

**Survey of District Superintendents in Illinois, November 1998**  
**Illinois Association of School Boards**

Total survey respondents = 579. Percentages are based on the number of responses to each item rather than the total number of survey respondents.

**Personal Information**

	In what region is your district located?				
	Total	Northeast	North	Central	South
What is your gender?					
Female	68 11.8	19 12.8	19 13.9	12 7.2	18 14.9
Male	506 88.2	130 87.2	118 86.1	155 92.8	103 85.1
What is your age?					
Less than 30 years	1 0.2	0 0.0	0 0.0	1 0.6	0 0.0
30 to 39 years	11 1.9	0 0.0	5 3.6	4 2.4	2 1.7
40 to 49 years	169 29.4	36 24.2	32 23.4	60 35.9	41 33.9
50 to 59 years	359 62.5	103 69.1	90 65.7	91 54.5	75 62.0
60 years or over	34 5.9	10 6.7	10 7.3	11 6.6	3 2.5
How many years have you served as superintendent in your current school district?					
Less than 12 months	65 11.3	16 10.7	19 14.0	17 10.2	13 10.7
One to three years	89 15.5	12 8.1	25 18.4	28 16.8	24 19.8
Three to five years	145 25.3	36 24.2	30 22.1	44 26.3	35 28.9
Five to nine years	156 27.2	49 32.9	29 21.3	49 29.3	29 24.0
More than nine years	118 20.6	36 24.2	33 24.3	29 17.4	20 16.5

## School Board Procedures

	===== Total -----	===== Northeast -----	===== North -----	===== Central -----	===== South -----
Must your school board meet statutory representation requirements?					
Township or unincorporated	174 30.3	5 3.4	46 33.3	72 43.1	51 42.1
Board member districts	17 3.0	2 1.3	6 4.3	4 2.4	5 4.1
At-large	345 60.0	138 92.6	80 58.0	73 43.7	54 44.6
Combination	34 5.9	3 2.0	5 3.6	15 9.0	11 9.1
Don't know	5 0.9	1 0.7	1 0.7	3 1.8	0 0.0
How often does your school board elect officers?					
Every year	160 27.9	49 33.1	40 29.0	41 24.6	30 24.8
Every two years	412 71.8	98 66.2	98 71.0	125 74.9	91 75.2
Don't know	2 0.3	1 0.7	0 0.0	1 0.6	0 0.0
Has your school board adopted a vision or other statement of aspirations for the school district?					
Yes	494 85.9	141 94.6	126 91.3	130 77.8	97 80.2
No	78 13.6	8 5.4	10 7.2	37 22.2	23 19.0
Don't know	3 0.5	0 0.0	2 1.4	0 0.0	1 0.8

School Board Procedures (Continued)

	===== Total -----	===== Northeast -----	===== North -----	===== Central -----	===== South -----
How was your board's vision statement developed? -----					
Board developed it	87 17.6	19 13.5	25 19.8	29 22.3	14 14.4
Staff developed it	129 26.1	21 14.9	27 21.4	47 36.2	34 35.1
Community effort	243 49.2	93 66.0	59 46.8	50 38.5	41 42.3
None of the above	33 6.7	7 5.0	15 11.9	3 2.3	8 8.2
No vision statement	2 0.4	1 0.7	0 0.0	1 0.8	0 0.0
What is the shape of the table at which your school board meets? -----					
Members face one another	185 32.3	29 19.5	40 29.2	63 38.0	53 43.8
Rectangle, board faces out	31 5.4	8 5.4	5 3.6	9 5.4	9 7.4
U or V, board faces out	344 60.0	109 73.2	91 66.4	89 53.6	55 45.5
Other	13 2.3	3 2.0	1 0.7	5 3.0	4 3.3
Does your school board hold retreats or study sessions where no action is taken? -----					
No	162 28.4	17 11.6	31 22.5	62 37.1	52 43.3
Annual retreat at board office	47 8.2	15 10.3	14 10.1	12 7.2	6 5.0
Annual retreat away from office	102 17.9	25 17.1	30 21.7	27 16.2	20 16.7
Regular study sessions	74 13.0	31 21.2	19 13.8	14 8.4	10 8.3
Occasional study sessions	186 32.6	58 39.7	44 31.9	52 31.1	32 26.7

School Board Procedures (Continued)

	Total	Northeast	North	Central	South
How often does your school board convene in closed meetings?					
Twice a month	29 5.0	8 5.4	9 6.5	10 6.0	2 1.7
Once a month	139 24.2	30 20.1	31 22.5	41 24.6	37 30.6
Most regular meetings	224 39.0	59 39.6	52 37.7	64 38.3	49 40.5
Periodically, as needed	183 31.8	52 34.9	46 33.3	52 31.1	33 27.3

**School Board Policies**

Does your board policy provide zero-tolerance for student misconduct involving drugs/alcohol at school?

Yes, a policy is in force.	413 71.8	102 68.5	98 71.0	123 73.7	90 74.4
A policy is likely in the future	32 5.6	8 5.4	4 2.9	8 4.8	12 9.9
No, such a policy was rejected	39 6.8	16 10.7	11 8.0	8 4.8	4 3.3
No policy has been considered	78 13.6	20 13.4	22 15.9	24 14.4	12 9.9
Don't know/None of the above	13 2.3	3 2.0	3 2.2	4 2.4	3 2.5

Does your zero-tolerance policy allow any discretion in determining punishment?

