



**ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION  
OF SCHOOL BOARDS**

*Lighting The Way To Excellence  
In School Governance*

# 2020 Resolutions Committee Report

For the 2020 Delegate Assembly meeting  
on November 14, 2020

**September 2020**

For further information please contact Ben Schwarm at (217) 528-9688, ext. 1132

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TO: Board Members and Administrators

FROM: Simon Kampwerth Jr., Resolutions Committee Chair

DATE: September, 2020

SUBJECT: 2020 Resolutions Committee Report to the Membership

Thank you for your interest in the 2020 Resolutions Committee Report to the Membership. Proposals set forth in this report will be acted upon at the virtual Annual Meeting of the IASB Delegate Assembly, which convenes at 10 a.m. on Saturday, November 14, 2020.

The Resolutions Process is vital to the Association's mission, and the Delegate Assembly is one of the most important functions conducted by IASB. It gives member districts ownership in the Association and the opportunity to establish the direction of the Association and its major policies. Every member district has a delegate, a vote, and a voice.

Participation in the resolutions process is important. Submitting new resolutions, discussing the resolutions at your local board meeting, sharing your insight with other boards and sending a well-informed delegate to the assembly all are key actions for you to take.

This booklet is provided in the fall and is intended to allow your board time to discuss the resolutions. We hope that this will increase participation and enthusiasm from member districts.

With the cancellation of the 2020 Joint Annual Conference, and the Delegate Assembly being conducted virtually, there will be changes in our procedures. Your board will have to choose its delegate and register that delegate with IASB in advance. This will ensure that only voting delegates will have access to the link for the virtual assembly. More details on when and how to do this will be forthcoming.

On behalf of the Resolutions Committee, thank you for your interest in the Resolutions Process.

**Service of the following school board members on the 2020  
Resolutions Committee is acknowledged with sincere appreciation.**

Chair .....	Simon Kampwerth Jr. ....	Peru ESD 124
Abe Lincoln.....	Amy Reynolds .....	Rochester CUSD 3A
Blackhawk .....	Julie Wagner.....	Mercer County SD 404
Central IL Valley.....	Daniel Walther.....	Peoria SD 150
Corn Belt .....	Nick Sartoris.....	Pontiac THSD 90
DuPage.....	James Blair .....	Salt Creek SD 48
Egyptian .....	Lisa Irvin .....	Opdyke-Belle Rive CCSD 5
Illini.....	Saundra Uhlott .....	Rantoul City SD 137
Kaskaskia.....	Kent Kistler .....	Brownstown CUSD 201
Kishwaukee .....	Stephen Nelson .....	Sycamore CUSD 427
Lake .....	Odie Pahl .....	Gurnee SD 56
North Cook.....	Anna Klimkowicz .....	Township HSD 211
Northwest.....	Steve Snider .....	Eastland CUSD 308
Shawnee.....	Vernon Stubblefield.....	Cairo CUSD 1
South Cook.....	Juanita Jordan .....	Prairie Hills ESD 144
Southwestern.....	Gabrielle Schwemmer.....	Smithton CCSD 130
Starved Rock.....	Carol Alcorn.....	LaSalle-Peru THSD 120
Three Rivers.....	Liz Campbell .....	Valley View CUSD 365U
Two Rivers.....	Rodney Reif .....	Carrollton CUSD 1
Wabash Valley .....	Casey Overbeck.....	Casey-Westfield CUSD 4C
West Cook .....	Dianne Williams .....	Maywood-Melrose Park-Broadview SD 89
Western.....	Scott Vogler .....	West Prairie SD 103

## DELEGATE ASSEMBLY AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Report of the Credentials Committee
3. Approval of Delegate Assembly Business Rules
4. President's Report, Tom Neeley
5. Executive Director's Report, Thomas Bertrand, Ph.D.
6. Financial Report, Linda Eades
7. Election of Officers
  - A. Nominating Committee Report, Joanne Osmond, Nominating Committee Chair
8. Resolutions Committee Report, Simon Kampwerth Jr.
  - A. New Resolutions
  - B. Reaffirmation of Existing Positions
9. Belief Statements
10. Deletions and Amendments of Existing Positions
11. Adjournment

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# My Board's Recommendation

*Support*    *Oppose*

## NEW RESOLUTIONS

- |                          |                          |                               |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 1. Loan Program               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 2. Gun Storage                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 3. School Report Card         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 4. Pre K Teacher Licensure    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 5. Teacher Shortage           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 6. E-Learning on Election Day |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 7. Local Control Pandemic     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 8. Local Control Pandemic     |

## REAFFIRMATION OF EXISTING POSITIONS

- |                          |                          |   |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 9. Position Statement 1.16 Charter Schools – Renewal of Charters    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 10. Position Statement 1.17 Charter Schools – At-Risk Students      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 11. Position Statement 2.27 State Authorized Charter School Funding |

## NEW BELIEF STATEMENTS

- |                          |                          |            |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 12. Equity |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|------------|

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## DELEGATE ASSEMBLY BUSINESS RULES

1. **Business Procedures** — Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern.
2. **Credentials** — Delegates shall be registered with the Credentials Committee.
3. **Delegate Seating** — Only those delegates seated in the reserved section will be permitted to participate in the business session.
4. **Recognition by Chair** — Delegates wishing to speak on a motion shall rise and be recognized by the Chair before speaking. They shall give their full name and the name of the board they represent.
5. **Debate on the Floor** — No delegate shall speak in debate more than twice on the same question and no longer than five minutes at one time. No delegate shall speak a second time on the same question until all persons have had an opportunity to speak at least once.
6. **Calls for the Question** — A delegate may “call for the question” to end debate on a motion. The delegate may not make such a motion if, immediately preceding the motion, he or she has engaged in discussion of the motion or otherwise participated in the debate. A motion, a second, and a 2/3 majority vote is required to end debate.
7. **Consent Agenda** — Use of a Consent Agenda to expedite the proceedings is authorized. Proposed resolutions which have been recommended “Do Adopt” by the Resolutions Committee may appear on a Consent Agenda.
8. **Appeals** — Those delegates wishing to appeal a “Do Not Adopt” recommendation of the Resolutions Committee, and have met the notice provisions required by Article IX, Section 5 of the IASB Constitution, shall have a period of time not to exceed five minutes in which to explain why the proposed action should be considered by the Delegate Assembly. Appeals shall only be accepted from

the submitter of the proposed resolution that has received the negative recommendation of its proposal. Those proposed resolutions that have received a “Do Not Adopt” recommendation from the Resolutions Committee, and of which the committee has not received a timely written appeal of the negative recommendation from the submitting entity, will not be considered by the Delegate Assembly.

9. **Reaffirmation of Existing Position Statements** — The Delegate Assembly has the authority to reaffirm existing Position Statements. Proposals to reaffirm an existing position may be initiated by member school boards or the Resolutions Committee. All such proposals shall be submitted through the same procedure as all other resolutions and shall meet all criteria and constitutional timelines applicable to all resolutions.
10. **Other Recognition** — Members of the Resolutions Committee and IASB staff shall be given the privilege of the floor at the discretion of the presiding officer.
11. **Voting** — The indications to signify voting shall be specified by the presiding officer.
12. **Nomination** — the consent of any nominee from the floor during the election of officers must be secured in writing prior to presentation to the Delegate Assembly, as required in Article IV, Section 1, of the IASB Constitution.
13. **Remote Participation** — The 2020 Resolutions Committee and Delegate Assembly will allow for remote participation by delegates. This is not a precedent for future meetings of the Delegate Assembly, but will only be utilized during times of a statewide emergency as proclaimed by the Governor. In such cases, the Board of Directors may modify rules 4-7 as deemed necessary to accommodate remote participation technology and assembly decorum.



# RESOLUTIONS PROCEDURES

**1. Types of Resolutions** — (Article IX, Section 1) Resolutions may be either in the form of a position statement or a belief statement. Position statements address issues affecting or concerning local boards of education; they direct the Association's advocacy efforts. Belief statements express significant values commonly held by local boards of education; they may or may not call for action to be taken by the Association.

**2. Proposals** — (Article IX, Section 2) Resolutions for proposed position statements or belief statements may be proposed by any Active Member, Association Division, the Association's Board of Directors, or the Resolutions Committee. Resolutions to be published and distributed to the Active Members must be submitted to the Resolutions Committee at least 150 days prior to the Annual Meeting of the Delegate Assembly.

**3. Presentation of Resolutions** — (Article IX, Section 3) The Resolutions Committee shall review all proposed resolutions, distribute a final draft of proposed resolutions to the membership not less than 45 days prior to the Annual Meeting of the Delegate Assembly, and may recommend the approval or disapproval of any resolution to the Delegate Assembly. The Resolutions Committee has the prerogative to determine which resolutions are to be presented to the Delegate Assembly; and whether they are presented as position statements or belief statements. However, all resolutions that are timely submitted to the Resolutions Committee according to Section 2 above, must be distributed to Active Members not less than 45 days prior to the Annual Meeting of the Delegate Assembly.

**4. Annual Review** — (Article IX, Section 4) The Resolutions Committee shall annually review currently in force position statements and belief statements to determine whether they are consistent with the current positions or beliefs of Association members. The Resolutions Committee shall recommend that the Delegate Assembly amend or rescind any position statement or belief statement that is not consistent with the current positions or beliefs of Association members. All position statements and belief statements currently in force will be published annually and distributed to Active Members prior to the Annual Meeting of the Delegate Assembly.

**5. Appeals** — (Article IX, Section 5) Any Active Member, Association Division, or Association Board of Directors, that has submitted a proposal that has received a negative recommendation from the Resolutions Committee, shall

have the right to appeal the decisions of the Resolutions Committee at the Annual Meeting of the Delegate Assembly. Notice of appeal must be submitted in writing to the Resolutions Committee. The committee must be in receipt of the written appeal no later than the close of business eight calendar days before the Annual Meeting of the Delegate Assembly. A majority of the delegates present and voting at the Annual Meeting of the Delegate Assembly is required for consideration of appeals.

**6. Amendments to Resolutions** — (Article IX, Section 6) Any proposed amendment to a resolution that does not meet the time requirements as set in Section 3 above shall be immediately remanded to the Resolutions Committee for consideration.

**7. Late Resolutions** — (Article IX, Section 7), Resolutions which are not presented to the Resolutions Committee at least 150 days prior to the Annual Meeting of the Delegate Assembly may be considered only by the following procedure: Such resolutions may be proposed by an Active Member, Association Division, Association Board of Directors, or the Resolutions Committee and submitted in writing to the Resolutions Committee. Any resolution which is not submitted in the manner described above shall not be considered by the Delegate Assembly. Late resolutions shall be considered for approval by the Resolutions Committee. The Resolutions Committee may recommend approval or disapproval of the late resolution to the Delegate Assembly. Any such resolution disapproved by the Resolutions Committee may be appealed by a seventy-five (75)% majority vote of the delegates present. Delegates seeking authority to present late resolutions at the Annual Meeting of the Delegate Assembly shall provide copies for all delegates present at the meeting, including rationale and relevant supporting documentation.

**8. Order of Resolutions** — Each resolution to be adopted will be considered in the following order of categories: Educational Programs, Financing Public Education, Legislative Activity, Board Operations and Duties, Board Employee Relations, Local State Federal Relations, and District Organization and Elections. Reaffirmation or deletion of existing positions will be done with a single motion unless a delegate wishes a particular position or positions to be considered separately.

# NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

## AUGUST 2020

The 2020 Nominating Committee proposes the following officer slate for Delegate Assembly consideration, 10 a.m., Saturday, November 14, 2020.

President – Tom Neeley  
Morton CUSD 709

Vice President – Simon Kampwerth Jr.  
Peru ESD 124

## 2020 NOMINATING COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Joanne Osmond, Chair  
Immediate Past President

Mark Christ  
O'Fallon THSD 203

Dennis Inboden  
Robinson CUSD 2

Sue McCance  
CUSD 3 Fulton Co

Sheila Nelson  
Cairo USD 1

Carla Joiner-Herrod  
Lindop SD 92

Marc Tepper, Alternate  
Kildeer-Countryside CCSD 96

# NEW RESOLUTIONS

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## FINANCING PUBLIC EDUCATION – STATE

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### 1. Loan Program

**Submitted by:** Grayslake Community High School 127

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Illinois Association of School Boards shall request the State of Illinois establish a low-cost loan program for public school districts. This program will allow local dollars to flow more directly to students while providing relief to local taxpayers.

**District Rationale:** Due to the pandemic and economic downturns, school districts face significant reductions in revenue, while at the same time needing to invest significantly to keep students and teachers safe. Safe schools are integral to opening our economy. Because school districts can borrow far less easily than the State or Federal government, we request the State of Illinois establish a low-cost loan program for public school districts. This program will allow local dollars to flow more directly to students while providing relief to local taxpayers.

**Resolution Committee Rationale:** The submitting district explains that a program like this is needed because districts are likely going to see a reduction in revenue due to the economic downturn resulting from the pandemic, and that districts can borrow far less easily than the State or Federal governments. The district adds that this program will allow local dollars to flow more directly to students while providing relief to local taxpayers.

The State of Texas has a program that assists school districts with good credit ratings in obtaining low cost interest bonds. The program was established in 1854 and is mostly funded from royalties and mineral rights (oil and gas).

The Committee was concerned about the uncertainty of where funds would come from to create a program like this in Illinois. It was, however, recognized that there is a significant need for financial assistance for school infrastructure. The Committee questioned the idea of a loan program for funds districts could use to cover costs the State should be helping districts pay for.

The Resolutions Committee RECOMMENDS DO NOT ADOPT.

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## LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

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### 2. Gun Storage

**Submitted by:** Glen Ellyn SD 41; CCSD 93 (Carol Stream)

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Illinois Association of School Boards shall support and advocate for legislation which strengthens child safe gun storage laws in the state of Illinois, requiring gun owners to store firearms, whether they are loaded or unloaded, in a securely locked container, if a person under the age of 18 is likely to gain access to the weapon without permission.

**District Rationale:** Illinois currently prohibits any person from storing or leaving his or her firearm unlocked and accessible to a minor under the age of 14 if that person knows or has reason to believe that the minor under the age of 14 who does not have a Firearm Owner's Identification (FOID) card is likely to gain access to the firearm and the minor causes death or great bodily harm with that firearm. Research indicates that strong child access prevention laws decrease unintentional shootings, suicides, and school shootings. Between 70% and 90% of guns used in school shootings perpetrated by shooters under the age of 18 were acquired from the home or the homes of relatives or friends. Furthermore, more than half of gun owners store at least one gun unsafely, without any locks or other safe storage measures. In fact, nearly a quarter of all gun owners report storing all of their guns in an unlocked location in the home. While some data suggests that gun owners with children in the home are slightly more likely than other gun owners to store firearms safely, roughly 4.6 million minors live in homes with loaded, unlocked firearms.

58% of school shooters were current or former students, staff, faculty, or school resource officers. Because these perpetrators are part of the school, they are also familiar with active shooter protocols within the district, and can plan accordingly. Illinois's current safe storage laws only apply to children up to age 14. A study by *Education Week*, whose findings were reported in an article in their magazine in April 2019 says, "Finally, schools can make it harder for students to act upon violent intent. Sensible security upgrades are part of this, but more important may be tackling the availability of guns. Our data show that 80% of school shooters get their guns from family members, most often parents and grandparents, since they are too young to purchase them themselves."

Knowing how school shooters gain access to their guns and the likelihood that they are familiar with the school and have easy access to guns compels us to advocate for raising the safe storage age limit to 18 to capture the school-aged population in our public K-12 schools.

**Resolution Committee Rationale:** The vast majority of IASB position statements deal directly with issues that happen inside of a school district. This proposal would be a departure from that practice, and the Committee questioned whether Association resources should be spent on a non-educational issue. While the committee considered the arguments of the submitting district on the potential impact on students, the majority of members felt this was not an issue for IASB's involvement.

The Resolutions Committee RECOMMENDS DO NOT ADOPT.

The submitting district has appealed the recommendation of the committee and will have an opportunity to bring the proposal to the Delegate Assembly.

### 3. School Report Card

Submitted by: Peoria SD 150

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation that would direct the Illinois State Board of Education to prepare and disclose all available school report card data for the current academic year by June 1, of that year.

**District Rationale:** School boards, families, and other community stakeholders utilize school report card data to make decisions and assess progress from year to year. Standardized tests like NWEA are taken electronically throughout the year and the Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR) typically occurs in March. Graduation requirements and progress measures are evaluated in the lead up to the end of the school year. However, the public release of that data in the compiled school report card does not occur until late October of the following academic year. By this time in the following school year, evaluations have been completed, goals have been set and people have moved on, all without being informed by this critical data set. If that assessment data is to be useful at all for policy-making and community consideration it needs to be available electronically and promptly, like other public data sets.

**Resolution Committee Rationale:** The submitting district's rationale is sound regarding the information in the report card that affects planning for teaching and student learning. The philosophy that timely receipt of learning assessments is critical to effective student learning can also be found in current IASB position statements 1.08 Standardized Test Procedures and 1.09 Student Assessment. Both of these recommend a timeline more effective for schools to respond effectively to the learning needs of students.

Unfortunately, the Illinois State Report Card includes information that cannot be tabulated and reported until the close of the fiscal year, June 30. In addition to that, in many districts a June 1 deadline for this data would be impossible to meet to determine student placement and graduation completion criteria, as many students are finishing the last quarter after June 1.

The Resolutions Committee agreed that untimely information regarding student learning hinders the ability of schools to meet the learning needs of students, but also felt that the report card would not be the best way to expedite assessment results for the purposes stated. IASB staff and committee members agreed to continue work to address this issue in other ways.

The Resolutions Committee RECOMMENDS DO NOT ADOPT.

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## BOARD – EMPLOYEE RELATIONS

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### 4. Pre-K Teacher Licensure

Submitted by: Avoca 37

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Illinois Association of School Boards shall advocate for legislation mandating the Illinois State Board of Education require pre-service teachers seeking licensure in the areas listed compete at least one undergraduate level literacy education course solely dedicated to scientifically proven methods of reading instruction. Before being granted licensure in the following areas, individuals must receive a passing score on the Foundations of Reading Exam. Licensure areas that should meet these requirements are: Early Childhood Education, Early Childhood Special Education, Elementary Education, English Language Arts, Middle Grades Language Arts, Reading Specialist, Reading Teacher, Special Education, and Speech Language Pathologist.

**District Rationale:** In the 2019 National Assessment of Educational Progress report, only 34% of Illinois 4th graders and 35% of Illinois 8th graders taking the test scored as “Proficient or Above” for their grade level. Low literacy level can be a lifelong obstacle to success, academically and economically. Such an obstacle not only correlates to behavioral challenges and higher dropout rates for students, but in the long term low literacy represents a challenge for communities’ and broader economic success in Illinois. For too long, despite there being clear scientifically supported evidence on how to teach our youngest students to read successfully, teacher education programs in Illinois have failed to provide pre-service teachers the appropriate coursework. These methods are clearly identified by long standing scientific research and include but are not limited to: phonemic awareness, phonics, spelling, decoding, and comprehension.

In a 2020 study conducted by the National Council on Teacher Quality 43% of university teacher education programs in Illinois earned a “D” or “F” grade for how they prepared students to teach scientifically proven methods for reading. “Not only does Illinois not do well, but there are no signs of improvement and that runs counter to what we’re seeing in many states,” said Kate Walsh, president of the National Council on Teacher Quality. “It’s extremely frustrating to see. Kids aren’t learning how to read and what is more damaging to your life than not learning that essential skill?”

The most effective path to ensure that teachers in Illinois are trained in the scientifically proven methods of reading instruction so that the future of Illinois students, communities, and the economy is more secure than it is today.

**Resolution Committee Rationale:** Teacher Preparation programs that anticipate having a self-contained environment usually have reading courses as a part of their curriculum, however, with the passage of Public Act 101-0220 the requirement that teacher candidates pass a test of basic skills to receive a Professional Educator License was eliminated. Now, skills in the area of Reading are only tested for content endorsements.

Historically, IASB has not taken positions on teacher education programs at universities. School districts have the authority to include the criteria it desires when posting teacher vacancy positions. If a school district desires this additional accreditation, it could require it. Committee members were also concerned that by statutorily increasing standards for teacher licensure and adding new testing requirements could have an adverse effect in filling teaching positions in some areas of the state. This would be even more problematic given the current teacher shortage situation. Lastly, the original resolution seems to add a mandate, which traditionally IASB advocates against opting for local flexibility instead.

The Committee supported the concepts within the original resolution. However, it was noted that the language of the original resolution was too rigid in its approach.

The Resolutions Committee RECOMMENDS DO NOT ADOPT.

The submitting district has appealed the recommendation of the Committee and will have an opportunity to bring the proposal to the Delegate Assembly.

The Committee did approve the following replacement language for this resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support initiatives in teacher preparation programming that prepare teachers to be trained in scientifically proven methods of reading instruction that promote student literacy.

## 5. Teacher Shortage

Submitted by: Altamont CUSD 10

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Illinois Association of School Boards shall support efforts to direct the Illinois State Board of Education to expand the issuance of provisional teacher licenses to all curricular areas.

**District Rationale:** The State of Illinois is currently experiencing a shortage of teachers to meet the educational needs of its students and communities. This shortage of teachers is having an impact across the state, particularly in rural areas. This shortage is hitting certain curricular areas especially hard, as those areas have typically been the targets of reductions by school districts to meet the ever increasing costs of education. With the coming state mandate that will raise the minimum teacher's salary to \$40,000 beginning in 2022, this problem will become even greater for rural schools whose budgets are limited by local property values and strained by state requirements.

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) has taken steps to alleviate this problem by issuing temporary licensure for certain curricular areas. With a prescribed number of hours in a related field and a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution, a person may qualify for a provisional license to teach in these curricular areas for up to five years, with another five-year renewal possible if the district has not been

able to successfully fill the position. Currently, our district has taken advantage of this provision to provide our students with educational opportunities in Industrial Technology, and the program is flourishing.

However, ISBE has not extended the provisional license option to enough curricular areas. In accessing any of the available job placement boards it becomes clear that there is a dramatic statewide shortage of licensed teachers in curricular areas such as Foreign Language, Physical Education, and Special Education. Our district has had the good fortune of finding licensed teachers in those areas in the past, but we were unable to fill an open position in Physical Education for the past school year, and have had zero licensed applicants for our open Spanish position. Each of those positions has had interested parties who would otherwise meet the Provisional License requirement of the State Board of Education, but Illinois does not offer a Provisional License in those curricular areas.

**Resolutions Committee Rationale:** The Illinois State Board of Education has streamlined the requirements for qualified teachers to earn short-term approvals and endorsements in high-demand areas. Among the changes, short-term approvals returned in 2015 in response to feedback from school districts that emergency credentials were needed in all content areas to staff unfilled classrooms. The short-term approval is now available in all areas and grade spans, except in driver's education and special education. The short-term emergency approval allows individuals who have met some, but not all, of the requirements for the Learning Behavior Specialist I endorsement to begin teaching special education.

The submitting district specifically mentioned not being able to fill positions in the areas of Physical Education, Foreign Language, and Special Education. Both the Short-Term Approval for Teachers at All Grade Levels and the Short-Term Emergency 25.48 licensure options allow for filling the specific areas of need. Most can be filled with candidates with the minimum requirements of a valid Professional Educator License (PEL) endorsed in a teaching field, and official transcripts showing completion of nine hours of coursework in the subject area to be taught. Both licenses are valid for three years which allows for candidates to work towards the requirements for the corresponding endorsement during the validity period. Unfortunately, these licenses will not be issued after June 30, 2023.

The approved resolution reflects a change agreed upon by the submitting district and the Committee so it encompasses all school districts. Originally, the resolution was directed only towards rural schools.

The Resolutions Committee RECOMMENDS DO ADOPT.

## LOCAL – STATE – FEDERAL RELATIONS

### 6. E-Learning on Election Day

Submitted by: Naperville CUSD 203

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Illinois Association of School Boards shall support and encourage legislation that would allow school districts to use an e-learning day or remote learning day in lieu of closing a school or the district on an election day, during a public health response requiring use of a school, or on any other day during which a school is mandated to be used for a public function during school hours.

**District Rationale:** School safety is a significant concern among districts across the state of Illinois. Many schools are currently used as polling places where the general public can easily access areas of the school where students are learning, which presents a potential security risk. Moreover, school districts are required to cover the cost of any enhanced security required on election days. Additionally, with the need to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, it is becoming increasingly likely that schools may take on roles in public health activities such as locations for vaccination drives. Therefore, this resolution allows the district to shift schools being used not only for elections, but for any mandated public function, to use e-learning or remote learning to prevent any scheduled or unforeseen disruptions in student learning and to minimize additional safety and security concerns on those days.

**Resolutions Committee Rationale:** The submitted resolution asks the Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) to support legislation that allows school districts to use e-learning or remote learning days for any days that a school is required to be used for a public function during school hours, specifically when schools are used as election polling places.

School districts have been struggling with the requirement to be a polling place for elections held on school days for many years. Now that legislation has been adopted to allow school districts to hold e-Learning and remote learning for students, not requiring them to be in the school building, there are options afforded to school districts to keep students and staff safe, provide a place for required or requested public gatherings, and still provide student learning. Naperville CUSD 203 and the Committee concurred that it is critical for school districts to have the ability to consider this option but not be required to utilize e-learning or remote learning days to accommodate use of facilities by entities outside the school.

Additionally, school calendars that establish student contact days, vacation days, and other holidays are negotiated with the bargaining unit before the school year begins. E-learning or remote learning options demand much preparation and buy-in by staff, parents, and students, and it should not be assumed that schools are available to provide that type of learning at-will without sufficient notice for the school district and staff to consider implications.

The Resolutions Committee RECOMMENDS DO ADOPT.

### 7. Local control Pandemic

Submitted by: New Berlin CUSD 16

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Illinois Association of School Boards shall encourage members of the U.S. Congress, the Illinois General Assembly, related administrative agencies, and state and federal courts to take a regional approach in response to national health emergencies.

**District Rationale:** During the most recent COVID-19 pandemic, the State had decision-making authority over pandemic closures, openings, and other guidelines despite the difference in prevalence amongst differing counties. Scott County, which had zero (0) reported cases, and Pike County, which had (1) reported case, were required to follow the same school closures as Chicago, which had 48,742 reported cases at the time, and surrounding Cook County, which had 34,843 reported cases. It would be less disruptive for students in lesser affected areas if their district or regions could determine whether a school closing was appropriate under the circumstances.

**Resolutions Committee Rationale:** The submitting district expressed concern that there were significant differences in the prevalence of COVID-19 cases in many areas of the state compared to Chicago and the surrounding communities, yet all areas of the state were subjected to the same closure requirements and restrictions despite those differences.

IASB has historically supported local control with a Position Statement named as such since 1976, and agreed that a stand-alone position for this specific situation was warranted.

The Resolutions Committee RECOMMENDS DO ADOPT

### 8. Local Control Pandemic

Submitted by: Edwards County CUSD 1

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Illinois Association of School Boards shall support and advocate for schools to open back up and allow local school boards and the administration to make decisions based upon what is best for the school and school community during this COVID-19 pandemic.

**District Rationale:** The safety and protection of our students and school personnel is one of our most important and top priorities, and:

- Local school districts should have the ability to make decisions based upon the best interest of their students in all circumstances, and;
- There may be justifiable reasons when short term statewide or region wide school closures are appropriate, and;
- Bordering states are beginning to open up to more normal settings, and;
- Illinois still has extremely restrictive social gathering guidelines in place, and;
- There will be potentially dire consequences for Illinois Schools if schools remain closed and are not allowed to open for the 2020-2021 school year, and;
- Families are already planning to home school their children,

- or move to a bordering state to avoid remote learning, and;
- Students are missing educational, social, and co-curricular experiences by not being in school, and;
- Student athletes are having their athletic careers stripped away from them while other States are making allowances and resuming sports, and;
- Seniors are making preparations to attend college outside of Illinois due to the uncertainty in the State while other states are making provisions and arrangements for in-person instruction in tandem with online learning, and;
- The financial wellbeing of Illinois Schools has been turned upside down as a result of the State shutdown, and as a result Illinois schools are falling further from the Adequacy

Target, and;

- If Illinois Schools are not allowed to open and operate somewhat normal in August, many staff members potentially will be laid off, adding to the already enormous unemployment crisis in Illinois.

**Resolution Committee Rationale:** The submitted resolution addresses an issue very similar to Resolution 7.

Since it is so similar, and as the Committee voted a “Do Adopt” motion on that, the recommendation for this resolution was “Do Not Adopt” so as not to have duplicate resolutions.

The Resolutions Committee RECOMMENDS DO NOT ADOPT.

## REAFFIRMATION OF EXISTING POSITIONS

### EDUCATION PROGRAMS

#### 9. Position Statement 1.16 Renewal of Charters

Submitted by: Woodland CCSD 50

THE ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BOARDS SHALL urge adoption of legislation that allows for participation of the host school district in the charter school renewal process for State Authorized Charter Schools.

**District Rationale:** Once the charter school is authorized by the State over the objection of the local school board, the school board loses all opportunity to participate in the 5-year renewal proceedings. The local school board lacks any opportunity for meaningful input, participation, or challenge related to the renewal process, despite funding 100% of the charter school (millions of dollars annually). It is akin to taxation without representation. Local control must be honored.

**Resolutions Committee Rationale:** The resolution would reaffirm current Position Statement 1.16.

The issue presented in the resolution would only apply to the districts that “host” a state authorized charter school. State authorized charter schools are charter schools run by an entity of the State of Illinois and in existence over the opposition of local school districts. State authorized charter schools present fiscal challenges to local school districts because they receive per capita tuition dollars from Illinois that were originally designated for the host district.

The Resolutions committee RECOMMENDS DO ADOPT.

#### 10. Position Statement 1.17 Charter Schools – At-Risk Students

Submitted by: Woodland CCSD 50

THE ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BOARDS SHALL urge the adoption of legislation that defines the special expectations of State Authorized Charter Schools to educate at-risk students, including the requirement that the State Authorized Charter School’s program and operations be specifically designed to attract and service at-risk students, and that the State Authorized Charter School be required to report to the public its progress in achieving these expectations.

**District Rationale:** The State Charter School Commission and the Illinois State Board of Education have failed to hold charter schools accountable for balanced enrollment of at-risk students at State Authorized Charter Schools. The Commission and ISBE have taken the position that while the School Code requires charter schools to place a “special emphasis” on educating at-risk students, such language is aspirational and not a requirement. Without a legislative cure, State Authorized Charter Schools are allowed to perpetuate discriminatory practices to deter at-risk student enrollment (students who need and deserve a premium of resources), while receiving 100% of the local tuition rate.

**Resolutions Committee Rationale:** The resolution would reaffirm current Position Statement 1.17.

In the Charter School Article of the Illinois School Code, the General Assembly declares one of the purposes of charter schools is, “to increase learning opportunities for all pupils, with special emphasis on expanding learning experiences for at-risk pupils.” One major issue with charter schools applying the expectation of the law is the lack of a clear definition of “at-risk” students. “At-Risk” is defined differently in various sections of law and administrative rules.

The Resolutions Committee RECOMMENDS DO ADOPT.

## FINANCING PUBLIC EDUCATION – STATE

### 11. Position Statement 2.27 State Authorized Charter School Funding

Submitted by: Woodland CCSD 50

THE ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BOARDS SHALL urge adoption of legislation which would create a new methodology for the funding of State Authorized Charter Schools which would not have a negative financial impact on the host district, particularly in the spirit of evidence based funding. With respect to State authorized virtual charter schools, further limit the withholding of State funds from host school districts in proportion to the per pupil expenditure used for building maintenance, classroom supplies, transportation, safety and security, and other costs unique to “brick and mortar” schools. For all State-authorized charter schools, require that proof of continuing enrollment and attendance be submitted quarterly, with prorated refunds to the host school district upon withdrawal of students from the charter school.

#### District Rationale:

1. The loss of students from the school district to the charter school does not equate to a proportionate reduction in host district expenses. Charter schools are the opposite of the consolidation theory. Educating the same number of students with additional facilities, additional administration and additional staff – all without additional funding from the State – is unsound.
2. The diversion of 100% of a school district’s “per capita tuition charge” means that school boards and local

taxpayers pay for 100% of charter school tuition, despite opposing the creation of the charter school. Local control must be honored and restored.

3. The State assumes no financial responsibility for the charter school, despite opening the school over the objection of the local school board. The State oversees the operations of the school; thus it should bear responsibility for the funding of the school.
4. The current funding model erodes the values and the intent of evidence-based-funding (EBF) for school districts and ensures that State Authorized Charter Schools receive all the benefits of EBF, even if the student body at the charter school is vastly different. Effectively, charter schools can receive a funding windfall by receiving 100% of the local tuition rate, while not being required to provide the same/similar services and operations to the same student population.

**Resolutions Committee Rationale:** The resolution would reaffirm current Position Statement 2.27.

State-authorized charter schools continue to be a major issue as “host” districts have to scramble to find a way to deal with fewer revenues from the State of Illinois while still providing a quality education to the students they serve.

Current law takes state funding from a local district and distributes it to a state authorized charter school. If the local school district looked to raise revenue and provide additional resources to students from local sources, the state-authorized charter schools would receive an even larger share of the local districts’ state funding.

The Resolutions Committee RECOMMENDS DO ADOPT.

## NEW BELIEF STATEMENTS

### 12. Equity

Submitted by: Indian Prairie SD 204

The Illinois Association of School Boards urges its member districts and the leadership of member districts to integrate the principles of equity and inclusion in school curriculum, policies, programs, and operations, ensuring every student is welcomed and supported in a respectful learning environment.

**District Rationale:** The School Board Association, representing the State of Illinois, must have as part of its Belief Statements its unequivocal and uncompromising belief that equity must be a priority and, within each district, that must begin with the local Board of Education. The principles should be found in the entire educational spectrum, as the value of each student must be affirmed in all facets of their school experience. If our board leaders provide the example, then the probability is enhanced that

the inherent dignity and equal rights of each student will be recognized.

**Resolutions Committee Rationale:** The submitted resolution would add a new Belief Statement.

Currently, IASB does not have a Belief Statement that mentions diversity, equity, or inclusiveness. With the importance and timeliness of the ideas of equity and inclusion, it is appropriate that member districts are asking for IASB to be a source of direction.

The Committee supported the concept that the Illinois Association of School Boards needs to be an equity and inclusiveness leader in the area of education for the state of Illinois.

The Resolutions Committee RECOMMENDS DO ADOPT



# POSITION STATEMENTS DELETIONS AND AMENDMENTS

## 1.02 Curricular Material Determination

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support the right and responsibility of each local school board to determine its curricular content including opposing any mandated Curriculum, ~~that comes from the Common Core Standards~~. (Adopted 1981; Amended 1983, 1988, 2001, 2013)

**Rationale:** Amend. The Common Core Standards are no longer implemented in Illinois.

## 1.15 Virtual Charter Schools

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall encourage the ~~Charter School Commission~~ Illinois State Board of Education to develop regulations that ensure State-authorized virtual charter schools meet the full needs of Illinois students and follow the intent of current State laws prohibiting the use of public funds for profit-driven educational firms. ~~Examples of such regulations might include, but not be limited to, the following:~~

- ~~Assurance of student access to teachers, including information regarding teacher accessibility, teacher/student ratio, and amount of teacher/student contact time~~
- ~~Evidence of the social-emotional well-being of students, such as information regarding opportunities for peer interaction and collaboration, adult advisory resources, and protocols to prevent bullying or other inappropriate online behavior~~
- ~~Not-for-profit entities that sponsor virtual charter schools shall be in existence for at least one year before submitting a virtual charter school proposal and operate under the Open Meetings Act and the Freedom of Information Act once a charter school has been approved~~
- ~~Entities proposing virtual charter schools are limited to submitting a proposal to only one school district per year~~
- ~~Members of the not-for-profit board that proposes a virtual charter school must demonstrate a direct link to the community in which it is proposing a charter school, through either residency, employment, or education~~
- ~~Funding for State authorized virtual charter schools shall be reduced proportionately to reflect annual State aid prorations, as well as per pupil expenditure used for building maintenance, classroom supplies, transportation, and other costs unique to the services provided by a "brick and mortar" school. (Adopted 2013)~~

**Rationale:** Amend. The Charter School Commission has been abolished and those duties and responsibilities were transferred to the Illinois State Board of Education. The opening statement is sound on its own and hypothetical examples are not necessary.

## 1.19 Data Equity

~~The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation allowing non-unit districts to enter into agreements to share student data to the same extent and with the same ease as unit districts. (Adopted 2014)~~

**Rationale:** Delete. After further research on the issue, it was found that dual districts can share such data with each other to better align curricula and other programs under current law and practices.

## 2.01 Priority And Support

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall urge the Governor and General Assembly of Illinois to establish education as the number-one priority of state government, to increase funding of education to such levels as would be necessary to implement the constitutional requirement that the state have primary responsibility for financing the system of public education, including full funding of the Evidence-Based Funding formula, ~~of educational reform, and to adjust the state aid formula to offset increased inflationary costs~~. (Portions Adopted 1973, 1977, and 1986; Amended 1988; Reaffirmed 2000, 2004, 2006, 2012, 2014)

**Rationale:** Amend. The position needs to be updated with the adoption and implementation of the new funding formula.

## 2.07 Contracting Driver's Education

~~The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation authorizing school districts to provide a comprehensive driver's education program through contract. Such contracts shall be made with properly authorized persons or agencies and may include provisions calling for the use of school property. (Adopted 1982)~~

**Rationale:** Delete. The driver's education law and the mandate waiver law now allow for school districts to contract out for driver's education services for students – albeit with some limitations on the school district and some restrictions and mandates on the private contractor providing the service.

## 2.11 State Aid Payments

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation that requires the State of Illinois to make general state aid funding formula payments to school districts, on a monthly basis, during the entitlement year in which they are appropriated. Furthermore, the Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation that requires the State of Illinois to pay interest at the current legal rate on any payments which are late. (Adopted 1991; Reaffirmed 2000, 2014; Amended 2011)

**Rationale:** Amend. The position needs to be updated with the adoption and implementation of the new funding formula.

## 2.13 Heat Days Funding

~~The Illinois Association of School Boards shall strongly support legislation to totally fund "heat" days for our schools. (Adopted 1996)~~

**Rationale:** Delete. Over the years, the Illinois State Board of Education has given more flexibility to local school districts regarding school closings related to weather and other emergencies.

## 2.19 School Funding And Taxation Reform

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall actively support the general concepts regarding school funding reform, property tax relief, and tax reform identified in the legislative outline prepared by the Center for Tax and Budget Accountability in June of 2004. Legislation resulting from that legislative outline shall be supported by the Illinois Association of School Boards provided that oppose school funding and tax reform proposals unless the State guarantees that the payment of property tax relief grants will be made in a timely fashion with no loss of funds to the school district and that school districts have continued access to local property tax revenues through levies and referenda, the legislation meets the criteria outlined in the IASB Position Statement 2.37 — School Finance Reform:

(Adopted 2004; Amended 2005; Reaffirmed 2014)

**Rationale:** Amend. The Center for Tax and Budget Accountability plan for school funding reform was never approved. Instead, the Evidence Based Funding Model was put in place. There do continue to be proposals considered that would prevent access to property tax revenues by local school districts so this portion of the position is still relevant.

## 2.25 Multi-County School District GSA Offset

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation to modify the GSA (General State Aid) Formula calculation for multi-county PTELL (Property Tax Extension Limitation Law) school districts which have lost GSA experienced a loss of state aid for current and prior years due to an estimate of Equalized Assessed Value (EAV) utilized by the county providing the limiting rate to the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) for use in calculating a District's base funding minimum GSA. (Adopted 2010)

**Rationale:** Amend. The position needs to be updated with the adoption and implementation of the new funding formula.

## 2.29 Clock Hours Vs. Minutes

The Illinois Association of School boards shall research the impact and viability of moving from a methodology of required days of student instruction to minutes of student instruction as necessary to compensate for minutes of instruction lost due to school closures caused by disaster, flood, extreme weather conditions, evacuations, or other events beyond the control of the school district. (Adopted 2016)

**Rationale:** Delete. The position statement calls for IASB to research the impact of this methodology, which IASB staff did. Further, with the enactment of the Evidence-Based Funding Model in fall of 2017, the long-standing "clock hour" provision was eliminated to give school districts more flexibility in how they provided educational programs to students. In 2019, the legislature re-instated the clock hour provision over the opposition of IASB. In 2020, with the pandemic health emergency and the shut-down of schools, more changes were made to the clock hour provision – especially regarding remote learning and e-learning programs.

## 2.37 Property Tax Cap — GSA Calculation

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation to modify the General State Aid Formula state aid calculation for school districts subject to PTELL (Property Tax Extension Limitation Law) such as that they are not penalized when successfully passing an operating fund rate increase referendum. (Adopted 2008)

**Rationale:** Amend. The position needs to be updated with the adoption and implementation of the new funding formula.

## 2.39 School Finance Reform

### Evidence-Based Funding Model

The Illinois Association of School Boards believes that adequate funding must be provided for each student in order to guarantee the opportunity for an appropriate public education, and therefore supports the Evidence-Based Funding Model for state aid distribution. This funding model meets the following principals supported by IASB:

Education funding should It takes into account the cost associated with delivering quality, research-based programming, geographic conditions, and student needs. Fully funding districts would ensures adequate funding for districts to locally determine and deliver appropriate and effective educational experiences to every student.

IASB supports the need for transparency and dissemination of information, regarding the impact of proposed education funding reforms as they are developed, formally proposed, considered, and enacted. Additionally, IASB will utilize the following criteria to evaluate proposals for school finance reform:

1. The state's funding of public education should It provides for a stable, reliable, and predictable commitment of revenue.
2. State funding levels for public education should be It is a function of the actual cost of providing an appropriate education based on research, data, and current best practices.
3. Adequate funding should be sought through the addition of new state revenues for public education:
4. Any funding formula developed by the General Assembly shall It places high priority upon achieving the goal of equity in providing financial resources to local school districts.
5. Increased state funding for public education should It does not reduce the access of school districts to the local property tax base.
6. In the distribution of state funds to local school districts:
  - a. funding differentials for various levels of schooling are appropriate only if based on verified costs;
  - b. consideration should be Consideration is given to regional differences in the cost of providing an appropriate education;
  - c. the method of calculating The calculation of the number of students coming from disadvantaged backgrounds should be based on current, verifiable data;
  - d. size of school district is important only to the extent that a district provides an appropriate education.

7. A specified local tax effort ~~should be~~ is required to qualify for state aid.
8. Authority for changing a district's aggregate tax levy ~~should be~~ is retained by the local board of education.
9. ~~Taxing authority without referendum for unit districts in all funds should be equal to the sum of the taxing authority in dual districts.~~

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10. ~~Funding should not be tied to mandated training of local Boards of Education. In order to obtain substantial new state revenues for funding an appropriate education, the following considerations should have an impact on any proposal for school finance reform:~~
  - a. ~~A legitimate level and type of accountability will be needed.~~
  - b. ~~The physical plant needs of Illinois' school districts should be addressed.~~
  - c. ~~Taxpayer equity and relief, including uniform tax assessment and procedures as well as tax relief for limited fixed income and disabled citizens, should be provided. (Adopted 1990; Amended 1996, 2008, 2014, 2016; Reaffirmed 2001, 2012)~~

**Rationale:** Amend. The position needs to be updated with the adoption and implementation of the new funding formula.

#### 4.01 Attention Deficit Disorder

~~The Illinois Association of School Boards shall encourage the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) to continue to study Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder and methods to accurately identify and meet the educational needs of children with this disorder. Further, IASB shall seek clarification of state policies and categories of special education to provide for consistency in special education placement and disseminate relevant information from the ISBE to local school districts. (Adopted 1992)~~

**Rationale:** Delete. The position calls for IASB to "encourage" the ISBE to study the issue – that has been done. Further, much has been learned on this matter since 1992 and many changes have taken place in addressing these students.

#### 4.04 School Board Member Training

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall oppose any legislation that includes a provision for additional requirements or expansion of mandatory training of school board members. IASB encourages local boards of education to model continuous improvement by pursuing all professional development and training opportunities. IASB, with its unique combination of expertise and resources, is uniquely in the position to be the primary agency responsible for school board member training and professional development as recognized by Article 23 of the School code, and any such legislation requiring school board member training shall specifically list IASB as a training provider. (Adopted 2008; Amended 2012)

**Rationale:** Amend. Mandatory school board member training has been the law for several years and, at the time, IASB helped draft the language knowing passage was probable despite IASB opposition, so the essentials of board governance were the required training subjects. There is a concern that an endless list of new topics could be added if IASB membership is not vigilant.

#### 5.03 Collective Bargaining

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall strongly oppose legislation that diminishes the local school board's ability to collectively bargain with employees and shall encourage the General Assembly, ~~the Illinois State Board of Education, and the State Superintendent to refrain from passing legislation and the Illinois State Board of Education or State Superintendent of Schools from promulgating administrative rules or issuing guidance documents~~ that tips the balance of the bargaining process in favor of employee bargaining units. The Association shall continue to oppose any change in the collective bargaining law which fails to protect the rights of students, employees, taxpayers, and boards of education and their administrative staffs. (Adopted 1981; Amended 1985, 2001; Reaffirmed 2012)

**Rationale:** Amend. Neither the Illinois State Board of Education nor the State Superintendent of Schools can pass legislation, but they have attempted to do this through these other channels.

#### 5.06 ESP Contracts

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation that allows local school boards to determine locally all contractual arrangements for education support personnel. (Adopted 1990)

**Rationale:** Amend. It is suggested the title be changed to more accurately reflect the content of the position statement.

### **5.09 IMRF Qualification**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation that would amend the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund (IMRF) laws for non-certified school staff to change, at each local district's option, the number of minimum hours an employee would work to qualify for IMRF from the current 600-hour standard to a 1,000-hour standard. This change would only be for new employees after the effective date of the legislation. (Adopted 1994)

**Rationale:** Delete. There has been no desire for change to this standard in over 25 years and this issue has not been raised again by IASB membership since then.

### **6.05 State Board Of Education Membership**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall participate in the development of legislation amending Section 105 ILCS 5/1A with a goal of insuring fair representation on the State Board of Education from all geographic areas of Illinois. (Adopted 1999)

**Rationale:** Delete. Since 1999, the statute regarding the make-up of the Illinois State Board of Education has been amended to assure geographical and political balance. Board members must be apportioned so that the City of Chicago, suburban Chicago counties, and downstate must be represented. There are also at-large members to assist with this balance. Further, some members must be from the educator community.

### **6.09 Students On Public Aid**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall seek and support legislation to mandate that students of families receiving State/Federal financial assistance (e.g. welfare, AFDC) maintain "regular" attendance as a stipulation for receipt of same. (Adopted 1995)

**Rationale:** Amend. The terms given as examples are obsolete.

### **6.10 School Holidays — Local Option**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation that would allow local school districts the authority to decide whether to observe legal holidays as a day of non-attendance for students. (Adopted 1996)

**Rationale:** Delete. Local school districts may decide whether to observe holidays by applying through the mandate waiver process through the Illinois State Board of Education. Such waivers are routinely requested – and approved – by the ISBE each year.

### **6.13 Support Services To Private Schools**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support modifications in the Illinois Intergovernmental Agreement Act to allow public school districts to work together in a time and cost efficient manner to provide support services to private schools as required by the U.S. Supreme Court rendered in the case of *Agostini v. Felton*, 65 U.S.L.W. 4526. (U.S. June 23, 1997) (Adopted 1997)

**Rationale:** Delete. This issue has not been brought up by IASB membership in over 20 years.

### **6.23 PARCC Testing Results**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall petition the Illinois State Board of Education to fairly report discrepancies in the scoring of state required standardized testing: 1) between paper and pencil versus electronic results AND 2) within the electronic testing method. Further, that such discrepancies will be made public so that schools may provide said information to parents and media when the testing results are reported as required under state law. (Adopted 2017)

**Rationale:** Delete. The PARCC test is no longer administered in Illinois.

### **7.10 Board Vacancy Filings**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation to increase the timeline to fill a school board vacancy from 45 days to 60 days to allow school boards more time to fill such vacancies. (Adopted 2014)

**Rationale:** Delete. IASB was successful in passing legislation to meet this objective.

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## **BELIEF STATEMENTS**

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4. The Illinois Association of School Boards believes that a comprehensive restructuring is needed in the way public schools are funded in Illinois and that IASB should be an active partner in responsible grassroots initiatives for school funding reform.

**Rationale:** Delete. A comprehensive restructuring of education funding took place with the adoption of the Evidence-Based Funding Model. Further, school funding is adequately covered in position statements 2.01, 2.19, and 2.39.

7. The Illinois Association of School Boards supports teacher salaries which are performance-based, market-sensitive, professionally competitive, and which are tied to an effective evaluation system.

**Rationale:** Delete. Position statement 5.02 adequately covers the issue of teacher salaries.

9. The Illinois Association of School Boards believes that local boards of education should be prepared for possible public health crises (such as an Avian Flu pandemic) and other public safety concerns. IASB should obtain the most recent and accurate information from the pertinent federal, state, and local agencies and disseminate such information to school districts throughout the State. School districts are encouraged to adopt proactive pandemic preparedness strategies. IASB also encourages school participation in the National Fire Protection Association's campaign for fire escape planning and practice among our member families and citizens.

**Rationale:** Amend. The example given is dated and any new example given would likely eventually be viewed the same. The last sentence does not address the same subject and detracts from the main statement.

~~10. The Illinois Association of School Boards urges local boards of education to provide education programs on awareness of the advantages of wearing bicycle helmets when riding bicycles.~~

**Rationale:** Delete. Legislation was enacted in 2018 that requires school districts to provide education to students in grades K-8 on safe bicycling.

~~11. The Illinois Association of School Boards urges its member districts to limit career exploration activities to non-school attendance days or to school-run career~~

~~days. In addition, the Association believes Take-Your-Daughter-to-Work Day should be designated for a non-attendance day and should also consider working to make this day non-gender specific.~~

**Rationale:** Delete. The issue of “Take-Your-Daughter-To-Work Day” seems to have taken care of itself as it has not been brought up by IASB membership in years.

The Resolutions Committee RECOMMENDS DO ADOPT on all proposed deletions and amendments.

## CURRENT POSITIONS

### EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

#### 1.01 Educational Programs

The Illinois Association of School Boards urges its member districts to develop educational programs to maximize educational opportunities for students by fully utilizing teacher and staff potential, community resources, and physical facilities. The goal of each district shall be to serve the interest, talents, and needs of each child through an outstanding well-balanced program. The Association shall also encourage its members to increase their awareness of the Mental Health Code (405 ILCS 49/15) which supports developments and implementation of a plan to incorporate social and emotional standards as part of the Illinois Learning Standards. (Adopted 1959; Amended 1988, 2009)

#### 1.02 Curricular Material Determination

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support the right and responsibility of each local school board to determine its curricular content including opposing any mandated curriculum that comes from the Common Core Standards. (Adopted 1981; Amended 1983, 1988, 2001, 2013)

#### 1.03 Physical Education

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support modifications to existing state mandates which shall allow boards of education to establish time requirements and appropriate exemptions for physical education at the K-12 level. (Portions Adopted 1982, 1986; Reaffirmed 1984, 1987; Amended 1988, 1995, 2013)

#### 1.04 P. E. Exemption for Show Choir

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall attempt to have legislation passed that would amend 105 ILCS 5/27-6 of the School Code of Illinois to grant an additional exemption for students, grades 9-12, enrolled in an ongoing Show Choir program for credit. (Adopted 2012)

#### 1.05 Student Retention And High School Completion

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall urge Congress and the Illinois General Assembly to commit the appropriate resources and develop programs that would reduce the dropout rate throughout the state of Illinois with specific emphasis on early intervention in the elementary level and continuous intervention at the secondary school level to facilitate graduation. (Adopted 1986; Amended 2003)

#### 1.06 Preschool Programs

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support full funding of early childhood programs operated by public schools as a priority with legislation providing new monies for both staffing and infrastructure costs associated with early childhood programs for preschool children, at-risk infants and toddlers, and grants for parental training. (Adopted 1986; Amended 2001, 2006, 2007, 2016)

#### 1.07 Discipline For Special Education Students

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall develop and implement a legislative agenda at the Federal and State levels which urges the adoption of legislation easing the legal restrictions imposed on local school boards for disciplining students enrolled in special education programs, including the suspension and expulsion of such students, and providing for a less restrictive access to records of transferees due to expulsion. (Adopted 1994; Amended 1995)

#### 1.08 Standardized Test Procedures

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall urge the Illinois State Board of Education to contract with a national testing company to develop a state assessment test that will test the Illinois Learning Standards on a yearly basis in compliance with, and only testing those areas required by, the federal Every Student Succeeds Act. Further IASB shall support legislation to:

- Require that the test be given no later than October of each year with results received by local school districts no later than December of that same year;
- Provide that assessments include both an annual overall performance measure as well as a system of formative classroom-level assessments that are linked to desired standards;
- Require that the test will remain the same for 10 years with only changes in the test items to maintain security;
- Require that the cut scores be set before the test results are tabulated, leaving the score ranges the same from year to year and from grade to grade; and
- Expedite and fully fund test development and implementation of an appropriate assessment instrument for English language learners. (Adopted 2002; Amended 2003, 2008, 2016; Reaffirmed 2011)

### **1.09 Student Assessment**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation that will modify required State student assessments so testing does not go beyond what is required by federal law, and that prohibits the Illinois State Board of Education from pursuing activities designed to expand student assessment without legislative approval. Further, the Association shall support efforts to modify the Illinois and federal student assessment processes so that they will:

- Reduce costs to schools, the state and therefore taxpayers;
- Enhance student achievement;
- Increase student instructional time;
- Facilitate test score comparability within and across state lines;
- Fairly test students who are English language learners so that their academic progress can be accurately assessed regardless of their fluency;
- Return test results in a manner that will allow school districts to maximize student learning;
- Comply with the federal accountability mandate tied to testing;
- Maintain a needed emphasis on the Illinois Learning Standards; and
- Develop a reporting process that reflects a school's progress beyond simply student assessment scores. (Adopted 2002; Amended 2008; Reaffirmed 2011)

### **1.10 Every Student Succeeds Act – Military Recruitment**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall work with the National School Boards Association and other coalitions to urge Congress and the General Assembly of Illinois to, regarding the Every Student Succeeds Act, replace the opt-out burden on parents with an opt-in provision with regard to the requirement of secondary schools to disclose student information to military recruiters. (Adopted 2005; Amended 2016)

### **1.11 School Attendance Days**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support a policy variance by the Illinois State Board of Education to allow Unit School Districts the option to stagger the start and end date of schools within their district based on developmental and educational appropriateness, without penalty to state aid appropriations, provided that all students in the district meet required student attendance requirements. (Adopted 2004)

### **1.12 Funding For Differentiated Instruction**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall seek administrative and legislative actions calling for the provision of separate and sufficient new monies to support programs of differentiated instruction for those students identified as having exceptional talents and abilities, permitting these students to reach their potential. Such student talents and abilities may be in areas that expand beyond the core curricula. To ensure efficiency and productivity in the

implementation of these programs, school districts should be provided sufficient flexibility in the acquisition and expenditure of such State funds. (Adopted 2007)

### **1.13 Bilingual Education Options**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall request the Illinois State Legislature to pass legislation to amend the current Illinois School Code to make Transitional Bilingual Education optional and not mandatory. (Adopted 2008)

### **1.14 Student Academic Placement**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support local school district and parent collaboration, evaluation, and decision-making regarding the grade-level placement of students based upon their academic, social, and emotional maturity and readiness to advance. When parental advancement requests deviate from normal school advancement, school districts maintain the authority to evaluate and place students. (Adopted 2010; Reaffirmed 2011)

### **1.15 Virtual Charter Schools**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall encourage the Charter School Commission to develop regulations that ensure State-authorized virtual charter schools meet the full needs of Illinois students and follow the intent of current State laws prohibiting the use of public funds for profit-driven educational firms. Examples of such regulations might include, but not be limited to, the following:

- Assurance of student access to teachers, including information regarding teacher accessibility, teacher/student ratio, and amount of teacher/student contact time
- Evidence of the social-emotional well-being of students, such as information regarding opportunities for peer interaction and collaboration, adult advisory resources, and protocols to prevent bullying or other inappropriate online behavior
- Not-for-profit entities that sponsor virtual charter schools shall be in existence for at least one year before submitting a virtual charter school proposal and operate under the Open Meetings Act and the Freedom of Information Act once a charter school has been approved
- Entities proposing virtual charter schools are limited to submitting a proposal to only one school district per year
- Members of the not-for-profit board that proposes a virtual charter school must demonstrate a direct link to the community in which it is proposing a charter school, through either residency, employment, or education
- Funding for State authorized virtual charter schools shall be reduced proportionately to reflect annual State aid proportions, as well as per pupil expenditure used for building maintenance, classroom supplies, transportation, and other costs unique to the services provided by a “brick and mortar” school. (Adopted 2013)

### **1.16 Charter School — Renewal Of Charters**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall urge adoption of legislation that allows for participation of the host school district in the charter school renewal process for State Authorized Charter Schools. (Adopted 2019)

### 1.17 Charter Schools — At-Risk Students

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall urge the adoption of legislation that defines the special expectations of State Authorized Charter Schools to educate at-risk students, including the requirement that the State Authorized Charter School's program and operations be specifically designed to attract and service at-risk students, and that the State Authorized Charter School be required to report to the public its progress in achieving these expectations. (Adopted 2019)

### 1.18 Student Discipline Practices

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall oppose legislative and rulemaking initiatives that enact statewide student discipline policies. IASB encourages school districts to consider policies and procedures that develop sound discipline practices which may

- Ensure a safe, responsive, and effective instructional environment
- Strive to meet the social, emotional, and behavioral needs of all Illinois students
- Strive to expedite investigations in response to alleged student misconduct and communicate findings and determinations to parents/guardians. (Adopted 2014)

### 1.19 Data Equity

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation allowing non-unit districts to enter into agreements to share student data to the same extent and with the same ease as unit districts. (Adopted 2014)

### 1.20 Longitudinal Data Systems

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation allowing local districts to enter into the necessary student data-sharing agreements to build, maintain, and utilize local longitudinal data systems in order to improve their student outcomes including college and career success. (Adopted 2014)

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## FINANCING PUBLIC EDUCATION — STATE

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### 2.01 Priority And Support

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall urge the Governor and General Assembly of Illinois to establish education as the number-one priority of state government, to increase funding of education to such levels as would be necessary to implement the constitutional requirement that the state have primary responsibility for financing the system of public education, including the funding of educational reform, and to adjust the state aid formula to offset increased inflationary costs. (Portions Adopted 1973, 1977, and 1986; Amended 1988; Reaffirmed 2000, 2004, 2006, 2012, 2014)

### 2.02 Funding Sources

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support the enactment of additional sources of state revenue if, after thorough examination of state funding priorities, it is determined that such additional taxes are necessary. (Adopted 1975; Reaffirmed 1987, 2014; Amended 1988)

### 2.03 Funding Mandated Programs

The Illinois Association of School Boards believes that legislation encroaching upon local and lay control of the public schools should be curtailed, and, therefore

- Shall oppose programs or services mandated by the Illinois General Assembly, the State Board of Education, or any other State agency, unless there is clear evidence of need for the mandate and the Illinois General Assembly provides non-local revenues to fully fund the additional costs of those programs;
- Shall urge the members of the General Assembly to strictly comply with the State Mandates Act, including specifying and labeling in the descriptions of legislation containing unfunded mandates that such mandates occur, and to refrain from passing any legislation which contains an exemption from the Act, and urge the Governor to veto any such legislation that may reach the Governor's desk;
- Shall urge State agencies and commissions that adopt regulations accompanying legislative mandates to specify required outcomes and criteria for determining compliance, and allow local districts to determine the specific methods and procedures by which required outcomes will be accomplished. Required time lines for accomplishment should reflect consideration of the human and material resources and amount of deliberation and development necessary to accomplish the mandate;
- Shall support legislation that causes all statutory and regulatory educational mandates to sunset if sufficient funding is not provided to implement such mandates and requirements. Local school districts may choose to continue to implement the mandated programs voluntarily until such time that the General Assembly appropriates the funding necessary to cover the costs of the required programs. (Adopted 1976; Amended 1988, 1989, 2001, 2005, 2013; Reaffirmed 1980, 1991, 1994, 1999, 2002, 2009, 2014)

### 2.04 Funding Special Education Programs

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall urge the Congress of the United States to adequately fund Public Law 94-142 (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act) commensurate with the mandates required by the Act; and

- Shall strongly encourage the State of Illinois to totally fund with new monies, in a timely manner, the extra costs of educating children with special needs including transportation and accessibility costs;
- Shall seek changes in current practice to fund local districts for special education professional personnel at 51% of the prior year's average salary for such professionals; and
- Shall continue to oppose any requirement that local public school districts pay room and board costs for any handicapped child placed in private facilities. (Portions adopted 1977, 1980, 1986; Portions Reaffirmed 1985, 1986, 2002; Amended 1988, 2000, 2001)

## **2.05 Corporate Personal Property Replacement Tax**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall oppose any attempt to reduce the Corporate Personal Property Replacement Tax revenues provided by the current Act. (Adopted 1981)

## **2.06 Impact Aid (Student Housing)**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation reinstating Impact Aid to school districts where there are students residing in housing provided on state property from which no property taxes are received. The Impact Aid shall be based on the number of students generated from the state property. (Adopted 1986)

## **2.07 Contracting Driver's Education**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation authorizing school districts to provide a comprehensive driver's education program through contract. Such contracts shall be made with properly authorized persons or agencies and may include provisions calling for the use of school property. (Adopted 1982)

## **2.08 Tax Assessment Schedules**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall seek and support legislation to promote the beneficial realignment of tax assessment dates and school levy deadlines. (Adopted 1988; Reaffirmed 1998)

## **2.09 Permissive Rate Equalization**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall urge the Illinois General Assembly to equalize taxing authority without referendum of dual and unit districts in all funds so that the unit districts' authority would be equal to the sum of the dual districts' tax rate. (Adopted 1981; Amended 1986; Reaffirmed 1988)

## **2.10 Residential Placement Costs**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall inform the General Assembly and Governor's Office that children who are wards of the State create a significant impact on local school district budgets when they are placed in temporary shelters and foster homes. Further, the State shall provide 100% of the cost of these placements. The Association:

- Shall work to increase the financial incentives to those local school districts which provide alternatives to residential placement for those students;
- Shall initiate and support legislation that will require the Department of Children and Family Services to involve local school districts in any plans for group placements of children in those districts and that funds for educating the placed youngsters must be earmarked (appropriated, planned for) in the agency's budget prior to finalizing any plan; and
- Shall seek and support legislation for the State of Illinois to provide funds to local school districts for purchasing or constructing additional classrooms that are required to provide instruction for students who reside in state facilities located within the district. (Adopted 1991; Amended 2001)

## **2.11 State Aid Payments**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation that requires the State of Illinois to make general state aid payments to school districts, on a monthly basis, during the entitlement year in which they are appropriated. Furthermore, the Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation that requires the State of Illinois to pay interest at the current legal rate on any payments which are late. (Adopted 1991; Reaffirmed 2000, 2014; Amended 2011)

## **2.12 Capital Funding For School Construction**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall actively work with the Illinois General Assembly and the Illinois State Board of Education to increase capital funding for public school infrastructure improvement and development. IASB shall advocate that the General Assembly study and consider additional forms of financial revenue for school construction needs, including but not limited to sales tax revenue. Any new revenue shall supplement current school construction funds, not supplant them. (Adopted 1994; Amended 1998, 2006; Reaffirmed 2007, 2014)

## **2.13 Heat Days Funding**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall strongly support legislation to totally fund "heat" days for our schools. (Adopted 1996)

## **2.14 Summer School Funding**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation to provide adequate funding to school districts to provide summer school "at-risk" academic programs. (Adopted 1996)

## **2.15 Local Tax Collection And Distribution**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall seek legislation to amend the tax code, or other prescriptive procedures, to minimize the punitive effects of delinquent collection and disbursement to districts of tax moneys raised by local levy. In the event tax monies are not collected or disbursed as required by State law, it shall be the county's obligation to reimburse the taxing district for any loss incurred. (Adopted 1996; Amended 1999)

## **2.16 Tax Levy Amendments**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall seek legislation to provide that a duly constituted Board of Education may submit an amended tax levy to avail itself of potential additional revenue through a change and increase in district EAV (Equalized Assessed Valuation), provided the original levy was properly filed on time, based upon the best information available at the time of filing, and the change in EAV has occurred since the filing of the original levy. (Adopted 1996)

## **2.17 Alternative Schools**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support adequate State funding for regional alternative schooling programs. (Adopted 1997)



## **2.18 Tort Immunity Fund**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall oppose legislation that seeks to limit a school district's legitimate use of the tort immunity fund. This includes amendments to the Local Government and Governmental Employees Tort Immunity Act that would prohibit the issuance of bonds or the levying of taxes by a school board to fund the costs of complying with equitable remedies or relief, or with an injunction agreed to by the school board or ordered by any court. (Adopted 1998)

## **2.19 School Funding And Taxation Reform**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall actively support the general concepts regarding school funding reform, property tax relief, and tax reform identified in the legislative outline prepared by the Center for Tax and Budget Accountability in June of 2004. Legislation resulting from that legislative outline shall be supported by the Illinois Association of School Boards provided that the State guarantees the payment of property tax relief grants will be made in a timely fashion with no loss of funds to the school district: school districts have continued access to local property tax revenues through levies and referenda the legislation meets the criteria outlined in the IASB Position Statement 2.37 – School Finance Reform. (Adopted 2004; Amended 2005; Reaffirmed 2014)

## **2.20 School Construction Grant Program**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall continue to support the current School Construction Grant Program and its provisions for grant applications, grant entitlements, grant awards, and local school district authority to select architects, engineers, contractors, and laborers. All school districts with an approved school construction grant entitlement shall be paid the amount of the entitlement in its entirety before a new school construction program can be implemented. School districts shall receive a priority ranking within 90 days of the end of the current year's application cycle. The Illinois State Board of Education shall priority rank, by grant year, all school districts that have been waiting for longer than 90 days for school construction grant funds. (Adopted 2006, Amended 2014, Reaffirmed 2015)

## **2.21 School Construction Grant Index**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation that would amend Section 5-5 of 105 ILCS 230 to calculate the grant index in the school construction program for each of those school districts that consolidate or join for a cooperative high school after July 1, 2006 and utilize whichever grant index is highest for the newly consolidated district or cooperative high school rather than a composite index of all districts involved. (Adopted 2006)

## **2.22 Constitutional Amendment On School Funding**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support passage of an amendment to the Illinois Constitution that would make education a fundamental right, would make it a paramount duty for the State to provide a thorough and efficient system of public education, and that would provide that the State has the preponderant financial responsibility for financing the system of public education. (Adopted 2006; Reaffirmed 2007, 2014)

## **2.23 Non-Resident Student Tuition**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation to allow legally enrolled students who have become non-residents of the district to attend the school as a non-resident student, tuition-free, only until the end of the grading period in which the student was determined to be a non-resident. The legislation should allow students who are seniors in high school, and legally enrolled on the first day of school to continue in the district, tuition free, only until the end of that school year. (Adopted 2007; Reaffirmed 2008)

## **2.24 ISBE Oversight Agreement**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall work to modify state statutes governing Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) school district oversight panels or finance authorities. Statutory changes should include, but not be limited to, the following:

- Unless called for by the local school district, an oversight panel or finance authority shall not be imposed without a rigorous set of criteria proving the school district will not or cannot serve the needs of its students, staff, and community;
- Clear benchmarks and goals shall be included in the establishment of an oversight panel or finance authority and once substantially met, the oversight panel or finance authority shall be dissolved;
- Bonding authority and issuance must remain the responsibility of the elected school board so that the duration of the oversight can be minimal;
- Progress toward benchmarks and goals must be reviewed and shared with the school district under oversight on a regular basis including any reasons or criteria for inability to make progress. Review should also recommend any modifications needed to achieve success;
- Due process and review by the Attorney General must be afforded school districts when appropriate; and
- ISBE authority to establish oversight panels or finance authorities shall not be broadened to facilitate imposition of a panel or authority or to expand their oversight once put in place. (Adopted 2009; Amended 2010)

## **2.25 Multi-County School District GSA Offset**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation to modify the GSA (General State Aid) Formula calculation for multi-county PTELL (Property Tax Extension Limitation Law) school districts which have lost GSA for current and prior years due to an estimate of Equalized Assessed Value (EAV) utilized by the county providing the limiting rate to the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) for use in calculating a District's GSA. (Adopted 2010)

## **2.26 Categorical Reductions Prospective Only**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation requiring that any reductions in line item funds for categorical payments which are subject to reimbursement by the State (e.g. transportation or special education) shall be prospective only and shall not affect such line item costs incurred by a school district prior to such reduction but not yet claimed or approved for reimbursement. (Adopted 2011)

### **2.27 State Authorized Charter School Funding**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall urge adoption of legislation which would create a new methodology for the funding of State Authorized Charter Schools which would not have a negative financial impact on the host district. With respect to State authorized virtual charter schools, further limit the withholding of State funds from host school districts in proportion to the per pupil expenditure used for building maintenance, classroom supplies, transportation, safety and security, and other costs unique to “brick and mortar” schools. For all State-authorized charter schools, require that proof of continuing enrollment and attendance be submitted quarterly, with prorated refunds to the host school district upon withdrawal of students from the charter school. (Adopted 2012; Amended 2013, 2014; Reaffirmed 2016, 2017, 2018)

### **2.28 Special Education Student Transportation Cost**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislative, administrative, or legal remedies to limit and equalize cost for Special Education Student Transportation. (Adopted 2014)

### **2.29 Clock Hours Vs. Minutes**

The Illinois Association of School boards shall research the impact and viability of moving from a methodology of required days of student instruction to minutes of student instruction as necessary to compensate for minutes of instruction lost due to school closures caused by disaster, flood, extreme weather conditions, evacuations, or other events beyond the control of the school district. (Adopted 2016)

### **2.30 School Safety Grant Program**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall advocate for the creation and funding of a school safety grant program at the state level that would assist school districts in the hiring of School Resource Officers (SROs) or school security personnel for the protection of students and staff. SROs in this instance shall meet the definition in section 10-20.67 of the School Code. School security personnel may include off-duty law enforcement officers or a law enforcement officer who has retired within the previous five years. School security personnel may carry a firearm in a school if they continue receiving the same ongoing firearm training as active police officers. Priority in the distribution of grants shall be based on both geography (school districts with lengthy response times from first responders) and financial need (Tier I and Tier II districts based on the Evidence-Based Funding Model in that order) would receive priority in the awarding of the grants. (Adopted 2019)

### **2.31 Property Tax Assessment And Collection**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall oppose the assessment and collection of property taxes at the statewide level. (Adopted 1987)

### **2.32 Property Tax Base**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall oppose any reduction in a district’s access to local property tax revenue and shall oppose legislation that would erode the property tax base to educate children in the state of Illinois. (Adopted 1987; Amended 1988, 2001; Reaffirmed 2005, 2006, 2016)

### **2.33 Standing On Tax Appeals**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislative action to enable public school districts, in Cook County specifically, to (1) receive notices of assessment appeals in excess of \$100,000; (2) become participants in assessment reduction proceedings at the administrative and judicial levels; and (3) allow the refund to be credited toward future property tax payments. Further, IASB urges that the necessary resources be made available in order to facilitate the timely processing of property tax appeal proceedings. (Adopted 1975; Amended 1988, 2000, 2005, 2006; Reaffirmed 1985)

### **2.34 Tax Increment Financing**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support changes in the current Tax Increment Financing statute that will model adoption procedures after those established for Enterprise Zones, continue to provide definitions for terms such as “blighted” used in the statute, develop procedures for disbanding TIF areas that do not produce anticipated growth, remove the requirement that all taxing bodies participate equally, to be monitored by the TIF Joint Review Board at each of its scheduled meetings, reduce the financial impact of the TIF area so that the percentage loss of Equalized Assessed Valuation (EAV) involved in the TIF will not exceed twice the average loss of EAV to each taxing body, limit its use in new residential development, and make the recommendation of the Joint Review Board binding. (Adopted 1986; Amended 1990, 1997; Reaffirmed 2006, 2016)

### **2.35 Site Development**

The Illinois Association of School Boards supports requiring builders and subdividers to dedicate land for school purposes or to make cash payments in lieu of such dedications and to allow cash payments to be used for operational expenses. (Adopted 1971; Amended 2004)

### **2.36 Property Tax Cap**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall oppose any limitation which would require school boards to have to go to referendum to gain authorization to extend taxes to limits previously authorized by the voters. The Association shall support legislation designed to:

- Exempt the districts in counties under the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law (PTELL) from the restrictions of the tax cap in their Fire and Life Safety, IMRF, Social Security and Tort Immunity funds

- Base the property tax cap on the Employment Cost Index (ECI) rather than the Consumer Price Index;
- Base any such index (CPI or ECI) on a method for calculating average over time to lessen the unpredictability of tax capped local resources; and
- To establish a “floor” to PTELL to ensure that the allowable percentage increase in
- The extension cannot be less than the allowable percentage increase in the 1998 levy year. (Adopted 1990; Amended 2001, 2002, 2006, 2009; Reaffirmed 1991)

### 2.37 Property Tax Cap – GSA Calculation

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation to modify the General State Aid Formula calculation for school districts subject to PTELL (Property Tax Extension Limitation Law) such as that they are not penalized when successfully passing an operating fund rate increase referendum. (Adopted 2008)

### 2.38 Property Tax Classification

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall oppose any reduction in real estate assessment for residential property which is not offset on a one-to-one ratio. (Adopted 1991; Reaffirmed 2016))

### 2.39 School Finance Reform

The Illinois Association of School Boards believes that adequate funding must be provided for each student in order to guarantee the opportunity for an appropriate public education. Education funding should take into account the cost associated with delivering quality, research-based programming, geographic conditions, and student needs. Fully funding districts would ensure adequate funding for districts to locally determine and deliver appropriate and effective educational experiences to every student.

IASB supports the need for transparency and dissemination of information, regarding the impact of proposed education funding reforms as they are developed, formally proposed, considered, and enacted. Additionally, IASB will utilize the following criteria to evaluate proposals for school finance reform:

1. The state’s funding of public education should provide for a stable, reliable, and predictable commitment of revenue.
2. State funding levels for public education should be a function of the actual cost of providing an appropriate education based on research, data, and current best practices.
3. Adequate funding should be sought through the addition of new state revenues for public education.
4. Any funding formula developed by the General Assembly shall place high priority upon achieving the goal of equity in providing financial resources to local school districts.
5. Increased state funding for public education should not reduce the access of school districts to the local property tax base.

6. In the distribution of state funds to local school districts:
  - a. Funding differentials for various levels of schooling are appropriate only if based on verified costs;
  - b. Consideration should be given to regional differences in the cost of providing an appropriate education;
  - c. The method of calculating the number of students coming from disadvantaged backgrounds should be based on current, verifiable data;
  - d. Size of school district is important only to the extent that a district provides an appropriate education.
7. A specified local tax effort should be required to qualify for state aid.
8. Authority for changing a district’s aggregate tax levy should be retained by the local board of education.
9. Taxing authority without referendum for unit districts in all funds should be equal to the sum of the taxing authority in dual districts.
10. Funding should not be tied to mandated training of local Boards of Education.

In order to obtain substantial new state revenues for funding an appropriate education, the following considerations should have an impact on any proposal for school finance reform:

- a. A legitimate level and type of accountability will be needed.
- b. The physical plant needs of Illinois’ school districts should be addressed.
- c. Taxpayer equity and relief, including uniform tax assessment and procedures as well as tax relief for limited fixed income and disabled citizens, should be provided. (Adopted 1990; Amended 1996, 2008, 2014, 2016; Reaffirmed 2001, 2012)

### 2.40 Changes In School Accounting Practices

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall oppose legislation or rulemaking proposing cosmetic and costly changes in the school accounting practices or fiscal year, including but not limited to, mandatory accrual basis accounting, major program determination, depreciation allocation, and management’s discussion and analysis. (Adopted 1992; Amended 2003)

### 2.41 Tax Law And Assessment Practices

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation to create uniformity and equality in Illinois property tax laws regarding assessment practices. (Adopted 1993; Reaffirmed 2002)

### 2.42 Impact Fees For Residential Development

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall participate in the development and passage of statewide enabling legislation allowing local boards of education to impose residential development impact fees with the option of local municipal control through intergovernmental cooperation. (Adopted 1994; Reaffirmed 1996, 1998)

### **2.43 Bond And Interest Levy**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall attempt to have legislation passed that would permit a school district to increase the bond and interest levy to recover taxes lost from an adverse Property Tax Appeal Board Decision, that caused the district to expend operating funds to amortize debt. (Adopted 1994)

### **2.44 Local Taxes On School Districts**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation that would exempt public schools from all taxes imposed by state, federal, and units of local government. They shall not seek to deprive or deplete public schools of their funds. Each public school district shall be issued its own district's State and Federal Tax Exemption Identification Number for such exemption. It shall be the responsibility of the taxing body to notify the agency collecting the tax of its exemption and assure its implementation. (Adopted 1996; Reaffirmed 2001, 2008; Amended 2004)

### **2.45 Property Tax Rate Increases**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation that would require that new property tax rates levied immediately following successful passage of tax rate increases be used as the calculating rate and extended as required under the School Code (105 ILCS 5/17-3.2). (Adopted 2002)

### **2.46 Property Tax Cap Expiration**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support a change in State law to create a four-year sunset on the implementation of the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law (PTELL) in each county in which PTELL has been enacted. The four year sunset would also apply to the enactment of PTELL in any county approving PTELL after the effective date of the legislation. Any desire to extend PTELL beyond the four years would require the County Board to again place the question on the ballot and receive a positive majority of votes in the next general election. (Adopted 2004; Reaffirmed 2006, 2007)

### **2.47 Truth In Taxation**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall seek a modification in the Truth in Taxation Notice that reflects the natural economic appreciation effect of changes in property values when reporting the percentage increase or decrease over the previous year's tax levy. (Adopted 2006)

### **2.48 Sales Tax For School Districts**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall advocate that the General Assembly study and consider legislation allowing school districts access to additional forms of financial revenue, both state and local sources, including but not limited to, sales tax revenue. Further, any form of additional revenue for schools must provide that school districts determine the fund(s) in which to place the additional revenue. (Adopted 2006)

### **2.49 Abatements For Home Builders**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation to amend the Illinois Property Code (35 ILCS 200/18-165, et seq.) to enable Boards of Education to develop

criteria for awarding abatements of school property tax to individual homebuilders. Said legislation shall provide rural school boards that are struggling with declining enrollments and loss of assessed valuation with a tool to stimulate the growth of both tax base and population base of their districts. (Adopted 2008)

### **2.50 PTELL – Debt Service Extension Base**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation to modify the Debt Service Extension Base (DSEB) formula established by the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law (PTELL) to allow the limited number of school districts that do not have DSEB to have one established for them creating more equity among districts affected by the PTELL and equal opportunity in school funding. (Adopted 2011)

### **2.51 PTELL – No Penalty For Under Levy**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation (currently House Bill 1341) that allows school districts to levy an amount less than the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law (PTELL) formula would allow without penalty in future years. This would require that when a district "under" levies, that the full allowable extension amount be tracked and made accessible in future years. (Adopted 2012)

### **2.52 EAV Adjustments – Timely Notification**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation to require timely notification between county assessors of substantial adjustments to assessed values for a taxing district that has assessed property in multiple counties. (Adopted 2011)

### **2.53 Pension-Normal Cost Shift**

The Illinois Association of School Boards recognizes that legislation to sensibly resolve Illinois' current pension crisis must be fully compliant with prevailing actuarial scientific standards in order to achieve fully-funded and sustainable pension funds. The Illinois Association of School Boards therefore shall not support a "cost-shift" to local districts as a true sensible solution to the pension burden. (Adopted 2013)

### **2.54 School Facility Occupation Tax**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support an amendment to State Statute 55 ILCS 5/5-1006.7 School Facility Occupation Tax, to include the purpose to purchase or lease technology to aid instruction, education, or efficiency of the school district. (Adopted 2014)

### **2.55 Tax Increment Financing**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support changes to the Tax Increment Financing statute to include the following: a municipality cannot reset a TIF district, which would extend the life of the TIF beyond the 23 years. (Adopted 2014; Reaffirmed 2016)

### **2.56 Energy Savings Funding And Borrowing**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall recommend to the legislature that a bill be passed that allows districts to borrow or otherwise obtain money without referendum for the sole and specific purpose of purchasing and installing energy saving equipment relating to the utility usage (water, gas and electricity). (Adopted 2018)

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## FINANCING PUBLIC EDUCATION – FEDERAL

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### 2.57 State And Local Federal Tax Deduction

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall work with the National School Boards Association and other coalitions to defeat any legislation or regulation that would eliminate the federal income tax deduction for state and local taxes. (Adopted 1985)

### 2.58 E-Rate Discount Program

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall urge Congress and the Federal Communications Commission to continue to support discount programs, including but not limited to the “E-Rate” program created in the Telecommunications Act of 1996, to provide affordable Internet access, distance-learning, and other educational programs for school districts and libraries. (Adopted 1998)

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## FINANCING PUBLIC EDUCATION – OTHER

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### 2.59 Non-Public School Funding

The Illinois Association of School Boards opposes payment of state funds directly or indirectly to non-public elementary and secondary schools. Specifically, the Association is opposed to the use of any form of “Educational Voucher”, “Tax Deduction” and “Tax Credit” plan at the state or national level. (Portions Adopted 1970, 1975, 1982; Amended 1988; Reaffirmed 2006, 2012)

### 2.60 Non-Public Student Reporting

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation to require that non-public schools receiving the benefit of public funds or services, submit to the Illinois State Board of Education an annual report including the names, ages, and addresses of all students enrolled in their schools. (Adopted 1980)

### 2.61 Transportation For Private School Students

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall pursue and support legislation amending 105 ILCS 5/29-4 of the Illinois Compiled Statutes (School Code) to require schools other

than public to conform to public school attendance dates and times as needed to minimize busing costs, or pay the additional costs as a result of scheduling differences in busing students attending those schools. (Adopted 1995)

### 2.62 Tax Exempt Bond Use

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall oppose any reduction by the Federal Government in the amount of tax exempt bonds which can be issued. In addition to this continuing opposition, IASB shall explore alternatives available should such limitation be forthcoming at the Federal level. This would include but not be limited to income tax credits for individuals, commercial bonds property casualty companies, etc., to provide incentives within the State of Illinois for the purchase of said bonds. (Adopted 1989)

### 2.63 Life Safety Fund Use

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation that allows the State Board of Education to approve the use of monies generated from the health/life safety tax levy or the sale of health/life safety bonds for building projects that, while not specifically listed as a State Board approved project, will directly result in the improved safety of the students and/or community. Specifically, such funds shall be eligible to cover the costs for the following purposes: 1) repair or replacement of property such as school sidewalks, driveways, parking lots, and playground equipment, in instances when a specific safety hazard is demonstrated by a licensed architect or engineer; 2) mandated alterations to facilities and school property pursuant to requirements of the Federal Americans with Disabilities Act; and 3) to provide air conditioning and climate control in the classrooms, and to provide for the lease and/or purchase of air-conditioning equipment under the tax for leasing (including lease purchase and installment purchase) of educational facilities. (Adopted 1989; Reaffirmed 1991; Amended 1993, 2006)

### 2.64 State And Federal Grant Carryover

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall encourage the state and federal governments to remove restrictions on grant programs which currently require local school districts to return grant fund balances back to the state. (Adopted 1991)

## LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

### 3.01 Board Member Involvement

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall continue its legislative involvement and encourage increased legislative activity by local school board members at the district, division, and state levels while providing leadership in guiding those board members in their efforts to seek public support of legislation essential to good school government. (Portions Adopted 1974, 1981; Amended 1988; Reaffirmed 2006)

### 3.02 Candidate Support

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall actively encourage and assist school board members to effectively evaluate positions of legislative candidates relative to public education and to support those candidates who have demonstrated understanding and support for the principles of school management to ensure the best education for public school students in Illinois. (Adopted 1975; Reaffirmed 1986; Amended 2006)

### **3.03 Limited Bill Introductions**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall encourage the Illinois General Assembly to limit the quantity of legislation introduced in each two-year period to allow time for each bill to be researched, debated, and thoroughly investigated before action by the General Assembly. (Adopted 1987; Reaffirmed 2012)

### **3.04 General Assembly Rules**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support changes in the operating procedures of the Illinois General Assembly which would promote maximum exchange of information between legislators and interested citizens and ensure enlightened debate on the merits of all proposed bills and take the action necessary to prevent legislation from being changed by amendments which are not germane to the original purpose of the bill, or establish a time limit for such amendments sufficient to avoid last minute changes in the final weeks of a legislative session. (Portions Adopted 1980, 1984; Amended 1988; Reaffirmed 2012)

### **3.05 Effective Date And State Board Rules And Regulations**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall encourage the Illinois General Assembly to allow a minimum of one-year lead time for implementation of any regulation or legislation increasing costs in public schools. Any such changes to existing educational programs should not be implemented until the final regulations have been adopted by the State Board of Education. (Adopted 1981; Amended 1993; Reaffirmed 2012)

### **3.06 Data Utilization**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation requiring the State Board of Education and the State Superintendent to base rules, regulations, and recommendations regarding legislation affecting public schools on empirical research, which shall be made available to the Illinois General Assembly and the interested public. (Adopted 1987)

### **3.07 Local Legislative Visits**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support and encourage each local Board of Education throughout the State of Illinois to make a "good faith" effort to initiate, undertake, and make an in-person visit with their local legislators in order to discuss specific issues and proposed legislation affecting local school districts. Further resolve that conducting any such visits will be part of any Awards Program adopted by IASB that recognizes outstanding leadership and development activities by local Boards of Education. (Adopted 1995; Reaffirmed 2006)

### **3.08 Elected State Board Of Education**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation or other appropriate action requiring that the members of the Illinois State Board of Education be elected on a regional basis. (Adopted 2002)

### **3.09 Budget Stability For School Districts**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation requiring the Illinois General Assembly to determine the amount of funding for educational entitlements and General State Aid no later than March 31 (3 months prior to the start of the budget year) and enact a biennial budgetary cycle. Once the amount of funding for educational entitlements is determined, the General Assembly shall be required to vote on the funding in a stand-alone piece of legislation. (Adopted 2010; Reaffirmed 2011; Amended 2012, 2016)

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## **BOARD OPERATIONS AND DUTIES**

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### **4.01 Attention Deficit Disorder**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall encourage the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) to continue to study Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder and methods to accurately identify and meet the educational needs of children with this disorder. Further, IASB shall seek clarification of state policies and categories of special education to provide for consistency in special education placement and disseminate relevant information from the ISBE to local school districts. (Adopted 1992)

### **4.02 Self-Insure Risk**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall propose legislation which would allow school districts, by board resolution, to self-insure the risk previously covered by surety bonds. (Adopted 1993)

### **4.03 Board Member – Travel Reimbursement**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation which will allow members of Boards of Education to be reimbursed for mileage for school board meetings held in compliance with the Illinois Open Meetings Act and for events regarding school district staff. Mileage reimbursement would be paid at the federally allowable travel reimbursement rate. (Adopted 2008)

### **4.04 School Board Member Training**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall oppose any legislation that includes a provision for mandatory training of school board members. IASB encourages local boards of education to model continuous improvement by pursuing all professional development and training opportunities. IASB, with its unique combination of expertise and resources, is uniquely in the position to be the primary agency responsible for school board member training and professional development as recognized by Article 23 of the Illinois School code, and any such legislation requiring school board member training shall specifically list IASB as a training provider. (Adopted 2008; Amended 2012)

### **4.05 Statement Of Affairs**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation that allows a school district to publish any notice, agenda, record, or other information or material required by law electronically instead of in a newspaper. (Adopted 2016)

#### **4.06 Business Enterprises – Minority Owned**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation amending sections of statute that regulate contracting out for services to allow school districts to consider any goals set to address social responsibility, including preferences for businesses owned by minorities, women, persons with disabilities, and veterans, in selecting companies to service contracts. (Adopted 2019)

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### **BOARD – EMPLOYEE RELATIONS**

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#### **5.01 Board Rights**

The Illinois Association of School Boards supports local boards of education's rights to determine and control, as duly elected representatives of the community, the employment, dismissal, and staff reduction of certificated and non-certificated employees. To this end, the Association shall support statutory rules and regulations changes that will:

- a. Enable the initial placement of employees on the salary schedule without regard to years of experience or graduate credit;
- b. Allow for greater flexibility in staffing patterns to improve efficiency and effectiveness of programs;
- c. Maintain the tenure rights of teachers in cooperatives in a single district but not in multiple districts; and
- d. Allow school districts to take action on reductions in force up to sixty calendar days following the date elementary and secondary appropriations bills become law. (Portions adopted 1976, 1979, 1980, 1983, 1984, 1988; Amended 1988, 1996, 2006, 2012; Reaffirmed 1992, 2011)

#### **5.02 Teacher Salaries (Length Of Contract)**

The Illinois Association of School Boards believes that teacher salaries should be determined at the local level; if teacher salary increases are legislatively mandated, they should be linked to an increase in the length of the teacher contract year for purposes to be determined locally. (Adopted 1985; Reaffirmed 2012)

#### **5.03 Collective Bargaining**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall strongly oppose legislation that diminishes the local school board's ability to collectively bargain with employees and shall encourage the General Assembly, the Illinois State Board of Education, and the State Superintendent to refrain from passing legislation that tips the balance of the bargaining process in favor of employee bargaining units. The Association shall continue to oppose any change in the collective bargaining law which fails to protect the rights of students, employees, taxpayers, and boards of education and their administrative staffs. (Adopted 1981; Amended 1985, 2001; Reaffirmed 2012)

#### **5.04 Unemployment Compensation (Substitute Teachers)**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation which would exempt substitute teachers from being eligible for unemployment compensation. (Adopted 1986; Reaffirmed 2012)

#### **5.05 Prevailing Wage Act**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall work to repeal legislation that regulates wages of laborers, mechanics, and other workers employed by school districts and those under contract for work being done in school districts, or amend the Prevailing Wage Act to exempt school districts from its scope. (Adopted 1978; Amended 1982, 1990, 2011; Reaffirmed 1985, 1988, 1996, 2009, 2012, 2013, 2016)

#### **5.06 ESP Progressive Disciplinary Procedures**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation that allows local school boards to determine locally all contractual arrangements for education support personnel. (Adopted 1990)

#### **5.07 Illinois Educational Labor Relations Act**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support the proposed amendment to the Illinois Educational Labor Relations Act, Section 10, which provides that an employer's duty to bargain over specified matters does not include a duty to bargain over a decision to reduce the number of employees and the impact of a reduction of employees. (Adopted 1993; Reaffirmed 2012)

#### **5.08 Workers' Compensation Law**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall actively support legislation to reduce the costs of Workers' Compensation. (Adopted 1993; Reaffirmed 2012)

#### **5.09 IMRF Qualification**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation that would amend the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund (IMRF) laws for non-certified school staff to change, at each local district's option, the number of minimum hours an employee would work to qualify for IMRF from the current 600-hour standard to a 1,000-hour standard. This change would only be for new employees after the effective date of the legislation. (Adopted 1994)

#### **5.10 Tenure Repeal**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall seek reform of the School Code to eliminate contractual continued service for teachers as currently provided by 105 ILCS 5/24-11. (Adopted 1995; Reaffirmed 2012)

#### **5.11 School Employee Strikes**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall strongly seek and support legislation forbidding public school employees from striking. The Association shall also work with legislators, the Illinois State Board of Education, and the teachers' unions to develop alternatives to striking, including mediation and binding arbitration. (Adopted 1996; Amended 2009; Reaffirmed 2012)

#### **5.12 Third Party Contracting**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall strongly oppose legislation or rulemaking that regulates and restricts the ability of school boards to contract with third parties for the provision of non-instructional services. The Illinois Association of School Boards shall seek to repeal or amend the provisions of the School Code which unreasonably restrict the ability of school boards to enter into contracts with third parties for the provision of non-instruction services. (Adopted 2012)

### **5.13 School District Police Force**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation that would allow any school district who previously established a professional police force to re-establish a police force with all the duties and responsibilities of local law enforcement agencies. (Adopted 2019)

### **5.14 Background Checks-Substitute Teachers**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support and encourage legislation that will develop a centralized process for Regional Superintendent Offices to submit certification results for each other to use in the hiring process for substitute teachers in their respective region. (Adopted 2019)

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## **LOCAL – STATE – FEDERAL RELATIONS**

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### **6.01 Local Control**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall take all appropriate action to encourage members of the U.S. Congress, the Illinois General Assembly, related administrative agencies, and state and federal courts to refrain from introducing, supporting or promulgating rules, regulations, and legislation which deprive local school districts of decision-making powers on matters in which there is not a clear and compelling state or national interest. In the event any such rule, regulation, or legislation is promulgated or adopted, the Association shall take all appropriate actions calling for amendment (s) to return the decision making powers back to the local school district. (Adopted 1976; Amended 2014; Reaffirmed 2006, 2012, 2014, 2016)

### **6.02 Periodic Review Of State And Federal Mandates**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support at the state and national level periodic review of all mandates, rules, and regulations affecting local districts. Such mandates, rules, and regulations should be broad in scope providing great flexibility in implementation, eased or reduced during periods when state supporting funds are unavailable or reduced, and eliminated if not of benefit to educational opportunities and outcomes. (Adopted 1981; Reaffirmed 1985; Amended 1988)

### **6.03 Educational Labor Relations Board Procedures**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall work with the Illinois Educational Labor Relations Board to increase its sensitivity to the need for timely decisions and establish criteria to identify matters in need of expedited attention. Further, the Association shall utilize the legislative process to remove statutory barriers to timely and expedited decisions and support legislation to enhance the decision making process. (Adopted 1989)

### **6.04 State Board Communication**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall continue to work with the Illinois State Board of Education to provide opportunities throughout the state each fiscal year to render local boards of education the time to express their concerns as well as to discuss their position on various pertinent educational issues. (Adopted 1982; Amended 1988)

### **6.05 State Board Of Education Membership**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall participate in the development of legislation amending Section 105 II.C.S 5/1A with a goal of insuring fair representation on the State Board of Education from all geographic areas of Illinois. (Adopted 1999)

### **6.06 Zoning Hearing Participation**

The Illinois Association of School Boards supports requiring planning commissions, zoning boards, and the governing bodies of the jurisdiction in which real estate developments or zoning changes are proposed to notify the school district affected about such proposals and hearings about them and, if any, about the effect of the proposed changes and developments before completing any action to approve or adopt such a change or development. (Adopted 1973; Reaffirmed 2006)

### **6.07 Railroad Crossings**

The Illinois Association of School Boards urges the Illinois General Assembly, the Congress of the United States, state and federal commerce commissions, and railroad industries to continue working toward the installation of adequate warning devices at all railroad crossings maintained for public use in Illinois. (Adopted 1976; Reaffirmed 2006)

