News Release



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IASB Honors Longtime Ames School Board Leader Carolyn Jons at BoardCon

Annual Board Awards Named in Her Honor

Des Moines, Iowa—The Iowa Association of School Boards (IASB) recently honored Carolyn Jons, a longtime education leader from Ames, at its 2025 BoardCon event. Jons has long been recognized across Iowa for her service, and IASB's statewide Annual Board Awards are named in her honor—a reflection of her deep and lasting impact on public-school governance.

Jons is a respected figure in the Ames community, having served 15 years on the Ames Community School District Board. Her leadership helped shape district goals, strengthen governance practices, and support meaningful progress for students. Her service in Ames laid the groundwork for an influential leadership career at the state and national levels.

Within IASB, Jons served as District Director (1987–1991), Vice President, President, and Past President (1992–1997), and Treasurer (1997–1999). She also represented lowa through multiple roles with the National School Boards Association (NSBA), contributing to national conversations on school governance and federal education policy.

In addition to her board service, Jons made a significant impact as a board-development consultant, coach, and member of IASB's Lighthouse Research Team, helping school board members across the state strengthen their leadership and governance skills.

"Carolyn Jons' leadership began in Ames and has shaped school board governance across Iowa," said D.T. Magee, IASB Executive Director. "Her influence continues to inspire board members statewide, and we were proud to recognize her at this year's BoardCon."

The recognition took place during 2025 BoardCon, IASB's statewide gathering of school board members, superintendents, and education leaders focused on learning, connection, and strengthening public-school governance.