

**National Accreditation Commission Meeting – Part I
Hilton Airport - St. Louis, MO
Wednesday, July 31, 2019, 1:00 p.m.**

Attendance:

Jane Limback, Keith Wilharm, Janet Profilet, Kristin Freeman, Rebecca Schmidt, Matt Bergholt
Chuck Winterstein, Joel Wahlers, Muriel Stark, Kevin Brockberg, Dennis Gehrke, Mark Grewe, Kevin
Gundell, Trip Rodgers, Clet Pfeiffer, Kristie Flohra, Bonnie Stottlemeyer, Sally Hiller, Jim Scriven, Kevin
Brockberg, DJ Schult, Al Freeman, Zach Brewer, Bob Mayhew, Jackie Veith, Merilee Sump, Merry Clark,
Betty Hoyer, Jon Peterson, Warren Paul, Darren Olson, Allen Piepenbrink, Tiffany Manor, Dave Glienke,
Matt Schleicher, Bill Cochran, and Wendell Robson

1:00 Introductions and Opening Remarks – Jane Limback, Chair
Jane welcomed everyone.....reviewed the agenda items and had the NAC members introduce
themselves ---- the question of the day.....What was your first call/place of service?

1:15 Opening Devotions: Dennis Gehrke led devotions – His topic was “Leaders”, and he shared a
visual regarding five leadership styles and had the tables discuss their leadership styles.
Luke 22:26 -and the leader as one who serves.”
Acts 5:29, 31.....“God exalted him at the right hand as Leader and Savior to give repentance to
Israel and forgiveness of sins.”
Hebrews 13:7.....“Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God.”
(Remember, Consider, Imitate – are the action verbs)
Hebrews 13:17 – “Obey your leaders and submit to them.....” – Lead with joy!
SERVE, FAITHFUL TO GOD, IMITATE FAITHFUL LEADERS, WORK WITH JOY
Closed with prayer, including a prayer for the family of Mr. Bill Unzicker, who recently passed.

1:30 **NLSA Director’s Report – Dr. Rebecca Schmidt**
(This power point presentation will be saved on the luthed.org site.)

Becky reviewed the mission, purpose, vision, and values of NLSA.
676, currently accredited schools, 145 co-accredited, 13 schools have closed, 6 have status that
has been revoked.
Percentage of programs (55 high schools, 241 middle, 502 elementary, 419 EC programs) have
been accredited. (EC 24%, Elementary 60%, high school 65% of our LCMS schools hold
current accreditation.)
Scoring averages – 2015 – 3.01; 2017 - 2.84; - 2.87 using the EBA materials
32 schools have asked the EC and national office for extensions.
7 schools were presented for “powerful practices” – scheduled webinars will be presented by
these schools
Trinity, Springfield, IL
Open Arms Child Development Center, Alpharetta, GA
Peace, Saginaw, MI
Trinity, St. Charles (Orchard Farms), MO

*Crean Lutheran High School, Irvine, CA
Salem, Tomball, TX
Zion Lutheran ECC, Hinsdale, IL*

A brief chart of the history of fees was presented (this will be discussed at length tomorrow).

A brief review was presented regarding secular accrediting partners.

Becky reviewed the accreditation definitions for levels of accreditation:

Candidate Schools.....Accredited in Good Standing.....Accredited; Provisional

Status...Major Deficiency.....Accredited; School of Distinction.... and Powerful Practice

School Shepherd Award – 2018 Rev. Phillip Baerwolf, Immanuel Lutheran, East Dundee, IL

(9 nominations were submitted in 2019, 8 applications were received.)

2:20 **WASC Report – Kristie Flohra**

Kristie thanked Joel for his six years of service with WASC.

WASC accredits approximately 5,000 schools.

Documents are now integrated with the Lutheran identify.

Lutheran schools represent approximately 1% of the WASC schools.

They meet three times during the year and have 32 commissioners.

2:25 **NLSA/AdvancED Report – Deac. Sally Hiller**

Sally reviewed 11 schools this year.

(Five high schools, five elementary, and two early childhood centers were candidate schools this year.)

AdvancED Report – Merry Clark

AdvancED holds partnerships with 36 organizations.

As of June 30, Merry retired after 47 years in education.

Dr. Lenora Patterson will be the new director of non-public services.

Merry will be available for consulting and enjoys the partnerships.