No discretion allowed	72 12.9	6 4.2	17 12.5	29 18.0	20 16.9
Yes, school board discretion	179 32.1	51 35.7	38 27.9	55 34.2	35 29.7
Yes, discretion by superintendent	68 12.2	23 16.1	19 14.0	12 7.5	14 11.9
Yes, principal discretion	113 20.3	27 18.9	28 20.6	33 20.5	25 21.2
Don't know/Not applicable	126 22.6	36 25.2	34 25.0	32 19.9	24 20.3

School Board Policies (Continued)

	===== Total -----	===== Northeast -----	===== North -----	===== Central -----	===== South -----
Does your district require random drug/alcohol tests for extra-curricular participation?					
Yes, a policy is in force	19 3.3	2 1.3	8 5.8	3 1.8	6 5.0
A policy is being considered	44 7.7	6 4.0	12 8.7	17 10.2	9 7.4
A proposal was rejected	30 5.2	5 3.4	9 6.5	8 4.8	8 6.6
A policy has not been considered	475 82.6	134 89.9	106 76.8	139 83.2	96 79.3
Don't know/None of the above	7 1.2	2 1.3	3 2.2	0 0.0	2 1.7
Does your district require random drug/alcohol testing among all employees?					
Yes a policy is in force	5 0.9	2 1.4	3 2.2	0 0.0	0 0.0
A policy is being considered	17 3.0	3 2.0	2 1.4	8 4.8	4 3.3
A proposal was rejected	24 4.2	6 4.1	8 5.8	3 1.8	7 5.8
A policy has not been considered	517 90.1	135 91.2	121 87.7	153 91.6	108 89.3
Don't know/None of the above	11 1.9	2 1.4	4 2.9	3 1.8	2 1.7
Does your district permit home-schooled students to take part in athletics or other extra-curricular activities?					
Yes	112 19.5	32 21.6	28 20.3	35 21.0	17 14.0
No	116 20.2	17 11.5	33 23.9	40 24.0	26 21.5
Never asked	346 60.3	99 66.9	77 55.8	92 55.1	78 64.5

School Board Policies (Continued)

	Total	Northeast	North	Central	South
Has your district enrolled any home-school students part-time in academic classes?					
Yes	173 30.4	31 21.1	50 36.8	65 39.2	27 22.5
No	54 9.5	16 10.9	10 7.4	13 7.8	15 12.5
Never asked	342 60.1	100 68.0	76 55.9	88 53.0	78 65.0
How does your district handle placement decisions for home-school students who decide to enroll full-time in public school?					
Age of student, primarily	59 10.3	26 17.6	16 11.6	10 6.1	7 5.8
Parents assessment	8 1.4	1 0.7	2 1.4	3 1.8	2 1.7
Student testing, primarily	235 41.1	45 30.4	47 34.1	80 48.5	63 52.1
Principals judgment	170 29.7	39 26.4	52 37.7	44 26.7	35 28.9
None of above/Not applicable	100 17.5	37 25.0	21 15.2	28 17.0	14 11.6
Has your district provided remediation help for home-schooled students who enroll in your schools?					
Yes, substantial amount needed	35 6.1	6 4.0	9 6.5	9 5.4	11 9.1
Yes, modest amount needed	27 4.7	7 4.7	4 2.9	9 5.4	7 5.8
A few students need some help	87 15.2	14 9.4	24 17.4	30 18.1	19 15.7
Typically not needed	154 26.8	43 28.9	39 28.3	40 24.1	32 26.4
Don't know/Not applicable	271 47.2	79 53.0	62 44.9	78 47.0	52 43.0

School Board Policies (Continued)

	Total	Northeast	North	Central	South
Has your school board discussed the possible creation or approval of a charter school?					
Yes, approved a charter proposal	4 0.7	0 0.0	0 0.0	3 1.8	1 0.8
Evaluated and rejected	25 4.4	22 14.8	1 0.7	2 1.2	0 0.0
Board discussed its own ideas	23 4.0	9 6.0	6 4.4	5 3.0	3 2.5
Charter concept has not come up	484 84.5	109 73.2	123 90.4	143 85.6	109 90.1
None of above Don't know	37 6.5	9 6.0	6 4.4	14 8.4	8 6.6

**Internet Usage**

Does your district office have access to the World Wide Web?

Yes	476 83.1	126 84.6	112 81.8	138 83.1	100 82.6
No, but will soon	81 14.1	19 12.8	19 13.9	25 15.1	18 14.9
No, we have no plans	10 1.7	1 0.7	5 3.6	2 1.2	2 1.7
Undecided/Don't know	6 1.0	3 2.0	1 0.7	1 0.6	1 0.8

Do you personally use the World Wide Web?

Yes, often from office and home	276 50.0	74 50.3	66 50.8	81 50.9	55 47.4
Yes, often from the office	112 20.3	28 19.0	29 22.3	28 17.6	27 23.3
Yes, often from home	37 6.7	8 5.4	9 6.9	14 8.8	6 5.2
Rarely or never use the Web	88 15.9	30 20.4	21 16.2	22 13.8	15 12.9
Have no access to the Web	39 7.1	7 4.8	5 3.8	14 8.8	13 11.2

Internet Usage

	Total	Northeast	North	Central	South
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How often have you visited the IASB website?

Frequently or regularly	54 9.6	12 8.1	13 9.8	15 9.2	14 11.9
Occasionally	249 44.2	54 36.2	59 44.4	80 49.1	56 47.5
Rarely or never	187 33.2	59 39.6	47 35.3	46 28.2	35 29.7
Unaware of IASB website	25 4.4	10 6.7	5 3.8	8 4.9	2 1.7
Do not use the Web	48 8.5	14 9.4	9 6.8	14 8.6	11 9.3

How useful did you find the IASB website?

Not useful	2 0.4	1 0.7	0 0.0	1 0.6	0 0.0
Some material is interesting	94 17.1	24 16.8	25 18.9	31 19.4	14 12.1
Useful material, hard to find	65 11.8	14 9.8	13 9.8	21 13.1	17 14.7
Useful, important and easy to use	188 34.1	36 25.2	52 39.4	55 34.4	45 38.8
Have not used IASB website	202 36.7	68 47.6	42 31.8	52 32.5	40 34.5

Do you have an Internet E-mail address?

