



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ESEA

STATE PROGRAM ADMINISTRATORS

Ensuring Student Equity & Access

Minutes Winter Membership Business Meeting Tuesday, January 25, 2022

Meeting was called to order at 3:01 PM EST by President Dean Zajic - KS

2022 NAESPA Board and Member Introductions – Dean Zajic (KS), President

1. “Thank You” to 2021 Board Members and Committee Leaders
2. “Welcome” to 2022 Board Members and Committee Leaders
 - Report: Dean recognized the 2021 Board Members and Committee Leaders for their work this past year. He welcomed and introduced the new Board Members and Committee Leaders for 2022.

2021 Retrospective

1. Approval of July 2021 Meeting Minutes – Dean Zajic (KS), President
 - Report: There were no questions or discussion about the meeting minutes.
 - Action: Moved by Ken Banter (GA) and seconded by Shelly Babler (WI) to approve the July 2021 minutes. Approved by a vote of 47 members for, 0 against and 2 abstaining.
2. “State of the Association” Report – Bob Harmon, CEO
 - Report: Bob shared the “State of the Association” Report – the full report will be posted to the Members Resource area of the website following this meeting. This annual report is a high-level recap of Association work and accomplishments for calendar year 2021. This is the 2nd full year under the leadership of the Franklin Street Management. This is the 4th year under the new Association name – National Association of ESEA State Program Administrators (NAESPA). Regional Support Conference Calls were offered and attended by many members throughout 2021, led by the Regional Representative and Alternate for each of the five regions. The 2021 (first ever virtual) National ESEA Conference was a huge success. Most of the planning for the 2022 Conference took place in 2021 and we are excited for the upcoming conference. There were six webinars offered in 2021 covering a multitude of topics. The virtual Summer Meeting offered many sessions by the US Department of Education, Brustein & Manasevit, offerings for New Directors and Peer-led Discussions. The Association enjoyed numerous partnerships this past year. A highlight being the half million books distributed through our partnership with the US Marine Corps Toys for Tots Book Distribution Program. Plans for a Summer Meeting for 2022, are yet to be determined if it will be held in person or virtually. The election for Board leadership will take place shortly after that meeting. The positions will be for a new Vice President, Secretary and Regional Representative for Regions 1, 3 and 5. Please welcome Erin Hanley as the incoming CEO.
3. Finance Status Report – Jewell Stanley (SC), Treasurer
 - Report: Jewell provided the FY2021 finance status report. Jewell shared charts showing the financial data. Revenue for the Association from April 2021 through December 2021

was \$3,050,643.95 with expenses for the same time period being \$1,048,071.17 with a net difference of \$2,002,572.78. Most of the expenses are still to come with the upcoming conference. Just a reminder, the fiscal year runs from April to March. There were no questions on the finance status report.

2022 Prospective

1. FY 2022 Strategic Plan Overview (including Membership Overview, Involvement, and Opportunities) – Marcus Cheeks, Chief Program Officer
 - Report: Marcus highlighted the contents of the Strategic Plan. This plan will start April 1, 2022 and run through March of 2023. It is a roadmap to accomplishing the goals of the Association. Marcus encouraged members to review the plan and strategies to determine some areas in which they might want to get involved. He shared about the seven committees and encouraged membership in one or more of the different committees; The Conference Planning Committee – chaired by Paula Daniels, The Membership Committee – chaired by Tara Rodriguez, The Ad-Hoc Revenue Committee – chaired by Dean Zajic, Communications Committee – chaired by Ken Banter, Government Relations Committee – co-chaired by Tate Toedman and Jack O’Conner, Effective Programs Committee – chaired by Betsy Chapman, and the Finance Committee – co-chaired by Jewell Stanley and Margo DeLaune.

Marcus then gave a brief update on the 2021 Distinguished Schools Celebration. There will be 49 schools recognized representing 27 states. Something new this year is the unique Principal’s Story of Success video that will be shared at the beginning of each of the ED, Brustein & Manasevit and Distinguished School Sessions at the Conference giving more opportunities to celebrate the Distinguished Schools. After the Conference the videos will be available through On Demand.

Finally, Marcus encouraged anyone that has not yet signed up to introduce a session at the Conference to please go to your Dashboard on the website, look under 2022 National ESEA Conference and there is a hyperlink that says, “View Sessions Needing a Host”. There are still 42 sessions needing a host.

2. 2022 Budget Review & Approval – Jewell Stanley (SC), Treasurer
 - Report: Jewell provided key takeaways about the 2022 budget. For example, Jewell reviewed the goals, the challenges and shared what we are budgeting for. The goals are to accommodate the activities defined by the Strategic Plan, set preliminary allocations across the proposed activities and model a path to financial sustainability. There are several unknowns that can affect the budget, for example whether the Conference and member meetings are in-person, virtual or hybrid, the number and nature of webinars and the pending contract and questions around the Indianapolis Convention Center. There are five revenue-generating activities: the National ESEA Conference, the Summer Meeting, Webinars, Membership Dues and On-Demand Subscriptions. No questions were asked about the 2022 budget.
 - Action: Moved by Tate Toedman (KS) and seconded by Jack O’Conner (MT) to approve the 2022 Budget. Approved by a vote of 53 for approval, 0 against and 1 abstaining.
3. Conference Update – Dean Zajic (KS), Conference Chair
 - Report: Dean shared that there are currently 3,045 paid registrations for the upcoming conference with 63% attending in person. The hotel reserves have been met. There are

121 exhibits booths sold. There are 47 book study registrations to date. New Orleans takes the COVID mitigation seriously and feels confident that safety is a priority. If you have not yet signed up to introduce a session, please do so. You will need to be logged into your ESEA Network account to be able to sign up.

