

Report to the Membership

for the 2009 Delegate Assembly Meeting
on November 21, 2009, Chicago

October 2009



2921 Baker Drive
Springfield, Illinois 62703-5929
217/528-9688
Fax 217/528-2831

One Imperial Place
1 East 22nd Street, Suite 20
Lombard, Illinois 60148-6120
630/629-3776
Fax 630/629-3940

TO: Board Members and Administrators

FROM: Joe Alesandrini, Resolutions Committee Chairman

DATE: October, 2009

SUBJECT: 2009 Resolutions Committee Report

Thank you for your interest in the 2009 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 21, 2009 at the Hyatt Regency Chicago (Regency A/B Ballroom, 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 Report to the Membership. 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.

If you have materials that you will need to distribute on the assembly floor, 500 copies must be provided to the staff at least 24 hours in advance (an additional day or two would be appreciated). 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.

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

**SERVICE OF THE FOLLOWING SCHOOL BOARD
MEMBERS ON THE 2009 RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE
IS ACKNOWLEDGED WITH SINCERE APPRECIATION.**

Alesandrini, Joe	.....Pekin	.....Chair
Armstrong, John	.....Wauconda	.....Lake
Brunson, Tony	.....Matteson	.....South Cook
Cantlin, Jack	.....Earlville	.....Starved Rock
Carney, Karen	.....Bartlett	.....Kishwaukee
Doering, Amy	.....Dunlap	.....Central Illinois Valley
De Neal, Tom	.....Harrisburg	.....Shawnee
Eades, Linda	.....Hettick	.....Kaskaskia
Flessner, Joe	.....Amboy	.....Northwest
Hoffman, Karen	.....Dubois	.....Egyptian
Kelly, Mike	.....Joliet	.....Three Rivers
Kessler, Rick	.....Hillsdale	.....Blackhawk
Klimkowicz, Anna	.....Schaumburg	.....North Cook
Lowrance, Debbi	.....Robinson	.....Wabash Valley
Majewski, Carola	.....Hanover Park	.....DuPage
Mammen, Jim	.....Lincoln	.....Abe Lincoln
Phillips, Howard	.....Greenfield	.....Two Rivers
Pickett, Linda	.....Waterloo	.....Southwestern
Pierce, Cherese	.....Hillside	.....West Cook
Russow, Todd	.....Manville	.....Corn Belt
Shafer, Tom	.....Lewiston	.....Western
Uhlott, Sandra	.....Rantoul	.....Illini

Delegate Assembly Agenda

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Call to Order 2. Report of the Credential Committee 3. Approval of Delegate Assembly Business Rules 4. Approval of Conference Program 5. President's Report, Mark Metzger 6. Executive Director's Report, Dr. Michael Johnson 7. Financial Report, Carolyne Brooks 8. Election of Officers <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A. Nominating Committee Report, Marie Slater | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 9. Constitutional Amendments, Mark Metzger 10. Resolutions Committee Report, Joe Alesandrini <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A. New Resolutions B. Amended Existing Positions C. Reaffirmation of Existing Positions 11. Belief Statements 12. Adjournment |
|--|--|

TABLE OF CONTENTS

2009 IASB Resolutions Committee .....	.iii
Delegate Assembly Agenda .....	.iii
Current Positions .....	.v
Delegate Assembly Business Rules .....	.vii
Resolutions Procedures .....	.vii
Nominating Committee Report .....	.viii
Constitutional Amendment	9

My Board's Recommendation

New Resolutions

Support *Oppose*

Educational Programs

1. Student Academic Advancement	10
2. High School Exams	10

Financing Public Education – State

3. School Funding Task Force	10
------------------------------------	----

Board Operations and Duties

4. Board Member Training	11
5. Board Member Interest in Contracts	11
6. Board Member Reimbursement for Wages	11

Board-Employee Relations

7. Administrator Salary Caps	11
------------------------------------	----

Local-State-Federal Relations

8. National Learning Standards	12
9. Home School Student Assessment	12
10. ISBE Oversight Agreement	12

District Organization and Elections

11. Consolidation into Unit Districts	13
12. School Board Election At-Large	13

Amended Existing Positions

Educational Programs

<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	13. Position Statement 1.01 Educational Programs	14
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	14. Position Statement 1.07 Standardized Test Procedures	14

Financing Public Education – Local

<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	15. Position Statement 2.32 Property Tax Cap	15
---	--	----

Board-Employee Relations

<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	16. Position Statement 5.12 School Employee Strikes	15
---	---	----

District Organization and Elections

<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	17. Position Statement 7.08 Polling Places In Schools	16
---	---	----

Reaffirmation of Existing Positions

Financing Public Education – State

<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	18. Position Statement 2.03 Funding Mandated Programs	16
---	---	----

Board-Employee Relations

<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	19. Position Statement 5.05 Prevailing Wage Act	17
---	---	----

CURRENT POSITIONS

Abatements for Home Builders (2.45)	Home Schooling Policy (6.11)
Administrative Caps (6.15)	Illinois Educational Labor Relations Act (5.07)
Advanced Placement for Students (1.11)	IEP Out-of-Grade Level Assessment (1.13)
Alternative Schools (2.19)	Impact Aid (Student Housing) (2.06)
Annexing District Requirements (7.03)	Impact Fees for Residential Development (2.38)
Attention Deficit Disorder (4.01)	IMRF Qualification (5.09)
Bidding Contracts-Local Bidders (6.20)	ISBE Rules and Regulations Review (6.08)
Bilingual Education (6.17)	Life Safety Fund Use (2.52)
Bilingual Education Options (1.16)	Limited Bill Introductions (3.03)
Board Member Involvement (3.01)	Local Control (6.01)
Board Member—Travel Reimbursement (4.04)	Local Legislative Visits (3.07)
Board Rights (5.01)	Local Tax Collection and Distribution (2.17)
Bond and Interest Levy (2.39)	Local Taxes on School Districts (2.40)
Candidate Support (3.02)	Mobile Home Taxation (2.10)
Capital Funding for School Construction (2.14)	No Child Left Behind (1.09)
Changes in School Accounting Practices (2.36)	No Child Left Behind – Military Recruitment (1.10)
Collective Bargaining (5.03)	Non-Public School Funding (2.48)
Constitutional Amendment on School Funding (2.24)	Non-Public Student Reporting (2.49)
Constitutional Convention Support (6.19)	Non-Resident Student Tuition (2.25)
Contracting Driver’s Education (2.07)	Periodic Review of State And Federal Mandates (6.02)
Corporate Personal Property Replacement Tax (2.05)	Permissive Rate Equalization (2.09)
Curricular Material Determination (1.02)	Physical Education (1.03)
Data Utilization (3.06)	Polling Places in Schools (7.08)
Design Profession Selection (6.12)	Preschool-Prioritize Public Schools (1.15)
Detachment from Unit District (7.04)	Preschool Programs (1.05)
Discipline for Special Education Students (1.06)	Prevailing Wage Act (5.05)
District Reorganization (7.01)	Priority and Support (2.01)
Early Retirement-District Option (5.14)	Probationary Teacher Dismissal (5.10)
Educational Labor Relations Board Procedures (6.03)	Property Tax Assessment and Collection (2.26)
Educational Programs (1.01)	Property Tax Base (2.27)
Effective Date and State Board 24 Rules & Regulations (3.05)	Property Tax Cap (2.32)
Elected State Board of Education (3.08)	Property Tax Cap— GSA Calculation (2.33)
Election Schedules (7.07)	Property Tax Classification (2.34)
E-Rate Discount Program (2.47)	Property Tax Cap Expiration (2.42)
ESP Progressive Disciplinary Procedures (5.06)	Property Tax Rate Increases (2.41)
Fair Labor Standards Act (6.18)	Public Question Voting Dates (7.05)
Funding for Differentiated Instruction (1.14)	Railroad Crossings (6.07)
Funding Mandated Programs (2.03)	Reading Local Resolutions (4.02)
Funding Sources (2.02)	Residential Placement Costs (2.12)
Funding Special Education Programs (2.04)	Sales Tax for School Districts (2.44)
General Assembly Rules (3.04)	School Attendance Days (1.12)
Heat Days Funding (2.15)	School Ballot Format (7.06)

