



**Sunshine Law Request**  
from the  
Missouri Attorney General's Office



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI  
ERIC SCHMITT

March 25, 2022

Custodian of Records  
Union R-XI School District  
21 Progress Pkwy  
PO Box 440  
Union, Missouri 63084  
*Sent by email to brakel@unionrxi.org*

**RE: Sunshine Law Request**

Dear Custodian of Records:

I write to request copies of the following public records pursuant to Chapter 610 of the Missouri Revised Statutes:

1. All emails Board of Education President Dr. Virgil Weideman received from or sent to an email address ending in @mosba.org between September 15, 2021 and November 5, 2021.
2. All emails sent or received by Board of Education President Dr. Virgil Weideman or Board of Education Vice President Karen Tucker between September 15, 2021 and November 5, 2021 containing the terms "National School Board Association" or "NSBA".

I request these records in an electronic format if that format is available.

These requests seek documents that are in the public interest because they are likely to contribute to a better understanding of the operations or activities of Union R-XI School District. In addition, this is not a request for commercial purposes. For these reasons, pursuant to § 610.026.1(1), RSMo, the Missouri Attorney General's Office requests a waiver of any fees associated with processing this request for records. If that waiver is not granted, please provide an estimate of the cost.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Justin D. Smith

Supreme Court Building  
207 W. High Street  
P.O. Box 899  
Jefferson City, MO 65102  
Phone: (573) 751-3321  
Fax: (573) 751-0774  
www.ago.mo.gov



# Responsive Documents

from the School District

SUBJECT: ASBJ Brief September 2021  
FROM: ASBJ Brief <asbjbrief@nsba.org>  
TO: weidemanv@unionrxi.org  
DATE: 18/09/2021 10:02



## *Lead Story*

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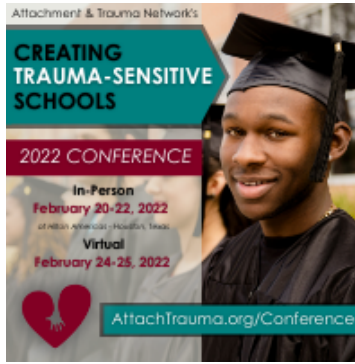
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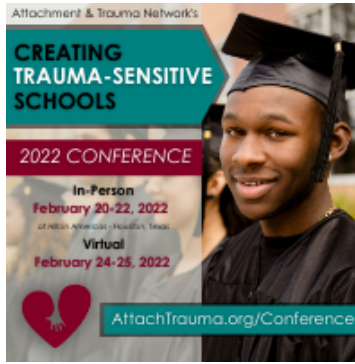
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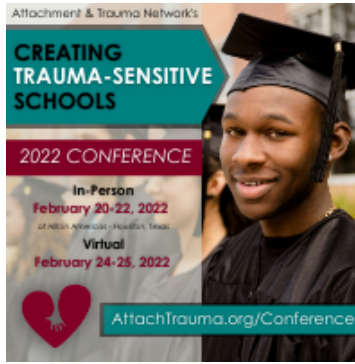
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DATE: 22/09/2021 10:32



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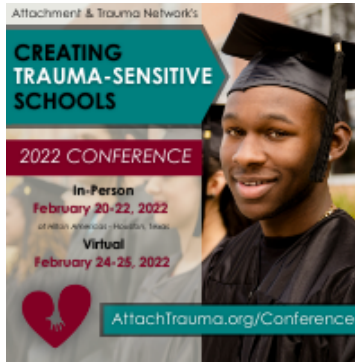
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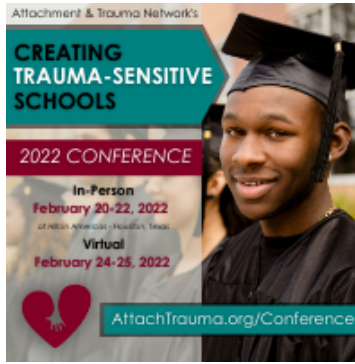
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In challenging times, learn how savvy boards embrace technology to ensure transparency and ultimately improve community engagement and public trust.

