



STATE OF MICHIGAN
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
LANSING



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN
SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

May 28, 2007

MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Nancy Danhof, NASBE Delegate

SUBJECT: Election of National Association of State Boards of Education Board of Directors – 2008

Board members have been notified by the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) that ballots for the election of NASBE Board of Directors are due by June 29, 2007.

In accordance with NASBE Bylaws, the President-elect shall be voted upon by the general membership. The election is by a majority vote of member states, with one vote per state. In the case of Area Director, candidates will be elected by a regional majority of member states, one vote per state.

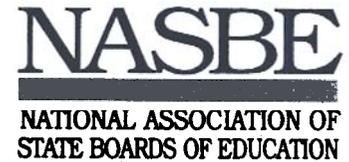
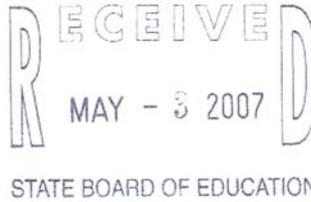
Attached is background information on the candidates for President-elect, Secretary-Treasurer, and Central Area Director. Please review the information and be prepared to discuss the election at the June 12, 2007, meeting.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

KATHLEEN N. STRAUS – PRESIDENT • JOHN C. AUSTIN – VICE PRESIDENT
CAROLYN L. CURTIN – SECRETARY • MARIANNE YARED MCGUIRE – TREASURER
NANCY DANHOF – NASBE DELEGATE • ELIZABETH W. BAUER
REGINALD M. TURNER • CASANDRA E. ULBRICH

608 WEST ALLEGAN STREET • P.O. BOX 30008 • LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909
www.michigan.gov/mde • (517) 373-3324

April 20, 2007



Ms. Kathleen Straus
7431 Deep Run, #210
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301

Dear Ms. Straus:

As you know, the election of the 2008 NASBE Board of Directors will be completed through mail balloting. Enclosed with this letter is background information on each of the candidates for President-elect, Secretary-Treasurer, and Area Director, including a resume and statement of interest.

In accordance with our recently amended Bylaws, President-elect and Secretary-Treasurer shall be voted upon by the general membership. They will be elected by a majority vote of member states, with one vote per state. In the case of Area Director, candidates will be elected by a regional majority of member states – again, one vote per state. All ballots must be received at the Association Headquarters by June 29, 2007.

I urge you to carefully review the information enclosed and to put this issue on your next board meeting agenda. A copy of this letter and the ballot have been sent to your State Board Executive. **Remember, every state vote is very important.**

If you have any questions on the voting process, please call Marsha McMullin, Director of Special Projects, at 703/684-4000, ext. 1116, or you can e-mail her at marsham@nasbe.org.

Sincerely,

W. Bradley Bryant
President

cc: State Executive ✓

Enclosures

P.S. Beginning May 15, the NASBE website will permit candidates (in elections where there is more than one candidate) to present a short video on their candidacy. Also, we will display on our website a list of states that have submitted ballots to headquarters. Only the fact that a state has voted will be shown, but not how it voted.

President
W. Bradley Bryant
Georgia

Past President
Diane Fladmo
Montana

President-Elect
Karabelle Pizzigati
Maryland

Secretary-Treasurer
Robert Lazard
Indiana

Northeastern Area Directors
Maud Dahme
New Jersey

Karen Farmer-White
Pennsylvania

Southern Area Directors
Kathy Taft
North Carolina

Dunbar Brooks
Maryland

Central Area Directors
Kenneth Willard
Kansas

Joe Higgins
Nebraska

Western Area Directors
Randy DeHoff
Colorado

Mark Cluff
Utah

New Member Representatives
Beverly Bobroske
Connecticut

Thomas Brewster
Virginia

BALLOT
Central Area

Please choose one candidate for each office

For President-elect:

- Kenneth Willard – Kansas

For Secretary-Treasurer:

- Greg Haws - Utah

For Central Area Director:

- Clinton Waara – South Dakota

VOTING STATE: _____

Biographical Information

Ken Willard

Kenneth R. Willard took office, representing Kansas State Board of Education District 7, in January, 2003 and was re-elected in 2006 to serve a four-year term beginning in 2007. He has served as Legislative Coordinator for the State Board and also on the State Board Policy Committee for which he served as its Chair. He currently serves on the State Board Communications Committee. Ken also represented the State Board of Education on the Board of Directors of the Kansas State High School Activities Association. He was appointed to serve the remaining year of a two-year term on the Board of Directors for the National Association of State Boards of Education, representing the Central Region, in 2004. He has since been elected to a full two-year term, January 2006 through December 2008, on the NASBE Board.