Yes, I use it regularly	359 62.8	98 65.8	79 57.7	106 64.2	76 62.8
Yes, but do not use it regularly	142 24.8	27 18.1	45 32.8	42 25.5	28 23.1
No, I have no E-mail access	71 12.4	24 16.1	13 9.5	17 10.3	17 14.0

Internet Usage

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	Total	Northeast	North	Central	South
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How often do you check for new E-mail messages?

More than once a day	216 38.2	64 43.0	47 35.1	62 37.8	43 36.1
About once a day	138 24.4	32 21.5	33 24.6	44 26.8	29 24.4
A few times each week	76 13.4	13 8.7	19 14.2	24 14.6	20 16.8
Once a week or less	56 9.9	14 9.4	16 11.9	14 8.5	12 10.1
No Internet Email	80 14.1	26 17.4	19 14.2	20 12.2	15 12.6

Are you interested in establishing groups of Illinois administrators to exchange E-mail messages?

Yes	337 59.4	83 56.1	82 60.7	101 61.2	71 59.7
No	76 13.4	21 14.2	21 15.6	18 10.9	16 13.4
No opinion	87 15.3	22 14.9	17 12.6	31 18.8	17 14.3
Do not use Email	67 11.8	22 14.9	15 11.1	15 9.1	15 12.6

Should IASB use Internet E-mail to communicate with board members and superintendents?

Yes	350 61.1	89 59.7	86 62.3	103 62.0	72 60.0
No	107 18.7	22 14.8	28 20.3	34 20.5	23 19.2
No opinion	116 20.2	38 25.5	24 17.4	29 17.5	25 20.8

## Preferred Communications Media

	===== Total -----	===== Northeast -----	===== North -----	===== Central -----	===== South -----
How likely would you be to use audio tapes of IASB periodicals, reports and news? -----					
Very likely	82 14.3	22 14.9	15 10.9	26 15.6	19 15.7
Somewhat likely	136 23.7	40 27.0	30 21.7	38 22.8	28 23.1
Not likely	356 62.0	86 58.1	93 67.4	103 61.7	74 61.2
Do you use a computer to obtain information? -----					
Yes	479 83.7	120 81.6	120 87.0	139 83.2	100 83.3
No	93 16.3	27 18.4	18 13.0	28 16.8	20 16.7
Would you like to receive information from IASB via your computer? -----					
Prefer printed materials by mail	250 53.4	62 53.4	69 59.5	63 45.7	56 57.1
Prefer Internet E-mail	142 30.3	32 27.6	30 25.9	49 35.5	31 31.6
Prefer computer disks	13 2.8	2 1.7	2 1.7	7 5.1	2 2.0
Prefer Internet downloading	32 6.8	10 8.6	8 6.9	12 8.7	2 2.0
Other/undecided	31 6.6	10 8.6	7 6.0	7 5.1	7 7.1
What is your preference from among the following means of receiving information from IASB? -----					
Printed information delivered by mail	255 44.7	63 42.9	62 45.3	72 43.4	58 48.3
Printed information delivered by FAX	132 23.2	31 21.1	34 24.8	39 23.5	28 23.3
Computer accessible information	148 26.0	38 25.9	34 24.8	47 28.3	29 24.2
Information on audio tapes	15 2.6	4 2.7	4 2.9	5 3.0	2 1.7
None of the above/Undecided	20 3.5	11 7.5	3 2.2	3 1.8	3 2.5

## Evaluation of IASB Publications

	===== Total -----	===== Northeast -----	===== North -----	===== Central -----	===== South -----
How thoroughly do you read Illinois School Board Journal?					
All or most of every issue	109 19.0	24 16.1	25 18.1	34 20.5	26 21.5
Some of every issue	255 44.4	71 47.7	60 43.5	69 41.6	55 45.5
Some of most issues	183 31.9	48 32.2	46 33.3	56 33.7	33 27.3
Often nothing	19 3.3	5 3.4	6 4.3	4 2.4	4 3.3
Never	8 1.4	1 0.7	1 0.7	3 1.8	3 2.5
If you do not read Illinois School Board Journal, what is the reason?					
Don't recall seeing the	13 8.0	1 2.6	6 16.7	4 8.0	2 5.4
Rarely have time	97 59.9	16 41.0	19 52.8	38 76.0	24 64.9
Does not appeal to me	16 9.9	7 17.9	3 8.3	2 4.0	4 10.8
Prefer other publications	31 19.1	12 30.8	8 22.2	5 10.0	6 16.2
Journal is repetitive	5 3.1	3 7.7	0 0.0	1 2.0	1 2.7
How thoroughly do you read the School Board News Bulletin?					
All or most of every issue	289 50.6	54 36.2	72 52.9	98 59.0	65 54.2
Some of every issue	191 33.5	59 39.6	47 34.6	43 25.9	42 35.0
Some of most issues	81 14.2	31 20.8	16 11.8	22 13.3	12 10.0
Often nothing	5 0.9	3 2.0	0 0.0	1 0.6	1 0.8
Never	5 0.9	2 1.3	1 0.7	2 1.2	0 0.0

Evaluation of IASB Publications (Continued)

	Total	Northeast	North	Central	South
If you do not read the School Board News Bulletin, what is the reason?					
Don't recall seeing the	12 10.5	3 9.1	4 14.8	3 8.8	2 10.0
Rarely have the time	47 41.2	12 36.4	10 37.0	16 47.1	9 45.0
Does not appeal to me	28 24.6	6 18.2	9 33.3	7 20.6	6 30.0
Prefer other publications	24 21.1	10 30.3	4 14.8	7 20.6	3 15.0
News Bulletin is repetitive	3 2.6	2 6.1	0 0.0	1 2.9	0 0.0
How much space should the Journal and News Bulletin devote to school reform issues?					
More space	167 29.1	57 38.3	39 28.5	41 24.6	30 25.0
Less space	60 10.5	11 7.4	12 8.8	19 11.4	18 15.0
Same space	303 52.9	67 45.0	76 55.5	98 58.7	62 51.7
No opinion	43 7.5	14 9.4	10 7.3	9 5.4	10 8.3
How much space should the Journal and News Bulletin devote to the school board's role?					
More space	358 62.5	98 65.8	85 62.0	100 59.9	75 62.5
Less space	22 3.8	7 4.7	2 1.5	4 2.4	9 7.5
Same space	167 29.1	35 23.5	45 32.8	54 32.3	33 27.5
No opinion	26 4.5	9 6.0	5 3.6	9 5.4	3 2.5