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*This article is brought to you by  
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SUBJECT: The Essential Role of Arts in Education  
FROM: ASBJ Brief <asbjbrief@nsba.org>  
TO: weidemanv@unionrxi.org  
DATE: 22/09/2021 10:32



## *Lead Story*

### **The Essential Role of Arts in Education**

All students benefit from exposure to the arts in school. Research shows that students from disadvantaged families see even more advantages. October's ASBJ examines the power of the performing arts in education with a visit to a Texas school district that provides top-tier arts training to its low-income students. "We want to make sure our students have the same opportunities and exposure to the arts as anyone, anywhere," says Aldine ISD Superintendent LaTonya Goffney. "They deserve it, and they benefit from it."

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## *In Focus*



### Magna Awards 2022 Accepting Nominations

Earn recognition for your district's exemplary equity work that's breaking barriers to learning. Apply for the 2022 Magna Awards.

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### Stimulus Funds Demand Leadership, Transparency

CUBE Chair Dr. Steve Gallon III discusses federal help for our most vulnerable students and school boards' essential fiduciary responsibility.

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### NSBA Members Recognized for Innovative Initiatives

Indiana and Virginia state school boards associations recognized for innovative support of school boards and school districts.

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**Chip Slaven**, NSBA Interim Executive Director and CEO

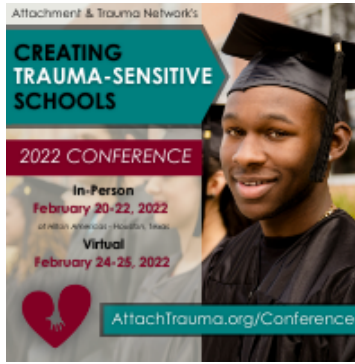
In the corporate world, we often hear about the importance of work-life balance. It's the amount of time spent doing your job compared to doing things you enjoy. This balance is vital to progress and satisfaction in our careers and lives, but what about our students? They too need a healthy balance between their academic careers and the things they like to do, whether it be sports, family activities, or something creative.

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SUBJECT: Registration is Open for Advocacy Institute and Equity Symposium  
FROM: National School Boards Association <nsba@nsba.org>  
TO: weidemanv@unionrxi.org  
DATE: 29/09/2021 13:46



## One Location. Two Signature Events.

Registration is now open for the [NSBA Equity Symposium](#) and [Advocacy Institute](#). Join us for one or both signature events at the Marriott Marquis in Washington, D.C.



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Join school board members from across the country to get insights on how you can make a difference for your schoolchildren and to influence the decisions made on Capitol Hill that directly impact students.

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FROM: National School Boards Association <nsba@nsba.org>  
TO: tuckerk@union.k12.mo.us  
DATE: 29/09/2021 13:46



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SUBJECT: Response to NSBA Letter  
FROM: "Dr. Virgil L. Weideman" <drvirgil@charter.net>  
TO: "Melissa Randol" <reply-2deab3e414-176e869534-8966@u.cts.vresp.com>  
CC: "Aaron Bockhorst" <abockhorst@fergusoncity.com>, "Amy Hall" <hallak@unionrxi.org>, "Ben Fox" <ben.fox@unionrxi.org>, "Christy Eads" <eadsc@unionrxi.org>, "Karen Tucker" <tuckerk@unionrxi.org>, "Matt Borgmann" <borgmannm@unionrxi.org>, "Dr. Scott Hayes" <hayess@unionrxi.org>, "Mike Mabe" <mabem@unionrxi.org>, "Dr. Justin Tarte" <tartej@unionrxi.org>, "Board(Sch) - Lauren Brake" <brakel@unionrxi.org>, "Missourian-Geoff Folsom" <folsomg@emissourian.com>, "Diane Jones" <ddjones@usmo.com>, "John Covington" <john@klpw.com>  
DATE: 07/10/2021 19:09

Dear Ms. Randol,

Thank you for your email. Although it was hard for me to believe that MSBA would agree with the NSBA letter, I appreciate your distancing us from the stand that NSBA has taken. I have never been a fan of NSBA and this just cements my attitude toward them. I will copy this email to my Board members, administrators and the local media. I sincerely appreciate MSBA elucidating the stand that is or should be what every Board member in the state of Missouri should support.

My Kindest Regards,  
Virgil

Dr. Virgil L. Weideman  
President, Union R-XI  
Board of Education  
weidemanv@unionrxi.org

----- Original Message -----

From: "Melissa Randol" <[Melissa\\_Randol@mail.vresp.com](mailto:Melissa_Randol@mail.vresp.com)>  
To: [drvirgil@charter.net](mailto:drvirgil@charter.net)  
Sent: 10/7/2021 4:17:05 PM  
Subject: Response to NSBA Letter



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As we approach the middle of the fall semester, I wanted to take a moment to check-in and thank you for all you do for Missouri's students and public education in our state.

