



2018 Resolutions Committee Report

For the 2018 Delegate Assembly meeting
on November 17, 2018, Chicago

September 2018

For further information please contact Ben Schwarm at 217/528-9688, ext. 1132

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TO: Board Members and Administrators
FROM: Tom Neeley, Resolutions Committee
DATE: September, 2018
SUBJECT: 2018 Resolutions Committee Report

Thank you for your interest in the 2018 Resolutions Committee Report to the Membership. Proposals set forth in this Report will be acted upon at the Annual Meeting of the IASB Delegate Assembly which convenes at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, November 17, 2018, at the Hyatt Regency Chicago, Regency A/B West Tower.

The Delegate Assembly is one of the most important functions held at the IASB Annual Conference. It gives member districts ownership in the Association and the opportunity to establish the direction of the Association and its major policies. Every member district has a delegate, a vote, and a voice.

Participation in the resolutions process is of vital importance. Submitting new resolutions, discussing the resolutions at your local board meeting, sharing your insight with other boards at division meetings and sending a well-informed delegate to the assembly all are key actions for you to take.

This booklet is provided in the fall and is intended to allow your board more time to discuss the resolutions. We hope that this will increase participation and enthusiasm from member districts.

We will again prepare a packet of information for distribution at the Delegate Assembly meeting. This packet will provide any information needed by delegates that was not available in the Resolutions Committee Report. Advanced registration for delegates is not necessary. Upon arriving at the conference in November your districts' delegate should check in at the "Delegate Registration" desk across the hallway from the main conference registration desk. Once registered, delegates will receive credentials which will allow them entry into the Delegate Assembly.

If you have materials that need to be distributed on the assembly floor, 500 copies must be provided to the staff at least one week in advance. This should expedite matters at the Delegate Assembly and provide for a more organized meeting.

On behalf of the Resolutions Committee, thank you for your interest in the resolutions process. I look forward to seeing you in November.

Service of the following school board members on the 2018 Resolutions Committee is acknowledged with sincere appreciation.

Chair.....	Neeley, Thomas.....	Morton
Abe Lincoln.....	Reynolds, Amy.....	Rochester
Blackhawk.....	Wagner, Julie.....	Illinois City
Central IL Valley.....	Walther, Daniel.....	Peoria
Corn Belt.....	Myzia, Jennifer.....	Dwight
DuPage.....	Fielden, Terry.....	Naperville
Egyptian.....	Irvin, Lisa.....	Belle Rive
Illini.....	Uhlott, Sandra.....	Rantoul
Kaskaskia.....	Kistler, Kent.....	Farina
Kishwaukee.....	Nelson, Stephen.....	Sycamore
Lake.....	Armstrong, John.....	Wauconda
North Cook.....	Klimkowicz, Anna.....	Schaumburg
Northwest.....	Snider, Steve.....	Lanark
Shawnee.....	DeNeal, Tom.....	Harrisburg
South Cook.....	Jordan, Juanita.....	Hazel Crest
Southwestern.....	Schwemmer, Gabrielle.....	Smithton
Starved Rock.....	Conner, David.....	Streator
Three Rivers.....	Campbell, Liz.....	Bolingbrook
Two Rivers.....	Reif, Rodney.....	Carrollton
Wabash Valley.....	Ruffner, Carol.....	Mason
West Cook.....	Williams, Dianne.....	Maywood
Western.....	Vogler, Scott.....	Colchester

DELEGATE ASSEMBLY AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Report of the Credentials Committee
3. Approval of Delegate Assembly Business Rules
4. President's Report, Joanne Osmond
5. Executive Director's Report, Dr. Thomas Bertrand
6. Financial Report, Linda Eades
7. Election of Officers
 - A. Nominating Committee Report, Phil Pritzker, Nominating Committee Chair
8. Resolutions Committee Report, Thomas Neeley
 - A. New Resolutions
 - B. Reaffirmation of Existing Positions
9. Belief Statements
 - A. New Belief Statements
 - B. Amended Belief Statments
10. Adjournment

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My Board's Recommendation

Support Oppose

NEW RESOLUTIONS

Board Operations and Duties

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 1. Student Safety & Protection |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 2. Student Safety & Protection |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 3. Student Safety |

Financing Public Education-Other

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 4. Energy Savings Funding & Borrowing |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|

REAFFIRMATION OF EXISTING POSITIONS

Financing Public Education-State

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 5. Position Statement 2.27 Charter School Funding |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|

NEW BELIEF STATEMENT

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 6. Local Authority in Safety Practices |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|

AMENDED BELIEF STATEMENTS

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 7. Belief Statement 5 – Mental Health Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 8. Belief Statement 2 – Student Voter Registration |

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DELEGATE ASSEMBLY BUSINESS RULES

1. **Business Procedures** — Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern.
2. **Credentials** — Delegates shall be registered with the Credentials Committee.
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 twice on the same question and no longer than five minutes at one time. No delegate shall speak a second time on the same question until all persons have had an opportunity to speak at least once.
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.
8. **Appeals** — Those delegates wishing to appeal a “Do Not Adopt” recommendation of the Resolutions Committee, and have met the notice provisions required by Article IX, Section 5 of the IASB Constitution, 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 negative recommendation of its proposal. 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. **Reaffirmation of Existing Position Statements** — The Delegate Assembly has the authority to reaffirm existing Position Statements. Proposals to reaffirm an existing position may be initiated by member school boards or the Resolutions Committee. All such proposals shall be submitted through the same procedure as all other resolutions and shall meet all criteria and constitutional timelines applicable to all resolutions.
10. **Other Recognition** — Members of the Resolutions Committee and IASB staff shall be given the privilege of the floor at the discretion of the presiding officer.
11. **Voting** — The indications to signify voting shall be specified by the presiding officer.
12. **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.

RESOLUTIONS PROCEDURES

- 1. Types of Resolutions** — (Article IX, Section 1) Resolutions may be either in the form of a position statement or a belief statement. Position statements address issues affecting or concerning local boards of education; they direct the Association's advocacy efforts. Belief statements express significant values commonly held by local boards of education; they may or may not call for action to be taken by the Association.
- 2. Proposals** — (Article IX, Section 2) Resolutions for proposed position statements or belief statements may be proposed by any Active Member, Association Division, the Association's Board of Directors, or the Resolutions Committee. 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.
- 3. Presentation of Resolutions** — (Article IX, Section 3) 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 resolutions are to be presented to the Delegate Assembly; and whether they are presented as position statements or belief statements. However, all resolutions that are timely submitted to the Resolutions Committee according to Section 2 above, must be distributed to Active Members not less than 45 days prior to the Annual Meeting of the Delegate Assembly.
- 4. Annual Review** — (Article IX, Section 4) The Resolutions Committee shall annually review currently in force position statements and belief statements to determine whether they are consistent with the current positions or beliefs of Association members. The Resolutions Committee shall recommend that the Delegate Assembly amend or rescind any position statement or belief statement that is not consistent with the current positions or beliefs of Association members. All position statements and belief statements currently in force will be published annually and distributed to Active Members prior to the Annual Meeting of the Delegate Assembly.
- 5. Appeals** — (Article IX, Section 5) Any Active Member, Association Division, or Association Board of Directors, that has submitted a proposal that has received a negative recommendation from the Resolutions Committee, shall have the right to appeal the decisions of the Resolutions Committee at the Annual Meeting of the Delegate Assembly. Notice of appeal must be submitted in writing to the Resolutions Committee. The committee must be in receipt of the written appeal no later than the close of business 8 calendar days before the Annual Meeting of the Delegate Assembly. A majority of the delegates present and voting at the Annual Meeting of the Delegate Assembly is required for consideration of appeals.
- 6. Amendments to Resolutions** — (Article IX, Section 6) Any proposed amendment to a resolution that does not meet the time requirements as set in Section 3 above shall be immediately remanded to the Resolutions Committee for consideration.
- 7. Late Resolutions** — (Article IX, Section 7), Resolutions which are not presented to the Resolutions Committee at least 150 days prior to the Annual Meeting of the Delegate Assembly may be considered only by the following procedure: Such resolutions may be proposed by an Active Member, Association Division, Association Board of Directors, or the Resolutions Committee and submitted in writing to the Resolutions Committee. Any resolution which is not submitted in the manner described above shall not be considered by the Delegate Assembly. Late resolutions shall be considered for approval by the Resolutions Committee. The Resolutions Committee may recommend approval or disapproval of the late resolution to the Delegate Assembly. Any such resolution disapproved by the Resolutions Committee may be appealed by a seventy-five (75) percent majority vote of the delegates present. Delegates seeking authority to present late resolutions at the Annual Meeting of the Delegate Assembly shall provide copies for all delegates present at the meeting, including rationale and relevant supporting documentation.
- 8. 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. Reaffirmation or deletion of existing positions will be done with a single motion unless a delegate wishes a particular position or positions to be considered separately.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

AUGUST 2018

The 2018 Nominating Committee proposes the following officer slate for Delegate Assembly consideration, 10:30 a.m., Saturday, November 17, 2018, Regency A/B West Tower, Hyatt Regency Chicago:

President-Joanne Osmond
Lake Villa CCSD 41

Vice President Tom Neeley
Morton CUSD 709

2018 NOMINATING COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Phil Pritzker, Chairman,
Immediate Past President

Bill Alexander
New Berlin CUSD 16

Ann Dingman
Grayslake CHSD 127

Simon Kampwerth, Jr.
Peru ESD 124

Sue McCance
CUSD 3 Fulton Co

Carla Joiner-Herrod, Alternate
Lindop SD 92

Mary Stith, Alternate
Geneva CUSD 304

NEW RESOLUTIONS

BOARD OPERATIONS & DUTIES

1. Student Safety and Protection

Submitted by: Red Hill CUSD 10 (Sponsor)
Bement CUSD 5 (Co-sponsor)
DeLand-Weldon (Co-sponsor)
Edwards County CUSD 1 (Co-sponsor)
United Community School District 304 Co-sponsor)
Gallatin County Community Unit District 7 (Co-sponsor)
Mount Vernon City Schools
Wilmington CUSD 209U
Kewanee School District 229
Norris City-Omaha-Enfield CUSD 3
Prairieview-Ogden CCSD 197

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Illinois Association of School Boards shall support and advocate legislation which provides local school boards the option of developing Student Safety and Protection Plans which may include administrators, faculty, and/or other staff who have successfully completed a training course approved by the school board and who have also passed the multiple background checks and qualifications for and have a current Illinois concealed carry license or a carry license issued under the Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act to be an active and armed part of the Student Safety and Protection Plan, upon being granted board approval. We also present this resolution to our state representative and state senator in the Illinois General Assembly and urge them to support such legislation.

District Rationale: The safety and protection of our students and school personnel is one of the most important and top priorities.

There are many schools that do not have the financial resources to employ full time security on school property to insure the safety and protection of their students and school personnel.

Some schools have grants which provide financial aid for the presence of a school resource officer on school property during certain hours, this is usually one officer at any given time.

Many schools in Illinois are located in areas where it may take up to thirty or more minutes before an effective law enforcement team can arrive on scene in the case of a life-threatening event.

In three states which border Illinois — Indiana, Kentucky, and Missouri — and in many other states, local school boards have authority provided by state law and are entrusted to develop Student Safety and Protection Plans which implement board-approved armed and trained administrators, staff and faculty who could provide for the safety and protection of students and personnel until an effective law enforcement team can respond to a threat to the safety and protection of students and personnel.

This resolution does not compel or require any particular school board to develop or implement such a plan but leaves the decision to each local district board to decide what is best for their schools and students.

Resolutions Committee Rationale: This resolution calls for the Association to support and advocate for local options for schools, including for armed district personnel subject to training, background checks, licensure and board approval. It is, generally, the same as Resolutions #2 and #3.

Since these three proposals were essentially the same, the Committee worked with the sponsoring districts, which agreed to combine all of them into Resolution #2.

The Resolutions Committee RECOMMENDS DO NOT ADOPT.

2. Student Safety and Protection

Submitted by: Mercer County CUSD 404

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Illinois Association of School Boards shall: support and advocate for legislation which provides local school boards the option of developing Student Safety and Protection Plans which may include administrators, faculty, and/or other staff who have completed a state approved training course above and beyond concealed carry training, who have passed the multiple background checks and qualifications required for a concealed carry license, or have a current concealed carry license issued under the Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act. Only staff who fulfill all requirements listed would be eligible as an active and armed part of the Student Safety and Protection Plan, upon being granted board approval.

Statement of Rationale: Every year concern for student safety grows with more tragic events in our nation's schools. The safety and protection of our students and school staff is one of the top priorities in each district. Districts are looking for new ways to keep those who enter our buildings safe. One proposal is to allow local school districts the option to have armed staff in their buildings.

The Gun-Free School Zones Act of 1990, sponsored by then-Senator Joe Biden and signed into law by then-President George H.W. Bush, makes it illegal for anyone "to knowingly possess a firearm" within 1,000 feet of a school zone. The Gun-Free School Zones Act has exceptions. A teacher can bring a gun to school "as part of a program approved by a school in the school zone." As of February, there are at least 18 states which allow armed adults on school property with relatively minor conditions, such as superintendent, school board, or administrator/school trustee/ governing officer approval.

Illinois state law currently does not allow for local control of school boards in determining if they want to include an option for trained and armed staff to protect their students and fellow staff members in an emergency situation until

law enforcement arrives. Our neighbors Missouri, Indiana, and Kentucky allow districts to decide what is best for their communities. Other states that allow armed adults on school grounds with certain limitations include California, New York, Connecticut, Iowa, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Montana, New Hampshire, Texas, Wyoming, and 5 more.

Ideal school security plans include SRO's (school resource officers) present at each building students attend. However, some schools are unable to employ full time security due to a lack of financial resources. SRO's are often only on site for a few hours per day and one officer at a time. In our district for example, our SRO is only on site at the high school, with a set number of hours per day. He is within a short driving distance to two other buildings in the same town. Two of our remaining buildings have no SRO coverage and are not close enough to the high school to be within a short response time.

Another problem, mainly found in rural areas, is the distance school buildings are from local law enforcement teams. Mercer County School District has five buildings in three towns. Our square miles makes us the 5th largest school district in Illinois based on area. Three buildings sit in a town with its own police force that is also a county seat and home of the Sheriff's department. Our fourth building is in another town 10 minutes away. Our fifth building, an elementary school, is in a town 21 minutes away. The town has one officer and is backed up by the sheriff's department with an approximately 20 minute response time to get there. We are certain that our district is not in the worst response time situation in Illinois.

The most misunderstood part of discussion on this topic is that this resolution is about LOCAL CONTROL, one of IASB's top priorities. This resolution, if adopted, would not compel or require any school district or school board to develop or implement any such trained and armed staff plan. Our state is not homogenous north to south, east to west. Our communities and districts differ greatly. Some communities are perfectly comfortable with having their teachers and school staff trained and armed so they can protect the people in their buildings. Other communities are adamantly opposed to the idea. That is OK! The districts in our state should be allowed to determine what is best for them, rather than those in Springfield who do not know or understand communities outside their own.

Resolutions Committee Rationale: Similar to other proposals, this resolution calls for the Association to support and advocate for local options for schools, including for armed district personnel subject to training, background checks, licensure and board approval. However, this resolution calls for locally approved training above and beyond that required for concealed carry.

The Firearm Concealed Carry Act (PA 98-63), effective July 9, 2013, prohibited any concealed carry in "any building, real property, and parking area under the control of a public or private elementary or secondary school."

During negotiations on the legislation before it passed the General Assembly, discussions included the possibility of each

individual school board having the authority to decide what the policy would be within its district. Both the proponents and the opponents of the legislation dismissed this idea. The concealed carry proponents wanted no regulation on school property and the opponents wanted a complete prohibition on school property.

School districts are also governed by the federal Gun-Free School Zones Act of 1990, which makes it unlawful for any unauthorized individual from possessing a firearm in a school zone. Exceptions include if an individual possessing a firearm is licensed to do so by the state in which the school zone is located. Individuals in Illinois would not have violated the federal Gun-Free School Zones Act if they carried a concealed weapon in a school zone, if State law had not prohibited it.

Many states have similar laws providing the change sought in this proposal. After the school shooting tragedy in Parkland, Florida in February of 2018, the Florida General Assembly passed a gun legislation package that included a local district option to arm school personnel.

Committee discussions largely centered on the acknowledgement that many rural school districts do not have the luxury of the fast response times of emergency responders in urban and suburban areas. Because of geography, resources, and other limitations, response times to emergencies in some rural districts can be as long as 20-30 minutes.

There were still concerns about having firearms in schools, the stress arming staff could put on teachers, and finding assurances that the proper training was in place. When the point was emphasized that this was absolutely permissive for each individual school board, and when the submitting districts agreed to amend the proposal to require a statewide training standard (instead of training approved by the school board), the Committee came to a consensus.

The Resolutions Committee RECOMMENDS DO ADOPT.

3. Student Safety

Submitted by: Galva CUSD 224

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Illinois Association of School Boards shall: Support and advocate for legislation which provides local school boards the OPTION of developing Student Safety and Protection Plans which MAY include arming administrators, faculty, and/or other staff who have completed a school district approved training course, met qualifications required for a concealed carry license, and have a current concealed carry license issued under the Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act. Only staff who fulfill all requirements listed would be eligible as an active and armed part of the Student Safety and Protection Plan, upon granted board approval.

District Rationale: Illinois State Law does not allow for local control of school boards in determining if they want to include an option for trained and armed staff to protect their students, fellow staff members, and themselves, in an emergency situation until law enforcement arrives. In small

communities like ours, the sole officer on duty might be unavailable for immediate assistance. Other states allow districts to determine what is best for their community.

Resolutions Committee Rationale: This resolution calls for the Association to support and advocate for local options for schools, including for armed district personnel subject to training, background checks, licensure and board approval. It is, generally, the same as Resolutions #1 and #2.

Since these three proposals were essentially the same, the Committee worked with the sponsoring districts, which agreed to combine all of them into Resolution #2.

The Resolutions Committee RECOMMENDS DO NOT ADOPT.

FINANCING PUBLIC EDUCATION – OTHER

4. Energy Savings Funding & Borrowing

Submitted by: Community High School District 94

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Illinois Association of School Boards shall recommend to the legislature that a bill be passed that allows districts to borrow or otherwise obtain money without referendum for the sole and specific purpose of purchasing and installing energy saving equipment relating to the utility usage (water, gas and electricity).

District Rationale: Much progress has been made recently in the development and cost reduction of energy saving technologies. Some local power companies are offering rebates, incentives, or grants to cover the partial purchase and installation costs of these products, but not fully covering the costs. It is well known that the utilization of these products reduce overall energy costs in the long run and contribute to an overall improvement in environmental stewardship. Some districts may be caught between the desire to improve their cost effective use of energy resources and the monetary resources to do that. Some businesses have started to provide “performance financing” programs, but while they allow districts to reduce energy cost, they

also siphon the savings from the districts as part of their business model. It is a shame that districts that wish to be environmentally prudent and responsible cannot keep the benefits in their districts to benefit the students and the community. A carefully crafted plan that would require very specific use of the money with reasonable ROI would benefit all involved, the districts, the utilities and the environment. The cost would be returned to the taxpayers many times over in savings. There is no reason that a business sector should profit off this opportunity by fronting money to taxing districts.

Resolutions Committee Rationale: The resolution calls for legislation that will allow school districts to borrow or obtain revenues, without referendum to purchase and install energy savings equipment.

The Committee agreed that school districts should have the ability to utilize school district revenues, whether obtained through existing funds or through referendum to carry out energy savings projects on their own. The Committee also discussed that schools would need to work with engineers and architects to carefully craft an effective energy savings project. By leaving the resolution broad in concept, the legislative process could be used to negotiate more specific provisions that would certainly be sought by lawmakers and interested parties to protect schools and taxpayers. However, schools would be able to realize the maximum savings sought by the energy related upgrades.

The School Energy Conservation and Saving Measures law (105 ILCS 5/19b-1) was enacted in 1993 to facilitate installation of energy conservation and savings projects that could help offset energy costs schools incurred due to antiquated or energy inefficient lighting, heating and air conditioning and inefficient energy systems. These contracts often allow the potential energy savings calculated by increasing efficiency to offset the cost of installation of new, more energy efficient, equipment.

This program does not require a referendum to obtain funds and allows for school districts to pursue borrowing so long as the projects can be funded with savings and available school district revenues.

The Resolutions Committee RECOMMENDS DO ADOPT.

REAFFIRMATION OF EXISTING POSITIONS

FINANCING PUBLIC EDUCATION – STATE

5. Position Statement 2.27 Charter School Funding

Submitted by: Woodland Community Consolidated School District 50

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Illinois Association of School Boards shall urge adoption of legislation which would create a new methodology for the funding of State Authorized Charter Schools which would not have a negative financial impact on the host district. With respect to State authorized

virtual charter schools, further limit the withholding of State funds from host school districts in proportion to the per pupil expenditure used for building maintenance, classroom supplies, transportation, safety and security, and other costs unique to “brick and mortar” schools. For all State-authorized charter schools, require that proof of continuing enrollment and attendance be submitted quarterly, with prorated refunds to the host school district upon withdrawal of students from the charter school.

District Rationale: Loss of students does not equate to a proportionate reduction in host district expenses. With

current method, the State Charter does not share in deductions or proration's in State funding. The charter school tuition increases as a host districts' State funding decreases. State currently assumes no financial responsibility for State Charter Schools that were approved over objections of the locally elected school board members. There is no locally elected responsibility by the communities that are required to support the State Chartered School; therefore the burden of financial support should be assumed by the State.

Resolutions Committee Rationale: The current position statement on State Authorized Charter Schools (SACS) was amended in 2014 to provide more flexibility and cleaner language that fits better into IASB's overall position

statements. Position Statement 2.27 was reaffirmed in 2015, 2016 and 2017.

State Authorized Charter Schools continue to be a major issue as "host" districts have to scramble to find a way to deal with fewer revenues from the State of Illinois while still providing a quality education to the students they serve.

Current law takes State funding from a local district and distributes it to a State authorized charter school. If the local school district looked to raise revenue and provide additional resources to students from local sources, the SACS would receive an even larger share of the local districts' State funding.

The Resolutions Committee RECOMMENDS DO ADOPT.

NEW BELIEF STATEMENT

6. Local Authority in Safety Practices

Submitted by: Indian Prairie Community Unit School
District 204

The Illinois Association of School Boards believes that schools should provide a safe and secure environment for all students and staff. Decisions of school safety drills, plans, and procedures should be made at the local level, utilizing evidence-based practices that maximize resources and effectiveness, and by soliciting input from local emergency responders resulting in fewer physical, emotional, and psychological risks to students and staff.

District Rationale: Given recent tragic events have created a renewed sense of urgency to address school security measures, especially active shooter threats, providing guidance to our legislators that reflect thoughtful and researched based practices will be essential. The voice of the Illinois Association of School Boards should be a driving force behind any new legislative proposal to ensure laws do not cross the line of mandating security measures that may negatively impact the emotional and psychological wellbeing of students and staff.

An updated (April 2017) guidance document, *Best practice considerations for schools in active shooter and other armed assailant drills*, from the National Association of School Psychologists and the National Association of School Resource Officers provides schools critical guidance on armed assailant training. They also received input from Safe and Sound Schools: A Sandy Hook Initiative and the ALICE Training Institute before producing this document.

This overview is provided:

- A. Response to armed assailants has focused on implementing a school lockdown. Recently, discussion has emphasized options-based approaches, which sometimes include the "Run, Hide, Fight" model.
- B. Armed assailant drills have both benefits and concerns associated with their implementation.

- C. Armed assailants in schools account for only 1% of homicides among school-age youth; schools must balance costs and benefits when allocating crisis preparedness resources.
- D. Such drills have the potential to empower staff and save lives, but without proper caution, they can risk causing harm to participants.
- E. Available research supports the effectiveness of lockdown drills implemented according to best practices, but research is still needed on the effectiveness of armed assailant drills.

The document further points out the importance of the developmental maturity of students.

It lists these developmental and mental health considerations:

- A. Children model their reactions on adult behavior, so effective drills should result in staff who inspire calm and confidence in students.
- B. It is critical that participation in drills be appropriate to individual development levels, and take into consideration prior traumatic experiences, special needs, and personalities.
- C. School-employed mental health professionals should be involved in every stage of preparation.
- D. Prior to the drill, staff should be trained to recognize common trauma reactions.
- E. Adults should monitor participants during the drill and remove anyone exhibiting signs of trauma.
- F. After completion, staff and students should have access to mental health support, if needed.
- G. Participation should never be mandatory, and parental consent should be required for all students.
- H. If staff choose to opt-out of intense drills, they should receive comparable, less intense instruction.

The authors point out that current available research suggests multiple practices increase the ability of staff to respond

appropriately during a crisis. However, they note a lack of available research regarding the effectiveness of school-based armed assailant drills.

“at present there is no empirical research regarding school-based armed assailant drills.”

The authors stress the importance of local level decision making for disaster response procedures.

“The specifics of any training should be determined at the local level by appropriately trained school leadership, school safety and mental health personnel, and law enforcement.”

In summary, several organizations with expertise of school environments and school safety have advocated for balancing safety measures effectiveness with ample consideration of the emotional and psychological well-being of students and

staff. They also advise that local school leaders and experts will best determine this balance. Therefore, Indian Prairie School District 204 respectfully proposes that the Illinois Association of School Boards adopt a belief statement that is reflective of this guidance.

Resolutions Committee Rationale: This proposal was prompted by recently approved legislation requiring an active shooter safety drill with students present. The resolution states that the local school district should have the authority to determine which best practices and procedures best maximize the effectiveness of increased safety in its schools.

The Committee worked with the submitting district to place additional specificity to the proposal, and include verbiage that local law enforcement should be involved.

The Resolutions Committee RECOMMENDS DO ADOPT.

AMENDED BELIEF STATEMENTS

7. Belief Statement 5 — Mental Health Services

Submitted by: Lake Villa Community Consolidated School District 41

The Illinois Association of School Boards believes that schools should provide a safe and secure environment for all students. School board members and staff should try to protect students from the effects of bullying, discrimination, and violence, and offer appropriate instruction to improve intergroup relations and to promote peaceful resolution to conflict. Further, the Association urges the State of Illinois and the U.S. States Congress to invest in and support comprehensive, coordinated, and collaborative mental health resources to address these social-emotional issues leading to safe schools and the achievement of academic success.”

District Rationale: Providing a safe school environment that ensures both the physical and emotional safety of students and staff creates the conditions necessary to foster academic achievement.

The loss of life is unacceptable and school shootings are a tragedy that affect the whole society.

The most effective approach to creating safe school environments requires a comprehensive, coordinated effort including school-wide, district-wide, community-wide and state-wide strategies where all institutions, organizations and individuals must accept responsibility for their critical roles and collaborate to establish a positive environment for teaching and learning.

Resolutions Committee Rationale: The proposal addresses mental health services, urging the State and Federal governments to invest in mental health resources that will assist school districts. This is clearly a vital concern, especially in the current social climate and increased attention to school violence.

The Resolutions Committee RECOMMENDS DO ADOPT.

8. Amending Belief Statement 2 — Student Voter Registration

Submitted by: Indian Prairie Community Unit School District 204

The Illinois Association of School Boards believes school administrations and faculties should be composed of persons supporting the principles of constitutional government because schools should continue with vigor their programs for giving young citizens a clear understanding of the principles of the American way of life and a desire to make these principles prevail in their own lives and in the life of their country. Further, the Association believes in the value of student non-partisan civic responsibility, including the importance of student voter registration.

District Rationale: On August 21, 2015, Governor Rauner signed House Bill 4025 (Public Act 99-0434) into law, requiring that future Illinois high school students complete a stand-alone, semester-long civics course. This course requirement was approved to support a key public school objective to develop the next generations for participation in our democratic society. Reciting the pledge of allegiance and this recent civic course requirements are in place to education, inform, and inspire students for future engagement.

Federal public policy per Congress finds that:

- A. the right of citizens of the United States to vote is a fundamental right;
- B. It is the duty of the Federal, State, and local governments to promote the exercise of that right; and
- C. Discriminatory and unfair registration laws and procedures can have a direct and damaging effect of voter participation in elections for Federal office and disproportionately harm voter participation by various group, including racial minorities.

The State of Illinois allows schools to be voter registration agencies. A county clerk can appoint persons as deputy registrars upon request, such as, a school principal situated within the election jurisdiction, or a qualified person designated by the principal. Given this, each local district has the flexibility to implement their own program as desired.

Given approximately 25% of eligible 18-24 year olds (vs. 21% of all eligible voters) are unregistered to vote, high school registration is an important step toward maintaining a healthy democracy and addresses a root of the high number of people who do not vote in elections. A strong democracy depends on informed and active participation by its citizenship.

Registration's importance to the voting process and the large number of individuals who remain unregistered have triggered several major reforms intended to increase voter registration. Most notably, the federal government's National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (NVRA) requires that states allow eligible citizens to register to vote when completing other transactions at state motor vehicle and social services agencies. Despite these efforts less than 20% of those unregistered to vote have been offered an opportunity to register at a motor vehicle or other government agency. Additionally, the unregistered were more likely to say they are not interested in registration because they dislike politics or believe voting will not make a difference.

Recent research suggests that voting is a habitual behavior. Young people who develop a habit of voting regularly are likely to remain frequent voters, while those who don't are likely to remain non-voters. Additionally, studies

show unregistered voters are less likely to understand government, are more pessimistic, less likely to participate in civic activities and volunteerism.

Community benefit, support for a healthy democracy, and empowered citizens are direct results of encouraging voter registration in the high schools. An IASB belief statement valuing high school voter registration will take an important step for young people to develop the knowledge, skills and dispositions that facilitate informed participation in public life.

Resolutions Committee Rationale: The resolution stresses the importance of student voter registration and non-partisan civic responsibility.

The submitting district's rationale cites several State and federal actions to encourage IASB's adoption of the proposal, including:

- Recent Illinois legislation emphasizing civics education
- Voting is a fundamental right and the duty of local governments to promote voting
- Schools are voter registration agencies in Illinois
- A strong democracy depends on participation by its citizens and that is declining
- Young people who vote regularly are likely to remain frequent voters and more likely to participate in civic activities and volunteerism
- Empowered citizens are a direct result of encouraging voter registration in high schools

The Resolutions Committee RECOMMENDS DO ADOPT.

CURRENT POSITIONS

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

1.01 Educational Programs

The Illinois Association of School Boards urges its member districts to develop educational programs to maximize educational opportunities for students by fully utilizing teacher and staff potential, community resources and physical facilities. The goal of each district shall be to serve the interest, talents and needs of each child through an outstanding well-balanced program. The Association shall also encourage its members to increase their awareness of the Mental Health Code (405 ILCS 49/15) which supports developments and implementation of a plan to incorporate social and emotional standards as part of the Illinois Learning Standards. (Adopted 1959; Amended 1988, 2009)

1.02 Curricular Material Determination

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support the right and responsibility of each local school board to determine its curricular content including opposing any

mandated curriculum that comes from the Common Core Standards. (Adopted 1981; Amended 1983, 1988, 2001, 2013)

1.03 Physical Education

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support modifications to existing state mandates which shall allow boards of education to establish time requirements and appropriate exemptions for physical education at the K-12 level. (Portions Adopted 1982, 1986; Reaffirmed 1984, 1987; Amended 1988, 1995, 2013)

1.04 P. E. Exemption For Show Choir

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall attempt to have legislation passed that would amend 105 ILCS 5/27-6 of the School Code of Illinois to grant an additional exemption for students, grades 9-12, enrolled in an ongoing Show Choir program for credit. (Adopted 2012)

1.05 Student Retention And High School Completion

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall urge Congress and the Illinois General Assembly to commit the appropriate

resources and develop programs that would reduce the dropout rate throughout the state of Illinois with specific emphasis on early intervention in the elementary level and continuous intervention at the secondary school level to facilitate graduation. (Adopted 1986; Amended 2003)

1.06 Preschool Programs

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support full funding of early childhood programs operated by public schools as a priority with legislation providing new monies for both staffing and infrastructure costs associated with early childhood programs for preschool children, at-risk infants and toddlers and grants for parental training. (Adopted 1986; Amended 2001, 2006, 2007, 2016)

1.07 Discipline For Special Education Students

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall develop and implement a legislative agenda at the Federal and State levels which urges the adoption of legislation easing the legal restrictions imposed on local school boards for disciplining students enrolled in special education programs, including the suspension and expulsion of such students, and providing for a less restrictive access to records of transferees due to expulsion. (Adopted 1994; Amended 1995)

1.08 Standardized Test Procedures

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall urge the Illinois State Board of Education to contract with a national testing company to develop a state assessment test that will test the Illinois Learning Standards on a yearly basis in compliance with, and only testing those areas required by, the federal Every Student Succeeds Act. Further IASB shall support legislation to:

- require that the test be given no later than October of each year with results received by local school districts no later than December of that same year;
- provide that assessments include both an annual overall performance measure as well as a system of formative classroom-level assessments that are linked to desired standards;
- require that the test will remain the same for 10 years with only changes in the test items to maintain security;
- require that the cut scores be set before the test results are tabulated, leaving the score ranges the same from year to year and from grade to grade; and
- expedite and fully fund test development and implementation of an appropriate assessment instrument for English language learners. (Adopted 2002; Amended 2003, 2008, 2016; Reaffirmed 2011)

1.09 Student Assessment

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation that will modify required State student assessments so testing does not go beyond what is required by federal law, and that prohibits the Illinois State Board of Education from pursuing activities designed to expand student assessment without legislative approval. Further, the Association shall support efforts to modify the Illinois and federal student assessment processes so that they will:

- reduce costs to schools, the state and therefore taxpayers
- enhance student achievement;
- increase student instructional time;
- facilitate test score comparability within and across state lines;
- fairly test students who are English language learners so that their academic progress can be accurately assessed regardless of their fluency;
- return test results in a manner that will allow school districts to maximize student learning;
- comply with the federal accountability mandate tied to testing;
- maintain a needed emphasis on the Illinois Learning Standards; and
- develop a reporting process that reflects a school's progress beyond simply student assessment scores. (Adopted 2002; Amended 2008; Reaffirmed 2011)

1.10 Every Student Succeeds Act – Military Recruitment

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall work with the National School Boards Association and other coalitions to urge Congress and the General Assembly of Illinois to, regarding the Every Student Succeeds Act, replace the opt-out burden on parents with an opt-in provision with regard to the requirement of secondary schools to disclose student information to military recruiters. (Adopted 2005; Amended 2016)

1.11 School Attendance Days

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support a policy variance by the Illinois State Board of Education to allow Unit School Districts the option to stagger the start and end date of schools within their district based on developmental and educational appropriateness, without penalty to state aid appropriations, provided that all students in the district meet required student attendance requirements. (Adopted 2004)

1.12 Funding For Differentiated Instruction

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall seek administrative and legislative actions calling for the provision of separate and sufficient new monies to support programs of differentiated instruction for those students identified as having exceptional talents and abilities, permitting these students to reach their potential. Such student talents and abilities may be in areas that expand beyond the core curricula. To ensure efficiency and productivity in the implementation of these programs, school districts should be provided sufficient flexibility in the acquisition and expenditure of such State funds. (Adopted 2007)

1.13 Bilingual Education Options

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall request the Illinois State Legislature to pass legislation to amend the current Illinois School Code to make Transitional Bilingual Education optional and not mandatory. (Adopted 2008)

1.14 Student Academic Placement

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support local school district and parent collaboration, evaluation and decision-making regarding the grade-level placement of students based upon their academic, social, and emotional maturity and readiness to advance. When parental advancement requests deviate from normal school advancement, school districts maintain the authority to evaluate and place students. (Adopted 2010; Reaffirmed 2011)

1.15 Virtual Charter Schools

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall encourage the Charter School Commission to develop regulations that ensures State-authorized virtual charter schools meet the full needs of Illinois students and follow the intent of current State laws prohibiting the use of public funds for profit-driven educational firms. Examples of such regulations might include, but not be limited to, the following:

- Assurance of student access to teachers, including information regarding teacher accessibility, teacher/student ratio, and amount of teacher/student contact time
- Evidence of the social-emotional well-being of students, such as information regarding opportunities for peer interaction and collaboration, adult advisory resources, and protocols to prevent bullying or other inappropriate online behavior
- Not-for-profit entities that sponsor virtual charter schools shall be in existence for at least one year before submitting a virtual charter school proposal and operate under the Open Meetings Act and the Freedom of Information Act once a charter school has been approved
- Entities proposing virtual charter schools are limited to submitting a proposal to only one school district per year
- Members of the not-for-profit board that proposes a virtual charter school must demonstrate a direct link to the community in which it is proposing a charter school, through either residency, employment, or education
- Funding for State authorized virtual charter schools shall be reduced proportionately to reflect annual State aid prorrations, as well as per pupil expenditure used for building maintenance, classroom supplies, transportation, and other costs unique to the services provided by a “brick and mortar” school. (Adopted 2013)

1.16 Student Discipline Practices

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall oppose legislative and rulemaking initiatives that enact statewide student discipline policies. The IASB encourages school districts to consider policies and procedures that develop sound discipline practices which may:

- Ensure a safe, responsive, and effective instructional environment
- Strive to meet the social, emotional, and behavioral needs of all Illinois students
- Strive to expedite investigations in response to alleged student misconduct and communicate findings and determinations to parents/guardians. (Adopted 2014)

1.17 Data Equity

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation allowing non-unit districts to enter into agreements to share student data to the same extent and with the same ease as unit districts. (Adopted 2014)

1.18 Longitudinal Data Systems

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation allowing local districts to enter into the necessary student data sharing agreements to build, maintain, and utilize local longitudinal data systems in order to improve their student outcomes including college and career success. (Adopted 2014)

FINANCING PUBLIC EDUCATION – STATE

2.01 Priority And Support

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall urge the Governor and General Assembly of Illinois to establish education as the number one priority of state government, to increase funding of education to such levels as would be necessary to implement the constitutional requirement that the state have primary responsibility for financing the system of public education, including the funding of educational reform, and to adjust the state aid formula to offset increased inflationary costs. (Portions Adopted 1973, 1977, and 1986; Amended 1988; Reaffirmed 2000, 2004, 2006, 2012, 2014)

2.02 Funding Sources

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support the enactment of additional sources of state revenue if, after thorough examination of state funding priorities, it is determined that such additional taxes are necessary. (Adopted 1975; Reaffirmed 1987, 2014; Amended 1988)

2.03 Funding Mandated Programs

The Illinois Association of School Boards believes that legislation encroaching upon local and lay control of the public schools should be curtailed, and, therefore:

- shall oppose programs or services mandated by the Illinois General Assembly, the State Board of Education, or any other State agency, unless there is clear evidence of need for the mandate and the Illinois General Assembly provides non-local revenues to fully fund the additional costs of those programs;
- shall urge the members of the General Assembly to strictly comply with the State Mandates Act, including specifying and labeling in the descriptions of legislation containing unfunded mandates that such mandates occur, and to refrain from passing any legislation which contains an exemption from the Act, and urge the Governor to veto any such legislation that may reach the Governor’s desk;
- shall urge State agencies and commissions that adopt regulations accompanying legislative mandates to specify required outcomes and criteria for determining compliance, and allow local districts to determine the specific methods

and procedures by which required outcomes will be accomplished. Required time lines for accomplishment should reflect consideration of the human and material resources and amount of deliberation and development necessary to accomplish the mandate;

- shall support legislation that causes all statutory and regulatory educational mandates to sunset if sufficient funding is not provided to implement such mandates and requirements. Local school districts may choose to continue to implement the mandated programs voluntarily until such time that the General Assembly appropriates the funding necessary to cover the costs of the required programs. (Adopted 1976; Amended 1988, 1989, 2001, 2005, 2013; Reaffirmed 1980, 1991, 1994, 1999, 2002, 2009, 2014)

2.04 Funding Special Education Programs

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall urge the Congress of the United States to adequately fund Public Law 94-142 (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act) commensurate with the mandates required by the Act:

- shall strongly encourage the State of Illinois to totally fund with new monies, in a timely manner, the extra costs of educating children with special needs including transportation and accessibility costs;
- shall seek changes in current practice to fund local districts for special education professional personnel at 51% of the prior year's average salary for such professionals; and
- shall continue to oppose any requirement that local public school districts pay room and board costs for any handicapped child placed in private facilities. (Portions adopted 1977, 1980, 1986; Portions Reaffirmed 1985, 1986, 2002; Amended 1988, 2000, 2001)

2.05 Corporate Personal Property Replacement Tax

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall oppose any attempt to reduce the Corporate Personal Property Replacement Tax revenues provided by the current Act. (Adopted 1981)

2.06 Impact Aid (Student Housing)

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation reinstating Impact Aid to school districts where there are students residing in housing provided on state property from which no property taxes are received. The Impact Aid shall be based on the number of students generated from the state property. (Adopted 1986)

2.07 Contracting Driver's Education

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation authorizing school districts to provide a comprehensive driver education program through contract. Such contracts shall be made with properly authorized persons or agencies and may include provisions calling for the use of school property. (Adopted 1982)

2.08 Tax Assessment Schedules

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall seek and support legislation to promote the beneficial realignment

of tax assessment dates and school levy deadlines. (Adopted 1988; Reaffirmed 1998)

2.09 Permissive Rate Equalization

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall urge the Illinois General Assembly to equalize taxing authority without referendum of dual and unit districts in all funds so that the unit districts' authority would be equal to the sum of the dual districts' tax rate. (Adopted 1981; Amended 1986; Reaffirmed 1988)

2.10 Residential Placement Costs

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall inform the General Assembly and Governor's Office that children who are wards of the State create a significant impact on local school district budgets when they are placed in temporary shelters and foster homes. Further, the State shall provide 100% of the cost of these placements. The Association:

- shall work to increase the financial incentives to those local school districts which provide alternatives to residential placement for those students;
- shall initiate and support legislation that will require the Department of Children and Family Services to involve local school districts in any plans for group placements of children in those districts and that funds for educating the placed youngsters must be earmarked (appropriated, planned for) in the agency's budget prior to finalizing any plan; and
- shall seek and support legislation for the State of Illinois to provide funds to local school districts for purchasing or constructing additional classrooms that are required to provide instruction for students who reside in state facilities located within the district. (Adopted 1991; Amended 2001)

2.11 State Aid Payments

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation that requires the State of Illinois to make general state aid payments to school districts, on a monthly basis, during the entitlement year in which they are appropriated. Furthermore, the Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation that requires the State of Illinois to pay interest at the current legal rate on any payments which are late. (Adopted 1991; Reaffirmed 2000, 2014; Amended 2011)

2.12 Capital Funding For School Construction

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall actively work with the Illinois General Assembly and the Illinois State Board of Education to increase capital funding for public school infrastructure improvement and development. The IASB shall advocate that the General Assembly study and consider additional forms of financial revenue for school construction needs, including but not limited to, sales tax revenue. Any new revenue shall supplement current school construction funds, not supplant them. (Adopted 1994; Amended 1998, 2006; Reaffirmed 2007, 2014)

2.13 Heat Days Funding

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall strongly support legislation to totally fund "heat" days for our schools. (Adopted 1996)

2.14 Summer School Funding

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation to provide adequate funding to school districts to provide summer school “at risk” academic programs. (Adopted 1996)

2.15 Local Tax Collection And Distribution

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)

2.16 Tax Levy Amendments

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall seek legislation to provide that a duly constituted Board of Education may submit an amended tax levy to avail itself of potential additional revenue through a change and increase in district EAV (Equalized Assessed Valuation), provided the original levy was properly filed on time, based upon the best information available at the time of filing, and the change in EAV has occurred since the filing of the original levy. (Adopted 1996)

2.17 Alternative Schools

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support adequate State funding for regional alternative schooling programs. (Adopted 1997)

2.18 Tort Immunity Fund

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall oppose legislation that seeks to limit a school district’s legitimate use of the tort immunity fund. This includes amendments to the Local Government and Governmental Employees Tort Immunity Act that would prohibit the issuance of bonds or the levying of taxes by a school board to fund the costs of complying with equitable remedies or relief, or with an injunction agreed to by the school board or ordered by any court. (Adopted 1998)

2.19 School Funding And Taxation Reform

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall actively support the general concepts regarding school funding reform, property tax relief and tax reform identified in the legislative outline prepared by the Center for Tax and Budget Accountability in June of 2004. Legislation resulting from that legislative outline shall be supported by the Illinois Association of School Boards provided that: the State guarantees the payment of property tax relief grants will be made in a timely fashion with no loss of funds to the school district: school districts have continued access to local property tax revenues through levies and referenda the legislation meets the criteria outlined in the IASB Position Statement 2.37 – School Finance Reform. (Adopted 2004; Amended 2005; Reaffirmed 2014)

2.20 School Construction Grant Program

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall continue to support the current School Construction Grant Program and its provisions for grant applications, grant entitlements, grant awards, and local school district authority to select architects, engineers, contractors, and laborers. All school districts with an approved school construction grant entitlement shall be paid the amount of the entitlement in its entirety before a new school construction program can be implemented. School districts shall receive a priority ranking within 90 days of the end of the current year’s application cycle. The Illinois State Board of Education shall priority rank, by grant year, all school districts that have been waiting for longer than 90 days for school construction grant funds. (Adopted 2006, Amended 2014, Reaffirmed 2015)

2.21 School Construction Grant Index

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation that would amend Section 5-5 of 105 ILCS 230 to calculate the grant index in the school construction program for each of those school districts that consolidate or join for a cooperative high school after July 1, 2006 and utilize whichever grant index is highest for the newly consolidated district or cooperative high school rather than a composite index of all districts involved. (Adopted 2006)

2.22 Constitutional Amendment On School Funding

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support passage of an amendment to the Illinois Constitution that would make education a fundamental right, would make it a paramount duty for the State to provide a thorough and efficient system of public education, and that would provide that the State has the preponderant financial responsibility for financing the system of public education. (Adopted 2006; Reaffirmed 2007, 2014)

2.23 Non-Resident Student Tuition

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation to allow legally enrolled students who have become non-residents of the district to attend the school as a non-resident student, tuition-free, only until the end of the grading period in which the student was determined to be a non-resident. The legislation should allow students who are seniors in high school, and legally enrolled on the first day of school to continue in the district, tuition free, only until the end of that school year. (Adopted 2007; Reaffirmed 2008)

2.24 ISBE Oversight Agreement

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall work to modify state statutes governing Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) school district oversight panels or finance authorities. Statutory changes should include, but not be limited to, the following:

- Unless called for by the local school district, an oversight panel or finance authority shall not be imposed without a rigorous set of criteria proving the school district will not or cannot serve the needs of its students, staff and community;

- Clear benchmarks and goals shall be included in the establishment of an oversight panel or finance authority and once substantially met, the oversight panel or finance authority shall be dissolved;
- Bonding authority and issuance must remain the responsibility of the elected school board so that the duration of the oversight can be minimal;
- Progress toward benchmarks and goals must be reviewed and shared with the school district under oversight on a regular basis including any reasons or criteria for inability to make progress. Review should also recommend any modifications needed to achieve success;
- Due process and review by the Attorney General must be afforded school districts when appropriate; and
- ISBE authority to establish oversight panels or finance authorities shall not be broadened to facilitate imposition of a panel or authority or to expand their oversight once put in place. (Adopted 2009; Amended 2010)

2.25 Multi County School District GSA Offset

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation to modify the GSA (General State Aid) Formula calculation for multi-county PTELL (Property Tax Extension Limitation Law) school districts which have lost GSA for current and prior years due to an estimate of Equalized Assessed Value (EAV) utilized by the county providing the limiting rate to the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) for use in calculating a District's GSA. (Adopted 2010)

2.26 Categorical Reductions Prospective Only

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation requiring that any reductions in line item funds for categorical payments which are subject to reimbursement by the State (e.g. transportation or special education) shall be prospective only and shall not affect such line item costs incurred by a school district prior to such reduction but not yet claimed or approved for reimbursement. (Adopted 2011)

2.27 State Authorized Charter School Funding

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall urge adoption of legislation which would create a new methodology for the funding of State Authorized Charter Schools which would not have a negative financial impact on the host district. With respect to State authorized virtual charter schools, further limit the withholding of State funds from host school districts in proportion to the per pupil expenditure used for building maintenance, classroom supplies, transportation, safety and security, and other costs unique to "brick and mortar" schools. For all State-authorized charter schools, require that proof of continuing enrollment and attendance be submitted quarterly, with prorated refunds to the host school district upon withdrawal of students from the charter school. (Adopted 2012; Amended 2013, 2014; Reaffirmed 2016, 2017)

2.28 Special Education Student Transportation Cost

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislative, administrative, or legal remedies to limit and equalize cost for Special Education Student Transportation. (Adopted 2014)

2.29 Clock Hours Vs. Minutes

The Illinois Association of School boards shall research the impact and viability of moving from a methodology of required days of student instruction to minutes of student instruction as necessary to compensate for minutes of instruction lost due to school closures caused by disaster, flood, extreme weather conditions, evacuations, or other events beyond the control of the school district. (Adopted 2016)

FINANCING PUBLIC EDUCATION — LOCAL

2.30 Property Tax Assessment And Collection

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall oppose the assessment and collection of property taxes at the statewide level. (Adopted 1987)

2.31 Property Tax Base

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall oppose any reduction in a district's access to local property tax revenue and shall oppose legislation that would erode the property tax base to educate children in the state of Illinois. (Adopted 1987; Amended 1988, 2001; Reaffirmed 2005, 2006, 2016)

2.32 Standing On Tax Appeals

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislative action to enable public school districts, in Cook County specifically, to (1) receive notices of assessment appeals in excess of \$100,000; (2) become participants in assessment reduction proceedings at the administrative and judicial levels; and (3) allow the refund to be credited toward future property tax payments. Further, IASB urges that the necessary resources be made available in order to facilitate the timely processing of property tax appeal proceedings. (Adopted 1975; Amended 1988, 2000, 2005, 2006; Reaffirmed 1985)

2.33 Tax Increment Financing

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support changes in the current Tax Increment Financing statute that will model adoption procedures after those established for Enterprise Zones, continue to provide definitions for terms such as "blighted" used in the statute, develop procedures for disbanding TIF areas that do not produce anticipated growth, remove the requirement that all taxing bodies participate equally, to be monitored by the TIF Joint Review Board at each of its scheduled meetings, reduce the financial impact of the TIF area so that the percentage loss of Equalized Assessed Valuation (EAV) involved in the TIF will not exceed twice the

average loss of EAV to each taxing body, limit its use in new residential development, and make the recommendation of the Joint Review Board binding. (Adopted 1986; Amended 1990, 1997; Reaffirmed 2006, 2016)

2.34 Site Development

The Illinois Association of School Boards supports requiring builders and subdividers to dedicate land for school purposes or to make cash payments in lieu of such dedications and to allow cash payments to be used for operational expenses. (Adopted 1971; Amended 2004)

2.35 Property Tax Cap

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall oppose any limitation which would require school boards to have to go to referendum to gain authorization to extend taxes to limits previously authorized by the voters. The Association shall support legislation designed to:

- exempt the districts in counties under the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law (PTELL) from the restrictions of the tax cap in their Fire and Life Safety, IMRF, Social Security and Tort Immunity funds
- base the property tax cap on the Employment Cost Index (ECI) rather than the Consumer Price Index;
- base any such index (CPI or ECI) on a method for calculating average over time to lessen the unpredictability of tax capped local resources; and
- to establish a “floor” to PTELL to ensure that the allowable percentage increase in
- the extension cannot be less than the allowable percentage increase in the 1998 levy year. (Adopted 1990; Amended 2001, 2002, 2006, 2009; Reaffirmed 1991)

2.36 Property Tax Cap – GSA Calculation

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation to modify the General State Aid Formula calculation for school districts subject to PTELL (Property Tax Extension Limitation Law) such as that they are not penalized when successfully passing an operating fund rate increase referendum. (Adopted 2008)

2.37 Property Tax Classification

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall oppose any reduction in real estate assessment for residential property which is not offset on a one-to-one ratio. (Adopted 1991; Reaffirmed 2016))

2.38 School Finance Reform

The Illinois Association of School Boards believes that adequate funding must be provided for each student in order to guarantee the opportunity for an appropriate public education. Education funding should take into account the cost associated with delivering quality, research-based programming, geographic conditions, and student needs. Fully funding districts would ensure adequate funding for districts to locally determine and deliver appropriate and effective educational experiences to every student.

IASB supports the need for transparency and dissemination of information, regarding the impact of proposed education funding reforms as they are developed, formally proposed, considered, and enacted. Additionally, IASB will utilize the following criteria to evaluate proposals for school finance reform:

- 1) The state’s funding of public education should provide for a stable, reliable, and predictable commitment of revenue.
- 2) State funding levels for public education should be a function of the actual cost of providing an appropriate education based on research, data, and current best practices.
- 3) Adequate funding should be sought through the addition of new state revenues for public education.
- 4) Any funding formula developed by the General Assembly shall place high priority upon achieving the goal of equity in providing financial resources to local school districts.
- 5) Increased state funding for public education should not reduce the access of school districts to the local property tax base.
- 6) In the distribution of state funds to local school districts:
 - a) funding differentials for various levels of schooling are appropriate only if based on verified costs;
 - b) consideration should be given to regional differences in the cost of providing an appropriate education;
 - c) the method of calculating the number of students coming from disadvantaged backgrounds should be based on current, verifiable data;
 - d) size of school district is important only to the extent that a district provides an appropriate education.
- 7) A specified local tax effort should be required to qualify for state aid.
- 8) Authority for changing a district’s aggregate tax levy should be retained by the local board of education.
- 9) Taxing authority without referendum for unit districts in all funds should be equal to the sum of the taxing authority in dual districts.
- 10) Funding should not be tied to mandated training of local Boards of Education.

In order to obtain substantial new state revenues for funding an appropriate education, the following considerations should have an impact on any proposal for school finance reform:

- A. A legitimate level and type of accountability will be needed.
- B. The physical plant needs of Illinois’ school districts should be addressed.
- C. Taxpayer equity and relief, including uniform tax assessment and procedures as well as tax relief for limited fixed income and disabled citizens, should be provided. (Adopted 1990; Amended 1996, 2008, 2014, 2016; Reaffirmed 2001, 2012)

2.39 Changes In School Accounting Practices

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall oppose legislation or rulemaking proposing cosmetic and costly changes in the school accounting practices or fiscal year, including but not limited to, mandatory accrual basis accounting, major program determination, depreciation allocation, and management's discussion and analysis. (Adopted 1992; Amended 2003)

2.40 Tax Law And Assessment Practices

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation to create uniformity and equality in Illinois property tax laws regarding assessment practices. (Adopted 1993; Reaffirmed 2002)

2.41 Impact Fees For Residential Development

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall participate in the development and passage of statewide enabling legislation allowing local boards of education to impose residential development impact fees with the option of local municipal control through intergovernmental cooperation. (Adopted 1994; Reaffirmed 1996, 1998)

2.42 Bond And Interest Levy

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall attempt to have legislation passed that would permit a school district to increase the bond and interest levy to recover taxes lost from an adverse Property Tax Appeal Board Decision, that caused the district to expend operating funds to amortize debt. (Adopted 1994)

2.43 Local Taxes On School Districts

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation that would exempt public schools from all taxes imposed by state, federal, and units of local government. They shall not seek to deprive or deplete public schools of their funds. Each public school district shall be issued its own district's State and Federal Tax Exemption Identification Number for such exemption. It shall be the responsibility of the taxing body to notify the agency collecting the tax of its exemption and assure its implementation. (Adopted 1996; Reaffirmed 2001, 2008; Amended 2004)

2.44 Property Tax Rate Increases

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation that would require that new property tax rates levied immediately following successful passage of tax rate increases be used as the calculating rate and extended as required under the School Code (105 ILCS 5/17-3.2). (Adopted 2002)

2.45 Property Tax Cap Expiration

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support a change in State law to create a four-year sunset on the implementation of the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law (PTELL) in each county in which PTELL has been enacted. The four-year sunset would also apply to the enactment of PTELL in any county approving PTELL after the effective date of the legislation. Any desire to extend PTELL beyond the four years would require the County Board to again place the question on the ballot and receive

a positive majority of votes in the next general election. (Adopted 2004; Reaffirmed 2006, 2007)

2.46 Truth In Taxation

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall seek a modification in the Truth in Taxation Notice that reflects the natural economic appreciation effect of changes in property values when reporting the percentage increase or decrease over the previous year's tax levy. (Adopted 2006)

2.47 Sales Tax For School Districts

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall advocate that the General Assembly study and consider legislation allowing school districts access to additional forms of financial revenue, both state and local sources, including but not limited to, sales tax revenue. Further, any form of additional revenue for schools must provide that school districts determine the fund(s) in which to place the additional revenue. (Adopted 2006)

2.48 Abatements For Home Builders

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation to amend the Illinois Property Code (35 ILCS 200/18-165, et seq.) to enable Boards of Education to develop criteria for awarding abatements of school property tax to individual homebuilders. Said legislation shall provide rural school boards that are struggling with declining enrollments and loss of assessed valuation with a tool to stimulate the growth of both tax base and population base of their districts. (Adopted 2008)

2.49 PTELL – Debt Service Extension Base

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation (currently House Bill 1341) to modify the Debt Service Extension Base (DSEB) formula established by the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law (PTELL) to allow the limited number of school districts that do not have DSEB to have one established for them creating more equity among districts affected by the PTELL and equal opportunity in school funding. (Adopted 2011)

2.50 PTELL No Penalty For Under Levy

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation that allows school districts to levy an amount less than the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law (PTELL) formula would allow without penalty in future years. This would require that when a district "under" levies, that the full allowable extension amount be tracked and made accessible in future years. (Adopted 2012)

2.51 EAV Adjustments – Timely Notification

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation to require timely notification between county assessors of substantial adjustments to assessed values for a taxing district that has assessed property in multiple counties. (Adopted 2011; Amended 2017)

2.52 Pension-Normal Cost Shift

The Illinois Association of School Boards recognizes that legislation to sensibly resolve Illinois' current pension crisis must be fully compliant with prevailing actuarial scientific

standards in order to achieve fully-funded and sustainable pension funds. The Illinois Association of School Boards therefore shall not support a “cost-shift” to local districts as a true sensible solution to the pension burden. (Adopted 2013)

2.53 School Facility Occupation Tax

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support an amendment to State Statute 55 ILCS 5/5-1006.7 School Facility Occupation Tax, to include the purpose to purchase or lease technology to aid instruction, education, or efficiency of the school district. (Adopted 2014)

2.54 Tax Increment Financing

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support changes to the Tax Increment Financing statute to include the following: a municipality cannot reset a TIF district, which would extend the life of the TIF beyond the 23 years. (Adopted 2014; Reaffirmed 2016)

FINANCING PUBLIC EDUCATION – FEDERAL

2.55 State And Local Federal Tax Deduction

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall work with the National School Boards Association and other coalitions to defeat any legislation or regulation that would eliminate the federal income tax deduction for state and local taxes. (Adopted 1985)

2.56 E-Rate Discount Program

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall urge Congress and the Federal Communications Commission to continue to support discount programs, including but not limited to the “E-Rate” program created in the Telecommunications Act of 1996, to provide affordable Internet access, distance-learning, and other educational programs for school districts and libraries. (Adopted 1998)

FINANCING PUBLIC EDUCATION – OTHER

2.57 Non-Public School Funding

The Illinois Association of School Boards opposes payment of state funds directly or indirectly to non-public elementary and secondary schools. Specifically, the Association is opposed to the use of any form of “Educational Voucher”, “Tax Deduction” and “Tax Credit” plan at the state or national level. (Portions Adopted 1970, 1975, 1982; Amended 1988; Reaffirmed 2006, 2012)

2.58 Non-Public Student Reporting

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation to require that non-public schools receiving the benefit of public funds or services, submit to the Illinois State Board of Education an annual report including the names, ages and addresses of all students enrolled in their schools. (Adopted 1980)

2.59 Transportation For Private School Students

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall pursue and support legislation amending 105 ILCS 5/29-4 of the Illinois Compiled Statutes (School Code) to require schools other than public to conform to public school attendance dates and times as needed to minimize busing costs, or pay the additional costs as a result of scheduling differences in busing students attending those schools. (Adopted 1995)

2.60 Tax Exempt Bond Use

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall oppose any reduction by the Federal Government in the amount of tax exempt bonds which can be issued. In addition to this continuing opposition, IASB shall explore alternatives available should such limitation be forthcoming at the Federal level. This would include but not be limited to income tax credits for individuals, commercial bonds property casualty companies, etc., to provide incentives within the State of Illinois for the purchase of said bonds. (Adopted 1989)

2.61 Life Safety Fund Use

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation that allows the State Board of Education to approve the use of monies generated from the health/life safety tax levy or the sale of health/life safety bonds for building projects that, while not specifically listed as a State Board approved project, will directly result in the improved safety of the students and/or community. Specifically, such funds shall be eligible to cover the costs for the following purposes: 1) repair or replacement of property such as school sidewalks, driveways, parking lots and playground equipment, in instances when a specific safety hazard is demonstrated by a licensed architect or engineer; 2) mandated alterations to facilities and school property pursuant to requirements of the Federal Americans with Disabilities Act; and 3) to provide air conditioning and climate control in the classrooms, and to provide for the lease and/or purchase of air-conditioning equipment under the tax for leasing (including lease purchase and installment purchase) of educational facilities. (Adopted 1989; Reaffirmed 1991; Amended 1993, 2006)

2.62 State And Federal Grant Carryover

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall encourage the state and federal governments to remove restrictions on grant programs which currently require local school districts to return grant fund balances back to the state. (Adopted 1991)

LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

3.01 Board Member Involvement

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall continue its legislative involvement and encourage increased legislative activity by local school board members at the district, division, and state levels while providing leadership in guiding those board members in their efforts to seek public support of legislation essential to good school government. (Portions Adopted 1974, 1981; Amended 1988; Reaffirmed 2006)

3.02 Candidate Support

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall actively encourage and assist school board members to effectively evaluate positions of legislative candidates relative to public education and to support those candidates who have demonstrated understanding and support for the principles of school management to ensure the best education for public school students in Illinois. (Adopted 1975; Reaffirmed 1986; Amended 2006)

3.03 Limited Bill Introductions

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall encourage the Illinois General Assembly to limit the quantity of legislation introduced in each two-year period to allow time for each bill to be researched, debated, and thoroughly investigated before action by the General Assembly. (Adopted 1987; Reaffirmed 2012)

3.04 General Assembly Rules

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support changes in the operating procedures of the Illinois General Assembly which would promote maximum exchange of information between legislators and interested citizens and ensure enlightened debate on the merits of all proposed bills and take the action necessary to prevent legislation from being changed by amendments which are not germane to the original purpose of the bill, or establish a time limit for such amendments sufficient to avoid last minute changes in the final weeks of a legislative session. (Portions Adopted 1980, 1984; Amended 1988; Reaffirmed 2012)

