



AT YOUR SERVICE:

2025–26 Guide to IASB® Events & Services

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YOUR IASB® MEMBERSHIP

www.ia-sb.org

The Iowa Association of School Boards® (IASB®) is your membership organization. We provide services to help boards stay current and make good decisions through effective governance and leadership. IASB is at your service.

IASB Membership Has Many Benefits

Experts on Call

IASB staff field hundreds of member calls each month, offering consulting, and advice on school governance and management. www.ia-sb.org/team

Legislative Advocacy & Representation

We collaborate with education organizations as needed on certain issues impacting public education. www.ia-sb.org/advocacy

News You Need, When You Need It

The IASB Newsroom is the hub where members go to stay up-to-speed on education in Iowa and across the nation: *NewsClips*, *Board Briefs*, *Advocacy in Action*, *Data Boost/Dashboard*, action alerts, news releases, special reports, and social media channels. www.ia-sb.org/newsroom

Members-Only Toolbox

You'll find 24/7 education resources including information, data, research, articles, tools, videos, and tip sheets on a variety of topics important to your role. www.ia-sb.org/toolbox

Conferences, Workshops, Webinars, Podcasts & Self-Study Tools

You name it, we've got it. We know our members have different learning needs, so we offer important information through various formats. www.ia-sb.org/learninghub

Membership Portal

In addition to the members-only Toolbox, you also have access to the Membership Portal. In this section, you can view your individual and organizational information, progress toward the Annual Board Awards, participation on state and IASB boards and committees, and event registrations. Plus, there's a personal profile section where you can add optional demographics to help IASB better tailor services and support, and provide an accurate overview of school board members in Iowa. www.ia-sb.org/mymembership

Value-Added Services

We offer value-added services for an additional fee beyond your membership dues. These programs are designed to provide one-on-one consultation and detailed assistance for member boards.

www.ia-sb.org/services

Make the Most of Your Membership: Quick Tips

- Add IASB@ia-sb.org to your Safe Sender List to ensure you receive important communications and email updates.
- Ensure you are subscribed to our weekly *Board Briefs* e-newsletter, full of resources, tips, and news.
- Keep us updated on any changes to your board team, so we can keep our database accurate and continue to provide your whole board the information they need, when they need it.
- Log in to the IASB website to access the members-only Toolbox and Membership Portal.





YOUR GOVERNANCE & LEADERSHIP TOOLBOX

www.ia-sb.org/toolbox

The members-only website features toolkits organized by the major program areas within IASB.

Board Development

Preparing you to be your best on the board for students and the community.

IASB equips board members for board service and effective governance through leadership for student learning resources, superintendent evaluation tools and timelines, supports to make board meetings more efficient and focused, board self-assessments, goal setting/strategic planning, and tools to clarify roles and responsibilities.

Policy & Legal

Helping you ensure transparent and legal operations through sound board policy.

We support members with policy development/maintenance and legal compliance through legal guidance on topics such as open meetings and public records, first amendment issues, breakdown of the board's legal authority, mandatory policies, parliamentary procedure, sample student and employee handbook toolkits, school calendar templates, and more. We answer questions from board members on sound policy development, provide our popular *Policy Reference Manual* subscription service, and policy manual reviews.

School Finance

Providing you with tools to sustain and enhance district resources through planning and fiscal oversight.

We develop tools to help you excel in your fiduciary role through school finance basics, budget planning and monitoring resources, financial planning, and risk management practices.

Employee Relations

Empowering you to create a culture of excellence and innovation.

We educate boards on laws, rules, regulations, and compliance. We have sound data to aid boards in making informed decisions through Human Resources (HR) best practices, collective bargaining guidance and resources, salary and staffing data, sample job descriptions, sample employee contracts, student and employee handbook toolkits, teacher compensation and benefits data, superintendent search and evaluation resources, and more.

Advocacy

Together, we are a strong and effective voice for public education.

IASB lobbies on behalf of boards both statewide and nationally, guided by the legislative platform developed by members. Advocacy events & resources include Day on the Hill, advocacy toolkits on legislative issues, Delegate Assembly, and tools to make it easy for you to contact your legislators.

Your IASB team is just a phone call, email, or direct message away! For a complete staff list, bios, and contact information, visit www.ia-sb.org/team.



Photo courtesy of Des Moines Public Schools.



2025–26 EVENTS LINEUP

www.ia-sb.org/learninghub

IASB offers a diverse selection of learning experiences throughout the year to support board-superintendent teams in governance and leadership. As education leaders, you face many complex challenges that require you to possess a vast range of knowledge and experience—student learning, school law, finance, labor relations, policy and budgets, not to mention bond campaigns, lobbying, special education, and parliamentary procedure—to name a few.

Through BoardCon, conferences, workshops, webinars, and podcasts, offered either statewide or regionally, in-district, in-person, or digitally, IASB serves member needs for learning and professional development. We are here to help both new and experienced board members expand their knowledge and sharpen their governance and leadership skills.