Evaluation of IASB Publications (Continued)

	===== Total	===== Northeast	===== North	===== Central	===== South
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How much space should the Journal and News Bulletin devote to research in teaching and learning?					
More space	200 34.9	72 48.3	42 30.7	59 35.3	27 22.5
Less space	71 12.4	14 9.4	12 8.8	19 11.4	26 21.7
Same space	272 47.5	55 36.9	77 56.2	80 47.9	60 50.0
No opinion	30 5.2	8 5.4	6 4.4	9 5.4	7 5.8
How much space should the Journal and News Bulletin devote to local policy issues?					
More space	248 43.4	57 38.3	54 39.4	84 50.3	53 44.5
Less space	51 8.9	21 14.1	10 7.3	7 4.2	13 10.9
Same space	242 42.3	59 39.6	65 47.4	69 41.3	49 41.2
No opinion	31 5.4	12 8.1	8 5.8	7 4.2	4 3.4
How much space should the Journal and News Bulletin devote to state policy issues?					
More space	159 27.8	38 25.5	46 33.6	39 23.4	36 30.3
Less space	72 12.6	21 14.1	15 10.9	19 11.4	17 14.3
Same space	313 54.7	79 53.0	69 50.4	101 60.5	64 53.8
No opinion	28 4.9	11 7.4	7 5.1	8 4.8	2 1.7

Evaluation of IASB Publications (Continued)

	===== Total -----	===== Northeast -----	===== North -----	===== Central -----	===== South -----
How much space should the Journal and News Bulletin devote to happenings in Springfield and Washington?					
More space	102 17.8	29 19.5	25 18.2	31 18.6	17 14.3
Less space	117 20.5	28 18.8	31 22.6	25 15.0	33 27.7
Same space	317 55.4	82 55.0	73 53.3	96 57.5	66 55.5
No opinion	36 6.3	10 6.7	8 5.8	15 9.0	3 2.5
What grade do you give the Journal as a source of help to you?					
Excellent	112 19.6	29 19.6	22 15.9	38 22.9	23 19.5
Good	346 60.7	84 56.8	84 60.9	102 61.4	76 64.4
Fair	93 16.3	29 19.6	25 18.1	22 13.3	17 14.4
Weak	15 2.6	5 3.4	7 5.1	1 0.6	2 1.7
Poor	4 0.7	1 0.7	0 0.0	3 1.8	0 0.0
What grade do you give the News Bulletin as a source of help to you?					
Excellent	133 23.3	23 15.6	35 25.4	43 25.7	32 26.9
Good	337 59.0	89 60.5	72 52.2	103 61.7	73 61.3
Fair	86 15.1	29 19.7	26 18.8	18 10.8	13 10.9
Weak	13 2.3	5 3.4	5 3.6	2 1.2	1 0.8
Poor	2 0.4	1 0.7	0 0.0	1 0.6	0 0.0

Evaluation of IASB Publications (Continued)

	===== Total -----	===== Northeast -----	===== North -----	===== Central -----	===== South -----
How important to you is the Report of the Joint Annual Conference?					
Very important	53 9.2	11 7.4	17 12.3	17 10.2	8 6.6
Somewhat important	214 37.3	46 31.1	58 42.0	66 39.5	44 36.4
Not very important	296 51.6	86 58.1	60 43.5	82 49.1	68 56.2
Don't recall seeing it	11 1.9	5 3.4	3 2.2	2 1.2	1 0.8
Does your district use the School Public Relations Service?					
Yes, extensive use	73 12.7	13 8.8	24 17.4	24 14.4	12 9.9
Yes, limited use	310 54.1	78 53.1	70 50.7	92 55.1	70 57.9
Seldom use it	147 25.7	40 27.2	33 23.9	42 25.1	32 26.4
Unaware/Do not receive it	43 7.5	16 10.9	11 8.0	9 5.4	7 5.8
How do you feel about the new index in the 1998 Illinois School Code?					
Have not used the Code	52 9.1	15 10.1	13 9.4	13 7.8	11 9.1
Did not notice new index	181 31.5	50 33.8	50 36.2	59 35.3	22 18.2
New index is more useful	287 50.0	65 43.9	62 44.9	80 47.9	80 66.1
New index is less useful	5 0.9	2 1.4	0 0.0	2 1.2	1 0.8
Little difference	49 8.5	16 10.8	13 9.4	13 7.8	7 5.8

Evaluation of IASB Publications (Continued)

	===== Total -----	===== Northeast -----	===== North -----	===== Central -----	===== South -----
How useful is the Yearbook and Guide to Services? -----					
Examine it, but rarely use it	149 26.0	33 22.3	36 26.1	41 24.6	39 32.2
Valuable reference	69 12.0	14 9.5	15 10.9	23 13.8	17 14.0
Keep it but rarely use it	245 42.7	60 40.5	63 45.7	75 44.9	47 38.8
Not useful	79 13.8	27 18.2	14 10.1	22 13.2	16 13.2
Don't recall seeing it	32 5.6	14 9.5	10 7.2	6 3.6	2 1.7

**Evaluation of IASB Workshops**

How many IASB workshops do you attend each year on average? -----					
Four or more per year	36 6.3	2 1.3	11 8.0	15 9.0	8 6.6
Two or three	230 40.1	57 38.3	52 37.7	62 37.3	59 48.8
One	248 43.2	70 47.0	57 41.3	75 45.2	46 38.0
None	60 10.5	20 13.4	18 13.0	14 8.4	8 6.6

