Legislative Committee Meeting
Wednesday, September 30, 2026 3:45 PM
Central

Downers Grove Civic Center
850 Curtiss Street
Downers Grove, Illinois 60515

1. Opening Items
    1.A. Call to Order and Roll Call
2. Approval of Minutes
    2.A. Minutes of the March 4, 2026 meeting
3. 2026 IASB Resolutions Report
    3.A. Resolutions Report Discussion
4. Legislative Breakfast
    4.A. Legislative Breakfast Overview
5. Proposed Structure for Legislative Committee for 2026-27
    5.A. Discussion
6. Legislative Updates
    6.A. Legislative Updates
7. Public Comment
8. Adjournment

District 58 Legislative Committee

Minutes of March 4, 2026

The Legislative Committee met on Wednesday, March 4, 2026, at 3:45 p.m. at the Downers Grove Civic Center.

Call to Order

Katie Thomas called the meeting to order at 3:50 p.m.

Present

Katie Thomas, Kevin Russell, Julie Relihan, Zac Craft, Chuck Brewster, Emily Teising, Cam Johnson.

Absent

Emily Hanlon, Kelly Novotny, Bruce Swanson, Sarah Borgetti Ebenezer, Julie Byars, Allison Rickard, Jason Suchy.

Approval of Minutes

Chuck Brewster moved and Zac Craft seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the January 7, 2026 meeting. Motion carried.

Legislative Breakfast Discussion

Seating/Setup:

- Mixed reviews on the circle-of-chairs format; having no tables was challenging.
- Lunchroom tables were awkward; drinks spilled.
- Some comments about being hard to hear in a large room with so many people
- *Potential solutions* - ask D99 about borrowing round tables? Consider moving two of the breakout groups to another location (library? adjacent classrooms?) and relocating students to another classroom during that period.

Event Communication:

- Send an explanatory note with background information to invitees, including the purpose of the event, to share district priorities and build our relationships with legislators.

Event Naming & Refreshments:

- Consider renaming the event to **"Legislative Forum"** - will have light refreshments

Involve Students More:

- Consider student participation as a learning opportunity
- *Potential options* **-** have a small group of students with a legislator during or after the event; have a Q&A session for students after the event; determine relevant topics for students and which grade/groups to engage; have students prepare questions ahead of time and tie to classwork; gives photo opportunity to legislators

Meet & Greet - Networking:

- Encourage mingling with people who don't know each other - ask administrators to move to tables/groups to interact with other attendees

Nametags:

- Only need to have one nametag with the assigned group - do not need to use Raptor visitor stickers

Panel/Discussion Management:

- Passing one microphone helped to limit panelist interruption

Event Date:

- The timing of this year's event was 2 days after the state budget was released, which was very beneficial. Consider moving next year's event to February. Need to determine if the budget release is on a set date.

Legislative Updates

None.

Public Comment

None.

Adjournment

Cam Johnson moved and Zac Craft seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 4:19 p.m.

2026 Resolutions Committee Report

For the 2026 Delegate Assembly on Saturday, November 21, 2026

Published September 8, 2026

IASB Illinois Association of School Boards

Lighting the Way to Excellence in School Governance

IASB Illinois Association of School Boards

Lighting the Way to Excellence in School Governance

September 2026

IASB School Board Members and Administrators,

This 2026 Resolutions Committee Report includes proposed resolutions to be acted upon at the annual meeting of the IASB Delegate Assembly, which will take place on **Saturday, November 21, 2026, at 11:45 a.m. in conjunction with the Joint Annual Conference at the Hyatt Regency, Grand Ballroom, in Chicago**. Please note changes to both the time and location of the Delegate Assembly.

For years, our members have expressed that the Delegate Assembly conflicts with other meaningful events at Conference. Following conversations with the IASB Resolutions Committee, staff, and Board of Directors, the decision was made to move the Delegate Assembly to the lunch hour and to provide lunch for delegates. The location change to the Grand Ballroom will allow additional space for delegates, as well as other board members who observe the Delegate Assembly. IASB hopes this change better serves its members. Once again this year, there will not be tables. However, the new location has additional space for lunch and the Delegate Assembly.

Through the Resolutions Process and Delegate Assembly, member districts provide critical direction for IASB to represent member interests before state and national policymakers. Every member school district is entitled to one voting delegate at the Delegate Assembly. Your board should nominate a primary delegate to represent your school board and an alternate delegate, in the event the primary is unable to attend. Once your board chooses a primary delegate, the district's roster manager should register them online with IASB in advance of the Delegate Assembly. Delegate registration is now open. The alternate delegate does not need to be registered unless the primary delegate becomes unavailable.

This year delegates will vote on three proposed resolutions that received a recommendation of "Do Adopt" from the Resolutions Committee. Two other proposed resolutions received "Do Not Adopt" recommendations from the Resolutions Committee. The submitting districts have an opportunity to appeal that decision. If timely appealed, the IASB Constitution requires a two-thirds affirmative vote of the delegates present and voting at the Delegate Assembly for the appeal to be considered and voted upon.

Please discuss with your board the proposed resolutions to prepare your district's delegate to vote on behalf of your board. To guide these efforts, two documents are included in this report: *Guidance for Discussing IASB Resolutions* and *Local School Board Delegate Direction*.

