

Public schools play a key role in identifying eligible children for Medicaid, connecting children to needed services in schools and communities. Medicaid service reimbursement funds help South Dakota public school districts provide outreach and coordination services that ultimately helps eligible children receive health services in a timely manner.

ADOPTED: 2008

REVISED: 2012

2. SCHOOL NUTRITION

RESOLUTION

ASBSD supports flexibility in federal law for state and local food service personnel to adjust the nutrition requirements including changes to the calorie maximum, to ensure they are providing school meals that meet the needs of their diverse student body in their communities.

RATIONALE

A one-size-fits-all policy ties the hands of local public school lunch providers. According to recent report, the USDA's new regulations have led to hungrier students, wasted food, and increased costs for schools.

ADOPTED: 2010

REVISED: 2016

3. E-RATE

RESOLUTION

ASBSD supports action by Congress and the Federal Communications Commission to strengthen the E-Rate program and improve the quality and speed of Internet connectivity in our nation's public K-12 schools.

RATIONALE

The E-rate program, officially called the Schools and Libraries Program Universal Service Fund, provides significant discounts to schools and libraries to help them build technology infrastructure and provide telecommunications and Internet services for students in low-income and rural areas. The program is a vital source of funding to maintain and improve Internet connectivity in public K-12 schools. Expansion of the federal E-rate program would improve access to technology for public K-12 schools and students.

ADOPTED: 2010

REVISED: 2012

G. Federal Relations

4. EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS ACT (ESSA)

RESOLUTION

ASBSD supports the federal education policy emphasizing the importance of local governance, providing states with more control over education standards and strengthening support for local control in managing school administration, budget development and related operations for public school district responsibilities.

RATIONALE

ESSA affirms state control of education standards by allowing them to set their own benchmarks for student achievement in math and reading. In addition, ESSA reaffirms the importance of local governance as state education standards will be up for peer review by public school board members, administrators, parents and other groups. A local governance measure included in the bill strengthens support for local control which will enhance the local district's goal of consistent student achievement.

ADOPTED: 2016

5. REPURPOSING FEDERAL FUNDING FOR SCHOOL CHOICE EXPANSION (NEW RESOLUTION)

RESOLUTION

ASBSD opposes the repurposing of federal funds in order to expand school choice options.

RATIONALE

The repurposing of federal funds to expand school choice options – as proposed in drafts of the federal budget – would have lasting effects on public school programs that originally received these funds. The use of public funds to expand school choice damages public schools by removing dollars dedicated to these schools to support students in a multitude of programs.

ADOPTED: 2017



2018 ASBSD Standing Positions

Revised: August 9, 2017

OVERVIEW

Standing positions are broad policy statements that reflect the core beliefs of South Dakota's locally elected public school board members. Standing positions provide your school board association with general direction and guidance on a range of education policy issues.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

One of a local public school board's core responsibilities is to develop, adopt and oversee policies focused on improving student achievement and eliminating achievement gaps between low achieving students and students performing at or above grade level. Every student, regardless of individual differences, can achieve at high levels when the state, local public school boards and communities establish high expectations for students and provide necessary resources and support.

Today's public school boards strive to develop instructional policy that provides for multiple paths to knowledge that moves students to develop more critical thinking, collaborative problem solving and self-reliance skills.

As community leaders, public school board members focus on providing programs and working collaboratively with other agencies.

Student achievement should be gauged using an accountability system based on multiple assessments that are valid, reliable, defensible, credible and diagnostically meaningful to a variety of stakeholders.

ASBSD urges policymakers at all levels to support programs that promote high level skills such as digital literacy, innovative thinking, and interactive communication to engage learners leading students to succeed in today's highly competitive, global economy.

Adopted: 2010

Revised: 2016

NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN EDUCATION

A range of statistical indicators reveal persistent and dramatic achievement gaps between Native American Indian students and their peers, depriving a significant portion of South Dakota's children of an equal opportunity to claim a more prosperous personal, social and economic future.