At the end of August, AdvancED will announce a name change. The accreditation process and documents will remain the same.

Run e-mails or questions through Dr. Rebecca Schmidt (National office).

There are four surveys (Christian surveys) for parents, students, faculty, and alumni.

The accreditation platform, continuous improvement plan, and strategies are available.

Analytics are now available for our NLSA schools. These tools can be used but are not required in the NLSA process.

AdvancED values the partnership, but wants the NLSA process to lead the way.

2:36 **CLE (Consortium for Classical Lutheran Education) Report - Dr. Jackie Veith**

Jackie brings greetings from CLE.

Next year, renewing 4 schools and 2 new schools are going through the process.

Schools are encouraged to use NLSA materials as well to promote Lutheran identity.

Becky continues her report, after thanking the four agencies for their work and partnership. "Since 1986, no other single program or process has done so much to improve the overall quality of Lutheran schools."

Shared Philippians 1:3-6 with the group.

Announcement: Keith needs to reconvene the membership committee.

2:45 Break

3:00 Keith Wilharm – Chair Elect reported on the work of the Membership Committee.

2018 Provisional Schools were listed.....MC recommends these **18 schools are removed from provisional status.**

The following schools were 2018 Provisional Schools (one has since closed)

Our Savior New American School, Centereach, NY
 Bethany Lutheran School, Vacaville, CA
 Lutheran South Unity School, Fort Wayne, IN
 Christ the King, Sebewaing, MI
 Trinity Lutheran School, Davenport, IA
 Faith Lutheran, Hialeah, FL
 Zion Lutheran School, Cologne, MN – now closed
 Zion Lutheran, Menomonee Falls, WI
 Grace Lutheran, St. Petersburg, FL
 St. Johns, Young America, MN
 St. Mark's Lutheran, Eureka, MO
 Mt. Olive Lutheran School, Miami, OK
 St. James Lutheran School, Howard Lake, MN
 Martin Luther High School, Northrop, MN
 Hope Lutheran School, Glendora, CA
 Zion Lutheran Preschool, Anaheim, CA
 Trinity Lutheran School, Delray Beach, FL
 Immanuel Lutheran, Marshfield, WI
 Immanuel Lutheran, Bristol, CT
 River Roads Lutheran School, St. Louis, MO - after a two-year -2017 Provisional School

One school will remain on "provisional" status.

Good Shepherd, Simi Valley, CA (WASC, two-year provisional)

MOTION to change status of the school listed above to accredited in good standing. CARRIED

131 candidate programs to be accredited for 2019

(Kindly reference full list including in NAC packets. The list will be read as a celebratory portion of the banquet this evening.)

MOTION to approve all 131 programs for 2019 accreditation.

CARRIED

The Membership Committee recommends the following **Nine 2019 candidate schools be accredited with provisional status**

Zion, Bethalto, IL

Grace, Sandy, UT

Faith, Eustis, FL

St. Paul's, Oconomowoc, WI

Shepherd of the Coast, Fort Lauderdale, FL

Trinity, Janesville, WI

Good Shepherd, Ft. Myers, FL

Trinity, Wausau, FL

Trinity, Kalispell, MT

MOTION to place these nine schools on accredited: provisional status.

CARRIED

One District recommends change of status from Good Standing to Provisional for lack of improvement and progress:

Zion, Menomonee Falls, WI

MOTION to place Zion, Menomonee Falls, WI back on provisional status.

CARRIED

Information – **Good Shepherd, Simi Walley, CA** (WASC granted a two-year provision), so the school is still listed as a provisional school and will be re-evaluated at NAC next summer.

Recommendations from the Membership Committee to consider these six 2019 Candidate schools for Schools of Distinction

EBA

Trinity, Utica, MI

St. John, Seward, NE

Immanuel, Seymour, IN

AdvancED

Lutheran High School of Indianapolis, IN

WASC

St. Paul's Lutheran Elementary School, Orange, CA

Lutheran High School of Orange County, Orange, CA

MOTION to approve these six schools as accredited; schools of distinction. CARRIED

Keith continued with informational reporting - Schools filing for extensions – 32 schools.

Keith reminded the group that districts are encouraged to recognize nominees for the School Shepherd award.

