



Board of Education Column

By Robin Nelson, Board of Education

Governmental Affairs Committee Update

The 2023-24 Fargo Board of Education Governmental Affairs Committee consists of Board members Greg Clark, Katie Christensen Mineer, Nyamal Dei, Nikkie Gullickson, and myself. GAC members are committed to work diligently to compose resolutions, monitor legislatively-directed studies, and stay updated on any future education-related legislation.

This committee plays a vital role in advocating for the interests of our school district and our work is guided by [Governance Policy 7](#). Our defined purpose is to track federal, state and city legislation that has implications for the school district; keep the full board informed regarding such issues; provide advice regarding the timing and content of communication and/or testimony to inform those in a decision-making capacity; and to review community interagency relationships.

During this interim term, the GAC team is working to compose resolutions in three key areas – keeping public dollars public, honesty in education, and advocating for all students. The intended purpose for each resolution is to create consistent, Board-approved messaging for use during the next regular legislative session. The final draft resolutions will be forwarded to the Board for further consideration.

The committee is also following legislatively-directed studies during the interim. Members frequently communicate with area legislators who serve on the committees assigned to analyze K-12 related topics.

And finally, we followed activity related to K-12 education during the unexpected special legislative session in October. The only education-related bill that was introduced did not garner enough support to be officially considered on the floor.

