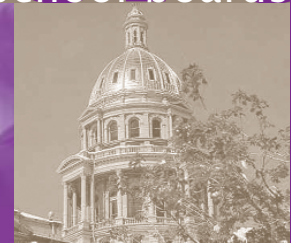
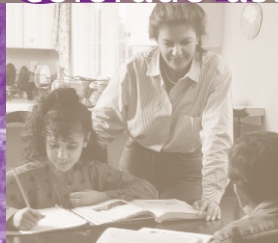


2005–2006

annual report

colorado association of school boards



board of directors executive committee

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This year was a big year for school finance and for CASB. CASB played a significant role in passing Referendum C, which benefits every Colorado school district. More important was CASB's involvement in the School Finance Task Force. CASB representatives played a crucial role in educating legislators on many issues that have significant financial impact on schools now and for years to come.

MIKE FREEMAN,
CASB IMMEDIATE
PAST PRESIDENT

”



John Knapp
PRESIDENT
Rocky Ford R2
Region 3



Deanne Elliott
PRESIDENT-ELECT
Sargent Re-33J
Region 10



Mike Freeman
IMMEDIATE PAST
PRESIDENT
Weld Co. Re-9
Region 4



Nancy Sarchet
Weld RE-1
Region 4



Angelika
Schroeder
Boulder Valley Schools
Region 5



Jane Barnes
Jefferson County
Region 5



Jenny Patterson
Telluride R-1
Region 8



Jill Brake
MEMBER AT-LARGE
Pueblo No. 70
Region 6

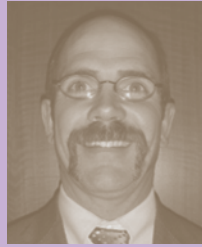
directors



Gary Northup
Re-1 Valley
Region 1



Jody Boydston-
Johnson
Deer Trail 26J
Region 2



Ron Pfleiderer
Platte Valley Re-7
Region 4



Kay Fair
Cherry Creek
Schools
Region 5



Marge Rinaldi
Adams Co. 50
Region 5



Norma Frank
Mapleton Public
Schools
Region 5



Kevin Patterson
Denver Public Schools
Region 5



Bill Bregar
Pueblo No. 70
Region 6



Anna Lord
Manitou Springs 14
Region 6



Tom Sifers
East Grand #2
Region 7



Sherri Wright
Montezuma-Cortez
Re-1
Region 9



Rob Hunt
Woodland Park Re-2
Region 6

did you know?

CASB brought innovative programs and strategies for increasing student achievement to CASB members by co-sponsoring and hosting the second annual Heartland Hispanic Education Conference.

your CASB team

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CASB service highlights

CASB offered many services for members this year to fulfill our long-standing mission: Advancing excellence in public education through effective leadership by locally elected school boards. Read on to learn about some of the new services CASB provided members this year.

We helped you stay up-to-date and informed so you can explain tough issues to your constituents.

CASB's new Web site, with redesigned navigation and more up-to-date information, makes it easy for you to find valuable information on everything from boardmanship basics and policy updates to ever-changing happenings at the Capitol. Keep an eye on CASB's Web site, as we frequently update it to offer you new information almost daily.

CASB's new Services Guide helps you get the most out of your CASB membership. Now, with just a flip of the book, you'll learn about all our member services like member legal resources and custom services like our Communications Assessment service.

Through CASB's new e-mail newsletter option, many members received attractive, easy-to-navigate newsletters like *Bill*Board Online* and *Year One* quickly and easily right to their e-mail.

We helped you build strong school board candidates.

CASB's regional Campaign Nights fostered more prepared and informed school board candidates by teaching prospective board members what it means to be a board member. CASB Board of Directors traveled the state facilitating the sessions and members also took advantage of the Candidate Night curriculum cd, allowing them to run trainings in their own district.

We helped you engage your community, so you enjoy wide community support.

CASB members learned about communicating with their constituents through CASB's Communications Assessment Service and in the future will reap the benefits of good community relations. This year, CASB widened its service capacity and knowledge by teaming with communications experts at Schoolhouse Communications to offer the assessment, a diagnostic tool that pinpoints the strengths and weaknesses of the district's communication efforts.

We ensured the local school district voice is heard at the Capitol.

CASB staff represented the school board viewpoint by participating in meetings regarding NCLB, the State Lands Trust, safe schools and special education.

Thanks to a strong grassroots effort from individuals and organizations throughout the state and leadership from the governor and key legislators, the voters approved Referendum C in November 2005, allowing state revenues to be used to restore state services that were cut during the economic downturn. CASB was deeply involved in the Referendum C campaign, serving as an information resource to our membership.

“

It's the most useful, and user-friendly tool that a board member, administrator, teacher, parent or patron can have when looking at school district policy. It's easy to navigate and find all of the policies you are looking for.

