



## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – FALL CONFERENCE 2017**

Hello, and welcome to the Conference! Thank you for letting me represent you as your newly chosen Executive Director. I'm very excited to represent such a dedicated, responsible and enthusiastic group. Our association continues to experience change and growth.

ASBO MD & DC continues to be a vital resource for our almost 1400 members. A resource for networking and professional development. Challenges within our district's continue to evolve so it's more important than ever to be a member of an association that offers opportunities such as Foundation courses that can help school business personnel become well versed in all of the business disciplines involved in operating a school district. We now have several newly Certified professionals in our membership. We have members active in our Master's Degree program thanks to our partnership with Wilkes University. ASBO continues to provide opportunities for the most commonly identified benefit of membership, networking opportunities. We sponsor meetings for the State Technology and Purchasing Groups, we build networking time into our conference agendas, all to ensure we are providing the very best value to our members.

The Board of Directors and the Committee Chairs are some of the most dedicated, hardworking individuals I have had the pleasure to work beside. They dedicate many hours of their time to make sure the purpose of our Association is brought forth in the finest manner possible. Today's conference is one of the examples of their efforts. Many, many hours are put in to make sure all of the events and tasks are completed seamlessly so that your experience at each event will be easy and rewarding. They are absolutely committed to making your ASBO experience a vital part of your professional career.

Hopefully you were able to attend our Spring Conference last May. If you did, you were 1 of approximately 323 members who learned what the Best Buddies program is all about and how you can incorporate the program in your district. You heard from an entertaining Keynote Speaker who gave us tips on how to be more efficient in our work and personal lives. She also made us laugh a few times. You saw three of our members, Terri Lundskow, Bill Meekins and Hope Miller, receive their Professional ASBO Certification. You also watched as long time ASBO member Nancy Codner received our Association's highest honor, The Paul Bell Award. These are the types of things that will be repeated all throughout the year, every year. ASBO MD & DC providing value to its members, honoring their achievements and offering the professional development needed to help make us all successful in our profession.

ASBO is always looking to get better, and this past year we certainly did that. This year we held the first ever Allen Gaddis Leadership Academy. This is an intensive three day leadership event for individuals nominated for attendance by their superintendent for their leadership value. This three day event consisted of classroom instruction, round table discussions, guest speakers, hands on teamwork

building, and even included a whitewater rafting experience for the group. This program will continue on an every-other year basis.

We also sponsor a table at the October Teacher of the Year Awards Dinner demonstrating that supporting education is something we are all a part of. Being a part of this special event demonstrates ASBO's commitment to supporting classroom instruction.

As you can see, there is a lot happening in ASBO. Yet, with all that is happening within ASBO, there's still more to come. We continue to stay committed to our members and to our motto – Professional Development is Our Business.

Jeff LaPorta  
Executive Director  
ASBO MD&DC