



LIGHTING THE WAY

CONFERENCE PREVIEW

IASB • IASA • IASBO
79TH JOINT ANNUAL CONFERENCE

NOVEMBER 18-20, 2011 • CHICAGO

IASB • IASA • IASBO

79th Joint Annual Conference

Excellence in local school governance in support of quality public education – that’s more than just a mission; it’s actually how each of these sponsoring organizations does business and whose interests they represent and work for. Beyond the classrooms, playgrounds, buses, gyms, and cafeterias are thousands of people working to govern and run these school districts. Large or small, urban or rural – each district requires dedicated governing boards, superintendents, administrators, business managers, school attorneys, and board secretaries – all working together.

The Joint Annual Conference is *the* place where all these individuals can meet to see, hear, do, and learn how to efficiently run and effectively govern their local school districts.

The 2011 Joint Annual Conference of the Illinois Association of School Boards, Illinois Association of School Administrators, and Illinois Association of School Business Officials offers hundreds of events, activities and learning opportunities for school leaders. This conference is *the* place for school leaders to exchange ideas, examine techniques, study solutions, meet colleagues, and to become inspired and prepared.

This conference preview lists and describes the wide array of panel sessions, tours, exhibits, workshops, general sessions, and other learning opportunities. A master schedule and information about deadlines, cost and hotels is also included here.

Attendees can use this preview to find their interests and then make plans to attend the conference, which will be held Nov. 18-20, in Chicago. Additional information and updates will be posted online as the events draw closer. The online conference website is: www.iasb.com/jac11/.

Information is continuing to come in about the Conference. As a result, changes could create cancellations, relocations or additions to the list of conference events contained in this preview. Please refer to the official conference program available at the conference registration desk for an accurate, updated listing of events and activities.

Registration

Pre-conference registration is \$360 per registrant and is complimentary for family members of paid registrants. Registration forms and fees must be received by the IASB Springfield office by 4 p.m., Oct. 17.

Conference registration packets for registrations received prior to the Oct. 17 deadline will be mailed on Nov. 4 to registered school districts. Registrations received after Oct. 17 will cost \$385 and packets will be available at the conference registration booth.

Onsite registrations can also be made during the conference and payment must be made by check, cash, Visa, MasterCard, or Discover.

Oct. 17 is also the last day for receiving regis-

tration changes by mail or fax (at 217/241-2144). After this date all changes must be made at the conference registration desk. Replacement badges will be issued only upon exchange of the original registration badge.

Refunds, minus a \$75 service fee per registrant, can be honored only if made in writing to IASB and faxed or received in the IASB office by Oct. 17. No refund requests will be honored after this date, and all refunds will be processed after the conference.

Note: name badges holders for all registrants will not be mailed; they must be picked up at the registration desk.

Conference hotels

All events will take place at these downtown hotels: Hyatt Regency Chicago (151 East Wacker Drive), Sheraton Chicago (301 East North Water Street), and Swissotel (323 East Wacker Drive). There is easy walking access among all three hotels.

More information about locations of specific events and how to find them will also be available at a special conference orientation session, to be held at 11 a.m. Friday, Nov. 18, and again at 7:30 a.m., Saturday, Nov. 19, for later arrivals.

The following hotels have rooms blocked for housing:

- Hyatt Regency Chicago
- Sheraton Chicago
- Swissotel
- Chicago Marriott

- Doubletree
- Embassy Suites
- Fairmont Hotel
- Intercontinental Hotel
- Palmer House
- Westin Chicago River North

Conference room rates range from \$156 to \$177 per night. The number of rooms available at these prices is limited.

Hotel access

To reach the Sheraton from the Hyatt, take the exit in the Grand Ballroom Foyer of the Hyatt (this is near the conference registration and coat check desks) to Columbus Drive. The Sheraton is just across the Chicago River bridge and to the right. To reach the Swissotel from the

Housing will be assigned as completed housing forms accompanied by completed registration forms/fees and room deposits are received. Please refer to the housing instructions and forms available at: <http://www.iasb.com/jac11/registrationforms.cfm>.

Hyatt via indoor walkway, take the up escalator located one flight above the escalators leading to the Riverside Center exhibit hall. Turn right from this upper escalator and proceed to the far end of One Illinois Center, the city's underground shopping mall.

MASTER SCHEDULE

Please note: Some events will be held at the Sheraton Chicago and Swissotel. UNLESS NOTED, all locations are in the Hyatt Regency.

Thursday, November 17

- 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. - IASBO committee meetings, board meeting
- 2 - 5 p.m. - IASA Board of Directors' meeting
- 3:30 - 5 p.m. - Illinois Council of School Attorneys' executive committee meeting

Friday, November 18

- 7 a.m. - IASBO seminar registration, Swissotel
- 7:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. - IASBO seminars, Swissotel
- 7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. - Conference registration • IASB Delegate Assembly registration
- 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. - IASB bookstore • Educational Environments Exhibit
- 8 - 9 a.m. - IASB workshop continental breakfast and workshop registration, Sheraton
- 8 - 8:45 a.m. - Chicago Schools Tour breakfast
- 8 - 9 a.m. - IASB workshop registration, Sheraton
- 8 a.m. - noon - IASA fall workshop for superintendents
- 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. - Illinois Council of School Attorneys' school law seminar
- 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. - IASB information desk, Sheraton

- 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. - IASB information room
- 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. - Exhibits • IASB Service Associates booth
- 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. - IASB pre-conference workshops, Sheraton
- 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. - Board Support Professionals workshops, Swissotel
- 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. - Food Fair in Riverside Center
- 10 - 11:15 a.m. - IASB resolutions committee meeting
- 11 a.m. - Noon - Welcome to conference orientation
- 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. - Combined IASB workshops luncheon, Sheraton
- 12:15 - 1 p.m. - IASBO seminar luncheon, Swissotel
- 12:25 - 12:45 p.m. - Illinois Council of School Attorneys' school law seminar buffet luncheon
- 1:30 - 3 p.m. - Discussion panels, Hyatt, Sheraton
- 3:30 - 5 p.m. - First general session — Speaker: Wes Moore