Ken is a United States Navy Vietnam veteran, 1968 - 1972. He currently serves as District Manager for American Family Insurance, managing 34 agencies in south-central and southwest Kansas. He began his career with American Family in 1978, working 14 years as an agent in Topeka. He was then promoted to manager in Hutchinson in 1992. Prior business experience was with Gay and Taylor Adjusters in Topeka.

Ken earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in political science from Washburn University in Topeka, 1982. He is active in his church and has led numerous lay mission trips to South America and the South Pacific. He is also very active in school and community organizations. Prior to his election to the State Board of Education, he served 6 years on the Nickerson/South Hutchinson USD 309 board of education, two years as vice president, and one year as president of the board. Ken and his wife Deanna have five children and four grandchildren. His chief goal in life "is to be a world-class grandpa".

**2007 NOMINATIONS FORM
NASBE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Your Name Penny Plamann for the Board State: Kansas

FOR PRESIDENT-ELECT

Name: KEN WILLARD

Address: 4300 Spyglass Drive - Hutchinson, KS 67502

Telephone: (h) 620-669-0428 (o) 620-669-0728 (f) 866-389-2103

E-mail: kwillard@cox.net

Statement of interest and biographical information:

Statement of Interest

The challenges faced by State Boards of Education seem greater than ever before, given the increasing demands of compliance with NCLB, the continuing financial stress in most states, and the demands for reform and redesign of schools that is needed for delivery of a world class education to students facing the challenge and opportunities of the 21st century.

While American public schools do a reasonably good job of meeting the needs of the average student, the uncomfortable and unacceptable fact is that too many students' needs are not being met, and those students are being left behind. Too many students leave our public schools unprepared for higher education or employment in an increasingly high-tech workplace. American public education has a moral obligation to reform itself to meet the needs and expectations of its customer, the American public. To the degree that it fails to step up to this challenge, it can expect the customer to seek alternative providers of education. Addressing these challenges by writing and implementing policies aimed at reforming and redesigning public education to meet the needs of 21st century students is the mission of State Boards of education. While State Boards of Education are best suited to develop policy for the needs of their state, the role of NASBE should be to play a leading role in encouraging and facilitating a national conversation between state education policy leaders, leading the way by envisioning and casting the vision for 21st century public education, and supporting the work of State Boards with the timely research, professional development, and support needed to accomplish their mission.

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Willard

**2007 NOMINATIONS FORM
NASBE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Your Name Utah State Board of Education State Utah
Kim R. Burningham

FOR SECRETARY-TREASURER

Name: Greg W. Haws

Address: 5841 West 4600 South
Hooper, UT 84315

Telephone (h) 801-985-7980 (o) 801-726-9793

Statement of interest and biographical information:

I would like to continue the positive direction NASBE has been following in the past. I would continue the emphasis on budgeting and matching revenues with expenditures. I would build upon the work done by Bob Lazard.

I am also a CPA as well as a business owner, a residential real estate developer and a member of the Board of Directors of a Community Bank. I was formerly the elected Auditor/Clerk/Treasurer in my county and oversaw a budget in excess of \$60 million. It is vital to the accomplishment of the mission of NASBE that its financial management keep pace with its defined strategic goals.

Clinton Waara
114 Jamieson Dr.
Ft. Pierre, SD 57532
Clinton.D.Waara@WellsFargo.com
605-261-0005

At NASBE's Legislative Conference in March it was stated that there was a need for a director to represent the Central Area. I am interested in representing the Central Area as a Director. I am seeking this position because I would like to represent the interests of South Dakota as well as the other Central Area States. As a state board member, it is vitally important that I understand education issues facing not only South Dakota but education on a national basis.

I believe that NASBE provides valuable resources to State Board Members and leaders. I would like to offer my service to ensure that this organization continues to serve its members well. I am the Community Development Officer for Wells Fargo Bank in ND, SD and MT; in that capacity, I am fortunate to work with our communities to find ways to build better communities. Education is the central theme to this work. I bring diversity as a Native American, financial background as a banker, and passion as a State Board member and a former classroom teacher and coach both at the High School and the University level.

Thank you for considering my qualifications to represent the Central Area as Director.



Clinton Waara, Fort Pierre, was appointed to the South Dakota State Board of Education in November 2004. Waara received his BA in Political Science from South Dakota State University in 1993. He began his career with the Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity as a National Education and Leadership Consultant from 1993 to 1995. From 1995-1999 Waara was an account analyst for Wells Fargo Financial Bank in Sioux Falls. In 1999 he taught at Roosevelt High School in Sioux Falls where he instituted the Academy of Finance model of instruction and coached Track. Waara joined the University of South Dakota School of Business staff in 2001 where he ran the USD and Sitting Bull College Entrepreneurship Partnership. In 2003 Clint became the Community Development Officer and Assistant Vice President for Wells Fargo Bank. Through this position, he covers the states of South Dakota, North Dakota and Montana. Waara is an enrolled member of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe.