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DANIEL M. ROSSMILLER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

25-12-16P12:15 RCVD

**TO: Official Delegates and District Administrators of WASB Member Boards**  
**FROM: Andrew Maertz, President & Dan Rossmiller, Executive Director**  
**DATE: December 2025**  
**RE: OFFICIAL NOTICE: 2026 WASB DELEGATE ASSEMBLY**

This is your notice of the Delegate Assembly, the annual meeting of the members of the Wisconsin Association of School Boards, Inc. (WASB). **The Delegate Assembly will be held beginning at 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 21, 2026, in Ballroom A/B on the first level at the Baird Center, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.**

The active members of the WASB are entitled to one vote at the Delegate Assembly. [Public school boards and boards of control of cooperative educational service agencies who have paid membership dues for the current fiscal year have the rights of active members, as does each member of the WASB Board of Directors.] The vote of each member public school board and CESA board of control shall be cast by a delegate or alternate who is qualified to serve under the WASB Bylaws.

The Policy and Resolutions Committee received and discussed numerous resolution suggestions from member boards. Some of the suggestions have been forwarded for Delegate Assembly consideration (proposed resolutions), while others were turned down by the committee (turned down resolutions).

Each active member board should determine its position on each of the resolutions to give direction to the board's official delegate. It is suggested that official delegates be given discretionary latitude by their respective boards to vote on amendments or on other resolutions that may come before the Delegate Assembly.

The WASB Policy and Resolutions Committee Chair (joined by WASB staff and the Parliamentarian) will hold a discussion session on Tuesday, Jan. 20, 2026, in the Crystal Ballroom at the Hilton Milwaukee City Center Hotel beginning at 7 p.m. to afford active members an opportunity to seek any needed clarification of issues addressed in the proposed resolutions. This discussion of proposed resolutions will be an informational session only; no action will be taken, and no debate will be allowed at this time.

The WASB Policy & Resolutions Committee at the Tuesday night discussion session also may receive emergency resolution suggestions from active member boards or the Board of Directors. An emergency resolution is one that deals with a concern that arises between Nov. 1 and the time of the Delegate Assembly and could not have been presented earlier due to the emergency nature of the subject. The committee shall consider such resolutions for presentation at the Delegate Assembly the next day. If reported to the Delegate Assembly by the committee, such emergency resolutions shall be considered pursuant to the procedure under the WASB Bylaws, which requires a two-thirds vote for consideration. If consideration is approved, adoption of an emergency resolution requires a simple majority vote.

The WASB Bylaws provide for the introduction of other resolutions at the Delegate Assembly as well as

amendments to the WASB Bylaws:

- The sponsor (submitting board) of any resolution which had been submitted to the Policy and Resolutions Committee on or prior to Sept. 15, but which had been turned down by the committee, may bring the resolution up for action from the Delegate Assembly floor with a two-thirds favorable vote on the question of consideration. If consideration is approved, adoption of a resolution brought up for action by the Delegate Assembly requires a simple majority vote. **We strongly encourage you to review all resolutions, regardless of whether they were forwarded to the Delegate Assembly or not, to be prepared for potential discussion of turned down resolutions.**
- After Sept. 15, a member board may bring a proposed resolution up for action on the Assembly floor with a two-thirds favorable vote as long as the district board provides each member board a copy of its proposed resolution with rationale three weeks before the Delegate Assembly. Boards planning to offer such resolutions may want to be prepared to present evidence of the timely distribution of copies of the proposed resolution to members. If consideration is approved, adoption of a resolution brought up for action by the Delegate Assembly requires a simple majority vote.
- The WASB Bylaws may be amended at the Delegate Assembly by a vote of two-thirds of the members present and voting. All proposed amendments must be submitted in writing to the Association office at least 40 days prior to the meeting at which they will be voted, and the Executive Director must include such proposed amendments in the notice to the membership for the meeting. **(There is a proposed Bylaws amendment this year. It is included in this mailing.)** Amendments to the Bylaws shall take effect immediately if adopted by members unless another date is set forth in the amendment.

According to the WASB Bylaws, no written or other materials are allowed to be distributed without prior approval, and only official delegates will be allowed on the delegate floor at the Delegate Assembly. Others are invited to be seated in the observers' section.

**Delegates may check in from 8:30-10 a.m. and from noon-1:30 p.m. on the day of the Delegate Assembly immediately outside of Ballroom AB on the first floor of the Baird Center.** Delegate Assembly registration is handled separately from Convention registration. **To attend the Delegate Assembly, you do not have to be registered for convention.**

The WASB looks forward to a productive Delegate Assembly and to the active participation of our members in this important policy-making process.

AM/DR/imf

Enclosures: Welcome Packet Including Agendas  
2026 Delegate Assembly Packet  
Official Notice and Proposed Procedure Rules  
"Decoupling" Resolutions Informational Packet  
Proposed Amendments to the WASB Bylaws  
WASB Bylaws



## **2026 WASB DELEGATE ASSEMBLY-PROPOSED PROCEDURE RULES**

**PROCEDURES:** Procedures are governed by the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised to the extent that publication is not inconsistent with the WASB Bylaws or Articles of Incorporation or these rules.

**CREDENTIALS:** Only certified delegates or alternates of active members and members of the WASB Board of Directors may be in the Delegate Assembly area and vote. Alternates may be approved with proper credentials. Delegates must wear the "Delegate Ribbon" when in the Delegate Assembly.

**TELLERS:** The presiding officer shall appoint official tellers from member school boards or association staff to assist in vote counting, as the presiding officer feels necessary.

**RECOGNITION:** Certified delegates and WASB officers and directors may address the Delegate Assembly. Members of the Policy and Resolution Committee, the Credentials Committee, the parliamentarian, legal counsel, and association staff may be recognized as appropriate at the discretion of the presiding officer. Given Delegate Assembly approval by a two-thirds vote, the presiding officer may invite or allow another person to address the Delegate Assembly on a specific issue.

**DEBATE ON THE FLOOR:** Numbered microphones will be located on the floor. A delegate may speak by going to a microphone, being recognized by the presiding officer, giving his or her full name and the name of the school board or CESA represented. A delegate may speak no longer than three minutes at one time on the same question. Once a delegate has spoken on a question, he or she will not be recognized again for the same question until others who wish to speak have spoken. The presiding officer, on any question, may alternate discussion by the opponents and proponents on that issue and ask for a vote after 10 minutes of total discussion. The vote may be postponed by a majority vote appeal of the presiding officer's order. The presiding officer may order a short caucus recess upon request supported by 25 or more delegates.

**BYLAWS AMENDMENTS:** Proposed amendments to the WASB Bylaws, if any, submitted in accordance with Article XIII of the Bylaws will be considered before the resolutions. The Bylaws may be amended by a vote of two-thirds of the members present and voting.

**RESOLUTIONS:** The resolutions presented by the Policy and Resolutions Committee, including any Emergency Resolutions which receive a two-thirds favorable vote, shall be considered before other resolutions. Any resolution that was turned down by the Policy and Resolutions Committee and submitted by the sponsor of the proposed resolution shall, upon a two-thirds favorable vote of the Delegate Assembly, be considered next. Then, any resolution brought after September 15 that had been distributed to each member district three weeks before the Delegate Assembly shall, upon a two-thirds favorable vote, be considered. Approval of a resolution requires a majority vote of those present and voting.

**AMENDMENTS:** Amendments to proposed Bylaws amendments or resolutions must be presented in writing on the appropriate form, signed with the name of the district, and delivered

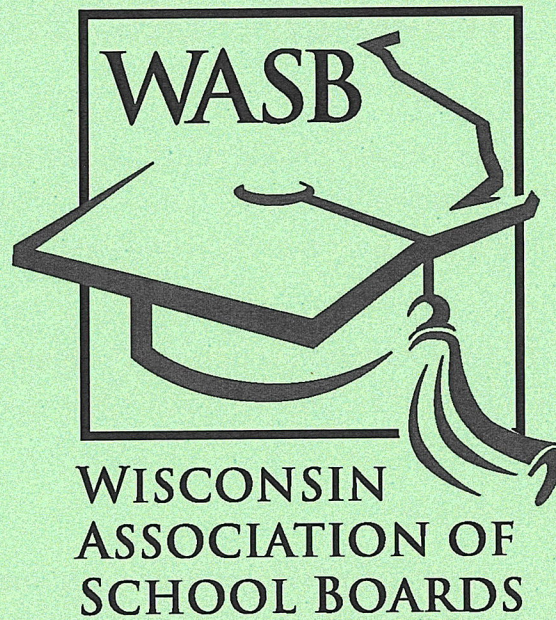
to a teller, association staff, or the presiding officer. Amendments must be germane to the Bylaws amendment or resolution and are limited to the scope of the presented Bylaws amendment or resolution. Resolutions denominated as "Technical Resolutions" shall not be subject to amendment by the Delegate Assembly.

**VOTING:** Voting may be by electronic voting, voice vote, a showing of voting paddles, or a count of standing delegates, as the presiding officer feels necessary.

**MOTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION:** Any motion to consider a resolution that requires a two-thirds vote for consideration is debatable with respect to consideration. If the motion to consider is approved, the merits of the resolution are also debatable.

**DISTRIBUTION OF MATERIALS:** No delegate or other person shall hand out or disseminate any written or other material at any association convention or meeting of association members or delegates without prior approval of the WASB Board of Directors or Executive Committee, or approval by a vote of the delegates at the Delegate Assembly.





## **Your Guide to the Resolutions on “Decoupling”**

Contains:

- Summary of How These Resolutions Will Be Handled on the Floor
- Brief Explanation of the Process of “Decoupling”



# RESOLUTIONS ON “DECOUPLING”

This year’s Delegate Assembly will have a unique situation: two directly conflicting proposed resolutions on the same policy topic put before the body. These resolutions are resolutions 10 and 11 and can be found in the “*2026 Delegate Assembly Packet*,” also in this mailing.

Resolution 10 calls on the WASB to support the policy of “decoupling”. Resolution 11 calls on the WASB to oppose the policy of “decoupling” (or, in other words, calls on the WASB to support current law).

## Delegate Assembly Floor Procedure

**After careful review with our Parliamentarian, it was determined that the resolutions should be presented in this order; the resolution calling for a change in state law (10) being presented first, and the resolution calling for support of the status quo (11) following.**

You may be wondering, if these resolutions take directly opposing stances on the same issue, what happens if they both are passed? **In short, both resolutions cannot be approved.** According to Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised, a main motion cannot be brought up again during the same meeting if it is in direct conflict with a motion that has already been adopted and is still in force. For more information or questions attend the Pre-Delegate Assembly Session.

**If resolution 10 is approved by the Delegates, 11 is rendered moot and will be removed from the agenda. Should resolution 10 be rejected by the Delegates, the body will move on to resolution 11 with the opportunity to debate/amend/vote on that resolution.** The situation could also arise where neither resolution is approved, in which case the WASB will have no institutional position on the process of decoupling (as is currently the case). **Amendments to either resolution that change the word “support” to “oppose” or vice versa, will be declared out of order.**

Decoupling can be a difficult policy to understand, particularly for newer board members who are not as familiar with school finance issues. To help provide clarity and a shared understanding of the topic, **we have provided a short summary of decoupling in the following two pages.**



# UNDERSTANDING “DECOUPLING”

## ALTERING FUNDING FOR THE PARENTAL CHOICE & INDEPENDENT CHARTER PROGRAMS

### **BACKGROUND CONTEXT**

Wisconsin’s voucher programs include (in chronological order) the **Milwaukee Parental Choice Program (MPCP)**, the **Racine Parental Choice Program (RPCP)**, the statewide **Wisconsin Parental Choice Program (WPCP)**, and the **Special Needs Scholarship Program (SNSP)**. The four programs were implemented at different times, and their funding mechanisms have changed over time.

Likewise, how **Independent Charter Schools** are funded depends on whether the authorizing entity had chartering authority prior to the 2015-17 budget act (2015 Act 55). Those prior to Act 55 are referred to as “**Legacy**” **authorizers** (UW-Milwaukee, the City of Milwaukee, and UW-Parkside) and those after Act 55 are “**New**” **authorizers** (the Director of the Office of Educational Opportunity (UW Madison), the Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwe College, and the Waukesha County Executive).

### **HOW ARE THESE PROGRAMS CURRENTLY FUNDED?**

#### ***Milwaukee Parental Choice Program & “Legacy” Ind. Charters - State Funded***

The **MPCP** upon conception was initially funded by the state. For a time, it was shifted to a state-local cost-sharing method as the program grew. Now, once again, the program is funded exclusively by the state. This shift back to full state funding was made gradually over several years.

Payments for “**Legacy**” **Ind. Charter Schools** were previously a state-local cost share, however since the 2021-22 school year these programs were also shifted exclusively to state funding.

#### ***Racine/Statewide Parental Choice Programs, the Special Needs Scholarship Program & “New” Ind. Charter – Funded via State Aid Reductions to Public School Districts***

Initially, the **RPCP** and **WPCP** programs began as state funded programs. However, as the two programs grew, they shifted funding mechanisms. The two programs, along with the **SNSP**, are now paid for by reducing the state aid of a participating pupil’s resident school district (DPI makes these reductions before aid is sent), the resident school district is then allowed to replace the lost aid by charging property taxpayers. In the following year, school



districts count resident choice/ind. charter participants in their state aid calculations. This allows the district to offset some of the property tax impacts from the prior year.

Similarly, pupils attending a **“New” Ind. Charter School** are funded through a reduction in state aid from a pupil’s resident school district. That district is still able to count the pupil for revenue limit and general aid purposes. However, unlike the Racine, Statewide, and Special Needs Program, school districts cannot levy property taxpayers to replace the lost aid.

### **WHAT DOES “DECOUPLING” PROPOSE?**

#### ***ALL Choice Program & Ind. Charter Payments Would Be Exclusively State Funded***

Recent legislative proposals have proposed shifting the funding source of the RPCP, WPCP, SNSP choice programs and “new” independent charter school programs...

#### **FROM:**

a reduction to a school district’s state aid (with the ability of the school district to replace that aid in their property tax levy)

#### **TO:**

state budget dollars

The resident school district of the choice/charter pupil would no longer be able to count the pupil for the purposes of aid calculations or in their revenue limit and would no longer have a need to replace lost aid from property taxpayers.

In other words, decoupling would make all choice and ind. charter school payments completely funded by state budget dollars like MPCP and “Legacy” ind. charter payments are under current law.



# OFFICIAL BYLAWS OF THE WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BOARDS, INC.

(As amended by the WASB Delegate Assembly, January 21, 2009)

## ARTICLE I

### Name

The official corporate name of this "Association" shall be Wisconsin Association of School Boards, Inc.

## ARTICLE II

### Purposes

The purposes of this corporation shall be: To aid and assist public school boards and public school agencies of the State of Wisconsin in performing their lawful functions by meetings, communication, dissemination of information and providing other services to such public school boards and public school agencies and to otherwise support, promote and advance the interests of public education in the State of Wisconsin.

## ARTICLE III

### Membership

**Section 1.** There shall be one class of voting members known as active members. Active membership shall be open to all public school boards and boards of control of cooperative educational service agencies in the State of Wisconsin upon complying with the Bylaws' requirements for active membership and shall include each member of the Board of Directors of this Association.

**Section 2.** Each active member shall be entitled to one vote at each meeting of members. A delegate of a member public school board shall not serve as a delegate of a board of control and vice versa. The vote of each member public school board and board of control shall be cast by a delegate selected from the membership of the board as is more fully provided in Article VIII, Section 5 of these Bylaws.

**Section 3.** Regular Dues (active members).

The annual membership dues for active members shall be as follows.

(a) Public School Boards:

The annual regular dues for member public school boards shall be based upon the number of professional staff employed by the member public school board in accordance with the regular dues schedule for the 1986-87 fiscal year plus or minus such revision, if any, as may be made by the Board of Directors for the fiscal year 1987-88 and thereafter pursuant to subs. (d) of Section 4 of this Article III. The regular dues schedule applicable to the fiscal year shall be distributed annually to members. Professional staff shall include classroom teachers, supervisors, principals, assistant superintendents, administrators and other professional or certified employees, the number to be determined annually from statistics published by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction for the school year ending immediately prior to the fiscal year for which dues are payable.

(b) Board of Control of Cooperative Educational Service Agencies: An amount equal to the dues established for the first category in the regular dues schedule for the fiscal year.

(c) Members of the Board of Directors of this Association: None.

**Section 4.** Payment of Dues.

- (a) Only those public school boards and boards of control who pay membership dues for the current fiscal year in accordance with Bylaws are entitled to active membership or any of the rights of active members.

- (b) Except as hereinafter provided, annual membership dues shall be paid in advance during July of each fiscal year.
- (c) Initial application for active membership shall be accompanied by membership dues for the balance of the fiscal year in which the application is made, computed as follows: The annual dues chargeable for the current year shall be divided by 12 and the quotient multiplied by the number of months to July 1st next following the date of the application.
- (d) The regular dues schedule may be revised annually by the Board of Directors, but in no case may the regular dues in any category be increased or decreased by a percentage greater than the percentage change in the statewide average expenditure per public school student in the prior year. In addition to any revision made under the authority set out in the previous sentence, in the 2007-2008 fiscal year the Board of Directors may increase each category of the regular dues schedule by \$50, and for the 2008-09 fiscal year and thereafter each category so increased is subject to revision under the previous sentence.

**Section 5.** The following classes of non-voting members are hereby established. Members of each such class of nonvoting membership may exercise all rights and privileges of active members, except that the right to vote or hold office in the Association by virtue of such membership is and shall be denied.

- (a) Life Members: This membership shall be and hereby is granted to each past president of the Association for so long as he or she continuously remains a member of a public school board holding active membership in the Association. A life member shall pay no dues.
- (b) Past Service Members: Former school board members who have served at least six years on a public school board in the State of Wisconsin may become a past service member upon application and payment of such annual dues as may be fixed by the Board of Directors.
- (c) Honorary Members: All past presidents of the Association who do not qualify for life membership, and such other person or persons who have performed distinguished service to public education as may be designated from time to time by the Board of Directors, shall be honorary members. Honorary members shall pay no dues.

## ARTICLE IV

### Board of Directors

**Section 1.** Number of Directors: The Board of Directors of the Association is hereby 15 in number.

**Section 2.** Regional Boundaries: For purposes of election of the Board of Directors, the State of Wisconsin is divided into 15 Association regions, the boundaries of which shall coincide with school district boundaries. The regional boundaries shall initially be established by the Board of Directors and approved by a majority vote of the delegates voting at a meeting of the Delegate Assembly. Thereafter, district boundaries may be revised upon request of an active school board member for transfer to another region and approval by a two-thirds vote of the total membership of the Board of Directors.

**Section 3.** Qualifications, Term and Election

- (a) Qualifications: Each member of the Board of Directors shall be a member of a public school board which is an active member of the Association. Not more than one Director shall be elected or appointed from any of the 15 Association regions.
- (b) Term: Except as otherwise expressly provided at Section 4 of this Article IV:



- (1) The term of office for a Director shall be three years and until a successor is elected or appointed and qualifies.
  - (2) Directors shall take office immediately following the close of the annual Delegate Assembly meeting which next follows the Director's election. The Directors from the 15 regions shall take office in accordance with the following schedule: 2010, 2013, 2016, 2019, 2022, etc. Regions 1-4-9-10-13 2011, 2014, 2017, 2020, 2023, etc. Regions 2-5-7-11-15 2012, 2015, 2018, 2021, 2024, etc. Regions 3-6-8-12-14
- (c) Nomination and election: Persons qualified to be elected as directors of the Association shall be nominated and elected as follows:
- The Director from each region shall be elected at the fall regional conference of members of the Association by the member public school boards and cooperative educational service agency boards of control present and voting pursuant to the following procedure:
- (1) The fall regional conference for each region shall be called by the Board of Directors.
  - (2) The Executive Director of the Association shall give written notice of the upcoming election to each member public school board in each region from which a director is to be nominated. The notice shall be mailed at least 85 days prior to the date set for the fall regional conference and shall set forth the right of each member public school board to submit to the Association office in written form the name of one nominee who resides within the region and is otherwise qualified for membership on the Board of Directors, together with a brief biography and summary of qualifications and the nominee's signed declaration that he or she will serve if elected. The notice shall state that all nominations must be postmarked 40 days prior to the date of the fall regional conference. Not less than 30 days prior to the fall regional conference, the Executive Director shall mail to each member public school board and board of control in the region the names of all qualified nominees which have been timely received together with the biography and summary of qualifications submitted for each such nominee. In the event no nominations are postmarked 40 days prior to the date of the fall regional conference, the regional director may be elected at the regional meeting by write-in. In such case the delegates shall be presented a blank ballot allowing the write in of names of qualified candidates. Qualified write-in candidates shall include only those individuals who prior to voting have filed a signed declaration that he or she will serve. The rules contained in Section 3(c)(3) shall apply to such elections to the extent applicable.
  - (3) Each public school board and board of control (determined by the cooperative educational service agency address) in the region, which holds active membership in the Association, shall be entitled to one vote in electing a single nominee from the region for the Board of Directors and the vote of each member public school board and board of control must be cast by a single member of such school board and board of control who is present at the conference. The voting shall be by ballot unless there is only one nominee, in which case a voice vote shall be used. If a nominee does not receive a majority of the votes cast on any ballot, then the voting by ballot shall continue until one nominee receives a majority, provided, however, that:
    - a. If two nominees each receive a total number of votes cast on any ballot that are higher than the total number of votes cast for any other nominee, then those two shall be the only nominees who remain eligible for election on any succeeding ballot;
    - b. If two or more nominees tie with each receiving the highest total number of votes cast on any ballot, then only those nominees who are tied with the highest total number of

votes remain eligible for election on any succeeding ballot;

Or

- c. If one nominee receives the highest total number of votes cast and two or more nominees tie with the second highest total number of votes cast on any ballot, then only those nominees who received the highest or second highest total number of votes remain eligible for election on any succeeding ballot.