Keith shared a handout which included 11 suggestions for District Executives, Commissioners, Consultants, Captains, and Team Members regarding validation team reports. *(i.e. match concerns with recommendations, number strengths as that is easier to reference, recommendations start with “verbs”, use the correct mathematical directions, use the correct templates for the correct process, all “1”s and “2”s are addressed, write in the third person, avoid words such as needs to, possibly, consider, etc.)*

Matt will upload this document to the luthed.org website.

3:25 Keith once again thanked the Membership Committee for their hard work and asked them to stand for recognition.

Jane continues the meeting with her report.

NLSA Business

Jane reports that the names of all 131 Accredited Schools for 2019 will be read at the banquet tonight.

Review of NAC 2018 Minutes

MOTION to approve 2018 NAC minutes as presented. CARRIED

Elections for new Executive Committee Members (Secretary, Chair-Elect)

This year, the secretary election/candidate voted upon will serve for the next three years, following current policy.

Recommendation to change policy of terms of officers to assist the transition of officers on the executive committee.

Motion to approve that the EC Secretary be elected for a two-year term, instead of three, (beginning in 2022) on even-numbered years, and that the Chair-Elect be elected on odd-numbered years of the National Commission meetings.

MOTION CARRIED

Jane read the names of four secretary candidates and the two names of chair-elect candidates. Election Held. Matt passed out the ballots. The following elected officials will be announced at the banquet this evening. Congratulations to:

Matthew Schleicher, Secretary

Joel Wahlers, Chair-Elect

3:45 **Recommendations for the Districts** (with responses from the Executive Committee/National Staff)

1. Validation Teams/Approval of Dates – *Send conflict of interest forms, team names, and visit dates all to national office in one packet. The national office needs to approve teams, not the date, but still needs to know the date.*
2. Fewer members of Validation Team for small schools – *Talk with the national office for approval; there may be exceptions, but the rationale for smaller teams should come from the district and have approval from the national office.*
3. Add additional explanations/examples of conflict of interest – *already accomplished – new form that is being distributed to NAC members. Discussion to add time limit, parents as “client” EC add the word “parent” under one of the example bullets.*
4. Adopt an inclement weather policy – *already done. See example in your folder, a new re-write was distributed. Typo – change “view” to “review” in bullet point two.*
5. Should a new tool be created to address smaller EC centers? – *Districts should strongly encourage EC to use the new materials. No new changes at this time as a smaller document may be possible (narrative format), timeline to be determined. Early Childhood centers not completing the entire process could receive an endorsement. They would not eligible for accreditation. This would not be accreditation, but possibly an “endorsement”.*
6. Create an NLSA tool for high schools. – *At this time, this is not feasible due to staffing at the national level. Discussion held to gather some high school personnel to assist in the process. Not at this time, you’d need to check with states, other agencies, etc. to be consistent with the full NLSA process. We agree that this is a “need” and may enlist some high school support in the future.*
7. Create a process/tool for non-traditional schools. – *The Executive Committee reviewed this during the past year. It was decided that non-traditional schools should continue to “tell their story” through narratives. At this time, there are certain standards that do not apply to them.*

3:45

8. More consistency in the rating system of the standards. – *Training has helped in consistencies of scoring. Powerful practices – Please make sure that if a school is recognized for a Powerful Practice that is noted on the Visiting Team Report and the District Commission is aware of the Powerful Practice to include this information in the annual district report that is submitted to the national office.*
9. EBA – *suggested that no school use higher than a 3. – EC feels it is the school’s responsibility to wrestle with their scoring. If they feel it is a 4, they need to provide evidence that goes above and beyond.*

