


Leadership Matters

 **IASA**
ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS
MARCH 2015



VISION 20/20
Fulfilling the Promise of Public Education



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Cover photo: Vision 20/20 legislation introduced

IASA Executive Director Dr. Brent Clark addresses the press conference gathering when Senators Jason Barickman (right) and Andy Manar (left of Clark) announced they would co-sponsor Senate Bill 1403, the evidence-based school funding model that is part of the Vision 20/20 package. Others standing at the press conference include, from left, IASB Executive Director Roger Eddy, Sangamon County Regional Superintendent Jeff Vose, and Illinois PTA Executive Director Jolene Lowder. (Photo by Lee Milner)

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Volume 3, Issue 3

Vision 20/20 is a brand that is gaining traction...and respect



Message from the Executive Director Dr. Brent Clark

In politics, the saying goes, perception is reality. The Vision 20/20 initiative is entering the legislative arena this spring and one big key to our success will be to protect the Vision 20/20 brand.

By that, I mean that we need to keep Vision 20/20 kid-focused as we go forward and not let it get bogged down in issues that are not about educating children. We have made the point at several editorial board meetings that the entire focus of Vision 20/20 is about creating the best possible learning environment and opportunities for the 2.1 million schoolchildren in our state. There is not one item in the entire 23-page [Policy Brief](#) that feathers the nest of a school administrator, principal, board member or teacher. It truly is all about, as the tagline states, *"Fulfilling the Promise of Public Education."*

Vision 20/20 is gaining traction and momentum on several fronts. For example:



[The first pieces of legislation stemming from Vision 20/20](#) have been introduced, including the evidence-based funding model,

education licensure reciprocity and having a current educator on the State Board. Senator Jason Barickman (R-Bloomington) introduced Senate Bill 1403, the evidence-based funding model. Senator Michael Hastings (D-Orland Hills) has joined as a co-sponsor and Senator Andy Manar (D-Bunker Hill), who last year raised the issue of changing the school funding formula to address inequities in the current formula, has said he will also co-sponsor the bill. State Representative Emmanuel "Chris" Welch (D-Westchester) has introduced an identical bill, HB 4022.

Representative Will Davis (D-Hazel Crest) introduced House Bill 2683 regarding the licensure reciprocity issue, and Senator Jennifer Bertino-Tarrant (D-Shorewood) is sponsoring SB 1506 calling for a current educator on the ISBE Board. Other legislation related to Vision 20/20 is expected this session, including a new differentiated

(Continued on page 4)

Map of supporting school districts



Supporting Districts

390

Students Represented

533,913



Visit the Vision 20/20 website at www.illinoisvision2020.org.

(Continued from page 3)

accountability system and easing the burden of some unfunded mandates that don't have anything to do with student safety or civil rights.



School boards throughout the state are adopting resolutions in support of Vision 20/20. As of March 2 we have heard from 390 districts that have adopted the resolution – and those districts represent more than 500,000 students. That level of support is fantastic by normal industry standards, but we are setting the bar much higher. We want every district in the state to take a close look at Vision 20/20 because if this plan is to succeed it will do so at the grassroots level. The question I would pose is: If you cannot support the Vision 20/20 plan that was developed by educators from throughout the state, what can you support?



Based on reports at our last IASA Board of Directors meeting, superintendents are exploring all avenues to promote Vision 20/20, including such things as using the Vision 20/20 banner on school websites to spark conversation about the initiative, presentations to civic groups, community forums and forums for legislators, regional joint letters to the editor and letters to legislators, and using technology and social media, including short

[YouTube videos/messages](#) to the public such as Rochester Superintendent Dr. Tom Bertrand has been producing.

In this issue of *Leadership Matters*, we have a guest column written by Superintendent Dr. Lynn Gibson and Assistant Superintendent Dr. Kim Suedbeck detailing how they and their board have incorporated the four Vision 20/20 pillars into the strategic plan for the Rockton Hononegah School District.

