

# AASB's 72nd Annual Conference

## Plan to join AASB in Anchorage: November 13–16, 2025!

Start: Nov 13, 2025 @ 8:00 am

End: Nov 16, 2025 @ 5:00 pm

### Location:

William A. Egan Civic & Convention Center

555 W 5th Avenue, Anchorage, Alaska

As the state's largest gathering of education policymakers, AASB's Annual Conference provides school board members with a valuable opportunity to learn from their peers, engage with education experts, and strengthen collaboration within their board-superintendent teams. Sessions are designed to equip boards with content knowledge, practical tips, and tools to energize school boards, inspire change, and advance student achievement.

An integral part of the conference is the **Youth Leadership Institute (YLI)** — an inspiring experience that brings high school students from around Alaska to build leadership skills alongside their school boards, and learn how to be powerful advocates for their schools and communities. Boards are encouraged to bring student representatives to participate!

## New Venue for 2025!

This year, all conference sessions will take place at the **William A. Egan Civic & Convention Center**, right in the heart of Downtown Anchorage. This exciting new location offers expanded meeting space and improved accessibility to help us better fulfill our mission of serving Alaska's students, families, and communities. Choose your preferred accommodations with special room blocks available at both the Hilton Anchorage and Hotel Captain Cook, just a short walk from the venue.

## **This Year's Theme: *Coming Together for Students***

Now more than ever, Alaska's education leaders must unite in support of student success. This year's theme reflects our shared commitment to collaboration, connection, and strong local governance. Join school board members, superintendents, and education advocates from across the state as we come together to exchange ideas, learn from one another, and strengthen the leadership that shapes Alaska's schools and communities.

Stay tuned for registration details, lodging options, keynote speakers, and a full agenda. We look forward to **coming together for students** with you.

### **Keynote Speaker**



**Jeff Utecht**

*Educator | Innovator | Global Thought Leader*

The child of two educators, Jeff's journey began in Spokane, where his passion for authentic learning first took root. From volunteering as a teacher at 17 to receiving a Bill and Melinda Gates Technology Grant in 2001, Jeff has continually pushed the boundaries of education by exploring technology's transformative power in the classroom.

With over 75,000 educators upskilled worldwide, keynote addresses spanning the globe, and a reputation for creating sustainable change in schools, Jeff remains driven by a singular mission: to ensure we prepare students for their future, not our past. He shares insights drawn from decades of experience as a teacher, leader, and consultant, inspiring audiences to reimagine what's possible in education.

# Pre-Conference Sessions

## Experienced Board Member Academy

**Thursday, November 13**

This year's Experienced Board Member Academy will focus on the *Board's Role in School Finance*. The day will focus on strengthening board members' understanding of their oversight role in school district finances. Sessions will explore key financial topics such as:

- Overview of Alaska's Foundation Formula and how it determines school funding
- The fundamentals of the budgeting process and timelines
- Understanding and managing fund balance
- The role and impact of Impact Aid funding
- How grants affect district budgeting and financial planning

## Ready Set Govern

**Thursday, November 13 & Friday, November 14**

Ready Set Govern, designed for new school board members, is structured to help them better understand and feel more comfortable in their role, as well as connect with school board members from around the state.