10. Defining a “4” – *Work with consultants to explain how this works. Scores are getting better as teams, school leaders, etc. are taking advantage of the training opportunities available to them.*
 11. Validation Teams cannot make up recommendations that are not part of NLSA – *Every recommendation has to match up with an indicator.*
 12. it is difficult to find distinguished schools. *Distinguished Schools – The Executive Committee discussed having schools pursue an application process to be recognized as a School of Distinction. The score, a recommendation from the district and having a powerful theme that is evident throughout the school or a Powerful Practice would be some of the components of the application. Schools of Distinction would be vetted through the national office. This would mirror the Blue Ribbon school process.*
 13. *EC has looked at Blue Ribbon Schools where scores, go to District, fill out an application, etc. Not completed.*
 14. Classroom Observation Tool – *training needed – EC – future, video-taping, training webinars have not been created at this time.*
 15. Classroom Observation Tool – *Answers in 13 and 16.*
 16. Classroom Observation Tool – *This can be used as potential evidence, do not use it to evaluate teachers. Schools and Team captains can decide if they wish to use it during a visit. This is explained in the Captain’s Manual, Consultants Manual and in the Team Captain’s Power Point. Utilizing the classroom observation tool is not required.*
 17. Integrating the Faith in the observation tool – *Matt states he will review the faith component on the tool.*
 18. Clarity on year 5 of the SAP plan – *Districts monitor the School Action Plans. During year five, application is submitted for accreditation and the School Improvement Plan should still show progress the school has made during the past year.*
 - a. Does a school with an extension still complete a five-year annual report? *This is up to the District Commission.*
 19. Define the term “ongoing” when it appears in the process of completing and addressing recommendations. – *Add to the glossary. It happens every year; it is not one and done.*
 20. Significant Progress before year five? – *NLSA won’t decide, District Commission addresses the SAP and the progress. Commissions evaluate, not NAC.*
 21. Edits to the NLSA documents – to combine – *Revising some of the documents – last page.*
 22. Questions do not flow well – *at end of the report. (Tabled until tomorrow’s meeting.)*
 23. Change 3B:02 – holds a “current, appropriate” license - insert the word “a” – *No change. NLSA wants to have the highest standard and hold a current license in the current state in which he/she serves. Much discussion was held, as certain states do not make this viable.*
 - a. *Refer to EC for additional review.*
 24. Change 4:02 – teachers have appropriate license – rationale to have teachers with valid teacher license - *NLSA wants schools to reach the higher standard, but this will be reviewed.*
 - a. *Refer to EC for additional review.*
- 5:00
25. 6:04 – 100% Synodical trained teachers – *not enough trained Lutheran teachers to go ahead. – the higher expectation wanted – we recognize not all schools will reach this mark.*

Discussion – It is nearly impossible to reach this standard. Refer to EC for additional review for considering another document/scoring/etc. to provide the “best” to serve our schools.

- a. Becky – We will review this, but we are getting caught up on the ratings due to Schools of Distinction. The scoring system needs to be reviewed, as looking at the NLSA process of quality.

26. Indicator 7:04 – bullet point “four” - continually updated the messages of witness. An example of an outdoor sign can be a Christian message. Sept. 1 edit, EC changing the wording to say, “An outdoor sign is a witness to the community.”

Discussion will continue tomorrow morning – starting at # 26 and review # 21 and #22.

Dinner/Banquet will be at 6:00 in the Lambert Room.

5:10 Meeting adjourned with prayer at 5:10 p.m.



National Accreditation Commission Meeting – Part II
Hilton Airport - St. Louis, MO
Thursday, August 1, 2019, 8:00 a.m.

Attendance:

Jane Limback, Keith Wilharm, Janet Profilet, Kristin Freeman, Rebecca Schmidt, Matt Bergholt, Chuck Winterstein, Joel Wahlers, Muriel Stark, Kevin Brockberg, Dennis Gehrke, Mark Grewe, Kevin Gundell, Trip Rodgers, Clet Pfeiffer, Kristie Flohra, Bonnie Stottlemeyer, Sally Hiller, Jim Scriven, Kevin Brockberg, DJ Schult, Al Freeman, Zach Brewer, Bob Mayhew, Jackie Veith, Merilee Sump, Merry Clark, Betty Hoyer, Jon Peterson, Warren Paul, Darren Olson, Allen Pieperbrink, Tiffany Manor, Dave Glienke, Matt Schleicher, Bill Cochran, Wendell Robson

8:00 Opening Devotions led by Chuck Winterstein

Who's Driving? 2 Corinthians 4:3-4; 6-7

Two main principles: 1) Change is not always comfortable; 2) but.....God is in control.

How does this impact us today – NLSA is a powerful tool to enhance, improve, etc., and God is in control and uses our Lutheran schools to teach His Word.

The prayer included thoughts:that God grants us what we need to serve in this ever-changing world, and that the change we are able to lead has a positive impact on those students, families, and staff that we serve.