School Board Member Training (4.05)	25	Student Expulsion Hearings (6.16)	27
School Construction Grant Index (2.23)	21	Student Retention and High School Completion (1.04)	17
School Construction Grant Program (2.22)	21	Students on Public Aid (6.09)	27
School District Reorganization Voting Requirements (7.02)	28	Summer School Funding (2.16)	21
School Employee Strikes (5.12)	26	Support Services to Private Schools (6.13)	27
School Finance Reform (2.35)	22	Tax Assessment Schedules (2.08)	20
School Funding and Taxation Reform (2.21)	21	Tax Exempt Bond Use (2.51)	24
School Holidays-Local Option (6.10)	27	Tax Increment Financing (2.29)	22
Self-Insure Risk (4.03)	25	Tax Law & Assessment Practices (2.37)	23
Separate Utility Assessments (2.30)	22	Tax Levy Amendments (2.18)	21
Site Development (2.31)	22	Teacher Salaries (Length of Contract) (5.02)	25
Staff Development Activities (5.13)	26	Tenure Repeal (5.11)	26
Standardized Test Procedures (1.07)	17	Tort Immunity Fund (2.20)	21
Standing on Tax Appeals (2.28)	21	Transportation for Private School Students (2.50)	24
State Aid Payments (2.13)	20	Transportation Levy (Excess Cost) (2.11)	20
State and Federal Grant Carryover (2.53)	24	Truth in Taxation (2.43)	23
State and Local Federal Tax Deduction (2.46)	23	Unemployment Compensation (Substitute Teachers) (5.04)	26
State Board Communication (6.04)	26	Utility Rate Reduction (2.54)	24
State Board of Education Membership (6.05)	26	Workers Compensation Law (5.08)	26
Statutory Job Descriptions (6.14)	27	Zoning Hearing Participation (6.06)	27
Student Assessment (1.08)	18		

DELEGATE ASSEMBLY BUSINESS RULES

1. Business Procedures — Robert's Rules of Order 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. Appeals — Those delegates wishing to appeal a "do not adopt" recommendation of the Resolutions Committee, to present a late resolution, or to amend a resolution or position statement, and have met the notice provisions required by Article X, Sections 4 and 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.
8. 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.
9. 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.
10. Nomination — Consent of nominee must be secured prior to presentation to the Delegate Assembly.

RESOLUTIONS PROCEDURES

1. Proposals — Resolutions may be proposed by any Active Member, Association Division, Association Council, the Association 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.
2. Presentation of Resolutions — The Resolutions Committee shall review all proposed resolutions, distribute a final draft of proposed resolutions to the membership not less than 45 days prior to the Annual Meeting of the Delegate Assembly, and may recommend the approval or disapproval of any resolution to the Delegate Assembly. The Resolutions Committee has the prerogative to determine which resolutions are to be presented to the Delegate Assembly; however, all resolutions received must be distributed to Active Members not less than 45 days prior to the Annual Meeting of the Delegate Assembly.
3. Annual Review — The Resolutions Committee shall annually review all position statements and resolutions in force and shall recommend that the Delegate Assembly amend or rescind resolutions that are not consistent with the current policy of the Association. All position statements and resolutions in force will be published annually and distributed to Active Members prior to the Annual Meeting of the Delegate Assembly.
4. Appeals—(Article X, Section 4), Any Active Member, Association Division, Association Council, or Association Board of Directors shall have the right to appeal 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 at the Annual Meeting of the Delegate Assembly is required for consideration of appeals.
5. Late Resolutions—(Article X, Section 5), 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's Council, 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.
6. 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. 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 2009

The 2009 Nominating Committee proposes the following officer slate for Delegate Assembly consideration, 10:30, Saturday, November 21, 2009, Regency Ballroom, Hyatt Regency Chicago:

President	Joe Alesandrini Pekin CHSD 303
Vice-President	Carolyn Brooks West Richland CUSD 2

2009 Nominating Committee Membership:

Marie Slater, Chair
IASB Immediate Past President

Ben Anderson
East Dubuque CUSD 119

Dale Hansen
Grant Park CUSD 6

Sue McCance
Fulton County CUSD 3

Roger Pfister
Carbondale ESD 95

Dave Barton, Alternate
Pikeland CUSD 10

Jackie Mickley, Alternate
Geneseo CUSD 228

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

Submitted by: IASB Board of Directors

Article X. Resolutions

Section 1. Types of Resolutions - 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.

Section 4- 2. Proposals - Resolutions for proposed position statements or belief statements may be proposed by any Active Member, Association Division, Association Council, 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.

Section 2- 3. Presentation of Proposed Resolutions - The Resolutions Committee shall review all proposed resolutions, distribute a final draft of proposed resolutions to the membership not less than 45 days prior to the Annual Meeting of the Delegate Assembly, and may recommend the approval or disapproval of any resolution to the Delegate Assembly. The Resolutions Committee has the prerogative to determine which ~~resolutions proposals~~ are to be presented to the Delegate Assembly; ~~however, all resolutions received must be distributed to Active Members not less than 45 days prior to the Annual Meeting of the Delegate Assembly.~~ and whether they are presented as position statements or non-debatable 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.

