

Nebraska Council of School Administrators

The NCSA: An Umbrella Organization

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Since its incorporation in 1970, the Nebraska Council of School Administrators (NCSA) has been structured as an umbrella organization for all school administrators in the State of Nebraska. An umbrella organization is an association of institutions, which work together formally to coordinate activities and pool resources.

In the case of NCSA, one group, the umbrella organization, provides resources and an identity to the “affiliate” organizations under the corporate umbrella. Each affiliate organization maintains its own budget, an amount dedicated under the umbrella organization budget. Each affiliate organization maintains its own by-laws, constitution, executive board, award programs, committee structure, etc. Each affiliate organization is free to establish its own agenda so long as the agenda does not contradict or supersede the umbrella organization’s positions, policies, bylaws, and constitution.

The NCSA is comprised of six affiliate organizations:

- Nebraska Association of School Administrators (NASA)
- Nebraska Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP)
- Nebraska State Association of Secondary School Principals (NSASSP)
- Nebraska Association of School Business Officials (NASBO)
- Nebraska Association of Special Education Supervisors (NASES)
- Nebraska Association of Retired School Administrators (NARSA)



The NCSA Executive Board, the corporate governing body, employs an executive director, who hires and maintains both professional and support staff. The 16-member NCSA Executive Board is comprised of three elected representatives from each active affiliate and one from the retired affiliate. The NCSA operates on a \$1.3 million annual budget with funding generated from both dues and non-dues revenue. The NCSA staff is comprised of six members, including the executive director.

Seventeen state professional organizations for school administrators utilize an umbrella structure similar to the NCSA, including Colorado, North Dakota, Iowa, California, Delaware, and Kentucky. Other states have separate organizations for classifications of school administration, including Missouri, Kansas, Alaska, and Maryland. Some states have an organization for principals and a separate organization for other school administrators, including Florida, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and New Jersey.

In fact, the trend among state organizations dedicated to school administrators is a move toward the umbrella structure. The umbrella provides several advantages, including enhanced resources, programs and services, and a more unified voice in educational and legislative issues. Umbrella organizations provide a more efficient use of senior and support staff to meet the needs of the membership. ◇