All fees listed are for IASB members only. Non-members pay a higher rate for the limited conferences they can attend. Note that IASB is a member of the Consortium of State School Boards Associations (COSSBA), giving IASB members access to those events, as well. These are included in the following lineup.

2025

NEW! Iowa Open Meetings & Public Records Training

Self-Paced Online Module—AEA Learning Online

This essential, self-paced training helps school and AEA board members understand *Iowa's Open Meetings* and *Public Records Laws*. While only newly elected members are required by law to complete it, IASB encourages all board members to participate annually. The interactive course takes less than two hours and awards a certificate of completion that meets legal requirements. It provides important legal information, but is not legal advice—questions should be directed to your district's authorized legal contact.

Fee: \$100 for IASB members.

Candidate Webinar

Legal & Ethical Campaigns for the School Board

Wednesday, Sept. 3, Noon–1 p.m.—Digital (Zoom)

Did you know that failure to comply with *Iowa Ethics Campaign Finance Disclosure Laws* (Chapters 68A and 68B) can result in fines and other penalties? School board candidates must comply with these laws, which include guidance for contributions, committees, printed materials, expenditures, and more. Join IASB staff and experienced attorneys as we dig into conflict of interest and gift laws in the *Iowa Code*, key dates, FAQs, and share tips for candidates as you campaign for election.

Fee: Free

COSSBA Federal Advocacy Conference

Sunday, Sept. 7–Tuesday, Sept. 9—Washington, D.C.

Are you passionate about influencing policy decisions at the federal level? Do you want to make a difference and have your voice heard? Register today to be a part of this impactful advocacy event in Washington, D.C.!

Founded by state school boards associations in late 2021, the Consortium of State School Boards Associations (COSSBA) is a non-partisan, national alliance dedicated to sharing resources and information to support, promote and strengthen state school boards associations as they serve their local school districts and board members. IASB is a member of COSSBA, and as such, our members receive a discounted registration fee for events. Visit www.cossba.org for more information.

Fee: \$675 for IASB members.

ISFLC New Superintendents' Conference

Wednesday, Sept. 17, 8 a.m.–3:30 p.m.—Solution Tree Training Center, Des Moines

Superintendents new to Iowa and new to the superintendency are invited to join us for a complimentary one-day conference focused on Iowa school finance and essential tips for success during your first year. This conference is the kick-off event for the annual Iowa Superintendents' Finance and Leadership Consortium (ISFLC). ISFLC offers two multi-day conferences per year, with intensive tracks, renewal credit, and networking opportunities. This program is a partnership between IASB, SAI, and the UNI Institute for Educational Leadership.

Fee: Free for IASB members.

Candidate Webinar

The Building Blocks of Financial Advocacy

Wednesday, Sept. 24, Noon–1 p.m.—Digital (Zoom)

In this webinar, IASB School Finance and Government Relations experts will provide a clear overview of Iowa's property tax system, including how property values are assessed, how tax rates are determined, and where the money goes. Participants will also learn about recent proposed changes in legislation and the key stakeholders in the tax process. Leave equipped to effectively engage in property tax advocacy!

Fee: Free

Candidate Webinar

Student Learning—Do Boards Really Make a Difference?

Wednesday, Oct. 15, Noon–1 p.m.—Digital (Zoom)

Why, yes, they do! Most board members say they ran for the board to give back and to make a difference for students. But what does it take to make that happen? This conversation focuses on the skills, beliefs, and actions of board members that are linked to improved student learning. We also talk about challenges and tips to help keep the focus on the main thing at the board table—ensuring high and equitable learning for all students.

Fee: Free



North Scott Jazz Ensemble performs at IASB's Annual Convention.

IASB BoardCon—Wednesday PreCon

Wednesday, Nov. 19—Iowa Events Center, Des Moines

We have carefully crafted a lineup of PreCon Workshops that allow you to customize your day of learning. Check out all of Wednesday's program offerings, including fascinating workshops led by featured speakers!

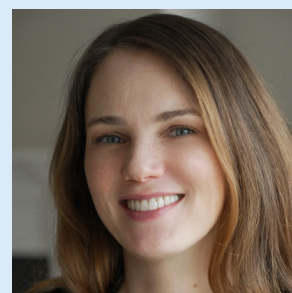
Fee: \$125 per workshop for IASB members (excluding the free Basics for Board Secretaries mini-workshop). \$165 per workshop for non-members.

The Art & Science of Constructive Disagreement

9–11:30 a.m. OR 1–3:30 p.m. (repeat offerings)

What makes disagreement productive instead of polarizing? How can board leaders foster open dialogue while maintaining focus, unity, and good governance?

In this interactive, two-and-a-half-hour workshop, you'll explore research-based strategies to navigate disagreement in ways that elevate board leadership, support healthy board/superintendent dynamics, and strengthen decision-making. Grounded in behavioral science and tailored to the realities of school governance, this session equips you with practical tools to engage authentically with diverse perspectives—building both trust and clarity in your leadership role.