#### **Section 4. Vacancies**

- (a) Vacancies occurring during a Director's term shall be filled by appointment of the Board for the interim period to the next scheduled fall regional conference at which an election can be and is noticed and held pursuant to the nomination and election procedures provided by these Bylaws.
- (b) A Director elected for a full term or for the balance of an unexpired term who succeeds an interim Director appointed by the Board to fill a vacancy shall take office immediately following the close of the fall regional conference at which elected. The term of his or her office, if elected for a full term, shall continue for three years following the close of the annual Delegate Assembly meeting next following his or her election.
- (c) A vacancy shall exist when:
  - (1) The public school board of which the Director is a member ceases, for any reason, to remain an active member of the Association.
  - (2) The Director, for any reason, ceases to be a legally qualified member of the public school board in the region from which he was elected.
  - (3) The Director dies.
  - (4) The Director resigns.

**Section 5. Limit on successive terms as Director:** No Director shall serve more than three consecutive three-year terms. Any term of service, as a Director, for a period of less than three years shall not be counted as a consecutive three-year term for purposes of this limitation.

**Section 6. General duties of Board of Directors:** Subject to the Articles of Incorporation, these Bylaws and acts of the Delegate Assembly, the Board of Directors shall have general charge and management of the affairs, funds and property of the Association. The Board shall have full power, and it shall be the Board's duty, to carry out the purposes of the Association according to the Articles of Incorporation and these Bylaws. In conducting the business and affairs of the Association, the Board of Directors, without limitation because of enumeration, may hire employees and retain legal and other professional services and fix the salary and compensation to be paid to the Executive Director, other officers, professional consultants, and all other employees.

**Section 7. Quorum:** Eight members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

### **ARTICLE V Officers**

**Section 1.** The officers of the Association shall include a President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. The offices of Secretary and Treasurer are combined, shall be held by the same person and designated by the title Executive Director. The Board of Directors may appoint other officers, including assistant officers, at any time and assign duties to them as the Board may deem necessary.

The President, First Vice President, and Second Vice President shall be a member of the Board of Directors.

The President, First Vice President and Second Vice President shall be appointed by the Board of Directors at the first meeting of the Board following the close of the Delegate Assembly and each such officer shall be appointed to serve for a term of one year and until his or her successor is appointed and qualified; except when a vacancy occurs, in which case the Board of Directors may appoint an officer for the balance of the unexpired term. Officers shall take office upon



appointment but not prior to the close of the annual convention held in the year of appointment. The Executive Director (Secretary and Treasurer) may be appointed at any time for a term not exceeding three years.

**Section 2.** The President shall preside at all meetings of the Delegate Assembly, Board of Directors, and Executive Committee and shall preside at the meeting of the Policy and Resolutions Committee during the absence or disability of the First Vice President and shall perform such other duties as pertain to the office of President.

**Section 3.** The First Vice President shall preside at all meetings of the Policy and Resolutions Committee and shall render the President such assistance as he or she shall require. During the President's absence or disability, the First Vice President shall discharge the duties of the President. He or she shall perform such other duties as the Board of Directors may assign.

**Section 4.** The Second Vice President shall render the President and the First Vice President, acting in the absence or during the disability of the President, any assistance that may be required. During the absence or disability of the President and First Vice President, he or she shall discharge the duties of President and Vice President. He or she shall perform such other duties as the Board of Directors may assign.

**Section 5.** The Secretary shall be responsible for keeping the minutes of all meetings of the Delegate Assembly and of the Board of Directors. He or she shall also be responsible for keeping all records, giving all required notices, handling the correspondence of the Association and the performance of such other duties as the Board of Directors may assign.

He or she shall present a detailed budget to the Board of Directors and, upon approval, to the entire membership prior to the beginning of the fiscal year of the Association. He or she also shall submit a detailed financial report at the close of each fiscal year to the Association's membership.

**Section 6.** The Treasurer shall be responsible for the collection and disbursement of the Association funds and for keeping accurate accounts of receipts and expenditures. He or she shall present an annual report and such other reports as requested by the Board of Directors and shall perform such other duties as the Board of Directors shall assign.

**Section 7.** The Board of Directors may appoint an Acting Executive Director to serve as Executive Director during the temporary absence or disability of the Executive Director.

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **Meetings of Directors**

The Board of Directors shall hold regular meetings at least four times each year. The annual schedule of regular board meetings shall be set each year by the Board of Directors.

Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by the President, or Secretary, or on written request of four directors.

At least five days notice of any regular or special meeting of the Board shall be given to each Director. Notice shall be in writing, and may be communicated by telegraph, teletype, facsimile or other form of wire or wireless communication, or by regular mail or private carrier. The notice of the meeting shall set forth the date, time and place of the meeting, and, in case of a special meeting, the notice shall also set forth the purpose for which the meeting is called and the business to be transacted at such meeting.

All meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held in the State of Wisconsin.

Any action required to be taken by the Articles or Bylaws of this Association at a meeting of the Directors may be taken without a meeting if consent in writing, setting forth the action to be taken, is signed by all the Directors.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **Committees**

**Section 1.** Executive Committee: An Executive Committee shall be elected annually by the Board of Directors at the first meeting of the

Board after the Delegate Assembly and shall consist of at least three members of the Board of Directors, including the President, the First Vice President, the Second Vice President and the immediate Past President (if serving on the Board of Directors).

