

2003 SURVEY OF SUPERINTENDENTS
Illinois Association of School Boards
February 2003

Responses: 444

Response Rate: 51 Percent

Percentages are based on the number of responses to each question.

ABOUT YOUR DISTRICT

In which geographic region (IASB Division) is
your school district located?

	Number	Percent
NORTHEAST	107	24.1 %
NORTH	107	24.1 %
CENTRAL	123	27.7 %
SOUTH	106	23.9 %
Don't know	1	0.2 %

Missing Cases = 0

What is the student enrollment of your school
district?

	Number	Percent
Fewer than 500 students	111	25.0 %
500 to 999 students	111	25.0 %
1,000 to 2,499 students	135	30.4 %
2,500 to 4,999 students	60	13.5 %
5,000 or more students	27	6.1 %

Missing Cases = 0

What type of community does your school
district serve?

	Number	Percent
Large city--more than 50,000	13	2.9 %
Small city--less than 50,000	44	9.9 %
Suburban--near large city	133	30.0 %
Rural--small towns and countryside	254	57.2 %

Missing Cases = 0

How many schools, if any, does your district
have on either the State Board of Education's
"early academic warning" list or its "academic
watch" list?

	Number	Percent
None.	368	83.1 %
One school.	42	9.5 %
Two schools.	10	2.3 %
Three schools.	12	2.7 %
More than three schools.	11	2.5 %

Missing Cases = 1

How do you think people in your community rate
the quality of education in your school district?

	Number	Percent
Better than average	375	84.5 %
Average	62	14.0 %
Worse than average	7	1.6 %

Missing Cases = 0

How important are the newspapers, radio and
television media in your area to the public's
perceptions of your school district?

	Number	Percent
Very important	125	28.2 %
Somewhat important	264	59.5 %
Not important	51	11.5 %
Don't know	3	0.7 %
No opinion.	1	0.2 %

Missing Cases = 0

How do you rate the amount and quality of news
coverage that your school district receives from
newspapers, radio and television?

	Number	Percent
Thorough and accurate.	105	23.6 %
Extensive but not accurate.	94	21.2 %
Accurate but not extensive.	177	39.9 %
Little or no media coverage.	66	14.9 %
No opinion/don't know	2	0.5 %

Missing Cases = 0

SUPERINTENDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

What is your gender?	Number	Percent
Female	77	17.4 %
Male	366	82.6 %

Missing Cases = 1

What is your ethnic background?	Number	Percent
African American	7	1.6 %
Caucasian	431	97.1 %
Hispanic/Mexican/Puerto Rican/Cuban	1	0.2 %
Native American	4	0.9 %
Multi-racial or other	1	0.2 %

Missing Cases = 0

What is your age?	Number	Percent
18 to 29 years	1	0.2 %
30 to 39 years	8	1.8 %
40 to 49 years	75	16.9 %
50 to 59 years	323	72.7 %
60 years or over	37	8.3 %
Missing Cases = 0		

How many years have you served as superintendent in your current school district?	Number	Percent
Less than 12 months	79	17.8 %
One to three years	112	25.2 %
Three to five years	60	13.5 %
Five to nine years	92	20.7 %
More than nine years	101	22.7 %
Missing Cases = 0		

EXPERIENCES ON THE JOB

Please estimate the total amount of time you spend each month engaged in all school board work/activities.

	Number	Percent
Ten hours or less per month	28	6.3 %
11 to 15 hours per month	94	21.2 %
16 to 20 hours per month	132	29.8 %
21 to 30 hours per month	107	24.2 %
more than 30 hours per month.	82	18.5 %
Missing Cases = 1		

How would you generally describe your experiences as a district superintendent?

	Number	Percent
Very satisfying.	266	59.9 %
Moderately satisfying.	144	32.4 %
Not as satisfying as expected	27	6.1 %
Downright disappointing.	4	0.9 %
Undecided	3	0.7 %
Missing Cases = 0		

Has inadequate financial resources been a source of serious disappointment to you as a superintendent?

	Number	Percent
Yes	338	76.8 %
No	96	21.8 %
Undecided	6	1.4 %
Missing Cases = 4		

Has weak leadership of your board been a source of serious disappointment to you as a superintendent?