Through hands-on activities and guided practice, you'll learn how to lead by example, model constructive disagreement, and create space for dialogue that benefits your board team and the broader community.

Heather Sulejman is the co-founder of Disagreeing Better and managing director of the Constructive Disagreement Project at Harvard Kennedy School. With 14 years of experience in mediation, conflict resolution, and negotiation training, Heather helps leaders apply behavioral science to strengthen governance, communication, and collaboration.

Ready, Set, Govern! New Board Member Onboarding Workshop

9–11:30 a.m.

CALLING ALL APPOINTED OR NEWLY ELECTED SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS!

Take advantage of the Ready, Set, Govern! New Board Member Onboarding Workshop at BoardCon, which will set you on the road to success. We will cover foundational elements of good governance, such as understanding the roles of the board, management roles of the superintendent, and tips for fostering good communication to support an effective board-superintendent partnership. This content is also offered regionally in December and January at various locations across Iowa.

Basics for Board Secretaries Workshop

11 a.m.–Noon

This **free** mini-workshop is designed to support newer board secretaries with practical tips on foundational basics such as meeting minutes, agendas, and more. Connect with peers, get your questions answered and then deepen your learning by attending the afternoon Board Secretary Workshop. **This session offers SBO credit for first time attendees.**

Board Secretary Workshop

1–3:30 p.m.

Our popular Board Secretary Workshop is a staple in our Wednesday workshop lineup! With new content, we'll once again shape an afternoon of interactive networking and learning focused on issues and questions most pressing to Iowa's school and AEA board secretaries. **This session offers SBO credit for first time attendees.**

School Finance 101, 201 & 301 Workshops

9–11:30 a.m. OR 1–3:30 p.m. (repeat offerings)

Newer board members will value School Finance 101's introduction and overview of basic school finance concepts and terminology. Board members with intermediate level knowledge will learn about authorized budgets, unspent balance, and real-world data trends in School Finance 201. Attend School Finance 301 for an in-depth analysis of important concepts like cash/fund balance, spending authority, property tax, use of the School Budget Review Committee (SBRC), and more. **All sessions offer SBO credit for first time attendees.**

Delegate Assembly & Annual Meeting

9 a.m.–Noon or until completion

Make your district, AEA, and community college's voice heard at the Delegate Assembly! Representatives from member boards across the state will vote to set the 2026 legislative platform that guides IASB's legislative work. Delegate Assembly is offered annually in conjunction with BoardCon. The association's Annual Meeting is held prior to the start of Delegate Assembly.

Fee: Free for delegates, \$25 for guests staying for lunch, unless registered for Wednesday PreCon Workshops.

Member-Vendor Social

3:30–5 p.m.

Take advantage of this opportunity to visit one-on-one with more than 150 vendors at this annual favorite. Enjoy free giveaways and complimentary refreshments while you learn about their products and services.

IASB BoardCon—Thursday

Thursday, Nov. 20, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.—Iowa Events Center, Des Moines

Our premiere fall event is a perfect opportunity for you to re-energize and reconnect as a board. We highly encourage your entire board-superintendent team to attend together to maximize learning, forge connections, and network with your peers. This year we have two keynote speakers who can't be missed!

During the Opening General Session, education expert and author **Thomas C. Murray** (top) will explore how boards can lead with a mindset for bold, student-centered leadership. Through stories, humor, and actionable takeaways, attendees will reflect on their leadership and leave empowered to drive positive change in their districts.



In the Second General Session & Luncheon, author and broadcaster **Anne Marie Anderson** (middle) will help board members reconnect with their purpose. Through real-life stories, humor, and heartfelt insight, attendees will be reminded of their quiet but lasting influence—and leave inspired to lead with clarity, compassion, and confidence.



This year's closing general session features IASB's own staff experts leading a 90-minute essential training on *Iowa's Open Meetings Law* and *Public Records Law*. While certification is only required for newly elected and appointed board members, we encourage all board members to attend annually to stay sharp and informed. By participating, you'll earn the required certification and gain clarity on your legal responsibilities. Don't miss this opportunity to learn directly from IASB's trusted advisors—and leave BoardCon confident in your role as a public official.

PLUS! PreCon Workshops, 30+ education sessions, and endless warm chocolate chip cookies with milk.

Be sure to check www.ia-sb.org/boardcon periodically for more information on keynote speakers, education sessions, key dates, and deadlines.

Fee: \$225 for IASB members. \$340 for non-members. No late registration fee. Online registration will remain open through 5 p.m. on **Thursday, Nov. 13**. Walk-ins are welcome onsite.

