



## News Release

Iowa Association of School Boards®

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# Iowa School Board Members Set 2025 Legislative Platform

Des Moines, Iowa – Nearly 160 delegates from the Iowa Association of School Board's (IASB) member school boards and area education agency (AEA) boards gathered at Delegate Assembly on Nov. 20 to conduct the annual meeting, convene nominating caucuses for open seats on the IASB Board of Directors, and set the legislative platform.

Delegates approved beliefs, resolutions, and a public policy agenda statement for the upcoming legislative session. The policy agenda statement leads with student achievement and success as the primary goal of Iowa public schools.

“Our resolutions represent the official public policy positions of school boards, directly connected to student needs and success. Our platform as a whole outlines the policies we believe will best support all students in Iowa’s public schools,” said IASB Board President Elizabeth Brennan.

Below are belief statements from the newly adopted Success for All Students— Public Policy Agenda of Iowa School Boards. [Read the full policy agenda](#) with policy improvements attached to each belief statement.

- We believe that literacy is the building block for student achievement and student success.
- We believe that a high-quality teacher workforce is necessary for student achievement.
- We believe that expanded opportunities through public schools will provide students with diverse and engaging educational experiences.
- We believe that student, educator, and staff mental health needs must be addressed and supported to improve student achievement, reduce dropout rates, and maintain a high-quality workforce.

- Iowa school boards are elected by our communities to oversee public schools. Working closely with parents, communities, and educators, our locally elected school boards are in the best position to determine the needs of their communities and students.
- We believe schools must be open and welcoming to all students, and fully accountable and transparent to receive taxpayer dollars.
- We believe supplemental state aid is a critical component in student success by providing districts with adequate general fund resources.
- We believe that every student deserves to learn, and every staff member deserves to work, in a safe and secure environment.

“This year, we’re focusing on securing full funding for preschool programs serving students in poverty, as the data shows early learning is critical to the success of low-income students,” said IASB Board President Elizabeth Brennan. “Additionally, a high-quality teacher workforce is essential to student achievement, which is why we advocate for initiatives to recruit and retain talented educators in every Iowa school district.”

IASB’s Delegate Assembly is a vital link connecting board members and legislative issues. The resolutions’ process gives each school board the opportunity to suggest priorities for the platform, then vote on the final platform and priorities. Each board appoints one board member as delegate to represent their board’s views.

“Over 300 school boards submitted legislative priorities during the annual call for priorities process. This is a true grassroots process that reflects nearly all member boards’ priorities from across the state,” said IASB Board President Elizabeth Brennan. [Read the full list of beliefs, resolutions and legislative priorities](#) for the 2025 legislative session.

IASB is a nonprofit organization representing Iowa’s 325 school districts, nine area education agencies and 15 community colleges.