Finally, I want to highlight the meaningful work done by the Resolutions Committee earlier this year in its annual review of the IASB Position Statements. This Resolutions Committee Report highlights opportunities to hear more about that work and ask questions about that process.

I hope these pages serve as a valuable resource for your school board in preparing for this discussion.

We look forward to our work together in November.

Alva J. Kreutzer

Alva Kreutzer, IASB Resolutions Chair and Vice President

New Time & Location!

Delegate Assembly

New Time: Saturday, November 21, 2026, 11:45 a.m.

New Location: Grand Ballroom, Ballroom Level, Hyatt East

Delegate Assembly Registration & Credentials for Attending Delegates

Districts are encouraged to pre-register their delegate through IASB's online registration process. Credentials are required for delegates to be seated. Alternate delegates only need to be registered if the delegate becomes unable to attend the Delegate Assembly.

Delegate Packet Pickup, Registrant Changes & Onsite Registrations

New Location: Grand Registration Desk

(Across from the Grand Ballroom, Ballroom Level, Hyatt East)

Friday, November 20	Saturday, November 21
7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.	8:30 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.

Mark Your Calendars

Delegate Assembly Webinars

The Governmental Relations team will host two webinars to help members prepare for the IASB Delegate Assembly. The webinars can be found on the IASB Events Calendar where you can also register to attend.

Delegate Assembly Overview: Resolutions and Logistics
Thursday, October 22, noon

Conference 2026: Your Questions Answered
Thursday, November 5, noon

Also new this year: Lunch will be provided to delegates pre-registered online; please register your delegate by **November 8** to ensure lunch availability. We will try, but cannot promise, to provide lunch to delegates registered after November 8, including those who register on-site. Once again this year, there will not be tables. However, the new location has additional space for lunch and the Delegate Assembly.

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DELEGATE ASSEMBLY AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Delegate Assembly Welcome
3. Approval of Report of the Credentials Committee
4. Approval of Delegate Assembly Business Rules
5. Approval of the Delegate Assembly Agenda
6. President's Report, Tracie Sayre
7. Executive Director's Report, Kimberly A. Small, J.D.
8. Financial Report, Marc Tepper, IASB Treasurer
9. Resolutions Committee Report, Alva Kreutzer, Resolutions Committee Chair
   a. Consent Agenda – Resolutions
      i. Tier II Pension Reform
      ii. Amendment to Existing Position Statement 2.12: Local Tax Collection and Distribution
      iii. FOIA Safeguards
   b. Appealed Resolutions
10. Adjournment

Resolutions for Consideration at the 2026 Delegate Assembly

At the Delegate Assembly, proposed resolutions that received a "Do Adopt" recommendation and timely appealed proposed resolutions that received a "Do Not Adopt" recommendation are brought for a vote of the Assembly. The Delegate Assembly vote determines the final decision on all resolutions. If approved by the Delegate Assembly, resolutions become Position Statements and provide IASB direction on legislative positions.

2026 Resolutions Committee

Service of the following school board members is acknowledged with sincere appreciation

CHAIR, RESOLUTIONS
IASB Vice President
Alva Kreutzer

IASB PRESIDENT
Tracie Sayre

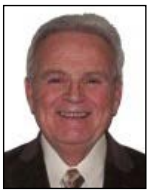
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT
Mark Harms

ABE LINCOLN
Jerry Bishoff

BLACKHAWK
Debra Stevenson

CENTRAL ILLINOIS VALLEY
Dana Smith

CORN BELT
Alex Williams



DUPAGE
James Blair

EGYPTIAN
Schannone Steinberger

ILLINI
Matt Titus

KASKASKIA
Kathy Norris

KISHWAUKEE
Evelyn Meeks

LAKE
Odie Pahl

NORTH COOK
Wenda Hunt

NORTHWEST
Steve Snider

SHAWNEE
Kevin McAllister

SOUTH COOK
Wilbur Tillman

SOUTHWESTERN
Jeff Hewitt

STARVED ROCK
Carol Alcorn

THREE RIVERS
Julie Oost

TWO RIVERS
Noel Beard

WABASH VALLEY
Chad Weaver

WEST COOK
Jim Lima

WESTERN
Scott Vogler

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS

The below resolutions,
the Resolutions Committee recommends DO ADOPT.

i. Tier II Pension Reform
ii. Amendment to Existing Position Statement 2.12: Local Tax Collection and Distribution
iii. FOIA Safeguards

The following resolutions received a "Do Adopt" recommendation from the Resolutions Committee. When they are presented to the Delegate Assembly, they will be put forth on a consent agenda. Delegates may pull a specific resolution from the consent agenda for discussion on the floor. If resolution(s) are not pulled from the consent agenda, they will be put forth together for one vote.