IASB BoardCon—Friday PostCon

Board Presidents' Workshop

Friday, Nov. 21, 8 a.m.–Noon—Iowa Events Center, Des Moines

BOARD PRESIDENTS, VICE PRESIDENTS & ASPIRING LEADERS! Once again, we'll be offering our staple, interactive workshop designed to serve the learning needs of board leaders. Feedback from past participants indicates this four-hour learning experience provides some of the most powerful and relevant learning at BoardCon. Join your peers and IASB staff experts as we delve into hot button issues and meaningful content to share insights and surface practical approaches to various issues related to effective school board governance. While designed for board leaders, anyone is welcome to attend.

December ISFLC Conference

Wednesday, Dec. 17–Thursday, Dec. 18—FFA Enrichment Center, Ankeny

ISFLC conferences are excellent opportunities for both experienced and new superintendents to brush up on critical skills, dig into hot topics, and network with each other. Superintendents are invited to attend two multi-day conferences per year, both featuring specially designed, intensive tracks taught by experts in the field. All track curriculum meets the quality standards set by UNI for license renewal and graduate credit. While ISFLC is primarily intended for superintendents, we understand the importance of learning together as a team. Superintendents are encouraged to invite school business officials (SBOs) and aspiring superintendents to attend the December and/or February conference.

Fee: \$350 for IASB members.

2026

In-Depth Advocacy Webinar—Condition of the State

Tuesday, Jan. 20, Noon–1 p.m.—Digital (Zoom)

Join education advocacy experts for a recap of the governor’s annual Condition of the State address. The webinar provides a preview of what’s to come this session, including new education issues on the horizon and issues that might reappear, and will help ensure you are up-to-date as you advocate for your schools in the 2026 Iowa legislative session!

Fee: Free for IASB members.

In-Depth Advocacy Webinar—Condition of the Budget

Thursday, Jan. 22, Noon–1 p.m.—Digital (Zoom)

In this brief rundown of the state of the budget and school finance funding issues, IASB will hit on the key things you need to know —covering Iowa’s economy and state revenues, the governor’s budget recommendations, and important issues to watch beyond school aid funding during the 2026 Iowa Legislative Session.

Fee: Free for IASB members.

Day on the Hill

Monday, Jan. 26—State Historical Building & Iowa State Capitol Rotunda, Des Moines

Iowa’s Area Education Agencies (AEAs), Iowa Association of School Boards (IASB), and School Administrators of Iowa (SAI) invite you to the 2025 Day on the Hill! This advocacy event will begin at the State Historical Building in the morning for an optional brief session on talking points and logistical information for advocating at the Capitol. Following the training, attendees will head to the Capitol to meet and network with legislators in the rotunda and to support the displays showing innovative programs and initiatives happening in Iowa public schools. **Note:** Make sure you’re in-the-know before Day on the Hill and join us at our two In-Depth Advocacy webinars in January!

Fee: \$45 for IASB members.

Frontline Analytics Certified Budget Workshops

Thursday, Feb. 5, Tuesday, Feb. 10, Wednesday, Feb. 11 & Thursday, Feb. 12—Multiple Locations & Digital (Zoom)

IASB, in collaboration with Affiliated Program Frontline Analytics, is once again offering these free workshops for IASB members. Using forecasting tools, attendees will leave the workshop with a completed FY 2026 certified budget, including the aid and levy worksheets, as well as all supporting documents. Visit the IASB website for workshop times and locations.

Fee: Free for IASB members who subscribe to IASB Affiliated Program Frontline Analytics.

February ISFLC Conference

Wednesday, Feb. 18–Thursday, Feb. 19—FFA Enrichment Center, Ankeny

ISFLC conferences are excellent opportunities for both experienced and new superintendents and school business officials to brush up on critical skills, dig into hot topics, and network with each other. Superintendents are invited to attend two multi-day conferences per year, both featuring specially designed, intensive tracks taught by experts in the field. All track curriculum meets the quality standards set by UNI for license renewal and graduate credit. While ISFLC is primarily intended for superintendents, we understand the importance of learning together as a team. Superintendents are encouraged to invite school business officials (SBOs) and aspiring superintendents to attend the December and/or February conference.

Fee: \$350 for IASB members.

COSSBA Annual Conference

Friday, March 13–Sunday, March 15—Louisville, KY

At the 2026 Consortium of State School Boards Associations (COSSBA) Annual Conference in Louisville, you will have the opportunity to explore the latest trends and best practices in finance, governance, school safety, mental health, stakeholder engagement, student achievement, and the transformative potential of artificial intelligence. You will also have the chance to make meaningful connections with other education professionals, visit with industry vendors at the exhibitor showcase, and network with them. Visit www.cossba.org for the most up-to-date information on conference programming, speakers, and registration fees.



Photo courtesy of Marshalltown Community Schools.

Guide to IASB Tools Webinar—Teacher Compensation & Benefits, Salary & Staffing Data

March (Date TBA)—Digital (Zoom)

Did you know that IASB provides a comprehensive toolkit to help members identify areas of concern, and balance the need to recruit and retain quality educators, all while remaining efficient and cost-effective? Join IASB staff as they walk you through the Teacher Compensation & Benefits Toolkit, as well as available salary and staffing data.

Fee: Free for IASB members.

Safety Group Risk Management Workshop

April (Date TBA)—FFA Enrichment Center, Ankeny

Risk management is important and, if done well, can help districts reduce their liability over the long term. Each spring, Jester Insurance, EMC, and IASB offer a workshop to allow participants (both local insurance agents and school leaders) the opportunity to learn more about managing risk through discussion of a variety of risk topics, such as board member liability, workers compensation, and property liability and loss.

Fee: Free for IASB members who are also participants of IASB Affiliated Program, Safety Group Insurance Program.

School Board Recognition Month

May

Every year, IASB leads School Board Recognition Month (SBRM) to honor the volunteer board members who serve on Iowa's 325 local school boards, nine area education agency boards, and 15 community college boards. These dedicated leaders serve their community and students without compensation, donate their personal time and energy to overseeing the direction of Iowa's public education system, and they positively impact our state by ensuring our future citizens have a quality education.

The campaign features customizable templates, along with ready-to-use graphics, press releases, public service announcements for districts to use on social media, websites, in community publications, for the media, tips/activities to honor school board members, and more. Watch for the 2026 SBRM theme announcement in April 2026!

Legislative Recap Webinar

May (Date TBA)—Digital (Zoom)

Join IASB's government relations staff for a full rundown of bills that made it through the 2026 legislative session that will have an impact on public education in Iowa.

Fee: Free for IASB members.

Summit on Student Success

Tuesday, June 9—FFA Enrichment Center, Ankeny

The IASB Summit on Student Success is—you guessed it—all about student achievement. This fascinating annual event will feature interactive sessions with plenty of talk time with your board member peers to troubleshoot issues related to barriers to learning and innovative approaches to increase student achievement. Visit www.ia-sb.org/summit for the latest information!

Fee: \$140 for IASB members.

Post-Session Sample Policy Updates Webinar

June (Date TBA)—Digital (Zoom)

The 2026 Legislative Updates *Policy Primer* will be released in mid-June. *Policy Reference Manual* subscribers are invited to join IASB staff for a webinar to learn about updates to IASB sample policies resulting from the 2026 Iowa legislative session.



Photo courtesy of Waukee Community Schools.

Register for any open event online at www.ia-sb.org/learninghub or call (515) 288-1991.



VALUE-ADDED SERVICES

Specialized Subscription Services for School Boards

IASB offers value-added services for an additional fee beyond membership dues. These programs are designed to provide one-on-one consultation and detailed assistance for member boards.

Legal & Policy

Online Policy Subscription Service

This resource makes it easy to ensure your district is practicing good governance through policy, as well as a time-saver for staff. This is an incredible value and a must-have service for our member districts.

IASB's *Policy Reference Manual* provides subscribing districts with comprehensive online access to more than 450 sample policies, administrative regulations, and exhibits needed to comply with state and federal laws—and most importantly, effectively operate a school district. IASB staff experts develop sample policies and ensure they are well-vetted with input from state agencies and members in the field. In addition, this subscription includes quarterly and special release updates through our *Policy Primer* newsletter. This newsletter issues new policies and/or updates to existing sample policies including explanations of why the policies are needed or laws that have changed impacting policy.

Member Fee: \$800 per year.

Legal Service Fund

The IASB Legal Service Fund was developed to assist school districts, AEAs, and community colleges in legal cases that have statewide significance. Monies in the fund are protected in a separate account and invested to maximize school district dollars.

The Legal Service Fund Committee consists of nine voting school board members from participating schools. This committee decides whether financial support will be provided to a member that applies for such assistance. Learn more about the Fund and the Committee at www.ia-sb.org/legalservicefund.

Survey Services

Our suite of surveys range from school improvement needs assessments, to superintendent search, to custom surveys built for the specific needs of your district. We manage everything—from designing and posting the survey, to tracking, downloading and analyzing the data, to preparing and delivering the reports. Learn more at www.ia-sb.org/surveyservices.

Affiliated Programs

Affiliated Programs are member-only, optional services available through IASB in governance, finance, HR, facilities, and risk management. They provide districts with recognized, cost-effective solutions that save time, reduce costs, and simplify complex requirements. By choosing Affiliated Programs members not only gain valuable services for their districts but also sustain the advocacy, innovation, and resources that IASB delivers statewide. Smart solutions for members today, stronger schools for tomorrow. Learn more about these programs at www.ia-sb.org/affiliatedprograms.

Governance & Leadership

Simbli by eBOARDsolutions—Available through IASB, Simbli offers a recognized platform for meetings, planning, policies, communications, and evaluations. It supports transparency, streamlines, workflow and improves board productivity.

Risk Management

Safety Group Insurance Program—Offered through IASB with services provided by EMC Insurance Companies and Jester Insurance Services Inc., this program delivers recognized coverage for property, casualty, and workers' compensation tailored to Iowa schools.

Iowa Medicaid Education Disbursement (IMED)—Through IASB, districts can access services from ClaimAid a recognized provider of Medicaid eligibility, enrollment, billing and claims resolution support and services.

Financial Management

Iowa Schools Joint Investment Trust (ISJIT)—Available through IASB with services from PMA Financial Network, Inc., ISJIT offers recognized investment and cash management services that grow resources responsibly.

Frontline Analytics—Through IASB, districts may contract with Frontline Education a recognized education technology for analytics tools that transform HR and student data into dashboards measuring readiness, equity, performance and outcomes.

Gallagher's GASB 74/75 OPEB Valuation Compliance Service—IASB offers actuarial and consulting services provided by Gallagher Benefit Services, Inc. a recognized expert in compliance and consulting services with GASB 74 and 75.

Human Resources

Iowa Schools Employee Benefits Association (ISEBA)—A joint program of IASB and the Iowa State Education Association (ISEA), administered with Innovative Business Consultants, Inc., providing recognized benefits program designed for Iowa school employees.

Iowa Drug & Alcohol Testing Program (IDATP)—Available through IASB with testing services from InOut Labs, a recognized provider helping districts comply with state and federal drug and alcohol testing requirements.

Employee Background Screening Service—IASB offers access to screening services provided by One Source The Background Check Company, a recognized resource for safer hiring and confident employee decisions.

Facilities

Iowa Construction Advocate Team (ICAT)—Offered through IASB with services from Estes Construction, ICAT provides recognized expertise in facility planning, assessments, architect selection, RFP/Q facilitation, radon testing, mitigation and project oversight.

Why It Matters

Affiliated Programs give IASB member access to recognized services that reduce costs and lighten workloads while also supporting IASB's broader mission of advocacy and member value.

Service Recognition Program

Celebrate dedication to public education with IASB's recognition awards! Honor school board members, student board members, and staff for their service with these meaningful tributes.

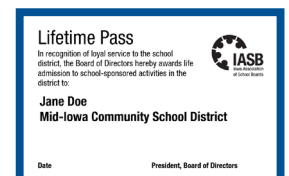
Award of Merit Plaque—\$45

A personalized plaque to commemorate the commitment of school board members or staff—perfect for retirees or service recognition.



Lifetime Pass Card—\$10

Grant lifetime access to district events for retiring members, strengthening ties between your school and community.



Student Board Member Certificate—\$10

A personalized certificate celebrating the leadership and contributions of your student board members.



Order today at www.ia-sb.org/servicerecognition!



AT THE BOARD TABLE

www.ia-sb.org/attheboardtable

At the Board Table is an opportunity to add a board development item to your agenda. Boards that take time to discuss how they will work together generally find their common work at the board table to be easier and more effective. Estimated time commitment varies between 15 and 45 minutes per discussion.

It's possible to consider this section as an individual board member, but it is much more effective if the entire board engages in the discussion. Working as a team improves when boards come to a common understanding of ground rules and responsibilities.



STANDARD 1—VISIONARY TEAM

Board & Superintendent Relations, Part One

This scenario-based discussion will help your team reflect on essential elements for building a productive board-superintendent relationship.

Board & Superintendent Relations, Part Two

A continued discussion tool including true/false questions and quotes to consider for building a productive board-superintendent relationship.

Considering Board Priorities at the Board Table

This discussion helps the board team clarify where they want to focus their time and energies as they consider the most important goals for the district's future.

Promises & Pitfalls of Superintendent Evaluation

The board can assess its readiness for effective superintendent evaluation and support for the superintendent's performance goals.

Whose Job Is It? Part One

Using a scenario of a typical board member situation, determine "Whose Job Is It?" and what role the whole board would play in the situation.

Whose Job Is It? Part Two

Another discussion on “Whose Job Is It?” focusing on the board’s role in school improvement by looking at specific tasks and considering areas of work to be done.



STANDARD 2—STUDENT LEARNING

Thoughts Posed by Sir Ken Robinson

Three discussion exercises spotlight the board’s role in nurturing innovative and creative cultures focused on personalized learning for all students. Listen to Sir Ken Robinson’s thoughts on school transformation and discuss essential questions related to your board’s vital work.

Graduating All Students Innovation Ready

An article and discussion guide help the board contemplate the need to go beyond the “status quo” to ensure students are ready for a changing future.



STANDARD 3—DISTRICT CULTURE

Discussing School Staff Performance with the Public

This module uses a scenario and discussion questions to help the board consider citizen complaints objectively, away from the pressures of the actual situation.

What Can the Board Know?

Dealing with personnel issues can be difficult. This discussion tool will help you think through possible actions and consequences related to the board’s role in human resources.



STANDARD 4—POLICY & LEGAL

Considerations on the *Open Meetings Law*

A three-part discussion on how the *Iowa Open Meetings Law* affects board procedures.

