

NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC SCHOOL FOUNDATIONS

NAPSF News May 2021

### Until They Know How Much You Care...

Jennifer Sibal, Gering Public Schools Foundation

Welcome to Gering! Gering is a small, picturesque community framed in the shadows of Scotts Bluff National Monument. As a historic stop along the Oregon Trail, the community and school district still tout the pioneering spirit that built our town. We continue to pride ourselves in what is best described as Gering GRIT.



As the director of our school foundation and a Gering Public Schools

alumna, I knew there had to be a way to connect that sense of pride to support the needs of students today. Which leads me to a key component of a strong foundation – a great alumni network. Alumni are one of the greatest assets to public school foundations, providing a voice as ambassadors, sharing personal stories that demonstrate the school district's impact, creating connections and building bridges to business and community, and perhaps even through service on your Board of Directors.

For many of us, summer means reunion season and these provide a great opportunity to connect with your school's alumni during a time of sentiment and reflection. If your foundation does not have a presence during reunion visits, I highly encourage you to have that conversation with your high school team today. Too many amazing stories from alumni are left untold and within them are often the message that sparks generosity in others.

Many of your alumni long to be "in the know" about what's happening within the school district. Harness their passion and enthusiasm to create an ambassador network that touches communities across the country. A digital newsletter is a great touchpoint and place to start. To help gather content, we ask alumni to sign-in when they do a building tour and answer the question, "Are you willing to highlight your Gering Public Schools story?" That simple question has opened the door to some of our most meaningful alumni engagement.

A key piece of advice ... when thinking of alumni don't forget about the incredible network of retirees who contributed to your district. A reunion building tour experience is enhanced to VIP level when that beloved retired teacher (we all have them) joins you as a guide. It truly becomes a win-win; your alumni relive that sense of nostalgia with those who have impacted them most while retirees feel valued and engaged in the place they dedicated their careers. Creating this welcoming culture helped the Gering Schools Foundation connect the alumni voice during our superintendent hire and school improvement processes this year.

Theodore Roosevelt said, "People don't care how much you know until they know how much you care." We can be the most knowledgeable foundation directors about the elements of a major gift campaign or how to strategize for planned giving, but it's when we ignite a feeling of value and appreciation or make a meaningful connection where seeds are truly planted!



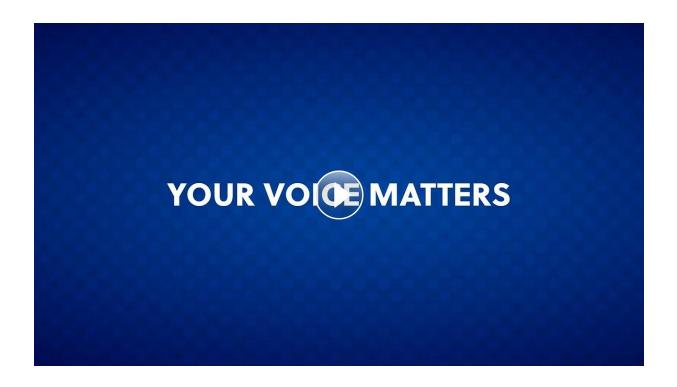
#### **NAPSF Coffee Talk**

These sessions continue to be a hit with members! If you haven't attended one yet, come see what it's all about - Networking, advice, ideas and lots of laughs. Connect with other Nebraska school foundations and find a support system.

Join us for Coffee Talk on June 3, 9am - 10am.

### LB 364 Defeated Earlier This Month

The debate lasted over 8 hours, but in the end, eighteen senators voted no to defeat LB 364. Public school foundations were mentioned several times throughout the debate. Check out the video from NET below.



Thank you senators for telling our story of filling gaps and investing in the students of Nebraska. Though our work is not done, we value your work and your witness to our local and state leaders.

- Blood
- Bostar
- Brandt
- Cavanaugh, J.
- · Cavanaugh, M.
- Day
- DeBoer
- Friesen
- Hansen, M.
- Hilkemann
- Hunt
- Lathrop
- McCollister
- McKinney
- Morfeld
- Pahls
- Williams
- Wishart

In a show of appreciation for all their hard work, please consider sending thank you notes to these senators.

#### Submit Breakout Session Proposals for NAPSF 2021 Conference

We want to hear from you! What would you like to see at this year's NAPSF conference? Click the button below to fill out the form with your proposal. Submit as many suggestions as you like.

Submit Breakout Session Proposals

Save the Date! NAPSF 2021 Annual Conference Monday, November 8, 2021 Career Pathways Institute, Grand Island



### NAPSF Website - We Want to Hear From You

Does your foundation have an inspiring success story? Has your foundation been in the news? Do you have information or insight your peers would benefit from?

Submit your foundation stories, news, or articles <u>here</u> to be featured in upcoming NAPSF newsletters.

### NAPSF New Member Spotlight - Welcome!

**Callan Collins** Executive Director, Norfolk Public Schools Foundation

### **NSFA Membership**

All members of NAPSF receive a NSFA membership. This includes free NSFA Webinars and discounts for NSFA conferences.



We are currently 32 members strong at the Nebraska Association of Public School Foundations. A list of our membership is below.

Anselmo-Merna Public Schools Foundation Ashland-Greenwood Public Schools Foundation Aurora Public Schools Foundation Beatrice Educational Foundation Bellevue Public Schools Foundation Bennington Public Schools Foundation Cardinal Education Foundation (South Sioux City) Central High School Foundation (Omaha) Columbus Public Schools Foundation, Inc. Cozad Public Schools Foundation Creek Valley School Educational Foundation DC West Schools Foundation 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. Minden Schools Foundation Norfolk Public Schools Foundation North Platte Public Schools Foundation Northwest Education Foundation Ogallala Public Schools Foundation Omaha Public Schools Foundation Papillion La Vista Schools Foundation Pioneer Fund Foundation Ralston Community Schools Foundation School District 145 Foundation for Education (Waverly/Eagle) Scottsbluff Schools Foundation Wayne Community Schools Foundation

Westside Community Schools Foundation, Inc.

# 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 Coffee Talk

When: Thursday, June 3, 2021, 9:00am - 10:00am CST Location: Zoom Meeting - <u>Coffee Talk Zoom Link</u>

## NAPSF Board Meeting - DATE CHANGED!

When: Thursday, June 17, 2021, 10:00am - 2:00pm CST Location: Grand Island

## NAPSF 2021 Annual Conference

When: Monday, November 8, 2021Location: Career Pathways Institute, Grand IslandMore information coming soon!

Questions or Comments? Contact NAPSF Here.



-- NAPSF -- 123 S Webb Road Grand Island, Nebraska 68803 -- 308-385-5900 --

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