How do you most often find out about IASB conferences and workshops? -----					
Announcements that come in the mail	437 76.3	121 81.2	103 75.2	124 74.7	89 73.6
From News Bulletin	29 5.1	6 4.0	9 6.6	9 5.4	5 4.1
From board members	1 0.2	0 0.0	0 0.0	0 0.0	1 0.8
From a variety of sources	104 18.2	22 14.8	25 18.2	33 19.9	24 19.8
Usually not aware	2 0.3	0 0.0	0 0.0	0 0.0	2 1.7

Evaluation of IASB Workshops (Continued)

	===== Total -----	===== Northeast -----	===== North -----	===== Central -----	===== South -----
What is the single most positive feature about IASB workshops?					
Relevant to my needs	316 56.5	80 55.9	78 58.6	93 56.7	65 54.6
Speakers hold my interest	7 1.3	2 1.4	0 0.0	3 1.8	2 1.7
Convenient locations, times	43 7.7	12 8.4	7 5.3	17 10.4	7 5.9
Reasonable cost	22 3.9	1 0.7	6 4.5	9 5.5	6 5.0
Interact with other districts	171 30.6	48 33.6	42 31.6	42 25.6	39 32.8
What is the single most negative feature about IASB workshops?					
Not relevant to my needs	69 13.0	29 21.6	11 8.5	19 12.2	10 9.1
Boring speakers	75 14.2	24 17.9	17 13.1	21 13.5	13 11.8
Inconvenient locations, times	253 47.7	47 35.1	78 60.0	74 47.4	54 49.1
High cost	46 8.7	11 8.2	6 4.6	15 9.6	14 12.7
No time to interact	87 16.4	23 17.2	18 13.8	27 17.3	19 17.3
What is the single most important reason you do <u>not</u> attend IASB workshops?					
Inconvenient times, places	89 16.2	15 10.4	32 24.1	23 14.3	19 17.1
Board does not pay expenses	1 0.2	1 0.7	0 0.0	0 0.0	0 0.0
Topics not relevant	42 7.7	18 12.5	7 5.3	12 7.5	5 4.5
Too many other demands on time	377 68.7	97 67.4	88 66.2	114 70.8	78 70.3
Repetitive	40 7.3	13 9.0	6 4.5	12 7.5	9 8.1

Evaluation of IASB Workshops (Continued)

	===== Total -----	===== Northeast -----	===== North -----	===== Central -----	===== South -----
Do IASB workshops, conferences and meetings provide adequate value in return for the time and money you invest?					
Value good to excellent	269 47.3	59 40.4	70 50.7	82 49.7	58 48.3
Value fair to poor	30 5.3	9 6.2	6 4.3	8 4.8	7 5.8
Value varies widely	244 42.9	71 48.6	55 39.9	66 40.0	52 43.3
No opinion	26 4.6	7 4.8	7 5.1	9 5.5	3 2.5
What is the one most important reason that more school board members do not attend their Division Dinner Meetings?					
Too many other demands on time	395 69.8	107 72.3	100 74.6	109 66.5	79 65.8
Programs not relevant	31 5.5	15 10.1	2 1.5	8 4.9	6 5.0
Too little advance information	6 1.1	1 0.7	4 3.0	0 0.0	1 0.8
No desire to keep informed	61 10.8	6 4.1	10 7.5	25 15.2	20 16.7
Repetitive for veteran members	73 12.9	19 12.8	18 13.4	22 13.4	14 11.7
What is the best reason for boards and administrators to attend Division Dinner Meetings?					
Interact with other districts	296 52.0	74 50.0	83 60.6	83 50.6	56 46.7
At least one topic of value	78 13.7	13 8.8	9 6.6	33 20.1	23 19.2
Social opportunity	59 10.4	17 11.5	18 13.1	11 6.7	13 10.8
Useful information	63 11.1	16 10.8	14 10.2	16 9.8	17 14.2
None/Uncertain	73 12.8	28 18.9	13 9.5	21 12.8	11 9.2

## Evaluation of IASB Staff Responsiveness

	===== Total -----	===== Northeast -----	===== North -----	===== Central -----	===== South -----
How often did you or your staff call IASB staff for help or information during the past 12 months? -----					
Five or more calls	170 29.6	44 29.5	39 28.5	44 26.3	43 35.5
Two to four calls	299 52.1	75 50.3	79 57.7	90 53.9	55 45.5
One call	40 7.0	10 6.7	5 3.6	16 9.6	9 7.4
No calls	65 11.3	20 13.4	14 10.2	17 10.2	14 11.6
When you call IASB, how easy or difficult is it to reach a staff member who can help you? -----					
Usually easy and hassle-free	355 70.3	91 70.5	84 68.3	109 73.6	71 67.6
Delay is somewhat typical	128 25.3	33 25.6	33 26.8	34 23.0	28 26.7
Time and patience required	13 2.6	1 0.8	5 4.1	3 2.0	4 3.8
I dread calling IASB office	3 0.6	2 1.6	0 0.0	0 0.0	1 1.0
Did not call/No opinion	6 1.2	2 1.6	1 0.8	2 1.4	1 1.0
How cooperative and helpful did you find the IASB staff when you called for information or help? -----					
Always helpful, cooperative	365 72.3	84 65.1	87 70.7	111 75.0	83 79.0
Usually helpful, cooperative	126 25.0	41 31.8	31 25.2	33 22.3	21 20.0
Somewhat helpful, cooperative	11 2.2	3 2.3	4 3.3	3 2.0	1 1.0
Rarely/never helpful, cooperative	0 0.0	0 0.0	0 0.0	0 0.0	0 0.0
Have not called	3 0.6	1 0.8	1 0.8	1 0.7	0 0.0

Evaluation of IASB Staff Responsiveness (Continued)

