



NAPSF

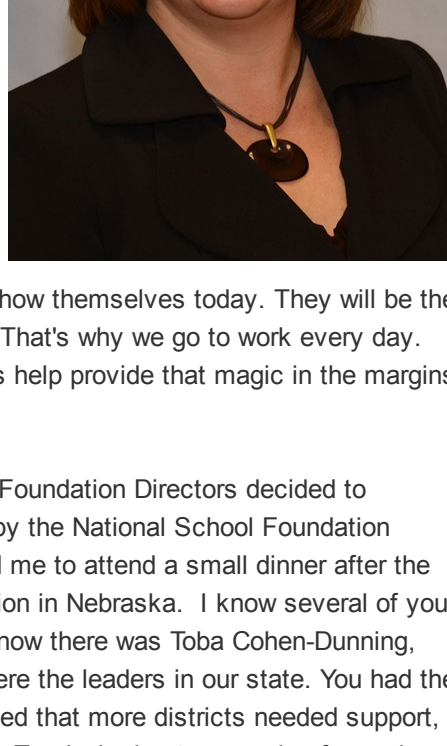
NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC SCHOOL FOUNDATIONS

NAPSF News

October 2019

Hello Nebraska K-12 School Foundation Friends!

A Message from Outgoing Board Chair: Wendy Van DeLaCastro Foundation for Lincoln Public Schools



Reflections on NSFA Chairmanship

Let's face it. Today's kids need more. Our teachers struggle every day to prepare students for jobs that don't yet exist. Tomorrow's leaders need to wrap their minds around technology, environment, global challenges and risks that are just starting to show themselves today. They will be the ones to take on these challenges and be expected to solve them. That's why we go to work every day. Today's kids, and today's teachers need more, and our foundations help provide that magic in the margins that can bring education to life.

It was 2015 or so when a loosely affiliated group of Public School Foundation Directors decided to formalize. We had just finished a regional conference, sponsored by the National School Foundation Association. My new friends, Traci Skalberg and Lynn Graz asked me to attend a small dinner after the conference, which would forever change the course of our profession in Nebraska. I know several of you were there as well, but I was so new that I don't remember all...I know there was Toba Cohen-Dunning, Randall Hallett, Gary Steiner, Nina Menis and a few others. You were the leaders in our state. You had the vision and had been keeping it alive since Y2K. Together we decided that more districts needed support, and we were going to affiliate with NSFA as a state chapter. It was Traci who kept us moving forward. Scheduling gatherings, finding foundations across the state, gently bringing topics that would challenge us, make us lead, help us all to serve kids better. And we took the bait.

At that time we created our purpose statement. I won't lie, it was really tough to pin down. Who do we serve? How do we want to make a difference? Discussion went on for more than a few hours and we landed on this:

The Nebraska Association of Public School Foundations exists to strengthen the impact of school foundations in Nebraska for the students and educators they serve. Through public awareness and advocacy, the sharing of best practices, adherence to high ethical standards of philanthropy and the encouragement of deep public private partnerships, NAPSF will elevate and support school foundations as they provide options for communities to come into closer partnership with their schools.

It was those two sentences (run on as they may be) that gave us purpose -- and we went to work. Our bylaws and articles of incorporation were passed in October of 2016 and our association status arrived shortly thereafter. As the first chair of the board, it felt daunting to try to build a network that could throw a lifeline of support and encouragement to the smallest or largest foundation in the state, and connect them with the country! But, thanks to the talented and connected team of leaders who made up the board, our numbers grew, as did the value that our members received. In our short history, we've put on 7 professional development events and have hosted many small networking events across the state. We have provided 3 leaders who are active in the national conversations and we now have 4 certified Foundation Directors. Nebraska knows how to make a difference. Thank you to everyone who has worked so hard.

I have the privilege to hand the gavel to Sarah Dittmer. Sarah will lead the organization with a nod to geographic inclusiveness, intellectual depth and professional value. And we are also welcoming new board members and new perspectives that will challenge us to constantly improve. My hope for all of us is that we remain connected, though our jobs feel isolated. That we find joy and purpose in our work, even on the most challenging of days. That we draw on each other's strengths and learn from each other's mistakes to do good work for kids. Because today's kids need more.

I'm part of the story, as we learned so well at our last conference. We are all part of the story and together we are impacting hundreds of thousands of children in Nebraska. There is so much more to learn from all of you and I look forward to all you will bring to our most noble of professions.

Wendy
Foundation for Lincoln Public Schools
President

NSFA Scholarship Winners!

Congratulations to Lisa Reese Parish, Kearney Public Schools Foundation, and Nicole Anderson, Columbus Public Schools Foundation! They each won a \$1,000 scholarship for the 2020 NSFA National Conference.