Legislators will be on recess and back in their home districts from March 30-April 10. That would be a perfect time to reach out to them and ask them for their support of Vision 20/20 legislation.

Diane Hendren, our Director of Governmental Relations, reported to the Board that Vision 20/20 is “buzzing all over the capitol,” and IASA President Scott Kuffel noted “I have never seen such a mobilization effort in such a short period of time. It has gained great traction in less than three months. It’s not about lighting a fire under it, but lighting a fire within it.”

Scott captured it perfectly. The Vision 20/20 fire has been lit from within thanks to our IASA members from all over the state as well as school board members, principals, business officials, parents and others. Now we need to keep stoking that fire because the next three months will be critical to our efforts to reform public education policy in Illinois.

Brent Clark

A Partnership YOU Can Rely On

Association Member Benefits Advisors (AMBA) is proud to be a new corporate partner with the Illinois Association of School Administrators (IASA).

AMBA is a nationwide full-service agency focused on plan design, negotiations, and implementation of benefit programs for associations. We currently make benefits available to over 40 associations across the United States with a focus on the active and retired educator community.

We assist in making benefits available such as first diagnosis cancer, first diagnosis heart attack/first major heart surgery, and many, many merchant discounts that are not available to the general public. AMBA looks forward to working with you.

**To learn more about available member benefits,
contact us at 800.258.7041.**



In partnership with





VISION 20/20

Fulfilling the Promise of Public Education

Vision 20/20 matters as Illinois' educational legacy



Dr. Lynn M. Gibson,
Superintendent



Dr. Kim Suedbeck,
Asst. Superintendent

Hononegah Community High School District 207

Leadership matters. Being intentional about how we lead also matters. Conversation and dialogue among us build the educational culture in which we live. Conversations about education are happening by stakeholders in every Illinois school district. These stakeholders include Boards of Education, educators, legislators, business and industry leaders, parents, students, and community members.

Education in Illinois matters. Our legacy of education is on the line. It's time for us all to speak up and speak out about the importance of public education in Illinois.

And it's time for individual districts to do the same. This is where the legacy of Vision 20/20 -- Fulfilling the Promise of Public Education -- comes home to each of our districts.

Hononegah Community High School District 207 has embraced the tenets of Vision 20/20 and is one of the nearly 400 Illinois school districts that have adopted the Board Resolution in support of the initiative. Administration and Board Members in our district have been engaged in conversation over the past few months regarding the Four Pillars, which are

the platform of this initiative that align with the blueprint for improving public education in Illinois.

At a recent Board of Education meeting, district-level administration presented the background on Vision 20/20 and information on the six state organizations involved in the creation of the initiative. We stressed the significance and importance of this Alliance partnership working together on this ambitious project.

Hononegah's building administrators then presented the Vision's Four Pillars and how they align with our District's Strategic Plan. Simply defined, strategic planning is defined as pushing organizations to their maximum capacity. Here is what was presented:



Pillar 1 - Highly Effective

Educators: Strategy 1 in Hononegah's Strategic Plan provides for the academic rigor and professional development

needed to assure that our teaching staff -- and we are all teachers -- is prepared to meet the challenges of today's education. Partnerships with higher education, business and community members, and our parents provide a strong emphasis on relationships that are meaningful and lasting. Educators need this support to teach our young people in today's complex educational landscape.



Pillar 2 - 21st Century Learning:

Strategies 1, 2, 3 and 5 in our Strategic Plan target teaching and learning, positive culture, communication, and student

attendance. The combination of these strategies provides a powerful path that can successfully take our students through their

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high school education and into their future lives. In addition, our pilot “incubator/think tank” classroom, curriculum changes in physical education, fine arts emphasis, and continued academic rigor offer our students an education designed to develop the whole child and link them to college and careers – and 21st century learning.



Pillar 3 - Shared Accountability:

Accountability surrounds all components of our Strategic Plan and is part of the vision that drives our educators to embrace the responsibility required to work in a profession that is absolutely one of the highest callings imaginable. Continued collaborative dialogue and shared accountability between educators and legislators support a joint accountability model. The superintendents in our area, along with our Regional Office of Education, meet on a regular basis with our legislators to express our thanks and concerns involving education for our districts.



