Meeting Minutes: Governmental Affairs Committee

**Date/Time:** September 6, 2022 – 7:30 a.m. **Location**: District Office **Start**: 7:30 a.m. **End**: 8:20 a.m.

Committee Members Present: Robin Nelson, Melissa Burkland, Katie Christensen, Greg Clark, Nyamal Dei

Committee Members Absent: None

**Board Members Present:** Jim Johnson

Staff Members Present: Dr. Rupak Gandhi, Tara Brandner, Jackie Gapp

**Recorder:** Jackie Gapp

Agenda Item	Discussion – Conclusion	Recommendations/Actions
Approval of June 7 Meeting	Committee reviewed and approved the minutes of the June 7 meeting.	Minutes will be posted on the Board's section of the public website.
Review and Affirm Governmental Affairs Committee Board Policy	Committee reviewed GP-7 for the Governmental Affairs Committee. Robin Nelson suggested removal of the wording "review community interagency relationships" in section a. Purpose. Jackie Gapp and Tara Brandner provided context surrounding contracts between the District and other governmental agencies which are often brought before the board for review and approval. Jim Johnson provided history that the wording was added due to the relationship between the District and FutureBuilders, which was the fund-raising arm for Bluestem Center for the Arts and is no longer a functioning organization. In addition, Melissa Burkland proposed additional changes to this section. Committee reached consensus to forward the changes to the Governance Committee for future board review.	Proposed changes to GP-7 will be forwarded to the Governance Committee.
Legislative Contact Card	The District's Legislative Contact Card was reviewed. The card lists school board member contact information along with their home legislative district. Robin Nelson will send the current list of legislators to committee members, which may change after the fall election occurs.	The Contact Card will be available for board member use.
Draft 2022-2023 Work Calendar	The draft of work calendar for the year was reviewed by the committee. This calendar is backfilled from legislative deadlines and will be updated throughout the upcoming months.	The work calendar will be updated as necessary during the upcoming months.
Legislative Items	A number of legislative items were reviewed by committee members including deadlines, which are noted on the work calendar.	
	Section VII Education of the North Dakota Constitution was provided to committee members for their review. The last sentence on page 1 section 5 was pointed out which references no use of public funds shall be provided to support any sectarian school.	
	Members reviewed the NDSBA resolution for payment of signing bonuses that will be voted on at the fall conference. In addition, Dr. Gandhi presented proposed legislative changes for the committee's review regarding bonuses. The proposed changes would expand the ability for districts to offer sign on bonuses.	
	Committee members discussed other potential legislative items to watch including:	
	Enforceability for Critical Race Theory Violations	

Agenda Item	Discussion – Conclusion	Recommendations/Actions	
	<ul> <li>Transgender Bill</li> <li>Vouchers</li> <li>Education Savings Accounts</li> <li>North Dakota Public Employee Retirement System</li> <li>Property Tax Reform</li> <li>Pledge of Allegiance</li> </ul>		
Determine Regular Meeting Time	Committee discussed regular meeting times. Consensus was reached to meet the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 am.	The Governmental Affairs Committee will meet on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 am.	
Items for Next Meeting	Discussion occurred regarding agenda items for the October meeting. Those agenda items will include, but not be limited to:		
	<ul> <li>Categorical positions</li> <li>Score card</li> <li>Preliminary position document</li> <li>Committees to follow</li> <li>Plan for informational session with legislators</li> </ul> Further discussion occurred regarding the legislative process, district positions and the		
	upcoming session.		
Next Meeting: Octobe	Next Meeting: October 4, 2022 at 7:30 am		