NDAESP Federal Relations- Jason Hornbacher (Bismarck)

The Federal Relations Report usually spends a little time discussing what is new in the Federal Department of Education that may impact North Dakota. Fortunately for all of NDAESP, we have NDCEL and its staff working for us to ensure North Dakota Educational Leaders are fully aware and have opportunities for involvement.

Over the last few months, Dr. Aimee Copas invited several superintendents (from across the state) and I to sit down with Senator Heitkamp, Congressman Kramer, and Senator Hoven. The meetings shed considerable light on all the major issues in education. The meetings were much more relaxed compared to the “Meeting on the Hill” in February and March of last year. This relaxed atmosphere allowed us to really get to the heart of issues and we all had an opportunity to share opinions and observations. These meetings may impact NDAESP’s future role during the Leaders Conference in Washington DC. I will discussing the highlights of these meetings at the NDAESP Executive Board meeting in October.

I have attached some of Dr. Copas’s work on ESSA if you have not had a chance to look at it yet. This information will impact your work in the future.

On July 1, 2017, the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) became the official law of the land. North Dakota received approval on our State ESSA Plan on September 1, 2017. This new federal law will greatly impact education in America. Listed below are critical elements to review within North Dakota’s State ESSA Plan. Dr. Copas has outlined the following ESSA Training Opportunities and I concur that it will be critical for all North Dakota educators to have an understanding of how our ESSA plan will impact education in our state. Please take the time to attend one or all of these conferences to find out the details of North Dakota’s plan.

- NDDPI Fall Educators Conference https://www.nd.gov/ddpi/events/FallConf
- NDCEL Fall Conference http://www.ndcel.us/ndcel-fall-conference

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