2024 IASBO Legislative Resolutions

1. Review of Curricular Materials

IASBO recommends that the definition for curricular materials be reviewed to clarify issues such as the differences between elementary and secondary courses (dual credit courses); consumable materials (laboratory supplies and equipment); and co-curricular activities. In addition, school corporations must know what fees and expenses may continue to be charged to parents/guardians.

Any revisions in the state appropriation for curricular materials will be a discussion for the 2025 General Assembly.

Further, IASBO recommends that there be consideration of using both ADM count dates for the reimbursement of state dollars for curricular materials expenses.

2. Absenteeism and Literacy

IASBO supports the General Assembly’s emphasis on increasing literacy (specifically, third grade reading scores) and addressing chronic absenteeism.

3. Property Tax Caps Passed in HEA 1499 (2023)

IASBO recommends that the property tax provisions in HEA 1499 (2023) be reviewed and amended to meet the legislative intent. This would include that only the Debt Service Fund and not all school corporation debt be included in the 40 cent and 80 cent provisions in the statute.

IASBO recommends that the current sunset provisions in the statute should not be extended.
4. School Referendum Question

The current referendum question is misleading and does not deliver a true picture of the fiscal impact of the passage of the question. The “estimated average property tax increase” language in the current statute does not accurately reflect the taxpayer’s or businesses’ increase or decrease in property tax obligations.

IASBO recommends that the referendum question be amended to allow additional transparency regarding the taxpayer fiscal impact including if the current referendum amount will be decreasing in the next election.

5. Reduction of Regulatory and Reporting Requirements

IASBO supports the “Data Redundancy Report and Recommendations” prepared by the Indiana Department of Education and the Management Performance Hub to eliminate the duplication of reporting requirements (HEA 1638-2023). Numerous reports with the same information are sent to different agencies in the same year. The time it takes to create these reports is a hardship for the school business office with many adding staff to complete the reporting process. The Gateway system should be used to submit all reports to assure transparency and to eliminate duplicate reporting.

Further, IASBO recommends the repeal of laws that are ineffective or not funded such as the mandatory pre-collective bargaining public hearing and the Primetime Program.

6. Tax Incremental Funding Review

IASBO recommends a review of the TIF statute to assure that the original purposes of the concept are being met. IASBO supports the review of adding sunset provisions to future TIF projects.
7. 62% Teacher Compensation Statute Review

IASBO supports the continuous review of which benefits should be included in the teacher compensation calculation. IASBO recommends that teacher salaries/benefits in vocational cooperatives be added to the compensation calculation in the future.

8. Impact of the 15% Transfer of State Support to the Operation Fund on School Corporations Negatively Affected by the Circuit Breaker

IASBO recommends that the 15% transfer statute of state support to the Operation Fund from the Education Fund be reviewed regarding the impact of the transfer to school corporations with major circuit breaker losses.

9. No New Mandates

IASBO recommends that the 2024 Indiana General Assembly refrain from passing any new mandates on Indiana’s public schools. Numerous education laws have been passed in the past few years that have impacted public education and now is not the time to add additional burdens.