Section 3- 4. Annual Review - The Resolutions Committee shall annually review ~~all currently in force~~ position statements and ~~resolutions in force and shall recommend that the Delegate Assembly~~ 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 ~~resolutions any position statement or belief statement that are is~~ not consistent with the current ~~policy of the Association positions or beliefs of Association members~~. All position statements and ~~resolutions belief statements currently~~ in force will be published annually and distributed to Active Members prior to the Annual Meeting of the Delegate Assembly.

Section 4- 5. Appeals - Any Active Member, Association Division, Association Council, or the Association Board of Directors shall have the right to appeal 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 at the Annual Meeting of the Delegate Assembly is required for consideration of appeals.

Section 5- 6. Late Resolutions - 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 Council, the Association Board of Directors, or the Resolutions Committee and submitted in writing to the Resolutions Committee. The Committee must be in receipt of the resolution no later than the close of business 8 calendar days before the Annual Meeting of the Delegate Assembly. 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.

Board of Directors Rationale: This proposed change to the IASB Constitution was initiated by a member school district during the 2008 resolutions process. That proposal called for IASB "Belief Statements" to be approved by the IASB Delegate Assembly before being adopted. Since the inception of "Belief Statements" in 2001, such proposals have not been subject to vote by the Delegate Assembly and the "Belief Statements" publication has – by design – been a product of the IASB Resolutions Committee.

At the August 2008 meeting of the Resolutions Committee, it was the consensus of the committee that Delegate Assembly approval of Belief Statements has merit and that the issue should be directed to the IASB Board of Directors. At the August 2008 meeting of the IASB Board of Directors, the board agreed with the premise of the proposal but noted that to fully comply with the details, a change would have to be made to the IASB Constitution. At the May 2009 Board of Directors meeting this proposed Constitutional Amendment was approved as submitted and is now presented to the IASB Delegate Assembly for a vote.

The Board of Directors RECOMMENDS "DO ADOPT"

NEW RESOLUTIONS

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

1. Student Academic Advancement

Submitted by: Hoover Schrum Memorial SD 157

Be it resolved that the Illinois Association of School Boards shall not keep children back due to birthday. If a child has proven to be by testing/academic advanced and the parent desires, a child (student) should be allowed to advance.

Rationale: Children who are held back miss the opportunity to move at the pace that they are able to excel. Socially, if the parent feels the child is ready to move ahead academically if testing and grades prove to be advanced a child should be allowed to continue to advance.

Resolutions Committee RECOMMENDS "DO NOT ADOPT"

Resolutions Committee Rationale: No representative from the district attended the meeting of the Resolutions Committee to provide testimony and the Committee was unclear on the exact intent of the submitting district. This made it difficult to support the resolution. It was also expressed that the local school district should have the authority and flexibility it needs to make the proper decisions about the education and advancement assessment of the students.

2. High School Exams

Submitted by: East Peoria CHSD 309

Co-Sponsors: Greenview CUSD 200

Westmont CUSD 201

Manteno CUSD 5

Dwight THSD 230

Sangamon Valley CUSD 9

Deer Creek-Mackinaw CUSD 701

Be it resolved that the Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation to allow school districts to elect to include the Prairie State Achievement Exam or any other state authorized test or any parts thereof as a portion of their high school graduation requirements. Students would be evaluated according to their ability to pass said test. Students not passing could remedy discrepancies during their senior year and/or be given an option to retake the comprehensive test to meet graduation requirements.

Rationale: School districts are held accountable for student results on the PSAE, a high-stakes test. Therefore, there is no valid reason why students, and even families, should not be part of the accountability process. According to the National Center for Education Statistics, twenty-six states have high school exit exams: AL, AK, AZ, AR (2010), CA, FL, GA, ID, IN, LA, MD, MA, MN (2010), MS, NV, NJ, NM, NY, NC, OH, OK, (2012), SC, TN, TX, VA, WA.

Resolutions Committee RECOMMENDS "DO NOT ADOPT"

Resolutions Committee Rationale: The submitting district has proposed this idea (or a version thereof) the last four years. This resolution is drafted with some modifications from previous proposals, however the intent seems to be the same. In all of the previous years, the Resolutions Committee has recom-

mended "Do Not Adopt". Last year, again, the district attempted to appeal the committee's recommendation and was unsuccessful.

The Committee again voiced concerns that this would be contrary to other IASB Position Statements that are against "high stakes tests" and that legislators could eventually mandate the tests if prompted first to create permissive language in legislation. While the resolution calls for the ability of the student to "retake the test to meet graduation requirements", legislation (SB 2014, PA 96-0430) was enacted this summer that only allows a school district to provide one opportunity to take the Prairie State Achievement Exam (PSAE).

FINANCING PUBLIC EDUCATION – STATE

3. School Funding Task Force

Submitted by: Olympia CUSD 16

Be it resolved that the Illinois Association of School Boards shall, in an effort to address the adequate funding of public schools, create a task force to study public school funding.

Rationale: Because of the continuing struggle with state and federal financing of our public schools, we recognize the need to investigate, through the collaboration of the associations, how we can raise the funding level and improve the method of providing for our public schools. This will aid us in presenting a stronger, more reliable financial foundation for our administrators, faculty, and school boards to provide optimal educational opportunities for our children.

Resolutions Committee RECOMMENDS "DO NOT ADOPT"

Resolutions Committee Rationale: The Committee had concerns about convening another task force or commission to study school funding. The current IASB Position Statement (2.35) on School Finance Reform was adopted in 1990 after a report was adopted by the IASB Board of Directors which was the result of an IASB task force on school funding. Some of the other previous studies include: the General Assembly's Task Force on School Finance (1993), the Illinois Education Association's School Funding Task Force (1994), the Governor's Blue Ribbon Commission on School Funding (also known as the Ikenberry report from 1995), the IASB/IEA/IFT Education Funding Coalition ("It's Not Fair" campaign from 1997), the Education Funding Advisory Board (EFAB, authorized in 1998 and convened in 2000), the Metropolitan Planning Council report (1998), Large Unit District Association (LUDA) Report (2000), the Civic Committee of the Commercial Club of Chicago Report (2007), and the "Dialogue Group"/"Burnham Plan" (2008).

The Committee also noted that many educators believe that another task force or study on education funding will merely delay a "real vote" on meaningful legislation. Many task forces, committees, and studies have been done over the years and most have come to the same conclusion: there is an over-reliance on property taxes to fund schools which results in equity issues around the State and a steady, reliable State source of funding is necessary. Repeatedly pointing out the problem, however, has not resulted in a solution.

BOARD OPERATIONS AND DUTIES

4. Board Member Training

Submitted by: Dolton West SD 158

Be it resolved that Dolton West School District 148 hereby support and affirm the mission of the Illinois Association of School Boards in the development of policies and programs that provide professional development for school board members. We further resolve to support the IASB in the ongoing effort to champion for the children of Illinois

Rationale: It is the mission of the Dolton West School District 148 to challenge and support all students to reach their highest level of performance.

