



Moving Forward Together

With the school year coming to a close, now is the time for all of us to reflect upon the previous year and think about what we'd like to accomplish in the coming months.

Looking back, we've taken steps forward at the WASB in serving you, our members, and meeting your changing needs. Among other initiatives, we've made continuous updates and expansions to the Policy Resource Guide and Employee Handbook, revamped our strategic planning process, revitalized the Legislative Action Network, and initiated webinar and regional workshops.

We also launched a new service – the Employee Opinion Survey – to help districts gauge employee opinions on a range of issues related to the operation of your districts and guide your work in crafting employee handbooks, building relationships and improving services.

For a more detailed report of our activities over the past year, please see the WASB Report to the Membership on page 18.

The WASB is already looking ahead to the coming year to continue to provide school districts with the services and products that help

you lead your schools. We are expanding our event programming. In addition to workshops and webinars, we added a School Finance Seminar in March which was co-sponsored by the Wisconsin Association of School Business Officials and will be repeated next March, and we are adding a conference on educator effectiveness that will be co-sponsored by the district administrators' and principals' associations.

Under the guidance of our board of directors and our membership, we're moving forward.

One important way we receive feedback is through our annual WASB membership survey. Results from the survey help us plan our events and evaluate our services for the coming year. Your responses are highly valued.

A summary of the results from the survey conducted in January is on page 21. Complete results can also be viewed on our website at wasb.org. While many of the responses didn't deviate much from last year, one area in particular surprised us – and that was the dramatic shift to preferring electronic communications over paper. As a result, we're taking a hard look at many of our publications, the

manner in which they are delivered, and in some cases, moving up the timeframe for offering electronic versions. Watch for more information to follow in coming months.

We are proud of what we accomplished this past year at the WASB and we owe it to you – our membership – for supporting our work. Just as you support your students, you play an important role in the success of the WASB.

In closing, I'd like to acknowledge the thousands of high school seniors who are graduating from our state's high schools and beginning a new chapter in their lives. Some will go to college or attend a university, some will pursue military opportunities while others will go directly into the workforce.

No matter what step they take next, we hope our graduating seniors find success in their lives and that their time in our public schools has prepared them for their future challenges. Likewise, we hope to continue to provide the services and support to you, our state's school leaders, so you can continue to meet your challenges and provide the best opportunities possible for our state's students. Together, we can continue to do great work. ■

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