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NOVEMBER 2011

Excellence in North Dakota public education through local school board governance ■ VOL XXXVI ISSUE 11

North Dakota Common Core State Standards Effective in 2013

Greg Gallagher, DPI Standards and Achievement Director

In June 2011 the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) announced the adoption of new content standards for English language arts and mathematics. These new content standards, which define grade level expectations for what students should know and be able to do, are based on recently released national Common Core State Standards (CCSS). These standards will become effective in July 2013 and will be the basis for the state's future assessment efforts.

The state's adoption of new standards followed a nine-month review process that was conducted by a statewide 70-member committee of teachers with content expertise. The complete presentation of the state's new content standards is available on the DPI website: <http://www.dpi.state.nd.us/standard/content.shtm>.

In 2009 the national CCSS Initiative was established and constituted a state-led effort coordinated by the National Governors Association Center for Best Practices (NGA Center) and the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO). This initiative committed itself to develop uniformly rigorous content standards in English language arts and mathematics to prepare our children for

college and the workforce. The national CCSS are products by the states and for the states and are neither mandated by nor originate from the U.S. Department of Education or any other federally sponsored effort.

The NGA Center and CCSSO received extensive feedback on draft standards from national organizations representing, but not limited to, teachers, postsecondary educators (including community colleges), civil rights groups, and representatives for English language learners and students with disabilities. Following the initial round of development, draft standards were opened for public comment, receiving nearly 10,000 responses. These responses resulted in additional improvements to content and format of these standards.

The national CCSS are developed from the most effective models from states across the nation and countries around the world and provide teachers and parents with a common understanding of what students are expected to learn. Consistent standards provide appropriate reference points for all students--regardless of where they live.

These standards define knowledge and skills students should have within their K-12 education careers so that

they will graduate from high school able to succeed in entry-level, credit-bearing academic college courses and in workforce training programs. The standards:

- Are aligned with college and work expectations
- Are clear, understandable and consistent
- Include rigorous content and application of knowledge through higher-order thinking skills
- Build upon strengths and lessons of current state standards
- Are informed by other top performing countries, so that all students are prepared to succeed in our global economy and society
- Are evidence-based

Following release of these national CCSS, DPI convened committees of statewide educators to review, validate, provide supporting commentary, and offer a recommendation regarding the ultimate adoption of standards. After an extensive nine-month review process facilitated by DPI and Midcontinent Research for Education and Learning (McREL), a nationally recognized research laboratory, committees of statewide educators unanimously recommended adoption of the national CCSS as the state's official content

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Hess Corporation Gifts \$25 Million to ND Education

On November 8, Governor Dalrymple and the Hess Corporation announced that the global energy company is donating \$25 million to fund "Succeed 2020," a statewide education project aimed at helping North Dakota students become better prepared for college and careers.

Planning grants will be distributed to bring together education, business, community leaders, and parents.

Regional Education Associations (REAs) will have the lead responsibility for bringing partners together to design collaborative solutions to improve students' college and career readiness.

Specifics regarding implementation of "Succeed 2020" will be available in weeks to come.

Korsmo Re-elected NDSBA President

Delegates to the 2011 NDSBA Convention re-elected West Fargo



School Board member
Angela Korsmo as president of the association.

North Central board member
Jannell Lagein was elected

vice president and Kirsten Baesler of Mandan was re-elected Southwest Director.

Roger Pohlman, president of the Grand Forks School Board, was elected to his first term as Northeast Director.

NDSBA thanks these individuals for devoting their time, talent, and energy to provide leadership to the association.

NDSBA Delegates Adopt Resolutions

The Delegate Assembly voted on proposed resolutions during this year's annual convention. Below are resolutions adopted by delegates at their meeting on October 29. A complete list of NDSBA's Standing Resolutions and Beliefs and Policies can be found at www.ndsba.org under "Legislation."

New Resolutions

PROPERTY TAX INITIATED MEASURE

NDSBA shall oppose efforts to eliminate local property taxation in North Dakota.

CURRICULUM CONTENT

NDSBA shall oppose state or national efforts to further define and mandate specific curriculum content.

FEDERAL IMPACT AID FUNDING

NDSBA shall support full funding by the federal government for federally impacted schools.

Resolutions Readopted as Written

NON-EDUCATION FUNDS TO PROVIDE FOR SAFETY ISSUES INCLUDING SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS AND HEALTH AND NURSING SERVICES

NDSBA shall seek legislation that commits additional non-education resources to provision of these necessary services so school districts may continue to provide for educational needs of students and receive support necessary to continue these very important non-educational services necessary to ensure safety and health of all students in the state of North Dakota.

K-12 FUNDING ADEQUACY

NDSBA will take a lead role in discussions on what commitment to "adequate funding" requires of the state to meet its obligation to its students.

SALES AND USE TAX EXEMPTIONS OF SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS

NDSBA will support the state

making supplies and materials purchased by school districts through contracts with contractors for construction projects exempt from sales and use tax.

REMOVING COMPENSATION FROM NEGOTIATIONS

NDSBA shall support legislation amending the collective bargaining law to exclude compensation.

NINTH GRADE ALTERNATIVE SCHOOLING

NDSBA shall seek changes in eligibility for attendance in alternative high school programs contained in Agency Rules 67-16.01 from "students must be from the ages of 16-21" to "students must be at least at 9th grade level or age 16 and not older than 21."