Pillar 4 - Equitable and

Adequate Funding: Strategy 4 in our Plan speaks to the funding necessary to provide a preeminent education targeted to student

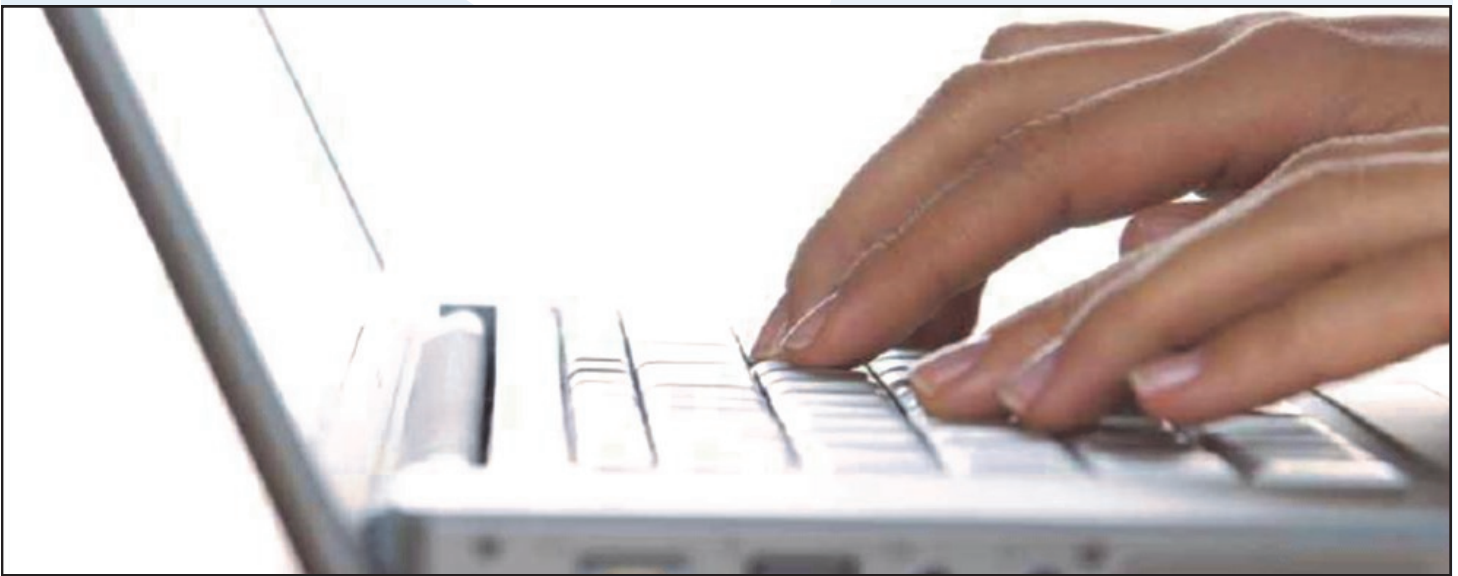
needs. As our district – similar to other districts in the state – continues to financially grapple with meeting the essentials of

learning for our students, we will do everything possible to maintain the course of educational excellence while working with other districts, and with our lawmakers, to support legislation that brings our students’ education to the table in Springfield and Washington.

Phase 1 of Vision 20/20 is complete. The blueprint is written, the recommended policies are drafted, and districts are answering the call to share the initiative with their Boards of Education, staff, and communities. Phase 2 is mobilization of the initiative which includes approval of the resolution by Boards of Education, dissemination of information and outreach to staff and community members, and communication with our legislators that we, as educators, mean business. As the political winds continue to blow, returning education in Illinois to the top priority list must happen.

We are responsible as Illinois educators to fulfill the promise of public education. We are accountable to ourselves and our colleagues to not only reflect on the current state of education in Illinois but to seize the baton and move Illinois – and our own districts – forward to reach the highest standards for public education.