Recently, you may have seen or heard about a letter the National School Boards Association sent to the White House requesting federal assistance to deal with cases of harassment and threats being made toward school board members in this tumultuous climate we face today. While we recognize that there are serious issues occurring around the country and in some communities in Missouri, we strongly disagree with the tone of the NSBA letter and especially with the call for federal involvement.

MSBA is not a subsidiary of the National School Boards Association. We are entirely separate entities. NSBA does not have any governance control over our organization. By that same token, MSBA was not consulted nor given the opportunity to advise on the NSBA letter to the White House. We were disappointed with the NSBA letter and have clearly expressed our disagreement to them in no uncertain terms.

We absolutely and unequivocally believe in the First Amendment rights of parents and all citizens to speak freely and petition their governments. We appreciate the passion parents and others have for Missouri's schools and the children we are serving. We encourage that passion and must create safe opportunities for voices to be heard.

However, there have been some instances in Missouri where the safety of our teachers, administrators and board members has been threatened. Threats of violence should never be tolerated, and we call for civility and respect alongside the passionate exchange of concerns and ideas.

At our core, the Missouri School Boards' Association is dedicated to the concept of local control. In Missouri, our local law enforcement is authorized to address threats and ensure the safety of our students, teachers and elected officials. It is the jurisdiction of the local law enforcement in Missouri to capably handle these situations and to seek additional law enforcement support, if that's ever needed. We respect their role and thank them for working to protect safe forums for school board meetings, allowing our community members' voices to be heard.

School board members, administrators, teachers and staff have been called to perform extraordinary tasks to help our children through these difficult times brought on by the pandemic. Thank you for stepping up and standing strong for all children. There has never been a time in the history of our great country and state where your service was more needed.

With gratitude,  
Melissa

Melissa Randol  
Executive Director  
Missouri School Boards' Association

[www.mosba.org](http://www.mosba.org) | 800-221-6722 | [info@mosba.org](mailto:info@mosba.org) | 2100 I-70 Drive SW, Columbia, MO 65203

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TO: "Melissa Randol" <reply-2deab3e414-176e869534-8966@u.cts.vresp.com>  
CC: "Aaron Bockhorst" <abockhorst@fergusoncity.com>, "Amy Hall" <hallak@unionrxi.org>, "Ben Fox" <ben.fox@unionrxi.org>, "Christy Eads" <eadsc@unionrxi.org>, "Karen Tucker" <tuckerk@unionrxi.org>, "Matt Borgmann" <borgmannm@unionrxi.org>, "Dr. Scott Hayes" <hayess@unionrxi.org>, "Mike Mabe" <mabem@unionrxi.org>, "Dr. Justin Tarte" <tartej@unionrxi.org>, "Board(Sch) - Lauren Brake" <brakel@unionrxi.org>, "Missourian-Geoff Folsom" <folsomg@emissourian.com>, "Diane Jones" <ddjones@usmo.com>, "John Covington" <john@klpw.com>  
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SUBJECT: Don't Forget: Nominate Your District for the 2022 Magna Awards!  
FROM: National School Boards Association <nsba@nsba.org>  
TO: tuckerk@union.k12.mo.us  
DATE: 12/10/2021 17:32

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School leaders,

You've done incredible work for your students and staff during the pandemic, whether your buildings were closed or remained open, whether your students attended in person, online, or both. You and your staff created or kept innovative programs going in the face of uncertainty.

Let us recognize you and your district for your hard work. Enter your district program for the 2022 Magna Awards. These awards recognize exemplary programs that break down barriers to achievement. The deadline for submissions is **Monday, Nov. 1**.

---

***Three grand prize winners receive \$5,000.***

All winners are featured in the April issue of *American School Board Journal* and are recognized at NSBA's Annual Conference in San Diego April 2 – 4, 2022.

