



NEVADA ASSOCIATION OF STUDENT COUNCILS

A Division of the Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association

<https://nevadastuco.org/>

Nevada Association of Student Councils State Board Meeting

February 21 & 22, 2026

Carson High School, Carson City, Nevada

I. Call to Order

President *Nala Williams* called the meeting to order at 10:38am on February 21st, 2026.

II. Roll Call

All executive directors except Ms. Topholm are in physical attendance on February 21st, all executive directors are in physical attendance on February 22nd. All board members are in physical attendance.

III. Approval of Minutes

Kyle Allen made the motion to approve the November meeting minutes.
Seconded by *Nolawi Shewangzaw*
All were in favor

IV. Officer Reports and Goals

A. President: [Nala Williams](#)

Nala has done 7 officer requests; 1 virtual 6 in person, including ice breakers, workshops, bonding, and NASC information. Her initiatives for presidential goals have been moving forward including sending the middle school connections slideshow out to the membership, as well as having students at the “All About NASC” workshop submit idea hub submissions at Northern and Western Regionals and Southern Zone, creating a total of 50 submissions. Her goals include organizing her accounts google drive for the next state president and contributing to the planning of State 2026 as much as possible.

B. Vice Presidents

1. Div. 1A: [Charlize Simon](#)

Simon has been working on reviewing February goal packets, has attended southern presidents meetings and presented a leadership lesson at one of them. She also attended Southern Zone. She is planning on working with Dani on the senior class president’s meeting and wants to prepare and encourage students from 1A schools to run for Division 1A Vice President.

2. Div. 2A: [Cristina Guillermo-Melendez](#)

Cristina attended Southern Zone and hosted a virtual meeting with Christina. She has done various online and in person officer requests recorded her idea hub video for the Instagram. She has worked on reviewing and responding to the December, January and February goal packets.. She wants to connect with as many 2A schools during state and hopes to be a resource for anyone running for Division 2A Vice President.

3. Div. 3A: [Nolawi Shewangzaw](#)

Nolawi has attended several officer requests, has been reviewing goal packets, presented his Forum meeting with Nala, hosted a mixer at a southern presidents meeting, and is presenting at the National Lead conference. He hopes to connect with Division 3A Vice Presidential candidates and wants to support any candidates for the National Association of Student Councils board from Nevada.

4. Div. 4A1: [Olivia Saliba](#)

Olivia attended Western regionals, hosted a mixer with Maui, has been reviewing goal packets, has attended officer requests, Southern Socials, JC training, Super Saturdays, and Zone. She hopes to connect with Division 4A1 Vice President candidates and prepare her google drive for the future 4A1 Vice President.

5. Div. 4A2: [Yousif Yousif](#)

Yousif has reviewed and responded to goal packets and attended the Southern Social, Zone, and various Presidents meetings. He also attended Midlevel, super Saturdays, officer requests, and created a presentation with Johana to send out to middle schools and feeder schools. He plans to prepare for the next 4A2 Vice President and talk to candidates for his position.

6. Div. 5A: [Christina Fakoya](#)

Christina has reviewed and responded to goal packets, done officer requests, and attended Zone. She hopes to encourage her 5A schools to run for NASC state board and to clean and organize her google drive.

C. Regional Officers

1. Region Representatives

a) Northern Representative: [Daniela Luna](#)

Daniela hosted Northern Regionals at Elko High School and has sent out emails to the north to encourage them to do officer requests. She hopes to do some officer requests and is looking forward to JC training at Elko High School and the Senior Class Presidents Meeting.

b) Southern Representative: [Johana Gamez](#)

Johana has attended Northern and Western Regionals on top of most events in the south. She also hosted the Southern Zone conference. She wants to continue to check in with southern presidents and support the Southern Region Representative candidates.

c) Western Representative: [Natalia-Marcella Aguon](#)

Tali hosted the Western Regional conference and hosted the February presidents meeting. Her region brought goods to Western Regionals which she donated to the Northern Nevada Veterans Home. She has attended officer requests and did a leadership lesson at a local middle school. She hopes to develop her western region community service event and encourage presidents to come to Super Saturday. Additionally, she wants to create a portfolio for the next Western Region Representative.

