



Lighting the Way to Excellence in School Governance

Annual Report

FY 2023

ENVISION
ENGAGE
EMPOWER
EDUCATE
EVOLVE
EQUITY

From the Executive Director



With the close of the 2023 fiscal year, the Association had much to be grateful for. Member retention held steady at 100%, the Association's financial health remained strong, and member response to new initiatives and content was positive.

At IASB, our mission is to build excellence in local school board governance. This Annual Report highlights work to accomplish that in the fiscal year July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2023. Our work continues to evolve to meet the diverse needs of boards of education that rely upon the Association's support to effectively lead their local schools and to advocate for public education and for the success of every child.

IASB represents over 99% of Illinois public school districts and nearly 6,000 school board members advocating on behalf of nearly 2 million public school children and local taxpayers. Excellence in programs, services, and resources to membership ensures member engagement and return on investment to districts.

My role as Executive Director is to lead staff in our mission and to fulfill the Strategic Plan (the six "Es") of the Association. Our work to support members is strengthened by our staff Core Values and the advancement of the Association's Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Plan.

Local school board governance is vital to the success of our public schools. Thank you for the important work you do – as volunteer local officials – in your communities for the students your schools educate!

Kimberly A. Small, J.D.
Executive Director

IASB Strategic Priorities

- ☑ **Envision** and demonstrate **Excellence** in programs, services, educational opportunities, and support for IASB members resulting in high levels of member satisfaction.
- ☑ **Engage** members and member districts with IASB staff, programs, resources, and services.
- ☑ **Empower** members to serve as effective, confident advocates for local school board governance and quality public education for every student.
- ☑ **Educate** the membership about best practices in board governance and monitoring practices aimed at ensuring excellence and educational opportunities for every student.
- ☑ **Evolve** to provide timely and meaningful information, training, support, and resources necessary to meet the changing needs of members and member districts.
- ☑ Initiate, advocate for, and support efforts to ensure **Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Racial Justice** within IASB, its membership, and PK-12 schools.

MEMBERSHIP by the Numbers*

*Membership records as of June 30, 2023.



849

Member Districts



5,839

Board Members



211

School Attorneys



69

Service Associates



65

Affiliate Members



2

Associate Members

Highlights of IASB's Work for You in FY 2023



A full range of policy services, tools, and education is designed to support members in their policy-making roles. Most member districts (98%) subscribe to PRESS, the

Policy Reference Education Subscription Service, which includes 467 sample policies, procedures, and exhibits. Three PRESS issues were released during the year – Issue 110 (October 2022), Issue 111 (March 2023), and Issue 112 (June 2023).

A redesigned Administrative Procedures project was launched. This one-time customization project assists in developing an administrative procedures manual that aligns with directives outlined in board policy.

Policy services available:

- PRESS – Policy Reference Education Subscription Service
- PRESS Plus, full maintenance policy update service
- School Board Policies Online
- Administrative Procedures Online
- BoardBook Premier®
- One-time customization projects for policy manuals and administrative procedures



Online learning assists school board members in developing skills and understanding of board work, meeting state-mandated training requirements, and keeping current on issues facing public education. A dedicated effort to train new board members after the April school board elections resulted in 1,037 new members registering for a New Board Member Online Training Bundle.

There are close to 100 online courses and webinars available to members for on-demand viewing. Webinar topics this fiscal year focused on students and learning, governance best practices, and finance and operations. A series of webinars were also geared for new school board members and another for administrative professionals.

Special new board member pricing for the three-course bundle!

Open Meetings Act

PDLT/PERA

The Basics of Governance

Online course additions were an advanced OMA course and a course on trauma-informed practices for students and staff with information that is relevant to the duties of a school board member.



Workshop offerings support IASB's Foundational Principles of Effective Governance and emphasize school board leadership. Workshops are designed for the board/governance team and can be tailored to meet each district's learning needs.

A revised workshop helping districts discuss and strategize ways to engage stakeholders to support student success was launched. The workshop, "Reflecting on Communication and Community Engagement Tactics," is one of 12 In-District Workshops.

Workshops available:

- The Basics of Governance
- Setting District Goals and Direction
- Starting Right
- Reflecting on Communication and Community Engagement Tactics
- The Superintendent Evaluation Process
- Monitoring District Performance
- Making Meetings Matter
- The Trust Edge Experience
- Equity: An Educational Imperative
- Board Self-Evaluations,
- Board Governance Review
- Board Self-Evaluation Instrument
- Myers-Briggs® Team Workshop



The IASB Executive Searches service helps boards prepare for and implement a carefully planned process and procedures for selecting superintendents, assistant superintendents, business managers, and other key administrators. Partnership with a national affiliation allows for direct connections to a national pool of candidates. IASB conducted over half (57.1%) of the searches of Illinois districts working with outside search firms.



Several programs are sponsored by IASB and offered to districts through pooling or trust arrangements, often governed by the districts themselves. Sponsored Programs include BuyBoard national purchasing cooperative, Forecast5 Analytics for analysis, Illinois Energy Consortium powered by Future Green for energy purchasing and renewable energy, Illinois Schools Employee Benefits Consortium (ISEBC) and Metropolitan Schools Employee Benefits Program for group health insurance, Illinois School District Liquid Asset Fund Plus (ISDLAF+) financial investment pool, Mid-West Truckers Association, Inc. for drug and alcohol testing, NSN Employer Services, Inc. for unemployment cost control, procurement card (p-Card) for streamlined purchasing, School Leaders Risk Management Association (SLRMA) for risk management support, SchoolGuard® school safety service, SuperEval for superintendent evaluations, and the Workers' Compensation Self-Insurance Trust (WCSIT) and Illinois School District Agency (ISDA) insurance pools.



Advocacy is critical to the Association's mission. Issues that IASB advocates are member-driven, as guided through the Resolutions Process and Advocacy Core Values, to ensure a strong, collective voice. An Advocacy Ambassador program launched one year ago allows school board members to become more engaged and share local voice on important issues.

IASB staff monitored, supported, or opposed more than 1,000 pieces of introduced legislation impacting education during the 2023 Spring Session of the Illinois General Assembly. Legislative Reports, federal updates, and six Calls to Action were issued to members. IASB was successful at stopping numerous bills that were deemed to have a negative impact on local school boards and the students they serve.

IASB positions addressed in legislation were 1.19 (Indigenous People Curriculum), 2.29 (Fund Balances – Miller Ratio Adjustment), and 2.24 (School Safety Grant Program). To address the ongoing educator shortage, IASB initiated legislation to help school districts that are struggling to fill teaching vacancies (HB 3442, PA 103-0193).

IASB is committed to an advocacy program that

- Supports locally elected, non-partisan, and volunteer school board members in providing

excellence in local school board governance based upon the Association's Foundational Principles of Effective Governance.

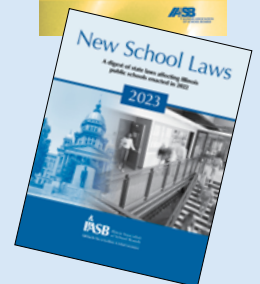
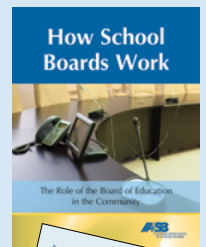
- Supports and protects adequate and equitable funding necessary to provide all students with access to an excellent public education.
- Promotes excellence in student achievement for all Illinois students and fair accountability for academic progress.
- Advocates for legislation that supports the physical and emotional well-being of students and staff.
- Supports a safe and secure learning environment for all; including, but not limited to one in which all are free from bullying, harassment, discrimination, and violence.
- Supports the Association's commitment to educational equity for every student.
- Promotes non-partisan member engagement and provides the tools to enhance advocacy efforts.



Content delivered through Association publications and audio/video formats supports board members with their local leadership. It assists the general public with knowledge and understanding of the role of school boards. Regular updates are provided to members via electronic communication, social media, and mailings to members. Additionally, IASB's daily news clip service, "Leading News," gives readers perspective on state and local issues impacting public education.

New or updated information resources, data, and guidance include:

- How School Boards Work
- Understanding School Finance
- Annual School Calendar
- Finance Election Results Data
- School Design Data File
- Board Member Turnover Data
- New Board Member Roadmap
- End of Session Report
- New School Laws
- Answers to FAQs Regarding SOPPA
- Special Education Procedures and Sample Policies
- Recent Court Decisions
- Inside IASB Podcast Episodes





Six issues of *Illinois School Board Journal* covered topics of student voice and civil discourse, state and national comparisons, administrator salaries, green schools, and new board member learning.

IASB published new editions of *Coming to Order: A Guide to Successful School Board Meetings* and *The Effective School Board Member* to inform readers of school board roles and the importance of making meetings matter.



The 89th meeting of the Illinois Association of School Boards, Illinois Association of School Administrators, and Illinois Association of School Business Officials for the Joint Annual Conference took place November 18-20, 2022, in Chicago. There were over 120 Panel Sessions offerings, with 29 being “Share the Success” district presentations. A Carousel of Panels offered an additional 32 topics. Nine Pre-Conference Workshops aimed at school board leadership and governance saw 835 registrants. A featured session, “Rethinking Our Response to School Violence,” discussed how school leaders can respond to incidences of school violence.



Also new to the 2022 Annual Conference: “The Equity Immersion.” Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion support for members is vital to school board leadership and the Equity Journey Continuum that measures

school progress in equity growth. Registration for this inaugural event totaled 161. Topics included social and emotional learning, race and equity in schools, implicit bias, leading equity initiatives in districts, and more.

Other regional meetings and events during the year:

- Spring and Fall Division Meetings
- Multi-Division Regional event, Peoria
- Trust Edge Experience, Naperville
- Seeking the Superintendency Professional Advancement Seminars, Springfield and Lisle



In the fiscal year 2023 the Association prepared for several transitions, including the departure of Executive Director Thomas E. Bertrand, Ph.D. In March 2023, the IASB Board of Directors named Kimberly A. Small, J.D., as the next Executive Director. She is the eighth full-time and first woman executive director in the Association’s 110-year history. Small’s transition from leading Policy Services and Office of General Counsel for the Association, along with other retirements, created space for internal promotions and the welcoming of new personnel.



IASB is a member of the Consortium of State School Boards Associations (COSSBA), a national alliance of state school boards associations serving local school districts and school board members. Illinois school board members and IASB staff participated in the Urban Boards Alliance (UBA) Symposium in September, an Association Leadership Symposium in January, and COSSBA’s inaugural annual conference in April. Former IASB Executive Director Thomas E. Bertrand, Ph.D., became the first COSSBA Executive Director on July 1, 2023.

Balance Sheet

As of June 30, 2023

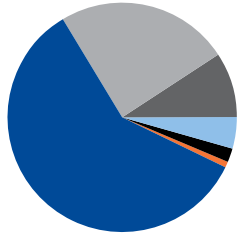
ASSETS	
Cash and investments	\$17,932,946
Accounts receivable	345,474
Prepaid expenses	203,088
Inventories	75,809
Total current assets	18,557,317
Property and equipment	
Cost	7,207,617
Accumulated depreciation	(4,687,464)
Net property and equipment	2,520,153
Other asset	
Right-to-use lease asset	1,206,513
Total assets	\$22,283,983
LIABILITIES	
Accounts payable	\$79,574
Accrued payroll and other costs	271,926
Member lodging deposits	635,000
Dues and other income received in advance	6,510,941
Current portion of operating lease liability	261,056
Total current liabilities	7,758,497
Long-term liability	
Operating lease liability, less current	990,051
Total Liabilities	8,748,548
Net assets, unrestricted	13,535,435
Total liabilities and net assets	\$22,283,983

