



2013 IASB Legislative Resolutions

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AND STUDENT EQUITY: The Iowa Association of School Boards:	Legislative Action 2013 Session
1. Supports preserving the integrity of the statewide penny sales tax for school infrastructure, including the tax equity provisions of buying down the highest additional levy rates to the state average.	Distribution of sales tax monies will be equalized beginning July 1, 2014 PETR fund receives guaranteed 2.1% of total collected sales and use tax generated by the additional penny
2. Supports full state funding to encourage local initiatives to fully comply with current professional development program requirements.	Continued funding of professional development
3. Supports continued progress in the development of rigorous content standards and benchmarks consistent with the Iowa Core focused on improving student achievement, including the following state actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide and fund technical assistance to help school districts fully implement the Iowa Core. ▪ Develop or obtain high-quality summative and formative assessments, aligned to the skills students should know and be able to do to succeed globally and locally. ▪ Include and fund all the components of successful standards systems: assessments aligned to high expectations, improved and aligned instruction and quality professional development. 2013 IASB Legislative Action Priority 	\$1M in HF 604 Ed Approps \$1M in HF 648 Bond Repayment SUCCESS!!! Ed Reform, HF 215, has a task force to study a new statewide assessment to measure the full range and rigor of the Iowa Core with implementation beginning 16-17 school year. HF 215 as task force to develop new teacher evaluation to include student achievement
4. Supports adequate and on-time funding for English-language learner (ELL) students until the students reach proficiency.	SF 452, Standings, extends ELL funding from four years to five
5. Supports a funding mechanism for school districts' transportation costs that does not directly or indirectly impact funding for the educational program.	No change
6. Supports adequate funding to ensure all 4-year-olds have access to a high quality public school preschool program. We should continue to allow 4-year-olds to be included in the enrollment count if those programs can demonstrate meeting the collaboration and quality standards requirements of the statewide voluntary preschool program.	HF 215 includes language that clarifies that community providers may use funds for PD, instructional equipment, materials and other direct costs. Directs unused funds to be used to expand capacity in next school year
7. Supports continuation of sufficient incentives and assistance to encourage sharing, reorganization or regional high schools to expand academic learning opportunities for students and to improve student achievement. IASB supports expansion of sharing incentives to include special education, curriculum and other critical administrative positions. The incentives must be available to school districts regardless of the location of the sharing partner(s). 2013 IASB Legislative Action Priority	SUCCESS!! HF 472 expanded the sunset for operational sharing for five more years and broadened the category to include more positions. SF 452 added social workers to the list.
8. Supports legislation that increases the at-risk student weighting and includes drop-out prevention in the foundation formula.	No change
9. Supports revising the foundation formula to equalize per pupil funding regardless of the school district.	No change
10. IASB supports Iowa law giving local school boards authority to establish charter schools. Charter schools should not be established by any entity other than public school boards and, after approval of a charter school by a local school district, charter school plans and waivers must be approved by the State Board of Education and	No change



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subject to all state accountability and reporting standards.	
11. Supports flexibility in the use of modified allowable growth for dropout prevention and the expansion of the definition of at-risk to also include low socio-economic status as a factor in determining a student's at-risk status.	No change
12. Supports reform of Iowa's K-12 education system that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Is research-based; ▪ Is focused on student achievement; ▪ Includes comprehensive assessments to measure the full range and rigor of the Iowa Core; ▪ Maintains oversight and control by locally elected boards of directors; ▪ Does not "repurpose" existing education funds; and ▪ Does not impose new mandates unless they are fully funded. 2013 IASB Legislative Action Priority	HF 215 Ed Reform: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ statewide assessments aligned to Core ♦ maintain oversight by local boards ♦ current funds not repurposed. ♦
13. Supports returning to three-year school board member terms with less than a majority of the school board elected in any one year.	No change
FINANCE The Iowa Association of School Boards	
14. Supports setting allowable growth at a rate that encourages continuous school improvement and reflects actual cost increases experienced by school districts and AEAs. Our financial priority is to increase and maintain the state cost per pupil and the spending authority associated with it to build a strong base for future education resources with full state funding of the state's share of the cost per pupil. 2013 IASB Legislative Action Priority	SUCCESS!! Two years of allowable growth were set! For FY 14, two percent of allowable growth plus two percent of full state funding; FY 15, four percent of allowable growth.
15. Supports a school foundation formula that adequately, and in a timely manner, funds changes in demographics, including declining and increasing enrollment challenges.	No change.
16. Supports greater flexibility in the use of the management levy for those services required by law including inspections and publication costs and legal and auditing services, including internal auditing services and staff.	No change.
17. Supports greater flexibility in allowing school districts to charge fees for non-curricular related costs.	No change.
18. Supports the continuation of programs currently funded by the early intervention block grant program with flexibility to use those funds for other K-3 literacy programs if approved by the school board.	SUCCESS!! Sunset was extended for five years, until 2018.
LOCAL CONTROL The Iowa Association of School Boards	
19. Supports legislation that provides greater flexibility for school districts to meet changing needs, become more efficient, protect natural resources and save public funds.	No change.
20. Supports the repeal of the mandatory school start date, while offering incentives to school districts to provide extended days and/or innovative calendars. School districts receiving these incentives will evaluate and determine the impact on student learning when establishing the start day for school. 2013 IASB Legislative Action Priority	No change in the start date but HF 215 includes an option for schools to choose between either 180 days or 1080 hours for the school year
21. Supports the use of physical plant and equipment levy (PPEL) funds for the maintenance and repair of transportation equipment that can be purchased or financed with PPEL funds.	No change.



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TAXES	
The Iowa Association of School Boards	
22. Supports legislation allowing school bond issues to be passed by a simple majority vote and to permit the local school board to levy a combination of property taxes and income surtaxes to pay the indebtedness.	No change.
23. Supports sufficient state revenues to adequately fund public education as Iowa's number one priority. IASB opposes erosion of the existing tax base. IASB supports a full accounting every two years by state government of the costs of all exemptions, credits or deductions for the income tax, sales tax or property tax.	SF 295, commercial property tax relief may limit ability of state to provide sufficient allowable growth in the future
24. Supports Tax Increment Financing (TIF) limitation, reform and regulation. Reforms should limit the duration of all TIF districts, and mandate inclusion of the affected taxing bodies including school districts in discussions prior to the imposition of a TIF. TIFs are to be used for the sole purpose of stimulating development that would otherwise not occur. Expenditures from TIF revenues should not be used to pay for property tax rebates or other direct subsidies to private developers. In addition, IASB opposes residential TIFs that are not directly tied to job creation unless the impacted school districts approve.	No change.
25. Opposes a constitutional amendment or statewide voter referendum that would limit taxes, spending or local control impacting education.	No change.
26. Supports efforts to minimize property tax disparities that occur between school districts because of the additional levy rate in the school foundation formula.	HF 215 includes language that freezes the additional levy rate at the FY 2013 rate and has any property taxes generated by allowable growth in FY 14 and FY 15 paid for by the state
27. Opposes property tax restructuring unless it holds school districts harmless.	SF 295 holds districts harmless for two years because the state picks up the additional levy rate generated by FY 14 and FY 15 allowable growth rates. SF 295 provides funds to counties that will be available to districts to replace lost PPEL and PERL revenue
28. Opposes the imposition of franchise fees on school corporations. NEW	No change
PERSONNEL	
The Iowa Association of School Boards	
29. Supports giving school districts and AEAs the option to reduce staff to respond to reductions in funding or to comply with an arbitrator's award. School districts and AEAs should not be required to use the teacher contract termination procedures in <i>Iowa Code</i> section 279.13 for such staff reductions.	No change.
30. Supports providing school districts with incentives and the flexibility to pay market competitive wages for shortage area positions, especially in the areas required to meet graduation and Iowa Core mandates.	HF 215 provides \$10 million for incentives to teachers who teach core subjects in high-need schools



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<p>31. Opposes changes to labor and employment laws unless they:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Include adequate resources provided by the state without a shift from other education resources or significant burden on property taxpayers. ▪ Balance the rights of the employees with the rights of management with scales tipped in favor of student achievement and student safety. 	<p>No change.</p>
<p>32. Support a requirement that arbitrators prior to any imposition of an award against a school district, AEA or community college, first consider local conditions and ability to pay. After the arbitrator determines the school district, AEA or community college has the ability to pay, the arbitrator should then consider comparability based upon similar size and geographic region.</p>	<p>No change.</p>
<p>33. Supports a change in state law that allows school districts to enroll their employees in the state's health, dental and life/long-term disability insurance pools.</p>	<p>No change.</p>
<p>UNFUNDED MANDATES</p>	
<p>The Iowa Association of School Boards:</p>	
<p>34. Supports predictable and timely state funding to serve students receiving special education services at a level that reflects the actual cost, including educational programming and health care costs.</p>	<p>No change.</p>
<p>35. Supports the federal commitment to fund 40 percent of the cost of educating students receiving special education services, and requests that the federal government fulfill that commitment by increasing funding a minimum of 8 percent per year until the 40 percent figure is achieved.</p>	<p>No change.</p>
<p>36. Opposes and seeks to repeal unfunded mandates.</p>	<p>No mandates repealed</p> <p>Mandatory background checks for all employees every five years at school district cost</p>
<p>37. Supports legislation requiring any new mandate have corresponding funding sufficient to implement the new mandate.</p>	<p>Districts can opt out of teacher pathways if insufficient funding or other financial impediments</p>



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<p>AREA EDUCATION AGENCIES:</p> <p>Acknowledges the AEAs legislative platform, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Supports additional resources to AEAs and school districts for curriculum development, student assessment analysis, in-service training, professional development and technology assistance; ▪ Supports legislation allowing students in accredited nonpublic schools to be counted for special education services, allowing them full access to services; ▪ Supports fully funding the AEA budget as provided by the school growth factor; ▪ Supports creation of a separate funding mechanism for the operation and maintenance of AEA facilities; ▪ Supports an increase in funding for early childhood efforts. 	
<p>COMMUNITY COLLEGES:</p> <p>Acknowledges the community college legislative platform, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Supports funding State General Aid (SGA) at \$186 million which reflects the calculation under the formula adopted by the State Board of Education a base of \$178 million; ▪ Supports a state commitment of \$11 million for skilled worker training through the Workforce Training and Economic Development Fund; ▪ Supports a state commitment of \$5 million to maintain and build capacity for skilled worker training, through Remedial Education, Developmental Education and Adult Literacy Programs; ▪ Supports the expansion of the Career Academy Pilot using K12 Physical Plant and Equipment Levy (PPEL) funds to expand and grow Career Academies for K12 students across Iowa; and ▪ Supports the 15 Community College Boards' local governance flexibility to access local tax support in its discretion to meet the needs of local workforce training and their local communities 	
<p>URBAN EDUCATION NETWORK</p> <p>Acknowledges the UENs legislative platform, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Educational Transformation including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Urgency ○ Meaningful Assessment ○ Literacy ○ Innovation ○ New concepts of delivery ○ Educational Instructional Staff ○ Administrative Leadership ○ Improving recruiting and hiring practices ○ World class models ▪ Adequate and Equitable funding ▪ 21st Century Funding System 	