All students can face barriers to learning, but many of South Dakota's Native American Indian children are surrounded by a concentrated and generationally pervasive poverty that jeopardizes an individual's health, safety and personal belief in the value of education.

South Dakotans must continue to work toward solutions, which include but not limited to the Native American Achievement Schools Grant Program and the Paraprofessional Tuition Assistance Scholarship Program, while embracing the pride, heritage and dignity of Native American Indian culture and fostering collaboration and establishing long-term commitments to improving educational outcomes for Native American Indian students.

Adopted: 2010

Revised: 2016

HEALTH & WELLNESS

ASBSD believes that wellness is related to staff and students overall well-being and their readiness to teach and learn. A growing body of research links student wellness to positive academic results, affirming the important role school wellness plays in student achievement.

ASBSD believes local public school boards should work with community stakeholders in a coordinated approach to promote policies and practices that encourage and enable wellness, including healthy food choices, nutrition education, and regular physical activity.

Comprehensive local policy includes multiple aspects of student/staff well-being, including drug resistance, suicide prevention, violence prevention and all forms of bullying.

ASBSD urges local public school boards to adopt policy that promotes healthy lifestyles and student safety, but opposes state mandates, whether funded or unfunded, which would limit the authority of local public school districts to design appropriate wellness programs that reflect school and community standards.

Adopted: 2008

Revised: 2015

TECHNOLOGY IN EDUCATION

Technology has an essential and expanding role in our global society. Emerging information and communication technologies will reshape how students learn and how they apply their knowledge, skills and abilities.

ASBSD believes technology is transforming public K-12 education. The infrastructure, hardware, software, and platforms are either available or being developed that will change the nature of how we teach our children in profound and far-reaching ways.

ASBSD believes technology is a powerful, important tool for public education to be used in combination with proven teaching and learning strategies to ensure a high-quality education.

ASBSD supports technology initiatives that are focused on improved student outcomes and that reflect the need for ongoing support and renewal in the ever-changing technological landscape. Digital technology using virtual learning strategies, blended learning, and other cutting edge teaching coupled with quality training, will advance our students in the highly competitive global environment.

South Dakota's public school systems should embrace technology as a catalyst to improve teaching and learning. School district staff need support, through high-quality, embedded professional development, to integrate technology into their instruction. Technology integration is a critical tool to prepare our students for digital world that is transforming around them.

Adopted: 2012

Revised: 2015

LOCAL GOVERNANCE

Public school districts are governed by elected leaders, who are responsive and accountable to local citizens. An informed, active citizenry is essential to our democratic and representative form of government.

Local boards, within guidelines established by state law, are vested with authority to make local education decisions. Local board members, as the elected representatives closest to the students, families and communities in which they live, are best positioned to understand student needs and identify effective solutions. A local public school board cannot delegate statutory duties and responsibilities. State law must allow governance flexibility to ensure all school boards are positioned to meet the needs of their community and the changing public school environment.

Public school boards are accountable to students, citizens and staff for: providing education programs; striving for excellence; identifying needs; adopting clearly defined written policies; measuring program success; and interpreting and disseminating information to the public; and setting the school calendar that best fits their district.

Public school boards function best in a non-partisan, broadly representative, team-spirited manner while putting district needs ahead of partisanship and special interest - be they political, racial, religious, geographic, economic, social, civic or any other form. The board and superintendent, along with other key personnel, serve as a local governance leadership team that works together to effectively and efficiently operate a public school district.

ASBSD supports the judgment and integrity of South Dakota public school board members and opposes initiatives or legislation that impedes a school board's ability to govern.

Adopted: 2007

Revised: 2015

SCHOOL REORGANIZATION

ASBSD believes school district reorganization, resource sharing and cooperative arrangements are in the best interest of South Dakota's public school students when:

- Educational outcomes, measured in expanded educational opportunities with expectations for improved achievement, is the most important consideration; and
- Geographical issues are considered, including the amount of student travel time and allowing for continued community participation; and
- Reorganization is voluntary – initiated and voted upon by the school board, or by the citizens of the public school districts.

