

The following can be adapted for use in district newsletters, offered to your local newspaper as an editorial or letter to the editor, or used as the foundation for a press release or speech.

Localize by adding information about your school board members, details of how they will be honored, and examples of ways your board has improved educational opportunities for district students.

Transforming educational visions into successful realities

November 15 will mark the official statewide observance of School Board Members Day in Illinois. The honorary day is an opportunity for the district and community to show support for your board of education and their commitment to providing a local voice for your educational vision.

Board members craft a vision and mission that reflects the desires expressed by community parents and residents. Their role is a way to create lasting educational opportunities that reflect local desires and put in place a pathway to success for each and every child.

School board members serve the public as unpaid volunteers for the benefit of the students and community residents. They are the front-line advocates that provide a local voice and vision for the district.

Board members dedicate a significant amount of their own personal time to the district, something that is often overlooked. They attend extracurricular events, participate in professional development opportunities, and work long hours to ensure students have access to the educational resources they need to succeed. This dedication often takes them away from time that could be spent with their own family.

Successful communities have high quality public schools which equates to a thriving local economy and a destination community for families. A great school system is a source of local pride among residents. The leadership and vision exemplified by board members directly impacts not only the school district, it touches the lives of nearly every resident in one way or another.

November 15 has been designated as School Board Members Day in Illinois. Leadership for our community and our schools begins with the tireless work of the local board of education. Help recognize the efforts of local school board members on this honorary day.