The Executive Committee shall have and may exercise when the Board of Directors is not in session all of the powers of the Board of Directors in the management of the affairs of the Corporation except action in respect to election of officers or filling of vacancies in the Board of Directors or Executive Committee.

Meetings of the Executive Committee may be called by the President or Secretary of the Association or on written request of any two members of the Executive Committee. At least three days notice of an Executive Committee meeting shall be given to each member of the Executive Committee. The notice may be communicated in person, by telephone, telegraph, teletype, facsimile or other form of wire or wireless communication, or by regular mail or private carrier.

**Section 2.** Policy and Resolutions Committee: A Policy and Resolutions Committee shall be appointed annually by the President following recommendations by the members of the Board of Directors. This Committee shall be composed of the Executive Committee and members of school boards holding active membership in the Association. The Committee shall include in its total membership a representative from each of the Association regions and from each of the several types of public school districts operating in the State of Wisconsin.

The Policy and Resolutions Committee shall make recommendations to the Executive Committee and Board of Directors as to the adoption of policies and resolutions to be carried out or promoted and positions to be taken by the Association on educational subjects and issues which are of general concern to public school boards of the State of Wisconsin and may submit resolutions to be considered at the Delegate Assembly in the manner set forth in Article IX of these Bylaws.

In addition to other meetings, the Committee shall schedule and give notice of a discussion session for purposes of discussing proposed resolutions and receiving emergency resolution suggestions from active members or the Board of Directors on the day preceding the annual Delegate Assembly. An emergency resolution is one that deals with a concern that arises between November 1st and the time of the Delegate Assembly and could not have been presented earlier due to the emergency nature of the subject. The Committee shall consider such resolutions for presentation and recommendation at the Delegate Assembly the next day. Such emergency resolutions shall be considered by the Delegate Assembly pursuant to the procedure under Article IX, Section 2, which requires a two-thirds vote for consideration.

**Section 3.** Other Committees: There shall be such other committees as the Board of Directors shall from time to time establish, which shall be appointed by the President from among the members of public school boards holding active membership in the Association.

The President shall appoint at least one Director to serve on each of the committees authorized by this section of the Bylaws and each such committee shall have such duties as may be assigned to it by the Board of Directors.

## **ARTICLE VIII**

### **Meetings of Members**

**Section 1.** Annual Meeting: The annual meeting of members shall be the Delegate Assembly held in the State of Wisconsin during the month of January, February or March of each calendar year. The Board of Directors shall determine the day in January, February or March, the time of day and the place where the next Delegate Assembly will be held.

**Section 2.** Special Meetings: Special meetings of members may be called for a stated purpose or purposes by the Board of Directors, Executive Committee or by members holding one-third of the votes entitled to be cast by a meeting of members. The time and place of special meetings shall be determined by the Board of Directors.

**Section 3.** Notice of Meetings: Written notice stating the date, day and hour and place of all meetings of members and, in case of a special meeting, the purpose or purposes for which the meeting is called, shall be delivered by or at the direction of the President or Secretary not less than 30 days before the date of the meeting to each member entitled to vote at the meeting. Notice of the meeting shall be delivered by mail and shall be deemed delivered when deposited in the United States mail addressed to the member at his or her address as it appears from the records of the Association.

**Section 4.** Quorum: Delegates of members representing more than one-half of the active membership of the Association shall constitute a quorum for conducting the business of the meeting.

**Section 5.** Voting and Certification of Delegates: The voting members of the Association (including members of the Board of Directors) shall each be entitled to one vote. The vote of each member public school board and board of control shall be cast by a delegate or alternate delegate selected from among the board members who are qualified to serve under Article III, Section 2, of the Bylaws. All delegates and alternates shall be certified in writing by the president, secretary or administrator of the member board. The certification must be delivered in person or by mail to the Association's principal office at least five days before the meeting of members as a condition to the member's right to vote at the meeting provided, however, that a member's delegate and alternate or alternates once certified shall be deemed to have continuous certification on the records of the Association and shall be entitled to cast the member's vote until a new certification is received if such delegate or alternate upon presenting himself or herself at the meeting of members establishes to the satisfaction of the credentials committee for such meeting that he or she is currently a member of the board of the active member which he or she purports to represent as a delegate, and is otherwise qualified.

**Section 6.** Restriction on circulation of written or other materials at meetings of members: No delegate or other person shall hand out or disseminate any written or other material at any Association convention or meeting of Association members or delegates without prior approval of the Board of Directors or Executive Committee, or approval by a vote of the delegates at a Delegate Assembly meeting.

## **ARTICLE IX**

### **Submission of Resolutions to Delegate Assembly**

**Section 1.** The Board of Directors and the Policy and Resolutions Committee may each approve resolutions for submission to and consideration by the Delegate Assembly. A copy of all such approved resolutions shall be submitted to active members with the notice of the Delegate Assembly.

Any active member desiring the consideration of a resolution or resolutions by the Delegate Assembly may submit such resolution to the Policy and Resolutions Committee for the Committee's evaluation and recommendation provided that such resolution is received at the principal office of the Association on or before September 15 of the year immediately preceding the year of the next Delegate Assembly. The Policy and Resolutions Committee shall, after evaluating all such proposed resolutions timely submitted by active members, determine which of the resolutions shall be approved and submitted for the consideration of the Delegate Assembly and distributed with the notice of the Delegate Assembly.