	Number	Percent
Yes	106	24.0 %
No	319	72.3 %
Undecided	16	3.6 %

Missing Cases = 3

Has lack of community support been a source of serious disappointment to you as a superintendent?

	Number	Percent
Yes	80	18.2 %
No	342	77.7 %
Undecided	18	4.1 %

Missing Cases = 4

Has disagreement among board members regarding the board's role been a source of serious disappointment to you as a superintendent?

	Number	Percent
Yes	149	33.9 %
No	276	62.7 %
Undecided	15	3.4 %

Missing Cases = 4

Has excessive interference from state laws been a source of serious disappointment to you as a superintendent?

	Number	Percent
Yes	241	54.6 %
No	177	40.1 %
Undecided	23	5.2 %

Missing Cases = 3

Has partisan or personal politics been a source of serious disappointment to you as a superintendent?

	Number	Percent
Yes	166	37.7 %
No	252	57.3 %
Undecided	22	5.0 %

Missing Cases = 4

Has school board focus on operational affairs been a source of serious disappointment to you as a superintendent?

	Number	Percent
Yes	147	33.3 %
No	276	62.6 %
Undecided	18	4.1 %

Missing Cases = 3

Has lack of community appreciation for the schools been a source of serious disappointment to you as a superintendent?

	Number	Percent
Yes	88	20.0 %
No	334	75.7 %
Undecided	19	4.3 %

Missing Cases = 3

Has student test scores been a source of serious disappointment to you as a superintendent?

	Number	Percent
Yes	118	26.9 %
No	301	68.6 %
Undecided	20	4.6 %

Missing Cases = 5

INTERNET USAGE

Please describe how you use the World Wide Web on the Internet.

	Number	Percent
Personally access the Web	424	95.9 %
Rely on secretary or other staff	16	3.6 %
Do not have contact with the Web	2	0.5 %

Missing Cases = 2

If you personally use the World Wide Web, what is the first Web site you see when you first open your Web browser?

	Number	Percent
School district homepage	173	39.2 %
ISBE homepage	38	8.6 %
IASA homepage	25	5.7 %
IASB homepage	3	0.7 %
Other	202	45.8 %

Missing Cases = 3

If you personally use the World Wide Web,
how often have you visited the IASB Website?

	Number	Percent
Frequently or regularly	131	29.6 %
Occasionally	210	47.4 %
Rarely or never	92	20.8 %
Unaware of IASB website	2	0.5 %
Do not use the World Wide Web	8	1.8 %

Missing Cases = 1

If you have visited the IASB site on the World
Wide Web, how useful did you find it?

	Number	Percent
Not useful	14	3.2 %
Some material is interesting.	55	12.6 %
Useful material	92	21.0 %
Important, useful, easy to use	226	51.6 %
Have not examined IASB website.	51	11.6 %

Missing Cases = 6

Do you have an Internet Email address allowing
you to send and receive messages?

	Number	Percent
Yes	424	95.5 %
Yes, but do not use it regularly	18	4.1 %
No, I do not have Internet Email	2	0.5 %

Missing Cases = 0

If you use Internet E-mail, how often do you
check for new messages?

	Number	Percent
More than once a day	381	85.8 %
About once a day	44	9.9 %
A few times each week.	13	2.9 %
Once a week or less	4	0.9 %
Never/Do not use Email	2	0.5 %

Missing Cases = 0

Would you like to see IASB staff make use of
Internet E-mail to communicate with
superintendents and school board members?

	Number	Percent
Yes	342	77.0 %
No	51	11.5 %
No opinion	51	11.5 %

Missing Cases = 0

SCHOOL BOARD PRACTICES

Does your school board articulate expectations for the district that are clear and comprehensive enough to allow you, the faculty and staff to aggressively pursue the district's goals?

	Number	Percent
Yes, board expectations are clear and comprehensive	160	36.1 %
Yes, but sometimes not adequate	195	44.0 %
No, board expectations are vague	57	12.9 %
No, few if any board expectations	18	4.1 %
None of these options appropriate	13	2.9 %

Missing Cases = 1

Does your school board hold retreats, discussion meetings or study sessions at which issues or problems are discussed but no action is taken?

	Number	Percent
No, only business meetings	138	31.2 %
Retreat at regular meeting place.	58	13.1 %
Retreat away from board office	75	16.9 %
Regular study sessions	50	11.3 %
Occasional study sessions	122	27.5 %

Missing Cases = 1

How frequently does your board convene in closed meetings?

	Number	Percent
Twice a month at regular meetings	35	7.9 %
Once a month at regular meetings	148	33.3 %
At most regular meetings.	146	32.9 %
Periodically as needed	115	25.9 %

Missing Cases = 0

Do your school board policies on student misconduct involving drugs or alcohol at school allow for any discretion on the part of the board or administrators when determining the punishment for a violation?

	Number	Percent
No discretion	57	13.0 %
Yes, school board discretion	156	35.5 %
Yes, superintendent discretion	56	12.7 %
Yes, building administrators	168	38.2 %
Do not know/None of the above	3	0.7 %

Missing Cases = 4

SCHOOL DISTRICT POLICIES

Does your school district require random drug/
alcohol testing of students for extra-curricular
participation?

	Number	Percent
Yes	31	7.0 %
No, but it is being considered.	35	7.9 %
No	52	11.7 %
No such policy considered.	324	73.1 %
Don't know/None of the above.	1	0.2 %

Missing Cases = 1

Does your school district permit home-schooled
students to take part in school athletics or other
extra-curricular activities?

	Number	Percent
Yes	88	20.0 %
No	142	32.2 %
Issue has not arisen	211	47.8 %

Missing Cases = 3

Has your school district enrolled any home-
schooled students on a part-time basis in your
school's academic program?

	Number	Percent
Yes	169	38.6 %
No	67	15.3 %
Issue has not arisen	202	46.1 %

Missing Cases = 6

PERCEPTIONS OF SCHOOL BOARD

My school board needs to make changes in the
way it functions.

	Number	Percent
Agree Completely	40	9.0 %
Tend to agree	97	21.8 %
Uncertain	21	4.7 %
Tend to disagree	156	35.1 %
Disagree completely	130	29.3 %

Missing Cases = 0

My school board needs to communicate a more up-to-date vision for public education in our community.

	Number	Percent
Agree Completely	40	9.0 %
Tend to agree	97	21.8 %
Uncertain	19	4.3 %
Tend to disagree	171	38.5 %
Disagree completely	117	26.4 %
Missing Cases = 0		

My school board needs a better way to evaluate the superintendent's performance.

	Number	Percent
Agree Completely	52	11.7 %
Tend to agree	98	22.1 %
Uncertain	58	13.1 %
Tend to disagree	145	32.7 %
Disagree completely	91	20.5 %
Missing Cases = 0		

My school board should learn how to assert more effective leadership.

	Number	Percent
Agree Completely	35	7.9 %
Tend to agree	76	17.1 %
Uncertain	41	9.2 %
Tend to disagree	180	40.5 %
Disagree completely	112	25.2 %
Missing Cases = 0		

My school board needs to function more effectively as a team.

	Number	Percent
Agree Completely	71	16.0 %
Tend to agree	77	17.3 %
Uncertain	22	5.0 %
Tend to disagree	146	32.9 %
Disagree completely	128	28.8 %
Missing Cases = 0		

My school board should spend more time dealing with goals and expectations and less time with operational matters.

	Number	Percent
Agree Completely	79	17.8 %
Tend to agree	129	29.1 %
Uncertain	37	8.3 %
Tend to disagree	122	27.5 %
Disagree completely	77	17.3 %
Missing Cases = 0		

My school board needs to be more effective in building community support for district goals.

	Number	Percent
Agree Completely	57	12.8 %
Tend to agree	126	28.4 %
Uncertain	58	13.1 %
Tend to disagree	132	29.7 %
Disagree completely	71	16.0 %
Missing Cases = 0		

How often does your school board talk about its own processes or performance for more than 20 minutes at a time?

	Number	Percent
At least once every month	8	1.8 %
Once every two or three months	50	11.3 %
About twice a year	108	24.3 %
Once a year	141	31.8 %
Never or almost never.	137	30.9 %
Missing Cases = 0		

Has your board discussed its meeting procedures and rules?

