



North Dakota Small Organized Schools

Mr. Michael Heilman
Executive Director
3144 Hampton Street
Bismarck, ND 58504
mheilmanndsos@gmail.com
701-527-4621

Mr. Brandt Dick
President
1929 N. Washington Steet. Ste.A
Bismarck, ND 58501
Brandt.Dick@k12.nd.us
701-415-0441

Mr. Steven Heim
Vice-President
PO Box 256
Drake, ND 58736
Steve.heim@k12.nd.us
701-465-3732

Testimony in Support of HB 1105

Chairman Beard and members of the Senate Education Committee. The North Dakota Center for Distance Education (ND CDE) is a critical partner for NDSOS members and for all schools in North Dakota. NDCDE has a long history of providing quality service to school districts and their students. I stand in support of ND CDE and this legislation. This legislation is needed to ensure that school districts are involved and work in concert the ND CDE to best serve students and parents when making educational choices.

HB 1105 also clarifies what most believed was the intent of legislation passed in the 2023 legislative session by avoiding unnecessary duplication and associated cost of taking virtual courses, especially when the course is offered by the local school district. HB 1105 also allows schools to develop policy that may place fiscal responsibility on the student and parent for costs of virtual instruction when classes are failed, and yet requires the school pay for virtual instruction if the district does not offer a course that would contribute to on time graduation.

NDSOS supports this legislation and believes it address what was the intent of the legislation passed during the 2023 session.

Mr. Michael Heilman – Executive Director
North Dakota Small Organized Schools
mheilmanndsos@gmail.com
701.527.4621

Board of Directors

Region 1

Mr. Tim Holte, Supt. Stanley
Mr. Kris Kuehn, Supt. Ray

Region 2

Dr. Kelly Peters, Supt. Lakota
Mr. Steven Heim, Anamoose & Drake

Region 3

Dr. Frank Schill, Supt. Edmore
Mr. David Wheeler, Supt. Manvel

Region 4

Mr. Brian Christopherson, Supt. New Salem
Mr. Russ Ziegler, Supt. Elgin-New Leipzig

Region 5

Mr. Rick Diegel, Supt. Kidder Co.
Mr. Brandt Dick, Supt. Burleigh County

Region 6

Mr. Mitch Carlson, Supt. LaMoure
Dr. Steven Johnson, Supt. Ft. Ransom

The mission of NDSOS is to provide leadership for the small/rural schools in North Dakota and to support legislation favorable to their philosophy while opposing legislation that is harmful.