2. NIAA Liaisons

a) NIAA Liaison North: [Emerson Wendell](#)

Emerson ran the NIAA sports connection meeting on the sanctioning of cheer and is planning on bringing feedback back to the NIAA board of control at their next meeting. She hopes to get more input from athletes and promote sportsmanship.

b) NIAA Liaison West: [Trey Lundeen](#)

Trey attended Western Regionals and an officer request at Fernley High School. He hosted the NIAA sports connections meeting with Emerson and attended the board of control meeting in Sparks where they sanctioned cheer and dance. He plans to work closely with athletes in his region to receive feedback for the NIAA and wants to have a competition in the western region for best sportsmanship.

c) NIAA Liaison South: [Elsie Moore](#)

Elsie attended the December presidents meeting, Zone conference, JC training, Super Saturday, and NASC forum. She wants to have a successful NIAA board of control meeting 2 days before state and she hopes to attend some officer requests and as many NASC meetings. She also plans to prepare for the future NIAA south liaison.

D. Communications Directors

1. Communications Coordinator: [Nora Baltera](#)

Nora reported some instagram updates. There was a 27% increase in non follower interactions, 127 new followers, 54,000 views on the presidents day post, facilitated 19 takeovers, and created several posts for the idea hub and the week of respect. She attended Midlevel, Zone, and an officer request at a middle school. She also presented the middle school ambassador meeting with Yousif. Her goal is to reach 4000 followers by the end of her term and to stay active on instagram.

2. Webmaster: [Cassidi Moore](#)

Cassidi attended all southern presidents meetings, zoom meetings, Zone, Western Regionals, and 2 officer requests. She has been updating the Idea Hub and progress bar for CFCs. She posted the SMBOE and NIAA blogs and is working on digital award logos for the state and regional awards on the website. She wants to continue to promote the idea hub and update the CFC bar. Additionally, she plans to update her Google drive and wants to support the new webmaster candidates.

3. Secretary: [Jackson Hohnholz](#)

Jackson attended all virtual meetings, Northern Regionals, Western Regionals, Zone, and 2 officer requests. He also has been tracking the CFC and service impact initiatives. He hopes to maintain his perfect attendance for the rest of his term and continue sending out CFC reminders.

E. Student Member to the Board of Education: [Evana Lan](#)

Eva has been upholding the SMBOE responsibilities, has attended the November, December, and January board of education meetings, and made the Ed made easy blogs for those meetings for website and instagram. She also has attended the NV SAGE student advisory meetings and is going to interview students who are not as academically invested to get their input. She attended a variety of NASC meetings and officer requests. She attended zoom meetings for the national student board association and interviewed Superintendent Wakefield with questions from students across NASC and sent results to Cassidi and Nora to post. She attended the NASB conference in December. She plans to continue with NV SAGE and she wants to reinstate the Nevada Association of Student Trustees.

F. State Conference Co-Chairs: [Kyle Allen](#) & [Leah Vasquez](#)

Kyle attended all 3 regional conferences and is working on decorations for state. Visit Carson City is sponsoring the conference and he attended meetings with the conference media team and CCSD emergency response. He hopes to finish the program, get donations, prepare the scripts, finalize JCs, and overall prepare for the conference.

Leah attended Zone and attended officer requests at North Valleys HS, Fernley HS, and Reno HS. She is preparing for the state conference with Kyle and the rest of Carson High School.

G. State Conference Advisors: [Ms. Cramer](#) & [Ms. Gabica](#)

Ms. Cramer attended all regional conferences and presented the finalized state conference schedules so all of Carson High School is ready for the conference. She shared that all of Carson City is very excited to have NASC there. Conference bags are ready to be stuffed and tshirt designs are ready.