FINANCING OF PUBLIC EDUCATION – STATE

Tier II Pension Reform

Submitting District: Sycamore CUSD 427

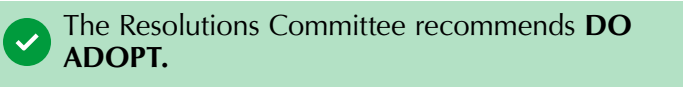
Statement of Resolution: Be it resolved that the Illinois Association of School Boards shall urge the Illinois General Assembly and Governor to enact legislative remedies, that at a minimum include the plan proposed in Senate Bill 1937 (104th General Assembly), to modernize the traditional Tier II pension system. Such legislation must ensure fiscal stability and workforce equity by enacting changes that:

- Fix the Automatic Annual Increase Formula: Replace the current capped Tier II formula with an annual adjustment that at minimum tracks the rate of inflation. This change ensures that baseline benefits keep proper pace with the actual cost of living, permanently eliminating the risk of a federal Safe Harbor violation.
- Align Pensionable Salary Limits and Calculations: Reduce the quantity of years used in the final average salary calculator and calibrate the maximum pensionable salary caps to the Social Security wage base. Such improvements establish long-term equity with federal retirement standards, preventing the deterioration of retirement security for career public servants.
- Reduce the Statutory Retirement Age: Lowers the standard retirement age for Tier II educators and educational support staff from 67 to an equitable and realistic age, such as age 65 with 10 years of service, or Age 62 with maximum years of service. This adjustment better reflects the true physical and mental demands of professions in education.

District Rationale: The State of Illinois implemented the Tier II pension system in 2011 to reduce unfunded liabilities. Today, Tier II educators and support staff constitute a rapidly growing segment of the state's public school workforce, representing roughly 35% of Sycamore CUSD 427's employees. Federal IRS law mandates a "Safe Harbor" rule requiring public retirement systems to provide a retirement benefit equal to or greater than what federal Social Security would provide for the same period of service. However, the current traditional Tier II pension formulas utilize simple interest and a strictly capped automatic annual increase of one-half of inflation or 3%, whichever is less. Because it relies on this non-compounding simple interest capped below true economic metrics, the traditional Tier II formula mathematically fails to keep pace with the compound interest calculations of inflation and Social Security, placing the state's retirement systems on the verge of a catastrophic federal Safe Harbor violation over a standard career lifespan. If the traditional Tier II formula is formally deemed by federal regulators to violate the Safe Harbor rule, the Internal Revenue Service will mandate immediate enrollment in Social Security for all affected employees. Such a ruling would trigger an automatic, unfunded 6.2% employer payroll tax shift forced directly onto local school district operating budgets and local property taxpayers. To prevent this severe budgetary cliff, meaningful statutory intervention is required. Amending the traditional Tier II pension calculation to ensure the annual increase tracks inflation, or matches the greater of 3% simple interest or inflation, updates the benefit structure to reflect compounding macroeconomic realities. This direct statutory correction permanently lifts the baseline state pension above the federal Safe Harbor floor, executing a vital fiscal defense that actively shields local municipal operating budgets and property taxpayers from billions in combined federal tax penalties while ensuring the structural burden of compliance remains firmly on the State of Illinois. Beyond the financial math, the current Tier II statutory retirement age of 67 is an immense physical and mental ask for teachers, administrators, and essential school support personnel—including paraprofessionals, custodians, and bus drivers. Expecting public school employees to effectively manage modern classrooms, ensure student safety, and maintain complex school facilities well into their late sixties

accelerates professional burnout and directly undermines local district efforts to recruit and retain high-quality staff. Lowering the Tier II retirement age to a realistic standard is critical to securing a sustainable career lifespan and stabilizing the state's educational workforce pipeline. Furthermore, aligning maximum pensionable salary caps to establish long-term equity with federal retirement standards prevents the deterioration of benefits for career public servants. Enacting these traditional pension adjustments permanently satisfies federal IRS Safe Harbor requirements, values the dedication of public school employees, and ensures that public education remains a viable, high-quality career in Illinois.

Resolutions Committee Rationale: The Committee determined that there are increasingly more Tier II employees impacted each year and that failure to address the Safe Harbor provision has the potential to negatively impact both the school district as the employer, as well as its employees. Additionally, it was determined that districts need quality employees and the issues with the Tier 2 pension system are likely contributing to the teacher shortage. This resolution puts forth a framework for a reasonable and measured approach to such reform and allows for flexibility in resolving this issue.


The Resolutions Committee recommends **DO ADOPT.**

FINANCING OF PUBLIC EDUCATION – STATE

Amendment to Existing Position Statement 2.12: Local Tax Collection and Distribution

Submitting District: Mount Prospect SD 57

The following resolution is an amendment to an existing position statement. The portion of the proposed resolution in black and not underlined was previously adopted by the Delegate Assembly. The portion of the proposed resolution underlined in red is the proposed amendment to the existing Position Statement.

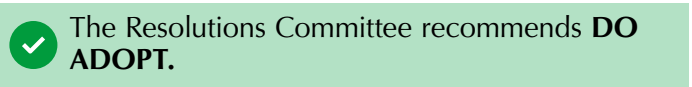
Current Position Statement 2.12:

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)

Proposed Amendment to Position Statement 2.12 added to Current Position Statement 2.12 Be it resolved that the Illinois Association of School Boards shall further seek legislation establishing a uniform process for reporting delayed tax collections and distributions, determining financial losses incurred by taxing districts, and requiring timely reimbursement when tax monies are not collected or disbursed as required by State law. Such legislation should provide clear accountability measures, transparency in the reporting of delays, and an administrative process through which taxing districts may recover documented losses without the need for costly litigation.

