

Arguments For/Against Each Resolution

A forum for delegates was held via Zoom on Wednesday, October 21, to allow for full discussion of the resolutions to be voted upon at the upcoming virtual IASB Delegate Assembly. The meeting lasted approximately two and a half hours and allowed delegates to ask all questions or debate any proposal. Below is a summary of the arguments that were made for and against each resolution. A recording of the full October 21 meeting can be found [here](#).

NEW RESOLUTIONS

Resolution #1 Loan Program (Resolutions Committee Recommends DO NOT ADOPT)

FOR

- Districts desperately need funding, especially for construction purposes.
- The Bond process is difficult to navigate and comes with significant additional expenses.

AGAINST

- The resolution needed to be more specific about what the funds would be for.
- The State could use a loan program as an excuse to not provide actual funds that school districts need.
- Concern that the State does not have any money to fund a loan program.

Resolution #2 Gun Storage (Resolutions Committee Recommends DO NOT ADOPT)

FOR

- Illinois would join several other states with similar laws.
- Gun violence is a threat to students and schools.
- School boards need to do anything they can to prevent a shooting at their school.
- Making sure people under eighteen do not have access to firearms helps to keep kids and communities safe.

AGAINST

- School boards have a role in keeping kids safe in school, but they should not dictate what happens in the home.
- Student's might be more successful if the school got involved in all aspects of their life including regulating sleep and nutrition, but the things that happen in the home are beyond the scope of the school board.

Resolution #3 School Report Card (Resolutions Committee Recommends DO NOT ADOPT)

FOR

- General agreement was offered in support of the idea of the resolution but understanding the difficulty in practical application because of the June 1 deadline.

AGAINST

- A suggestion was offered to have the language modified to provide two report cards – one that would be released earlier in the year for school district planning around student learning and school staffing.
- A question was raised to clarify that individual student data would not be released to the public on the School Report Card.

Resolution #4 Pre-K Teacher Licensure (Resolutions Committee Recommends DO NOT ADOPT)

FOR

- Our teachers in training need to learn how to teach reading from a scientific perspective instead of memorization.
- The data shows that students in the state of Illinois are not reading at grade level under the current reading instruction.

AGAINST

- Current teacher training programs already offer literacy classes.
- The language of the resolution is too rigid and does not allow flexibility in case of future advancements in the area of literacy.

Resolution #5 Teacher Shortage (Resolutions Committee Recommends DO ADOPT)

FOR

- This will help with the teacher shortage issue.
- With the option to use certified teachers in other areas, the reliance of substitutes should decrease.

AGAINST

- This may be construed as lowering the bar for fulltime in class teachers. Our children need educators that are certified in the subject area in which they teach.

Resolution #6 E-Learning on Election Day (Resolutions Committee Recommends DO ADOPT)

FOR

- A comment was shared that this resolution is especially important because the participant's school district must close 28 schools for Election Day as they are required to hold elections in their buildings.

AGAINST

- There were no arguments voiced against the resolution.

Resolution #7 Local Control Pandemic (Resolutions Committee Recommends DO ADOPT)

FOR

- The State is very diverse and statewide rules do not work as well as regional approaches.
- The Governor is now using a regional approach because of significant pushback from many communities.
- Adopting this Resolution as a Position Statement will allow IASB to advocate for a regional approach for any situations in the future, and to ensure the regional approach continues for this pandemic.

AGAINST

- The Governor is now using a regional approach. Why do we need this?

Resolution #8 Local Control Pandemic (Resolutions Committee Recommends DO NOT ADOPT)

- There was no discussion on this Resolution.
- The language in this Resolution is almost identical to Resolution 7.
- As the Committee voted to Recommend Do Adopt Resolution 7, the submitting district for Resolution 8 supports that language.

REAFFIRMATION OF EXISTING POSITIONS

Resolution #9 Position Statement 1.16 Renewal of Charters (Resolutions Committee Recommends DO ADOPT)

FOR

- State Authorized Charter Schools take resources away from the local host district, but the host district does not have a say in the renewal process for State Authorized Charter Schools.
- The local school district is the pass through for the funding of the State Authorized Charter School, therefore they should get a say in the renewal process.

AGAINST

- There were no arguments voiced against the resolution.

Resolution #10 Position Statement 1.17 Charter Schools – At-Risk Students (Resolutions Committee Recommends DO ADOPT)

FOR

- One of the founding ideals for charter schools in Illinois is that they address at-risk students. However, not all State Authorized Charter Schools do this. Illinois should make State Authorized Charter Schools focus on at-risk students as prescribed in law.

AGAINST

- There were no arguments voiced against the resolution.

Resolution #11 Position Statement 2.27 State Authorized Charter School Funding (Resolutions Committee Recommends DO ADOPT)

FOR

- State Authorized Charter Schools receive funding intended for a local school district, but no additional revenue comes from the state to make the local school district whole.
- Illinois needs to address the funding of State Authorized Charter Schools by providing additional revenues or changing the way these charter schools receive funding.

AGAINST

- There were no arguments voiced against the resolution.

NEW BELIEF STATEMENTS

Resolution #12 Equity (Resolutions Committee Recommends DO ADOPT)

FOR

- This belief statement establishes a firm confirmation in what the Illinois Association of School Boards stands for.

AGAINST

- This should be in the form of a resolution instead of a belief statement.

RECOMMENDED DELETIONS AND AMENDMENTS

- No delegate raised an issue with any of the recommended deletions and amendments to current position statements.