Ms. Gabica shared that they are working on a safety plan to send out to advisors which will also be available on the website. She wants to finish decorations, stuff the conference bags, and host JC training.

H. National Student Council, Nevada Representative (Guest): [Mattie McCarthy](#)

Mattie has attended all virtual National Association of Student Councils officer meetings. She is on the committee of membership, and they have gathered 2025 member statistics and is going to do a review post similar to "Spotify Wrapped" and going to share the Empty Bowls event at the Lead conference. She attended Zone and Western Regionals, Super Saturday, and recorded her Idea Hub video.

I. Executive Directors

1. Northern Exec. Director: [Ms. Topholm](#)

Ms. Topholm was absent during officer reports.

2. Southern Exec. Director: [Mrs. Ginger](#)

Mrs. Ginger has attended several NASC meetings and went to her state executive directors meeting in Grand Rapids, Michigan. She wants to get south workshops ready for state, which has 28 new applications. She has been gathering data and preparing a plan for reorganization of the NASC divisions. She plans on attending Lead, CADA, and state JC training.

3. Western Exec. Director: [Mrs. Perez](#)

Mrs. Perez hosted regionals at North Valleys HS and attended several virtual meetings, including the February region advisor meeting. After discussion, the advisors would like Mrs. Perez to finish her term as West Executive Director and possibly have a co-Executive Director to ensure a smooth transition for when her term ends. She invited JCs to JC training and selected workshops for state. She will support JC training remotely and is preparing for the final presidents and advisor meeting at Carson High School in March.

V. Old Business

A. Presidential Goals

1. Foster statewide collaboration through innovation and stronger student connections.

The board reflected on the progress made on Nala's first presidential goal. Cassidi shared that there have been 43 responses on the idea hub and recognized that this was a decent turnout, but still could have been higher. Nala recognized that promoting this at the regional conferences was beneficial in addition to the instagram promotion. It was suggested to somehow connect the idea hub submissions to takeover submissions to increase our engagement there. The board acknowledged the possibility that the idea hub will not get more engagement in the future, however, they think that with more promotion and follow through that it could turn into something much bigger. Ms. Ginger suggested possibly adding this as a requirement to the regional award criteria to improve our engagement. Johana suggested that the idea hub submission could be tied in to the NASC ambassadors so they have more responsibilities than just attending the zoom meetings. Overall, the board agreed that they want to encourage next year's board to continue this initiative.

Nolawi Shewangzaw made the motion to encourage next year's board to continue the Idea Hub.

Seconded by *Kyle Allen*

All were in favor

2. Empower early leadership by building strong foundational skills at the middle school level.

The board reflected on the progress made on Nala's second presidential goal. It was recognized that there were several middle school officer requests, takeovers, and council visits this year. Nala plans on sending out the Spirit of Nevada award slideshow to the presidents so they can encourage their middle schools to apply for the award. The board also acknowledged the increased interest coming from middle school students and think that this will continue to build next year. The middle schoolers seem more intrigued about high school student council and NASC as seen at officer requests and the midlevel conference. It was pointed out that March is Middle Level Education Month and that the board can promote this by creating a social media campaign where schools can share what they are doing with their feeder schools. The Spirit of Nevada application is due April 1st. It was suggested to create a video or email to send out to councils to encourage them to help their feeder schools apply for this award.

3. Provide responsive leadership by aligning NASC programs with students' evolving needs.

The board reflected on the progress made on Nala's third presidential goal. They recognized how our forum meetings this year have shifted towards catering to the evolving needs of students rather than general student council topics. It was mentioned that after the substance abuse awareness meeting specifically, many students were asking about the drug free club program and were interested in starting something like that at their schools. It was suggested to create a resources document to provide next year's board.