Resolutions Committee RECOMMENDS "DO NOT ADOPT"

Resolutions Committee Rationale: It was unclear to the Committee as to what the submitting district was attempting to accomplish with the resolution as no representative from the district attended the meeting of the Resolutions Committee to provide testimony. The Committee strongly supports the training and education of school board members and embraces such as the main part of the IASB mission. Further, it was noted that the authority for the establishment of the IASB is given in the Illinois School Code, which states that our purpose is "the education of school board members as to their duties and responsibilities so as to improve the management of the public schools." Finally, the Committee pointed out that last year we adopted Position Statement 4.05 which includes a line that states: "The IASB encourages local boards of education to model continuous improvement by pursuing all professional development and training opportunities." It was the consensus of the Committee that, though this issue is the core of the IASB, adopting a new position statement is not necessary.

5. Board Member Interest in Contracts

Submitted by: Hoover Schrum Memorial SD 157

Be it resolved that the Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation that would allow board of education members who offer services outside of a member district to solicit business from the school district by normal competition, i.e. bids, price, proposal, etc.

Rationale: There are board members who serve faithfully, loyally and respectfully within school districts who are also responsible for being productive members of a household and society and offer goods/services to businesses and are done a disservice by not being offered a chance in their own community.

Resolutions Committee RECOMMENDS "DO NOT ADOPT"

Resolutions Committee Rationale: The Committee noted that both the *School Code* and the *Corrupt Practices Act* prohibit any office holder from having an interest in any contract or performance of work for the public body. The *School Code* provides further definition of both the prohibition and exceptions. School board members can have no interest either directly or indirectly in any contract, work or business of the school district or sale of any article to the school district (with certain exceptions). They are also prohibited from purchasing property of the district.

It was the consensus of the Committee that allowing school board members to compete for school contracts is a conflict of interest that should not be allowed. Recent egregious actions by elected officials have driven legislators to seek additional restrictions on the authority to contract, who can be contracted with, and the process by which contracts are let. It is unlikely that the current climate of the legislature will facilitate what is called for in this resolution.

6. Board Member Reimbursement for Wages

Submitted by: Hoover Schrum Memorial SD 157

Be it resolved that the Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation that would allow reimbursement to board members for lost wages, (i.e.) vacation used to attend conferences, workshops, and emergency board meetings.

Rationale: Board members give all of their time used to their respective district without compensation. Board members should not lose vacation time, sick time, or any relief time from work because they want to be an effective, educated board member.

Resolutions Committee RECOMMENDS "DO NOT ADOPT"

Resolutions Committee Rationale: In 2006, a resolution was forwarded to the IASB calling for compensation of board of education members on a per meeting rate. That proposal, which did not receive support from the Committee, was fairly restrictive as it called for a stipend or small annual salary. This proposal could be far more costly as it calls for the school district to make up the lost wages of a board member.

Committee members raised concerns again about the message that would be sent if school board members began asking for compensation: Couldn't the money being spent to reimburse board members be better spent on education of children? Would not the credibility of volunteer school board members be placed in jeopardy?

BOARD-EMPLOYEE RELATIONS

7. Administrator Salary Caps

Submitted by: Hoover Schrum Memorial SD 157

Be it resolved that the Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation that would require school districts to cap administrators' salaries (superintendents, principals, assistant principals, business managers, directors) at a percent not greater than 50 percent of the original hired or contracted start date.

Rationale: Under consideration of the current economy that we live in with business closing and schools being funded by property taxes, more districts are losing or will stand to lose revenue in the future. We can no longer afford to retire administrators, superintendents at \$400,000 and the district can still give bonuses.

Resolutions Committee RECOMMENDS "DO NOT ADOPT"

Resolutions Committee Rationale: The Committee noted that it has been the position of the IASB that school districts

need to make hiring decisions locally without artificial limitations placed on those contractual agreements. IASB Position Statement 6.15 states that the IASB shall not support administrative caps that “take away local control from duly elected Boards of Education.”

LOCAL-STATE-FEDERAL RELATIONS

8. National Learning Standards

Submitted by: Carlinville CUSD 1

Be it resolved that the Illinois Association of School Boards shall support the development and implementation of national K-12 learning standards.

Rationale: National learning standards will create more equitable opportunities for students nationwide through common goals and assessments.

Resolutions Committee RECOMMENDS “DO NOT ADOPT”

Resolutions Committee Rationale: The Committee noted that this is a controversial issue which has been raised several times before over the years. Even though several national education organizations have been considering this proposal (the National School Boards Association, the National Association of State Boards of Education, the National Governor’s Association, and the Council of Chief State School Officers), it was the consensus of the Committee that it would not be good for school districts in Illinois. A main concern was the fear that if such a proposal is adopted, it will lead to a national assessment tool for all schools and ultimately a national school curriculum. This resolution is likely contrary to the longstanding tradition of the IASB supporting local control as evidenced in Position Statement 6.01 (Local Control).

9. Home School Student Assessment

Submitted by: Carlinville CUSD 1

Be it resolved that the Illinois Association of School Boards shall recommend that all home school students be required to take the same assessment tests as those required for public school students.

Rationale: Home school students that decide to enter public schools would be better prepared for their age-appropriate grade in all subjects. It would allow the home school parent(s) to identify and remediate areas that are in need.

Resolutions Committee RECOMMENDS “DO NOT ADOPT”

Resolutions Committee Rationale: The Committee noted that, in Illinois, home-schooled students are treated the same as students enrolled in a private or parochial school, by law. The State allows a school district to require students transferring in from home schooling or a parochial school to take a subject matter proficiency test similar to any assessment the State requires. It was the consensus of the Committee that the current IASB position statement (6.11) on Home Schooling is sufficient as it requires students to demonstrate their education level upon entering the public school system. It may not be the best use of Association resources to attempt to change laws to require students in other school systems (private, parochial, home schools) to take an examination merely based upon the regularly scheduled state assessment calendar.

10. ISBE Oversight Agreement

Submitted by: Calumet SD 132

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 can not 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;
- 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.

Rationale: The Board of Education of Calumet Public School District No. 132 entered into an Intergovernmental Cooperative Agreement with the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) on June 6, 2006 wherein a voluntary partnership was established between the parties. The agreement provides that the ISBE will assist the school administration in planning and operations to help comply with regulatory requirements; improve education in the best interests of the school district and its students; and, achieve the district’s educational mission. The original term of the agreement ended on June 30, 2008, but it additionally provides that the “term shall automatically be renewed for three additional one year periods unless the ISBE determines, based upon a review of the district’s compliance with regulatory requirements and the terms and provisions of this agreement, further oversight is unnecessary”. The ISBE renewed the term of the agreement for an additional one-year period based on its interpretation that the school district’s annual goals were not met.

