



# bulletin

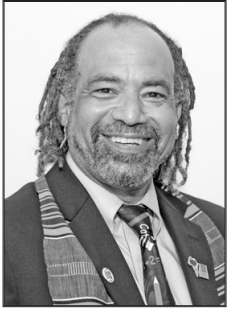


OCTOBER 2010

Excellence in North Dakota public education through local school board governance ■ VOL XXXV ISSUE 10

## Convention Sessions Will Delight and Inform

### Keynote Speakers



NSBA President Earl C. Rickman III will open the convention with greetings from our national association.

Collins Tuohy shares her amazing story: *Behind The Blind Side: Overcoming Obstacles in the Face of Adversity.*



Bob Upgren will inspire with his message: *Principles of the Lighthouse: How leaders across the country make a lasting difference in their schools.*

NDSBA's Annual Convention will be held **October 29-30** at the Ramkota Hotel in Bismarck. Keynote speakers will delight and inform attendees

while clinic sessions offer valuable professional development opportunities. Since individual board members will not be able to attend all clinic sessions, it is a good idea for boards to review the program in advance, attend as many different sessions as possible, and share what was learned.

Sessions will cover information in several areas of interest:

#### Board Development

- Economic Update and Investment of School Funds
- Informal Conversation with Collins Tuohy
- Leadership Track for Experienced Board Members: How to Strengthen Your Team; How to Partner for Success; Board/Superintendent Relations; How to Effect Change Through Community Engagement; Panel of Experienced Board Members
- Superintendent Evaluation
- New Online Resources for School Boards
- "Things that Go Bang in the Night" School Board Leadership
- Risk Management in Schools
- Alternative Teacher Compensation System

- Use of Laptop Computers by the School Board
- When the Low Bid Turns Out to be the Most Expensive Bid
- NDSBA Resolutions Review
- Current Issues Affecting High School Athletic Programs

#### 21st Century Teaching and Learning

- The World in 2025: How the ND Center for Distance Education Plans to Evolve to Meet Current and Future ND Student Needs
- 21st Century Skills: Youth Council Members
- 21st Century Skills: Framework for 21st Century Learning
- AVID: An Avenue to Prepare "Students in the Middle" for College and Success
- EduSocial for Administrators
- 21st Century Skills: Improving Education or Stifling Student Development
- 21st Century Skills: Integrating Technology and Real World Applications to Improve Classroom Instruction

#### Law and Regulation

- Timely Updates from the ND Commission on Education Improvement

*Continued on page 2*

## State Lodging Rates Change

Effective October 1, 2010, the state rate for lodging reimbursement changed from \$63 to **\$69.30 plus applicable taxes**. Current state law requires that N.D. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) set lodging reimbursement at 90 percent of the rate established by the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA). State

mileage rates are to be equal to federal reimbursement rates--currently \$.50 per mile for privately owned vehicles.

Federal rates change periodically but not on a schedule. You should regularly check current and recently updated fiscal policies on OMB's website at: <http://www.nd.gov/fiscal/policies/>.



NDSBA President Maurice Hardy and Vice President Angela Korsmo serve as delegates at NSBA's Western Region meeting.



NDSBA board members Jannell Lagein and Kirsten Baesler attend sessions at NSBA's Western Region meeting.

## ■ CONVENTION

*Continued from page 1*

- TFFR Funding Challenge and Legislative Proposals
- ESPB Educator Licensure Updates
- Graduation/Scholarship Requirements and Statewide ACT/WorkKeys Testing
- State/Federal Legislative Update
- Hot Topics in Special Education
- Proposed Legislation Regarding Approval of all Public and Nonpublic Schools

### School Environment

- Creating a Positive School Climate--Comprehensive Policies and Action Plans to Address Bullying and Harassment in Your Schools
- Schools & Discipline: Harassment, Cyberbullying & the Future
- Standing Rock Dropout Prevention Initiative

Consult NDSBA's website at [www.ndsba.org](http://www.ndsba.org) to view clinic times or see September *Bulletin*.

See you October 29-30 in Bismarck!

## Schools to Launch Literacy Program

The South East Education Cooperative (SEEC)—one of North Dakota's Regional Education Associations—received an AmeriCorps grant for the 2010-11 school year to launch a literacy intervention program called "SEECing Student Progress." Participating schools include Fargo, West Fargo, and Jamestown.