District Rationale: Position 2.12 recognizes that school districts should be reimbursed when delays in tax collection or distribution cause financial losses. However, the position does not address how losses are calculated, how reimbursement is obtained, or what remedies are available when reimbursement is not provided. School districts should not be required to expend additional taxpayer resources pursuing legal action to recover funds lost as a result of delayed tax collection or distribution. Establishing a uniform statewide process for transparency, accountability, and reimbursement would strengthen existing policy while protecting students, taxpayers, and local communities from the financial consequences of delays beyond a district's control.

Resolutions Committee Rationale: The Committee determined that affected districts have lost a significant amount of money due to recent delays in local tax distribution in Cook County, and that it is desirable to establish a method by which affected school districts would be reimbursed. School districts rely on property taxes. When the County delays payment of those taxes, districts experience serious disruptions to cash flow and fiscal uncertainty. While the most recent occurrence of this issue happened in Cook County, there is potential for it to happen anywhere in the state. Having additional guidelines would be helpful to all districts should this problem occur in the future.


The Resolutions Committee recommends **DO ADOPT.**

LOCAL-STATE-FEDERAL RELATIONS

FOIA Safeguards

Submitting District: Homer CUSD 33C

Statement of Resolution: Be it resolved that the Illinois Association of School Boards shall advocate for amendments to the Illinois Freedom of Information Act (5 ILCS 140) to preserve public access to records while establishing reasonable safeguards against abusive, fraudulent, automated, or unduly burdensome requests by: (i) permitting public bodies to require reasonable verification that a requester is a real person submitting a valid request; (ii) authorizing limited identity verification

when there is a reasonable basis to question the legitimacy of a request and ensure that the requester is within the state; (iii) clarifying standards for narrowing, batching, or denying requests that are duplicative, automated, harassing, or unduly burdensome; (iv) expanding authority for public bodies to recover reasonable costs associated with excessive staff time, data extraction, redaction, and review; and (v) strengthening protections for school districts against serial or bad-faith misuse of FOIA that diverts time, personnel, and public resources from student-centered operations.

District Rationale: Illinois school districts strongly support governmental transparency and public access to records. However, the current Illinois FOIA framework is increasingly being used in ways that exceed its intended purpose and create substantial operational burdens on school districts. In recent years, districts have experienced increased volumes of duplicative, automated, commercially motivated, anonymous, and bad-faith requests that consume disproportionate administrative and legal resources while providing limited public benefit.

Although Illinois law includes some safeguards for "recurrent requesters" (5 ILCS 140/3.2), "voluminous requests" (5 ILCS 140/3.6), and requests made for "commercial purposes" (5 ILCS 140/3.1), these provisions do not adequately address modern misuse of FOIA, including bot-generated requests, identity masking, serial harassment, or requests designed primarily to disrupt district operations.

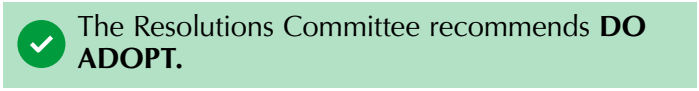
Illinois recently amended FOIA to permit a public body to require a requester to verify that the requester is a real person when there is a reasonable belief the request was not submitted by a person, but the law expressly prohibits requiring identifying information to complete that verification. See 5 ILCS 140/3(j) (effective January 1, 2026). While this is a modest improvement, it remains insufficient to address fraudulent identities, impersonation, and coordinated misuse.

Other states provide stronger administrative safeguards while preserving public access:

- Virginia permits public bodies to require requesters to be citizens of the Commonwealth under Va. Code Ann. § 2.2-3704(A), limiting access to Virginia citizens and certain in-state media. "…all public records shall be open to citizens of the Commonwealth…"
- Tennessee permits records access to Tennessee citizens under Tenn. Code Ann. § 10-7-503(a)(2)(A). "…be open for personal inspection by any citizen of this state…"
- Delaware limits FOIA access to Delaware citizens under 29 Del. C. § 10003(a). "…Reasonable access to and reasonable facilities for copying of these records shall not be denied to any citizen."
- Arkansas restricts access to Arkansas citizens under Ark. Code Ann. § 25-19-105(a)(1)(A). " Except as otherwise specifically provided by this section or by laws specifically enacted to provide otherwise, all public records shall be open to inspection and copying, including without limitation copying through image capture, including still and moving photography and video and digital recording, by any citizen of the State of Arkansas during the regular business hours of the custodian of the records."
- Connecticut authorizes denial of vexatious requests through its Freedom of Information Commission under Conn. Gen. Stat. § 1-206(b)(2). "…If the commission finds that a person has taken an appeal under this subsection frivolously, without reasonable grounds and solely for the purpose of harassing the agency from which the appeal has been taken, after such person has been given an opportunity to be heard at a hearing conducted in accordance with sections 4-176e to 4-184, inclusive, the commission may, in its discretion, impose against that person a civil penalty…"

Illinois should modernize its statute by preserving transparency while granting districts practical tools to manage abuse, recover costs, and prioritize educational operations without undermining legitimate public oversight.

Resolutions Committee Rationale: The Committee acknowledged the significant amount of district staff time expended statewide in responding to FOIA requests, particularly those recurring requests coming from the same person or organization and those coming from outside of the state or country. The Committee determined that this resolution allows IASB to build upon the work that is currently being done by legislators and continue to address this problem in a way that balances maintaining transparency with providing reasonable safeguards to prevent abuse and maintain the integrity of the FOIA process.