MARK RICKEN,
SUPERINTENDENT,

ARRIBA-FLAGLER CSD #20 —
ONLINE POLICY SOLUTIONS

”

your CASB team

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Fleuter**
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your CASB team

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To a large extent, the legislative priorities adopted by the CASB Board in January were realized, with the increased funding for K-12, including additional dollars for special education and school capital facilities. Work will continue to implement the recommendations of the School Finance Task Force issued in September 2005.

CASB played a major role as the Finance Task Force formulated its key recommendation that a foundation expenditure level must be “adequate,” e.g. sufficient to enable every student to reach proficiency in the local, state and federal performance standards.

CASB supported creation of a P-16 Council to study and advise the legislature regarding a systemic approach to educating students from preschool through postsecondary education. The P-16 effort continues to be a priority for CASB into the next year as the CASB Board and staff coordinate a major initiative with its membership on this issue.

CASB’s advocacy work is a year-round effort as we represent the interests of locally-elected school boards before the State Legislature, Colorado’s Congressional Delegation and the State Board of Education. CASB worked to refine the legislative agenda that members adopted at the CASB Delegate Assembly prior to the October 2005 Assembly.

We offer you more legal resources and representation so you have options.

The majority of CASB’s membership consulted CASB’s legal staff expertise throughout the year for information on open meetings laws, open records law, conflicts of interest, student discipline, special education and more.

CASB’s Legal Services Program, new this year, offers you experienced attorneys and staff in offices in Denver and on the Western Slope providing direct and quality legal representation to you at reasonable rates. CASB members can now hire CASB legal staff to provide opinions and counsel on a variety of school law matters, including, but not limited to, civil rights, contract negotiation, disciplinary hearings, employment, special education, policy issues, real estate matters and litigation.

CASB's new *Online Legal Update* informs members of court decisions affecting Colorado school districts. These timely e-mail updates assist members and school administrators in ensuring compliance with the law.

We helped you answer tough policy questions and concerns so you can make the best, most informed decisions.

CASB had more than 550 personal contacts regarding policies from 133 school districts and BOCES, as well as other educational organizations on school wellness, transportation, board meeting procedures and other issues.

CASB staff collaborated with other education professionals to develop a sample School Wellness policy template.

CASB contracted with seven districts for specialized, fee-based policy projects including development of a policy manual for new member, Colorado School for the Deaf and the Blind. With our fee-based policy projects, CASB policy staff assist districts in reviewing and revising school board and district policies ensuring that board and district goals are being met. Policy review also ensures that districts are in compliance with legally-required policy mandates.

Seven school districts enjoyed timely updates to their district policies through CASB's Online District Policy Maintenance Services, including online placement of student policies translated into Spanish.

Fifty-seven school districts, one BOCES and four attorney council members took advantage of CASB's Core Policy Online resource where members quickly access all CASB sample policies online.

your CASB team

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Reeve, APR**
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Nancy Weiss
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Susan Zamudio
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executive and
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did you know?

This year all new board members received CASB's online newsletter, *Year One*. It's packed with information crucial to board success, such as finances, board member relationships and student achievement. Any board member can sign up to receive this monthly publication by e-mail.

““N ext year, CASB will spend much of its efforts growing and sustaining the concept of P-16 reform, an outcome of the School Finance Task Force discussions. The partnership among education organizations and institutions from preschool through college will strengthen Colorado education as a whole and help to close the achievement gap. CASB encourages new ideas and ways of thinking, like the P-16 concept. As a membership, we need to embrace this change if we are going to grow in experience and effectiveness.””

JOHN KNAPP,
CASB PRESIDENT

8

future focus

For the first time in four years, CASB's primary focus during the upcoming year will not be reforming Colorado's Constitutional Tax Code. The passage of Referendum C this past November did not cure all our ills, and indeed we fully expect this issue to rise again to the top during upcoming years. However, for this year, just as the proponents of Referendum C suggested, let's take a time out from constitutional tax reform. The CASB Board of Directors asked us to focus on three key goals in the upcoming year.

advocacy. The board directed us to advocate for responsible change in public education consistent with CASB's mission to promote excellence in education through locally elected boards. As we look across a political landscape in which politicians promote statewide curriculums, P-16 reform, and other state "reforms" of our public schools, this goal seems to put us on the wrong side of history. Our efforts will focus especially this year on the P-16 reform efforts. CASB will be initiating a dialog with its membership across the state in upcoming months to think about how issues as diverse as high school reform, a stronger Pre-K system, and more seamless pathways between high school and postsecondary education, can be addressed in ways that empower and strengthen the role of locally elected school boards. We believe this conversation will be challenging for us and for our members. We hope to find by the end of the year a consensus support for a policy that we might support in the legislature.

board training. The board again asked us to equip local boards with the tools they need to effectively govern their school districts to improve student achievement. There is no bigger challenge for any of us in public education today. We hope and expect that our members will see the continued development of a robust Leadership Development Program and Academy to support this board training.

services. The board asked us to deliver programs and services that will meet the needs of our members. We will continue to do this across the broad spectrum of need. Our new Legal Services Program and BEST health insurance program are two outstanding examples of CASB developing programs to meet membership needs. But in every area, from communications, to policy, to member relations, we continue to redesign and build better services and programs to meet our members' needs. For example, CASB made recent additions and changes to policy services for this reason. The communications assessment that we provide for school districts was redesigned to be more flexible in meeting the needs of diverse school districts. And we continue always to seek better ways to deliver better information and content to our members through local visits, conferences and conventions and the CASB Classroom.

