

# IASB Update for AEA Superintendent Meetings February 2021

#### Send a Message to Legislators with Our Tool of the Month—Vouchers Toolkit

"Student first scholarships," or private school vouchers, are currently making their way through the lowa legislature, and are poised to divert vital funds from our public schools. With the Senate approval of SF 159 (voucher bill), our attention now turns to the House.

To aid in your advocacy efforts, IASB has put together a <u>Vouchers Toolkit</u>, complete with useful resources, solid talking points and shareable social media graphics. Use these resources in your correspondence with House Republicans and tell them to vote '**no**' on school vouchers. For additional visibility, remember to tag relevant social media posts with #NoVouchersIA!

For questions, contact Michelle Johnson at mjohnson@ia-sb.org.

#### Register for ISFLC's February Conference—100% Virtual with Reduced Fee!

**ATTENTION, SUPERINTENDENTS!** IASB and the UNI Institute for Educational Leadership partner to offer the <u>February ISFLC Conference</u>, a 1.75 day professional development session for lowa superintendents. Join us Feb. 16-17 for fascinating sessions led by lowa leaders with skills and expertise in identified criteria areas. The day will include large group and small group meetings.

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the February ISFLC Conference will be held virtually, with the fee reduced to \$225 per person, or \$200 per person for 2-or-more person teams from the same district. All tracks are eligible for Superintendent License Renewal Credit through the School Administrators of Iowa. Select tracks will carry School Business Official Authorization. All conference attendees earn 15 Better Boardsmanship credits!

To register or learn more, visit the <u>February ISFLC Conference webpage</u>. For information regarding UNI Graduate Credit, email Janelle Finke at <u>janelle.finke@uni.edu</u>. For all other questions, email Kim Huckstadt at kim.huckstadt@uni.edu.

## Participate in Essential (Virtual!) Advocacy Training & Put It to Use This Month

The pandemic has undoubtedly affected student achievement and their ability to learn, so we anticipate there will be a significant need for remediation and additional resources in order to get students back on track. Join IASB (virtually!) on February 2 for a *Priorities in Primetime* webinar

focused on COVID-19 remediation for student achievement. Senator Tim Kraayenbrink will share insights into how the legislature plans to address student needs that have stemmed from the COVID-19 pandemic. Then, Superintendent Jesse Ulrich will be joined by Director of Elementary Education Services, Stephanie Anderson, and Director of Secondary Education Services, Kirsten Doebel, from Fort Dodge Schools to talk about student needs in their own district, both present and future, after missing school due to the pandemic. **Register now!** 

On February 4, put the advocacy knowledge you gained at the webinar to good use during one of IASB's <u>Virtual Lobby Days!</u>

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR!** We have additional *Priorities in Primetime* webinars and Virtual Lobby Days scheduled in February. Make your voice heard!

For questions, contact Michelle Johnson at mjohnson@ia-sb.org.

#### Register Yourself & Your Board Team for Four Excellent Learning Opportunities

Each spring, IASB develops a day-long Policy Leadership & Legal Issues Conference packed full of the latest information board leaders need to know to effectively lead. Rather than a day-long conference, we're offering four 90-minute workshops at one group rate (\$135), no matter how many members of your board-superintendent team attend. Each workshop will focus on a different timely topic and includes ample time for discussion and interaction with your peers. Conveniently scheduled in the evening to fit busy schedules, they will run from 6–7:30 p.m. and recordings will be provided to registrants afterward.

The first workshop on February 25, <u>Employee Vaccinations Questions</u>, Answered, is just as the title entails: This session will focus on the dos and don'ts of employee vaccination as well as what information schools can share with their communities within the boundaries of employee privacy rights. Find out topics and dates for the rest of the workshops and <u>register for these workshops</u> today.

For questions, contact Marte Brightman at <a href="mbrightman@ia-sb.org">mbrightman@ia-sb.org</a>.

## Strengthen Bargaining Preparations & Knowledge with Collective Bargaining Tools

The last few months districts have been preparing for bargaining by analyzing financials and reviewing contracts and benefits. As we continue through winter and head into spring, use these newly updated IASB resources to further strengthen your bargaining preparations and knowledge. Review the Teacher Compensation and Benefits Toolkit (salary and benefit comparability information compiled from the annual survey of districts) and read the Negotiations Guide for tips on how to bargain smarter. Once you've finished negotiations for the year, be sure to complete the Tentative Agreement Form to help inform districts still going through the process.

For questions, contact Eric Howard at <a href="mailto:ehoward@ia-sb.org">ehoward@ia-sb.org</a>.

#### Share with Your Board—Legal Service Fund Committee Vacancies

The IASB Legal Service Fund Committee currently has two vacancies in <u>IASB Director Districts 7</u> and 8. Please share this notice with your board members who you think would be interested in this additional volunteer opportunity. This is a three-year term expiring in January 2024.

The Legal Service Fund provides financial assistance to school districts and AEAs in litigation of statewide significance. Learn more about the Legal Service Fund and the committee's charge on our website.

For questions, contact Marte Brightman at <a href="mailto:mbrightman@ia-sb.org">mbrightman@ia-sb.org</a>.

# **Upcoming Events**

Feb. 2: Webinar: Priorities in Primetime: COVID-19 Remediation for Student Achievement

Feb. 4: Virtual Lobby Day: COVID-19 Remediation for Student Achievement

Feb. 9: Webinar: Priorities in Primetime: Mental Health

Feb. 10: NSBA Equity Online Symposium

Feb. 11: Virtual Lobby Day: Mental Health

Feb. 16: Webinar: Priorities in Primetime: Preschool

Feb. 16-17: ISFLC February Conference

Feb. 18: Virtual Lobby Day: Preschool

Feb. 18, 19, 22, 23 & 25: Forecast5 Analytics Certified Budget Digital Workshops with IASB

Feb. 24: SBO Webinar Series: Trending School Finance Issues

Feb. 25, March 11, April 1 & 29: The Leadership Digital Workshop Series: Policy, Governance & Legal Issues

April 8-9: NSBA 2021 Online Experience

For a complete listing, visit <u>www.ia-sb.org/learninghub</u>.