SEEC Youth Development Director



Jamie Peltier said, "We know that a vital component to success is the ability to read. In early years of school, children are **learning to read** but at about third to fifth grade, they are **reading to learn** so if they are not proficient readers, they are automatically at a disadvantage." West Fargo Special Education Director

Mari Bell concurs saying, "Our goal is to provide the just-in-time intervention to kids who are at risk."

Tutors are assigned as homework aides or literacy aides. Literacy aides are trained on reading interventions with emphasis on fluency, comprehension, and speed. They work one-on-one with children who are reading below grade level. Once a target reading level is reached, a child is released from the program, making room for another to enter. Homework aids work with children in after-school programs. The program hopes to serve about 300 kindergarten through fifth-graders who are not far enough behind to qualify for other special services but not keeping up with grade level work.

Organizers hope to see success similar to that experienced in other states and, if they do, will reapply for the grant next year to expand services to other school districts.

This effort is an excellent example of educators researching best practices and collaborating to seek funding to implement successful programs.

## bulletin

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**EDITOR** Bev Nielson

**PUBLISHER**

North Dakota School Boards Association  
PO Box 2276  
Bismarck, ND 58502-2276

**TELEPHONE** 1-800-932-8791

**LOCAL** (701)255-4127

**FAX** (701)258-7992

**WEB SITE** [www.ndsba.org](http://www.ndsba.org)

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# Meet the 2010 NDSBA Slate of Candidates

## CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT



### Angela Korsmo...West Fargo

Angela is a graduate of the College of St. Benedict with a major in biology and minors in English and education. She has been a science and English teacher, a vocational rehabilitation counselor, and is currently employed at Sanford Health in Fargo.

Angela has been on the West Fargo School Board since 1997, serving as vice president from 2003-2008. She has been an active participant on most of the board committees over the years. She was appointed to the NDSBA Governmental

Affairs Committee in 2005 and elected to the NDSBA Board of Directors in 2006. In 2007 Governor Hoeven appointed her to the North Dakota Education Standards and Practices Board.

Angela regularly attends the NDSBA Annual Convention, the National School Boards Association Federal Relations Network Conference and NSBA's Annual Conference. She has earned NDSBA's Master Board Member Award with distinction. Angela and her husband Michael have four adult children.

## CANDIDATE FOR VICE PRESIDENT



### Dave King...Kenmare

Dave graduated from Kenmare High School and attended college in Dickinson and Wahpeton. He operates a farm in the Kenmare area. Dave is also assessor for Lowland Township in Mountrail County, treasurer of Baden Township in Ward County, and a trustee on his church council.

Dave currently is Northwest Director on the NDSBA Board of Directors. He has been on the Kenmare School Board for 15 years and served six years as president. Dave has served on all Kenmare School

Board committees. He served on the NDSBA Governmental Affairs Committee and was instrumental in pioneering the one-line salary schedule. His testimony was crucial in gaining legal authority for boards to pay off the schedule when unable to fill certain teaching positions.

Dave has frequently presented at both the NDSBA Negotiations Seminar and Annual Convention. He has earned the NDSBA Master Board Member Award with distinction.

Dave and his wife Stephanie have two adult children.

## CANDIDATE FOR SOUTHEAST DIRECTOR



### Greg Allen...Jamestown

Greg has lived in Jamestown for over 30 years. He graduated from Valley City State University with a bachelor's degree in business administration and is Administration Manager at Cavendish Farms.

Greg has served on the Jamestown School Board since 1994 and is currently board president. He was elected to NDSBA's Board of Directors in 2009. Governor Hoeven appointed Greg to the Education Standards and Practices Board (current vice chairman), the North Dakota Workforce Development Council, and the North Dakota State Commission on National and Community Service.

Greg has been active on additional state and local boards including the North Dakota Roundtable on Higher Education (private sector), Jamestown United Way (board chairman), North Dakota Safety Council Board of Directors (Safety Professional of the Year), and Jamestown Mayor's Committee on the Employment of People with Disabilities. He has made presentations to many organizations such as Jamestown Character Counts, North Dakota Business Challenge, and Marketplace for Kids.