The Resolutions Committee recommends **DO ADOPT.**

Resolutions Eligible For Appeal at the 2026 Delegate Assembly

The following resolutions all received a “Do Not Adopt” recommendation from the Resolutions Committee. With a “Do Not Adopt” recommendation, the following proposals may be appealed by the submitting district. If the resolution is timely appealed, a two-thirds affirmative vote by the Delegate Assembly is required for consideration.

RESOLUTIONS ELIGIBLE FOR APPEAL

the below resolutions, the Resolutions Committee recommends 'DO NOT ADOPT'

i. School Board Elections - Nominating Petition Signatures
ii. School Meals and Fee Waiver Eligibility

The following resolutions all received a "Do Not Adopt" recommendation from the Resolutions Committee. With a "Do Not Adopt" recommendation, the following proposals may be appealed by the submitting district. If the resolution is timely appealed, a two-thirds affirmative vote by the Delegate Assembly is required for consideration.

School Board Elections – Nominating Petition Signatures

Submitting District: Creve Coeur SD 76

Statement of Resolution: Be it resolved that the Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislative action to reduce nominating petition signature requirements for School Board Candidates from 50 voters or 10% of voters, whichever is less, to 25 voters or 5% of voters, whichever is less.

District Rationale: The current signature requirement for school board candidate nominating petitions, as outlined in Section 9-10 of the Illinois School Code (105 ILCS 5/9-10), creates an unnecessary barrier to entry for prospective candidates—particularly in smaller districts, rural communities, and districts experiencing high student mobility or lower levels of civic engagement.

Requiring a minimum of 50 signatures may discourage otherwise qualified individuals from seeking office due to the time and logistical burden of gathering signatures. This is especially notable when compared to other local elected offices, such as library or park district boards, which often require significantly fewer signatures.

Additionally, the requirement to gather in-person signatures may present logistical challenges for candidates with limited time or access to voters, further discouraging participation. These challenges are particularly relevant in districts like ours, where community engagement and access to voters can vary significantly.

Reducing the requirement to 25 voters, or 5% of voters, whichever is less, would:

Encourage a broader and more diverse pool of candidates, including working parents, community members, and emerging leaders

- Better align school board election requirements with those of other local governing bodies
- Remove an unnecessary procedural hurdle that does not meaningfully improve candidate quality or voter choice
- Maintain an appropriate level of demonstrated community support while increasing accessibility to the electoral process

This proposed change represents a practical step toward strengthening civic participation and improving access to local school board governance, while preserving the integrity of the candidate nomination process.

Resolutions Committee Rationale: The Committee determined that gathering 50 signatures is an important part of demonstrating that a prospective board member has the time and energy to serve on a school board and that 50 signatures is a reasonable threshold for being placed on the ballot. Additionally, given that the state recently moved up the dates for the signature collection timeframe, this process no longer happens during the coldest months of the year, making it more accessible for candidates.

The Resolutions Committee recommends **DO NOT ADOPT.**

School Meals and Fee Waiver Eligibility

Submitting District: Homer CUSD 33C

Statement of Resolution: Be it resolved that the Illinois Association of School Boards shall advocate for amendments to Illinois law governing eligibility determinations for free and reduced-price school meals and school fee waivers to strengthen local school district authority to verify applicant eligibility, audit income documentation, investigate suspected fraudulent claims, and revoke benefits obtained through material misrepresentation, while preserving access for eligible students and protecting student dignity. Such amendments should authorize school districts to conduct reasonable audits of household applications, require supporting income documentation where fraud is suspected, establish clearer penalties for intentional misrepresentation, and provide districts with the authority to recover improperly waived fees or improperly granted benefits in cases of verified fraud.

District Rationale: Illinois school districts have a legal and moral responsibility to ensure that public assistance programs intended for financially eligible students are administered with integrity, consistency, and fairness. Free and reduced-price meal benefits and school fee waivers are essential supports for many students and families, but the effectiveness and credibility of these programs depend on ensuring that benefits are reserved for households that meet established income eligibility requirements.

Current Illinois law ties school fee waiver eligibility in many districts to federal meal eligibility standards and already permits limited verification of eligibility. However, the existing statutory framework provides insufficient local authority for districts to audit questionable applications, require additional income verification where fraud is suspected, or revoke benefits when material misrepresentation is confirmed. Illinois law currently requires districts using meal eligibility for fee waivers to follow federal verification rules under 7 CFR 245.6a, and districts operating an independent fee waiver process may verify eligibility no more than once per academic year. While this provides some verification authority, it does not sufficiently address intentional fraud, underreporting of income, falsified household composition, or repeated misuse of benefits.

Other states and federal administrative frameworks provide stronger mechanisms for eligibility verification and compliance oversight. Federal regulations governing school meal eligibility already require annual verification and mandatory verification of questionable applications. See 7 CFR § 245.6a. Some states expressly require income-based certification and documentation retention sufficient for audit and compliance review. Such models provide clearer authority for districts to verify eligibility and review questionable claims than currently exists under Illinois' more limited fee waiver framework. Illinois should modernize its statutory framework to provide school districts with clearer authority to verify eligibility, audit suspicious applications, and address fraud in a way that protects taxpayer resources, preserves public trust, and ensures assistance reaches the students for whom it was intended.