Adopted: 2006

Revised: 2014

PUBLIC SCHOOL CHOICE

ASBSD believes South Dakota's public education system, through South Dakota's open enrollment laws, should provide parents and students the choice to attend any of South Dakota's public schools.

ASBSD supports open enrollment laws that work to promote cooperation among public school districts that help meet the educational needs of ALL students and families.

Adopted: 2007

Revised: 2016

OPEN GOVERNMENT AND TRANSPARENCY (PROPOSED AMENDMENT)

As public bodies, school boards operate in a transparent manner that promotes active civic engagement and public discourse. Effective and efficient governance respects the public's right to observe, respectfully record a board meeting and petition government while operating under the legal framework of state and federal policy. Public school boards, as government entities closest to citizens, provide a wealth of public information, including thorough financial records.

ASBSD believes it is incumbent upon each public school board member to have a working knowledge of both open meeting laws and privacy laws.

ASBSD supports state policies and potential legislation allowing public school boards the local option to post official minutes and public notices online.

ASBSD supports full disclosure of conflicts of interest as prescribed by law (reference SDCL 3-23-6 through 3-23-9)

Adopted: 2009

Revised: 2017

SCHOOL FINANCE

South Dakota's public school students deserve a comprehensive school finance system. School finance decisions, whether at the local, state or federal level, should build the capacity of the public education system to expand learning opportunities for students. Policy makers at all levels should fulfill commitments and obligations to public schools before providing financial support to non-public schools.

ASBSD supports a school finance system that:

- Provides necessary equitable, predictable and timely funding; and
- Provides equal opportunities to all students while addressing South Dakota's diverse student needs; and
- Provides judicious funding based on relief for enrollment fluctuations; and
- Provides locally elected public school boards the authority and responsibility to prioritize and allocate funding, within the mandates and parameters of each fund set in state statute, to best meet student needs; and
- Provide additional funding to meet state and federal expectations.

Adopted: 2007

Revised: 2016

SAFE AND SECURE SCHOOLS

ASBSD believes South Dakota public school students deserve to learn in a safe and secure school environment.

A growing body of research has linked student achievement and behavior, as well as staff morale, to physical building conditions. Every child deserves a safe, technologically-ready school facility designed for student learning.

ASBSD believes local public school boards are responsible for the adoption of plans to prevent and respond to situations that threaten the safety or well-being of students and staff. School districts are encouraged to work with government agencies, public safety officials and other first-responders to prepare effective emergency response plans.

ASBSD believes local public school boards, acting in compliance with federal and state law, must have the authority to enact and implement policies and procedures that maintain safe, orderly schools and create supportive learning cultures.

ASBSD supports current laws designed to keep convicted criminals from employment in schools and illegal drugs and weapons away from school buildings.

ASBSD urges parents, businesses and communities to work with local school boards to provide safe, crime-free schools.

Adopted: 2010

Revised: 2015

INVESTMENT IN EDUCATION (PROPOSED AMENDMENT)

ASBSD believes devoting public funds to elementary and secondary education is an investment in the social and economic future of our children, our communities, our state and our nation.

In South Dakota, public schools deliver an outstanding return on investment. The personal and economic benefits of a quality education have a direct and dramatic impact on individuals, families and communities. Investments in the public education system serve multiple ends, but none are more important to the economic future of our country than ensuring every child graduates from high school ready for the postsecondary education or the workplace.

ASBSD believes investing in elementary and secondary education leads to improved student outcomes, particularly when investments strengthen teacher quality, improve access to high quality ~~pre-kindergarten, preschool~~ and public K-12 programs and provide extended learning opportunities for students at-risk.

South Dakota's Constitution prescribes the commitment to public education in Article 8, Section 1; "The stability of a republican form of government depending on the morality and intelligence of the people, it shall be the duty of the Legislature to establish and maintain a general and uniform system of public schools wherein tuition shall be without charge, and equally open to all; and to adopt all suitable means to secure to the people the advantages and opportunities of education."

Adopted: 2011

Revised: **2017**