### **6.08 ISBE Rules And Regulations Review**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall encourage the Illinois State Board of Education to include school board members, administrators, and other practitioners on committees to review proposed rules and regulations. (Adopted 1990)

### **6.09 Students On Public Aid**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall seek and support legislation to mandate that students of families receiving State/Federal financial assistance (e.g. welfare, AFDC) maintain “regular” attendance as a stipulation for receipt of same. (Adopted 1995)

### **6.10 School Holidays-Local Option**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation that would allow local school districts the authority to decide whether to observe legal holidays as a day of non-attendance for students. (Adopted 1996)

### **6.11 Home Schooling Policy**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation to enact appropriate laws and policies to demonstrate that the education received by home-taught students is of sufficient quality to ensure appropriate transfer to schools that have current certification and recognition status from the Illinois State Board of Education. (Adopted 1996; Amended 1998; Reaffirmed 2000)

### **6.12 Design Profession Selection**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation in the Illinois General Assembly amending or repealing the Local Government Professional Services Selection Act, or any other applicable laws, rules, or regulations, to the extent necessary to permit Illinois school boards to solicit, and to permit licensed architects, engineers, and land surveyors to submit cost proposals for these professional services as part of a school board’s design professional selection process. (Adopted 1997)



### **6.13 Support Services To Private Schools**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support modifications in the Illinois Intergovernmental Agreement Act to allow public school districts to work together in a time and cost efficient manner to provide support services to private schools as required by the U.S. Supreme Court rendered in the case of *Agostini v. Felton*, 65 U.S.L.W. 4526. (U.S. June 23, 1997). (Adopted 1997)

### **6.14 Statutory Job Descriptions**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall oppose legislation which allows job descriptions for employees of school district to be placed into state law. (Adopted 1997)

### **6.15 Administrative Caps**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall not support recent Illinois State legislation concerning Administrative Caps and Superintendent's Contracts as this legislation takes away local control from duly elected Boards of Education. Be it further resolved that IASB calls for the repeal of these provisions of PA 90-548 so that these provisions are again placed in the hands of local school boards. (Adopted 1998)

### **6.16 Bilingual Education**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall promote legislative action calling for the Illinois State Board of Education, the U.S. Department of Education and school districts to study the alignment of, and full financial support of, the implementation of second language, native language, and bilingual education programs. (Adopted 2004)

### **6.17 Fair Labor Standards Act**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation at both the Federal and State levels to exempt school district employees from overtime and salary regulations as described in the Fair Labor Standards Act. (Adopted 2005)

### **6.18 Constitutional Convention Support**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall actively participate in promoting a Constitutional Convention for the State of Illinois when the question is submitted to the voters in 2008 (or earlier, if submitted before) and shall begin planning strategy and marshalling resources for the promotion of a vote in favor of conducting the Constitutional Convention. (Adopted 2005; Reaffirmed 2006, 2007)

### **6.19 Bidding Contracts-Local Bidders**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation that allows the local Board of Education to award a contract, under certain circumstances, to a qualified bidder that may not be the lowest responsible bidder. The bid must not be more than 2% over the lowest responsible bid and the bidder must be considered a local contractor by the local Board of Education. (Adopted 2006)

### **6.20 Freedom Of Information Act Changes**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation to modify the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) to facilitate school districts' compliance with the Act and to remove unnecessary burdens on units of local government. The legislative changes should:

- Increase allowable FOIA response time from five business days to 10 business days
- Exclude official school breaks in business day response time
- Allow denials for commercial purposes
- Allow denials for any request that is unduly burdensome
- Clarify language that would allow a request to be denied if it is unduly burdensome to the public body if the public body deems compliance with the request would result in excessive response costs
- Allow the imposition of reasonable fees regardless of the number of pages being provided
- Remove the balancing test between the public's interest and the employee's right to privacy in the privacy exception
- Expand the evaluation exemption to cover all school employees
- Exempt employment applications to protect the privacy of individuals that apply for high profile employment positions
- Delete provisions requiring public bodies to write a virtual legal opinion as to why they are claiming an exemption
- Delete provisions requiring public bodies to prepare a virtual legal pleading before being challenged for a denial
- Limit public bodies' liability by limiting a court's inquiry to violations of FOIA and not the content of information provided
- Force the Public Access Counselor to defend its decisions before a court of law if a public body is sued
- Allow public bodies to seek review of a binding opinion of the Public Access Counselor in the county in which they are located rather than just Sangamon or Cook Counties. (Adopted 2010)

### **6.21 Homeless Student Transportation**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation conforming Illinois law with federal law, specifically related to 105 ILCS 45 and the requirement for school districts to transport homeless students beyond district boundaries. (Adopted 2012)

### **6.22 Mandate Cost And Periodic Review**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support modifications to the Illinois State Mandates Act (30 ILCS 805) that will strengthen the ability of the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) to accurately and sufficiently provide timely information on the costs of mandates including input from local elected boards of education. In addition, the mandates report required for other local governments shall be required of ISBE to provide timely, updated information on the impact of new mandates as they are enacted. (Adopted 2013; Reaffirmed 2014)

### **6.23 PARCC Testing Results**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall petition the Illinois State Board of Education to fairly report discrepancies in the scoring of state required standardized testing: 1) between paper and pencil versus electronic results AND 2) within the electronic testing method. Further, that such discrepancies will be made public so that schools may provide said information to parents and media when the testing results are reported as required under state law. (Adopted 2017)

### **6.24 School Safety — Traffic Zones**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall urge adoption of legislation that urges increased traffic-calming measures in front of all schools that could include but not be limited to:

1. Reduced speed limits to 20 mph or less within one block of the school from any direction on all federally designated municipal routes or Illinois Department of Transportation designated local roads
2. Enhanced speed limit signs to increase motorist awareness
3. Increased police enforcement of school zones, where feasible for local law enforcement agencies
4. Other traffic-calming measures that mitigate speeds and cut-through traffic in neighborhoods (eg. striping, islands, speed bumps, etc.)
5. Removing the designation “during school hours when children are present” from traffic signs or implementing other warning systems to accommodate after-school activities and use of facilities (eg. playgrounds)

(Adopted 2019)

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## **DISTRICT ORGANIZATION AND ELECTIONS**

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### **7.01 District Reorganization**

The Illinois Association of School Boards favors school district reorganization and consolidation intended to facilitate educational improvement rather than changes in district organization based only on enrollment or geographical location. Further, IASB shall oppose any future attempts by the Legislature, Governor, and/or State Board of Education to mandate, by statute or rules and regulations, the reorganization and consolidation of school districts. Reorganization and consolidation studies should be initiated by local citizens. In addition, IASB shall oppose legislation containing financial incentives based solely on district size or organizational pattern intended to force school district consolidation or reorganization. (Adopted 1962; Amended 1985; Reaffirmed 2006)

### **7.02 School District Reorganization Voting Requirements**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall seek, encourage, and support efforts for school district reorganization – in all forms – to include a requirement that before such reorganization is deemed passed, a majority vote of voters in each of the affected districts is necessary. (Adopted 1987; Amended 1988, 2006)

### **7.03 Annexing District Requirements**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall seek an amendment to Article 7 of The School Code providing that neither a petition initiated by the citizens of one school district nor a petition initiated by a local school board of education seeking to annex their entire school district or a portion of the school district above and beyond one (1) home to another should be permitted without the affirmative vote of the citizens of each of the school districts affected. Specifically, 105 ILCS 5/7-1 and 7-2 shall be amended to include the following language: “When a petition is initiated by two-thirds (2/3) of the registered voters in one school district seeking to annex said district in its entirety to another school district or school districts and the board of education of such receiving school district or school districts has not adopted a resolution agreeing to such annexation, such annexation, if approved by the regional board of school trustees, shall not become effective until it is approved in an election called for the purpose of voting on the question of the voters in each school district affected.” (Adopted 1988; Amended 1996, 2006; Reaffirmed 2000)

### **7.04 Detachment From Unit District**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall oppose any efforts to amend the Illinois School Code to allow for less restrictive procedures for school districts to detach and form a new district. (Adopted 2005; Amended 2006)

### **7.05 Public Question Voting Dates**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation to repeal the statute in the Election Code, amended by Public Act 84-739, which became effective January 1, 1986, which restricts school districts from placing a public question on the ballot other than when voters are scheduled to cast votes for any candidates for nomination for, election to, or retention in public office. (Adopted 1986)

### **7.06 School Ballot Format**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall urge the State Legislature to review and revise the school ballot formats as established in section 9-12 of the School Code to more clearly identify for whom the voter is casting a ballot. (Adopted 2001)

### **7.07 Election Schedules**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall continue to support the non-partisan election of school board members at a non-partisan election. (Adopted 2003; Amended 2006)

### **7.08 Polling Places In Schools**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation that amends the Election Code to allow a school district to refuse to be used as a polling place during elections for student safety reasons. If a school building is used as a polling place, the safety of the children and staff should not be compromised, and voters must be physically separated from students when the school is in session. (Adopted 2007; Amended 2009)

### **7.09 School As Polling Place Reimbursement**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation that amends the Election Code and the School Code to mandate that the appropriate officer or board having responsibility for providing a polling place for the election reimburse the school district for any costs, included cost of security to ensure student safety, in acting as a polling place which estimated costs shall be provided to the appropriate officer or board in advance of any decision to use a particular public building in order to ensure the efficient use of public resources. (Adopted 2017)

### **7.10 Board Vacancy Filings**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation to increase the timeline to fill a school board vacancy from 45 days to 60 days to allow school boards more time to fill such vacancies. (Adopted 2014)

### **7.11 School Board Elections – Seating New Members**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation allowing newly elected candidates, who have been elected uncontested, to be sworn in or affirmed at the next regularly scheduled board meeting or special meeting, held at least 14 days after the Consolidated Election. (Adopted 2019)

### **7.12 School Board Elections – Terms**

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation that all school districts having a population of not more than 500,000 shall serve four-year terms and be seated at the first board meeting held at least 14 days following the school board election. (Adopted 2019)

## CURRENT IASB BELIEF STATEMENTS

1. **The Illinois Association of School Boards believes** in improving the image of school boards and public education at the state and national levels
2. **The Illinois Association of School Boards believes** school administrations and faculties should be composed of persons supporting the principles of constitutional government because schools should continue with vigor their programs for giving young citizens a clear understanding of the principles of the American way of life and a desire to make these principles prevail in their own lives and in the life of their country. Further, the Association believes in the value of student non-partisan civic responsibility, including the importance of student voter registration.
3. **The Illinois Association of School Boards believes** that local boards of education should provide the necessary leadership for educational reform by sharing information and resources and collaborating with each other and the larger educational community.
4. **The Illinois Association of School Boards believes** that a comprehensive restructuring is needed in the way public schools are funded in Illinois and that IASB should be an active partner in responsible grassroots initiatives for school funding reform.
5. **The Illinois Association of School Boards believes** that schools should provide a safe and secure environment for all students. School board members and staff should try to protect students from the effects of bullying and offer appropriate instruction to improve intergroup relations and to promote peaceful resolution to conflict.
6. **The Illinois Association of School Boards believes** strongly in the non-partisan election of local school boards.
7. **The Illinois Association of School Boards supports** teacher salaries which are performance-based, market-sensitive, professionally competitive, and which are tied to an effective evaluation system.
8. **The Illinois Association of School Boards believes** in the vigorous support and the rigid enforcement of the laws pertaining to the sale, possession, and/or use of firearms.
9. **The Illinois Association of School Boards believes** that local boards of education should be prepared for possible public health crises (such as an Avian Flu pandemic) and other public safety concerns. IASB should obtain the most recent and accurate information from the pertinent federal, state, and local agencies and disseminate such information to school districts throughout the State. School districts are encouraged to adopt proactive pandemic preparedness strategies. IASB also encourages school participation in the National Fire Protection Association's campaign for fire escape planning and practice among our member families and citizens.
10. **The Illinois Association of School Boards urges** local boards of education to provide education programs on awareness of the advantages of wearing bicycle helmets when riding bicycles.
11. **The Illinois Association of School Boards urges** its member districts to limit career exploration activities to non-school attendance days or to school-run career days. In addition, the Association believes Take-Your-Daughter-to-Work Day should be designated for a non-attendance day and should also consider working to make this day non-gender specific.
12. **The Illinois Association of School Boards believes** that the overall health of our students is of prime importance. Local boards of education and school district officials should have the authority and flexibility to access State and community health services as deemed appropriate. To that end, IASB: urges school districts to comply with the required notification provisions regarding vision screening for students, recommends that parents provide for regular and on-going comprehensive vision examinations for their children, and encourages school districts to consider adopting a policy requiring optometric vision examinations for all children entering kindergarten.
13. **The Illinois Association of School Boards believes** that the work of locally elected, volunteer school board members should be valued and that employers should be encouraged to allow employees to utilize vacation days or days off with pay to attend mandated school board member training and professional development opportunities offered by IASB or other approved training providers.
14. **The Illinois Association of School Boards believes** that effective local school board governance is vital to the success of our public schools and urges local boards of education to abide by IASB's Foundational Principles of Effective Governance, avoid real or perceived incidents of impropriety, and adopt policies or procedures to ensure that board members and elected board officers have no conflicts of interest.
15. **The Illinois Association of School Boards believes** school boards should employ competitive bidding practices for upgrades in technology and energy savings and should also provide energy savings contracting model policy and training opportunities for school districts.
16. **The Illinois Association of School Boards believes** that schools should provide a safe and secure environment for all students and staff. Decisions of school safety drills, plans, and procedures should be made at the local level, utilizing evidence-based practices that maximize resources and effectiveness, and by soliciting input from local emergency responders resulting in fewer physical, emotional, and psychological risks to students and staff.