Keith – one change to propose from the Membership Committee

Zion Lutheran Early Childhood Education Center, Anaheim, CA was not presented on the slides of 2018 Provisional Schools – with change of status to school in good standing, which was already approved by the Membership Committee. (The school is listed in the NAC minutes, part I, from yesterday.)

MOTION for NAC to accept them as a school in good standing.

MOTION CARRIED

Jane – continues with District Recommendations (tabled #21 and #22 from yesterday)

She presented new language on the team report – exit page.

The change Matt and Becky will be working on is with placing the concerns and the recommendations together....similar to what the 2011 EC process is like.

27. More question flexibility on surveys. *Districts can always add additional survey questions.*

Due to reciprocity agreements with other accrediting agencies, current NLSA survey questions cannot be eliminated.

28. Provide sample questions for interviews – EC (Jane) shared some question samples and these could be considered for placement in Captain, Consultant, and Administrator Manuals.
29. Are your stakeholders fulfilling your mission statement? *Misinterpretation of the question. How important is it that a kindergartner can state the mission statement? The team is more concerned on how a school is fulfilling the mission rather than if the mission statement can be recited.*
30. 1:04 General Indicator - The expectation is that you involve all of your stakeholders
31. 1:04 – provide acceptable ways to “regularly assemble school constituencies –Schools need to figure this out in the way that works for them.
32. Add finance component – This would be part of a major revision – this won’t be done within the next year or so.
33. Req. Evidence 4 – add the word “or policy” – We will make that edit.
34. Provide a general indicator for emergency drills – EC feels it is already part of indicator 6:04 Making it a separate indicator could be considered during the major rewrite process.
35. Consider implementing some of the “pilot” indicators - Districts could add some components to the self-study, but due to reciprocity agreements additional questions/indicators will not be added at this time. This could be considered during the major rewrite process which is not in the immediate timeline.
36. Inclusion of General Indicators of Success rankings included with each NLSA standard. – This does not need to be in each section – No change, as many times these sections are reviewed independently within committees. A previous suggestion was to add them to each section. No change.
37. Use Letters instead of bullet – This will be a major re-write and will not happen at this time.
38. Christian and American Flag flying outside the building. - Benchmark states – “at the same entrance”, so can be inside or outside and just needs to be a witness/visible. No change.
39. Is there consistent curriculum expectations in Districts? *Probably not, as this is a national document. Different Districts/states may have different rubrics, standards, and expectations. The expectations are decided through a consensus of the validation team on how this is addressed during the site visit.*
40. Curriculum Rubric sample was attached to be used - Districts may share their samples on their own District websites.

41. Define “well defined curriculum – 5:02 – *This is a team decision at the time of validation, due to state requirements.*
42. Consider weighting curriculum standards - major revision, how would we define what is weighted more? Too difficult to undertake at this time.
43. Provide example for standard test analysis– *There is no example at this time. Schools need to work on defining how – wrestle with how to improve.*
44. Evangelism Plan required– EBA and EC do not match–*The Early Childhood self-study requires an evangelism plan. The EBA self study lists an evangelism plan as potential evidence. Making the evangelism plan a required document in the EBA process would require a major rewrite.*
45. Page 14 and Page 18 – Validation Team Report –*inconsistent language - Matt will edit to make these changes consistent. Administrator is responsible for distribution of the report, not the captain, once the report is finalized by the validation team captain.*
46. Include the Face Sheet in the NLSA document– *This is to be completed by the District Commission and is part of the Commissioners resources on luthed.org.*
47. Make Face Sheet available – *District Commissioner completes the Face Sheet. Same as #45.*
48. Google Docs – provide a link? *No, permission issues and user issues. Unfortunately this is not a workable platform.*
49. Add team member/captain evaluation form – *Districts have the flexibility to do team member and captain evaluations. This will not be done at the National level.*
50. Confusion of application timeline – *New schools have two years (school years); re-accreditation schools have two years (24 calendar months) from the date of application. It needs to be understood that to complete the accreditation process during the two-year window, the self-study, team visit, and review by NAC has been completed.*
51. – 60. All Funding related - *Funding will be discussed during Matt Bergholt’s report.*

8:40 Becky Schmidt and Merry Clark presented **AdvancED Dual Accreditation** (document distributed) - the following was reported.

