

Resolutions Update

Dear Friends and Colleagues:

Last month, I had the privilege of working with a dedicated group of professionals serving on the NAESP Resolutions Committee. This working group is made up of a representative from each zone and is tasked with reviewing and updating NAESP's Platform annually. This hard-working committee met at the Association's offices in Alexandria, Virginia, for two days of intense work.

Traditionally, this committee focuses its time on reviewing resolutions in the NAESP Platform that are 5 or 10 years old as well as other resolutions the committee deems appropriate for revision or creation. This focus has enabled past resolutions committees to keep the platform up-to-date so that it could serve as the guiding document for advocacy and government relations work for the Association. It is also intended to reflect the positions of K-8 principals across the country.

This year, the NAESP Board of Directors instructed the Resolutions Committee to tackle a broader task during its November meeting: to align and streamline the entire platform under the Association's vision goals of Leading, Learning, and Community. I can proudly say the committee accepted this challenging task. They reviewed the 5- and 10-year-old resolutions while simultaneously examining and realigning the entire platform as the board requested. This was no small project! The committee was so energized by the work that they have agreed to continue reviewing resolutions over the next few weeks on their own time. The committee has been able to look at the breadth of the entire platform and recommend consolidation of individual resolutions for greater strength and clarity.

The work the committee began in November is available on the NAESP Web site for your viewing at www.naesp.org/platform.aspx. When we have finished the rest of our work, I will e-mail the entire NAESP membership with the completed proposed resolutions. The committee is required to give NAESP members ample opportunity to read and respond to the proposed resolutions before the national convention in April. In the meantime, please review the work this dedicated group has begun and provide your feedback by sending an e-mail to resolutions@naesp.org.

Thank you for your time and careful review of the Resolutions Committee's efforts on behalf of NAESP and the principalship.

Sincerely,



Barbara A. Chester

NAESP President-elect and Resolutions Committee Chair



The 2009 Resolutions Committee met Nov. 19-20 at NAESP headquarters to review the Association's guiding document.

NAESP Foundation's New Partnership Will Benefit the Whole Child

The NAESP Foundation has formed a strategic alliance with Hazelden Publishing, the leading publisher of evidence-based programs and curricula for youth substance-use prevention and violence prevention. Through this unique collaboration, the NAESP Foundation and Hazelden Publishing will work together to address major issues that affect children's social and emotional well-being and academic achievement, including bullying and other violence, mental health issues, and substance abuse. The two organizations will host webinars, develop joint publications, and work with NAESP state affiliates to bring needed resources to state education leaders.

"This is the right idea at the right time with the right partners," said NAESP Foundation CEO Ernest J. Mannino. "The necessary focus on educating the whole child requires collaboration between established leaders in the field. The NAESP Foundation and Hazelden will bring contemporary evidence-based resources to the entire education community."

"We are pleased to be working with the NAESP Foundation to bring high-quality, evidence-based programs to schools across the country, addressing some of the key issues affecting children and teens today," said Sue Thomas, manager of business development at Hazelden Publishing.

Hazelden Publishing has a number of evidence-based programs that address key issues facing children and teens today. These resources will be distributed through NAESP's online resource center (www.naesp.org/nprc) and through special arrangements with interested state affiliates. These programs include the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program, an award-winning program for grades 1-8; cyberbullying curricula; and the Peaceful School Bus Program.

For more information about the NAESP Foundation, visit its Web site at www.naespfoundation.org.