Joint Annual Conference: An Investment for Your District

The IASB • IASA • IASBO Joint Annual Conference is an exclusive training event for Illinois school board members, superintendents, and business officials where innovation, leadership, and real-world solutions come together to move schools forward. The Conference is designed to support you with skills and knowledge at all stages of your school leadership journey.

Before registering, it is important to be able to explain (to the community) the value and benefits the Conference provides for you as a school leader and as an investment for the district and its students. School board members are encouraged to use the following points to be proactive in discussing Conference attendance within the district and community.

- Sound leadership is what separates great school districts from the good ones. The Conference provides training on local governance best practices that foster well-run schools and lead to better educational outcomes for students. These successful practices increase accountability and transparency of district decisions, leading to a more engaged community and schools where students excel.
- The Conference is not just an event, but an investment for the district and the community. It offers panel sessions featuring real and tested solutions working in schools across the state. These sessions cover topics ranging from school finance, collective bargaining, safety and security to communication strategies and the latest trends in technology and student learning. Attendees hear about the current challenges faced by schools of all shapes and sizes and come away with tangible solutions that can be brought back to your district and community.
- The Conference is not only a platform for learning but also a hub for connecting with public education experts and high-performing school leadership teams. Attendees share knowledge, resources, and tools that create educational opportunities for all students. You will leave the Conference feeling more connected and part of a larger network of dedicated public education advocates.
- Ongoing learning and professional development for school board members is critical for their success. Regulations and laws change, new challenges for school districts are constantly emerging, and trends in education are continually evolving. To that end, the Conference provides current and Illinois-centric training to school board members to address these challenges head-on with confidence and understanding.
- Educating students and being responsible with taxpayer dollars are important responsibilities for school districts. The day-to-day education of students falls to teachers, administrators, and other educational support staff, but the school board carries the fiscal responsibility for the district. Panel sessions provide insight and advice about budgeting techniques and ways to ensure dollars make it into student classrooms. Other sessions share tips about how to access additional school funding through grants and state and federal programs. Conference presenters emphasize fiscally responsible principles for managing school budgets and getting the best return on investment for community taxpayers.
- As one of the largest public education-focused conferences in the nation, the Joint Annual Conference is an excellent value for school districts. It is one of the few training opportunities available for school leadership teams, and it is right here in Illinois.

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