In consultation with Merry Clark and Eddie Krenson, Ed. D., National Lutheran School Accreditation is please to announce that beginning this fall, schools who desire dual accreditation will be able to obtain AdvancEd, just as they have in the past, with NLSA leading

the process for both organizations and using the NLSA accreditation protocol (NLSA EBA instead of the AdvancED protocol) as the primary tool for the process. (Beginning, Sept. 1, 2019)

This was approved after study of alignment of the two tools. (The 5 Synchronized requirements are:)

1. NLSA meets the AdvancED standards for accreditation and has been validated by document that was created using the protocol of both organizations.
2. NLSA does require stakeholder feedback from all constituents (K-12).
3. NLSA requires schools to have student performance data for school improvement.
4. NLSA requires schools to have a Continuous Improvement Plan (School Action Plan.)
5. NLSA requires a Validation Team to leave a school with an improvement recommendation (can be called required action, major recommendations, etc.)

This will not include EC components. To be recognized by a state-tiered program, they must use the AdvancED materials/early learning unless NLSA 2018 EC materials are recognized within the state. If Districts/state have state approval, then they can use NLSA materials and meet the AdvancED standards for dual accreditation.

This was overwhelmingly received (applause) by the group as a positive direction for NLSA schools.

Questions regarding this partnership – AdvancED and NLSA

Are most AdvancED schools seeking dual accreditation for Lutheran high schools?

Probably the majority. We still need to develop materials for high schools.

In terms of Early Childhood, am I hearing they are not included in this agreement?

It is if an EC is free-standing and NLSA has been approved in that state.

If part of K-12, or K-8 program, the elementary process will accredit as long as state recognized program/funding is not needed.

If free standing EC (and state that does not recognize), you'd need to use the AdvancED Early Childhood Learning protocol.

Clarification – if not worried about state – they can just use EBA?

Yes

To Verify? - Two schools are starting the AdvancED process for spring 2020 using these materials. They will most likely not change materials and they won't need to?

Correct

As reviewing reports, is there a place for provisional status through AdvancED?

That will be up to NLSA to determine. AdvancED trusts the decisions of NLSA; ask the national office.

Going forward? The only decision a school needs to make in order to receive dual accreditation is to pay the additional fee, correct?

Yes. No extra documents needed.

Follow-up – we are interested in on-going improvement. AdvancED is moving toward improvement. Which model are we going to become?

More score oriented, or more improvement driven? *Becky.....Executive Committee should wrestle with moving away from scoring for schools of distinction.*

9:15-9:45 Break

9:45 Jane introduces Matt to present the budget/fees/background – 3 presentations

Budget Review – Presentation I - Matthew Bergholt (documents distributed to NAC)

NLSA - 100% funded by school fees

Explained FY20 runs from July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020

Shared historic annual costs of personnel (\$169,173-\$218,494)

and general and administrative from FY15-FY20 (range from \$55,366-\$74,122)

Programming Costs are approx. \$60,000 or 15.3% of the budget

Surplus of \$50,000 goes back to Synod - concern with the NLSA fee surplus going back

Matt explained why the current surplus is there.

Is there a timetable for “hire” – *Becky explained that yes, the applications have come in/closed/11 applicants. Hopefully, the new Associate Director will be hired within the next few months.*

Does the surplus include the new position? *Yes, this has been factored in.*

10:02 **NLSA On-Line Presentation II – Matthew Bergholt** (part II distributed)

Matt began with mission and purpose “continuous improvement”, “innovation”, and “excellence”.

Information was shared regarding on-line accreditation actually began in 2014, Google docs (2015), project submission (2018), vendor demonstration (2019).

Matt progressed to share the vision, options, and providers.

“If we do this, we want to do it with excellence.”

We want “everything” in one place – all documents work in conjunction “seamless”

Armature, WizeHive, and Open Water – 3 vendors that were seriously considered.

Armature was chosen, after a great deal of research, Q & A, demonstrations, etc. with a large and diverse team of 11, including 4 District Executives (on this NAC committee.

Matt shared initial cost of Armature \$388,495 with an annual cost of \$62,060

Some questions:

WASC schools would see a separate piece? *Yes*

Would validation team use this on-line process as well? *Yes*

Can the system integrate team recommendations? *Most likely yes.*

Training for users? Yes, generic training. We can produce webinars/filming/recording.
District Commissions would be granted access? – Yes, granted permission with different coding.

Shared with the Gospel group? Very positive response from Ed. Execs.