All submitted resolutions which were turned down by the Policy and Resolutions Committee shall be copied and sent to all member districts with their notice of the Delegate Assembly. The sponsor of the proposed resolution may then bring their resolution up for action from the Delegate Assembly floor with a two-thirds favorable vote. After September 15, a member district may bring a proposed resolution up for action on the Delegate Assembly floor with a two-thirds favorable vote as long as they provide each member district a copy of their proposed resolution with rationale three weeks before the Delegate Assembly.

**Section 2.** The Association Board of Directors or an active Association member may submit to the Policy and Resolutions Committee, at its pre-Delegate Assembly discussion session under Article VII, emergency resolutions for committee consideration. The Committee shall consider each resolution, and shall also attach its recommendation to those resolutions it reports to the Delegate Assembly. The Delegate Assembly shall consider emergency resolutions if two-thirds of the members present and voting vote to consider such resolution.

## **ARTICLE X**

### **Annual Convention**

This Association shall hold an annual convention concurrent with or immediately following the Delegate Assembly. The actual time, place and length of the convention shall be determined by the Board of Directors.

## **ARTICLE XI**

### **Fiscal Year**

The fiscal year of the Association shall run from July 1 through June 30.

## **ARTICLE XII**

### **Robert's Rules of Order Adopted**

All meetings of members and of the Board of Directors and of each of the committees of the Association shall be governed by the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised to the extent not inconsistent with the Articles of Incorporation and these Bylaws.

## **ARTICLE XIII**

### **Amendment of Bylaws**

These Bylaws may be amended at any annual or special meeting of the Delegate Assembly by a vote of two-thirds of the members present and voting. All proposed amendments must be submitted in writing to the Association office at least 40 days prior to the meeting at which they will be voted and the Executive Director must include such proposed amendments in the notice to the membership for such meeting.

Amendments to these Bylaws shall take effect on adoption by members at a membership meeting unless another date is specifically set forth in the resolution of amendment.

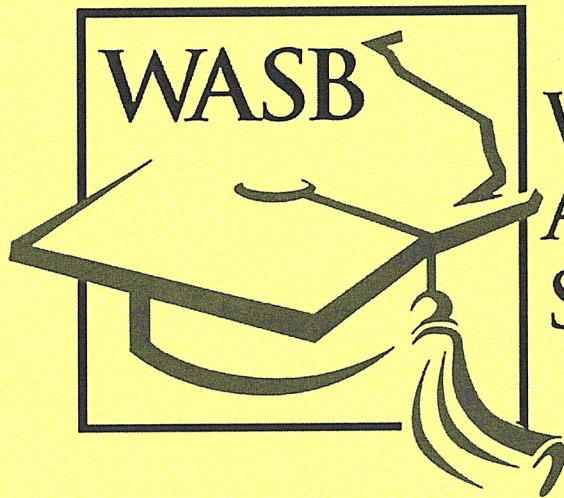
## **ARTICLE XIV**

### **Gender**

Whenever, in these Bylaws or in any other record of this Association, words importing one gender may appear (other than with obvious reference to named individuals) they extend and apply to any gender.



# **WELCOME!**



**WISCONSIN  
ASSOCIATION OF  
SCHOOL BOARDS**

**2026 DELEGATES  
TO  
THE DELEGATE ASSEMBLY**



# **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

## **What is the WASB Delegate Assembly?**

The Delegate Assembly is comprised of one representative from each member school board, CESA board of control, and each Regional Director of the WASB Board of Directors. The Assembly is held annually at the time of the State Education Convention in January.

The Delegate Assembly debates and votes on policy resolutions that form the advocacy positions of the WASB. As a WASB member, you have the opportunity to shape the future of both public education policy and our association.

## **Why am I receiving this mailing?**

1. Your board appointed you as their WASB representative (delegate); or
2. Your board did not appoint a WASB representative (or communicate that to the WASB) in which case this packet goes to the Board President by default; or
3. All District Administrators/Superintendents also receive this mailing.

## **I received this as a Board President but someone else from our board has agreed to be the delegate, can we make that change?**

Yes, you can report who your delegate is to the WASB in advance or that person can simply register outside the Delegate Assembly room on Jan. 21 from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Please make sure the chosen delegate receives this packet.

## **What do we do with the information included in this packet?**

Review the materials together as a board and instruct your delegate how to vote at the Delegate Assembly.

*See: "Official Notice" in this packet for more information.*



# SCHEDULE OF EVENTS FOR DELEGATES AT THE STATE EDUCATION CONVENTION

## **Pre-Delegate Assembly Discussion**

Tuesday, Jan. 20, 7 p.m. - Crystal Ballroom, Hilton Milwaukee City Center

The Pre-Delegate Assembly discussion is the opportunity for delegates to ask questions and offer emergency resolutions. No debate will be allowed.

The WASB Policy and Resolutions Committee will meet immediately following the discussion.

## **Convention/Delegate Orientation**

Wednesday, Jan. 21, 8-9 a.m. - Ballroom A/B, Baird Center

Are you new to the convention or serving as a first-time delegate at the WASB Delegate Assembly?

Attend a special session to learn everything you need to know to get the most out of your convention experience.

## **2026 Delegate Assembly**

Wednesday, Jan. 21, 1:30 p.m. - Ballroom A/B, Baird Center

Vote on the policies that will guide the association's legislative agenda on Wednesday, Jan. 21, at 1:30 p.m. in Ballroom A/B of the Baird Center.

Decisions reached by the Delegate Assembly will set the education policy positions of the WASB.

