



IASB RESOLUTIONS

2023

1. INDUSTRIAL CONSTRUCTION

STATEMENT OF RESOLUTION

Be it resolved that the Illinois Association of School Boards shall support and encourage legislation that prohibits the construction of industrial facilities near schools. Industrial facilities have negative consequences on schools that are three-fold: 1) The health and safety of all students, faculty, and staff, 2) The learning outcomes of students, and 3) The learning environment of students. The health consequences and educational barriers associated with industrial zones near schools including, but not limited to pollution, noise, and hazardous diesel exhaust, are well-documented and can have serious long-term effects on the health and well-being of students, faculty, and staff. Furthermore, the presence of industrial zones near schools can negatively impact the quality of education by creating distractions and disruptions. Finally, learning outcomes also have shown to suffer as a result of industrial facility proximity to schools. We urge policymakers and stakeholders to take immediate action to ensure that schools are located in safe environments free from the risks posed by industrial facilities.

RESOLUTION COMMITTEE ANALYSIS

The committee discussed how industrial construction does not affect most IASB members and some small communities depend on income from industrial facilities with space only available near schools, which would ultimately harm small communities that want the facilities. This should remain under local control. The committee also noted that if it is truly a health concern for children, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) should be brought in to deliberate zoning. **(DO NOT ADOPT)**

2. SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER FUNDING

STATEMENT OF RESOLUTION

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall request that the Illinois legislature consider legislation providing educational funding to all school districts to offset the cost of a school resource officer

RESOLUTION COMMITTEE ANALYSIS

The committee agreed that the presence of a School Resource Officer (SRO) helps protect the safety of the children and that there needs to be more funding to help offset the cost of hiring the SROs. Even with grant money to help cover the cost, school districts are left to pick up the remaining cost of the SRO and could use additional funding. **(DO ADOPT)**

3. BUS DRIVER REGULATIONS

STATEMENT OF RESOLUTION

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support changes to the Federal and State school transportation regulations that return licensing requirements and driver trainer liability back to pre-February 2023 levels at minimum; allow LOCAL training and testing for bus driver candidates; and increase the transportation reimbursement rate from the State of Illinois to 100%. Regulations that need to be changed, improved, or eliminated altogether include: 1) Local (in-district or ROE) “Behind the Wheel” and classroom required hours should be accepted, not just those from nationally recognized trainers that are only available in commercial driving programs, 2) Remove liability that is borne by new driver trainers concerning the drivers they certify.

RESOLUTION COMMITTEE ANALYSIS

The committee agreed that the bus driver shortage is affecting most school districts and trying to find a way to help alleviate that is important. The committee felt that helping to ease the requirements and training to become a bus driver will help to improve the shortage that districts are facing. **(DO ADOPT)**

4. EMPLOYEE HISTORY REVIEW

STATEMENT OF RESOLUTION

Be it resolved that the Illinois Association of School Boards shall request the Illinois legislature consider using the Illinois Department of Child and Family Services (IL-DCFS) Child Abuse and Neglect Tracking System (CANTS) as a means to fulfill the Employment History Review (EHR) (105 ILCS 5/22-94) of Faith's Law.

RESOLUTION COMMITTEE ANALYSIS

The committee understood and agreed that finding a way to help districts implement Faith's Law is important, but they felt this was not the right system to use to fix the issue. **(DO NOT ADOPT)**

5. ALTERNATIVE SAFE SCHOOL FUNDING

STATEMENT OF RESOLUTION

Be it resolved that the Illinois Association of School Boards shall advocate for additional funding to be provided for regional alternative safe schools to allow for an elementary-appropriate program, additional funding and approved certification programs for board certified behavior analysts (BCBA) in school districts, and additional flexibility with student discipline to help local districts provide the safest learning environment possible. We also ask that the state legislature review SB100 and make any necessary changes to allow for more local control as it relates to student discipline post-Covid, especially at the elementary and middle school levels.

RESOLUTION COMMITTEE ANALYSIS

The committee discussed the current IASB Position Statement 2.33 that already states IASB will advocate using Evidence-Based Funding (EBF) to support funding for alternative schools. Members also discussed a possible review of SB 100, which encouraged limiting student suspensions and expulsions and established a parent-teacher advisory committee that would develop, with the school board, policy guidelines on pupil discipline. **(DO NOT ADOPT)**

5. ALTERNATIVE SAFE SCHOOL FUNDING (cont.)

EXISTING POSITION STATEMENT (2.33 EVIDENCE BASED FUNDING MODEL)

The Illinois Association of School Boards believes that adequate funding must be provided for each student in order to guarantee the opportunity for an appropriate public education, and therefore supports the Evidence-Based Funding Model for state aid distribution. This funding model meets the following principles supported by IASB:

1. It takes into account the cost associated with delivering quality, research-based programming, geographic conditions, and student needs. Fully funding districts would ensure adequate funding for districts to locally determine and deliver appropriate and effective educational experiences to every student.
2. It provides for a stable, reliable and predictable commitment of revenue.
3. It is a function of the actual cost of providing an appropriate education based on research, data, and current best practices.
4. It places high priority upon achieving the goal of equity in providing financial resources to local school districts.
5. It does not reduce the access of school districts to the local property tax base.
6. Funding differentials for various levels of schooling are based on verified costs.
7. Consideration is given to regional differences in the cost of providing an appropriate education.
8. The calculation of the number of students coming from disadvantaged backgrounds should be based on current, verifiable data.
9. The size of a school district is important only to the extent that a district provides an appropriate education.
10. A specified local tax effort is required to qualify for state aid.
11. Authority for changing a district's aggregate tax levy is retained by the local board of education.

(Adopted 1990; Amended 1996, 2008, 2014, 2016, 2020; Reaffirmed 2001, 2012)

EXISTING POSITION STATEMENT

7.08 POLLING PLACES IN SCHOOLS

The Illinois Association of School Boards shall support legislation that amends the Election Code to allow a school district to refuse to be used as a polling place during elections for student safety reasons. If a school building is used as a polling place, the safety of the children and staff should not be compromised, and voters must be physically separated from students when the school is in session.

(Adopted 2007; Amended 2009)