What do you need from us? Will be explained in part three.

10:45 Presentation II concluded. The group commended Matt for his work.

Introduction: Presentation III – Armature Costs will be reflected in these materials

Presentation III addresses District Recommendations #50 - #60 (from Jane's earlier reporting), related to funding NLSA.

NLSA Fee Increase Proposal - Presentation III– Matthew Bergholt (part three distributed)

Matt's presentation reviewed a history of NLSA fees. Current annual fee \$600.

Data was presented on other agency fees, including WASC, NAEYC, AdvancED.

Annual Budgetary Needs – shared the initial \$388,495 cost as well as the annual needs from FY20 – FY 25+ - slide # 10 (presentations will be on luthed.org site for Execs).

Data was presented for four possible funding plans (taking District recommendations into consideration).

Flat Fee, Per Pupil Fee, Sliding Scale, or Flat fee with Annual increase

- 1) Flat Fee – not feasible
- 2) Per Pupil Fee – could be viable, would still increase
- 3) Sliding Scale per enrollment – potentially viable
- 4) Flat Fee Structure – current structure – small increase could cover (meet and exceed) the financial needs to move forward with the on-line process

Proposal to increase the NLSA fee by \$50 per year for three years was presented.

2019-2020 \$650

2020-2021 \$700

2021-2022 \$750

Budgetary impact: needs are met, (reference slide #1 on page 10), except for FY21. The deficit would be made up during the 2021-2022

Questions? - Motion was made immediately.

11:10 **MOVE TO ADOPT THE PROPOSAL - Proposal to increase the NLSA fees by \$50 per year for the next three years:**

2019-2020 \$650

2020-2021 \$700

2021-2022 \$750

MOTION

SECONDED

A great deal of discussion was held.

Have we looked into finding a donor (Thrivent, LCMS, individual)? Districts and schools could look for donors to assist with covering the cost increase for their schools; however, Synod is unable to seek out third source funding.

Sally – I don't support the general funds going into Synod's overall budget.

Matt and Becky – We need to consider outside funding.

Most speak in favor of increasing the fees.

Jon – We only have to approve one year of fee increases – but there is a motion on the floor.

Clet – Safe assumption, if we approve these fees, to hire Armature and start the on-line process.

Mark – I like the three-year plan due to the vision of moving forward.

Kristie - Concerned about WASC schools – as they do not see the full benefit.

Matt – if there is an overage in budget, we can start working on other projects (high schools, etc.).

Joel – Thanked Matt (applause) for all the work put into these presentations and proposals.

Warren – Are these funds covering the additional staff? At this time, yes, the position is built in.

Becky – Anticipate that additional positions, beyond the associate, should not be funded by NLSA.

Wendell – CALL THE QUESTION. APPROVED to take the vote.

MOTION CARRIED

11:25 **Jane continues reporting on Executive Committee business:**

Executive Committee met two times.

Potentially the last year for live webinars. We talked about the possibility of going to the school and taping a segment as they tell their story.

Talked about schools of distinction – See number 12 under District Recommendations.

School Shepherd – single nomination, not a team of pastors from the same school. Encourage Districts to acknowledge the pastors that are nominated.

Dennis - Is it possible to send the Executive Committee minutes to the District Commissioners? The new Executive Committee will take that under advisement.

Policy Based Schools – some wording has been changed, edits were made last year and are already listed in the 2018 documents.

Keith – Make schools define the governing authority in place as the school answers those standards/indicators.

Tentative meeting dates for next year's NAC: July 28-July 30, 2020, if facilities are available.

11:40

MOTION to adjourn the NAC meeting. CARRIED

Jane concludes, "It has been a pleasure to serve you these past four years."

Closing Devotions led by Jim Scriven – Mark 4:35-41 was read by the group.

Sea of Galilee is known for sudden storms.

What about us? What cause us stress? We may at times question God.

Jesus was calm, even asleep, disciples react with a challenge of Jesus.

They (and we) had/have questions for Jesus: "Don't you care?"

Jesus responded with "calm" and "peace". Let us turn to Him for calmness & strength.

(Even when schools are under the stress of NLSA expectations.....)
NLSA is not really about the quality of schools, but the “why” of our schools.

11:55 Closed with Prayer/Blessings for your school years and safe travels.

Buffet Lunch served