B. Service Theme - All For Our Country: Serving Those Who Serve

1. Instagram and Website Updates

After discussion, the board acknowledged that more instagram promotion could be done in regards to our service theme this year and suggested posting the progress bar on the story. Cassidi has updated the progress bar on the website, and plans on posting a list that recognizes schools who have done service projects or events that align with our service theme. The board recognized that a couple of schools have served organizations from our service resources document. Nora considered doing a week of service recap post from both of our weeks of service. It was also suggested that the board participated in our 2nd week of service story sticker more to encourage councils to do the same.

President *Nala Williams* called a recess at 11:45am.

President *Nala Williams* called the meeting back to order at 12:04pm.

2. Recognition and Promotion

The board highlighted our 2 weeks of service as promotion for our service theme. Nora suggested that the board makes sure to follow our instagram story stickers so councils will feel encouraged to do the same. She also shared that the week of service post got a significant amount of views, hoping that it will encourage councils to participate more. It was suggested that the week of service and our service theme was promoted through word of mouth at meetings, the southern social, etc. as a more casual form of promotion.

3. Second IG Week of Service

Tali, Olivia, and Nala created videos that were posted on the NASC instagram, promoting the second week of service. Additionally, Nala sent out an email to member schools. Southwest CTA participated in the week of service instagram story sticker so it was suggested to send out a thank you email to them.

4. Resources

After discussion, the board decided to encourage the next state board to continue having a service resource document.

C. CFC Goal

1. Progress: \$66,601.33/ \$135,000

2. Promotion of Goal

The board recognized that last year, one school contributed a significant amount to the CFC total, and suggested possibly reaching out to schools who usually report large amounts to contribute. Nora is almost done preparing the post acknowledging schools who have reached their CFC goals. It was suggested to have both the region representatives and division vice presidents send out CFC reminders to their schools, region representatives sending out a formal email and the vice presidents reaching out personally and informally.

D. Virtual Meetings

The board reflected on the virtual meetings thus far. They recognized the improvement in engagement with students, which was a result of interesting topics and guest speakers. Kyle and Jackson have been working on the virtual meeting resource document and Mrs. Perez is going to send it out. In regards to meeting breakout rooms, the board acknowledged that actually calling people out to speak and encouraging people to share in the chat has been beneficial.

E. Impact and Campaign Member School Participation Goal

The board discussed our service impact initiative participation. They recognized that having the week of service has been good to get the word out, however, for many schools the goal almost lacks purpose because it is not a requirement for any awards. It was suggested to not have the impact submitted through a google form in the future, but rather another form of submission.

F. State 2026

The state co-chairs and advisors shared some updates on the 2026 State conference. Kyle suggested giving the board a tour of the school so they are familiar with the layout. Additionally, board members will be given

responsibilities to help their council with the workload. Kyle will be sending the board a google form to submit in regards to the conference program. The board will be meeting tomorrow at the capital complex to walk through and have a better understanding of these rotations during the conference. As for conference attire, the board will be wearing polos on Thursday, conference shirts on Friday, and quarter zips on Saturday. There are 10 total booths for the state article fair, and two of those have been booked by organizations. The conference bags are clear sling packs which will work well for the legislature tour on Saturday. Board members were asked to record a state conference countdown video. At the time of discussion, Nala suggested that she pre-records videos for general sessions since she will be unable to attend most of the conference, however, she will now be able to attend.

President **Nala Williams** called a recess at 12:56pm.

President **Nala Williams** called the meeting back to order at 3:29pm.

VI. New Business

A. State 2027 Bids

The board reviewed the bids for the State 2027 conference. The bidding schools were reviewed in the following order: Bonanza HS, Arbor View HS, Foothill HS, then Cimarron HS.

Evana Lan made the motion to select Foothill HS as our State 2027 hosts.

Seconded by **Kyle Allen**

All were in favor

President **Nala Williams** called a recess at 4:16pm

President **Nala Williams** called the meeting back to order at 4:26pm

State 2026 was revisited. Kyle presented the tentative conference schedule with the board and executive directors, which can be found on the state conference 2026 website.