District by district we will fulfill the promise of public education in Illinois. It is the only way to create the education needed for our students today and to pass the torch to the next generation...the only way for the Illinois Educational Legacy to strengthen and endure. Vision 20/20 matters.



DAILY ROUTINE: 1. Coffee 2. IASA Website.

www.iasaedu.org

Essential Communication:

HOW TO SURVIVE AND THRIVE IN THE AGE OF NEW AND SOCIAL MEDIA

Being a successful school superintendent in 2015 requires a particular set of skills and resources, many of which likely weren't even on your radar a few years ago.

Thanks to the growth of social media, every decision you make as a school district leader is subject to intense scrutiny. Countless district leaders have seen their priorities hijacked and careers derailed, at least in part, by the perception of poor communication and negative feedback. Fortunately, the very same technology that threatens to undermine your decision-making can help you regain control of the conversation.

Over the past year, the Rockford Public Schools has deployed a solution designed specifically to help school leaders and superintendents more effectively communicate with and engage stakeholders — and early returns suggest it's achieving tremendous results.

In this 45-minute webinar, Superintendent Dr. Ehren Jarrett shares the secret to his district's communication success and provides strategies for other school leaders looking to convert public resistance into fuel for positive change.



Earl Dotson, Jr.
Chief of
Communications



Dr. Ehren Jarrett
Superintendent Rockford
Public Schools

[Click here to sign up.](#)

Leadership Summit 2015



The four Executive Directors of the Statewide School Management Alliance, from left, Roger Eddy (IASB), Dr. Brent Clark (IASA), Jason Leahy (IPA), and Dr. Michael Jacoby (IASBO), discuss Vision 20/20 at the Leadership Summit

Leadership Summit draws more than 600 attendees

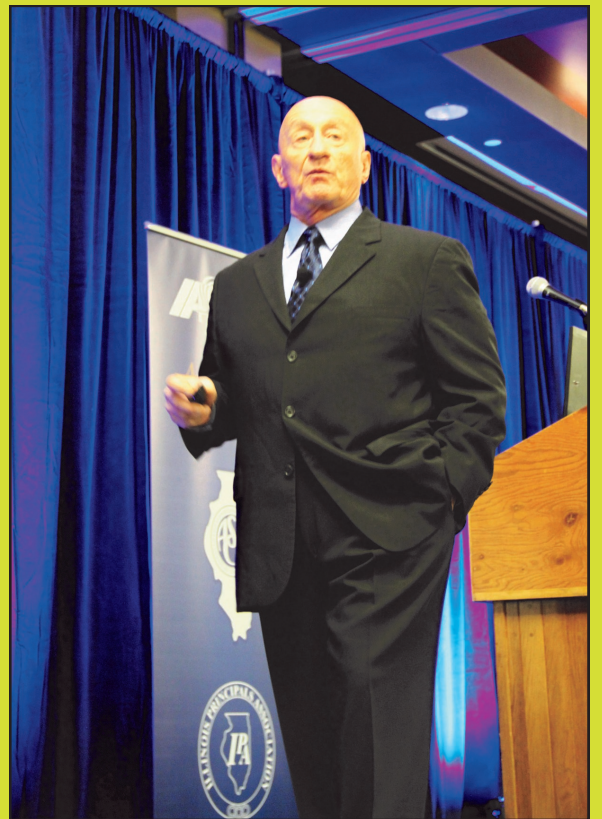
The Leadership Summit was held in Springfield February 17-18 and attracted more than 600 school administrators, school board members, principals and school business officials to discuss strategies for moving the Vision 20/20 initiative from vision to action.

“The synergy of bringing together representatives from all of the Statewide School Management Alliance partners was really incredible,” said IASA Executive Director Dr. Brent Clark. “The discussions were lively, and I think the visits to legislators and the demonstration of unity and strength will prove helpful as we try to implement Vision 20/20.”