	Total	Northeast	North	Central	South
Have you ever failed to receive a return call requested of an IASB staff member?					
All calls returned promptly	365 72.4	93 72.7	86 69.9	108 73.0	78 74.3
Sometimes there is a delay	65 12.9	15 11.7	21 17.1	15 10.1	14 13.3
Failed to return call once	15 3.0	5 3.9	3 2.4	5 3.4	2 1.9
Several failures to return call	7 1.4	1 0.8	4 3.3	0 0.0	2 1.9
No return calls requested	52 10.3	14 10.9	9 7.3	20 13.5	9 8.6
How do you rate the IASB staff in terms of availability, knowledge and desire to help you?					
Always knowledgeable	447 88.7	110 85.3	106 86.2	136 91.9	95 91.3
Sometimes hard to find help	33 6.5	8 6.2	11 8.9	8 5.4	6 5.8
Often lack needed knowledge	3 0.6	2 1.6	1 0.8	0 0.0	0 0.0
Often seem disinterested	6 1.2	2 1.6	3 2.4	1 0.7	0 0.0
Don't know/No opinion	15 3.0	7 5.4	2 1.6	3 2.0	3 2.9
How do you feel about the voice-mail system at the IASB offices?					
I like it	79 15.6	23 17.8	19 15.4	22 14.9	15 14.3
I can tolerate it	280 55.4	59 45.7	75 61.0	82 55.4	64 61.0
I despise it	51 10.1	14 10.9	11 8.9	19 12.8	7 6.7
Undecided	37 7.3	13 10.1	7 5.7	8 5.4	9 8.6
I have not used it	58 11.5	20 15.5	11 8.9	17 11.5	10 9.5

Evaluation of IASB Staff Responsiveness (Continued)

	===== Total -----	===== Northeast -----	===== North -----	===== Central -----	===== South -----
How easy or difficult is it to register for an IASB workshop or meeting?					
Always easy and hassle-free	470 82.5	111 75.0	103 75.7	144 86.7	112 93.3
Sometimes a challenge	53 9.3	18 12.2	17 12.5	13 7.8	5 4.2
Frequently unpleasant	2 0.4	2 1.4	0 0.0	0 0.0	0 0.0
Don't know/No opinion	45 7.9	17 11.5	16 11.8	9 5.4	3 2.5
If your board has used an IASB in-district service, how do you feel about the outcome?					
Tried but unable to schedule	7 1.2	2 1.4	1 0.7	3 1.8	1 0.8
Met or exceeded all expectations	264 46.5	74 50.0	72 52.6	75 45.5	43 36.4
Did not meet all expectations	63 11.1	19 12.8	19 13.9	17 10.3	8 6.8
Unsatisfactory outcome	5 0.9	2 1.4	1 0.7	0 0.0	2 1.7
No service/Don't know	229 40.3	51 34.5	44 32.1	70 42.4	64 54.2
Have you had any problems getting mail from IASB directed to your correct address?					
No problems	555 97.0	142 95.3	134 97.8	159 96.4	120 99.2
Small problems	17 3.0	7 4.7	3 2.2	6 3.6	1 0.8

## School Board Work

	Total	Northeast	North	Central	South
How much of your time is consumed each month by school board meetings?					
Five hours or less per month	32 5.6	8 5.4	8 5.8	10 6.0	6 5.0
Six to ten hours	183 31.9	37 24.8	41 29.9	60 35.9	45 37.2
11 to 15 hours	188 32.8	46 30.9	48 35.0	57 34.1	37 30.6
16 hours or more	171 29.8	58 38.9	40 29.2	40 24.0	33 27.3
How much of your time is consumed each month in other interactions with school board members?					
Five hours or less per month	247 43.0	49 32.9	56 40.9	80 47.9	62 51.2
Six to ten hours	230 40.1	63 42.3	60 43.8	64 38.3	43 35.5
11 to 15 hours	58 10.1	22 14.8	14 10.2	11 6.6	11 9.1
16 hours or more	39 6.8	15 10.1	7 5.1	12 7.2	5 4.1
My school board has a clear understanding of why the school district exists and what it is supposed to accomplish.					
Agree completely	248 43.4	78 53.1	63 46.0	62 37.3	45 37.2
Tend to agree	270 47.3	57 38.8	65 47.4	86 51.8	62 51.2
Uncertain	22 3.9	3 2.0	3 2.2	12 7.2	4 3.3
Tend to disagree	26 4.6	9 6.1	6 4.4	3 1.8	8 6.6
Disagree completely	5 0.9	0 0.0	0 0.0	3 1.8	2 1.7

School Board Work (Continued)

	===== Total -----	===== Northeast -----	===== North -----	===== Central -----	===== South -----
My school board delegates adequate authority to the superintendent to pursue agreed-upon aims.					
Agree completely	349 60.7	102 68.5	79 57.2	95 56.9	73 60.3
Tend to agree	186 32.3	37 24.8	45 32.6	62 37.1	42 34.7
Uncertain	14 2.4	2 1.3	4 2.9	5 3.0	3 2.5
Tend to disagree	20 3.5	6 4.0	9 6.5	3 1.8	2 1.7
Disagree completely	6 1.0	2 1.3	1 0.7	2 1.2	1 0.8
My school board has an appropriate system for monitoring district performance and holding me accountable for pursuing its aims.					
Agree completely	204 35.5	78 52.3	49 35.5	43 25.9	34 28.1
Tend to agree	243 42.3	43 28.9	58 42.0	80 48.2	62 51.2
Uncertain	61 10.6	8 5.4	13 9.4	26 15.7	14 11.6
Tend to disagree	57 9.9	17 11.4	16 11.6	14 8.4	10 8.3
Disagree completely	9 1.6	3 2.0	2 1.4	3 1.8	1 0.8
School board members are well-respected in my school district.					
Agree completely	235 40.9	72 48.3	61 44.2	52 31.1	50 41.3
Tend to agree	235 40.9	47 31.5	57 41.3	86 51.5	45 37.2
Uncertain	63 11.0	16 10.7	10 7.2	22 13.2	15 12.4
Tend to disagree	35 6.1	14 9.4	7 5.1	5 3.0	9 7.4
Disagree completely	7 1.2	0 0.0	3 2.2	2 1.2	2 1.7