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Community District***

**Detroit, Michigan**



***Portland Public Schools***

**Portland, Maine**



***Mashpee Public Schools***

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***Portland Public Schools***

**Portland, Maine**



***Mashpee Public Schools***

**Mashpee, Massachusetts**



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SUBJECT: ASBJ Brief October 2021  
FROM: ASBJ Brief <asbjbrief@nsba.org>  
TO: weidemanv@unionrxi.org  
DATE: 16/10/2021 10:32



## *Lead Story*

### **Award-Winning Artists on the Essential Role of Arts in Education**

Versatile actor/director/producer Tony Plana and country music superstar Trisha Yearwood contribute to October's ASBJ with insights on the importance of the arts in schools. Plana discusses how the performing arts help students handle social-emotional issues. Yearwood recalls her musical journey and the impact of music education.

**Arts Bridge the Gaps**

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## *In Focus*





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FROM: ASBJ Brief <asbjbrief@nsba.org>  
TO: tuckerk@union.k12.mo.us  
DATE: 16/10/2021 10:33



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SUBJECT: The Hard History of the Tulsa Race Massacre  
FROM: Equity Symposium <Equity@nsba.org>  
TO: tuckerk@union.k12.mo.us  
DATE: 19/10/2021 14:32



## Hard History: Tulsa Public Schools' Journey in Grappling With the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre

We have a hard history, and we need to teach it. Join members of Tulsa Public Schools as they recount their process of addressing the history of the Tulsa Race Massacre, resulting in developing and implementing curricula for grades 3-12. This session will focus on their process and lessons learned, including: providing equitable instruction on hard histories and other challenging topics; considering the work that needs to happen leading up to an initiative; identifying an appropriate and accurate curriculum; and preparing for and addressing roadblocks along the way.

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**Stacey Woolley**  
School Board President



**Suzanne Schreiber**  
School Board Vice President



**Dr. Ebony Johnson**  
Chief Learning Officer



**Danielle Neves**  
Deputy Chief of Academics



**Jamie Lomax**  
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TO: weidemanv@unionrxi.org  
DATE: 19/10/2021 14:32



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FROM: ASBJ Brief <asbjbrief@nsba.org>  
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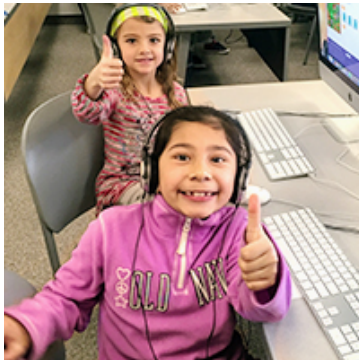


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SUBJECT: The Future of Board Portal Solutions  
FROM: Kathi Springer <kspringer@nsba.org>  
TO: tuckerk@union.k12.mo.us  
DATE: 22/10/2021 12:41

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This discussion is intended to be interactive and a two-way learning opportunity. Don't miss this opportunity to share your expertise and hear from 20-25 of your colleagues.

Areas of discussion will be:

- Solution overview: messaging & branding
- The role of state, national and other events in solution selection
- Preferred sources of information when evaluating new solutions
- Roles of district personnel and school board members when evaluating new solutions
- Communication styles and preferences for vendor engagement

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*As a thank you for your participation, you will receive a **\$100 gift card** from **DonorsChoose** to purchase classroom supplies for school projects in your district.*

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The deadline to RSVP is **Oct. 28, COB**. You will receive a confirmation email and details for connecting to the focus group. If you have questions, email [Kathi Springer](#) or call 703.901.6894.

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SUBJECT: Re: Response to NSBA Letter  
FROM: "Dr. Virgil L. Weideman" <drvirgil@charter.net>  
TO: "Melissa Randol" <reply-979151c1ee-176e869534-88b6@u.cts.vresp.com>  
CC: "Matt Borgmann" <borgmannm@unionrxi.org>, "Karen Tucker" <tuckerk@unionrxi.org>, "Karen Tucker" <tucker.karen@sbcglobal.net>, "Dr. Scott Hayes" <hayess@unionrxi.org>, "Christy Eads" <daveeads0527@gmail.com>, "Christy Eads" <eadsc@unionrxi.org>, "Board(Sch) - Lauren Brake" <brakel@unionrxi.org>, "Ben Fox" <benandjanefox@gmail.com>, "Ben Fox" <ben.fox@unionrxi.org>, "Amy K. Hall" <hallamy@rsdmo.org>, "Amy Hall" <aahall@yhti.net>, "Amy Hall" <hallak@unionrxi.org>, "Aaron Bockhorst" <abockhorst@fergusoncity.com>, "Aaron Bockhorst" <bockhorsta@unionrxi.org>, "Aaron Bockhorst" <abockhor@jeffco.edu>, "Mike Mabe" <mabem@unionrxi.org>, "Dr. Justin Tarte" <tartej@unionrxi.org>, "Kendra Fennessey" <fennke@unionrxi.org>, "Missourian-Geoff Folsom" <folsomg@emissourian.com>  
DATE: 25/10/2021 16:00