B. Update NASC Handbook

It was decided that board members who are not on the NIAA or SMBOE selection committees will be reviewing the NASC handbook and adding comments on possible revisions or items to be added.

C. Update 2025-26 Award Applications

It was also decided that board members who are not on the NIAA or SMBOE selection committees will be updating the award applications to align with the current criteria.

D. Star Criteria for 2026-2027

The board reviewed the criteria for the following awards and Battle Born Buddies.

a. Silver Star

The board discussed changing the one middle school contact to two contacts. One contact can be with a middle school or an elementary school while the other must be a middle school.

Yousif Yousif made the motion to change one middle school contact to two contacts, with one of those contacts having the option of being with an elementary school on the Silver Star award criteria.

Seconded by **Olivia Saliba**

All were in favor

Yousif suggested that the board added promotional materials, including posts or flyers as an acceptable form of evidence from an education program.

Yousif Yousif made the motion to add promotional materials as evidence for an educational program.

Seconded by **Charlize Simon**

All were in favor

The board discussed changing the community service item. It was suggested that the two schoolwide community service projects be changed to only one, and the option of having that co-facilitated with another group would remain.

Charlize Simon made the motion to change the two required schoolwide community service projects to one, with the option of that event being co-facilitated with another group.

Second by Kyle Allen

All were in favor

b. Blue Star

The board discussed possible revisions for the Blue Star award criteria. It was suggested to add clarification about goal packet meeting minutes, specifying to provide minutes from the previous month.

Kyle Allen made the motion to specify to provide meeting minutes from the month prior in the monthly goal packet.

Seconded by **Cristina Guillermo-Melendez**

All were in favor

The board recognized that the amount of spirit activities under the Blue Star award criteria is low, and it was suggested to raise the amount of spirit activities from 2 to 4.

Jackson Hohnholz made the motion to raise the spirit activity requirement from 2 to 4 spirit activities.

Seconded by *Nora Baltera*
All were in favor

c. Spirit of Nevada

The board discussed possible changes on the Spirit of Nevada award criteria. Possible changes included changing the 4 meeting minutes to 3, increasing the amount of spirit activities, and adding clarifying language to specify that High Schools can initiate the high school connection requirement. However, no changes were made.

President *Nala Williams* called a recess at 5:55pm on Saturday.

President *Nala Williams* called the meeting back to order at 10:11am on Sunday.

d. Battle Born Buddies

The board reviewed the Battle Born Buddy criteria. It was suggested to make a change under the school choice section, specifically option 2, changing the idea share option to some form of idea hub submission. The board decided on a total of three virtual idea hub submissions within the first two NASC reporting periods, verified by the NASC webmaster.

Nolawi Shewangzaw made the motion to change the 2nd option under school choice from an Idea Share submission to three virtual Idea Hub submissions within the first 2 NASC reporting periods on the Battle Born Buddy criteria.

Seconded by *Trey Lundeen*
All were in favor

E. “Of the Year” Award Selection

The board discussed and selected the winners for the Middle School Advisor, New Advisor, Advisor, and Administrator of the year awards. These recipients will be announced at the state conference.

F. NASC Division Realignment

Historically, NASC divisions have aligned with the NIAA divisions. However, the NASC divisions are based solely on population while schools may move up or down a division in the NIAA based on their athletic performance. Mrs. Ginger proposed having 6 vice presidents in 6 new divisions with a similar number of schools in each one. The board discussed possible executions for this plan and this will be executed within the next year. After discussion, the board was in favor of changing the current divisions to 6 more balanced divisions. They also discussed possible names to refer to these other than “divisions.”

President *Nala Williams* called a recess at 12:31pm.

President *Nala Williams* called the meeting back to order at 1:01pm.

Nolawi Shewangzaw made the motion to realign the NASC divisions.