School Board Work (Continued)

	===== Total -----	===== Northeast -----	===== North -----	===== Central -----	===== South -----
Members of my board enjoy a sense of unity and teamwork.					
Agree completely	216 37.6	65 43.6	52 37.7	60 35.9	39 32.2
Tend to agree	222 38.6	54 36.2	55 39.9	62 37.1	51 42.1
Uncertain	44 7.7	8 5.4	8 5.8	21 12.6	7 5.8
Tend to disagree	71 12.3	15 10.1	17 12.3	20 12.0	19 15.7
Disagree completely	22 3.8	7 4.7	6 4.3	4 2.4	5 4.1
I can take pride in being associated with a school system where people care about children and good schools.					
Agree completely	394 68.5	119 79.9	97 70.3	101 60.5	77 63.6
Tend to agree	156 27.1	27 18.1	33 23.9	60 35.9	36 29.8
Uncertain	16 2.8	3 2.0	3 2.2	5 3.0	5 4.1
Tend to disagree	8 1.4	0 0.0	5 3.6	0 0.0	3 2.5
Disagree completely	1 0.2	0 0.0	0 0.0	1 0.6	0 0.0
I enjoy a mutually-trusting relationship with my school board.					
Agree completely	301 52.3	88 59.1	72 52.2	82 49.1	59 48.8
Tend to agree	181 31.5	33 22.1	45 32.6	60 35.9	43 35.5
Uncertain	55 9.6	17 11.4	13 9.4	12 7.2	13 10.7
Tend to disagree	25 4.3	8 5.4	4 2.9	9 5.4	4 3.3
Disagree completely	13 2.3	3 2.0	4 2.9	4 2.4	2 1.7

School Board Work (Continued)

	===== Total -----	===== Northeast -----	===== North -----	===== Central -----	===== South -----
My school board needs to make important changes in the way it functions.					
Agree completely	54 9.4	17 11.4	15 10.9	13 7.8	9 7.4
Tend to agree	94 16.4	23 15.4	24 17.4	27 16.3	20 16.5
Uncertain	44 7.7	10 6.7	7 5.1	17 10.2	10 8.3
Tend to disagree	204 35.5	42 28.2	55 39.9	60 36.1	47 38.8
Disagree completely	178 31.0	57 38.3	37 26.8	49 29.5	35 28.9
My school board needs to communicate a more up-to-date vision for public education in our community.					
Agree completely	38 6.6	6 4.0	12 8.7	12 7.2	8 6.6
Tend to agree	114 19.8	30 20.1	30 21.7	25 15.0	29 24.0
Uncertain	67 11.7	7 4.7	13 9.4	34 20.4	13 10.7
Tend to disagree	223 38.8	57 38.3	57 41.3	58 34.7	51 42.1
Disagree completely	133 23.1	49 32.9	26 18.8	38 22.8	20 16.5
My school board needs a better way to evaluate my performance.					
Agree completely	57 9.9	13 8.7	14 10.1	22 13.2	8 6.7
Tend to agree	127 22.1	31 20.8	26 18.8	33 19.8	37 30.8
Uncertain	98 17.1	18 12.1	22 15.9	35 21.0	23 19.2
Tend to disagree	179 31.2	44 29.5	45 32.6	53 31.7	37 30.8
Disagree completely	113 19.7	43 28.9	31 22.5	24 14.4	15 12.5

School Board Work (Continued)

	===== Total -----	===== Northeast -----	===== North -----	===== Central -----	===== South -----
My school board should study new ways to provide leadership.					
Agree completely	48 8.4	11 7.4	14 10.1	16 9.6	7 5.8
Tend to agree	152 26.5	36 24.2	36 26.1	47 28.3	33 27.3
Uncertain	97 16.9	22 14.8	23 16.7	26 15.7	26 21.5
Tend to disagree	165 28.7	37 24.8	38 27.5	51 30.7	39 32.2
Disagree completely	112 19.5	43 28.9	27 19.6	26 15.7	16 13.2
My school board needs to function more effectively as a team.					
Agree completely	93 16.2	27 18.1	22 15.9	25 15.0	19 15.7
Tend to agree	108 18.8	29 19.5	27 19.6	32 19.2	20 16.5
Uncertain	35 6.1	3 2.0	6 4.3	14 8.4	12 9.9
Tend to disagree	167 29.0	38 25.5	42 30.4	50 29.9	37 30.6
Disagree completely	172 29.9	52 34.9	41 29.7	46 27.5	33 27.3
My school board should spend more time dealing with goals and expectations and less time with operational matters.					
Agree completely	127 22.1	31 20.9	37 26.8	32 19.2	27 22.3
Tend to agree	183 31.9	42 28.4	38 27.5	61 36.5	42 34.7
Uncertain	49 8.5	8 5.4	12 8.7	15 9.0	14 11.6
Tend to disagree	149 26.0	37 25.0	35 25.4	45 26.9	32 26.4
Disagree completely	66 11.5	30 20.3	16 11.6	14 8.4	6 5.0

School Board Work (Continued)

	===== Total -----	===== Northeast -----	===== North -----	===== Central -----	===== South -----
My school board should be more aggressive in soliciting community input into district goals.					
Agree completely	36 6.3	9 6.1	14 10.1	4 2.4	9 7.5
Tend to agree	137 24.0	27 18.2	39 28.3	41 24.7	30 25.0
Uncertain	93 16.3	13 8.8	15 10.9	45 27.1	20 16.7
Tend to disagree	225 39.3	62 41.9	54 39.1	58 34.9	51 42.5
Disagree completely	81 14.2	37 25.0	16 11.6	18 10.8	10 8.3

**School Improvements Needed**

Please assess the wages and working conditions necessary to attract capable principals and teachers in your district.