The ISBE has still not yet informed the school district as to whether it has made any determinations regarding the district’s progress with its annual goals and whether it plans to continue oversight in the remaining two-year period (2009-2011). Our board is concerned that even if our district reaches most or all of its annual goals, the ISBE will renew the agreement for the remaining years.

The members of our Board of Education are concerned that if, in the ISBE’s judgment, the annual goals are not met the agreement will be renewed at the detriment to the public image of the school district and the community and students it serves, and public confidence in the Board of Education and the school district’s administration will erode without cause, as few if any school districts meet 100% of their annual goals and expectations.

Resolutions Committee RECOMMENDS “DO ADOPT”

Resolutions Committee Rationale: The district is working

under the auspices of a State-sponsored oversight agreement. The Committee agreed with the submitting district that the imposition, structure, intervention, decision-making and duration of a school board imposed oversight panel or finance authority must be fair to the local board of education, administrative team, and teachers. IASB lobbyists have been working against legislation forwarded by the Illinois State Board of Education that would further expand ISBE power over school districts that might be eligible for a Financial Oversight Panel or a School Finance Authority. This proposal would clarify the Association's direction on the issue.

DISTRICT ORGANIZATION AND ELECTIONS

11. Consolidation into Unit Districts

Submitted by: Barrington CUSD 220

BE IT RESOLVED that the Illinois Association of School Boards shall seek and support legislation to promote the consolidation of all Illinois school districts into unit districts.

Rationale: In 2002, the IASB adopted position statement number 7.09 which state: "The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support a provision to allow the unit district formation of those districts wishing to consolidate." This position is not strong enough given the importance of this matter to the health and viability of the public school system in Illinois. The current economic environment only underscores the need to promote and incentivize consolidation.

Formation of unit school districts across the state would save administrative costs, put more money into classrooms, and/or reduce tax rates. Unit districts help school administrators provide more continuity in curriculum between elementary, middle, and high schools.

Illinois' 875 school districts are a far cry from the 12,000 one-room schoolhouse districts in Illinois in 1940. But since a law designed to ease consolidation restrictions passed in 1985, the number of districts has dropped by only about 125.

Illinois remains one of only a handful of states that allows schools in the same area to be divided into elementary districts and high school districts, with separate sets of administrators. Most states require all schools to be in unit districts – kindergarten through 12th grade under one administration.

Current IASB position statement 7.01 ("District Reorganization") would need to be amended or superseded with approval of this resolution for consistency.

Resolutions Committee RECOMMENDS "DO NOT ADOPT"

Resolutions Committee Rationale: This is the fourth consecutive year that the submitting district has proposed this resolution. Each time the Resolutions Committee has recommended "Do Not Adopt", citing that this proposal is contrary to the long-standing tradition of the IASB allowing local school districts and taxpayers to make such decisions on consolidation.

The submitting district cites the resolution the IASB adopted in 2002 (Position Statement 7.09 – School Consolidation) as a step in this direction. However, the resolution in 2002 was only targeted at areas where a high school district and its conterminous elementary districts wanted to form a unit district – even if one of the elementary districts did not wish to join such a consolidation. It was made clear in 2002 that the resolution would not force consolidation. In 2006, the Resolutions Committee

voted to delete Position Statement 7.09 because legislation was approved that year addressing this issue.

The submitting district's rationale and accompanying documents stress the financial aspect of consolidation. The Committee noted that already in statute are provisions to allow the local school boards – *or the districts' voters* – to begin a petitioning process to bring the question of consolidation to the voters. If voters locally want to consolidate the school districts, they have the option to bring the question in a referendum. This is local control for the school districts affected as opposed to a law which would force all school districts statewide to follow a mandate from Springfield.

12. School Board Election At-Large

Submitted by: Greenfield CUSD 10

Be it resolved that the Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation to repeal the provisions of the School Code that require a school district to have a ballot question approved in each congressional township before the district can move to electing its board members at-large.

Rationale: The School Code restricts membership of boards of education in many school districts by congressional townships. Those township restrictions are, in many instances, anachronisms dating from the original creation of the school district and are not currently a source of voter identity. Many school districts and county clerks, as local election officials, are unable to identify boundaries between congressional townships and often confuse congressional townships with political townships.

Current law allows for voter approval of a proposition for the election of board members at large and without restriction by area of residence only upon passage of a majority of those voting on the proposition in each congressional township comprising the school district, including any congressional township of less than 100 inhabitants. Such passage restrictions make it virtually impossible for such a proposition to pass, even when the majority of voters in the school district have voted in its favor. In many instances, the current congressional township restrictions make it very difficult to find qualified candidates for the board and often prevent the election of the best prepared and most qualified individuals to serve as school board members. Revising current method for allowing the election board members at large and without restriction by area of residence within the school district, whether by simple majority of all voters, a majority of congressional townships voting, or some other method, would make it easier for qualified candidates to be elected and would allow the majority of voters in the school district to decide whether congressional township restrictions should continue.

The Resolutions Committee RECOMMENDS DO ADOPT

Resolutions Committee Rationale: This resolution calls for the Association to support legislation that deletes the provision whereby a majority of voters in each congressional township of a school district must vote to move to an at-large election of school board members. Currently, if one congressional township fails to approve the ballot question, the school district must still elect its members by the residency restrictions.

The committee struggled with the balance of allowing a school district to more easily facilitate school board elections and allowing each voter to have his or her vote count on Election Day. At the end of the debate, it was the consensus of the Committee to support the proposal.

AMENDED EXISTING POSITIONS

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

13. Educational Programs

Submitted by: Township High School District 211
(Palatine)

1.01 EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

The Illinois Association of School Boards urges its member districts to develop educational programs so as 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.

Rationale: In an understanding that the well-being and success of all students in the 21st century require academic achievement, career development, and emotional well-being;

And understanding that all students K-12, benefit from guidance in expressing their needs, feelings, and aspirations;

And understanding that all students need the support of adults who can listen, discuss, and impact their future directions and activities;

And in recognition of standards that have been developed in accordance with Section 15(a) of Public Act 93-0495 by the Illinois State Board of Education to develop and implement a plan to incorporate social and emotional development standards as part of the Illinois Learning Standards.

And in recognition of the importance of and pervasive need for implementation of the *Illinois Learning Standards Goals for Social/Emotional Learning* for all students K-12, namely:

Goal 1: Develop self-awareness and self-management skills to achieve school and life success.

Goal 2: Use social-awareness and interpersonal skills to establish and maintain positive relationships.

Goal 3: Demonstrate decision-making skills and responsible behaviors in personal, school, and community contexts.