3.05 Effective Date And State Board Rules & Regulations

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall encourage the Illinois General Assembly to allow a minimum of one-year lead time for implementation of any regulation or legislation increasing costs in public schools. Any such changes to existing educational programs should not be implemented until the final regulations have been adopted by the State Board of Education. (Adopted 1981; Amended 1993; Reaffirmed 2012)

3.06 Data Utilization

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation requiring the State Board of Education and the State Superintendent to base rules, regulations, and recommendations regarding legislation affecting public schools on empirical research, which shall be made available to the Illinois General Assembly and the interested public. (Adopted 1987)

3.07 Local Legislative Visits

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support and encourage each local Board of Education throughout the State of Illinois to make a “good faith” effort to initiate, undertake, and make an in-person visit with their local legislators in order to discuss specific issues and proposed legislation affecting local school districts. Further resolve that conducting any such visits will be part of any Awards Program adopted by IASB that recognizes outstanding leadership and development activities by local Boards of Education. (Adopted 1995; Reaffirmed 2006)

3.08 Elected State Board Of Education

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation or other appropriate action requiring that the members of the Illinois State Board of Education be elected on a regional basis. (Adopted 2002)

3.09 Budget Stability For School Districts

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation requiring the Illinois General Assembly to determine the amount of funding for educational entitlements and General State Aid no later than March 31 (3 months prior to the start of the budget year) and enact a biennial budgetary cycle. Once the amount of funding for educational entitlements is determined, the General Assembly shall be required to vote on the funding in a stand-alone piece of legislation. (Adopted 2010; Reaffirmed 2011; Amended 2012, 2016)

BOARD OPERATIONS AND DUTIES

4.01 Attention Deficit Disorder

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall encourage the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) to continue to study Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder and methods to accurately identify and meet the educational needs of children with this disorder. Further, IASB shall seek clarification of state policies and categories of special education to provide for consistency in special education placement and disseminate relevant information from the ISBE to local school districts. (Adopted 1992)

4.02 Self-Insure Risk

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall propose legislation which would allow school districts, by board resolution, to self-insure the risk previously covered by surety bonds. (Adopted 1993)

4.03 Board Member – Travel Reimbursement

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation which will allow members of Boards of Education to be reimbursed for mileage for school board meetings held in compliance with the Illinois Open Meetings Act and for events regarding school district staff. Mileage reimbursement would be paid at the federally allowable travel reimbursement rate. (Adopted 2008)

4.04 School Board Member Training

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall oppose any legislation that includes a provision for mandatory training of school board members. The IASB encourages local boards of education to model continuous improvement by pursuing all professional development and training opportunities. The IASB, with its unique combination of expertise and resources, is uniquely in the position to be the primary agency responsible for school board member training and professional development as recognized by Article 23 of the Illinois School code, and any such legislation requiring school board member training shall specifically list IASB as a training provider. (Adopted 2008; Amended 2012)

4.05 Statement Of Affairs

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation that allows a school district to publish any notice, agenda, record, or other information or material required by law electronically instead of in a newspaper. (Adopted 2016)

BOARD – EMPLOYEE RELATIONS

5.01 Board Rights

The Illinois Association of School Boards supports local boards of education's rights to determine and control, as duly elected representatives of the community, the employment, dismissal and staff reduction of certificated and non-certificated employees. To this end, the Association shall support statutory, rules and regulations changes that will:

- (a) enable the initial placement of employees on the salary schedule without regard to years of experience or graduate credit;
- (b) allow for greater flexibility in staffing patterns to improve efficiency and effectiveness of programs;
- (c) maintain the tenure rights of teachers in cooperatives in a single district but not in multiple districts; and
- (d) allow school districts to take action on reductions in force up to sixty calendar days following the date elementary and secondary appropriations bills become law. (Portions adopted 1976, 1979, 1980, 1983, 1984, 1988; Amended 1988, 1996, 2006, 2012; Reaffirmed 1992, 2011)

5.02 Teacher Salaries (Length Of Contract)

The Illinois Association of School Boards believes that teacher salaries should be determined at the local level; if teacher salary increases are legislatively mandated, they should be linked to an increase in the length of the teacher contract year for purposes to be determined locally. (Adopted 1985; Reaffirmed 2012)

5.03 Collective Bargaining

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall strongly oppose legislation that diminishes the local school board's ability to collectively bargain with employees and shall encourage the General Assembly, the Illinois State Board of Education, and the State Superintendent to refrain from passing legislation that tips the balance of the bargaining process in favor of employee bargaining units. The Association shall continue to oppose any change in the collective bargaining law which fails to protect the rights of students, employees, taxpayers and boards of education and their administrative staffs. (Adopted 1981; Amended 1985, 2001; Reaffirmed 2012)

5.04 Unemployment Compensation (Substitute Teachers)

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation which would exempt substitute teachers from being eligible for unemployment compensation. (Adopted 1986; Reaffirmed 2012)

5.05 Prevailing Wage Act

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall work to repeal legislation that regulates wages of laborers, mechanics and other workers employed by school districts and those under contract for work being done in school districts, or amend the Prevailing Wage Act to exempt school districts from its scope. (Amended 1982, 1990, 2011; Reaffirmed 1985, 1988, 1996, 2009, 2012, 2013, 2016)

5.06 ESP Progressive Disciplinary Procedures

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation that allows local school boards to determine locally all contractual arrangements for education support personnel. (Adopted 1990)

5.07 Illinois Educational Labor Relations Act

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support the proposed amendment to the Illinois Educational Labor Relations Act, Section 10, which provides that an employer's duty to bargain over specified matters does not include a duty to bargain over a decision to reduce the number of employees and the impact of a reduction of employees. (Adopted 1993; Reaffirmed 2012)

5.08 Workers' Compensation Law

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall actively support legislation to reduce the costs of Workers' Compensation. (Adopted 1993; Reaffirmed 2012)

5.09 IMRF Qualification

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation that would amend the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund (IMRF) laws for non-certified school staff to change, at each local district's option, the number of minimum hours an employee would work to qualify for IMRF from the current 600-hour standard to a 1,000 hour standard. This change would only be for new employees after the effective date of the legislation. (Adopted 1994)

5.10 Tenure Repeal

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall seek reform of the School Code to eliminate contractual continued service for teachers as currently provided by 105 ILCS 5/24-11. (Adopted 1995; Reaffirmed 2012)

5.11 School Employee Strikes

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall strongly seek and support legislation forbidding public school employees from striking. The Association shall also work with legislators, the Illinois State Board of Education, and the teachers' unions to develop alternatives to striking, including mediation and binding arbitration. (Adopted 1996; Amended 2009; Reaffirmed 2012)

5.12 Third Party Contracting

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall strongly oppose legislation or rulemaking that regulates and restricts the ability of school boards to contract with third-parties for the provision of non-instructional services. The Illinois Association of School Boards shall seek to repeal or amend the provisions of the School Code which unreasonably

restrict the ability of school boards to enter into contracts with third-parties for the provision of non-instruction services. (Adopted 2012)

LOCAL — STATE — FEDERAL RELATIONS

6.01 Local Control

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall take all appropriate action to encourage members of the U.S. Congress, the Illinois General Assembly, related administrative agencies, and state and federal courts to refrain from introducing, supporting or promulgating rules, regulations and legislation which deprive local school districts of decision-making powers on matters in which there is not a clear and compelling state or national interest. In the event any such rule, regulation, or legislation is promulgated or adopted, the Association shall take all appropriate actions calling for amendment (s) to return the decision making powers back to the local school district. (Adopted 1976; Amended 2014; Reaffirmed 2006, 2012, 2014, 2016)

6.02 Periodic Review Of State And Federal Mandates

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support at the state and national level periodic review of all mandates, rules, and regulations affecting local districts. Such mandates, rules and regulations should be broad in scope providing great flexibility in implementation, eased or reduced during periods when state supporting funds are unavailable or reduced, and eliminated if not of benefit to educational opportunities and outcomes. (Adopted 1981; Reaffirmed 1985; Amended 1988)

6.03 Educational Labor Relations Board Procedures

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall work with the Illinois Educational Labor Relations Board to increase their sensitivity to the need for timely decisions and establish criteria to identify matters in need of expedited attention. Further, the Association shall utilize the legislative process to remove statutory barriers to timely and expedited decisions and support legislation to enhance the decision making process. (Adopted 1989)

6.04 State Board Communication

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall continue to work with the Illinois State Board of Education to provide opportunities throughout the state each fiscal year to render local boards of education the time to express their concerns as well as to discuss their position on various pertinent educational issues. (Adopted 1982; Amended 1988)

6.05 State Board Of Education Membership

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall participate in the development of legislation amending Section 105 ILCS 5/1A with a goal of insuring fair representation on the State Board of Education from all geographic areas of Illinois. (Adopted 1999)

6.06 Zoning Hearing Participation

The Illinois Association of School Boards supports requiring planning commissions, zoning boards, and the governing bodies of the jurisdiction in which real estate developments or zoning changes are proposed to notify the school district affected about such proposals and hearings about them and, if any, about the effect of the proposed changes and developments before completing any action to approve or adopt such a change or development. (Adopted 1973; Reaffirmed 2006)

6.07 Railroad Crossings

The Illinois Association of School Boards urges the Illinois General Assembly, the Congress of the United States, state and federal commerce commissions, and railroad industries to continue working toward the installation of adequate warning devices at all railroad crossings maintained for public use in Illinois. (Adopted 1976; Reaffirmed 2006)

6.08 ISBE Rules And Regulations Review

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall encourage the Illinois State Board of Education to include school board members, administrators, and other practitioners on committees to review proposed rules and regulations. (Adopted 1990)

6.09 Students On Public Aid

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall seek and support legislation to mandate that students of families receiving State/Federal financial assistance (e.g. welfare, AFDC) maintain “regular” attendance as a stipulation for receipt of same. (Adopted 1995)

6.10 School Holidays-Local Option

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation that would allow local school districts the authority to decide whether to observe legal holidays as a day of non-attendance for students. (Adopted 1996)

6.11 Home Schooling Policy

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation to enact appropriate laws and policies to demonstrate that the education received by home-taught students is of sufficient quality to ensure appropriate transfer to schools that have current certification and recognition status from the Illinois State Board of Education. (Adopted 1996; Amended 1998; Reaffirmed 2000)

6.12 Design Profession Selection

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation in the Illinois General Assembly amending or repealing the Local Government Professional Services Selection Act, or any other applicable laws, rules or regulations, to the extent necessary to permit Illinois school boards to solicit, and to permit licensed architects, engineers and land surveyors to submit cost proposals for these professional services as part of a school board’s design professional selection process. (Adopted 1997)

