



The following is a summary of the CASB Board of Directors retreat held January 11-13, 2008 in Ft. Garland, Colorado.

2008 GOALS

The board spent Saturday of the retreat setting its goals for 2008. The goals guide the work and focus for the CASB staff and board throughout the year. The board will finalize the goals and look at implementation strategies at its next meeting, April 11-12, 2008.

2008 CASB Board Goals:

- CASB will be a statewide leader for tax and fiscal reform.
- CASB will champion a standards-based education system that supports multiple pathways for student success and individualized instruction.
- CASB will provide programs and services that promote the common interests as well as meet the unique needs of its diverse membership.

2008 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

- Jane Urschel facilitated a discussion on recommendations for CASB's legislative priorities for the 2008 legislative session.
- The board unanimously approved the following issues as CASB's top five legislative priorities:

Colorado's Achievement Plan for Kids

Governor Ritter's creative and thorough education reform plan proposes standards be established for pre-kindergarten through higher education in order to align Colorado's education system from preschool through freshman year of college.

Zones of Innovative Performance (ZIPs)

This bill allows schools to ask boards of education for waivers from board policy. It also allows boards of education to ask the Commissioner of Education for waivers from state policy.

Constitutional Reform and School Finance Revision

Colorado's Constitution is riddled with cumbersome provisions. Interaction between Amendment 23, TABOR and the Gallagher Amendment has largely tied lawmakers' hands when balancing the state budget and updating the School Finance Act to adequately fund public education. Numerous lawmakers, organizations and associations are brainstorming ways to solve this tax conundrum.

Building Excellent Schools Today (BEST)

During their travels around the state last year, Speaker Andrew Romanoff and State Treasurer Cary Kennedy found a severe need for health and safety capital improvements throughout Colorado's education system. Together with Sen. Groff, they will unveil legislation using a portion of revenue generated from interest earnings and lease payments to the Public School Fund to repair and rebuild crumbling schools.

Read more about these legislative priorities in the January 18, 2008 *BillBoard* legislative newsletter at <http://www.casb.org/pages/publications/billboard/january-18-2008/>.

BOARD DISCUSSES ASSESSMENTS IN THE 21ST CENTURY

- Dr. Carolyn Haug, Director of School Improvement and Accountability for Adams School District 50, presented a PowerPoint and held a Q&A session.
- The Board of Directors will convene an Executive Committee meeting to continue the discussion.
- The assessment discussion revolves around, in part, legislation on the slate this session. Read about Governor Ritter's Colorado Achievement plan for kids in the January 18, 2008 *BillBoard* for more information.

SCHOOL BOARDS & DEMOCRACY

- To stimulate discussion and 21st-century thinking, the CASB Board of Directors is reading *Reclaiming Public Education by Reclaiming Our Democracy* by David Mathews. The book was selected by CASB Board President Jane Barnes and explores the public's changing relationship with schools.

ELECTIONS OF PRESIDENT-ELECT AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- Bill Bregar, board member in Pueblo No. 70, was elected to the office of President-elect. Bregar will begin his term as President on Sunday, Dec. 7, at CASB's 2008 convention and will serve in that capacity for one year.
- The following Directors were elected to the CASB Executive Board Committee. The Executive Committee facilitates the work of the Board of Directors and takes final action on behalf of the Board of Directors when necessary during extraordinary circumstances preventing a meeting of the full Board.

John Knapp (Rocky Ford R2—Region 3)
Gary Northup (Re-1 Valley—Region 1)
Jenny Patterson (Telluride R-1—Region 8)
Marge Rinaldi (Adams County 50—Region 5)

THE CASB CONNECTION

Your CASB Board

December 2007 - December 2008

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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