Resolutions Committee Rationale: The Committee determined that there are currently sufficient systems in place at the state and federal levels to audit school meals and fee waiver eligibility. For students who apply for Free and Reduced Lunch, federal regulations already allow districts to audit for cause at any time and, as it relates to student fees at the state level, schools can already conduct an audit as a routine procedure once a year. Allowing additional audits and investigations could discourage students and families from applying for these programs at a time when such programs may be increasingly important to ensure food security for students. Additionally, the financial loss to the district due to potential fraud needs to be balanced with the potential cost and administrative time that would be spent by districts to investigate these cases, as well as the participation barriers that may be created to accessing these programs if districts continually request sensitive financial data from families. Given these concerns, it was determined that the current audit measures in place at the state and federal levels are reasonable and sufficient.

The Resolutions Committee recommends **DO NOT ADOPT.**

Guidance for Local Board Discussion and Voting at the 2026 Delegate Assembly

This guidance is published for informational purposes and is not a substitute for legal advice. For legal advice or a legal opinion on a specific question, please consult the board attorney.

DISCUSSING IASB RESOLUTIONS

This guidance is published for informational purposes only and is not a substitute for legal advice. For legal advice or a legal opinion on a specific question, please consult the board attorney.

Open Meetings Act

Resolutions of the Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) are likely considered public business and subject to the Illinois Open Meetings Act (OMA) (5 ILCS 120/). OMA requires school boards to discuss district business only at properly noticed board meetings. Other than during a properly noticed board meeting, a majority or more of a board-quorum (or in the case of a five-person board, a quorum or more) may not engage in contemporaneous interactive communication, which includes electronic communication, to discuss district business, including IASB resolutions. IASB does not monitor for OMA compliance or investigate claims of OMA violations. Members are responsible for their own compliance with OMA requirements.

Freedom of Information Act

Resolutions of IASB and related information are likely subject to the Illinois Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (5 ILCS 140/). Because of this, the resolutions and related information are likely subject to disclosure under FOIA, unless a specific exemption applies. Members with specific questions should contact their board attorney.

Discussion of IASB Resolution to Appointment and Direct a Delegate at the Delegate Assembly

IASB recommends that as a best practice each school board discuss the proposed resolutions from IASB and come to a consensus regarding whether to vote in support of or against each resolution at the 2026 IASB Delegate Assembly. School boards should also appoint a delegate and alternate delegate and determine how they wish to direct the delegate to vote at the 2026 Delegate Assembly. PRESS sample exhibit 2:120-E3, *Resolution to Appoint a Delegate to the Illinois Association of School Boards Delegate Assembly*, provides a template resolution that boards can customize and adopt to accomplish this. Additional details regarding sample board agenda items and motion language are noted below.

Discussion of Resolutions by the School Board

As noted above, IASB recommends that as a best practice each school board discuss the proposed resolutions from IASB and come to a consensus regarding whether to vote in support of or against each resolution at the 2026 IASB Delegate Assembly. Board members may consider entering an agenda item on the agenda of a publicly scheduled board meeting to do this. A sample agenda item is as follows:

> **If using the PRESS sample resolution:** *Discussion and Action on Resolution to Appoint a Delegate to the Illinois Association of School Boards 2026 Delegate Assembly*
>
> **If not using the PRESS sample resolution:** *Discussion and Action on Proposed Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) Resolutions for Consideration at the 2026 IASB Delegate Assembly and Appointment of [INSERT SCHOOL DISTRICT NAME] Delegate and Alternate Delegate to the 2026 IASB Delegate Assembly,* Next, at the board meeting, board members should discuss the proposed IASB resolutions to come to a consensus on how the delegate will vote on each resolution and determine who will represent them as a delegate at the 2026 IASB Delegate Assembly. The District should also consider appointing an alternate delegate in case the delegate cannot attend the Delegate Assembly. Sample motion language may read as follows:

Adoption of Resolution to Appoint a Delegate to the Illinois Association of School Boards 2026 Delegate Assembly (if using the PRESS sample resolution)

> I move to adopt the *Resolution to Appoint a Delegate to the Illinois Association of School Boards 2026 Delegate Assembly.* This resolution appoints *[INSERT NAME]* as the Board's Delegate and *[INSERT NAME]* as the Boards' Alternate Delegate to the 2026 IASB Delegate Assembly, and it gives the Delegate or Alternate Delegate the authority to vote on IASB resolutions at the 2026 Delegate Assembly **[CHOOSE THE APPLICABLE OPTION:** solely in accordance with the consensus of the Board on *[INSERT DATE]* **[OR]** with their independent discretion, based on the consensus of the Board on *[INSERT DATE]* and any discussions had on each resolution at the 2026 IASB Delegate Assembly].

Appointment of Delegate and Alternate Delegate (if not using the PRESS sample resolution)

1. I move that *[INSERT NAME]* be appointed the IASB Delegate to the 2026 IASB Delegate Assembly on behalf of *[INSERT DISTRICT NAME]*.
2. I move that *[INSERT NAME]* be appointed the IASB Alternate Delegate to the 2026 IASB Delegate Assembly on behalf of *[INSERT DISTRICT NAME]*.