Highlights of the two-day summit included:

- ◆ A keynote speech by Dr. Joseph Scherer, Executive Director of the Superintendents’ National Dialogue, whose presentation “School Leaders: Strong Minds Creating a Vision” stressed why school leaders need to exercise their voice and strength on issues affecting public education.
- ◆ A visit and brief introductory presentation by Dr. Elizabeth Purvis, who appeared at the summit only a couple of hours after being named Secretary of Education.
- ◆ A panel discussion by three journalists who cover state government and politics. The panel included Jamey Dunn, Executive Editor of *Illinois Issues* magazine; Bernie Schoenburg, political columnist for the State Journal-Register in the state capital, and Charles Wheeler, Director of the Public Affairs Reporting graduate program at the University of Illinois-Springfield and former longtime state capitol reporter for the Chicago Sun-Times.
- ◆ A long-distance presentation by William Rankin, Director of Learning for Apple, who talked about new dimensions in learning and unleashing creativity.
- ◆ A panel discussion by members of the Illinois Statewide School Management Alliance titled “Meeting with Legislators: Strategy and Message.”
- ◆ A presentation by Ralph Martire, Executive Director for the Center for Tax and Budget Accountability, regarding the pension issue and the state’s fiscal policy.
- ◆ A Vision 20/20 panel discussion led by Executive Directors Dr. Clark (IASA), Roger Eddy (IASB), Jason Leahy (IPA) and Dr. Michael Jacoby (IASBO).
- ◆ Legislative visits to the state capitol, and a legislative reception that attracted more than 60 state representatives and senators.

Leadership Summit 2015



Leadership Summit 2015



Leadership Summit 2015



Leadership Summit 2015



LEADING
OUR SCHOOLS
IN OUR
COMMUNITIES

Chairman Meeks, three new members seated on State Board



Message from
the State
Superintendent
of Education



Last month the Illinois State Board of Education held its first meeting with the newly reconstituted Board. I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce you to the four new individuals who will help shape the state's education initiatives going forward.

James Meeks of Chicago was appointed to be the Board's chairman in January, bringing a wealth of experience and knowledge from his 10 years as a state senator. During his Senate term, Chairman Meeks heavily focused his efforts on education issues and served as the chairman of the Senate's Education Committee. He also currently leads the Salem Baptist Church of Chicago, which has more than 15,000 members. On Feb. 11, the new Board members attended their first meeting. They are:



◆ **Lula Ford**, who brings 34 years of experience as a teacher, principal and assistant superintendent to the Board. She began her career as an elementary school teacher in Chicago Public Schools.



Throughout her three decades at CPS, she was also a counselor and principal. Ford earned the Principal of Excellence Award from 1992-94. She also served as an assistant superintendent and the chief instruction officer. Most recently, Ford was a commissioner on the Illinois Commerce Commission. She served on that board for 10 years until 2013. Before that, she was the assistant director of Central Management Services.

◆ **Craig Lindvahl**, who has more than 35 years



of experience in education and business. He is an award-winning educator who has earned the Milken National Educator Award and twice been a finalist for Illinois Teacher

of the Year. Lindvahl is currently the executive director of the Midland Institute for Entrepreneurship, which is a company that educates future business leaders. He oversees the Creating Entrepreneurial Opportunities (CEO) program and speaks across the country about CEO and millennial and economic development. Lindvahl spent 34 years in Teutopolis District 50 schools, where he taught music, band, television production and entrepreneurship programs. He is also an award-winning filmmaker, having earned 12 Mid-America Emmy Awards and 11 Telly Awards for his writing, producing, camera work and editing. Lindvahl currently owns Callan Films Corp., which produces documentaries and corporate projects.

