



NDSBA
NORTH DAKOTA SCHOOL
BOARDS ASSOCIATION

2025
Board Candidates

CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT

Nathan Berseth – Richland 44 School District



Nathan Berseth currently serves as vice president of the NDSBA Board of Directors. He is in his eighth year serving on the Richland #44 School Board, including seven years as president. He feels privileged to serve as a board member on both the North Dakota High School Activities Association and Home on The Range. Since 2014, Berseth has been a Richland County Commissioner, actively involved in local governance and community initiatives.

Berseth is employed by Bank Forward and involved in farming, small-town development, and various other business investments. He grew up in Colfax and pursued his education at North Dakota State College of Science and Minnesota State University Moorhead. Berseth lives on a farm near Colfax with his wife, Janelle, and their daughter, Bianca.

CANDIDATE FOR VICE PRESIDENT

Michelle Orton – Dickinson School District



Michelle Orton currently represents the Southwest Region on the NDSBA Board of Directors. She is the president of the Dickinson School Board and has served on the board since 2018.

Orton began her career as an educator and coach and has been involved with numerous community organizations for more than two decades. She serves on the Dickinson Public Schools Booster Board.

Orton lives in Dickinson with her husband of 21 years, Ty, and their two boys, Tristan and Cooper, who attend Dickinson High School. She enjoys hiking and trail running and has completed Ultra 50ks. When she is not busy attending her boys' activities or spending time with family and friends, you'll find her running on the streets or the Maah Daah Hey Trail in Medora training for another race.

CANDIDATE FOR NORTHEAST DIRECTOR

Lynn Carlson – Finley-Sharon School District



Lynn Carlson has been on the Finley-Sharon school board for four years, where he has served as vice president and the chair of the Negotiations Committee. Carlson is also the president of the Finley-Sharon Lutheran Parish, Sheyenne Valley Lutheran Church, and Steele County Crop and Livestock Improvement Association. He is the vice president of the Steele Traill County Mutual Insurance Company board of directors and serves on the boards for Dakota Rural Water District and the Finley-Sharon Ag advisory committee.

Carlson is interested in serving on the NDSBA Board of Directors to represent and advocate for public schools and to help shape statewide education policy and priorities. He brings a deep understanding of rural education needs and has a passion for public education, student success, and community engagement.

Carlson is a farmer and rancher in Steele and Griggs counties. He and his wife, Britni, have two children – three-year-old Ledger and one-year-old Hattie. Britni is a K-12 special education teacher for the Griggs-Steele-Traill multidistrict.

CANDIDATE FOR SOUTHWEST DIRECTOR

Carrie Zachmann – Beach School District



Carrie Zachmann grew up in Beach and still lives there with her husband, Andy, and two daughters, Ava and Ella. Zachmann can be found in a gym or at the track following the girls and all their activities. She volunteers with the local Close-Up program for Beach Seniors and Juniors and is employed by Golden Valley County.

Zachmann has been on the Beach School Board for eight years and has served on the Technology, Curriculum/Policy, Finance/Collective Bargaining, and Personnel Committees.

Zachmann is also president of the Roughrider Area Career and Technology Center board and serves on the Southwest Area CTE Academy board. She wants to serve on the NDSBA Board of Directors to help public education continue to grow; and she wants to share the positive impacts of a strong public school system in North Dakota.

When not following the girls in their activities, Zachmann enjoys spending time with family and friends, camping, and being outdoors.

2025 NOMINATING COMMITTEE:

April Dutchuk, Killdeer – Chair
Allison Clausen, Hettinger
Krystyna Langerud, Valley-Edinburg
Sheri Olson, Devils Lake
Stephanie Reistad, Divide County