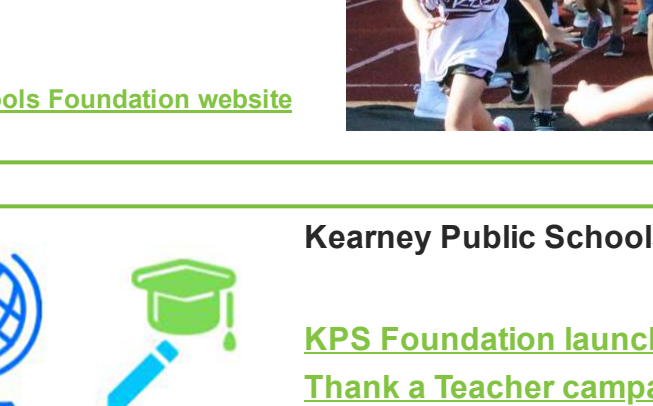


SAVE THE DATE

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

MARCH 2-4, 2020

PHILADELPHIA, PA



NSFA New Resources

Don't forget, the NSFA has rolled out board member training modules. These modules are a reasonable way to access board training with several topics to choose from. Each module is a 30-60 minute micro-credential and can be taken at any time. Here is a link to the [board training](#).

NSFA Webinars

All Nebraska Association of Public School Foundation members are also members of the National School Foundation Association. This means that you have access to several free webinars each year. The NSFA is building the schedule for next year and would like to know what topics are of interest to you. Please reach out to Joanne Dunne at joanne@schoolfoundations.org if you have ideas on this.

NAPSF Members in the News

Check out these stories from around the state of Nebraska Foundations making the news. Do you have a story to share? Email Liz at ne_egamblin@gips.org

Columbus Public Schools Foundation

[Discoverer Dash Growing Fast.](#)
[Receiving More Community Support](#)

—The Columbus Telegram—

[Columbus Public Schools Foundation website](#)

Kearney Public Schools Foundation

[KPS Foundation launches Thank a Teacher campaign](#)

—Kearney Hub—

[Kearney Public Schools Foundation website](#)

NAPSF Membership Benefits

NAPSF Website Portal

As a member of NAPSF you will have access to a talent bank of seasoned professionals in the field that will offer advice, best practices, and share successes.

The portal also includes handouts and presentation slides from the last 3 fall conferences.

You can log in [here](#).

NAPSF Members

We are currently 30 members strong at the Nebraska Association of Public School Foundations. A list of our membership is below.

- Ashland-Greenwood Public Schools Foundation Beatrice Educational Foundation
- Aurora Public Schools Foundation
- Bellevue Public Schools Foundation
- Bennington Public Schools Foundation
- Cardinal Education Foundation (South Sioux City)
- Central High School Foundation (Omaha)
- Columbus Public Schools Foundation
- Cozad Public Schools Foundation
- Creek Valley School Educational Foundation
- Crete Public Schools Trust Fund
- Elkhorn Public Schools Foundation
- Foundation for Lincoln Public Schools
- Gering Public Schools Foundation
- Grand Island Public Schools Foundation
- Hastings Public Schools Foundation
- Kearney Public Schools Foundation
- Millard Schools Education Foundation, Inc.
- Norfolk Public Schools Foundation
- Northwest Educational Foundation, Inc.
- Oakland-Craig Public Schools Foundation
- Ogallala Public Schools Foundation
- Omaha Public Schools Foundation
- Papillion La Vista Schools Foundation
- Ponca Community Educational Foundation
- Ralston Community Schools Foundation
- School District 145 Foundation for Education (Waverly/Eagle)
- Wausa Public Schools Foundation
- Wayne Community Schools Foundation
- Westside Community Schools Foundation, Inc.
- York Public Schools Foundation

Haven't Become a NAPSF Member Yet?

The Nebraska Association of Public School Foundations is a state affiliate of the National School Foundation Association. This means that as a member of the Nebraska Association of Public School Foundations, you will get the discounted conference rate and all other full benefits of membership to the national organization as well as Nebraska. You pay one rate to Nebraska and get two memberships Statewide and National! What a deal!

[Learn more about NAPSF membership benefits](#)

NAPSF Event Calendar

Upcoming Meetings

NAPSF Board Meeting

- November 5, 2019, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Location: Elkhorn Public Schools Foundation
- January 21, 2020, 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Location: Grand Island Public Schools Foundation

Upcoming NSFA Webinars

November 5th, 2019 - 12pm - Alumni Engagement: Many Paths, One Spirit
Another talented Nebraska school foundation director, Michele Roberts, is sharing her expertise with the country!

In this workshop, you will learn from alumni specialist, Jim Burgraff (Managing Partner, Alumni Nations), Michele Roberts (Executive Director, Central High School Foundation) and the CHSF staff how to jump start alumni engagement from developing a strategy to finding your alumni!

By engaging alumni through Communications, Events, and Fundraising, you will ensure that your institution doesn't forget its past, continues to live successfully in its present, and is planning for its future.

Jim Burgraff, Managing Partner, Alumni Nations
Michele Roberts, Executive Director, Central High School Foundation
Sydney Oehm, Events & Alumni Relations Manager, Central High School Foundation
Josh Bucy, Communications & Database Manager, Central High School Foundation

[Register Here](#)