Greg is married with four children and five grandchildren. His wife Mary is a Special Education Strategist and currently teaches the "Read 180" program at Jamestown Middle School.

## CANDIDATES FOR NORTHWEST DIRECTOR



### **Jim Rostad...Minot**

As a current resident of rural Minot, Jim brings a unique blend of experiences to the NDSBA.

Jim graduated from Carpio High School and attended Minot State University before beginning his career in the collision repair industry. Founder of Minot's Finest Collision Center, Jim has been active in state and national auto body industry organizations and was a columnist for "Body Shop Business," the most highly recognized industry journal in the nation. Jim has served as a board member and president of the North Dakota Auto Body Association and as chairman of their state convention. In his nearly 40 years of management experience, he has developed valuable decision-making skills.

Jim's school board experience includes

serving as a member of the Minot School Board from 1988–1992, and as president from 1990–1992. He returned to the board in 2004. He has attended several NSBA national conferences. Jim is the local board's liaison to the Minot Air Force Base School Board. He has attended several National Association of Federally Impacted Schools (NAFIS) conferences in Washington, D.C., which always include meeting with our congressional delegation. Jim has served on NDSBA's Governmental Affairs Committee for the last five years.

Jim is a past board member and chairman of the Minot Housing Authority and a former member and chairman of the Board of Trustees of his church. Jim and his wife Verla have two grown children and three grandchildren.



### **Mike Lautenschlager...Lewis and Clark, Berthold**

Mike is a graduate of Berthold Public School. He spent five years in Leeds, North Dakota, as herdsman for Kenner Simmentals and then returned to Berthold where he is involved in the family farm and employed at Delta Energy.

Mike has been on the school board for 14 years and has served on several committees. He has presented on reorganizations at NDSBA Conventions and on labor/management issues at

Negotiations Seminars. Mike currently serves on NDSBA's Governmental Affairs Committee and is a member of NSBA's Federal Relations Network.

Mike is a 4-H leader, serves on the County Ambulance Board of Directors, and is a member of the Berthold volunteer ambulance service. He and his wife Ginger have three sons, ages 12 to 20.

# ND Professional Development Advisory Committee Report

■ Kirsten Baesler, Mandan School Board and NDPDAC member

During the 2009 Legislative Session, law was created that requires each school district to write a professional development (PD) plan. It states that this plan must be submitted to DPI and reviewed and approved by a Professional Development Advisory Committee formed by the Department.



Kirsten Baesler

The September issue of NDSBA's *Bulletin*, mentioned the new professional development blogging website initiated by DPI and the Professional Development Advisory Committee. As the school boards' representative on the Advisory Committee, I wanted to expand on a few of our activities.

The North Dakota Professional Development Advisory Committee (NDPDAC) has met five times since its creation. In addition, five subcommittees were formed with each meeting several times during the year and reporting back to the full committee for feedback and/or action. Subcommittees include: Professional Development Plan and Review Form, Survey of PD District Practices, Website Development, Professional Teacher Standards, and Legislative Issues.

In order to create baseline data, a survey on the status of PD in North Dakota schools was conducted in January 2010. Six hundred administrators and nearly 500 teachers responded. The survey collected information on effective models of PD around the state. Initial results indicate that:

- Districts determine their PD focus based primarily on needs assessments, school improvement goals, and administrative/teacher team recommendations.

- Most districts have 2-5 PD days in their calendars and use the full day or a combination of full day and up to 4 days of early release.
- 45 percent of teachers and administrators believed that their districts took steps to measure effectiveness of their PD initiatives.
- 25 percent of teachers and 35 percent of administrators indicated their district had data showing a correlation between PD and student achievement.
- 32 percent of teachers and 64 percent of administrators viewed PD in their districts as somewhat effective (3) on a 4-point scale with 4 being the highest rating.

NDPDAC reviewed principles of effective PD and included research from the National Staff Development Council in developing a ND Professional Development district plan template. It was determined that seven standards, which are the cornerstone of school improvement initiatives, would form the foundation of the plan template. The seven standards are:

1. Vision and Beliefs
2. Using Data Results
3. Teaching and Learning
4. Leadership and Governance
5. Resources
6. Support and Environment
7. Evaluation of the PD plan

In addition to using the principles of effective PD in writing plans, districts also need to provide documentation of participation by various stakeholders, how needs of all stakeholders will be met, and how the plan will improve quality of instruction. Deadline for online submission of district plans is November 1, 2010. NDPDAC will review plans in November and December and provide feedback to districts. After this first year, plans will be submitted in conjunction with the school improvement plan cycle or when major revisions are made. Since this is an online process, revisions to plans can be made anytime during the year so they are always up to date.