Dear Ms. Randol,

My compliments to you and the Board! You made the correct and just decision. I am not aware of what benefits you received from your dues to NSBA, but they must be far outweighed by the negative reaction across Missouri knowing that you were a member of the NSBA organization. Any organization that could publish a letter such as the one from NSBA must be abandoned. I am glad that MSBA has taken this step.

Obviously, NSBA has strayed very far from their core mission of benefiting students. They certainly deserve to be abandoned.

Thank you for taking this action. Please convey my compliments to your Board of Directors. As with my previous email I am copying our Board of Education, our Central Office Administration and our local media.

Best Regards,

Virgil

Dr. Virgil L. Weideman  
President, Union R-XI  
Board of Education  
weidemanv@unionrxi.org

----- Original Message -----

From: "Melissa Randol" <[Melissa\\_Randol@mail.vresp.com](mailto:Melissa_Randol@mail.vresp.com)>

To: [drvirgil@charter.net](mailto:drvirgil@charter.net)

Sent: 10/25/2021 3:05:05 PM

Subject: Response to NSBA Letter



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Dear MSBA Members,

Last week, your board of directors met and made the difficult decision to withdraw MSBA's participation in the National School Boards Association, effective immediately.

This decision was not made lightly. The National School Boards Association, through its recent actions, such as its letter to the White House, has demonstrated it does not currently align with MSBA's guiding principles of local governance.

School boards have always been asked to make tough decisions, and to do what is right for the students under their responsibility. These decisions often bring about thoughtful and rigorous discussion, which we believe is crucial to the discernment process.

We also believe that no school board member or educator should ever have to endure threats of violence or acts of intimidation against themselves or their families for making these difficult decisions. However, attempting to address that issue with federal intervention should not be the first step in most cases, and is antithetical to our longstanding tradition of local control. Further, the use of inflammatory terms in the NSBA letter is not a model for promoting greater civility and respect for the democratic process.

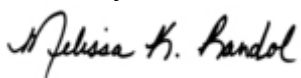
On Friday, the National School Boards Association distributed an [apology statement](#) for the letter issued by their interim executive director and president. While that is a step in the right direction, we believe NSBA still has significant work ahead, both implementing processes and procedures to prevent similar problems in the future, as well as repairing their fractured relationships.

Please know that our withdrawal from NSBA will not have any effect on the MSBA programs and services that you rely on. MSBA will continue to offer first-class service to all of our members, so you can continue your important mission of helping all Missouri students succeed.

If you have any questions regarding this decision, please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

As always, it is an honor and pleasure to support your great work for Missouri's students.

Sincerely,



Melissa Randol  
Executive Director

---

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Missouri School Boards' Association  
2100 I-70 Drive SW  
Columbia, Missouri 65203  
US

[Read](#) the VerticalResponse marketing policy.



SUBJECT: Re: Response to NSBA Letter  
FROM: "Dr. Virgil L. Weideman" <drvirgil@charter.net>  
TO: "Melissa Randol" <reply-979151c1ee-176e869534-88b6@u.cts.vresp.com>  
CC: "Matt Borgmann" <borgmannm@unionrxi.org>, "Karen Tucker" <tuckerk@unionrxi.org>, "Karen Tucker" <tucker.karen@sbcglobal.net>, "Dr. Scott Hayes" <hayess@unionrxi.org>, "Christy Eads" <daveeads0527@gmail.com>, "Christy Eads" <eadsc@unionrxi.org>, "Board(Sch) - Lauren Brake" <brakel@unionrxi.org>, "Ben Fox" <benandjanefox@gmail.com>, "Ben Fox" <ben.fox@unionrxi.org>, "Amy K. Hall" <hallamy@rsdmo.org>, "Amy Hall" <aahall@yhti.net>, "Amy Hall" <hallak@unionrxi.org>, "Aaron Bockhorst" <abockhorst@fergusoncity.com>, "Aaron Bockhorst" <bockhorsta@unionrxi.org>, "Aaron Bockhorst" <abockhor@jeffco.edu>, "Mike Mabe" <mabem@unionrxi.org>, "Dr. Justin Tarte" <tartej@unionrxi.org>, "Kendra Fennessey" <fennke@unionrxi.org>, "Missourian-Geoff Folsom" <folsomg@emissourian.com>  
DATE: 25/10/2021 16:00

