

SOUTH DAKOTA SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, April 2, 2024 @ 10:00 a.m. CST
Oacoma, SD

AGENDA:

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

President Jorgenson called the meeting to order at 10:00 am 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; Quinton Cermak, Region 3; Blake Gardner, Region 4; Trent Osborne, Region 5; Justin Downes, Region 6; and Brian Sampson, Region 7.

Also present were Donovan DeBoer, Federal Relation and SASD Executive Board Representative; Mark Naugle, AASA Governing Board Reps; and Rob Monson, SASD Executive Director.

Members absent: Pat Mikkonen, Region 2

2. Approve the agenda. (m)

Justin Downes made a motion, seconded by Trent Osborne, to approve the agenda. All present voted aye. The motion carried.

3. Approve the minutes from the January 30, 2024 meeting—Dr. Jennifer Lowery, Secretary ([enclosed](#)). (m)

A motion was made by Brian Sampson, seconded by Quinton Cermak, to approve the minutes from the January 30, 2024 meeting as presented. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

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

Mr. Thompson reviewed the organization's financials. He indicated that the officiating expense had been taken from the wrong account, which was corrected.

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

5. Old Business

- a. Public Relations Campaign update

Mr. Monson and Dr. Lowery provided an update on the public relations campaign. This included spotlights for districts, progress, and positive promotion gear.

- b. Discuss Legislative Strategy/Outcomes

Mr. Monson provided an update, sharing that he and other lobbyists work to stop legislation as much as they support it. There were 400 bills during the session, and 60 bills impacted education. The compensation bill was a challenge. Dave Hutchison shared his gratitude with the board as a whole for working as a team on the legislation and not making it a big versus small issue.

- c. Forrest Connor Loan

Mr. Naugle indicated he continues to be interested in increasing the loan amount. He plans to follow the process as outlined in our by-laws.

- d. Vendor Booth Amount Adjustment

A motion was sought to move vendor booth costs to \$600.

Justin Downes, seconded by Blake Gardner, moved to set the summer conference vendor booth amount at \$600. All present voted aye. The motion carried.

e. SDSSA 2024 Summer Conference

Dr. Guffin provided an update on the SDSSA Summer Conference. The focus is on supporting public relations. Jenn Lowery indicated registration would be released soon and requested support for public education t-shirts as part of registration. Orion Thompson updated the board on financials. He indicated that 27 of 42 vendors were registered, and 12 had paid.

Becky Guffin, seconded by Trent Osborne, moved to include a public education t-shirt with registration. All present voted aye. The motion carried.

6. Standing Reports

a. SASD Report

Mr. Monson updated the board on superintendent openings. He shared that 19 school districts had opened their superintendent positions, and three positions were still open at that time. Director Monson also shared the upcoming professional development events, including AI 2.0, Wild West, and the Joint Convention.

b. AASA Governing Board Report

Mark Naugle and Becky Guffin serve as our AASA governing board representatives. Dr. Guffin provided an update to the board. She shared that AASA was building its advocacy strength by creating a national advocacy network. The 2025 appropriations package is available for review but has not been approved. The proposed package increased Title I, IDEA, REAP, Impact Aid, Perkins, Head Start, and Child Care Development Block Grants funding. The team is excited about the AASA president-elect, David Law, from Minnetonka, MN.

7. New Business

a. Nominations from the SDSSA Board for the Annual Meeting

i. President-elect

A nomination was made for Dr. Wayne Kindle, Yankton School District, to be SDSSA's executive board president-elect. Following discussion by the board, a motion was made. During the annual meeting, SDSSA's executive board's nomination will be brought forward to the membership.

Becky Guffin, seconded by Summer Schultz, made a motion to nominate Dr. Wayne Kindle for president-elect of SDSSA's Executive Board. All present voted aye. The motion carried.

ii. Overview of Positions

The SDSSA's executive board leadership for the 2024-2025 school year will be as follows: Becky Guffin - Aberdeen School District, President; Joel Jorgenson - Madison Central School District, Past-President; Jennifer Lowery - Tea Area School District, Secretary; Orion Thompson - Belle Fourche School District, Treasurer.

b. SDSSA Executive Board Openings

The following regions need to hold elections at the annual meeting in their respective regions to serve on the SDSSA executive board: 1, 2, 4, and 7.

c. SASD Stand Committees

i. SASD Executive Board

Joel Bailey, Platte-Geddes School District, was appointed to serve on SASD's governing board representing SDSSA beginning in August 2024. This is a three-year term.

ii. Legislative Committee

Dr. Kelly Glodt, Dr. Becky Guffin, and Dr. Jeff Danielsen were reappointed to serve on the legislative committee on behalf of SDSSA.

iii. Professional Services Committee

Dr. Rod Weber, Mr. Joe Schwan, and Mr. Dave Hutchison were appointed to serve on the professional services committee on behalf of SDSSA.

iv. Delegate Assembly

Regions will appoint their Delegate Assembly representatives at the annual meeting in July.

d. SDSSA Annual Award Recognition and Selection

i. Distinguished Service Award

Mr. James Bridges is the 2024 SDSSA Distinguished Service Award recipient.

ii. Outstanding Superintendent

Mr. Mark Naugle is the 2024 SDSSA Outstanding Superintendent Award recipient.

iii. Innovator of the Year

Mr. Erik Person is the 2024 SDSSA Innovator of the Year Award recipient.

iv. Community Leader of the Year

Mr. Tim Graf is the 2024 SDSSA Community Leader of the Year Award recipient.

v. Rookie of the Year

Ms. Dani Walking Eagle is the 2024 SDSSA Rookie of the Year Award recipient.

8. Other Business

The Executive Board discussed training for the Science of Reading. Mr. Hutchison appreciated the effort to stay on the same legislative page. Donavan DeBoer recommended participating in the Marines Leadership opportunity.

9. Adjournment

A motion was made by Justin Downes, seconded by Becky Guffin, to adjourn the meeting. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted: Jennifer N Lowery