Four Ethical Dilemmas

What is ethical behavior? This module includes scenarios for the board to discuss with accompanying considerations from IASB and an opportunity for boards to consider how their own Code of Ethics policies help them govern well.



STANDARD 5—FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

Simplifying School Finance

Take a quick true/false quiz as a whole board to assess your knowledge of some basic school finance concepts, consider a scenario that will seem familiar to all, and finally arrive at common-ground definitions of basic finance terms.



STANDARD 6—ADVOCACY

Advocacy for Our Students’ Future

Using a scenario and discussion questions, this module helps boards focus on the importance of advocacy and determine specific action steps that make sense for each local board.



CUSTOM ON-SITE WORKSHOPS

www.ia-sb.org/customworkshops

Bring a customized, facilitated board learning workshop directly to your district. IASB will work with your governance team to design a workshop just for you, based on your board development goals and district needs. Popular topics are listed below, but each workshop emphasizes application to your specific situation. Most workshops are between two and four hours and can be scheduled on weekdays, evenings, or Saturdays at your board's convenience.

Identifying & Defining Roles/Responsibilities of the Governance Team

In this custom session, an IASB facilitator helps the board-superintendent team identify and discuss the different roles and responsibilities of school board members and the superintendent. The IASB facilitator will provide information and research on effective practices to enhance the discussions. The board-superintendent team uses these insights to build a strong, shared understanding of how each governance team member contributes to the district through their appropriate role.

Long Term District Goals & Priorities

This experience will support the board-superintendent team as they come together to set the strategic direction for the district. This workshop may include district administrative staff and will focus on developing or reaffirming long-term goals and priority areas of work for the district to pursue over the next three to five years. Emphasis will also include the board's governance roles in supporting, monitoring, and fostering collective will to mobilize support for the newly established district goals.

Boards & Student Learning

Board-superintendent teams looking to strengthen their focus on student learning at the board table would benefit from this workshop. Teams can select entry points such as data study, student learning goals, or understanding and supporting key initiatives. An IASB facilitator will consult with your district's board leadership and superintendent to determine an effective starting place. These workshops are developed based on effective practices for board teams influenced by IASB's groundbreaking Lighthouse Research and other studies on school board leadership.

Leadership for Student Learning—Five-Part Workshop Series

This workshop series is an intensive five-session commitment for the whole board-superintendent team to strengthen their governance role for improved teaching and student learning. Research shows that school boards who are well informed with a strong belief system can positively influence student learning in their districts. Studies by IASB and other organizations have identified important leadership and policy-level roles for the school board in improving student learning. IASB is partnering with local board-superintendent teams to support their efforts in this work through this in-depth workshop series.

Board Self-Assessment

Governance teams are most effective when they foster a positive culture focused on improving instruction and student learning. An IASB facilitator will provide three or four self-assessment options and help the board identify the tool that best matches current needs.

Superintendent Evaluation

Is your team interested in enhancing the superintendent evaluation process?

In this customized board workshop, an IASB facilitator will lead your team's learning and discussion on key areas of superintendent evaluation including legal requirements, the state's standards for school leaders, tools/practical tips, and effective practices.

Coming Together—District Sharing

This workshop is designed to assist boards whether they want to explore possibilities for sharing with nearby districts, or their district is already engaged in sharing with other districts. The focus is to identify common interests, goals, concerns, and to develop specific techniques to help boards communicate and work together. These sessions can also be designed for boards engaging in reorganization discussions.

Creating a Culture of Excellence & Innovation—The School Board's Role

What is the board's role in working with and guiding district staff? How does the board's role compare to that of the superintendent? How can your board-superintendent team work from your respective roles to create a culture of excellence and innovation that focuses the school community on student learning?

Sound Policy Development Practices for School Boards

Sound board policy clarifies the goals and intent of the board. In this custom session, an IASB consultant works with the board-administrative team to understand the board's policy-making role, strengthen your policy development and maintenance practices, identify policies most relevant to your district's current goals and needs, and ensure your policies align with state and federal laws.

District Finance Consultation

An IASB staff member will facilitate a customized review of your district's financial condition, based on your own data and trends, and help the board-superintendent team consider appropriate oversight and decision points to address the district's financial condition. IASB staff will work

with the board, either at a board meeting or a board work session, to help you understand your district's finances, free for the first consultation. IASB can also provide a free, half-day session one-on-one with a district's new superintendent or school business official to support these key administrators in gaining knowledge of Iowa school funding laws, processes, and the district's current financial condition.

Developing Your Board's Advocacy Action Plan

To have a say in the legislative process, your board needs a voice. In this session, an IASB government relations staff member will work with your board to develop an advocacy action plan customized to your school district. You'll focus on specific issues facing your district and construct an advocacy plan based on maximizing efforts that will have the greatest impact in persuading your elected officials. The workshop can take a broad view on advocacy, or "dig deep" on a specific advocacy practice, such as legislator relations, community engagement, social media communications, and more.