— KEN DELAY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CASB

did you know?

CASB staff assisted 14 school districts with their superintendent searches. CASB guides districts through the entire selection process, including a first-year goal-setting plan for the new superintendent and the board. CASB also cut costs this year and increased efficiency by redesigning the superintendent application brochures and mailing.

financial information income

2004–2005 audited fund balance

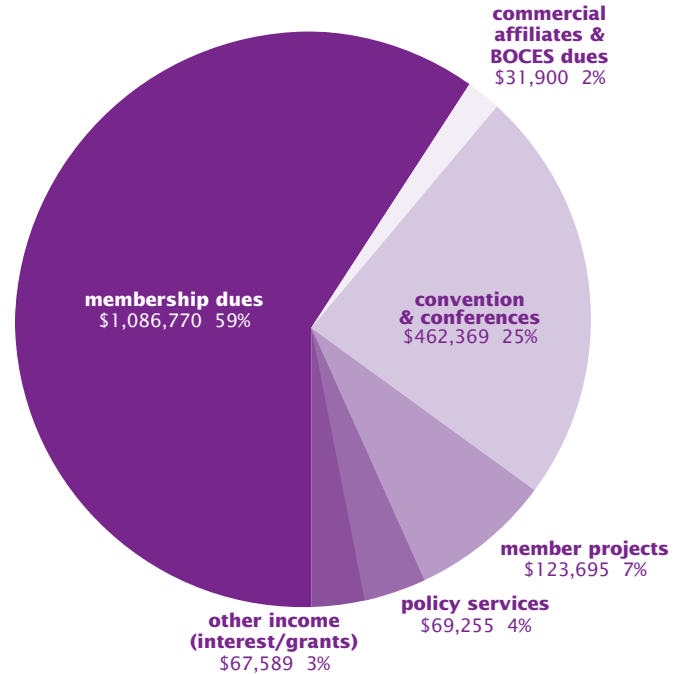
GENERAL FUND

July 1, 2004 balance
\$378,933

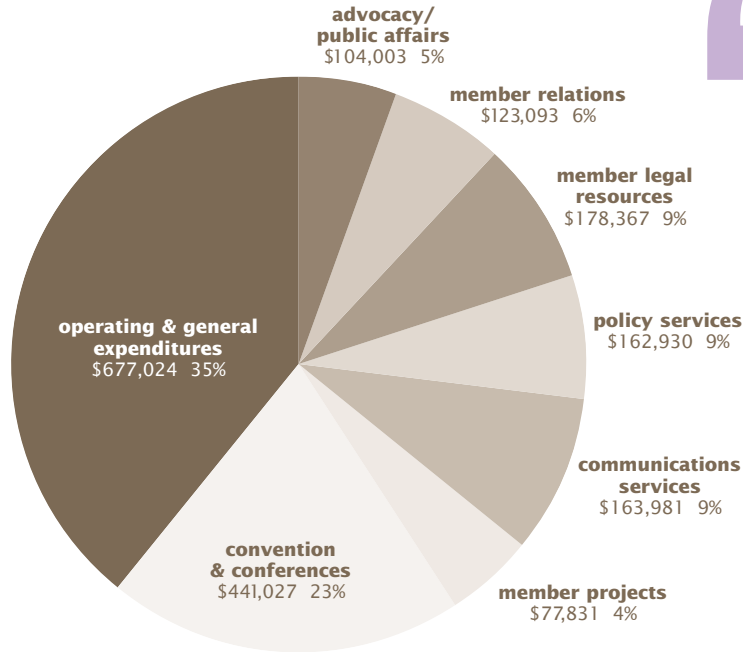
revenues
\$1,841,578

expenditures
\$1,928,256

June 30, 2005 balance
\$292,255



expenditures



I've participated in numerous superintendent searches and CASB has one of the best searches out there. They do a good job at guiding the board through the process, especially if you are dealing with a pretty inexperienced board at doing these sort of things.



BILL BURR,
BOARD MEMBER,
NORTH PARK R-1—
SUPERINTENDENT SEARCHES



colorado association of school boards

1200 Grant Street Denver, Colorado 80203-2306

303-832-1000 ■ 800-530-8430

www.casb.org

“

I'm not sure that I can come up with enough ways to describe our relationship with CASB. CASB has been one of the most outstanding organizations I have ever had the pleasure to work with. To say you and your staff are the consummate professionals would be an understatement.

”

JOE DEBARTOLO,

BOARD MEMBER,

ROCKY FORD R2 —

COMMUNICATIONS, POLICY WORK

AND STRATEGIC PLANNING