Saturday, November 19

- 7:30 - 11 a.m. - Delegate Assembly registration
- 7:30 - 8:30 a.m. - IASB Service Associates annual meeting
- 7:30 - 8:10 a.m. - Welcome to conference orientation
- 7:30 a.m. - noon - Conference Registration
- 7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. - IASB Information Desk, Sheraton

- 7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. - IASB Bookstore • Educational Environments Exhibit
- 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. - Legislative information counter
- 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. - ICPEA meeting
- 8:30 - 10 a.m. - Second general session — Presenters: Stand Up/Change
- 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. - Exhibits • Food Fair • IASB Service Associates Booth
- 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. - IASB Information Room
- 10:30 a.m. - noon - IASB Delegate Assembly
- 10:30 a.m. - noon - Discussion Panels, Hyatt, Sheraton
- 10:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. - Board Support Professionals workshops, Swissotel
- 1:30 - 3 p.m. - Discussion panels, Hyatt, Sheraton
- 1:30 - 3:15 p.m. - Carousel of panels, Sheraton
- 3:30 - 5 p.m. - Discussion panels, Hyatt, Sheraton

Sunday, November 20

- 7:30 - 9:30 a.m. - IASB Board of Directors' breakfast meeting
- 7:30 - 11 a.m. - Legislative information counter
- 8 - 9:30 a.m. - Discussion Panels: coffee and conversation
- 8 - 10 a.m. - IASB Bookstore • Educational Environments Exhibit
- 9:45 - 11:30 a.m. - Third general session — Speaker: Brooks Coleman, Jr.

For extra credit:

Seven pre-conference workshops to choose from!

Registrants for the 2011 Joint Annual Conference can choose from seven full-day workshops scheduled for Friday, Nov. 18, prior to the first general session. These workshops require a \$220 fee and advance registration.

The workshops will take place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Sheraton Chicago Hotel and Towers. Registration and a continental breakfast will begin at 8 a.m. Lunch is also included in the registration fee and will be offered from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

All of the IASB workshops qualify participants for School Board LeaderShop credit; some are offered as “core” courses; others as “elective” courses.

**IMPORTANT NOTE
REGARDING THURSDAY NIGHT
LODGING**

Workshop attendees who do not already have a Thursday night reservation at their conference hotel may find it convenient to stay in a suburban hotel and drive in on Friday morning.

*LeaderShop
CORE credit
workshop offerings*

***The Basics of Governance**

This workshop will focus participants on board and board member roles and responsibilities and what effective school district governance looks like. Topics will include:

- the role and work of the school board and how to distinguish it from the role and work of the superintendent and staff;
- the school board’s relationship to the community;
- how each member relates to the full board;
- some practical tips as well as pitfalls to avoid.

Participants will also have an opportunity to try out some tools and procedures that make a school board effective and to sharpen their own decision-making skills.

Presenters: Nancy Bohl, Consultant,

Policy Services, Illinois Association of School Boards, Springfield; Cathy Talbert, Associate Executive Director, Field Services & Policy Services, Illinois Association of School Boards, Lombard; Steve Clark, Consultant, *Targeting Achievement through Governance*, Illinois Association of School Boards, Lombard

*This workshop fulfills the governance overview requirement for admission into the LeaderShop Academy.

The Basics of School District Finance

This one-day workshop will cover the basic knowledge that board members typically need for informed decision making in the important area of school finance. Topics covered will include:

- Budgeting;
- Revenue;
- Expenditures;
- Borrowing and investing;
- Internal controls and district audits;
- Monitoring and communicating the district’s fiscal health;

- Important finance policies;
- Fiscal responsibility and choices.

Presenters: Dean Langdon, Director, Field Services, Illinois Association of School Boards, Springfield; Thomas F. Leahy, Consultant, Executive Searches, Illinois Association of School Boards, Springfield

**Data First for Governance:
Building the Foundation**

How will we know that we are making progress toward our student learning and district goals? How can we communicate that progress simply and effectively to our public? How can we use data to ensure continuous improvement in our district? How can and should data inform our decision making? And how can data help us make better decisions and difficult choices in times of limited resources?

This workshop is designed to help boards and board members answer these questions and more. It is the result of a pilot project led by NSBA’s

continued

Center for Public Education in partnership with state school board associations in California, Illinois and Michigan.

Presenters: Sandra Kwasa, director, Board Development, Illinois Association of School Boards, Lombard; Angie Peifer, associate executive director, Board Development, *Targeting Achievement through Governance*, Illinois Association of School Boards, Springfield

Visions, Values, Conflicts and Choices! Preserving the Public in Public Schools

This workshop is about the public in public schools. What's public about public education, other than its funding? For what purpose, and towards what ends, do we invest in educating the next generation of Americans?

This is not a workshop about what's wrong with public education, how to reform public schools, how to restructure classrooms, how to improve teaching, or how best to teach children. It is not to offer one right answer, but rather to help identify the right questions that will preserve public schools.

This workshop is for board members who understand that differences and conflict are an integral part of board life, but would like a better way to express conflict and address these differences. It also is for administrators who support representative democracy with its system of shared power between elected and appointed officials, and those who want to help their boards govern rather than manage.

Participants will learn to:

- Recognize the core values board members and school constituents express when they talk about a policy issue;
- Articulate their personal viewpoint in a way that affirms what they are for and against;
- Make room for and engage colleagues with divergent philosophical and ideological perspectives;
- Use the diverse perspectives of board, staff and community members to more clearly understand policy problems;

- Map policy issues to better define the problems, goals and choices; and
- See policy conflict in a new light, as a positive and natural point that occurs when individuals or groups attach priority to different core values.

Presenter: Phillip Boyle, president, Leading and Governing Associates, Inc., Carrboro, NC

Making Meetings Matter

This participant-centered workshop will challenge you, whether you are a new or veteran board member, to evaluate your board meetings and consider the following: How effective are *your* school board meetings? Do *your* board meeting agendas align with *your* district's goals/priorities? Are *your* meetings focused on student achievement? Do *you* dread or look forward to attending *your* board meetings? Are *you* satisfied with the length of *your* meetings? How can *you* become a better board member?

Presenters: Jeff Cohn, director, Field Services, Illinois Association of School Boards, Lombard; Deb Larson, consultant, *Targeting Achievement through Governance*, Illinois Association of School Boards, Springfield; Patrick Rice, director, Field Services, Illinois Association of School Boards, Springfield

LeaderShop ELECTIVE workshop offerings

Comprehensive Workshop for Board Presidents

Being an effective board president requires special skills. Participants will learn the role of the president as it relates to the rest of the board and superintendent, the keys to effective meetings, parliamentary procedure, managing board conflict, communications, ethics and teamwork. This hands-on, interactive workshop will give you an opportunity to learn and compare notes with other board

presidents from around the state.

Presenters: Laurel DiPrima, director, Field Services, Illinois Association of School Boards, Lombard; Barbara Toney, director, Field Services, Illinois Association of School Boards, Lombard

An Introduction to Collective Bargaining for School Board Members and Administrators

Attend this workshop to learn what every school board member needs to know about collective bargaining – and every administrator, too:

- What the law requires of school boards and employee unions;
- Steps involved in bargaining labor contracts;
- Alternative processes;
- Politics and psychology of school bargaining;
- Roles and responsibilities of boards and administrators;
- How to handle labor disputes; and
- How to keep labor relations problems from destroying human relationships.

Presenters: George M. Kohut, retired assistant superintendent, Belleville Township High School District 201; Brandon K. Wright, attorney, Miller Tracey, Braun, Funk & Miller, Ltd., Monticello; Member, Illinois Council of School Attorneys

Need help deciding?

IASB's free online schedule planner lets you review every conference event by date, time, title, description, and location. The online planner can be customized, downloaded and printed for convenient use at the conference.

This free online tool will be available on IASB's Members-Only website beginning Oct. 15. Access is available at: <https://members.iasb.com>. A log-in account is required. For access instructions, visit: <http://iasb.com/press/memonly.cfm>.

FRIDAY, Nov. 18, 2011 11 a.m. – Noon

Welcome to Conference Orientation

— Does your district have a board member, administrator or secretary attending their first conference? This session will review the conference program, how and where to find assistance, directions, maps, sessions, and activities you won't want to miss.

FRIDAY, Nov. 18, 2011 1:30 – 3 p.m.

Impact of New School Meal Rules

— Learn how the new menu changes for school lunch and breakfast programs and the new 2010 Dietary Guidelines for Americans impact your district cafeterias.

P-20 Council: Providing a Big Picture in Illinois Education —

Common Core Standards, teacher reform legislation, and School Report Card revisions are among the topics being coordinated by the P-20 Council. But who makes up the Council, what have they done and what is their agenda for the coming year?

Navigating Through Education Reform

— In early summer the governor signed historic education reform legislation that places performance at the forefront of employment decisions in Illinois schools. This panel will discuss the context of the education reform legislation and its practical and legal implications.

Budgeting in Difficult Economic Times

— Learn traditional and innovative approaches to balancing budgets during uncertain and changing financial times.

1:1 Computing: From Funding to Student Engagement

— Come share the steps one district followed to provide each seventh and eighth grader at Trimpe Middle School with his or her own computer. The presentation will include funding tips, a professional development course of action, and a rationale.

Quality Education Environments in Older Facilities

— With limited bonding capacity and insufficient funds to replace older facilities, how can we make existing facilities provide 21st Century quality education? Historically we maintain older structures but don't assess their quality as learning environments. It's time to change that.

Engaging Parents and Common Core Standards

— Research indicates parental engagement is a vital part of the equation for every school community; but for many schools it is a missing piece. Learn about the parent-friendly resources the PTA is providing regarding the Common Core Standards.

Legislative Hot Topics in Education

— In the 2011 legislative sessions, the General Assembly attempted to tackle major issues that have been facing the state for years, including education reform, pension reform, district consolidation, and budgetary matters. Listen to experts discuss how these issues were handled.

Managing the Skyrocketing Costs of Group Health Insurance

— School administrators are invited to come and learn what is causing health insurance costs to spiral out of control, and what the school district can do to help control them.

Legal Issues in 2011

— Two school law experts speak to the 2011 statutory changes for schools, with a special emphasis on current legal issues. They will share their unique perspectives on school law with genuine wisdom and wit.

Ten Most Common Mistakes in Collective Bargaining

— Because collective bargaining is more art than science, there are many ways to negotiate teachers' contracts. Learn the most common mistakes made by management negotiators at the bargaining table and gather suggestions for avoiding them.

Passing Your Next Bond Issue

— Tune up your public policy and election strategies with experts who have been involved with hundreds of successful

bond issue campaigns. Topics covered include timelines and budgets, polling, voter targeting, direct mail, fundraising, law and much more.

Bargaining Implications of New Laws on Evaluation, Tenure and Discipline

— New laws radically change teacher tenure rules and how school districts evaluate, discipline and lay off teachers. Join a discussion exploring how compliance with the new law raises collective bargaining issues important to both employees and boards.

Communicating School Finances: Bottom-Line Lessons

— School finance — the most complicated, least understood topic — is what constituents are most interested in. Come hear school communications and business experts discuss how to help the public better understand the facts and nuances of school finance. (*Sheraton*)

From Policy to Implementation

— As school districts are faced with challenges to implement state policies, regional offices of education offer key services to assist school leaders. We'll focus on policy implementation, the availability of professional development, and related services provided. (*Sheraton*)

Using Common Core to Bring Common Ground

— Learn a proven, effective method for reforming schools through curriculum pacing, planning, evaluating, and intervention and enrichment of instruction. See how higher test scores and better instruction can happen regardless of the economic or social status of the student population. (*Sheraton*)

Saturday, Nov. 19, 2011 7:30 – 8:10 a.m.

Orientation for 1st Timers

— Does your district have a board member, administrator or secretary attending their first conference? This session will review the conference program, how and where to find assistance, directions, maps, sessions, and activities you won't want to miss.



Conference goers enjoy meeting in the jewel-box atrium that is the Hyatt's lobby.

takes to consolidate or annex, what legal steps have to be followed, and the financial pros and cons to consider.

Executive Search Process —

Selecting a superintendent may be the most important responsibility a board undertakes, while the selection of administrative staff is a critical component of the superintendent's job. Learn the steps and review the critical aspects of both processes.

Education Reform/Common Core Standards —

Get an update on progress in the four key reform areas of the State Board of Education: 1) Common Core Standards and assessments, 2) Teacher/leader quality, 3) Longitudinal data systems and 4) Improving low-performing schools.

Good School Maintenance — Expert guidance and resources are available for policymakers and managers in planning, conducting and evaluating the district's maintenance programs for buildings, grounds and equipment.

Board Packets Fast and Easy with the iPad —

The Roanoke-Benson school board began using iPads for board packets in January 2011. The transition was seamless, with very little training needed. Find out why the decision was made, and if it has lived up to expectations.

What Boards Should Know about Online Learning —

How can board members provide leadership and oversight to online learning in their districts? Panelists will relate policy and financial issues, best practices and success stories. *(Sheraton)*

How Google Apps can Make a Positive Impact —

Attendees will see how Lincoln ESD 156 has used Google apps to provide a free email solution, started to move towards creating paperless board packets and pushed to encourage more collaboration between staff. *(Sheraton)*

Making Student Attendance Matter —

Panelists will outline the process used to develop, implement and sustain a district-wide plan to increase student attendance and achievement and boost revenue. Panelists will share prevention and intervention strategies, incentives, consequences, and the framework to analyze data. *(Sheraton)*

Federal Legislative Update — Mike Resnick, Associate Executive Director, NSBA, will discuss federal legislation — such as the reauthorization of the

**Saturday, Nov. 19, 2011
10:30 a.m. – noon**

Setting District Goals and Direction

— Whether you call it Setting District Goals, Strategic Planning or Mission/Vision work, school boards are responsible for clarifying the district's purpose. Hear how two school boards used IASB facilitation to help do this work the right way.

Finance for Veteran Board Members

— What do board members need to know as they monitor finances and plan for the future? Join us for a discussion of timely topics related to school finance.

“Dueling” iPad Apps — Learn how teachers and administrators use technology to enhance teaching and learning. Each “side” will present their top seven iPad “Apps” for teachers and administrators.

Are Your Teachers Fit for Duty? —

Gather guidelines for providing reasonable accommodations to teachers with physical and mental disabilities across the K-12 setting, and get tips for navigating the termination process for unfit teachers.

Decisions: Board or Superintendent? Consensus or Majority? — Join an interactive, enjoyable session (using “clickers”) to better

understand whether decisions are superintendent decisions, board decisions, or a combination of both. You will also hear different strategies to help boards work together to reach a consensus.

Integrating Student Performance Data into Administrative Compensation —

Review Kildeer Countyside's plan to integrate student growth and achievement data into administrative compensation. Board members will share the history behind the concept and discuss implementation of the plan and the key data points used.

Legislative Issues Impacting School Districts — Hear experienced legislators and staff from the Illinois State Board of Education discuss issues impacting the 2011 legislative session, with particular emphasis on topics impacting school districts.

Sage Rules for a Spicy Subject: Schools and Social Media —

A fictional school board holds an open meeting to address students and employees who avidly use social media to talk with – and about – each other. Stakeholders are all a-twitter, as the board and its lawyers ponder how to regulate this “expressive activity.”

Considering Consolidation: Financial and Legal Factors —

Participants will learn why consolidation is a hot topic in Springfield, what it

Elementary and Secondary Education Act and funding for districts — relevant implementation information from the U.S. Department of Education, and education priorities in Congress. *(Sheraton)*

Social Media: Power for School Districts — If you wonder how Twitter, Facebook and other tools can benefit your community, this session is for you! Let three school PR professionals teach you the pros/cons of social media and how to avoid pitfalls if you implement these strategies. *(Sheraton)*

Education Reform Act Changes Your Dealings with Teachers and Unions — A must attend “fast paced” comprehensive overview of the new laws that made sweeping education reform to teacher evaluations and RIFs based on performance; fast track tenure procedures; filling vacancies without regard to seniority; new impasse and pre-strike procedures and new mandatory training for school board members. *(Sheraton)*

Situational Poverty: Steps to Ease the Pain — All communities are facing difficult economic conditions, including job loss, foreclosures and increased debt. All communities have constituents dealing with situational poverty. Learn how two districts work together to address the challenges of situational poverty. *(Sheraton)*

Building a More Civil Society: Anti-Bullying Initiative — Learn how to use a comprehensive school-improvement framework for effective bullying prevention, emphasizing school climate and the social-emotional learning standards. We'll discuss a model bullying policy, bullying protocol, and state and federal legal requirements. *(Sheraton)*

Special Education “Top 10” List — Enjoy a fast-paced, provocative review of the ten most noteworthy special education legal developments from the past year. Join the panelists as they examine recent legislative developments and court cases affecting districts’ special education programs and practices. *(Sheraton)*

Portraits of Change in District Reorganization — Amid the recent increased talk of consolidation for Illinois schools, find out what the process is like from a district that has been through it and those who helped them with the process. *(Sheraton)*

Fundamentals of Collective Bargaining and Contract Management — Explore the fundamentals of collective bargaining, contract management and developing trends in

labor relations. This panel provides a great learning opportunity for the novice and refresher information for the more experienced school leader. *(Sheraton)*

Does your District Need a Physical Needs Assessment? — A physical needs assessment study of district buildings will provide the district with a long-range (10 year) planning guide for when decisions need to be made to repair or replace buildings, building systems or building equipment. *(Sheraton)*

Superintendent Evaluation: It's All About District's Goals! — Two districts will share their superintendent evaluation methodologies and how they connected this important continuous improvement practice to the school board's work and the district's goals. *(Sheraton)*

Understanding the Impact of Personalities in Bargaining — As bargaining becomes even more challenging, the personalities of the bargaining team can have a greater impact on outcomes. Understand personality barriers that can negatively affect the bargaining process. *(Sheraton)*

Working Together to Control Health Care Costs — West Aurora School District 129 leaders outline how they created a new model for health insurance that helps combat rising cost and provides better service to their employees. Learn how all stakeholders joined forces to design a solution that works. *(Sheraton)*

**Saturday, Nov. 19, 2011
1:30 – 3 p.m.**

A Powerful Tool for Disciplining Cyber Bullies — Grab some practical tools for implementing disciplinary actions in the areas of cyber-bullying. Panelists will review the current vocabulary of cyber-bullying, a law update, and short case-study examples of what is involved and how this issue can be handled.

IHSA: Update on Current Issues and Happenings — The executive director from the Illinois High School Association (IHSA) will report on important issues and events in Illinois interscholastic activities and answer your questions.

Pension Reform Update — What is the status of the current TRS pension system, and what is the impact of a two-tiered system? What reforms are legislators pursuing next? Join experts on pensions as they share the latest information

on these questions, and other information pertaining to this important issue.

Referendum in Recession — Discover the formula for a successful referendum. Panelists will focus on the key ingredients for success and recent legal developments that change the way the referendum question is asked, when the resolution must be filed and resulting complications. The campaign will be explained from a committee chair's perspective and the community's.

Practical Parliamentary Procedure — When used appropriately, parliamentary procedure can turn meetings into the efficient, civil decision-making events. Review the rules that apply to boards, the importance of good board processes, and the power of the agenda. Pose questions and get useful handouts.

Board Self-Evaluation for a Winning Governance Team — Your basketball team wouldn't play without practice and neither should your board! The successful board team assesses its practices and procedures to develop a winning strategy for meetings. See how a board self-evaluation can help your governance team score.

Media Relations: Two Sides of the Coin — We'll share expert suggestions on how to prepare your message and tips on how to deal with the media from the perspectives of the interviewer and the interviewee.

Social Networking in Schools: Policy and Legal Considerations — Learn to manage potential First Amendment freedom of speech issues and prevent uncomfortable situations through policies, procedures and parent education. Review statutes and case law and understand the legal, practical and technological aspects of managing staff and students' electronic behavior.

Policy 101: The Basics and Beyond — The development and maintenance of the board's policy manual is important, but only the first step in fulfilling the board's policy responsibilities. Explore five essential components that can empower your board to truly “govern by policy.”

The One-Stop Communications Shop — New to school communications? Gather foolproof tips to create a communications plan, and leave with a communications toolbox. In just six months, District 130 went from having no plan to obtaining favorable coverage in the *New York Times*, and you can too!

Developing an Effective Administrator Performance Evaluation Tool

— If you are planning to develop a performance-based administrative evaluation tool, this session is for you. Participants will generate an administrator performance indicator matrix aligned to the performance Evaluation Reform Act of 2010.

How to Make the Most of School Board Talents

— Discover how to recruit and train student board members. Student board members will discuss their experiences and Superintendent Jim Rydland will share how he helps them succeed. Mikva Challenge will

explain how students study issues and provide reports and ideas for the board.

Where are you Sending my Children to School?

— State leaders have turned down forced consolidation of school districts. Join policymakers and school leaders who will share the proposed “solutions,” and their impacts. Learn how to energize your community’s response to mandated consolidation, leading to thoughtful consideration of school mergers.

Special Education Cooperatives – Advantages and Various Structures

— Examine the advantages for districts

in being members of special education cooperatives. Panelists will discuss the various operating, funding and program delivery structures of several special education cooperatives.

School Law 2011: Top 5 Things School Boards Need to Know

— Is your superintendent’s employment contract still valid after recent court rulings? Can you expel a student for an Internet threat? And what is all the fuss about education reform? Obtain a high-level overview of the year’s key legal developments that every board should know.

Educating to Educate: A Pathway for Success

— Find out the importance of having all teachers gain an understanding of how their students learn. Using this knowledge, teachers can incorporate the techniques and strategies necessary to reach each student in the classroom.

The 1:1 Evolution of Learning

— Erie C.U. District 1 has implemented a 1:1 learning environment using laptops for all students in grades 6-12. Discover a process for deploying this technology, and learn the impact on the teaching and learning process when all students have access 24/7.

A District’s Journey: From Libraries to Media Centers

— Looking to improve technology integration? Will County District 92 transformed its libraries into dazzling library media centers. Listen to the library media specialists explain how this investment in personnel, facilities, and technology has made all the difference. *(Sheraton)*

Eastland CUSD 308 Referendum Planning Committee

— Examine a bond referendum process used to construct a \$7.5 million addition to a rural high school. Learn how the school board and superintendent worked with a citizens advisory committee, architects and construction managers to pass a referendum. *(Sheraton)*

Orienting New Members: Keeping the Flywheel Turning

— Discover the collaborative process the District 91 board used to develop a new board member orientation. Explore the principles of effective governance and the board’s district mission, vision and goals, used to develop their board member orientation. *(Sheraton)*

Navigating Suspensions and Expulsions for Special Education Students

— Learn how to conduct efficient and appropriate student discipline hearings that comply with “due process” requirements, and meet the additional

A promotional poster for the Chicago Schools Tour. The background features a series of concentric, glowing yellow and orange lines that create a sense of motion and depth, resembling a tunnel or a large-scale architectural design. At the bottom center, there is a small, yellow toy car with black wheels and a red dot on its side. The text is centered and reads: "IASB/CPS CHICAGO SCHOOLS TOUR" in large, white, sans-serif font. Below this, it says "Friday, November 18, 2011" and "8 a.m. • Regency Ballroom A & B". Further down, it states "Begin your conference activities with the popular Chicago Schools Tour offered during the 79th IASB/IASA/IASBO Joint Annual Conference." and "See page 15 for more details." The overall design is modern and dynamic.

requirements for special education students. *(Sheraton)*

Data Monitoring of Board-Approved Goals — Illinois' second-largest district is on a journey to ensure that all students graduate college and are career ready. Learn how the district mapped it out, from 12th graders' college readiness to first-graders' goals, and developed an ambitious, board-approved accountability plan. *(Sheraton)*

Top Ten Ways to Save Big Bucks — School districts share how they have saved money by conserving energy through an investigation and analysis of current operations. *(Sheraton)*

Data First: High School & Beyond — Join us to think about and discuss the preparation high school graduates need for the 21st Century, and how data can be used to determine how well your district is preparing graduates for success. *(Sheraton)*