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◆ **Eligio Cerda Pimentel**, who has a demonstrated track record of supporting education in underprivileged communities and nearly 20 years of professional experience, both as an attorney and engineer. Pimentel is an



attorney and board member at McAndrews, Held & Malloy, Ltd. He joined the firm as an associate in 1996 and worked his way up to board member. Pimentel is a patent attorney focusing on litigation and maintains a

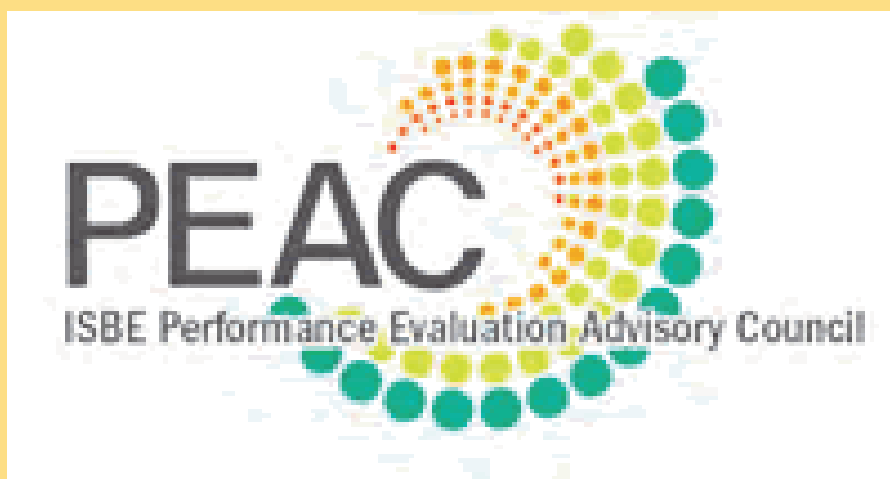
transactional practice focusing on intellectual property rights. He also works to provide educational opportunities to economically disadvantaged children. He is currently on the Board of Directors of Cristo Rey High School, serving students on Chicago's southwest side who could not otherwise afford a private college-prep education. Pimentel also served on the Board of Directors of the Mary Crane Center, which promotes early-childhood education on Chicago's west and northwest sides.

I look forward to working with the new Board members and drawing from their diverse talents and expertise to promote, protect and strengthen public education in Illinois.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris".

PEAC Survey Available to Collect Feedback on New Teacher Evaluation Systems

The Performance Evaluation Reform Act (PERA) requires Illinois districts to adopt new teacher evaluation systems that address teacher performance and student growth. To assess districts' challenges in implementing their new evaluation system, the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) and the Performance Evaluation Advisory Council (PEAC) contracted with American Institutes for Research to conduct a survey.



The purpose of the survey is to collect anonymous data from Illinois school districts on the challenges encountered during the design and implementation of their new teacher evaluation systems, in accordance with PERA requirements. Your responses will help PEAC and ISBE identify district needs and address those needs through potential resources and supports.

The survey link (www.surveymonkey.com/s/PEACImpSur) will also be sent to district superintendents and union leaders. Superintendents and union leaders (or designees) are asked to complete the survey and then forward the link to other members of the district committee that studies, reviews, informs and/or makes decisions regarding the teacher evaluation system.

The survey will close on March 24. Please contact Vince Camille at vcamille@isbe.net with questions.

Do changes in funding have you worried about your 2015 technology budget?

Schoolwires is offering special CMS and webhosting packaging to Illinois Association of School Administrators' members to help alleviate some of the financial burden you may be feeling with the changes in budget and funding.

To learn more about special packaging and pricing contact

Bill Reynolds

Schoolwires Senior Territory Manager

bill.reynolds@schoolwires.com

618.308.0870



Performance contracting is a concept school districts should consider



Dr. Bill Phillips
IASA Field
Services Director

Performance contracting, broadly speaking, is the concept of shifting risk from the owner to the contractor.

The concept of a de facto design-build, at-risk procurement agent to school districts familiar only with the architecturally-led, low-bid process is indeed novel. And to those districts frustrated with inconsistent quality, minimal control and significant project liability, performance contracting is valuable.

Traditionally, public agencies have been constrained by competing statutory requirements to award construction projects to the “lowest bidder,” and contracts for professional design services on the basis of “demonstrated competence and professional qualifications.” The statutory authority under 105 ILCS 5/19b allows schools to award contracts on a design-build basis and reconciles the two competing standards for contract award under spec-bid.