6.13 Support Services To Private Schools

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support modifications in the Illinois Intergovernmental Agreement Act to allow public school districts to work together in a time and cost efficient manner to provide support services to private schools as required by the U.S. Supreme Court rendered in the case of *Agostini v. Felton*, 65 U.S.L.W. 4526. (U.S. June 23, 1997). (Adopted 1997)

6.14 Statutory Job Descriptions

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall oppose legislation which allows job descriptions for employees of school district to be placed into state law. (Adopted 1997)

6.15 Administrative Caps

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall not support recent Illinois State legislation concerning Administrative Caps and Superintendent's Contracts as this legislation takes away local control from duly elected Boards of Education. Be it further resolved that IASB calls for the repeal of these provisions of PA 90-548 so that these provisions are again placed in the hands of local school boards. (Adopted 1998)

6.16 Bilingual Education

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall promote legislative action calling for the Illinois State Board of Education, the U.S. Department of Education and school districts to study the alignment of, and full financial support of, the implementation of second language, native language, and bilingual education programs. (Adopted 2004)

6.17 Fair Labor Standards Act

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation at both the Federal and State levels to exempt school district employees from overtime and salary regulations as described in the Fair Labor Standards Act. (Adopted 2005)

6.18 Constitutional Convention Support

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall actively participate in promoting a Constitutional Convention for the State of Illinois when the question is submitted to the voters in 2008 (or earlier, if submitted before) and shall begin planning strategy and marshalling resources for the promotion of a vote in favor of conducting the Constitutional Convention. (Adopted 2005; Reaffirmed 2006, 2007)

6.19 Bidding Contracts-Local Bidders

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation that allows the local Board of Education to award a contract, under certain circumstances, to a qualified bidder that may not be the lowest responsible bidder. The bid must not be more than 2% over the lowest responsible bid and the bidder must be considered a local contractor by the local Board of Education. (Adopted 2006)

6.20 Freedom of Information Act Changes

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation to modify the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) to facilitate school districts' compliance with the Act and to remove unnecessary burdens on units of local government. The legislative changes should:

- Increase allowable FOIA response time from five business days to 10 business days
- Exclude official school breaks in business day response time
- Allow denials for commercial purposes
- Allow denials for any request that is unduly burdensome
- Clarify language that would allow a request to be denied if it is unduly burdensome to the public body if the public body deems compliance with the request would result in excessive response costs
- Allow the imposition of reasonable fees regardless of the number of pages being provided
- Remove the balancing test between the public's interest and the employee's right to privacy in the privacy exception
- Expand the evaluation exemption to cover all school employees
- Exempt employment applications to protect the privacy of individuals that apply for high profile employment positions
- Delete provisions requiring public bodies to write a virtual legal opinion as to why they are claiming an exemption
- Delete provisions requiring public bodies to prepare a virtual legal pleading before being challenged for a denial
- Limit public bodies' liability by limiting a court's inquiry to violations of the FOIA Act and not the content of information provided
- Force the Public Access Counselor to defend its decisions before a court of law if a public body is sued
- Allow public bodies to seek review of a binding opinion of the Public Access Counselor in the county in which they are located rather than just Sangamon or Cook Counties. (Adopted 2010)

6.21 Homeless Student Transportation

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation conforming Illinois law with federal law, specifically related to 105 ILCS 45 and the requirement for school districts to transport homeless students beyond district boundaries. (Adopted 2012)

6.22 Mandate Cost & Periodic Review

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support modifications to the Illinois State Mandates Act (30 ILCS 805) that will strengthen the ability of the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) to accurately and sufficiently provide timely information on the costs of mandates including input from local elected boards of education. In addition, the mandates report required for other local governments shall be required of ISBE to provide timely, updated information on the impact of new mandates as they are enacted. (Adopted 2013; Reaffirmed 2014)

6.23 PARCC Testing Results

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall petition the Illinois State Board of Education to fairly report discrepancies in the scoring of state required standardized testing: 1) between paper and pencil versus electronic results AND 2) within the electronic testing method. Further, that such

discrepancies will be made public so that schools may provide said information to parents and media when the testing results are reported as required under state law. (Adopted 2017)

DISTRICT ORGANIZATION AND ELECTIONS

7.01 District Reorganization

The Illinois Association of School Boards favors school district reorganization and consolidation intended to facilitate educational improvement rather than changes in district organization based only on enrollment or geographical location. Further, IASB shall oppose any future attempts by the Legislature, Governor, and/or State Board of Education to mandate, by statute or rules and regulations, the reorganization and consolidation of school districts. Reorganization and consolidation studies should be initiated by local citizens. In addition, IASB shall oppose legislation containing financial incentives based solely on district size or organizational pattern intended to force school district consolidation or reorganization. (Adopted 1962; Amended 1985; Reaffirmed 2006)

7.02 School District Reorganization Voting Requirements

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall seek, encourage, and support efforts for school district reorganization – in all forms – to include a requirement that before such reorganization is deemed passed, a majority vote of voters in each of the affected districts is necessary. (Adopted 1987; Amended 1988, 2006)

7.03 Annexing District Requirements

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall seek an amendment to Article 7 of The School Code providing that neither a petition initiated by the citizens of one school district nor a petition initiated by a local school board of education seeking to annex their entire school district or a portion of the school district above and beyond one (1) home to another should be permitted without the affirmative vote of the citizens of each of the school districts affected. Specifically, 105 ILCS 5/7-1 and 7-2 shall be amended to include the following language: “When a petition is initiated by two-thirds (2/3rds) of the registered voters in one school district seeking to annex said district in its entirety to another school district or school districts and the board of education of such receiving school district or school districts has not adopted a resolution agreeing to such annexation, such annexation, if approved by the regional board of school trustees, shall not become effective until it is approved in an election called for the purpose of voting on the question of the voters in each school district affected.” (Adopted 1988; Amended 1996, 2006; Reaffirmed 2000)

7.04 Detachment From Unit District

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall oppose any efforts to amend the Illinois School Code to allow for less restrictive procedures for school districts to detach and form a new district. (Adopted 2005; Amended 2006)

7.05 Public Question Voting Dates

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation to repeal the statute in the Election Code, amended by Public Act 84-739, which became effective January 1, 1986, which restricts school districts from placing a public question on the ballot other than when voters are scheduled to cast votes for any candidates for nomination for, election to, or retention in public office. (Adopted 1986)

7.06 School Ballot Format

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall urge the State Legislature to review and revise the school ballot formats as established in section 9-12 of the School Code to more clearly identify for whom the voter is casting a ballot. (Adopted 2001)

7.07 Election Schedules

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall continue to support the non-partisan election of school board members at a non-partisan election. (Adopted 2003; Amended 2006)

7.08 Polling Places In Schools

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation that amends the Election Code to allow a school district to refuse to be used as a polling place during elections for student safety reasons. If a school building is used as a polling place, the safety of the children and staff should not be compromised, and voters must be physically separated from students when the school is in session. (Adopted 2007; Amended 2009)

7.09 School As Polling Place Reimbursement

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation that amends the Election Code and the School Code to mandate that the appropriate officer or board having responsibility for providing a polling place for the election reimburse the school district for any costs, included cost of security to ensure student safety, in acting as a polling place which estimated costs shall be provided to the appropriate officer or board in advance of any decision to use a particular public building in order to ensure the efficient use of public resources. (Adopted 2017)

7.10 Board Vacancy Filings

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation to increase the timeline to fill a school board vacancy from 45 days to 60 days to allow school boards more time to fill such vacancies. (Adopted 2014)

CURRENT IASB BELIEF STATEMENTS

1. The Illinois Association of School Boards believes in improving the image of school boards and public education at the state and national levels

2. The Illinois Association of School Boards believes school administrations and faculties should be composed of persons supporting the principles of constitutional government because schools should continue with vigor their programs for giving young citizens a clear understanding of the principles of the American way of life and a desire to make these principles prevail in their own lives and in the life of their country.

3. The Illinois Association of School Boards believes that local boards of education should provide the necessary leadership for educational reform by sharing information and resources and collaborating with each other and the larger educational community.

4. The Illinois Association of School Boards believes that a comprehensive restructuring is needed in the way public schools are funded in Illinois and that IASB should be an active partner in responsible grassroots initiatives for school funding reform.

5. The Illinois Association of School Boards believes that schools should provide a safe and secure environment for all students. School board members and staff should try to protect students from the effects of bullying and offer appropriate instruction to improve intergroup relations and to promote peaceful resolution to conflict.

6. The Illinois Association of School Boards believes strongly in the non-partisan election of local school boards.

7. The Illinois Association of School Boards supports teacher salaries which are performance-based, market-sensitive, professionally competitive, and which are tied to an effective evaluation system.

8. The Illinois Association of School Boards believes in the vigorous support and the rigid enforcement of the laws pertaining to the sale, possession, and/or use of firearms.

9. The Illinois Association of School Boards believes that local boards of education should be prepared for possible public health crises (such as an Avian Flu pandemic) and other public safety concerns. The IASB should obtain the most recent and accurate information from the pertinent federal, state, and local agencies and disseminate such information to school districts throughout the State. School districts are encouraged to adopt proactive pandemic preparedness strategies. IASB also encourages school participation in the

National Fire Protection Association's campaign for fire escape planning and practice among our member families and citizens.

10. The Illinois Association of School Boards urges local boards of education to provide education programs on awareness of the advantages of wearing bicycle helmets when riding bicycles.

11. The Illinois Association of School Boards urges its member districts to limit career exploration activities to non-school attendance days or to school-run career days. In addition, the Association believes Take-Your-Daughter-to-Work Day should be designated for a non-attendance day and should also consider working to make this day non-gender specific.

12. The Illinois Association of School Boards believes that the overall health of our students is of prime importance. Local boards of education and school district officials should have the authority and flexibility to access State and community health services as deemed appropriate. To that end, IASB: urges school districts to comply with the required notification provisions regarding vision screening for students, recommends that parents provide for regular and on-going comprehensive vision examinations for their children, and encourages school districts to consider adopting a policy requiring optometric vision examinations for all children entering kindergarten.

13. The Illinois Association of School Boards believes that the work of locally elected, volunteer school board members should be valued and that employers should be encouraged to allow employees to utilize vacation days or days off with pay to attend mandated school board member training and professional development opportunities offered by IASB or other approved training providers.

14. The Illinois Association of School Boards believes that effective local school board governance is vital to the success of our public schools and urges local boards of education to abide by IASB's Foundational Principles of Effective Governance, avoid real or perceived incidents of impropriety, and adopt policies or procedures to ensure that board members and elected board officers have no conflicts of interest.

15. The Illinois Association of School Boards believes school boards should employ competitive bidding practices for upgrades in technology and energy savings and should also provide energy savings contracting model policy and training opportunities for school districts.