And, in recognition of the findings of the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD) that school counselors, psychologists, and social workers provide invaluable support, resulting in stronger bonds between students and the school community; that school counselors, psychologists, and social workers are key components in supporting positive adult-student relationships with many of the most vulnerable students; and that an investment in school counselors, psychologists, and social workers is an investment in student academic achievement and social wellbeing.

In reflection of the historic commitment of the Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) to the well-being of elementary and secondary students, it is recommended that the IASB advance the recognition by school districts of the benefits of social/emotional services to our students, staff and commu-

nity. It is further recommended that the IASB to establish and distribute a position statement on this important topic as a primary means to accomplish this goal. The position statement should provide information regarding benefits that counselors, psychologist and social workers provide, and address consideration of associated standards and practices by school districts.

Support for this recommendation can be found in the *Illinois School Code*:

Section 15. Mental health and school. (Public Act 93-0495)

(a) The Illinois State Board of Education shall develop and implement a plan to incorporate social and emotional development standards as part of the Illinois Learning Standards for the purpose of enhancing and measuring children's school readiness and ability to achieve academic success. This plan shall be submitted to the Governor, the General Assembly, and the Partnership by December 31, 2004.

The IASB has long been the watershed for assistance to Illinois schools in their identification of and response to the responsibilities of preparing all students for the 21st Century. These responsibilities go well beyond academic content and skills. They include teaching students the life skills of: communication, collaboration, work ethic, and problem solving. The IASB also has the capacity to raise schools awareness of emotional and social issues that children face, such as stress, anxiety, and identification of feelings and depression. All of these affect the ability of students in Illinois to be successful in school, and upon graduation to be globally competitive and independent life-long learners.

We ask IASB to provide leadership as in the past by disseminating information to all school districts about the Illinois Learning Standards Goals for Social/Emotional Learning for all students K-12.

Resolutions Committee RECOMMENDS "DO ADOPT"

Resolutions Committee Rationale: The resolution calls for the Association to recognize and support the importance of the role of school counselors, psychologists, and social workers and for the recognition and implementation of the *Illinois Learning Standards (ILS) Goals for Social/Emotional Learning*. The ILS were developed in accordance with Section 15(a) of Public Act 93-0495. It was the consensus of the Committee that the submitting district's objective in recognizing these important student developmental issues should be supported.

14. Standardized Test Procedures

Submitted by: Palestine CUSD 3

1.07 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 "No Child Left Behind" Act. Further the 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;

- require that the test be a criterion-based assessment emphasizing the Illinois Learning Standards without a norm-referenced test component or scoring connection;
- 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.

Rationale: Currently, PSAE functions as a criterion-referenced assessment of student educational development based on the Illinois Learning Standards. The criterion-referenced basis of the examination is undermined by its connection to the ACT a norm-referenced test. To evaluate accurately the number of students whose educational development has met or exceeded the expectations established in the Illinois Learning Standards, a true criterion-referenced assessment must be utilized. Because ISBE is presently working with other states to review and revise these Learning Standards, now is an appropriate time to alter the PSAE to reflect a true criterion-referenced assessment. In addition, by separating the ACT from the PSAE, the costs related to student assessment will be reduced while maintaining federal measurement standards.

Resolutions Committee RECOMMENDS "DO ADOPT"

Resolutions Committee Rationale: This resolution calls for the Association to urge the State Board of Education to change the format of the Prairie State Achievement Examination (PSAE) that is administered to all 11th graders in the State. The Committee agreed with the submitting district that the PSAE should not include the ACT test (which is a norm-referenced test) and should, instead, include testing that addresses a student's grasp of the Illinois Learning Standards.

FINANCING PUBLIC EDUCATION – LOCAL

15. Property Tax Cap

Submitted by: Wheaton Warrenville CUSD 200

2.32 PROPERTY TAX CAP

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall oppose any limitation which would require school boards to have to go referendum to gain authorization to extend taxes to limit 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; ~~and~~
- base any such index (CPI or ECI) on a method for calculat-

ing 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.

Rationale: This amendment addressed the need for school districts to maintain funding stability and predictability under any current or proposed tax caps. The current method establishes the yearly cap on the basis of December's CPI. Using the CPI from one selected month as the driver for an entire year opens both taxing bodies and taxpayers to the effects of atypical swings such as we experienced in 2008.

The taxpayer is protected to some extent from a high swing by the CPI ceiling, but there is not such safety net for school districts which run programs that are developed over extended periods of time. Under the current system, capped districts had only eight weeks to react to last year's CPI drop before the legal deadline to notify staff of any reduction in force. In our district, the swing from 4% to .1% resulted in nearly \$7M less potential revenue, forcing hurried decision about downsizing.

If districts are to remain capped, any index used for that purpose should allow districts to anticipate where the cap in a given year is likely to land. An average of some sort would be more predictable for districts as they establish their budgets. Examples might be a yearly average (perhaps throwing out the high and low months); a six-month moving average; a multi-year average; etc. Because the effects of an average would need to be analyzed, this amendment proposes IASB would partner in the development of such an average if it were considered by legislators.

Please note that this amendment is not intended to validate tax caps or the use of the CPI. It simply attempts to move the current reality to a more predictable situation for districts.

Resolutions Committee RECOMMENDS "DO ADOPT"

Resolutions Committee Rationale: The resolution addresses the federal inflation indices that are used for the property tax cap. The Committee agreed with the submitting district, stating that allowing school districts to use the best average indicator for the calculation of the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law (PTELL) would lessen the unpredictability of tax capped local resources.

BOARD-EMPLOYEE RELATIONS

16. School Employee Strikes

Submitted by: Consolidated SD 158 (Algonquin)

5.12 SCHOOL EMPLOYEE STRIKES

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall ~~support efforts to discourage the ability of public school employees to strike~~ 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.

Rationale: Much like police and fire service, a community's public school system is a tax-payer funded entity essential to the stability and growth of that community. Under no circumstances are police officers or fire fighters permitted to strike,

even if they are working a contract. For obvious public safety reasons this law makes sense. While a public school employee strike is not likely to result in violence or civil unrest, the immediate and long-term impact to the community is devastating in its own right. Considering the large percentage of the property tax bill that goes to the local school district, the taxpayers deserve the right to have their tax dollars protected. A significant step toward making that happen is to make it illegal for a union to use the threat or actual implementation of a strike in order to pull an unreasonable amount of tax dollars from the educational programs and other operational necessities into salary and benefits for school employees. We believe the 1996 wording to this position statement is too benign, and it is time to engage in more aggressive action regarding this issue.

Resolutions Committee RECOMMENDS "DO ADOPT"

Resolutions Committee Rationale: The resolution calls for the Association to promote legislation that would prohibit public school employees from striking and to encourage various education groups to develop language regarding mediation, binding arbitration, and other alternatives to striking. This proposal is similar to the resolution this district submitted last year, which the Committee recommended "Do Adopt." The "Do Adopt" motion failed at the Delegate Assembly with a vote of 157-180.