Owners have more control under a performance contract. Performance contracting offers the flexibility where owners collaboratively develop projects with the performance contractor and identify specific systems, designs, subcontractors, equipment, and ancillary design professionals that, in combination, create the greatest value for the district.

In order for the performance contractor to guarantee that the installation will perform, the performance contractor must have the ability to control the design and installation under design-build. Spec-bid architects and construction managers provide no cost or performance guarantees since the resultant low bid assembly of subcontractors on the project are not of their selection or under their control. Aside from providing no guarantees, spec-bid architects and construction managers have no incentive to meet project budgets and timelines because they commonly receive additional fees on all unforeseen change orders throughout construction.

Often the finance structure of performance contracts includes a combination of HLS bonds, working cash bonds, O&M fund balances, and grant and rebate awards. Alternate revenue bonds may be issued to fund performance contracting, but it is not required -- especially if the district is fortunate to be approved for the County Facilities Occupational Tax in which the alternative revenue required for Alternate Revenue Bonds is the 1 percent sales tax collected and allocated to the district by enrollment.

Early involvement of the performance contractor and key subcontractors results in significant impact on the project outcome (design, cost, and schedule).

According to the Construction Management Association of America’s 2005 owner’s survey, 92 percent of project owners have said that an architect’s drawings are typically not sufficient for construction.

Studies have shown that approximately 80 percent of potential design cost savings on a project are achieved during the first 20 percent of the design process. This is mainly due to the fact that the design outcome is much more flexible during the conceptual phase and becomes increasingly less flexible as the design progresses. The maximum possible savings on design costs are captured as the performance contractor and key subcontractors are involved early in the design process when practical feedback regarding constructability and detailed savings analysis can be integrated.

The early involvement of the performance contractor and key subcontractors during the design process also offers clear benefits with regard to the quality of a project, reduced costs during construction and shorter project schedules. The level of workmanship tends to be higher because trades working on a team feel vested in the project.

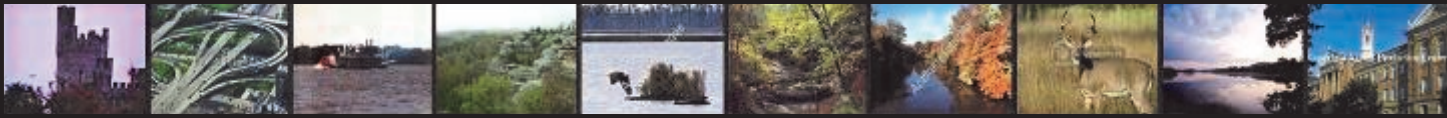
The practical feedback regarding the most efficient approaches to building the project frequently result in significant cost savings because there is a reduction in the number of clarifications needed during construction and a limited amount of redesign required, if any. These efficiencies all have a direct impact on the overall project cost. Of those districts that have utilized performance contracting, virtually all agree that early involvement of the performance contractor and its key subcontractors consistently provides these tangible benefits.

Thus performance contracting provides an alternate process for districts who want to renovate their district facilities. Districts should keep in mind that there is an alternative to the traditional bid and specification process. While performance contracting has been available for Illinois school districts since 1985, many superintendents are unaware of this process and its inherent differences when districts get into the construction field of endeavor.





IASA News in Brief



SIU Southern Illinois University CARBONDALE

18th Annual Southern Illinois Educational Leadership Conference

Date: March 25, 2015

Location: SIU Carbondale, Student Center

Vision 20/20: Promoting Student Focused Leadership

Keynote: Randy Dunn, President, Southern Illinois University

Call for Proposals

Proposals are being sought for presentations for the 2015 conference. Email title, brief description and names of additional presenters to:

EAHELLeadershipConf@gmail.com

Deadline is February 6, 2015

Click [here](#) for a flyer.

