

Northwest Division Hybrid Meeting

**AI: Board Member Roles &
Responsibilities:
What Every Board Member Should
Know**



Thursday, March 5, 2026
6:00 p.m.

River Bend CUSD 2
Fulton High School
Fulton, Illinois

**IASB Northwest Division Meeting
March 5, 2026**

Call to Order/Pledge/Introductions

Kellie O’Leary Call, Chair

Resolutions Report

Steve Snider, Resolutions Chair

Director’s Report

Chris Buikema, Director

Statewide Officer’s Report

Alva Kreutzer, Vice President

Legislative Report

Kristin Fitzgerald, Senior Director,
Governmental Relations

Executive Director’s Report

Angie Powell, Associate Executive Director,
Policy Services

Member Recognition

Laura Martinez, Director,
Outreach & Training

**AI: Board Member Roles & Responsibilities:
What Every Board Member Should Know**

Jim Batson, Ed.D., CETL, Educational Technology Consultant

Northwest Division Executive Committee 2025-2027

Director:	Chris Buikema East Coloma-Nelson SD 20
Chair:	Kellie O’Leary Call Polo CUSD 222
Vice Chair:	Jill Huber Meridian CUSD 223
Resolutions Chair:	Steve Snider Eastland CUSD 308
Directors at Large:	Dan Dalberg East Dubuque USD 119 Christine Lynde Byron CUSD 226
IASA Representative:	Margo Empen Dixon Unit SD 170
IASB:	Laura Martinez Director, Outreach & Training

These are the people who plan the programs to meet your needs. If you would like to contribute to our division leadership or share ideas, please contact Laura Martinez at lmartinez@iasb.com.

River Bend CUSD 2
Board of Education

Dan Portz, President
Andrew Meyers, Vice President
Mary Simmons, Secretary
Elizabeth Falls
Kyle Folk
Jay Ritchie
Travis Temple
Dr. Darryl Hogue, Superintendent

Thank you to River Bend CUSD 2 Board of Education, Superintendent Dr. Darryl Hogue, and Principal Jeff Parsons for hosting tonight's event. The student involvement tonight was led by Carolyn Meurs, Agriculture Teacher & FFA Advisor; Chris Martin, FFA construction teacher; Shawn Anton, band director; Ashley Bustos, art teacher; Christy Hackett, media teacher; Ryan Dale, tech support; and Emily Phillips, tech director.

Illinois Association of School Boards
Attending:

Alva Kreutzer, Vice President
Angie Powell, Associate Executive Director, Policy Services
Kristin Fitzgerald, Senior Director, Governmental Relations
Theresa Gegen, Director/Editorial Services/Editor, *Illinois School Board Journal*
Laura Martinez, Director, Outreach & Training
Cindy Rispens, Administrative Assistant, Outreach & Training

Resolutions Committee Report – Spring 2026

Under the IASB Constitution, the Resolutions Committee is charged with annually reviewing all IASB Position Statements. With almost 150 Position Statements in effect, the Resolutions Committee is conducting a thorough review of all Position Statements in 2026.

Additionally, as spring approaches, so does the start of the 2026 IASB Resolutions Process. The form for submitting a proposed 2026 resolution will be emailed to all school board members and posted on the IASB website in mid-April. Please review this form and consider submitting a resolution. Discuss any proposed resolution with your full board prior to submission; your board must vote on the resolution prior to submittal.

It may be helpful to review the current Position Statements, which can be found on the IASB website.

The Resolutions Process and Delegate Assembly are important parts of our Association's advocacy work. Once resolutions are adopted as IASB Position Statements, they give our Governmental Relations staff direction when taking positions on legislation in the Capitol.

The deadline to submit resolutions is June 24, 2026. The Resolutions Committee will meet on August 7 to hear testimony and to make a recommendation on each proposed resolution. The submitting district must be available that evening to provide testimony in support of their proposed resolution.

The Resolutions Committee will make one of three recommendations for each submitted resolution.

- 1) **Do Adopt** recommendation: The resolution will be considered by the Delegate Assembly at the annual conference in Chicago on November 21.
- 2) **Do Not Adopt** recommendation: The submitting district will be given the opportunity to appeal the decision and present it at the Delegate Assembly.
- 3) **Do Not Present** recommendation: This recommendation is given to resolutions for reasons including that the proposed resolution is substantially similar to a resolution submitted in recent years and not adopted; or is substantially similar to a current Position Statement; or does not fall within the definition of a resolution under the IASB Constitution. This recommendation means the resolution cannot be presented at the Delegate Assembly or appealed.

If you have any questions regarding the Resolutions Process, please reach out to any member of the IASB Governmental Relations team or your Division's Resolutions Committee Chair.

Recognition of IASB Delegates

The Delegate Assembly, composed of one voting delegate from each member Board of Education, is the policy-making body of the Association. The following Northwest Division members were present at the Delegate Assembly during the Joint Annual Conference in Chicago held on November 22, 2025.

District

Amboy CUSD 272
Ashton-Franklin Center CUSD 275
Byron CUSD 226
Dixon Unit SD 170
Durand CUSD 322
East Coloma-Nelson SD 20
East Dubuque Unit SD 119
Eastland CUSD 308
Freeport SD 145
Kings CSD 144
Lena Winslow CUSD 202
Meridian CUSD 223
Morrison CUSD 6
Oregon CUSD 220
Paw Paw CUSD 271
Pecatonica CUSD 321
Rock Falls THSD 301
Scales Mound CUSD 211
Sterling CUSD 5
West Carroll CUSD 314
Winnebago CUSD 323

Delegate Name

Rory White
Cullen Searing
Rachael Muszynski
Linda Wegner
Ron Kaskovich
Chris Buikema
Dan Dalberg
Steve Snider
Audrey Moore-Howard
Jake Good
David Schexnayder
Dustin Collins
Jennifer Patton
Mary Jo Griffin
Josh Sarver
Robert Ackerman
Matt Lillpop
Jim Stoewer
Gonzalo Reyes
Dawn Rath
Cali Oberbroeckling

Thank You!

