May 2025-H

Board of Trustees

Reference Committee

Report No. 17 New ■ Substitute □ Amendment □ Submitted By: **Board of Trustees** Date Submitted: Reference Committee ■ Direct to House□ May 5, 2025 **Total Financial Implication:** None Amount One-time \$ none **Amount On-going** None

## **Activities of the Board of Trustees**

1 As everyone knows, it was a very busy year on the Board of Trustees. The Board held 2 five in-person and five virtual meetings since the last session of the House of Delegates. 3 The Board met in-person on June 1, 2024, July 12, 2024, September 27, 2024, January 4 31, 2025, and April 24-25, 2025. It held virtual meetings on July 17, 2024, August 26, 5 2024, September 10, 2024, November 6, 2024 and December 16, 2024 to discuss 6 priority issues. Minutes of these meetings are on file in the NYSDA office and have been 7 distributed to the Board of Trustees and to component presidents, presidents elect, executive directors and council chairs. 8

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Everyone is aware that there have been several staff changes in the NYSDA office, most notably starting with our Executive Director. Mr. Michael Herrmann has been contracted by the Board to serve as Executive Director through 2026. And, before the end of 2026, the Board plans to establish a search committee to identify a successor to serve beyond that time.

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Mr. Herrmann has been able to use this transition to restructure some staff duties and elevate current staff to new roles. Many staff have assumed additional duties which has helped lower total payroll. You may notice, the 2026 budgeted payroll is more than \$300,000 less than the 2025 budgeted payroll.

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You will find this 2026 proposed Budget in Appendix A for your consideration. Even with this reduced payroll, this 2026 Budget reflects a deficit of \$268,872. That's thankfully lower than the 2025 deficit of \$458,000, but still a deficit. Accordingly, the Board is proposing a \$19 dues increase to help lower that deficit even further to roughly \$152,000. Considering there was no increase in 2025, the Board feels this is a responsible measure to help balance the 2026 operations. Your Secretary-Treasurer, Dr. Paul Leary, will be covering the 2026 Budget in his address to the House and he will be available to answer questions during the Reference Committee and House deliberations.

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Though it has been a difficult year for the Board it has also been a year of selfexamination and self-evaluation. The results of the reviews the Board conducted will be May 2025-H 384
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discussed during the closed session of the House. The suggestions and understanding that come from these reviews can help the Board better operate in the future. This period has also enabled us to form our political action committee (PAC). By developing NYSDAPAC as an actual part of NYSDA, our Board acts with direct oversight of these funds and the contributions it makes. In general, over the past five years, the Association has gotten a better handle on its affiliated entities and ensured we operate consistently and cooperatively for the good of our profession.

During this past year, the Board has also reached out to Dental Service Organizations to understand how organized dentistry can help serve the dentists working in such groups. We have also met with the NYS Department of Education, and key legislators to discuss important legislation that NYSDA would like to see move forward. We have regularly been reaching out to all stakeholders to work with them on matters of mutual interest, and we will continue to do so.

After the meeting of the House, we will have new Board members joining, and current Board members departing. And, as part of our recent review, we will be asking our Board to undertake training to better understand their roles, duties, and responsibilities, under the law, our bylaws & rules, and general good governance principles. We are confident this will help strengthen the Board and help move the Association forward.

Appendix B Resolution 30/Appendix A