New Superintendent & Board Leadership—Establishing a Strong Foundation

If your superintendent is new to your district, IASB can help your team establish the foundation for a strong working relationship. An IASB facilitator will work with your board and superintendent to develop a customized workshop to help your team set the stage for a successful school year. Popular topics for this workshop include areas such as: board-superintendent communications, operating practices, roles and responsibilities, expectations, or goals.



Donna Beegle presents at IASB's Annual Convention.



PODCASTS, RECORDINGS & RESOURCES

www.ia-sb.org/learninghub

Event Resources & Webinar Recordings

Throughout the year, IASB offers conferences, events, and webinars. Conference materials are posted for member convenience following the event, and webinar recordings are made available to all regardless of attendance. Visit www.ia-sb.org/recordings to access these resources.

BoardCast Podcast Series

BoardCast is IASB's signature podcast series featuring our staff, members, and other education experts. Episodes focus on hot topics and best practices in school finance, board governance, legal and policy issues, HR, legislative updates, and more. *BoardCast* is available for listening anywhere podcasts are offered: Apple, Spotify, Android, etc. Be sure to subscribe so you are notified when a new episode drops! Visit www.ia-sb.org/boardcast to listen to all available episodes.



Photo courtesy of Ankeny Community Schools.

BOARD BOOKS

www.ia-sb.org/boardbooks

Board Member Handbook

IASB's invaluable *Board Member Handbook* is a must-read for every board member and a handy reference for administrators. The handbook covers roles and responsibilities, leadership, student achievement, board policy, board meetings, superintendent relations, employee relations, school finance, community relations, and much more!

The *Board Member Handbook* is updated during school board election years.

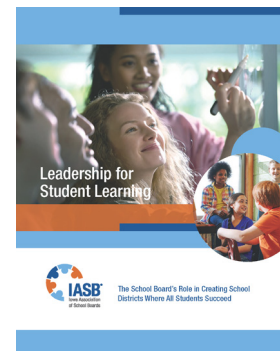
Fee: The PDF is free for IASB members. Printed copies are available for a fee of \$25 for IASB members. Download the PDF or purchase a print copy at www.ia-sb.org/boardbooks.

Leadership for Student Learning Book

The School Board's Role in Creating School Districts Where All Students Succeed

Based on widely accepted practices of school improvement and original, objective research, this book identifies the key roles of school boards that can have a positive impact on student achievement. This book is a quick read that provides board members with expert guidance and fundamental information in easy-to-understand language. It is also a great reference for staff leadership teams and school improvement committees.

Fee: The *Leadership for Student Learning* PDF is free for IASB members. Printed copies are available for a fee of \$25 for IASB members. Download the PDF or purchase a print copy at www.ia-sb.org/boardbooks.



Discussion Guide for Coherence

IASB developed a discussion guide based on Michael Fullan's and Joanne Quinn's book, "Coherence: The Right Drivers in Action for Schools, Districts and Systems" (originally published in July 2015), with implications for the board team and bottom-line guidance for boards. We encourage boards to use this guide if they are planning a board book study, a series of board learning discussions, or to develop action for the whole board.

Fee: The PDF is free for IASB members. Download the PDF at www.ia-sb.org/boardbooks.

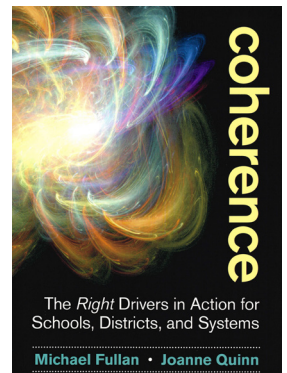


Photo courtesy of Gilbert Community Schools.



ANNUAL BOARD AWARDS PROGRAM

www.ia-sb.org/aba

Annual Board Awards highlight commitment to professional growth. Individual board members, board teams, and superintendents/AEA administrators/community college presidents can earn hours for the awards listed below through participation in IASB-led learning opportunities. Hours are earned from participation in educational activities and events from Nov. 1 through Oct. 31. There are three types of awards in this program:

Individual Achievement Award

Board members receive an Individual Achievement Award certificate for earning a minimum of 15 hours in one year.

Team Achievement Award

A plaque is presented to a whole board when a majority of its board members receive Individual Achievement Award certificates for the year and the board has a policy that supports board development.

Award of Honor

An Award of Honor certificate is given to each superintendent, AEA administrator, or community college president who earns a minimum of 15 hours as an individual and has at least two board members in the district, AEA, or community college who have earned Individual Achievement Award certificates.

Honoring the Legacy of Carolyn M. Jons

The Annual Board Awards, given in honor of Carolyn M. Jons—a dedicated former board member and leader who played a key role in the *Lighthouse Research Study* and exemplified excellence in board service—recognize individual and team commitment to ongoing learning and professional growth through IASB-led educational opportunities.





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