Finally, board members will need to take action to determine how the district's delegate should vote at the Delegate Assembly. For example, the board may have two options:

Motion to Direct Delegate Votes at the Delegate Assembly (if not using the PRESS sample resolution)

1. The appointed delegate or alternate delegate may only vote in accordance with the consensus reached at the district's board meeting. In that case, a sample motion might read as follows:

   I move that Delegate *[INSERT NAME OF DELEGATE]* or Alternate Delegate *[INSERT NAME OF ALTERNATE DELEGATE]* be granted the authority to vote on the IASB resolutions at the 2026 Delegate Assembly solely in accordance with the consensus of the *[INSERT DISTRICT NAME]* School Board on *[INSERT DATE]***.**

2. The delegate or alternate delegate may vote keeping in mind at the Delegate Assembly the consensus at the board table and any discussion or debate raised at the 2026 IASB Delegate Assembly.

   I move that *[INSERT NAME OF DELEGATE]* or Alternate Delegate *[INSERT NAME OF ALTERNATE DELEGATE]* be granted the authority to vote on the IASB resolutions at the 2026 IASB Delegate Assembly with their independent discretion based on the consensus of the *[INSERT DISTRICT NAME]* School Board on *[INSERT DATE]* and any discussions had on each resolution at the 2026 IASB Delegate Assembly.

LOCAL SCHOOL BOARD DELEGATE DIRECTION

Resolutions that received a "Do Adopt" Recommendation from the IASB Resolutions Committee

All the below resolutions will be placed on a consent agenda for a vote during the IASB Delegate Assembly. If any are removed from the consent agenda, what is your board's direction as to whether the following resolutions should be adopted by the IASB Delegate Assembly?

Yes	No	
❑	❑	1. Tier II Pension Reform
❑	❑	2. Amendment to Existing Position Statement 2.12: Local Tax Collection and Distribution
❑	❑	3. FOIA Safeguards

Resolutions that received a "Do Not Adopt" Recommendation from the IASB Resolutions Committee

The below resolutions may be appealed by the submitting district. Any resolution that is timely appealed requires a two-thirds vote at the Delegate Assembly to be reconsidered. If a "Do Not Adopt" resolution is appealed, what is your board's direction as to whether the following resolutions:

a) Should be reconsidered by the IASB Delegate Assembly; and

b) If reconsidered, should be adopted by the IASB Delegate Assembly.

Yes	No	
❑	❑	4a. School Meals and Fee Waiver Eligibility — should be reconsidered
❑	❑	4b. If reconsidered, should be adopted by the Delegate Assembly
❑	❑	5a. School Board Elections: Nominating Petition Signatures — should be reconsidered
❑	❑	5b. If reconsidered, should be adopted by the Delegate Assembly

Appendix

RULES OF THE IASB DELEGATE ASSEMBLY

1. **Business Procedures** — Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not incompatible with the Constitution and any special rules the Association may adopt, provided those rules are in compliance with federal, state, and local laws.
2. **Credentials** — Delegates shall be registered with the Credentials Committee and must display their credentials.
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 once on the same question and no longer than two minutes. Total time for discussion of all constitutional amendments shall be limited to 30 minutes.
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. Proposed Constitutional Amendments which have been recommended "Do Adopt" by the Board of Directors may also appear on a Consent Agenda.
8. **Appeals** — Those delegates wishing to appeal a "Do Not Adopt" recommendation of the Resolutions Committee, and have provided written notice to the Resolutions Committee at least thirty (30) days prior to the Annual Meeting of the Delegate Assembly, 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 "Do Not Adopt" recommendation. 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. **Other Recognition** — Members of the Resolutions Committee, IASB staff, a member of the IASB Board of Director, and an individual eligible to run from the floor for an officer position shall be given the privilege of the floor at the discretion of the presiding officer.
10. **Voting** — The indications to signify voting shall be specified by the presiding officer.
11. **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.
12. **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.

IASB CONSTITUTION, ARTICLE IX: RESOLUTIONS

1. **Section 1. Types of Resolutions** — Resolutions should be in the form of a Position Statement. Position Statements address issues affecting or concerning local boards of education; they direct the Association's advocacy efforts.
2. **Section 2. Proposals** — Resolutions for proposed Position Statements may be proposed by any Active Member, Association Division, the Association's Board of Directors, or the Resolutions Committee upon a majority vote of the Active Member's school board, the Active Members that make up an Association Division, the Association's Board of Directors, or the Resolutions Committee. The vote must be submitted along with the resolution. 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. Any resolution which is not submitted in the manner described herein shall not be considered by the Delegate Assembly.
3. **Section 3. Presentation of Resolutions** — 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 proposals are to be presented to the Delegate Assembly; and whether they are presented as Position Statements. However, all resolutions submitted timely to the Resolutions Committee according to Section above must be distributed to Active Members not less than 45 days prior to the Annual Meeting of the Delegate Assembly. All proposals require a two-thirds affirmative vote by the Delegate Assembly for passage.
4. **Section 4. Annual Review** — The Resolutions Committee shall annually review, in accordance with the rules established by the Resolutions Committee, current Position Statements to determine whether they shall remain Position Statements, be amended or be rescinded. All amendments or deletions to existing Position Statements shall be distributed to Active Members not less than 45 days prior to the Annual Meeting of the Delegate Assembly, subject to approval by the Board of Directors. All current Position Statements will be published annually and distributed to Active Members within 120 days following the Annual Meeting of the Delegate Assembly.
5. **Section 5. Appeals** — Any Active Member, Association Division, or the Association Board of Directors, that has submitted a resolution that has received a "Do Not Adopt" recommendation from the Resolutions Committee, shall have the right to appeal the decision(s) of the Resolutions Committee at the Annual Meeting of the Delegate Assembly. Notice of appeal must be submitted in writing to the Resolutions Committee. An appeal must be filed in accordance with the rules established by the Resolutions Committee and approved by the Board of Directors. All appeals require a two-thirds affirmative vote by the Delegate Assembly for consideration.
6. **Section 6.** — Any proposed amendment to a resolution that does not meet the time requirements as set in Section 2 shall not be considered.

