



2010 IASB Legislative Action Priorities and Resolutions

Below is a chart of the 2010 IASB Legislative Resolutions and the bills that impacted each resolution from the 2010 legislative session. We only report those bills that had at least a subcommittee meeting whether it made it through the full process or not. Many of the resolutions didn't have any bills that moved, and in many cases, IASB worked to defeat new legislation. If the second column is blank, then there was no legislation filed or, if filed, it did not have a subcommittee meeting.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AND STUDENT EQUITY:

The Iowa Association of School Boards:

Resolution	Legislative Action 2010 Session
1. Supports preserving the integrity of the statewide penny sales tax for school infrastructure, including the tax equity provisions of buying down the highest additional levy rates to the state average.	Only verbal threats – no bills.
2. Supports full state funding to implement the Iowa Professional Development Model. The school district is the appropriate authority to determine the amount and content of, and require participation in, professional development to improve instruction focused on the district's student learning goals.	Appropriated \$613,878 for purposes of implementing the professional development program requirements, assistance in developing model evidence for teacher quality committees and the evaluator training program.
3. Supports continued progress in the development of rigorous content standards and benchmarks, consistent with the Iowa Core Curriculum, focused on improving student achievement, including the following state actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide technical assistance to help districts fully implement the Iowa Core Curriculum. • Develop or obtain high-quality summative and formative assessments, aligned to the skills students should know and be able to do to succeed in the 21st century. IASB supports assessment systems that measure student growth for all students, also known as value-added growth or gain, to improve student outcomes by driving professional development, teacher and administrator evaluation, and school improvement decisions. • Support research-based professional development that provides educators with the training, support and time to work together so that they can successfully teach a rigorous curriculum to all students. • Include and fund all the components of successful standards systems: assessments aligned to high expectations, improved and aligned instruction and quality professional development. 	No real bills to threaten the Core Curriculum. \$1.9 million for purposes of implementing the statewide core curriculum and a state-designated career information and decision-making system.
4. Supports adequate and on-time funding for English-language learner (ELL) students until the students reach proficiency	
5. Supports an additional funding mechanism for school districts' transportation costs that does not directly or indirectly impact funding for the educational program	
6. Supports funding to ensure all 3- and 4- year- olds have access to a high quality public school preschool program, and allow 4- year olds to be included in the enrollment count, if those programs can demonstrate meeting the collaboration and quality standards requirements of the state voluntary preschool program. Also, we support the full-weighting of preschool students enrolled in full-time programs. IASB supports local district spending authority in the event of a future state spending reduction.	Appropriated \$48.2M for preschool and DE has opened up the process to all school districts that have preschool programs meeting the state standards. Doesn't mean all children will be counted but all districts will get state funds in FY 2011.
7. Supports continuation of sufficient incentives for and assistance to encourage sharing, reorganization or regional high schools to expand academic learning opportunities for students and to improve student achievement. IASB supports expansion of sharing incentives to include special education, curriculum and other critical administrative positions. The incentives must be available to districts regardless of geographic proximity to each other.	Incentives were maintained but not expanded.
8. Supports legislation that increases the at-risk student weighting and includes drop-out prevention in the foundation formula.	
9. Supports increasing the regular program state cost per pupil to the current maximum district cost per pupil.	
10. In the spirit of equitable spending for the benefit of all of Iowa's children, the portion of Iowa's casino revenues rewarded to school districts should be distributed equitably among all districts, similar to the statewide penny. To do otherwise is making a statement to the students of the districts not currently benefiting that they are not as important as the students in the districts with casinos.	



2010 IASB Legislative Action Priorities and Resolutions

FINANCE:

The Iowa Association of School Boards

11. Supports setting allowable growth at a rate that encourages continuous school improvement and reflects actual cost increases experienced by school districts and AEAs. Our priority is to increase and maintain the state cost per pupil and the spending authority associated with it to build a strong base for future education resources. 2010 IASB priority	Allowable growth was set at two percent for FY 11 but underfunded approximately \$290 per pupil. School districts maintained spending authority for the shortfall.
12. Supports a school foundation formula that adequately and timely funds changes in demographics, including declining and increasing enrollment challenges	
13. Supports a four-year phase-in to achieve full funding of the state's portion of the instructional support levy. During the transition period, IASB supports an equitable proration formula and school district spending authority for any shortfall.	Instructional Support Levy was funded at \$7.5M for FY 11 short \$5.6M from FY 10.
14. Supports full funding of public schools before supporting non-public schools.	SF 2178 expands the definition of textbooks for the nonpublic schools to include computer technology but no additional funds were provided.
15. Supports the utilization of Home School Supplemental weighting funds to cover the full expenses of the Home School Assistance Program, including necessary expenditures for administrative costs such as secretarial work on timesheets, benefits, correspondence with parents and enrollment records.	The education appropriations bill includes language that allows districts with a home school assistance program to pay for direct administrative expenses of administering the program.
16. Supports amendment of Senate File 470 to fund the Research and Development School at the University of Northern Iowa through the Regents rather than the Iowa School Finance Formula. As currently identified in code the Iowa School Finance Formula should only be used to fund K-12 schools in Iowa.	

