

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Millburn Public Schools

INFORMATION ITEM

May 3, 2010

To: Board of Education Members

From: Ellen E. Mauer, PhD

Subject: Membership in Illinois Association of School Boards

Yearly, we consider membership in a number of organizations. One such organization is IASB. By joining, we get the services listed in the attachment. You can also check it out at www.iasb.com. The policy services are very necessary as is the staff development we can get. It is one of the very few means our BOE has to interact with other BOEs and to get staff development. The dues this year will be \$4006.20. The amount is based upon our ADA and our operating costs so the costs are different for each district.

We would ask you to put this on the consent agenda for the next meeting if you are interested in this organization.

*What you know about
YOUR Association
may be just the
tip of the iceberg*



The Illinois Association of School Boards is an invaluable resource for member Illinois school boards

IASB is a not-for-profit corporation offering leadership and services for public school boards in Illinois. IASB is governed by — and for — the 856 school boards that make up its dues-paying membership. Major policies and positions of the Association are adopted at the Annual Delegate Assembly, which consists of one voting school board member from each district. Governing policies are established by a Board of Directors, which consists of members elected by Member School Boards.

YOU and YOUR BOARD have a voice in deciding how the Association represents school boards before the public, the legislature, Congress and other agencies. IASB is governed by member school boards and speaks for those boards through public relations programs, direct lobbying and work with local citizens' groups.

IASB can be whatever YOU and your colleagues want it to be.

AS A SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER IN AN IASB MEMBER DISTRICT, YOU ARE ENTITLED TO:

- receive regular Association periodicals, including *The Illinois School Board Journal* and the *Illinois School Board Newsbulletin*, as well as other mailings going to all school board members;
- call on an IASB expert or staff member when you need information or advice – by mail, telephone, the Internet (www.iasb.com), or a personal visit to the Association offices in Springfield or Lombard;
- participate in IASB School Board LeaderShop workshops and conferences on school board leadership and a wide variety of current issues and topics;
- purchase books and reports from IASB at reduced prices;

YOUR BOARD OF EDUCATION ALSO HAS ACCESS TO A VARIETY OF DIRECT BENEFITS FROM ITS MEMBERSHIP IN IASB, INCLUDING:

- up-to-date reports on legislative activities and other management information, faxed or e-mailed regularly to interested school board members and superintendents;
- periodic reports and analyses of new laws and other important resources;
- the expertise of IASB staff members, who are available to meet with your board and help with school board governance: board self-evaluation, school board policymaking, board-superintendent relations, effective meetings, communications and other school board issues;

- information from staff experts in such areas as policy development, updating, review and monitoring, governance, school finance, school law, education legislation and public relations;
- a variety of low-cost management services, including: development and web-publishing of school board policy and administrative procedures manuals; PRESS, the policy updating subscription service; PRESS Plus, the full-maintenance policy updating service; searches to help your board fill a vacant administrative position or guidance in setting up a superintendent evaluation system;
- cost-containment programs for funding workers' compensation risks, controlling unemployment claims and liability/casualty insurance, and;
- a program for investing school funds.

WHAT YOU GET FOR YOUR DUES:

Leadership

Dedicated to the principles of local citizen leadership of education through effective governance, IASB encourages local school boards to provide a vision for the schools, provide an organizational structure that allows administrators and teachers to pursue that vision, hold the system accountable for results and serve as an advocate for all children. IASB also seeks public understanding and support for the important role of the school board, including leadership for student learning; promotes high standards of performance and conduct for board members; supports research and communication designed to improve school board policies and procedures, including policies targeting student learning; helps board members acquire the knowledge and information they need to function effectively; and encourages collaborative approaches through regional networks.

Development programs for school board members

School Board LeaderShop workshops: both regional and in-district • Division meetings • Annual Conference • Special programs for board candidates, new board members and board presidents • Legislative meetings • Publications • Special awards to honor board members who take part in development and leadership programs.

Consultation

Direct access to IASB staff experts with a letter, fax, e-mail or telephone call • Any school-related topic • Available to any board member or administrator in a member district.

Representation

As the “voice of school boards,” IASB represents local lay leadership of education, adequate and equitable school funding and other beliefs established by the membership.

Legislation – IASB leaders and staff lobbyists: Maintain regular contact with legislators on school needs and pending bills • Testify at committee hearings • Draft bills and amendments • Convene representative groups to ascertain school needs • Report regularly to member districts.

Management Alliance – The Illinois Statewide School Management Alliance combines the legislative resources of IASB, the Illinois Association of School Administrators, Illinois Association of School Business Officials and Illinois Principals Association.

Other Contacts – IASB maintains regular contact with: The Office of the Governor • State Board of Education • State Board of Elections • Other departments of state government • Other state and national organizations • Business community • U.S. Department of Education • NSBA.

Courts – *Amicus curiae* “friend of the court” briefs filed with State and federal courts to support legal issues of special importance to school boards.

Networks – Help school districts form grass-roots organizations to support good school legislation.

School Board Input – Delegate Assembly • Resolutions Committee • Coalitions • Surveys as needed • Daily contact with members • Ad hoc task forces.

Legislative Communication – Reports of important legislation e-mailed weekly or as needed to any school board member who requests it, and to the superintendent of each member district.

Information Services

In addition to IASB periodicals, board members and administrators also receive frequent announcements of meetings and workshops and other mailings. Following each school board election, every newly seated board member receives a packet of publications and other materials.

Every school board president and district superintendent receives important materials that readily can be shared with other board members, such as: a summary of new laws enacted by the General Assembly, a complimentary copy of new IASB books and other special reports.

Member school districts may also obtain legal information from the attorneys in the Association’s Office of General Counsel.

Most IASB publications are available via the Internet, either by downloading or through the Online Bookstore. And you can get e-mail notification of new and revised materials by signing up for the Online Update (www.iasb.com/links.cfm).

Public Relations

School Board Election procedures and communications kit • News releases • Robert M. Cole newspaper award for outstanding school board coverage.

Information packets and staff consultation on finance election campaigns, public opinion surveys, publications, community development and related topics • Public relations workshops.

Allied Services

Access to experts in business and industry through IASB Service Associates • Access to information stored in IASB reference files, library and research services • Your attorney is eligible for membership in the NSBA/IASB Council of School Attorneys.

Fee-supported Services

Dues-subsidized services available to IASB members at below-cost fees – Books and reports published by IASB • Superintendent and other key administrative search services • School Board LeaderShop featuring regional and individual board workshops • Policy Services including PRESS and PRESS Plus, the policy updating and full-maintenance subscription services • Field Services, including customized in-district facilitation and workshops.

Self-supporting Services – Unemployment compensation claims control • Workers’ compensation insurance pool • Property and casualty insurance pool • Customized awards plaques • Illinois School District Liquid Asset Fund Plus • Illinois Energy Consortium.



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