

BOARD MEMO – INFORMATION ITEM



PUTNAM COUNTY COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #535

*Providing Foundations Together,
Cultivating Individual Growth*

To: Board of Education

From: Cody Martzluf, Superintendent

Date: Tuesday, July 21, 2026

RE: IASB School Board Training

Recommendation: Move forward with a complimentary training from the Illinois Association of School Boards to help facilitate the Superintendent transition.

Background:

- The Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) is offering a complimentary in-district Board Self-Evaluation Workshop to support school boards during a superintendent transition.
- This professional development opportunity is designed to help the board and superintendent establish a strong working relationship, build an effective governance team, and become familiar with the resources and services IASB provides to support boards of education.
- The workshop focuses on several important objectives, including:
 - Building a stronger team relationship between the Board of Education and the superintendent.
 - Clarifying the respective roles and responsibilities of the board and superintendent to promote effective governance.
 - Assessing current board processes while discussing expectations, communication, and working relationships among the governance team.
 - Identifying next steps for continued board development and ongoing governance improvement.
- I participated in this workshop with my previous district during a superintendent transition and found it to be extremely beneficial. It provided an opportunity for open discussion, helped establish clear expectations, and laid the foundation for a productive board-superintendent partnership. I believe our board would realize similar benefits by participating in this training.
- I recommend scheduling a special meeting in September to conduct the workshop. The training is roughly three hours in length, and IASB has indicated the following dates are currently available:
 - Saturday, September 19
 - Wednesday, September 23
 - Thursday, September 24
- At this time, I am seeking a consensus from the Board regarding the preferred date so that I may reserve the workshop with IASB before the available dates are filled.