ADVOCACY CORE VALUES

The Advocacy Core Values, legislative priorities, and Position Statements guide the IASB Advocacy agenda in support of its membership and ensure a strong collective voice on the highest priority issues and concerns.

IASB is committed to an advocacy program that

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

POSITION STATEMENTS ANNUAL REVIEW OVERVIEW

The IASB Constitution charges the Resolutions Committee with annually reviewing Position Statements to determine whether they shall remain Position Statements, be amended, or be rescinded. Following the 2025 Delegate Assembly, there were 148 Position Statements. The volume of Position Statements made it difficult for members and staff to navigate, and questions have arisen as to the relevance of Position Statements passed decades ago. After discussions over time of the need for a thorough and comprehensive review of all Position Statements, the Resolutions Committee determined to complete this work in the spring of 2026. This consisted of five full Resolutions Committee meetings and three subcommittee meetings between January and April 2026.

In anticipation of this comprehensive review of Position Statements, a constitutional amendment was added by the Constitutional Review Committee in 2025 and approved by the Delegate Assembly, to clarify and strengthen the process for completing this Annual Review. Because the IASB Constitution did not require a vote from the Delegate Assembly to approve changes made by the Resolutions Committee, language was proposed to require the Board of Directors, in addition to the elected Resolutions Committee members, to approve the changes. Language was also added clarifying the timing for distribution of these changes to members. Additionally, the Resolutions Committee updated the rules to provide additional transparency in the process used to make these decisions.

To ensure that all members understand the changes that were made and the rationale for the changes, and to provide members with an opportunity to ask questions, IASB has made the following resources available.

- Division Meetings: All divisions were given the opportunity to have a pre-Division Meeting session to discuss the changes to the Position Statements. If your division chose to have this session, an IASB Governmental Relations staff member will be at your Division Meeting to facilitate a conversation on this topic.
- Website: Several resources have been added to the IASB website (https://www.iasb.com/advocacy/delegate-assembly/position-statement-review-process), including:
  - A timeline of the Annual Position Statement Review Process;
  - An Overview of the 2026 Position Statement work; and
  - A video recording explaining the 2026 Position Statement process and all of the changes to Position Statements.
  - A red-line copy and clean copy of all Position Statement changes approved by the IASB Resolutions Committee and the Board of Directors.
- Webinars: IASB will be hosting two webinars focused on the Delegate Assembly (see page 2 for additional information). While the focus of these webinars will be the Delegate Assembly, IASB staff will provide an overview of the Annual Position Statement Review Process and an opportunity for members to ask questions at each of the webinars.

Additional questions can be directed to the IASB Governmental Relations team at govrel@iasb.com.

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District 58 Legislative Breakfast 2026 Discussion Starters
Wednesday, Dec. 10, 2025 Meeting Notes

Save the Date:
Friday, January 23, 2026 (alternative date Friday, February 20)
7:30-9:00 a.m. (Doors open at 7:00 a.m. for open conversation and light breakfast)
O'Neill Middle School, 635 59th St., Downers Grove, IL 60516

Format:

- 2025 Format
- 2025 Survey Results
- Suggestions from 2024-25 Legislative Committee discussions/survey:
    - Same start time 7:30? 30-min mingle/open conversation?
    - One general opening question or let elected officials make an opening statement? Limit time to reserve enough time for small group discussion
    - Consider moving the opening statement to a closing "reflection" statement - what is one takeaway for each elected official from today's event?
    - Desire for attendees to pick legislators assigned to their table
    - Keep groups small - easier to hear and engage
    - More space between tables or move to smaller rooms?
    - Table format/structure - difficult to hear, reserve a seat for the elected official in the middle of the group
    - How can we keep the conversation and not get bogged down on one topic?
    - Provide questions/topics to guests ahead of time for consideration
    - Have notecards for guests to write down questions for legislators to answer after the event
    - Small group assignments – allow guests to pick a preferred legislator? Mix groups of people (admin/teacher vs. parent/non-educator)? Student representative at each table?
    - Consider: assign specific topics to specific tables. Seek out which legislators want to participate in which topics. Two-way - ask legislators which education topics they would like to discuss, and we share topics that we would like to discuss – then see which ones they would prefer to discuss/be assigned to.
    - Have a specific ask for elected officials - what one thing do we want them to do as an outcome? Call to action item.

Question Topics:

- 2025 Small Group Questions
- **2026 Question Topics -** what topics do we want to include? We will refine the question language and finalize at our next meeting on 1/7/26