	Number	Percent
Discussed at length	55	12.5 %
Touched on briefly	236	53.6 %
Not discussed	121	27.5 %
Don't know	28	6.4 %
Missing Cases = 4		

Has your board discussed its role as contrasted to the role of the superintendent and/or staff?

	Number	Percent
Discussed at length	85	19.3 %
Touched on briefly	217	49.3 %
Not discussed	116	26.4 %
Don't know	22	5.0 %
Missing Cases = 4		

Has your board discussed the orientation of new board members?

	Number	Percent
Discussed at length	79	18.0 %
Touched on briefly	229	52.0 %
Not discussed	107	24.3 %
Don't know	25	5.7 %
Missing Cases = 4		

Has your board discussed getting the public involved in district planning?

	Number	Percent
Discussed at length	89	20.2 %
Touched on briefly	195	44.3 %
Not discussed	134	30.5 %
Don't know	22	5.0 %

Missing Cases = 4

Has your board discussed its decision making processes?

	Number	Percent
Discussed at length	70	15.9 %
Touched on briefly	221	50.2 %
Not discussed	124	28.2 %
Don't know	25	5.7 %

Missing Cases = 4

Has your board's discussed its relationship with the community?

	Number	Percent
Discussed at length	81	18.4 %
Touched on briefly	235	53.4 %
Not discussed	103	23.4 %
Don't know	21	4.8 %

Missing Cases = 4

Has your board discussed its relationship with the staff?

	Number	Percent
Discussed at length	73	16.6 %
Touched on briefly	266	60.5 %
Not discussed	85	19.3 %
Don't know	16	3.6 %

Missing Cases = 4

Has your board discussed community or board expectations expressed as district mission, vision or goals?

	Number	Percent
Discussed at length	140	31.8 %
Touched on briefly	197	44.8 %
Not discussed	83	18.9 %
Don't know	20	4.5 %

Missing Cases = 4

SCHOOL BOARD TURNOVER

Would compensation or other tangible benefits
for school board membership help reduce
turnover on school boards?

	Number	Percent
Yes, it probably would help	61	13.7 %
No, it probably would not help.	196	44.1 %
Might make the situation worse.	166	37.4 %
No opinion.	21	4.7 %

Missing Cases = 0

Would requiring all school board members to
obtain at least some formal orientation or training
for the job reduce board turnover?

	Number	Percent
Yes, it probably would help	301	67.8 %
No, it probably would not help.	93	20.9 %
Might make the situation worse.	30	6.8 %
No opinion.	20	4.5 %

Missing Cases = 0

Would switching school board terms of office to
three years with annual elections help reduce
turnover?

	Number	Percent
Yes, it probably would help	63	14.2 %
No, it probably would not help.	184	41.4 %
Might make the situation worse.	133	30.0 %
No opinion.	64	14.4 %

Missing Cases = 0

Would removing operational issues from the
board agenda and delegating them to the
superintendent and staff help reduce board
turnover?

	Number	Percent
Yes, it probably would help	196	44.1 %
No, it probably would not help.	165	37.2 %
Might make the situation worse.	35	7.9 %
No opinion.	48	10.8 %

Missing Cases = 0

Would making the level of school funding more consistent with the high expectations of the state and/or local community help reduce board turnover?

	Number	Percent
Yes, it probably would help	369	83.1 %
No, it probably would not help.	51	11.5 %
Might make the situation worse.	5	1.1 %
No opinion.	19	4.3 %

Missing Cases = 0

What is the one best thing that IASB could do to make school board service more satisfying?

	Number	Percent
Teach school boards	218	49.2 %
Educate the public	105	23.7 %
Convince the legislature	60	13.5 %
Provide recognition	39	8.8 %
None of the above	21	4.7 %

Missing Cases = 1

If all school board members were required by law to participate in a minimum number of workshops or other training, how do you think most board members and candidates would respond?

	Number	Percent
Support it and gladly participate.	171	38.6 %
Oppose it but participate	164	37.0 %
Most would not run for the board	80	18.1 %
Undecided or don't know.	28	6.3 %

Missing Cases = 1

SCHOOL DISTRICT RATING

How do you rate your school district in its wages and working conditions necessary to attract capable principals and teachers?

	Number	Percent
Satisfactory	323	72.7 %
Not satisfactory	108	24.3 %
Undecided	13	2.9 %

Missing Cases = 0

How do you rate your school district in its expectations and standards that administrators and teachers have for themselves and for students?

	Number	Percent
Satisfactory	382	86.2 %
Not satisfactory	40	9.0 %
Undecided	21	4.7 %

Missing Cases = 1

How do you rate your district in its community involvement in setting district policies and standards?

	Number	Percent
Satisfactory	244	55.1 %
Not satisfactory	137	30.9 %
Undecided	62	14.0 %

Missing Cases = 1

How do you rate your district in its local effort (tax rate) to finance schools?

	Number	Percent
Satisfactory	257	57.9 %
Not satisfactory	171	38.5 %
Undecided	16	3.6 %

Missing Cases = 0

Which of the following actions would make the most significant improvement in your school district?

	Number	Percent
Raise standards of teachers and/or administrators.	78	17.6 %
Increase investment in technology.	37	8.4 %
Increase parent-teacher teamwork	174	39.3 %
Improve the school board.	56	12.6 %
None of the above	98	22.1 %

Missing Cases = 1

Which of the following changes in the school board do you think would make the most significant improvement for your school district?

	Number	Percent
Recruit better qualified candidates	77	17.3 %
Re-orient the board to leadership.	84	18.9 %
Better board education programs	125	28.2 %
Increase community involvement	72	16.2 %
None of the above	86	19.4 %

Missing Cases = 0

Which of the following do you think is the biggest obstacle to good education in your school district?

	Number	Percent
Too many social problems	193	43.8 %
Too many state regulations	178	40.4 %
Community's low aspirations	28	6.3 %
Inadequate leadership	6	1.4 %
Unionized teachers.	36	8.2 %

Missing Cases = 3

Which is the bigger obstacle to good education, lack of funding or the obstacle you checked above?

	Number	Percent
Obstacle checked above is bigger	93	21.0 %
Lack of money is bigger obstacle.	311	70.2 %
Undecided or equal in importance.	39	8.8 %

Missing Cases = 1

NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND

How do you believe the federal No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) will affect your school district over the next few years?

	Number	Percent
Very positive impact	20	4.5 %
Modest impact	94	21.2 %
Little or no impact	62	14.0 %
Cause harm to our district	255	57.4 %
Don't know/No opinion	13	2.9 %

Missing Cases = 0

How do you believe the federal No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) is affecting your school district right now?

	Number	Percent
Focusing all efforts on improvement	41	9.3 %
Not much interest or activity	141	31.8 %
Substantial fear	71	16.0 %
Lack of clarity	185	41.8 %
Don't know/No opinion.	5	1.1 %

Missing Cases = 1

Does your school district currently qualify for help from the Illinois State Board of Education in meeting NCLB requirements?

	Number	Percent
Yes	56	12.7 %
No	308	70.0 %
Don't know.	76	17.3 %

Missing Cases = 4

Are you receiving - or do you expect to soon receive - all the help you need from ISBE in meeting NCLB requirements?

	Number	Percent
Yes, ISBE is providing all we need	14	3.3 %
Not yet, but we will	18	4.3 %
No, we will need additional help	48	11.4 %
We do not qualify for help	237	56.2 %
Don't know/No opinion	105	24.9 %

Missing Cases = 22

THE FUTURE

How do you feel about the future of education in your school district?	Number	Percent
Very optimistic	87	19.6 %
Somewhat optimistic	246	55.5 %
Somewhat pessimistic	73	16.5 %
Very pessimistic	32	7.2 %
Undecided	5	1.1 %
Missing Cases = 1		

How do you feel about the future of education generally in the state of Illinois?	Number	Percent
Very optimistic	5	1.1 %
Somewhat optimistic	136	30.7 %
Somewhat pessimistic	142	32.1 %
Very pessimistic	155	35.0 %
Undecided	5	1.1 %
Missing Cases = 1		

SCHOOL BOARD TRAINING

How familiar are you with the Principles of Effective School Governance advocated by IASB?	Number	Percent
I have not heard about them	49	11.0 %
I have heard of them but am not familiar with them	105	23.6 %
Generally familiar with them	213	48.0 %
I do not agree with them	0	0.0 %
I help my board live by them	77	17.3 %
Missing Cases = 0		

What was the source for most of your information about the IASB "Foundational Principles of Effective School Governance?"	Number	Percent
The Association's publications.	287	64.9 %
Workshop or meeting I attended.	58	13.1 %
My board or a colleague	10	2.3 %
IASB web site.	38	8.6 %
Have not heard about them	49	11.1 %
Missing Cases = 2		

Have you attended one of the workshops that IASB offers for newly-elected school board members?

