NDAESP PRESIDENT- Dr. Shawn Oban (Myhre Elementary, Bismarck)

Happy Holidays, NDAESP Members!

During this incredibly busy time of year, it is easy to be caught up in checklists, both professionally and personally. There really is so much work we have during this time, but we can’t forget to stop and enjoy the moment. Since this time of year is also busy and/or difficult for our staff and students it is important they see us engaged in the moment with a smile on our face. It is healthy for everyone in your building.

We also have a legislative session coming soon. Do you know the legislators from your district? Your school’s district? Find yours at: https://www.legis.nd.gov/assembly/66-2019/members/members-by-district

With the recent elections, there will be some new faces. These new faces, along with the veterans, need to hear from all of us. Maybe send them a holiday card or invite them to a school program? With the recent announcement of Governor Burgum’s budget, some may feel the pressure may not be as great. Our state superintendent said this, “The governor’s proposed budget has several positive initiatives for North Dakota’s schools. It includes a 2% annual increase in per-student aid payments, which is the most important source of state support for our schools. This is good news. The per-student payment has remained the same for the last three years, while costs have been rising.” While the budget might not be the challenge some anticipated there are other issues that exist. Be the resource your legislators count on by making the connection. We all know our business is about relationships so please make a few more.

Enjoy your families this holiday season. Hope to see you all in February at the Mid-Winter Conference!

Dr. Shawn Oban NDAESP president
The end of the year is a time for reflection, and I have a lot to be grateful for in 2018.

I am thankful for the learning and leadership opportunities that NDAESP and NAESP continually provide for leaders. If it weren’t for my learning, connecting, and networking through these organizations, I would not be the leader I am today.

Last March, I had the opportunity to visit Capitol Hill as part of NAESP’s National Leaders Conference we advocated for level funding and mental health support. I feel like we were heard!

This year NAESP launched Webinar Wednesdays which are free professional learning opportunities with outstanding speakers such as Jimmy Casas, Baruti Kafele, Todd Whitaker, Adam Welcome, and many more. The Webinars provide real-time opportunities to connect with content experts, educational leaders, and colleagues on specific issues. (All Webinars are available to NAESP members on the NAESP website.)

One of the newest NAESP benefits is a discount up to 80% at Office Depot/OfficeMax. NAESP members can save hundreds of dollars on school/office supplies. This savings is incredibly helpful with tight school budgets.

Another highlight of 2018 was participating in NAESP’s 10th Annual Community Service Day. The Community Service Day takes place the day before the Pre-K-8 Principals Conference begins and is an opportunity work with colleagues from across the nation to build an inclusive playground at a Title 1 school. The selected schools often have a high percentage of special needs students which makes it even more rewarding. I strongly encourage you to attend the NAESP Pre-K-8 Principals Conference in Spokane, WA and participate in this special event.

Finally, was very excited that this last October, NDAESP members demonstrated their support for ND becoming a “joint membership” state with NAESP. This means that when you join our state association, you will also be a member of NAESP. You will have access to all of the benefits NDAESP and NAESP have to offer (including the benefits listed above and up to $2 million in legal liability protection.) This decision to partner with NAESP will help strengthen the voice and leadership role of Pre-K-8 administrators in North Dakota, and will financially benefit our state association.

If you have any questions about NAESP, or if you want to get more involved, e-mail me at john_alstad@bismarckschools.org

Thanks for all you do and I am wishing you all a great 2019!
On the State Level:

- Dr. Copas did a great job capturing the Governor’s Executive Budget recommendations for K-12 education, so I pulled this information from her interpretations of the recommendations. Please keep in mind that these recommendations will be worked over throughout the legislative process.

Proposed Increases to Education Budgets in General:

- There is a proposal on the K-12 table - $104M increase in education.

K-12 overview of recommendations:

- 2% increase in per pupil payment
- Working towards on-time funding
- Teacher Leadership Incentive Fund – concept is to utilize turn-back dollars. To be used for PD or for district project based incentives with your best teachers and leaders.
- There was discussion from the governor about working to eliminate transition minimums and maximums (held harmless) and get all on the formula within 5-6 years by reducing it by 20% year for 5 years starting one year out. This will have to be vetted and discussed during session and get all schools on the same funding formula.

Final note:

- While this is positive regarding the recommendation for a 2% increase – it is NOT a guarantee. Dr. Copas will keep us informed as the process unfolds.

