

## **SOUTH DAKOTA SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION**

### **EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**Tuesday, December 3, 2024 @ 6:00 p.m. CST**

**Arrowwood Cedar Shore - Oacoma, SD**

#### **AGENDA:**

1. Call the meeting to order—Dr. Becky Guffin, President.

*President Guffin called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm CST. A quorum was established with the following members present: Becky Guffin, president; Wayne Kindle, president-elect; Joel Jorgenson, past-president; Orion Thompson, treasurer; Jennifer Lowery, secretary; George Seiler, Region 2; Quinton Cermak, Region 3; Blake Gardner, Region 4; Trent Osborne, Region 5; Justin Downes, Region 6; and Kraig Steinhoff, Region 7.*

*Also present were Donovan DeBoer - Federal Relation and SASD Executive Board Representative; Joel Bailey, SASD Executive Board Representative; Mark Naugle, AASA Governing Board Rep.; and Rob Monson - SASD Executive Director.*

*Members absent excused: Dave Hutchison, Region 1;*

2. Approve the agenda. (m)

*A motion was made by Joel Jorgenson, second George Sieler, to approve the agenda. All present voted aye. Motion carried.*

3. Public Input

*None - No Action*

4. Secretary Report - Dr. Jennifer Lowery, Secretary (enclosed). (m)

*The SDSSA Secretary shared the enclosed minutes from the last executive board meeting (September 2024). She provided the updated link to the Executive Board Communication Hub. A motion was made by Kraig Steinhoff, second Trent Osborne, to approve the minutes from the September 2024 Executive Board meeting as presented. All present voted aye. Motion carried.*

5. Treasurer Report - Mr. Orion Thompson (enclosed). (m)

*The SDSSA Treasurer shared his report, including the outlined transaction for August thru November 2024.*

*A motion was made by Justin Downes to approve the financial report as*

*presented, second, Quinton Cermak. All present voted aye. Motion carried.*

*Discussion concerning the updating of the budget to occurring expenses took place. After discussion, President Guffin requested in the expense portion be updated quarterly by the leadership team prior to the quarterly executive board meetings.*

*Orion Thompson brought information forward from the previous meeting concerning the board approving payment of the executive board members receiving ¾ zip shirt with SDSSA emblem and executive board notation. Following a discussion on the concept, the two options provided, and whether it was a personal or executive board expense, a motion was made on the floor.*

*A motion was made by Quinton Cermak, second, Blake Gardner to approve the purchase of executive board ¾ zip shirts upto \$100 each with Orion Thompson organizing. All present voted aye. Motion carried. (Aye - Seiler, Cermak, Gardner, Osborne, Downes, Steinhoff, Thompson, Kindle, Jorgenson; Nay - Guffin, Lowery,)*

## 6. Old Business

### a. Forrest Connor Loan

*Mr. Naugle shared that no requests had been made.*

### b. 2025 Summer Conference Update

*Dr. Kindle provided an update on the 2025 conference. There has been strong support from our traditional sponsors. Additionally, all speakers have been confirmed. The cost of speakers for the conference is minimal this upcoming year. Dr. Lowery will be working on room reservations at the December all superintendent conference followed by sharing a reservation link.*

## 7. New Business

### a. Review of Governor's Budget Address and Resources

*Dr. Guffin led the group in a review of the governor's budget address and the associated resources. The group discussed the importance of teaching the superintendent group about the process and available resources. These resources included a link to the following resources:*

*BFM Webpage: ([Link to Reports](#))*

#### i. Budget Transcript

*[https://news.sd.gov/news?id=news\\_kb\\_article\\_view&sys\\_id=c50b56741b9ed650f6142062f54bcb4e](https://news.sd.gov/news?id=news_kb_article_view&sys_id=c50b56741b9ed650f6142062f54bcb4e)*

- ii. Budget Slides (Review slide 29 for reductions)  
[https://bfm.sd.gov/budget/FY2026/Budget\\_Speech\\_Slides\\_2026\\_Supplemental.pdf](https://bfm.sd.gov/budget/FY2026/Budget_Speech_Slides_2026_Supplemental.pdf)
- iii. Education Savings Account Topic Brief  
[https://bfm.sd.gov/budget/FY2026/DOE\\_ESAProgram.pdf](https://bfm.sd.gov/budget/FY2026/DOE_ESAProgram.pdf)
- iv. South Dakota Tax Credit Program: SD Partners in Education  
<https://www.sdpartnersinedu.org/#:~:text=What%20is%20a%20tax%2Dcredit,savings%20while%20also%20benefiting%20families.>
- v. Important Resource for Legislative Session:  
<https://sdlegislature.gov/>

#### 8. Committee/Board updates

- a. Dr. Guffin shared an overview of the SDSSA Legislative Survey including trend data over the past few years. [Link](#)
- b. Dr. Guffin provided a reminder of the February Legislative meetings in Pierre and the importance of supporting new superintendents in understanding the importance of their attendance.
- c. Dr. Guffin provided an update from the AASA Governing Board of which Mr. Naugle and she serve. The primary focus and concern is the lost of e-rate funding. She explained the impacts of e-rate funding beyond k-12 schools. She also recommended reading the AASA article coming out on e-rate.
- d. Mr. Bailey, Mr. Gardner, and Dr. Lowery shared an update on the work and the importance of positive public relations work. We need to focus on the importance of our group engaging with the resources and supporting the work or connecting with individuals in our districts who do the public relations work.
- e. Mr. Monson provided and updated from SASD. The primary focus is professional development opportunities and the legislative session. These opportunities can be found in his weekly newsletter.

#### 9. Other Business

- a. Justin Downes and Blake Gardner reiterated the importance of supporting new superintendents in the legislative advocacy responsibilities of a superintendent.

#### 11. Adjournment.

*A motion was made by Orion Thompson, seconded by Joel Jorgenson to adjourn the meeting. All present voted aye. Motion carried.*

*Respectfully Submitted: Jennifer N Lowery*