

To: 2021 Special Committee on Education
From: Mark Tallman, Associate Executive Director
Date: December 7, 2021
RE: KASB Dues to National School Boards Association

Chair Williams, Vice Chair Baumgardner, Ranking Member Winn:

This letter is in response to committee questions regarding KASB dues to the National School Boards Association in light of a letter sent by NSBA to the Biden administration asking for federal assistance to address threats of violence and intimidation of school board members. KASB was not involved in the drafting of that letter and expressed concern to NSBA that the letter actually caused more disputes and was not a good model to promote greater civility.

NSBA subsequently apologized for the letter and promised to review its processes and procedures in addressing current issues. KASB has chosen to remain a part of NSBA so that Kansas has a voice in improving the organization and in national education issues.

KASB's annual membership dues to NSBA is \$40,000. KASB also pays \$40,000 to participate in the National School Boards Action Center, a nonprofit organization created by NSBA to advocate on federal education issues.

KASB's total annual income is approximately \$5 million. Approximately \$2 million is raised from membership dues from local school boards and other members, including community and technical colleges with local boards, special education cooperatives and interlocal agreements. The balance is from fees for services, such as meeting attendance, board consulting and legal services; and revenues from partnerships, rents and programs such as KASB's risk management, employee benefits and energy services.

I hope this responds to committee questions from the Special Committee on Education meeting earlier this month.