



## IASB Update for AEA Superintendent Meetings, May 2019

### 2019 SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION

*IASB is ready to support candidates and new board members...and we're relying on your help!*

School board elections move to November in 2019, to align with local city elections. IASB is ready to help members navigate the changes—and we're relying on superintendents and board secretaries to ensure candidates and new board members get the education and training they need to be their best on the board. Here's an overview of what's ahead.

#### Key School Board Election Dates for 2019

- **Aug. 26:** First day to file nomination papers with board secretary
- **Sept. 19:** Last day to file nomination papers
- **Sept. 24:** Last day candidates may withdraw; last day to file objections
- **Nov. 5:** Election day
- **Nov. 11 & 12:** Tier 1 election canvass for districts within one county
- **Nov. 18 & 19:** Tier 2 election canvass for districts spanning multiple counties
- **Organizational meeting:** First regular meeting following canvass of votes

See the IASB [Special Report](#) and accompanying [date change supplement](#) released in 2018 for more details.

#### Get on Board: Candidate and Election Resources

Our robust elections toolkit ([www.ia-sb.org/getonboard](http://www.ia-sb.org/getonboard)) will launch in late June/early July with many great resources and candidate education.



#### Get on Board Digital Toolkit

- Guide for School Board Candidates
- School Board Election FAQs
- Key Dates
- Board Member Testimonials
- Informational videos on filing paperwork, campaign finance laws and more

## NEW THIS YEAR

### Tuesday Talks with IASB: So You Want to Run For the School Board?

We are offering a live informational series for candidates to get up-to-speed on a range of elections-related topics. These will be offered in a variety of platforms, including Zoom and Facebook Live. While we recommend that candidates attend all four, the **first webinar on Aug. 20** is an essential first step for any individual interested in running for the board.

- **Aug. 20:** Running for the School Board: Essential Tips for Candidates
- **Sept. 10:** Making Promises and Other Potential Pitfalls: How to Run a Legal, Ethical and Informed Campaign
- **Sept. 24:** Confessions of a School Board Member: Perks and Pitfalls
- **Oct. 8:** School Board Service: Equity and Excellence for ALL—Are You Ready?

### Welcome on Board: Orienting New Board Members

Given the short turnaround between election day and these learning options, please help us encourage all candidates to “mark their calendars” in advance of the election.

We have developed two brand-new workshops for newly elected board members—part one is a must-attend workshop this November during Annual Convention, and part two is a follow-up regional workshop in January and February that will be a powerful way to build a board team.

### Special Pre-Convention Workshop: Thriving in Your First 90 Days

*Wednesday, Nov. 20, Iowa Events Center, Des Moines*

#### Blast off into your first term on the school board!

There’s a lot to learn in your first year of board service, but we’re here to help you prepare for launch with critical information and essential resources about your new role in public education.

- **Governing 101**—A foundational overview of board roles and responsibilities. We’ll review fundamental board responsibilities, how this role relates to that of staff, and provide a framework for helping you learn critical information about the district.
- **Meetings and Transparency Laws**—The work of the board occurs at its meetings, so we’ll acquaint you with handy information about common board meeting practices such as placing items on the agenda and other procedures. Plus, you’ll learn about Iowa government transparency laws (open meetings law) which set explicit responsibilities for boards to ensure the public has access to meetings and deliberations of the board, minutes and executive sessions.



- **Policy Basics**—Boards have the authority to lead their districts by setting policies. Learn what policy is, legal requirements for policy alignment with state and federal law, policy development and review, and the role the administration plays in the implementation of policy. A firm command of your existing policies will help you answer countless early questions of board service—this session will help you prioritize where to start.

You'll also learn from experienced board members about early pitfalls of serving as an elected official—they'll help you avoid common mistakes and start your board service with confidence.

After this workshop you'll be ready to fire up your new skills in no time and take on the next 275 days.

**Bonus!** Each attendee will receive a complimentary IASB Board Member Handbook, updated this year.

## IASB Convention

*Thursday, Nov. 21, Iowa Events Center, Des Moines*

Board members run to make a difference for students and for their communities. The IASB Convention showcases innovations in education, how schools are raising the bar and tackling issues affecting students. You'll find inspiring speakers and countless ideas to make public schools strong!

## Regional Workshops: Leadership Essentials for School Boards

**Navigate the board leadership landscape with core governance skills.**

*January-February, regional locations across the state, date and sites to be announced.*

Being effective as a board member requires a strong understanding of board roles and responsibilities. It's impossible to do a job well if you don't know what the job is.

This workshop will address fundamental duties of each board member in four core areas—all of which are front and center in the first months of the calendar year. It's a must for every new board member and a team builder for the entire board.

- **Financial Oversight**—Gain an understanding of the board's role in the budgeting process. You'll learn what to anticipate on the budget road ahead and where to access information for continued learning on this important work—within your own district and IASB resources. Learn key parts of the district audit report as a new board member and ensuring the board gives adequate time at the board table.
- **Superintendent Evaluation and Goal Setting**—Explore the board's role in high-quality superintendent evaluation and goal setting—and how the board can commit to ensuring these critical processes occur. You'll learn the essentials to do this work well and find clarity around the importance of understanding your district's policy, evaluation instrument, and process.

- **Personnel Matters**—Spring is the prime season for evaluating, hiring and terminating staff. Does the board have a role in this? Why or why not? How can the board make a difference, without undercutting the superintendent’s authority? Clarify the work of the board, superintendent and other administrators around personnel matters.
- **Constituent Relations**—Financial and personnel matters are sometimes high-visibility issues in communities. Discover the power of common messages and having clear policy when communicating and responding to your school community. Build strong community relations by effectively sharing the work and deliberation that goes into board decisions.

Join us for this exploratory mission to discover new essential skills, build your knowledge base and learn valuable, practical information you can use immediately. Plus, take home tips and practical ideas from veteran board members.

## Crucial Supports for Board Presidents: All-New Board Presidents’ Conference

*March 6, 2020, Botanical Garden, Des Moines*

Due to the election change, we are moving a crucial support for board presidents from November to its own full day of learning in the spring.

Join IASB for this brand-new expanded workshop designed for board presidents and aspiring board presidents, on a new date and at a new location! This day-long conference in March, devoted to board presidents, will have opportunities to learn alongside peers and staff experts where you’ll tackle the tough stuff and explore practical strategies and solutions.

## SUBMIT YOUR LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES BY AUG. 9

IASB’s annual Call for Priorities process provides boards an opportunity to review our legislative platform and choose IASB’s priorities for the next legislative session. The information we gather helps guide our advocacy efforts and show legislators what is important to their local school districts. Visit the [Advocacy Center](#) for more information, including FAQs and to access the survey.