

## **Prepared by Dr. Jeffrey Alstadt**

### **Participation in the 2026 IASB/IASA/IASBO Joint Annual Conference**

#### **Purpose**

For information and discussion regarding the upcoming Joint Annual Conference (commonly referred to as the "Triple I") in Chicago. The intent is to discuss the potential benefits of attendance for select Board members and the Superintendent to support our district's leadership and continuous improvement goals.

#### **Conference Overview**

The Joint Annual Conference is the premier training and networking event for Illinois school board members, superintendents, and business officials.

- Dates: November 20–22, 2026
- Location: Hyatt Regency Chicago / Sheraton Grand Chicago
- Theme: Focused on innovation, leadership, and real-world solutions for Illinois schools.

#### **Rationale for Attendance**

While it is not necessary for the entire Board to attend, having a small delegation participate offers significant value to Streator District 44:

- The conference provides a unique venue for Board members to share experiences with colleagues from across the state and learn how other districts are navigating similar challenges.
- Attending members can participate in various panel sessions (over 120 are offered) and bring back specific updates on school finance, safety, community engagement, and legislative changes to present to the full Board.
- As your Superintendent, I plan to attend alongside participating members. This collaborative environment fosters stronger alignment between the Board and administration, ensuring we are collectively informed on current educational trends.
- For Board members, this is an efficient way to fulfill professional development interests and gain insights into the "big picture" of Illinois public education.

#### **Logistics and Next Steps**

- Official registration for the conference and housing opens on June 1, 2026.
- During our meeting, I would like to discuss:
  1. Which Board members have an interest in attending this year?
  2. Specific topics or themes the Board would like the attendees to focus on.
  3. The process for sharing learned information during a post-conference winter meeting.

#### **Administrative Recommendation**

It is recommended that a representative group of Board members and the Superintendent participate in the Joint Annual Conference to ensure the District remains aligned with state-wide best practices while maintaining a responsible use of resources. This report is provided for information and discussion only. No formal Board action is required at this time.