

**NDAESP
Region 1 Meeting
Williston, ND – September 30, 2014**

1) Introductions

Today we had 7 members that were able to attend. We had 5 others who had a change of plans today and had to stay at their building, and others who did not respond.

2) Website Information

- a) Officers
- b) Constitution and Bylaws
- c) Minutes
- d) Executive Board Meetings
- e) NAESP

Information was shared regarding the NDCEL, NDAESP and NAESP websites. The majority of our review was on the NDAESP website and where our members can find information regarding to meetings that have been held, the board members and our officers, as well as State information.

3) Fall Meeting review

- a) State Rep. Report
- c) Federal Relations Report
- d) State Editors Report
 - The Voice – Publish dates: 12/12/2014 – 3/6/2015 – 5/1/2015

There wasn't much from the State or Federal Relations report. I shared that across the country and state that numbers for NAESP are lower. Everyone at the meeting is a member of both the NDAESP and NAESP. I showed where "The Voice" publication can be found on the website, and I encouraged member schools to post items for "The Voice" to Dave.Hanson@sendit.nodak.edu. Publication due dates are 12/12/14, 3/6/15 and 5/1/15.

4) Upcoming Items:

- a) NDCEL Fall Conference – Oct. 16-17 – Bismarck, ND
- b) NDAESP Principal Awards
- c) NDAESP Mid-Winter Conference – Feb. 4-5-6 – Bismarck, ND – Doublewood Inn

Reviewed dates for upcoming conferences, and made a recommendation that if you are attending the Midwinter Conference and want to stay at the site hotel, reservations should be made soon since it is a smaller venue compared to other years.

We discussed the awards available to Region 1 principals. It was decided that we will ask each member principal of Region 1 to write up a biography about themselves and what they are doing within their building. The idea is that we can use this information to nominate principals for the different awards. Not only that, it will allow us to get to know our fellow principals and all of the good things they do within their building. It was asked if there is a format that we can use, and it was decided that we should review the scoring rubric for the Regional Principal of the Year award. This way we know what the criteria for this award is, and will get in-depth info. on each of our principals. Those with questions are encouraged to contact Jeremy Mehlhoff, region 1 rep.

5) Lori Olson – WPSD #1 Curriculum Director

a) Opting out of Common Core

Lori Olson came and visited with the group about the legality of parents wanting to opt out of Common Core. Legally schools cannot opt out of the common core, and neither can parents. The only options that they have are to move to a state that has not adopted the common core standards, or homeschool. ND law states that all schools must follow the state standards for education and those standards are the common core standards. Some parents have been stating that they want their student's information withheld from SLDS, however that is not possible. Funding for our districts is dependent on this information, thus they must be included. I have some handouts that will be coming. One is a letter that the WPSD has created to share with parents regarding the laws, and another is a letter from the state regarding this. It was discussed that at an upcoming meeting it would be good for us to spend some time reviewing what the points are for the groups who are trying to opt out of common core. A call is being placed to Aimee Copas to see if she will be able to come out and join us for our next meeting and to add some insight into the common core debate that is going on.

We thought it would be good for us to also look into the "Facts and Myths" that are out there regarding the common core and what the group of parents traveling the state speaking out against the common core is saying to our parents.

6) Region 1 Upcoming Events and Meetings

a) Spelling Bee / County Bee

- Registration only for grades 7-8.

b) Math / Geography Bee

c) Book Study – ideas?

d) Region 1 Meetings – Last Tuesday of each month?

The ND Association of County Superintendents is the new sponsor for the State Spelling bee, so at this time we will follow that format. The Williams County Spelling Bee has always included grades 1-8, however we have set it up so that only students in grades 7-8 are eligible for the State Bee. Schools who will be sending 7th-8th grade students to the County Bee MUST register for the State Bee and the Scripps Spelling Bee. Information is attached to this e-mail regarding this. Please get the information to the person responsible.

Tioga and Watford City are already a part of a Math Meet. Tim Schaefer was going to check on the possibility of other schools joining. We decided that we would table this discussion for a later meeting.

A book study will take place again, and will be the basis for some of our meetings and discussions. We are asking that all interested principals bring some ideas for a book study for the group to discuss and decide on.

Our Region 1 meetings will be set for the last Tuesday of each month, beginning at 9:30 am in Williston (or another location should someone wish to host). Our next meeting will be Tuesday, October 28.

7) Items to discuss?

A few of the topics we talked about today:

- 1) Compass Learning and I-Station/I-SIP(?) – These programs are designed to assess students and then provide lessons and individual work for them to help meet the areas where their assessment rated them low.
- 2) 504 – We talked about 504s and when we have to use one. We discussed the criteria that are set up to determine whether a 504 is needed.