LOCAL CONTROL:

The Iowa Association of School Boards

17. Supports legislation that provides flexibility for school districts to meet changing needs, become more efficient, protect natural resources and save public funds.	
18. Supports incentives for school districts to offer extended days and extended calendars. School districts receiving these incentives should evaluate such initiatives to determine the impact on student learning.	
19. Supports the repeal of the legislated school start date and restoration of local school district authority to determine when it is in the best interest of students to start school.	SF 2187, HF 589 – Start Date bills killed
20. Supports expansion of the allowable use of physical plant and equipment levy (PPEL) funds while maintaining the purposes of infrastructure, transportation, technology and equipment funding.	HF 2462 – Passed House and died in Senate

TAXES:

The Iowa Association of School Boards

21. Supports legislation allowing school bond issues to be passed by a simple majority vote and to permit the local school board to levy a combination of property taxes and income surtaxes to pay the indebtedness.	
22. Supports sufficient state revenues to adequately fund public education as Iowa's number one priority. IASB opposes erosion of the existing tax base. IASB supports a full accounting every two years by state government of the costs of all exemptions, credits or deductions for the income tax, sales tax or property tax.	
23. Supports tax increment financing (TIF) limitation, reform and regulation. Reforms should increase accountability and transparency for local government entities utilizing TIF. School districts should have the ability to implement TIF for certain types of facility expenditures and must be an equal partner with cities when implementing new TIFs. In addition, we oppose residential TIFs unless the impacted school district(s) approve.	
24. Opposes a constitutional amendment or statewide voter referendum that would limit taxes, spending or local control impacting education.	



2010 IASB Legislative Action Priorities and Resolutions

PERSONNEL:

The Iowa Association of School Boards

<p>25. Supports giving school districts and AEAs the option to reduce staff to respond to reductions in funding or to comply with an arbitrator's award. Districts and AEAs should not be required to use the teacher contract termination procedures in Iowa Code section 279.13 for such staff reductions.</p>	
<p>26. Supports reinstatement of state funds to allow school districts and AEAs the ability to offer long-term, differential pay, or other incentives, to fill shortage area positions.</p>	
<p>27. Opposes changes to labor and employment laws unless they:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advance excellence and equity in public education with the outcome of improved student achievement for all. • Are based in sound research and proven best practices with a demonstrated positive impact on improving student achievement. • Promote accountability by all for improved student outcomes. • Include adequate resources provided by the state without a shift from other education resources or significant burden on property taxpayers. • Include a regular evaluation of the impact of changes on student achievement. • Balance the rights of the employees with the rights of management with scales tipped in favor of student achievement and student safety. • Require arbitrators to first consider local conditions and ability to pay; once the arbitrator determines the district has the ability to pay, the arbitrator should determine comparability. • Include a requirement that arbitrators demonstrate understanding of Iowa education funding and educational improvement. • Provide management with the flexibility to pay market competitive wages for shortage area positions, especially in the areas required to meet graduation and Iowa Core Curriculum mandates. • Preserve the constitutionally protected due process rights of school boards. 	<p>SF 2337 – Mandatory Minimum Safe and Sick Time - Died SF 2193 – Employer Notify Employees of Employer Policies – Died SF 2033 – Expansion of Scope of Bargaining in Race to the Top – Passed</p>

UNFUNDED MANDATES:

The Iowa Association of School Boards

<p>28. Supports predictable and timely state funding to serve students receiving special education services at a level that reflects the actual cost, including educational programming and health care costs.</p>	
<p>29. Supports the federal commitment to fund 40 percent of the cost of educating students receiving special education services, and demands that the federal government fulfill that commitment by increasing funding a minimum of 8 percent per year until the 40 percent figure is achieved.</p>	
<p>30. Opposes unfunded mandates.</p>	<p>HF 823 – Green Cleaning Mandate passed All below died SF 2316 – Flood Plain Management SF 2163 – Vision Screening SF 2116, HF – Foreign Language Mandate Expansion and Required American Sign Language SF 2034 – Dating Violence HF 777 – Open Meetings/Public Records HF 2421 – Prevailing Wage HF 2420 – Fair Share for State Executive Branch Employees HF 2359 – Green Certification for Construction HF 2270, HF 2247 – Expansion of Foreign Language Requirements HF 2269 – Expansion of Sex Education Requirements HF 2135 – Paid Time Off HSB 717 - Biodiesel</p>



2010 IASB Legislative Action Priorities and Resolutions

AREA EDUCATION AGENCIES:

The Iowa Association of School Boards

31. Supports additional resources to AEAs and school districts for curriculum development, student assessment analysis, in-service training, professional development and technology assistance.	
32. Supports legislation allowing students in accredited nonpublic schools to be counted for special education services, allowing them full access to services.	
33. Supports continued restoration of cuts made during the 2004 legislative session.	Continuance of appropriated \$2.5M
34. Supports creation of a separate funding mechanism for the operation and maintenance of AEA facilities.	
35. Supports an increase in funding for early childhood efforts.	Additional preschool appropriations, not directly to AEA's, refer to #6 Student Achievement and Student Equity Resolution legislative action.

COMMUNITY COLLEGES:

The Iowa Association of School Boards

<p>36. Acknowledges the community college legislative platform, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased State General Aid at an estimated \$14.7 million, with the exact amount to be determined by formula adopted by the State Board of Education. • A long-term commitment of state and local assistance for skilled worker training through ACE, Infrastructure, Iowa Power Fund, Workforce Training and Economic Development Funds, and other funding streams available to maintain and build capacity for skilled worker training. • The 15 Community College Boards' local governance flexibility to access local tax support in their discretion to meet the needs of workforce training and their local communities. 	See Legislative summary tracking for report.
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