Leadership Through a Crisis: COVID-19 and Beyond

Wednesday, July 15, 2020
9 a.m.–3 p.m.

9–9:10 a.m. Welcome
Lisa Bartusek, Executive Director, IASB & Lou Ann Gvist, Board Development/Convention Director, IASB

9:10–9:30 a.m. Leadership and Support for Districts in the Months Ahead
Ann Lebo, Director, Iowa Department of Education
• Ann will share a special leadership message for boards and outline the DE’s role and vision for supporting districts over the next several months. She will answer audience questions during a short Q&A session at the end of her presentation.

9:30–10:40 a.m. Reopening Our Schools: Health & Safety Considerations for Board Members
Lisa Bartusek, Executive Director, IASB
• State and federal agencies have provided multitudes of resources, guidance and criteria for school districts during the pandemic. This information can be overwhelming for board members to sift through and understand. In this session, you’ll get a board’s eye view of health and safety measures, criteria for opening and closing schools and questions boards can ask to understand these important facets of your local Return-to-Learn plan.

10:40–10:50 a.m. Break
10:50 a.m.–Noon  Continuous Learning—What is it, Where Are We, What’s My Role?
Evan Abbey, Program Director, AEA Learning Online

- With the whirlwind of COVID-19 and the rush to get online learning available to Iowa’s 500,000 students, we sometimes overlook the critical support board members provide to our education system. Learn about continuous learning in Iowa’s classrooms, pressing issues teachers are facing, how to address legal implications like accessibility and FAPE and key roles you can play to support administrators, teachers and learners during this time.

Noon–12:30 p.m.  Lunch

12:30–1:15 p.m.  COVID-19 Policies & HR Supports
Siobhan Schneider, Policy/Legal Services Director, IASB & Eric Howard, HR Services Director, IASB

- Get an in-depth look at brand-new policies related to COVID-19! IASB staff will share information and insights on these new policies, updates to existing policies and additions to the Employee Handbook.

1:15–1:25 p.m.  Break

1:25–2:50 p.m.  What Should We Be Asking? Legal and HR Issues Facing School Boards During COVID-19
Eric Howard, HR Services Director, IASB; Melissa Schilling, Attorney, Dickinson, Mackaman, Tyler & Hagan, P.C.; and Emily Ellingson, Attorney, Lynch Dallas, P.C.

- Boards are facing a myriad of challenges, ranging from privacy issues to legal compliance. In order to tackle these issues and move forward, it’s important that board members understand what they should know, what they shouldn’t know and questions they should be asking.

2:50–3 p.m.  Concluding Comments
Lisa Bartusek, Executive Director, IASB