	Number	Percent
No.	267	60.3 %
Yes, prior to 1999.	70	15.8 %
Yes, between 1999 and 2002.	73	16.5 %
Yes, regularly	25	5.6 %
Do not recall.	8	1.8 %

Missing Cases = 1

How do you feel personally about training for members of school boards?

	Number	Percent
Board members need all the training they can get	212	47.9 %
A certain amount of training in the basics is essential	161	36.3 %
Training to fill in gaps in their knowledge	55	12.4 %
Helpful but not usually essential.	14	3.2 %
Board member should not require training.	1	0.2 %

Missing Cases = 1

Would you like to receive more or better information regarding the training programs that IASB makes available for school board members?

	Number	Percent
No, I receive more than I want	45	10.2 %
No, I feel adequately informed	252	57.0 %
Need more thorough information	91	20.6 %
Yes. I would like more	54	12.2 %
I don't receive much and like it that way	0	0.0 %

Missing Cases = 2

How many IASB workshops do you attend each year (on average)?

	Number	Percent
Four or more per year.	15	3.4 %
Two or three per year.	176	39.6 %
One per year.	173	39.0 %
None.	80	18.0 %

Missing Cases = 0

How do you most often find out about IASB conferences and workshops?

	Number	Percent
Announcements in the mail.	370	83.3 %
IASB web site.	9	2.0 %
Members of my board	1	0.2 %
A variety of sources	60	13.5 %
Usually/often not aware	4	0.9 %

Missing Cases = 0

What do you consider the single most positive feature about workshops offered by IASB?

	Number	Percent
Topics and content are relevant	177	41.0 %
Speakers teach what I need	16	3.7 %
Convenient locations and times	22	5.1 %
Cost is reasonable.	27	6.3 %
Interact with leaders from other districts	190	44.0 %

Missing Cases = 12

What do you consider the single most negative feature about workshops offered by IASB?

	Number	Percent
Topics and content not relevant	52	12.4 %
Speakers boring or ill-prepared.	55	13.2 %
Inconvenient locations and times	176	42.1 %
Cost is too high.	34	8.1 %
No time to interact with others	101	24.2 %

Missing Cases = 26

What is the single most important reason you do not attend IASB workshops.

	Number	Percent
Inconvenient times or places.	73	16.9 %
Often am unaware of them	4	0.9 %
Topics not relevant	45	10.4 %
Too many other demands	252	58.2 %
Workshops are repetitive	59	13.6 %

Missing Cases = 11

Do you find that IASB conferences and workshops provide adequate value in return for the time and money you invest?

	Number	Percent
Value good to excellent.	214	48.4 %
Value fair to poor.	27	6.1 %
Value varies widely	157	35.5 %
No opinion	44	10.0 %

Missing Cases = 2

Is there anything IASB could do that would entice you and/or members of your board to attend more regional workshops?

	Number	Percent
Reduce the cost	39	8.9 %
Develop topics for veterans	120	27.3 %
Shorten workshops to less time	36	8.2 %
All of the above.	176	40.1 %
None of the above.	68	15.5 %

Missing Cases = 5

Is there anything else that IASB could do that would entice you and/or members of your board to attend more regional workshops?

	Number	Percent
Activities for participant's families	16	3.6 %
Longer workshops in more depth	36	8.2 %
Reduce driving distance	158	36.0 %
All of the above.	67	15.3 %
None of the above.	162	36.9 %

Missing Cases = 5

What is the one most important reason that more school board members do not attend their

Division Dinner Meetings of IASB?	Number	Percent
Too many demands on their time	320	72.4 %
Topics not relevant or useful.	26	5.9 %
Too little advance information	3	0.7 %
No interest in keeping informed.	36	8.1 %
More of the same for veterans	57	12.9 %

Missing Cases = 2

What is the one most important benefit of attending the regional Division Dinner meetings of IASB?