The Committee again, after long deliberation, decided to support the resolution. Though some Committee members were hesitant to support the proposal out of concern for those school boards that have worked hard to cultivate a positive working relationship with their teachers' union, others were supportive stating that scars of past teacher strikes still linger in districts and that a strike prohibition would save other districts from going through such a difficult situation.

The resolution this year adds the provision to seek other ways of dealing with a stand-off in negotiations (mediation or binding arbitration).

DISTRICT ORGANIZATION AND ELECTIONS

17. Polling Places in Schools

Submitted by: Orland SD 135

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.

Rationale: The submitting district wishes for the local school district to have greater authority regarding the use of a school building as a polling place for the safety of students and staff.

Resolutions Committee RECOMMENDS "DO ADOPT"

Resolutions Committee Rationale: This resolution originally called for the Association to support legislation to allow a school building to not be used as a polling place during an election. Current Position Statement 7.08 already addressed this issue. However, the submitting district modified its proposal to amend that position statement to add language regarding the safety of students in instances where the school building is opened up to the public on Election Day.

REAFFIRMATION OF EXISTING POSITIONS

FINANCING PUBLIC EDUCATION – STATE

18. Funding Mandated Programs

Submitted by: United THSD 30 (East Moline)

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 urge the General Assembly to adopt legislation which would allow school districts greater flexibility in regard to state mandates and the use of grants.

Rationale: Too many current programs, both state and federal, are already not fully funded. Passage of additional, unfunded mandates puts further fiscal pressure on local school boards and local taxpayers.

Resolutions Committee RECOMMENDS "DO ADOPT"

Resolutions Committee Rationale: The original resolution proposed a new position statement to oppose unfunded mandates on school districts. The imposition of unfunded mandates on school districts is an ongoing struggle in the Capitol and fighting them is always one of the top priorities of IASB lobbyists. The Committee noted, however, that the Association

already has a comprehensive position statement on this issue (Position Statement 2.03). The submitting district modified its proposal to reaffirm the current position.

BOARD-EMPLOYEE RELATIONS

19. Prevailing Wage Act

Submitted by: Jasper County CUSD 1

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.

Rationale: Legislation that regulates wages of laborers, mechanics, and other workers employed by school districts along with those under contract for work being done in school districts, negatively impacts school district budgets. School district budgets are already strained as a result of loss of funding, increased costs, in addition to State or Federal revenues arriv-

ing late or not at all, therefore, it is necessary to bring this to the attention of our elected officials. The competitive bidding process has worked effectively to secure products and services at appropriate costs for school districts. This Act costs taxpayers as well as school districts. This act limits work and projects that can be done due to higher costs. Some local contractors may not bid on projects due to labor costs being considerably higher than what they may typically pay. Allowing contractors to work for less than prevailing wage could actually create more jobs in most areas of the State. Since the Prevailing Wage Act has not been addressed by the IASB since 1996, it is appropriate to send the message that this Act is another example of state mandates that cost school districts, taxpayers, while at the same time adding to current financial difficulties in education.

Resolutions Committee RECOMMENDS "DO ADOPT"

Resolutions Committee Rationale: The Committee generally agreed with the submitting district's rationale as to why the repeal of the Act would save school district money and provide some relief to taxpayers. It was noted that the IASB has not revisited this position statement since 1996.

CURRENT POSITIONS

1.01 EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

The Illinois Association of School Boards urges its member districts to develop educational programs so as 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. (Adopted 1959; Amended 1988)

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. (Adopted 1981; Amended 1983, 1988, 2001)

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 for physical education at the K-12 level. (Portions Adopted 1982, 1986; Reaffirmed 1984, 1987; Amended 1988, 1995)

1.04 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)

1.05 PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation to fully fund with new monies for both staffing and infrastructure costs associated with early childhood programs for

such children as originally defined in PA 84-126, and further addressed in Public Act 94-0506 and Public Act 94-1054. (Adopted 1986; Amended 2001, 2006, 2007)

1.06 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)

1.07 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 "No Child Left Behind" Act. Further the 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)

1.08 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)

1.09 NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND

The Illinois Association of School Boards:

- strongly disagrees with the premise that the quality and complexity of teaching and learning can be adequately and solely assessed by one achievement test given once during the school year;
- disagrees with the practice of assessing all schools with inconsistent standards allowed to be used by individual states to determine school accountability and adequate yearly progress;
- believes that the federal government has no authority to sanction local school districts; and
- believes that the current Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) accountability model for students with disabilities is not consistent with the goals of the new IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act), as amended.

Therefore, the IASB shall work with the National School Boards Association and other coalitions to urge Congress and the Illinois General Assembly to:

- amend the provision allowing for one high-stakes test to determine student achievement;
- remove the provisions for local school district sanctions;
- focus on professional development for teachers and administrators;
- fully fund any requirements placed on local school districts;
- amend the Act to permit alternate assessments and other

appropriate measures of achievement for students with disabilities as specifically addressed by the student's Individual Education Program (IEP);

- amend the act to permit alternate assessments and other appropriate measures for English language learners, including but not limited to providing directions and question content in their most fluent language, or to allow removal of individual English language learners from the subgroup when no appropriate test at their language level exists;
- allow academic progress to be charted by comparing performance measures made at periodic intervals within cohorts of students rather than by comparing the grade level group test scores from year to year; and
- reject the adoption of an NCLB requirement that high school students be tested annually as the sole measure of academic achievement. (Adopted 2003; Amended 2005, 2008)

1.10 NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND – 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 No Child Left Behind 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)

1.11 ADVANCED PLACEMENT FOR STUDENTS

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall offer and support legislation guaranteeing that the graduates of Illinois public high schools who achieve the following scores on Advanced Placement examinations shall be accorded, at minimum, the following benefits by all Illinois public colleges and universities:

For scores of 3, 4 or 5, full credit for completion of the college or university course corresponding to the Advanced Placement exam, including the award of the semester or credit hours (or their equivalent) which would have been earned if the student had successfully completed the coursework and any predecessor coursework at the postsecondary institution.