Energize Operational Cost Savings — See how energy benchmarking and energy audits can help district leaders make informed decisions related to lowering operating costs. Examples will include Gurnee District 56, where renovations have reduced energy usage by up to 50 percent. *(Sheraton)*

Technology and the Learning Brain: What Leaders Need to Know — Participants will explore concepts of brain research and learning and discover how these align with 21st Century Learning models. *(Sheraton)*

Open Meetings Act Training — Attendance at this panel satisfies the Open Meetings Act requirement that each member complete a course of instruction in the Act's legal requirements. A certificate of completion will be provided to those attending the full session. *(Sheraton)* **Space is limited. A \$15 processing fee will be charged.**

Maintaining a Healthy Board-Superintendent Marriage! — The Board-Superintendent relationship is sometimes like a marriage; complete with the need for excellent communication, clear agreements, and lots of respect. The panelists will provide a blend of perspectives on this topic. *(Sheraton)*

School Finance: Revenue for the Novice — Learn about local revenue, the property tax cycle, and the ins and outs of the tax levy. Also learn the ropes on general state aid, categoricals and federal revenue. *(Sheraton)*

Creating an In-House Alternative Program — Attendees will gain insight into the positive effects of an in-house alternative school on graduation rates, and in the successful transition of students back into general education. *(Sheraton)*

Saturday, Nov. 19, 2011
3:30 – 5 p.m.

Do It Right or the District Loses — The Board-Superintendent relationship is one of the most critical components of a school district's success. Frankfort District 157-C has refined and individualized a process to establish, maintain and grow their board-superintendent relationship.

Leveraging District Spending Through Intergovernmental Cooperation — Traditional models of school procurement are failing to meet today's challenges. Over 300 districts have embraced intergovernmental cooperation to derive value from procurement activities, and to provide custodial operations with the goods, services and training required.

Charting the Path – Bringing the Future to Life — Find out how Des Plaines CCSD 62 emerged from cost containment, revitalized its educational programs, made significant capital investments in preparing their schools for the future — and did so by engaging the community in extended conversations about priorities and needs.

Board Members: Your Role in Cloud Computing — Board members will see their role in cloud computing with the latest in 21st Century technology. Come learn what the cloud

is, how it can help manage costs and the educational benefits inside and outside the classroom.

Board President's Roundtable — This presentation is an opportunity for board presidents to gather and share experiences, questions, ideas and frustrations. It is offered on both Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning; join us on either day, or both days.

High-Tech Learning on a Zero-Dollar Budget — Review the process used by one board in providing a school-wide approach for implementing current technology. See what was required to supply students with the educational tools necessary to support 21st Century lifelong learning on zero dollars.

Implications of Pension Reform — Listen to key individuals discuss the implications of Pension Reform. Gain insight into the process and learn what outcomes can be expected from retirement legislation.

School Records: Avoiding Expensive Traps for the Unwary — Recent changes to the Freedom of Information Act and other school records laws have made it tougher to avoid legal challenges. Examine these changes and learn how your district can avoid getting entangled. We will also share the results of our survey of Attorney General FOIA opinions.

Beating Bullying: Positively Overcoming Harassment Complaints — As bullying continues to receive attention, discuss general and special education bullying issues, review federal guidance, and explore the expanding role of schools in responding to harassment complaints and creating a positive school climate.

Panel to meet OMA requirements

This year's conference includes a panel session that satisfies the Open Meetings Act requirement that each board member complete a course of instruction in the Act's legal requirements.

The panel will be offered at 1:30 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 19, at the Sheraton, Chicago 7 ballroom on a first-come, first-seated basis. A \$15 processing fee* payable by check made out to IASB or by billing the district will be charged at the end of the session for each participant seeking credit. A certificate of completion will be provided to those who attend and pay the fee.

*Note: This is a legitimate school board expense.



The conference headquarters Hyatt offers a great view of the Chicago River and the city's top architectural treasures.

Saving Energy on a Tight Budget — The average school, whether old or new, uses 30% more energy than it should. Learn strategies for saving energy and discover the sources available to help fund changes. Find out where to get help and how to manage energy use budget issues.

Building a Freshman Academy from Scratch — This district designed an academy to meet the needs of their freshmen. The academy is a hybrid of the traditional high school and the middle school concept. Attendance is up and student achievement is soaring – with no staff additions.

Successfully Pass a Sales Tax Referendum — With decreasing fund availability at state and federal levels, schools must find other funding sources to avoid accruing long-term debt and to position their district for facility renovations, including technology upgrades.

Looking to the Future Though “Smoke-Colored Glasses” — If recent school funding is any indication, the ride for the next five years will be *bumpy, unpredictable, and difficult to manage*. Miscalculations could prove costly and charting the district’s future will be a critical undertaking. Attend (or ignore) at your own risk!

How the Current Economic Environment Affects My District — Whether or not you are a tax-capped district, the real estate market has a major impact on district finances. Property tax implications and state fiscal troubles will be discussed. Learn how to cope with our economic environment.

Collaborative Bargaining – An Effective Resource for Education Reform — We will focus on collaborative collective bargaining processes and how they may benefit districts, especially in the area of Educational Reform. Presenters will provide overviews of the FMCS role as the “neutral” party in the Labor-Management relationship, and other services.

Enhancing P.E. Classes and Wellness Policy — High-quality, inclusive P.E. classes and wellness policy may not seem urgent compared to other school challenges. However, panelists will outline why P.E. is as important as any core subject. They will also share sample policies and implementation strategies.