Seconded by *Kyle Allen*
Motion passes 16-1

F. Goal Packet and CFC Appeals

a. Slam Academy Goal Packet Appeal (4A1 February)

Slam Academy submitted their first goal packet back in September, yet they haven't submitted any since then until their February goal packet. Olivia had sent out clear reminders to their president and advisor each month. Their February goal packet submission did not cc. The southern executive director, so their submission was marked incomplete. They had submitted it the day that it was due so there was no time for Olivia to reach out to let them know. Slam decided to appeal it. Slam explained how their advisor who was taking care of NASC things does not work at SLAM anymore, yet the board acknowledged that the president had been on the reminders each month anyways and there had been plenty of time to figure out their submissions after their advisor had initially been fired.

Kyle Allen made the motion to deny Slam Academy's February goal packet appeal.

Seconded by ***Olivia Saliba***
All were in favor

b. Sparks HS Virtual Idea Share Appeal (September 9/30 Deadline)

Sparks HS had explained how they were doing Battle Born Buddies, and they were doing a "Make it Monday" submission to fulfill the criteria. The board recognizes that Make it Mondays were an option of the criteria from last year, however that is not something that NASC does anymore. They completed their submission at 3pm on September 30th, but they appealed this in December. After further investigation, the board decided that the old criteria for Battle Born Buddies had to have been sent out accidentally or be somewhere for schools to access because Coronado HS had also completed a Make it Monday submission. The board suggested adding the year to the top of the criteria from not on to clarify.

Nolawi Shewangzaw made the motion to approve Sparks HS's virtual idea share appeal.

Seconded by ***Charlize Simon***
All were in favor

c. Procter R. Hug Goal Packet Appeal (4A2 December)

Hug HS had submitted their December goal packet on December 6th. Everything was in one document, but it did not include their meeting minutes from November. Additionally, it was not submitted in PDF format. Hug had reached out to Yousif to explain that there were technical issues in converting their document to a PDF. With their appeal, they

submitted their minutes but it was not accessible for accounts outside of WCSD. The board acknowledged that prior to this, Hug had no issues submitting their goal packets correctly.

Olivia Saliba made the motion to deny Procter R. Hug HS's December goal packet appeal.

Seconded by **Kyle Allen**

All were in favor

VII. Privilege of the Floor

Evana Lan suggested that we post a summary of her interview with Superintendent Wakefield on the instagram and website. She also brought up that NV Sage applications for the next term is coming up and asked for permission to advertise this on the NASC instagram, which was granted.

Mrs. Ginger suggested that the board brainstorms some ideas about how our NASC ambassadors can get more involved during worktime. She threw out some ideas like being a part of an NASC forum committee, making slideshow presentations for our meetings, or helping in breakout rooms. She mentioned performing a survey with the ambassadors as they end their term to get some feedback.

Mrs. Ginger shared that National Student Leadership Week is April 20th-24th. Although it is after the current board's term, it is too early for the board to plan something for that week. It was suggested that maybe share a spotlight map on the NASC instagram. Mattie, Nala, and Nora are going to work on this initiative.

Mrs. Ginger pointed out that the New Advisor of the Year award is for advisors in their 1st and 2nd years of advising, and suggested that we change the criteria on the Advisor of the Year award to a minimum of 5 years advising. This would mean that advisors in their 3rd or 4th year could not apply for either award.

Trey Lundeen made the motion to change the criteria for the Advisor and new Advisor of the Year awards.

Seconded by **Johana Gamez**

Motion failed

Nora Baltera asked the elected positions if they would be willing to record videos for the NASC instagram to encourage members to run for the elected positions. The board was willing to do this and Nora gave them the deadline of March 6th.

Nala Williams suggested that the seniors get together during worktime to discuss the NASC graduation stoles.

VIII. Adjournment

President **Nala Williams** adjourned the meeting on February 22nd, 2026 at 1:47pm.