In all cases, Illinois public colleges and universities shall be free to award credit or benefits for scores below 3 as they see fit. Similarly, Illinois public colleges and universities shall continue to be free to grant such additional credit and placement in still higher coursework for scores of 4 and 5 as they see fit. (Adopted 2004)

1.12 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)

1.13 IEP OUT-OF-GRADE LEVEL ASSESSMENT

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall advocate for, offer, encourage and support legislative action designed to:

1. Issue findings that No Child Left Behind (NCLB) is in conflict with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), in particular in reference to the failure of NCLB to permit the use of out-of-grade level assessments to evaluate the achievement of students whose Individualized Educational Plan (IEP) calls for such testing;
2. Call on, petition and recommend that the United States Department of Education clarify the assessment rules of NCLB to permit the use of out-of-grade level assessments to evaluate students whose IEP calls for such testing;
3. Compel the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) to take all steps available to it (including, but not limited to, granting such exceptions and flexibility as it is maximally allowed under NCLB and altering its plans for NCLB implementation in Illinois) to permit as much IEP-consistent assessment testing as students' IEPs may dictate in evaluating the progress of students with IEPs;
4. Take such steps as ISBE and the General Assembly may determine are necessary to cause the implementation of NCLB in Illinois to be harmonized with the requirements of IDEA; and
5. Make it clear to all persons that out-of-grade level assessments are not "alternate assessments" for purposes of NCLB. (Adopted 2006)

1.14 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)

1.15 PRESCHOOL—PRIORITIZE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support full funding of early childhood programs operated by public schools as a priority. All programs receiving any public monies shall be required to meet all standards and oversight applicable to programs operated by public schools. (Adopted 2007)

1.16 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)

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 educa-

tion, 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)

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; 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 urge the General Assembly to adopt legislation which would allow school districts greater flexibility in regard to state mandates and the use of grants.

(Adopted 1976; Amended 1988, 1989, 2001, 2005; Reaffirmed 1980, 1991, 1994, 1999, 2002)

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 MOBILE HOME TAXATION

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislative changes in the calculation and collection of Local Services Tax on Mobile Homes which will more adequately reflect the value of the dwelling and value of services afforded the owners of the dwelling. (Adopted 1978; Amended 1986; Reaffirmed 1988, 1996)

2.11 TRANSPORTATION LEVY (EXCESS COST)

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation which will permit school districts, which have reached a levy of 12 cents in the transportation fund and which transport children in accordance with the statutes of the state of Illinois, to increase the levy in the transportation fund subject to backdoor referendum, to a figure necessary to compensate for the transportation expenditures which are not covered by the amount of funds obtained from local taxes and the amount of reimbursement received from the state of Illinois. (Adopted 1981)

2.12 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)

2.13 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. (Adopted 1991; Reaffirmed 2000)

2.14 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)

2.15 HEAT DAYS FUNDING

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

2.16 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)

2.17 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)

2.18 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)

2.19 ALTERNATIVE SCHOOLS

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

2.20 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)

2.21 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 2.35 – School Finance Reform. (Adopted 2004; Amended 2005)

2.22 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. (Adopted 2006)

2.23 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)

2.24 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)

2.25 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)

FINANCING PUBLIC EDUCATION—LOCAL

2.26 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)

2.27 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)

2.28 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, the 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)

2.29 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)

2.30 SEPARATE UTILITY ASSESSMENTS

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation which provides that regulated companies and other taxpayers (including single family dwelling homeowners, farmers, and non-regulated companies) be assessed separately. (Adopted 1982)

2.31 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)

2.32 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; 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; Reaffirmed 1991)

2.33 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)

2.34 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)

2.35 SCHOOL FINANCE REFORM

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall adopt as a position statement the recommendations contained in the Report of the Finance Initiative Committee of the Illinois Association of School Boards which reads:

“The State of Illinois, having the responsibility of defining requirements for elementary and secondary education, establishes that the primary purpose of schooling is the transmission of knowl-

edge and culture through which children learn in areas necessary to their continuing development. Such areas include the language arts, mathematics, the biological, physical and social sciences, the fine arts and physical development and health.

Each school district shall give priority in the allocation of resources, including funds, time allocation, personnel, and facilities to fulfilling the primary purpose of schooling.” (The School Code, 105 ILCS 5/27-1)

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.

An appropriate education is defined as an education that provides for all students educational opportunities that meet the goals for learning established by the state in the Education Reform Act of 1985 and local community expectations as expressed through local board policy.

The following is criteria by which proposals for school finance reform shall be evaluated:

- 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.
- 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; Reaffirmed 2001)

2.36 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)

2.37 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)

2.38 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)

2.39 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)

2.40 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 neither 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)

2.41 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)

2.42 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)

2.43 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)

2.44 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)

2.45 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 home-builders. 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)

FINANCING PUBLIC EDUCATION—FEDERAL

2.46 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)

2.47 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

2.48 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)

2.49 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)

2.50 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)

2.51 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, the 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)

2.52 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)

2.53 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)

2.54 UTILITY RATE REDUCTION

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall endorse legislation for regulated utility companies (electric, gas, water) to pro-

vide service to school districts at cost. (Adopted 1991; Amended 1995)

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)

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)

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)

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 the 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)

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, the 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 READING LOCAL RESOLUTIONS

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall endorse an amendment to the state statute to make it absolutely clear that Board resolutions do not have to be read aloud. (Adopted 1992)

4.03 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)

4.04 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)

4.05 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. (Adopted 2008)

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) require periodic re-evaluation of tenured faculty in order to maintain tenure status (i.e., every five years);
- (d) maintain the tenure rights of teachers in cooperatives in a single district but not in multiple districts;
- (e) repeal that portion of Public Act 81-515 which requires that school boards dismiss teachers by order of seniority within the district; and
- (f) 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; Reaffirmed 1992)

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)

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)

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)

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. (Amended 1982, 1990; Reaffirmed 1985, 1988, 1996)

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)

5.08 WORKERS' COMPENSATION LAW

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

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 PROBATIONARY TEACHER DISMISSAL

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall encourage state legislators to refrain from enacting legislation further restricting a Board of Education from declining to rehire probationary teachers with or without cause. (Adopted 1994)

5.11 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)

5.12 SCHOOL EMPLOYEE STRIKES

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support efforts to discourage the ability of public school employees to strike. (Adopted 1996)

5.13 STAFF DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall urge the Illinois State Board of Education to offer alternative times for staff development workshops other than during regular school hours when classes are in session. (Adopted 2000)

5.14 EARLY RETIREMENT-DISTRICT OPTION

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legisla-

tion which will allow Boards of Education to determine if a teacher may retire exercising the Early Retirement Option (ERO) with the Teachers Retirement System (TRS). (Adopted 2006)

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. (Adopted 1976; Reaffirmed 2006)

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 the 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 STUDENT EXPULSION HEARINGS

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation and/or encourage the National School Boards Association to support legislation that gives local school districts more latitude than the law currently mandated by *Honeig v. Doe*. Particularly, school districts should have more latitude than the 10 day suspension limitation to accommodate the needs of the accused to acquire legal counsel, bring forth evidence, or testimony pertinent to the hearing. (Adopted 2002)

6.17 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)

6.18 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)

6.19 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)

6.20 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)

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. (Adopted 2007)