The American Association of Diabetes Educators met on January 26-27, 2019, and discussed several items of interest to the membership. A summary is provided below.

Vision for the Specialty
The Board reviewed progress on the launch of Project Vision – AADE’s long term vision for the specialty. The Board discussed a comprehensive project plan to integrate the vision into guiding documents, programs, products and services, as well as advancing the vision with key stakeholders. Learn more about Project Vision on our website.

The Board also explored ways to gauge progress toward the vision. Measures that could be tracked include changes in:
- utilization of diabetes educator services;
- practice foci and activities reported in our National Practice Survey; and
- access and inclusion of educators and AADE at decision-making tables.

Staff will work to develop a set of metrics for inclusion on the Board’s Balanced Scorecard.

Strategic Planning
The Board spent time considering the advancement of the specialty through its next strategic plan. Discussions focused on identifying effective strategies to prepare educators with the knowledge and skills to practice within the vision for the specialty. The Board also examined our approach to engaging the care team and key stakeholders in understanding and actively supporting that vision. A set of plan initiatives and outcomes will be shared with the Board Planning and Development Committee for finalization in March.

National Certification Board for Diabetes Educators
Leonard Sanders, MD, FACO, BC-ADM, CLS, CDE, Chair of NCBDE and Sheryl Traficano, MBA, CDE, Chief Executive Officer of NCBDE, attended a portion of the meeting and provided an update on NCBDE’s work. Information on the testing and renewal application changes, as well as an overview of key metrics were provided. Time was spent discussing the two organizations’ work on the Project Vision and plans for convening a work group to assess the current and future credentialing needs of the specialty.
Advocacy
Kate Thomas, AADE Director of Advocacy, provided an update on current legislative activities and advocacy plans for the year. AADE’s advocacy work includes our focus on support of the federal Expanding Access to DSMT legislation, advancement of Project Vision, expanded federal regulatory outreach to promote reimbursement and access to self-management education and support, and many other state and local efforts that may impact our members. Learn more about Advocacy on our website.

Peer Support Communities
In 2016, AADE convened the Peer Support Community to develop a closer relationship and to explore how we, as a broad diabetes community, can support our collective work through a more strategic relationship. Having done some foundational work over the last 18 months, the AADE Board considered our long-term goals for this initiative, as well as an ongoing support structure to lead and advise the organization in this effort.

Other Routine Business
The Board conducted routine business items including a review of the achievement of the 2018 Corporate Objectives and the Balanced Scorecard Metrics. It also conducted the 2018 CEO Performance Evaluation and approved the 2019 Corporate Objectives.

As a reminder, each Coordinating Body has a Board member appointed to serve as its liaison to the Board. These individuals are happy to talk with you about any issues that are concerning to your state. Find out who your Board liaison is HERE.