Resolutions Readopted as Amended

TEACHER NONRENEWAL

NDSBA will seek legislative changes that would provide that any teacher newly hired after August 15 would be excluded from the continuous contract and would be covered by the provisions of NDCC 15.1-15-12(4).

NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND ASSESSMENTS

NDSBA shall meet with the ND Department of Public Instruction and formally request that they develop and submit to the Department of Education for approval a growth model to measure Adequate Yearly Progress in the state of North Dakota which follows the principles of No Child Left Behind and encourage DPI to offer state assessments in the spring rather than the fall.

PUBLISHING MINUTES

NDSBA will support legislation and seek sponsorship for legislation which would amend the requirements that school boards pay to publish minutes as defined in NDCC 15.1-09-31.

Standing Resolutions adopted at the 2011 Convention will remain until 2015 unless accomplished before that time.

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(l to r) NDSBA President Angela Korsmo, Karen Nitzkorski, Steven Reiser, Jannell Lagein, and Greg Allen

Board Members Receive Service Awards

NDSBA recognizes board members for their professional development and service on two levels: Veteran Board Member and Master Board Member. A point system has been adopted whereby each opportunity carries a specific value. When a board member has earned 100 points, a certificate is awarded designating the individual as a Veteran Board Member. When 200 points are earned, the designation is Master Board Member and a certificate and lapel pin are awarded. Board members who participate in national meetings earn their certificate "with distinction."

2011 NDSBA Service Award Recipients

Veteran

David Ambers Minnewaukan School District
 Monica Mertz Ellendale School District

Veteran with Distinction

Karen Nitzkorski West Fargo School District

Master

Steven Reiser Washburn School District

Master with Distinction

Greg Allen Jamestown School District
 Jannell Lagein North Central School District

Congratulations to Service Award Recipients!

■ CORE STANDARDS *Continued from page 1*

standards in English language arts and mathematics.

These content standards are currently available to local school districts to allow for preparation of local curricula. The state's 2005 content standards will remain effective until **July 1, 2013**, after which these approved 2011 CCSS will become effective for the state's accountability system. After

July 1, 2013, all public school districts are expected to provide instruction based on these new CCSS. The state's academic assessments aligned to the 2005 content standards will continue to be administered through the 2013 fall test administration. **Beginning with the 2014-15 academic year**, the state will administer a new generation of state assessments based on 2011 CCSS.

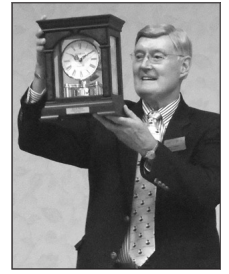
2011 NDSBA Convention

The 2011 NDSBA Annual Convention was held in Bismarck on October 28-29. The opening General Session featured Dr. David R. Landswerk's entertaining and inspiring message, "Take This Job and Love It." Saturday's General Session featured Nebraska Millard South High School representatives Dr. Keith Lutz, Linda Poole, and Amy Friedman who candidly discussed the handling of a tragic event that occurred in

their school.

Friday and Saturday clinic sessions were timely and informative.

Retiring NDSBA Legal Counsel Gary Thune was honored at a reception on Friday. Gary's family and co-workers were present to share in the gratitude expressed by those he has helped and inspired during his years of service to school boards and the NDSBA.



Meidinger Receives Norby Scholarship Award

Ashley School Board President Lucy Meidinger received the Barb Norby Scholarship Award at the North Dakota School Boards Association's 2011 Annual Convention. The award was created by the NDSBA Board of Directors in tribute to Barb Norby's valuable service to the association and honors a board member who demonstrates admirable leadership at the local and state level. The scholarship provides registration to the National School Boards Association's Federal Relations Network meeting or Annual Conference.

Meidinger was first elected to the Ashley School Board in 2000 and has served as president for the past nine years. During her tenure on the board, Lucy has promoted partnerships with Wishek in sporting events, prom, and homecoming. She serves on the Dollars for Scholars Committee and is a member of the Governing Board for the



Barb Norby presents Meidinger with award.

Missouri River Education Cooperative. Lucy has been recognized as a Master Board Member by NDSBA.

Lucy attends NDSBA board development activities including the Annual Convention and Negotiations Seminars. She has served on various NDSBA convention committees, including Ballot Counting and Credentials, and has been a member of the Governmental Affairs Committee for the past five years.

As a strong proponent of public education, Lucy states her reason for serving "is for the kids and to make sure they get a good education."



Grenora Public School
(Superintendent/HS Principal)
Contact: Jennifer McNamara, BsMgr.
PO Box 38
Grenora, ND 58845-0038
701-694-2711
Deadline: Open



2012 NDSBA Negotiations Seminar
February 9-11, 2012
Doublewood Inn, Bismarck

2012 NSBA Annual Conference
April 21-23, 2012
Boston, Massachusetts

2012 NDSBA Annual Convention
PRE-CONVENTION
NDSBA New Member Seminar
NDCSA School Law Seminar
Thursday, October 25, 2012
Ramkota Hotel, Bismarck

ANNUAL CONVENTION
October 26-27, 2012
Ramkota Hotel, Bismarck

Nonrenewal Field Reps

Board members and superintendents interested in serving as a nonrenewal field representative to assist schools with nonrenewal of teachers, please call NDSBA by January 6, 2012.