

Legislative Update



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to see members take a direct role in crafting MASB's priorities," said Deputy Director Don Wotruba.

These meetings will be held in the evenings during October and early November where interested board members and superintendents can brainstorm with MASB's government relations staff on what your association's legislative focus should be for the 2013-14 legislative session. The format will likely begin with small group discussions, later reconvening into a larger group for final recommendation to MASB's Government Relations

Committee. We're planning to start meetings around 7 p.m., later in the evening than previously to allow time for travel and dinner before they arrive.

Since our regions cover multiple counties, some travel is required, but our goal is to rotate locations to accommodate as many participants as possible. If you're unable to attend, you can still participate. MASB will send a survey to prioritize ideas chosen at the regional meetings.

We've sent a letter to each ISD superintendent so they can discuss a possible location with their coun-

terparts in neighboring ISDs. Once the events are scheduled, MASB will inform all board members and have an open registration process so we can maximize participation.

Please encourage your local colleagues—board members and superintendents alike—to participate in these important events.

MASB's legislative agenda is only as strong as the number of voices that create it.

Responsible and qualified contractor policy

Sample available on MASB's ERiN site

In 2004, MASB collaborated with groups representing the Michigan construction industry to develop a sample policy on responsible contracting. The sample was reviewed by general contractors, subcontractors and construction management firms from around the state prior to its publication on MASB's ERiN website.

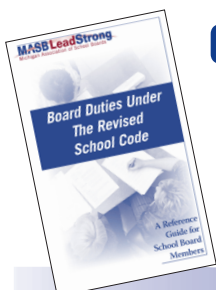
Then, in 2009, the MASB Delegate Assembly followed-up the sample policy by adopting a resolution stating that MASB "urges all school boards to adopt a 'responsible contracting policy' that sets forth in

advance, reasonable predetermined qualifications that contractors and subcontractors must show they possess before being awarded a contract."

MASB's sample policy on *Responsible/Quality Contracts* hasn't been updated since its original publication in 2004. The Newaygo County RESA recently used the original version of the policy to complete multiple construction projects, but recognized during the process that the policy was likely not updated to today's standards for selecting competent



construction contractors. As a result, Newaygo County RESA updated the MASB policy, adopted administrative rules that support the policy and created a worksheet for rating contractors under the policy and rules. The new *samples*, thanks to Newaygo County RESA, can be downloaded from MASB's ERiN website.



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