Previously at the National Level:

- On Friday, September 28, President Trump signed into law a funding bill that provides Fiscal Year 2019 federal funding, and keeps the rest of the federal government open through December 7. This bill provides funding for the 2019-2020 school year. Highlights include:
  - Title I is increased by $100 million
  - Title II and Title III are level funded
  - 21st Century Community Learning Centers received an increase of $10 million
  - Title IV-Part A funding for Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants receives an additional $70 million
  - IDEA grants to states received an $87 million increase
  - Career and Technical Education is increased by $70 million
  - This bill also provides a $200 million increase for Head Start and Early Head Start

Jason Hornbacher (jason_hornbacher@bismarckschools.org)
Merry Christmas! I wish you all the best in 2019! It is hard to believe that we are finishing up the year. Please be sure to take time and recharge your batteries over the break! Thank you for the article submissions!

Awards Report:

- We are still in need of additional nominations for Bell Ringer and Golden Apple Awards. For more information, please check out our webpage: [https://www.ndcel.org/Page/735](https://www.ndcel.org/Page/735)

Upcoming Conferences:

- Registration is open for the 2019 NAESP National Summer Conference in Spokane, WA on July 10-12. [https://www.naesp.org/content/2019-conference-registration-open](https://www.naesp.org/content/2019-conference-registration-open) It is a beautiful place and has an added bonus… it’s within driving distance!

NAESP 2019 Vice President Candidates:

- Julie Bloss, Principal at Grove Early Childhood Center in Grove, OK
  - [https://www.naesp.org/sites/default/files/docs/FinalGoalStatement%28Bloss%29.pdf](https://www.naesp.org/sites/default/files/docs/FinalGoalStatement%28Bloss%29.pdf)
- Sharon McNary, Principal at Richland Elementary in Memphis, TN
  - [https://www.naesp.org/sites/default/files/docs/FinalGoalStatement%28McNary%29.pdf](https://www.naesp.org/sites/default/files/docs/FinalGoalStatement%28McNary%29.pdf)
- Paul Wenger, Principal at Jordan Creek Elementary in West Des Moines, IA
  - [https://www.naesp.org/sites/default/files/docs/FinalGoalStatement%28Wenger%29.pdf](https://www.naesp.org/sites/default/files/docs/FinalGoalStatement%28Wenger%29.pdf)

Eligible voters will vote for NAESP Vice President from March 19 – March 29, 2019.

- Make sure your e-mail is current with NAESP by calling toll-free at (800) 386-2377 or [membership@naesp.org](mailto:membership@naesp.org).
- Add this email address - [noreply@directvote.net](mailto:noreply@directvote.net) - to your e-mail contacts and safe senders list. Your election ballot will be sent to this address on March 19.
We are excited to announce that East Fairview School is being recognized as a Power of ICU Spotlight School in building an outstanding culture for student success and improved learning. Power of ICU has a network of hundreds of schools in thirty-two states that follow the school improvement formula from the books Power of ICU and Brick House by Danny Hill. Danny is a nationally recognized author and school consultant. He says, “The thing that sets East Fairview School apart from other schools is their relentless approach to improving each year. Principal, Derek Gackle, and his fantastic staff are never satisfied. I would want my children at East Fairview School!”

Over 10,000 schools in the U.S. received the following announcement recognizing East Fairview’s learning culture where every adult pulls for every student to succeed.

Earning the recognition as a Spotlight School, East Fairview has demonstrated proven success with each aspect of the Power of ICU formula: Completion, Quality Assignments, and Healthy Grading. Now in their third year of following the ICU approach, East Fairview students and teachers are reaping the rewards of consistent academic achievement by finishing each year with zero assignments left incomplete. Principal Derek Gackle first discovered the Power of ICU in the summer of 2015 after searching for a professional development opportunity for his faculty. Quality assignments have always been a focus of the school, but something was missing. The strategies developed by Danny Hill in his book Power of ICU provided the answer. After finishing the book study with his teachers, East Fairview began to experience a conversational shift towards everyone speaking a common language centered around student learning, instead of focused on grades. As a result, the school began to refine their assignments to fit the vision of the school and tie learning directly to the state’s standards. Teachers began to experience cleaner grading and increased authenticity in student learning by separating the academic value from the non-academic filler. Now, student grades are the best reflection of their learning and East Fairview is not only meeting but exceeding the standards. The students have come to expect that they will routinely receive feedback on their performance and daily support to complete every assignment. With school-wide buy-in and a growth-mindset, the culture has earned a reputation for student advocacy and achievement. It is because of this commitment to excellence; East Fairview School has earned the distinction of being named a Spotlight School.
Kindred Elementary Art Show

Students displayed their remarkable creativity at the first annual Kindred Elementary Art Show during parent-teacher conferences. This is Kindred Elementary's first year with full-time elementary art teacher, Kelsey Mehrer. Students in grades K-6 are engaged in multiple art mediums varying from drawing to print making to sculpture. In addition, students are introduced to the elements and principles of design.