Meaningful Technology Integration through Inquiry — How can districts integrate 21st Century Skills into their curriculum? Carrollton CUSD 1 is using Inquiry Based Learning focused on higher-order thinking skills to give students rich learning opportunities. Panelists will discuss the “hows” and “whys” while showcasing student work. (Sheraton)

Implementing 1:1 Computing and Trans-Formative Changes — Pinckneyville CHSD 101 has undertaken sweeping changes during the past three years by instituting RtI, 1:1 computing, curriculum reform, a scholarship and endowment program, and constructing a new building. Come and see how these changes came to fruition. (Sheraton)

Detecting the Public’s Voice and Taking Action — The District 41 Board planned a community engagement approach that resulted in a few surprise outcomes. The public dialogue was the first step in revisiting district Ends written in the 1990s. Surprise! Community expectations had changed in fifteen years. (Sheraton)

Are Your Students Healthy Enough To Achieve? — Of today’s students, 31% are overweight and, of that group, 15% are obese. Children born in the year 2000 will have some form of diabetes by the time they are adults. Come explore your role in ensuring wellness within your district. (Sheraton)

Challenges and Consequences – ELL, Bi-Lingual, Title III — District 69 has re-conceptualized its approach to planning for and delivering language services to better meet students’ needs while reducing the overall costs of programming. This session is geared toward providing practical solutions with a focus on long-term planning. (Sheraton)

A Promise to Help Schools Help Kids — Learn how one district has partnered with business leaders, community members and service agencies to connect resources to the specific needs of students, as identified by teachers and staff at a school. Come see how these efforts have impacted academic achievement. (Sheraton)

Superintendent Employment Contract — The school board’s most important function is employment of the superintendent. At its core is the superintendent’s employment contract. Enjoy a survey discussion of the elements of the contract and take the opportunity to ask questions of interest to you. (Sheraton)

School Finance: Expenditures for the Novice — Come and learn about the basic business office operations and the business administrator’s role in managing cash, meeting budgeting responsibilities, purchasing, state financial reporting and overseeing the expenditure process. (Sheraton)

Prioritizing Facility Needs within a Limited Budget — Limited financial resources, deferred maintenance and taxpayer scrutiny challenge school leaders. A thoughtful approach that addresses critical needs in the short term and identifies long-term facility needs will prevent critical failures. Discover new funding sources while prioritizing and addressing facility needs. (Sheraton)

**Sunday, Nov. 20, 2011
8 – 9:30 a.m.**

SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE & CONVERSATION SESSIONS

Are you serving in a rapidly growing district or considering consolidation? Want to talk with other board members about complex issues such as multiculturalism? Share ideas with leaders facing the same role challenges.

Complimentary coffee will be provided in each session listed below – thanks to

our sponsor Hodges, Loizzi, Eisenhammer, Rodick & Kohn – to help wake you up and get the conversation going!

Board Member/Parent: Separating Roles — Many individuals who serve on local boards do so because their children attend the schools. Explore the ways that a board member/parent can separate those roles and decide which hat to wear when.

Go Green: Electronic Board Packets — Come learn how boards across the state are “going green” by using electronic board packet preparation and distribution tools. BoardBook, the tool available from IASB, will be demonstrated.

Wrap It Up and Take It Home — Don’t leave Chicago without joining this interactive session to discuss it all and pick up pointers for informing your district and community about what you saw, did and learned at the 2011 conference.

Rural Issues — No money? Bursting at the seams or having to close schools? Looking for ways to engage students and parents? Or just need some problem-solving ideas? Bring your challenges and successes to share in this interactive discussion of key issues.

Legally Stumped? — You are invited to join us for a question-and-answer session on any school law topic. Learn about the hottest legal issues facing schools by participating in this lively forum.

Board President’s Roundtable — Here is an opportunity for board presidents to gather and share experiences, questions, ideas and frustrations. It is offered on both Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning; join us on either day, or both days.

Aspiring Superintendents — Whether they have completed requirements or are enrolled in coursework to become a superintendent, aspiring administrators won’t want to miss this discussion with search staff experts from IASB and professional staff from IASA.

Media Relations: Working Through Our Problems — Bring your media challenges to share, and learn about working with local media, including what they want, how and when they want it, and how to get along better!

Carousel of Panels

Join your colleagues to benefit from an exciting assortment of panels at this year’s Carousel of Panels. In two large adjoining rooms, 31 different presentations will be offered at one time. Over a one hour and 45 minute time block, visitors can choose to participate in three different panels of 30 minutes each. The Carousel will be held from 1:30 to 3:15 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 19, at the Sheraton Hotel Towers. Chosen topics will include:

- Digital Abuse and Keeping Kids Safe
- Positive Behavior Support Strategies for Classrooms and Schools
- Driving Instruction with a Book of Knowledge
- Board Leadership + Digital Innovation + Collaboration = Student Success
- Running & Serving on Illinois School Boards: Motivations & Barriers
- Enhancing Best Practices to Improve Student Achievement
- Successful Strategies for Slowing down the Leadership Revolving Door
- Implementing RtI through a Successful Problem Solving Team
- Cyber-Harassment: Real Scars from the Virtual World for Board members and School Administrators
- Perceived Critical Competencies for K-12 Superintendent Success
- From the Boardroom to the Classroom...High Expectations Produce Positive Results
- Effective Student Activity Account Management Practices
- Creating a Student-centered 21st Century Commitment
- Transitioning from a Traditional to a College/Career Ready Curriculum
- It’s Just Not RtI
- Internet Safety & Students with Disabilities
- Growing Trends: Academic Partnerships Promoting Educational Reform
- Highlights of the New Teacher Evaluation Law
- Effective Interventions for Struggling High School Students
- Motivation in the Classroom: Yes it Happens!
- Moving Your District Ahead by Developing Your Foundation
- Enhancing the Ability to Read and Comprehend for all Students
- Collective Bargaining in a Data-Driven Era
- School Improvement Days that WORK
- The Key to Improved Student Achievement: Hire the Right Principal
- Introducing Behaviors into the RtI Triangle
- What to Do? Nobody Wants a Capital Referendum
- Rural Partnerships Across Distance & Time
- Linking a Literacy Room to Student Achievement
- Developing a Comprehensive Approach to Address Early Chronic Absence
- Conducting School Facility Audits

Training for all Board Support Professionals

**Friday and Saturday November 18 and 19, 2011
Swissotel, Chicago**

Join with other school districts from around the state to take advantage of the training offered to enhance the professional skills of the person who performs the duties of the school board secretary.

Registration for the 2011 Joint Annual Conference will entitle your board support professional (board/district secretary) to attend programming designed specifically to enhance the knowledge necessary to effectively perform the duties of the school board secretary. Benefits also include networking with other board secretaries from across the state, and the opportunity to attend all of the general sessions, other panel sessions, the bookstore and the exhibit hall during the Conference. Attendance at the pre-conference paid workshops on Friday will require an additional charge. But there is no extra charge for the secretaries' program, although your support staff member must be registered for the Conference.