Statement of Activities

For the year ended June 30, 2023

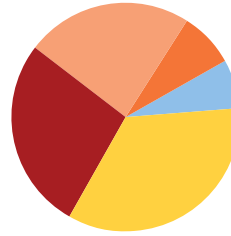
INCOME	
Dues - Active members	\$4,396,255
Dues - Other memberships	76,662
Programs	
Annual Conference	3,118,770
Division Meetings	75,190
Workshops	336,780
Publications	159,705
Special services	3,043,153
Interest & dividends	432,142
Royalties	1,013,089
Sponsorships	164,335
Other income	102,616
Realized gain (loss) on investments	(178,328)
Unrealized gain (loss) on investments	178,903
Total income	\$12,919,272
EXPENSES	
Salaries	4,959,161
Employee benefits	2,222,007
Travel and professional development	91,625
Board of Directors	232,169
Office rent, maintenance, and utilities	521,531
Postage	34,516
Supplies	73,710
Printing	7,214
Accounting and audit	18,500
Equipment maintenance	8,817
Equipment rental	28,494
Insurance	90,168
Contractual services	378,068
Other administrative	99,401
Programs	
Annual Conference	1,148,812
Division Meetings	93,061
Workshops	385,658
Publications	168,442
Special services	1,157,712
National dues	48,000
Provision for depreciation	321,715
Total Expenses	\$12,088,781
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS	\$830,491
NET ASSETS, unrestricted	
Balance as of June 30, 2022	\$12,704,944
Balance as of June 30, 2023	\$13,535,435

Expenditures



59.4%	Personnel
24.4%	Programs
9.2%	All other
4.3%	Office rent / building expenses
1.9%	Board of Directors' expenses
0.8%	Travel expenses

Revenue



34.6%	Member dues
27.3%	Conference and programs
23.6%	Special services
7.8%	Royalties
6.7%	All other

Member Participation and Engagement Opportunities

PRESS Subscribers	940
PRESS Plus Subscribers	539
School Board Policies Online Subscribers	274
Administrative Procedures Online Subscribers	8
BoardBook Subscribers	187
In-District Policy Consultations	144
One-Time Policy Projects Opened (Customization or Administrative Procedures)	36
Fall 2022 Division Meeting Registrants/Districts	1,356/304
Spring 2023 Division Meeting Registrants/Districts	760/203
In-District Workshops Facilitated/Districts	178/151
Webinar Registrants	3,208
Online Course Registrants	1,455
Board Leader Recognition Program Participants	717
School Board Governance Recognition Districts (two-year award)	35/35 in second year
2022 Joint Annual Conference Attendance/Districts	8,713/696
2022 Joint Annual Conference Exhibitors/Booths	1,339/260
2022 Delegate Assembly Participants	442
2022 Resolutions Submitted	16
Advocacy Ambassadors	14
Executive Searches Facilitated	27
Online Bookstore Sales/Titles Offered	4,943/37
School Design projects Submitted/Maintained	76/691
<i>Illinois School Board Journal</i> Recipients	7,200

IASB Officers

Simon Kampwerth Jr.
President

Mark Harms
Vice President

Tim Custis
Treasurer

Thomas Neeley
Immediate Past President

IASB Executive Committee

Simon Kampwerth Jr.

Mark Harms

Tom Neeley

Mark Christ

Tim Custis

Linda Eades

Tracie Sayre

Marc Tepper

Tom Ruggio (alternate)

Shelia Nelson (alternate)



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Lighting the Way
to Excellence in
School Governance

Vision

The vision of the Illinois Association of School Boards is excellence in local school board governance supporting quality public education.

Mission

The mission of the Illinois Association of School Boards is to *Light the Way* for its members by developing their competence and confidence through a robust toolkit designed to build excellence in local school board governance, including:

- Premier training experiences;
- Networking opportunities for mutual support;
- Valuable benefits, pooled services, information, and expertise;
- Advocacy on behalf of public education; and
- A platform for a strong collective voice on common interests and concerns.