	Number	Percent
Talk with other district leaders	245	55.4 %
Always at least one topic of value	59	13.3 %
Opportunity to socialize.	30	6.8 %
A lot of useful information	56	12.7 %
None of the above/uncertain.	52	11.8 %

Missing Cases = 2

IASB PUBLICATIONS

How thoroughly do you read Illinois School Board Journal?

	Number	Percent
All or most articles in every issue	108	24.5 %
Some articles in every issue	189	42.9 %
Some articles in most issues	125	28.3 %
Often nothing I want to read.	14	3.2 %
Never examine the Journal.	5	1.1 %

Missing Cases = 3

If you do not read Illinois School Board Journal
regularly, please tell us why.

	Number	Percent
Do not recall seeing the Journal	13	9.4 %
Rarely have time	93	66.9 %
Rarely offers anything of interest	17	12.2 %
Prefer other publications	13	9.4 %
Simply does not appeal to me	3	2.2 %

Missing Cases = 305

How thoroughly do you read IASB School
Board News Bulletin?

	Number	Percent
All or most news in every issue	197	44.9 %
Some news in every issue	158	36.0 %
Something in most issues	77	17.5 %
Often nothing I want to read	5	1.1 %
Never examine the NewsBulletin.	2	0.5 %

Missing Cases = 5

If you do not read the IASB News Bulletin
regularly, please tell us why.

	Number	Percent
Do not recall the NewsBulletin	17	12.5 %
Rarely have time	90	66.2 %
Rarely offers anything of interest	16	11.8 %
Prefer other publications	11	8.1 %
Simply does not appeal to me	2	1.5 %

Missing Cases = 308

How do you rate the Journal as a source of help
to you?

	Number	Percent
Excellent	131	29.6 %
Good	251	56.7 %
Fair	52	11.7 %
Weak	6	1.4 %
Poor	3	0.7 %

Missing Cases = 1

How do you rate the NewsBulletin as a source of
help for you?

	Number	Percent
Excellent	137	31.3 %
Good	233	53.2 %
Fair	54	12.3 %
Weak	12	2.7 %
Poor	2	0.5 %

Missing Cases = 6

How useful do you find the IASB Annual Report of Services?	Number	Percent
Examine but rarely use	132	29.8 %
Value and refer to it for information	50	11.3 %
Keep but rarely use it	135	30.5 %
Not useful to me.	94	21.2 %
Do not recall seeing it	32	7.2 %
Missing Cases = 1		

Do you use material distributed as part of the School PR Service?	Number	Percent
Yes, extensive use	51	11.6 %
Only limited use	192	43.6 %
Receive it but we seldom use it	130	29.5 %
Unaware/Do not receive it	67	15.2 %
Missing Cases = 4		

CONTACTING IASB STAFF

About how often have you telephoned IASB staff during the past 12 months for information or assistance?	Number	Percent
Five or more times	85	19.2 %
Two to four times	216	48.8 %
Once	69	15.6 %
Did not call IASB staff	73	16.5 %
Missing Cases = 1		

When you call the IASB office, how pleasant is the usual experience?	Number	Percent
Very pleasant and hassle-free	211	55.7 %
Usually pleasant and hassle-free.	115	30.3 %
There are often problems	17	4.5 %
Usually not pleasant	5	1.3 %
Have not called/No opinion	31	8.2 %
Missing Cases = 65		

About how often have you used Internet email to contact IASB staff during the past 12 months	Number	Percent
Five or more times	29	6.6 %
Two to four times	106	24.3 %
Once	59	13.5 %
Did not email IASB staff	243	55.6 %
Missing Cases = 7		

When you send email to the IASB staff, how effective is the usual result?

	Number	Percent
Very effective	146	57.9 %
Sometimes effective	34	13.5 %
Rarely if ever effective	2	0.8 %
Have not emailed the IASB staff	70	27.8 %

Missing Cases = 192

How cooperative and helpful did you find the IASB staff when you contacted them for information or assistance?

	Number	Percent
Always cooperative and helpful	293	66.6 %
Usually cooperative and helpful	82	18.6 %
Somewhat cooperative and helpful	8	1.8 %
Rarely/never cooperative or helpful	1	0.2 %
Have not contacted IASB staff	56	12.7 %

Missing Cases = 4

If you have ever left a message requesting a return call or email from a member of the IASB staff, have you ever failed to receive the return call?