The programs will take place from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Friday, and from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, at Swissotel. Registration will run from 9 to 9:30 a.m. on Friday.

Opening Session: Presentation of the Holly Jack Award followed by the keynote address "Pearls of Wisdom: Living, Learning, Loving, and Laughing."

Using the analogy of pearls this team of presenters will lead you through a humor-packed, wisdom filled experience about *you!* As they "string" you along and help get the "knots" out of your strand - you will leave appreciating the beauty of your own wisdom.

Friday, November 18, 2011, 1:30 – 3 p.m.

- Electronic Board Packets in Action
- Best Practices for Front Line Communication
- Event Planning 101: A 12-step Guide to Facilitate a Well-Organized Event
- Is There Always a Right or Wrong Way? This is How WE Do It.

Saturday, November 19, 2011, 10:30 a.m. – noon

- Boot Camp 1: Statutory Responsibilities, Skills and Strategies
- DATA Basics: Organizing DATA for Presentation to your Board
- IMRF: Planning for your Future
- Work Style Differences: They're Not Doing it My Way!

Saturday, November 19, 2011, 1:30 – 3 p.m.

- Boot Camp 2: Agendas and Minutes
- DATA: The Next Steps
- Conflict Management: Address Conflict, Don't Flee from it!
- You Bring the Questions – Together We'll Provide the Answers

If you haven't registered your Board Support Professional, do so right away.



BOOKS YOU WANT TO READ!

Conference Bookstore

Columbus A/B Hyatt East Tower

Throughout the conference

DON'T MISS IT!

HISTORY
MANAGEMENT
SCHOOL GOVERNANCE
KIDS BOOKS
BIOGRAPHIES
REFERENCE
PRESENTERS' BOOKS
SELF-HELP

Educational Environments Exhibition

If you are thinking of building or remodeling your facilities, whether you have a physical plant problem to solve or you just like to dream about what your school facilities could be. Visit the 2011 Educational Environments Exhibit in the foyer outside the Grand Ballrooms at the Hyatt Regency Chicago. IASB Service Associates have invited business firms

engaged in any aspect of designing, constructing or equipping public school facilities to show off their best work at the 2011 Joint Annual Conference. Winning entries will be chosen in various categories. Whether you're building, remodeling or just daydreaming, you'll find a wealth of ideas.

Tour Chicago Schools

Join representatives of IASB and the Chicago Board of Education on a tour of a Chicago school. Tours will explore five separate selected schools on Friday, Nov. 18, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Your district's leaders can be assigned to different tours or opt to take one tour together. A separate fee for this event includes breakfast (8-9 a.m., Regency Ballroom A&B, Hyatt Regency Chicago). Spouses are invited to attend at the same additional fee. *All tour participants must be paid conference registrants or guests of paid conference registrants.*

CPDUs available

Certified Illinois teachers who are either registered conference attendees (board members) or registered guests of attendees are able to receive Continuing Professional Development Units (CPDU) for their participation in the 2011 Joint Annual Conference.

The State Teachers Certification Board has approved IASB as a certified CPDU provider for the annual conference. That means that any certified Illinois teacher who is registered as a conference attendee or a guest may receive 12 CPDU credits for attending the full conference.

There is no cost to board members; however, there is a \$50 handling charge for non-board members who qualify for CPDUs and attend the conference as guests.

Evidence of Completion (ISBE form 77-21B) and Evaluation (ISBE form 77-21A) Forms will be available for pick-up at the conference registration desk in the Hyatt during regular registration hours. Note: those forms are not available now; they must be picked up in person at the conference.

Conference general session speakers will inform and inspire you

First General Session: Wes Moore

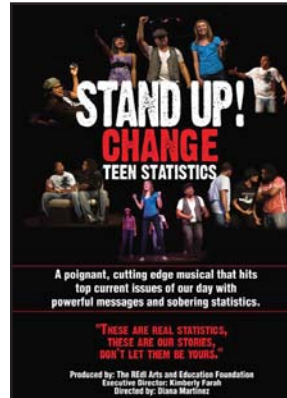
The keynoter at the First General Session on Friday, Nov. 18, will be Wes Moore, a youth advocate, promising business leader and motivational speaker, who spearheaded the Afghan Reconciliation Program while serving in the U.S. Army. A graduate of both Johns Hopkins and Oxford, he is a published author and a strong advocate for U.S. veterans and American youth. Moore presents the compelling argument that it is support systems – dedicated networks of families, mentors, teachers, friends, colleagues – that have the most profound and lasting impact on one’s life. Drawing on his experiences as a leader in the public and private sectors, and the military, and crediting mentors as the ones who “saved his life,” Moore stresses the vitality of mentorship – and leadership – in every community, from the smallest school to the largest.

Second General Session: StandUp/Change

The second general session on Saturday, Nov. 19, will feature something new to the conference. A musical performed by



Wes Moore



Stand Up!



Brooks Coleman, Jr.

StandUP! that will demonstrate statistics and messages on teen pregnancy, bullying, drugs, suicide, and minority discrimination. This session features original music and a script commissioned by the R.ED.I Arts and Education Foundation, a non-partisan, non-profit organization based in the Chicago area. The production features a diverse cast of 10 young actors, ages 16 to 24, depicting real-life situations drawn from interviews with teenagers.

Note from Michael D. Johnson, IASB executive director emeritus: “Please be advised that the second general session presentation Stand Up/Change candidly addresses issues that adolescents today face such as teen pregnancy, drug and alcohol abuse, and bullying. This presentation may not be suitable for anyone who might be offended by a graphic portrayal of these subjects.”

Third General Session: Brooks Coleman, Jr.

The third general session on Sunday, Nov. 20, will welcome state representative Brooks Coleman, Jr., an educator and a leader of the Georgia House. His education career started in 1962 as an elementary school teacher and has included many other positions in public education: curriculum director, principal, assistant superintendent, and spokesman. His achievements in education include developing a highly successful team-teaching program, and supervising the development of a comprehensive, short- and long-range planning process for future school enrollment and building needs. He is also an accomplished writer, with three education publications. On top of all that, he is a motivational speaker par excellence.