IASB Board Leader Recognition

IASB recognizes school board members for the time and effort they devote to learning and leadership activities provided by the Association, as well as for their service to the public education community. All IASB school board members are automatically enrolled in the program when added to the district roster and registered for IASB events and activities. See IASB.com for further details.

Established Board Leader *(Achieved 200 points)*

Amboy CUSD 272

Amboy CUSD 272

Amboy CUSD 272

Ashton-Franklin Center CUSD 275

Ashton-Franklin Center CUSD 275

Ashton-Franklin Center CUSD 275

Byron CUSD 226

Byron CUSD 226

Chadwick-Milledgeville CUSD 399

Chadwick-Milledgeville CUSD 399

Dixon Unit SD 170

Dixon Unit SD 170

Durand CUSD 322

East Coloma-Nelson SD 20

East Coloma-Nelson SD 20

Eastland CUSD 308

Freeport SD 145

Freeport SD 145

Kings CSD 144

Elsa Payne

Katie Pratt

Nichole Stenzel

Mark Delhotal

Jackie Fransen

Tim Henert

Mary Jo Cassens

Phil Kesler

Pamela A. Eubanks

Michael Urish

Melissa Gates

Brandon Rogers

Jonathan Manning

Vincent Lombardo

Mike Schumacher

Chad Waller

Martha Furst

Jack Sosnowski

Niki Adamski

Meridian CUSD 223

Oregon CUSD 220

Oregon CUSD 220

Oregon CUSD 220

Pecatonica CUSD 321

Polo CUSD 222

River Bend CUSD 2

River Ridge CUSD 210

Rochelle CCSD 231

Rochelle CCSD 231

Rochelle THSD 212

Rock Falls SD 13

Rock Falls SD 13

Rock Falls SD 13

Rock Falls THSD 301

Scales Mound CUSD 211

Scales Mound CUSD 211

Scales Mound CUSD 211

Sterling CUSD 5

West Carroll CUSD 314

Matt Rhodes

Dr. Molly Herman Baker

Mary Jo Griffin

Bryan Wills

Robert Ackerman

Matt Mekeel

Mary R. Simmons

Barbara Schaible

Steve Buitla

Javier Zepeda

Trisha Vaughn

Shelley Chappell

Troy Ebenezer

Robert Watts

Matt W. Lillpop

Jeff Bader

Staci Duerr

Jim Stoewer

Gonzalo S. Reyes

Fred Tipton

Distinguished Board Leader *(Achieved 400 points)*

Byron CUSD 226

East Dubuque Unit SD 119

Prophetstown-Lyndon-Tampico CUSD 3

Sterling CUSD 5

Christine Lynde

Dan Dalberg

Tya Boucher

Gonzalo S. Reyes

Distinguished Annual Merit Board Leader *(Members who have already reached Distinguished level--400 points--and earned 40 additional points in the past school year.)*

East Coloma-Nelson SD 20	Chris Buikema
Eastland CUSD 308	Steve Snider
Meridian CUSD 223	Tim M. DeVries
Meridian CUSD 223	Jill L. Huber
Meridian CUSD 223	John W. Smith, III
Polo CUSD 222	Kellie O'Leary Call
West Carroll CUSD 314	Dawn Rath

New Legacy Board Leader *(Members who have reached Distinguished status plus 25 years of board service.)*

Lena Winslow CUSD 202	Peter T. Conway
-----------------------	-----------------

Legacy Annual Merit Board Leader *(Members who have already reached Legacy status--400 points and 25 years of board service--and earned 40 additional points in the past school year.)*

Scales Mound CUSD 211	Edward (Paul) Homb
-----------------------	--------------------

Congratulations!



Dr. Jim Batson, CETL
Educational Technology
Consultant

Dr. Jim Batson enjoys a diverse career in technology and education. For the past two decades, Jim has focused on education technology leadership, most recently as

Director of Technology for Fenton High School District 100 in Bensenville, IL. Dr. Batson has also held adjunct faculty and guest lecturer roles at community colleges and universities throughout Illinois. In his twenty-third year of school board service, Dr. Batson is currently Board President for Community High School District 128 in Vernon Hills, IL.

Dr. Batson is a nationally Certified Education Technology Leader (CETL) and received his Doctor of Education, Ed.D., from Western Illinois University.

Jim is currently a consultant and Technology Leader Mentor for the Illinois Learning Technology Center (LTC), sits on the national Student Data Privacy Working Group for COSN, and regularly presents at local, regional, and national education and technology conferences.

Please complete the division meeting survey either by scanning below or responding to the email you will receive tonight. We value your opinion.



Upcoming Events

Board Presidents' Academy

June 13, 2026 – Naperville

June 20, 2026 - Champaign

IASB/IASA/IASBO Joint Annual Conference

November 20-22, 2026 - Chicago, Illinois

See IASB.com for a full events calendar

Thank you to our
division meeting sponsors



For information about IASB division meeting sponsorship opportunities, contact Dara Merino at dmerino@iasb.com.