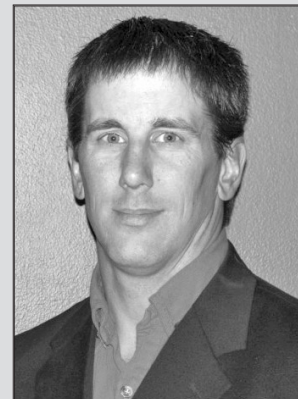
In future issues of the *Bulletin*, I will recap other activities of the NDPDAC. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to represent school boards on this important committee.

## Auch Named to NDHSAA Board

Ben Auch of Mott/Regent has been named to represent school boards on the North Dakota High School Activities Association Board of Directors. Ben graduated from Mott High School and from North Dakota State College of Science. Since 2007 he has partnered with his brother-in-law in an agriculture-related business.

Ben was first elected to the Mott/Regent School Board in 2004 and has served on several board committees, the Head Start Policy Council, and NDSBA convention committees. He is an EMT and member of the Mott ambulance service. Ben referees junior high and junior varsity football.

North Dakota school board members are fortunate to have high quality leaders like Ben who volunteer their time and expertise to serve on statewide boards.



## Upcoming PowerSchool Events

EduTech invites you to attend the annual Fall Users Group Meeting/Workshops on November 16-18, 2010, at Hughes Education Center

in Bismarck. Times, session titles, and registration are available at [www.eductech.nodak.edu/powerschool](http://www.eductech.nodak.edu/powerschool).

# North Dakota's NCLB Blue Ribbon School

Barnes County North/North Central Campus has been honored as an NCLB Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education. The award honors public and private elementary, middle, and high schools whose students achieve at very high levels or have made significant



progress and helped close achievement gaps especially among disadvantaged and minority students.

In announcing the winners, U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan said, "Our nation has a responsibility to help all children realize their full potential. Schools honored with the Blue Ribbon Schools award are committed to achievement and to ensuring that students learn and succeed."

North Central Campus principal Daren Christianson praises students and staff for their hard work and dedication to learning and teaching at the highest level. Asked why they perform at high levels, he cites the following:

- Our students have been taught to take ownership of their own education.
- Our teachers have high expectations and work at improving what they do every year.
- Our patrons and school board support students and staff at a high level.

In his *Principal's Posting* Christianson said, "One thing I can say with pride is that our students are challenged, our programs are scientifically based, and our teachers are highly skilled. Our students work hard and value their education."

Congratulations to Barnes County North/North Central Campus for this national recognition.



mark your calendar

**2010 NDSBA Annual Convention**  
PRE-CONVENTION  
*NDSBA New Member Seminar*  
*NDCSA School Law Seminar*  
Thursday, October 28, 2010  
Ramkota Hotel, Bismarck

ANNUAL CONVENTION  
October 29 & 30, 2010  
Ramkota Hotel, Bismarck

## Top 10 Legal Issues

Each year NSBA surveys members of the Council of School Attorneys to determine the legal issues and concerns their client school districts are facing. Following are the top 10 legal issues:

1. Finance adequacy and equity
2. Employee discipline and termination
3. Special education, including issues involving private placement, attorney fees, and student privacy
4. Collective bargaining
5. Student discipline
6. Employee and student misuse of the Internet
7. Educator sexual misconduct
8. Civil rights
9. Discrimination
10. School board member governance

These topics are discussed in more detail in the October 10, 2010, NSBA's *American School Board Journal*.

## Superintendent Evaluations

North Dakota law requires that school boards complete a formative evaluation of superintendents **before December 15** [NDCC 15.1-14-03]. This evaluation must take place at an open public meeting. One purpose of the December evaluation is to highlight areas of performance in need of improvement and provide an improvement plan and timeline for expected enhanced performance. This process allows opportunity for professional growth before the superintendent's formal summative evaluation in April.