Dear Ms. Randol,

My compliments to you and the Board! You made the correct and just decision. I am not aware of what benefits you received from your dues to NSBA, but they must be far outweighed by the negative reaction across Missouri knowing that you were a member of the NSBA organization. Any organization that could publish a letter such as the one from NSBA must be abandoned. I am glad that MSBA has taken this step.

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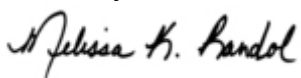
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Melissa Randol  
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Columbia, Missouri 65203  
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[Read](#) the VerticalResponse marketing policy.



SUBJECT: NSBA 2022 General Registration & Housing Are Open  
FROM: Annual Conference <annualconference@nsba.org>  
TO: weidemanv@unionrxi.org  
DATE: 27/10/2021 09:02



## Registration & Housing Are Open!

The [NSBA 2022 Annual Conference & Exposition](#) is an integrated, in-person and online event, giving you the option to connect face-to-face or attend select online sessions from the comfort of your home or office. NSBA 2022 brings world-class programming, inspirational keynotes, top education solution providers, and plentiful networking opportunities. Join us on April 2-4, 2022 in San Diego, CA!

[Individual Registration](#)

[Group Registration](#)

## Safety Protocols & Requirements

Conference participants are required to show proof of at least one dose of a coronavirus vaccine or confirmation of a negative COVID test within 72 hours of the event for entry. Instructions on how to upload your vaccination card or test results will be provided closer to the event. Alternatively, you can bring your vaccination card or test results with you. Participants must also wear a mask indoors regardless of vaccination status, except when actively eating or drinking. Click [here](#) for more information.

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**National School Boards Association**

1680 Duke St., Fl 2, Alexandria, VA 22314-3493

Phone: (703) 838-6722

Click [here](#) to unsubscribe.



SUBJECT: NSBA 2022 General Registration & Housing Are Open  
FROM: Annual Conference <annualconference@nsba.org>  
TO: tuckerk@union.k12.mo.us  
DATE: 27/10/2021 09:03



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Phone: (703) 838-6722

Click [here](#) to unsubscribe.

SUBJECT: The Future of Board Portal Solutions  
FROM: Kathi Springer <kspringer@nsba.org>  
TO: tuckerk@union.k12.mo.us  
DATE: 28/10/2021 12:31

*A sponsored focus group brought to you by Diligent.*



BoardDocs<sup>®</sup>

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# The Future of Modern Governance for Education

If you were not able to attend Diligent's first focus group, there is still an exciting opportunity to share insights with your colleagues. You're invited to join Diligent on **Thursday, Nov. 4**, from **1–2 p.m.** EST for a conversation about the future of board portal solutions for K12 education. The Product, Marketing, and Sales teams at Diligent are hosting a virtual focus group to seek feedback from school board members and any personnel related to school district governance and technology solutions. This 1-hour session will allow participants to share insights, experiences, and opinions related to various topics on board management software.

This discussion is intended to be interactive and a two-way learning opportunity. Don't miss this opportunity to share your expertise and hear from 20-25 of your colleagues.

Areas of discussion will be:

- Solution overview: messaging & branding
- The role of state, national and other events in solution selection
- Preferred sources of information when evaluating new solutions
- Roles of district personnel and school board members when evaluating new solutions
- Communication styles and preferences for vendor engagement

---

*As a thank you for your participation, you will receive a **\$100 gift card** from **DonorsChoose** to purchase classroom supplies for school projects in your district.*

**RSVP Here**

---

The deadline to RSVP is **Oct. 29, COB**. You will receive a confirmation email and details for connecting to the focus group. If you have questions, email [Kathi Springer](#) or call 703.901.6894.

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1680 Duke St., Fl 2, Alexandria, VA 22314-3493

Phone: (703) 838-6722

Click [here](#) to unsubscribe or to change your Subscription Preferences.

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