

IASB District Director Statement of Candidacy

Candidates for the position of District Director of the Iowa Association of School Boards should possess, at a minimum, the following qualifications:

- Demonstrated leadership and involvement on a local board of education.
- Demonstrated participation in IASB activities.
- Strong supporter of public education in Iowa.

Please supply information requested in all categories and return to: Stephanie Rousseau, Executive Assistant, Iowa Association of School Boards, 6000 Grand Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50312-1417 or by email at srousseau@ia-sb.org.

-- Must be in IASB office no later than Wednesday, October 29, 2025 --

(Please feel free to supply additional information)

Name: Barb Phillips

Address (Home): 617 N Northfield
Mediapolis, Iowa 52637

Telephone: 402-515-9361

Address (Office): 617 N Northfield
Mediapolis, Iowa 52637

Telephone: 402-515-9361

Email: Phillips.barb@gmail.com

Occupation: Owner, Phillips Family Farms

School Board(s): Mediapolis

Years Service as Board Member: 2

Present Term of Office Expires: 2027



School Board Activities (Local Level):

Mediapolis CTE (Career and Technical Education) Facilities Planning Committee
Lead community outreach for \$8.55 million school bond referendum: Vote Nov 4, 2025
School Improvement Advisory Committee
Elementary Principal Interview Panel & Selection Committee
School Business Officer Interview Panel & Selection Committee
District Career and Academic Plan Review Committee
UNI Board Workshop: School Board Dialogue

School Board Activities (State Level, including IASB Activities):

2023-24 Ready, Set, Govern! Regional Workshop
2024 IASB Annual Convention
2025 Day on the Hill
2025 IASB Annual Convention

School Board Activities (National Level):

N/A

Special Interests, Activities and Recognition:

Established MEPO Group (Mediapolis Elementary Parent Organization) to fund teacher requests for classroom needs (including field trips for all elementary students) as well as year-round appreciation events for staff.

Co-Chair, Mediapolis Farm to Table Dinner event (raising \$3,000 for FFA Chapter)

Other Comments Including Personal Qualifications for IASB Leadership:

As a current school board member, I bring firsthand experience in governance, community engagement, and strategic communication. I've lead efforts to strengthen connections between our district, local businesses, and families, including recent community initiatives and bond communication campaigns. My professional background has equipped me with the skills to build consensus, listen to diverse perspectives, and move ideas into action. I'm passionate about public education and believe strong, informed boards are the foundation of student success. I would be honored to contribute that perspective to IASB's leadership team.

Please comment on your willingness and availability to serve as IASB District Director

Serving as district director is a great opportunity to contribute to IASB's mission and strengthen collaboration among Iowa districts. I bring the perspective of a rural, small-town Iowa school board, and I understand both the challenges and the opportunities similar districts face. I believe in a strong, resourceful, and collaborative IASB, and would commit to advancing its mission and strengthening public education across Iowa. I am fully committed and available to serve, with strong support from my family, local board and district.

Please explain your philosophy of what you believe the role of IASB should be to assist Iowa school boards and strengthen public education:

IASB's role is to empower, advocate, and connect. IASB should empower local boards through training, guidance, and resources that strengthen governance and keep student success at the center. It should advocate for policies and funding that support public education and elevate the role of school boards across Iowa. Finally, IASB should connect board members and districts to share ideas, learn from one another, and work together to ensure every Iowa student has access to a world-class education.

