

July 6, 2016 (updated August 18, 2016)

To: School board members, superintendents, and secretaries

In order to continue to provide excellent service and value to IASB members, the Association recently replaced its 30-year-old member database management system.

What does this mean for our members? This new system provides members and school districts with updated resources, tools, and functionality to effectively transact and monitor business with the Association. As a member, you will experience a new level of engagement and delivery of the many IASB services that enhance the member experience.

Member access to the new system starts at the IASB website, www.iasb.com. The “MY ACCOUNT” button located near the upper left portion of the home page will take you to your log-in. As a board member with an IASB member district, your account is already established. Access requires your email address (that your superintendent or board secretary provided to IASB). We encourage you to log into the system, familiarize yourself with its offerings, and update your personal information if needed. **See the attached flyer or watch the video tutorial for step-by-step instructions.**

The new “MY ACCOUNT” area takes the place of, and improves upon, IASB’s previous “Members-Only” website. As a member, you are now able to:

- Create new or change membership profiles, so you can stay current with information from your Association;
- Register for events, workshops, meetings, and educational activities, to continue your development as a leader in education;
- Monitor Master Board Member points, to facilitate your engagement with and participation in IASB-sponsored events;
- Monitor LeaderShop Academy credits, to measure your progress in workshops and continuous professional development;
- Utilize resources such as the planner and handouts for upcoming Joint Annual Conferences, to facilitate the best use of your Conference time;
- Purchase items from the IASB online bookstore, which offers many titles for school leaders looking for best practices, solutions, and leadership training;
- Enroll and take training courses through the Online Learning Center, where IASB offers a wide range of board development opportunities, including mandatory board member training, to improve your leadership skills; and
- Access the PRESS Policy Reference Manual and updates, to effectively maintain your board policy manual.

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What's in it for you?

The new member database is your connection to your Association. As a school board member of an IASB member district, you are automatically in the database. With the additional information you enter in your personal member profile, you can begin to customize what and how we can communicate with and serve you.

Online registration has always been available for many IASB events. Although many board members traditionally relied on their superintendent or board secretary to do this work, the new system will allow you to register for workshops, meetings, and other activities, as you continue your professional development.

This access also gives you the ability to monitor and record your Association participation and board training activities. These two distinct programs are offered for several reasons: 1) to recognize association engagement and participation in IASB sponsored events (by earning points towards Master Board Member status); 2) to recognize continued learning at IASB LeaderShop-designated workshops (by earning credits towards LeaderShop Academy status)

Together, these programs can help you to find and choose the activities and training that meet your personal needs.

For many board members, the Joint Annual Conference is their one “must-see, must-do” activity every year. The new database system will give you immediate access to Conference tools, including a personalized online schedule planner and handouts from specific panel presentations. These tools will help you to prepare for and find what you need at Conference, and share what you learned after Conference.

IASB's online bookstore currently offers 38 titles, including our most popular titles: *Illinois School Law Survey*, *Essentials of Illinois School Finance*, *Coming to Order*, and *Effective School Board Member*. The new database will be able to track what you are buying and suggest other titles that will add to your personal resource library.

While many board members may be aware of this service, the new database gives any board member whose district subscribes to this service your own personal access to the IASB Policy Reference Manual (an encyclopedia of sample policies and procedures) and periodic update issues.

The most important difference for you is single sign-in or log-in access. **Simple, fast, and accurate access to the services that you want or need.**

We also welcome your comments and questions about these improvements to the Association member database. Please call 217/528-9688, ext. 1100