

SOUTH DAKOTA SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, December 5, 2023 @ 6:00 p.m. CST

Oacoma - Arrowwood Cedar Shore

AGENDA:

1. Call the meeting to order—Mr. Joel Jorgenson, President.

President Jorgenson called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm CST. A quorum was established with the following members present: Joel Jorgenson, president; Becky Guffin, president-elect; Summer Schultz, past-president; Orion Thompson, treasurer; Jennifer Lowery, secretary; Dave Hutchison, Region 1; Pat Mikkonen, Region 2; Quinton Cermak, Region 3; Blake Gardner, Region 4; Trent Osborne, Region 5; Justin Downes, Region 6; and Brian Sampson, Region 7.

Also present: Donovan DeBoer - Federal Relation and SASD Executive Board Representative, and Rob Monson - SASD Executive Director.

Members absent: Mark Naugle; AASA Governing Board Reps

2. Approve the agenda. (m)

A motion was made by Justin Downes, seconded by Orion Thompson, to approve the agenda. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

3. Public Input

None

4. Approve the minutes from the September 28, 2023 meeting—Dr. Jennifer Lowery, Secretary ([enclosed](#)). (m)

A motion was made by Quinton Cermak, seconded by Brian Sampson, to approve the minutes from the September 28, 2023 meeting as presented. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

5. Approve the financial report—Mr. Orion Thompson Treasurer ([enclosed](#)). (m)

Mr. Thompson shared a review of the organization's financials. He highlighted the reimbursement expense for AASA NCE Conference.

A motion was made by Summer Schultz, seconded by Dave Hutchison to approve the financial report. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

6. Review of the Governor's 2023 Budget Address

SDSSA Executive Board expressed appreciation for the 4% proposed increase. The board discussed the concerns raised by the governor at length concerning teacher average pay. The decision was made to review the data and share a draft public statement response to the membership the next day. The board discussed potential accountability measures. The board discussed the investment in the Science of Reading but shared concerns about the lack of alignment with social studies implementation needs in the primary level classrooms.

7. Review and discuss the state superintendent survey results.

Dr. Schultz led the review and discussion concerning the state superintendent survey results. Schultz, Danielsens, and Monson annually support this communication and collaboration. The focus was listening and learning from each other.

8. The SDSSA Executive Board, led by President Jorgenson, discussed the agenda and board member responsibilities for the following day's superintendent meeting.

No formal action. Small groups were established, and focus areas were identified for each board member to facilitate discussions concerning: (1) Lunch Payments; (2) Library Book Review Policies; (3) ACT as an assessment; and (4) Open discussions.

9. Old Business

- a. Forest Conner Loan

no action or discussion

- b. Dr. Schultz provided an update on the SDSHAA Foundation Board.

No formal action - Information concerning the Foundation and the opportunity to donate as well as submit a grant application was shared.

- c. 2024 Summer Conference Update

Dr. Guffin gave an update on the 2024 SDSSA summer conference. The focus areas are as follows: (1) Supporting Enrollment Goals; (2) Innovative Marketing Ideas; (3) What Teachers Want - Recruitment; (4) KSB Law Update; and (5) SD DOE Update. Apptegy is the primary sponsor for the conference providing the speakers at no cost. They are requesting lodging and a vendor booth.

- d. Public Relations Campaign Update

Dr. Lowery provided information from JoAnne VerMulm who is supporting the SASD/ASBSD public relations work. Each region was asked to provide resources and a connection in their area for both a highlight video as well as an "I Love Public Schools" video. Additional information will be sent out, and a goal to have 2 from each region by the end of the legislative session.

- e. AASA Governing Board Update

Dr. Guffin provided an overview of the AASA priorities.

- f. SASD Executive Director Monson Update

Director Monson provided an update on SASD's work and advocacy. This fall, the focus has been on providing professional development opportunities across the state in artificial intelligence, 504 leadership, Instructional leadership, and collaboration with pro-public education legislators.

10. Other Business

- a. Superintendent Legislative Day

Region representatives were asked to connect with their superintendents to encourage attendance at the SDSSA Legislative Social on January 31 at the Ramkota in Pierre.

11. Adjournment.

A motion was made by Orion Thompson, seconded by Justin Downes, to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 pm. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted: Jennifer N Lowery