	Number	Percent
Staff always returns calls/emails promptly	286	64.9 %
Sometimes there is a lengthy delay	39	8.8 %
Failed to receive return call or email one time.	7	1.6 %
Failed to return calls/emails several times	4	0.9 %
Never requested return call/email	105	23.8 %

Missing Cases = 3

Other than a face-to-face meeting, how do you prefer to communicate with a member of the IASB staff?

	Number	Percent
U.S. Mail	10	2.3 %
FAX	9	2.0 %
Internet e-mail.	167	37.8 %
Telephone.	223	50.5 %
No opinion.	33	7.5 %

Missing Cases = 2

availability, knowledge and desire to help you?

	Number	Percent
Always reach someone willing and able to help	341	77.1 %
Sometimes hard to find someone who can help	26	5.9 %
Staff often lack knowledge needed	3	0.7 %
Staff often seem disinterested	1	0.2 %
Don't know/No opinion.	71	16.1 %

Missing Cases = 2

How do you feel about the voice-mail system used at the IASB office?

	Number	Percent
I like it.	60	13.5 %
I can tolerate it.	211	47.6 %
I despise it.	42	9.5 %
Undecided	41	9.3 %
Have not used it.	89	20.1 %

Missing Cases = 1

IASB SERVICES

How easy or difficult is it to register for an IASB workshop or meeting?

	Number	Percent
Always easy and hassle-free	351	79.8 %
Sometimes a challenge	34	7.7 %
Frequently unpleasant	1	0.2 %
Don't know/No opinion	54	12.3 %

Missing Cases = 4

If your school board has ever received in-district assistance from a member of the IASB staff, please tell how you felt about the outcome of the activity.

	Number	Percent
Tried, but unable to schedule	4	0.9 %
Met or exceeded expectations	210	47.8 %
Did not meet expectations.	44	10.0 %
Quite unsatisfactory.	9	2.1 %
Don't know/Don't recall	172	39.2 %

Missing Cases = 5

Has your school board ever taken part in a Board Self-Evaluation with a member of the IASB staff?

	Number	Percent
Yes	220	50.0 %
No	167	38.0 %
Do not recall	53	12.0 %

Missing Cases = 4

What is the primary reason that your board has not used the IASB Board Self-Evaluation Service?

	Number	Percent
Subject has not come up	106	53.3 %
Board decided not to do it	50	25.1 %
We cannot afford it	13	6.5 %
Unable to schedule it yet	10	5.0 %
Board too busy with other matters	20	10.1 %

Missing Cases = 245

How do you feel about your school board's
experience with IASB self-evaluation?

	Number	Percent
Board made some improvements	109	44.9 %
Useful insights	102	42.0 %
Mostly a waste of time.	19	7.8 %
Created some new problems	13	5.3 %

Missing Cases = 201

Which of the following do you believe is the most
accurate description of IASB?

	Number	Percent
Encourages school boards to pursue high standards	89	20.4 %
Provides school districts with services they need	115	26.3 %
Speaks for all school boards with the legislature, state agencies and general public.	23	5.3 %
All of the above.	195	44.6 %
None of the above.	15	3.4 %

Missing Cases = 7

DELIVERY OF INFORMATION

How do you prefer that IASB deliver information
to you?

	Number	Percent
Print delivered by mail	191	43.3 %
Print delivered by FAX	33	7.5 %
Information delivered by email	207	46.9 %
Information on audio tapes.	2	0.5 %
None of the above/Undecided	8	1.8 %

Missing Cases = 3

Do you prefer to receive materials from IASB for
distribution to members of your board?

	Number	Percent
Yes, I prefer to distribute information to my board members	220	49.7 %
No, I prefer that IASB send materials directly to members of my board	105	23.7 %
Either approach is satisfactory	118	26.6 %

Missing Cases = 1

When IASB sends material directly to members
of your board, do you wish to receive a copy?

	Number	Percent
Yes	416	94.8 %
No	4	0.9 %
Either approach is satisfactory.	19	4.3 %

Missing Cases = 5