4. NAESPA Comments on the *Draft Frequently Asked Questions: Impact of COVID-19 on 2021-2022 Accountability Systems Required under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA)* (Government Relations Committee Co-chairs: Tate Toedman—KS and Jack O'Connor—MT)
 - Report: Based on the member discussion during the January 11, 2022, Government Relations Committee meeting, Julia Martin drafted comments regarding the *Draft FAQs: Impact of COVID-19 on 2021-2022 Accountability Systems* on behalf of NAESPA. Comments were submitted to the U.S. Department of Education under Dean Zajic's signature to meet the January 16th deadline. Tate shared that the letter requested that the US Department of Education do what they can to reduce the burden being placed on States that are already strained beyond their limits with compliance requirements. Requesting a simplified or streamlined process for submitting amendments to consolidated State plans. The letter also shared the concern that districts may not be able to assess the required number of students to fulfill the 95% of students being assessed requirement and requested guidance on how States should discuss the requirement with districts and provide options for States to work with non-compliant districts.
5. Government Relations Report – Julia Martin, Brustein & Manasevit
 - I. Congressional updates
 - a. Reconciliation Updates
 - i. Failure to pass in December over cost issues
 - ii. Fate TBD
 - b. Legislative agenda for new year
 - II. Administration Updates
 - a. Updated ESSER/ GEER use of funds guidance to focus on “emerge stronger post-pandemic”
 - i. What is the nature of “prevent, prepare for, and respond to” COVID- 19 requirement?
 - ii. https://oese.ed.gov/files/2021/12/Fact-Sheet_COVID_connection_12.29.21_Final.pdf
 - b. Updated Maintenance of Equity Guidance
 - i. Updates to question 32 regarding exemptions
 - ii. https://oese.ed.gov/files/2021/12/Maintenance-of-Equity-updated-FAQs_12.29.21_Final.pdf
 - c. Updated Maintenance of Equity “Requirements”
 - i. <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2022-01-03/pdf/2021-28376.pdf>
 - ii. Primary change is deadlines
 1. March 31, 2022: exemption status of exempted LEAs for 2021- 22, plan to ensure compliance for others
 2. December 31, 2022: funding and staffing levels and compliance determinations for 2021-22
 3. November 1, 2022: exemption status of exempted LEAs for 2022-23

- school year
4. December 31, 2023: funding and staffing levels and compliance determinations for 2022-23

Meeting was adjourned at 4:47 PM EST
Respectfully submitted by Beth Wooster, Secretary

ATTENDING

Sarah Emmal – Alaska
Courtney Preziosi – Alaska
Allison Barbor – Arizona
Chante'le' Williams – Arkansas
Margo DeLaune – Bureau of Indian Education
Marie Silverhatband – Bureau of Indian Education
Jackie Wade – Bureau of Indian Education
Nazie Mohajeri-Nelson – Colorado
Carly Ambler – Georgia
Ken Banter – Georgia
Cindy Henry – Hawaii
Carey Tambio – Hawaii
Lisa Wilkinson – Hawaii
Michelle Clement Taylor – Idaho
Kathy Gauby – Idaho
Karen Seay – Idaho
Jean Rush – Kansas
Tate Toedman – Kansas
Dean Zajic – Kansas
Emily Meade – Kentucky
Tara Rodriguez – Kentucky
Erin Sudduth – Kentucky
Ruth Swanson – Kentucky
Erica Tipton – Kentucky
Bernell Cook – Louisiana
Simone Lynch – Massachusetts
Paula Daniels – Michigan
Corinne Edwards – Michigan
Michelle Patton – Michigan
Michael-Garrett Powell – Michigan
Shoua Vang – Michigan
Brendsha Roby – Mississippi
Julia Cowell – Missouri
Emilea Edmondson – Missouri
Kelly Kempker – Missouri
Kim Oligschlaeger – Missouri
Jocelyn Strand – Missouri
Theresa Villmer – Missouri
Christy Hendricks – Montana
Jack O'Connor – Montana
Kirk Russell – Nebraska
Beth Wooster – Nebraska
Gabby Lamarre – Nevada
Joey Nichol – New Hampshire
Gregory Frostad – New Mexico
Jen Engberg – Oregon
Lisa Plumb – Oregon
Jewell Stanley – South Carolina
Betsy Chapman – South Dakota
Jordan Varilek – South Dakota
LaNetra Guess – Texas
Val Murdock – Utah
Tracy Vandeventer – Utah
Tiffany Frierson – Virginia
Marsha Granderson – Virginia
Randall Johnson – Virginia
Louise Marks – Virginia
Megan Moore – Virginia
Amy Harris – Washington
Jason Miller – Washington
Cara Patrick – Washington
Melanie Purkey – West Virginia
Shelly Babler – Wisconsin
Jonas Zuckerman – Wisconsin
Leslie Koch – Wyoming