**Please note:** Delegates must pick up their credentials directly outside of the Delegate Assembly room beginning at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 21. Credentials are handled separately from convention registration materials to ensure that one representative from each member board can participate.

*See: "Official Agendas" on the next two pages of this packet.*



# **2026 PRE-DELEGATE ASSEMBLY DISCUSSION SESSION**

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2026; 7:00 PM  
CRYSTAL BALLROOM, HILTON MILWAUKEE CITY CENTER HOTEL**

## **AGENDA**

- I. Welcome 7:00 pm**

*Sandie Anderson, Chair, Policy and Resolutions Committee*

- II. Q&A on Proposed Bylaws Amendment & Resolutions 7:15 pm**

*WASB Staff*

- III. Receipt of Emergency Resolutions (if any)**

*An emergency resolution is one that deals with a concern that arises between November 1 and the time of the Delegate Assembly and could not have been presented earlier due to the emergency nature of the subject.*

- IV. Review of Parliamentary Procedure 7:45 pm**

*Doug Witte, Boardman & Clark LLP, WASB Legal Counsel and Parliamentarian*

- V. Adjourn 8:00 pm**



# **2026 WASB DELEGATE ASSEMBLY AGENDA**

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2026, 1:30 P.M.  
BALLROOM A/B, FIRST LEVEL – BAIRD CENTER**

**I. Call to Order by President Andrew Maertz at 1:30 p.m.**

**II. Introductions**

Introduction of members of the 2025 WASB Board of Directors, 2025 WASB Policy & Resolutions Committee, Secretary, Legal Counsel and Parliamentarian, Timer, Credentials Committee and Tellers.

**III. Credentials Committee Report**

**IV. Adopt Procedural Rules**

**V. Proposed Amendments to WASB Bylaws (Enclosed)**

**VI. WASB Policy & Resolutions Committee Recommended Resolutions (Enclosed)**

**VII. Emergency Resolutions, Turned Down Resolutions, Post-Deadline Resolutions**

The following resolutions brought up under Article IX of the Bylaws may be considered with a two-thirds favorable vote of those present and voting. Adoption of the resolution then requires a majority vote.

- Emergency resolutions presented by the Policy & Resolutions Committee;
- Resolutions that had been submitted to the Policy & Resolutions Committee on or before September 15, but turned down by the committee and brought up for action by their sponsors; or
- Resolutions submitted by member boards after September 15. These resolutions can be brought up for action by their sponsor(s) as long as the sponsor(s) provide each member board a copy of their proposed resolution with rationale at least three weeks before the Delegate Assembly.

**VIII. Other Business from the Delegates**

**IX. Adjournment**

**Note:** The Delegate Assembly is scheduled to be held from approximately 1:30 p.m. to 5:00 pm, or until completion of the Assembly's business.



## KEY REMINDERS FOR THE DELEGATE ASSEMBLY

To respect your time and ensure we can complete our business; here are reminders about our process to avoid slowing down the meeting and ensure we have an efficient and productive Delegate Assembly.

Please keep the following points in mind as you review and discuss the proposed resolutions for the 2026 Delegate Assembly:

- WASB resolutions state what the WASB's position on a given issue should be in a very broad sense. They are **NOT** legislation and do not need to align with current federal or state laws.
- The **Rationale** language included with each resolution does not go into the WASB Resolution Book. Only the resolution language itself does. The rationale is provided to give delegates some background on why the resolution was proposed. We do not accept amendments to the rationale wording.
- The language used in the resolutions was vetted by the policy & resolutions committee and WASB's parliamentarian. As such, **PLEASE refrain from "wordsmithing" or grammatical amendments.** (e.g. - replacing "students" with "pupils").
- Please evaluate and consider all resolutions **including those turned down by the committee**, because boards may bring these resolutions to the Delegate Assembly floor even if they were not advanced by the committee.
- If you are **proposing an amendment** on the Delegate Assembly floor, please fill out the amendment form and submit it to staff in front of the stage **as soon as possible (or even in advance of the meeting)**. Amendments must be received in writing and put onto a slide for the delegates to view. Proposing an amendment on the floor before you have submitted it in writing can cause significant delays to the proceedings.
- If you have a question about a resolution or know you are going to propose an amendment, **PLEASE** share those with us ahead of the Delegate Assembly in one of the following ways:
  - Pre-Delegate Assembly Discussion Session – Tuesday, January 20 in Milwaukee
  - Chris Kulow: [ckulow@wasb.org](mailto:ckulow@wasb.org) , (608) 512-1716
  - David Martin: [dmartin@wasb.org](mailto:dmartin@wasb.org) , (608) 512-1702

See: *"Proposed Procedure Rules" for the Delegate Assembly for more information.*

**We are looking forward to seeing you at the 2026 Delegate Assembly!**



## WASB RESOLUTION PROPOSALS

The WASB Bylaws allow resolution proposals from:

- Member School Boards & CESA Boards of Control (11 Resolutions this year)
- The WASB Board of Directors (0 Resolutions)
- The Policy & Resolutions Committee (1 Resolution)

The proposed resolutions are vetted by the WASB Policy & Resolutions Committee based on three criteria:

Is a proposed resolution...

-TIMELY?-

-WORTHY OF DEBATE?-

-NEED CONSIDERATION BY THE FULL WASB  
MEMBERSHIP?-

The committee forwards those it believes meet these criteria and turns down those it believes do not.

**The committee does not consider the merits of the resolutions in their vetting, nor does it recommend that delegates approve the resolutions.**

*See: "2026 Delegate Assembly Packet" for the resolution proposals approved and turned down by the committee.*