Satisfactory	433 75.7	114 77.0	103 74.6	124 74.7	92 76.7
Not satisfactory	118 20.6	29 19.6	31 22.5	36 21.7	22 18.3
Undecided	21 3.7	5 3.4	4 2.9	6 3.6	6 5.0

Please assess the expectations that administrators and teachers in your district have for themselves and for students.

Satisfactory	473 82.8	130 87.8	111 80.4	140 84.3	92 77.3
Not satisfactory	69 12.1	12 8.1	22 15.9	15 9.0	20 16.8
Undecided	29 5.1	6 4.1	5 3.6	11 6.6	7 5.9

School Improvements Needed (Continued)

	Total	Northeast	North	Central	South
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Please assess the communications between staff and community in your district.

Satisfactory	428 75.0	117 79.1	101 73.2	126 75.9	84 70.6
Not satisfactory	92 16.1	22 14.9	28 20.3	24 14.5	18 15.1
Undecided	51 8.9	9 6.1	9 6.5	16 9.6	17 14.3

Please assess the community involvement in setting your policies and standards.

Satisfactory	341 59.9	97 66.0	81 58.7	94 56.6	69 58.5
Not satisfactory	119 20.9	28 19.0	32 23.2	37 22.3	22 18.6
Undecided	109 19.2	22 15.0	25 18.1	35 21.1	27 22.9

Please assess your community's effort (tax rate) to support schools.

Satisfactory	406 71.2	112 75.7	91 66.4	123 74.1	80 67.2
Not satisfactory	137 24.0	32 21.6	40 29.2	34 20.5	31 26.1
Undecided	27 4.7	4 2.7	6 4.4	9 5.4	8 6.7

Which of the following would you increase or improve to make the most significant improvement in your school district?

Teacher and administrator standards	112 19.6	26 17.6	34 25.0	30 18.1	22 18.3
Technology investment	107 18.8	25 16.9	25 18.4	39 23.5	18 15.0
Parent-teacher cooperation	198 34.7	42 28.4	43 31.6	67 40.4	46 38.3
School board performance	72 12.6	21 14.2	18 13.2	19 11.4	14 11.7
None of the above	81 14.2	34 23.0	16 11.8	11 6.6	20 16.7

School Improvements Needed (Continued)

	===== Total -----	===== Northeast -----	===== North -----	===== Central -----	===== South -----
Which of the following changes in your school board would make the most significant improvement in your school district? -----					
Better qualified candidates	102 18.0	26 17.8	25 18.2	31 18.7	20 16.8
Re-orient to leadership role	146 25.7	37 25.3	40 29.2	42 25.3	27 22.7
Better board training	130 22.9	20 13.7	27 19.7	51 30.7	32 26.9
More community involvement	46 8.1	12 8.2	15 10.9	11 6.6	8 6.7
None of the above	144 25.4	51 34.9	30 21.9	31 18.7	32 26.9

Which of the following is the biggest obstacle to good education in your school district?  
-----

Overwhelming social problems	263 47.1	59 40.7	59 44.0	87 54.0	58 49.2
State regulations	225 40.3	69 47.6	52 38.8	61 37.9	43 36.4
Board/administrative leadership	15 2.7	5 3.4	5 3.7	4 2.5	1 0.8
Amount of community support	35 6.3	6 4.1	13 9.7	5 3.1	11 9.3
Quality of professional staff	20 3.6	6 4.1	5 3.7	4 2.5	5 4.2

Which is the bigger obstacle to good education, lack of funding or the obstacle you checked in the previous Question?  
-----

Obstacle above is bigger	252 45.2	66 45.8	58 43.0	78 48.8	50 42.4
Lack of money is bigger obstacle	233 41.8	62 43.1	57 42.2	59 36.9	55 46.6
Undecided or equal importance	72 12.9	16 11.1	20 14.8	23 14.4	13 11.0

School Improvements Needed (Continued)

	===== Total -----	===== Northeast -----	===== North -----	===== Central -----	===== South -----
How do you feel about the future of education in your school district? -----					
Very optimistic	193 34.4	66 45.5	42 30.9	56 34.6	29 24.6
Somewhat optimistic	311 55.4	70 48.3	77 56.6	87 53.7	77 65.3
Somewhat pessimistic	39 7.0	6 4.1	13 9.6	15 9.3	5 4.2
Very pessimistic	5 0.9	1 0.7	1 0.7	0 0.0	3 2.5
Undecided	13 2.3	2 1.4	3 2.2	4 2.5	4 3.4

How do you feel about the future of education generally in the state of Illinois?  
-----

Very optimistic	44 7.8	7 4.8	16 11.8	15 9.2	6 5.1
Somewhat optimistic	337 60.0	94 64.8	77 56.6	91 55.8	75 63.6
Somewhat pessimistic	138 24.6	34 23.4	31 22.8	47 28.8	26 22.0
Very pessimistic	29 5.2	8 5.5	8 5.9	6 3.7	7 5.9
Undecided	14 2.5	2 1.4	4 2.9	4 2.5	4 3.4

Would you support or oppose an amendment to the U.S. Constitution permitting organized prayer at public school functions?  
-----

Support	227 62.7	39 50.6	38 50.7	85 69.7	65 73.9
Oppose	47 13.0	20 26.0	8 10.7	12 9.8	7 8.0
Undecided	88 24.3	18 23.4	29 38.7	25 20.5	16 18.2

School Improvements Needed (Continued)

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      Total  Northeast   North   Central   South
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Which of the following proposals for reducing turnover at board elections are you most likely to support?

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Six-year term          116      36      24      32      24
                      22.4     25.9    18.8    22.1    22.4

Annual elections
with 3-yr terms       117      25      30      38      24
                      22.5     18.0    23.4    26.2    22.4

Leave election
as is                  166      41      46      48      31
                      32.0     29.5    35.9    33.1    29.0

Other/Undecided       120      37      28      27      28
                      23.1     26.6    21.9    18.6    26.2

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