Workshop Sessions include:

- Legal Issues
- Community and Institution Partnerships
- Technology and Education
- Student Success
- Local, State and Federal Funding

Join us as we continue to strengthen the southern Illinois leadership network and school partnerships!

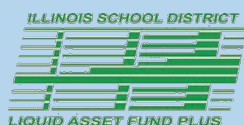
Visit www.continuinged.siu.edu for program updates or to register online!

In Memoriam

It is with sadness that we inform you that former IASA member, Dr. Larry Janes passed away on February 6. In addition, Mr. F. Lynn Hartweger passed away on February 28, 2015.

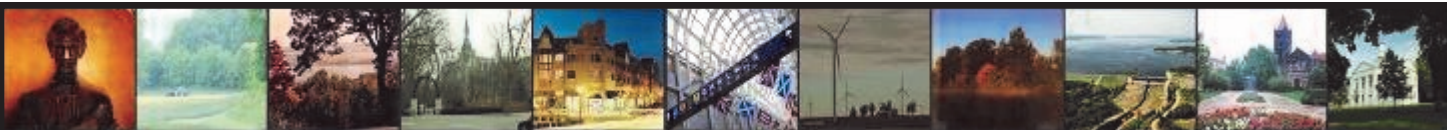
Superintendents on the Move

Are you moving to a new district? Know of a change of superintendent in your area? Please contact Misti Murphy at mmurphy@iasaedu.org with any changes taking place in your district.

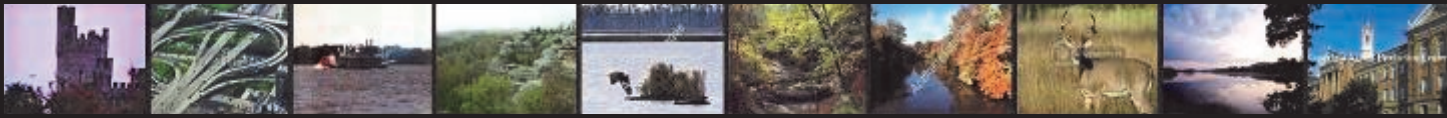


ISDLAF+ February 2015 Monthly Update

Click [here](#) to view the February 2015 ISDLAF+ rates, economic indicators and general economic news brief. To obtain additional information regarding this IASA sponsored service, contact Emmert Dannenberg, statewide marketing director/ISDLAF+ at 815.592.6948. To check daily rates, visit the ISDLAF+ website at www.isdlafplus.com.



IASA News in Brief



Shannon Miller Bellini joins IASA/IAASE staff

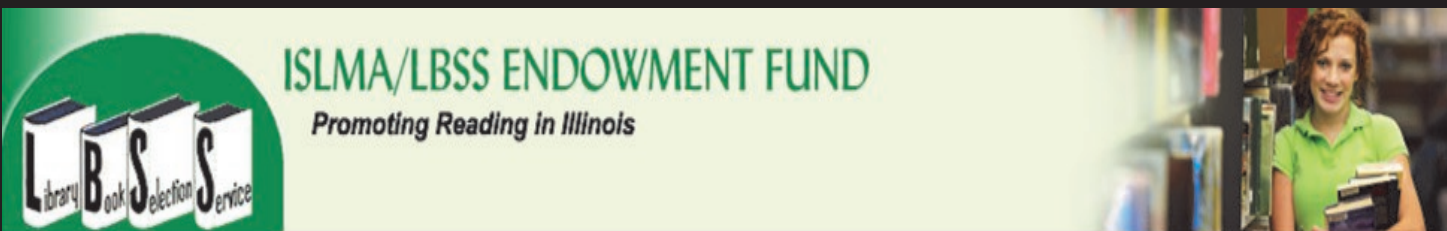
IASA in partnership with the Illinois Alliance of Administrators of Special Education (IAASE) has added Shannon Miller Bellini to a new position as Policy Analyst/Governmental Relations Specialist.

“Shannon will work on special education issues for IAASE and also work with Diane Hendren, our Director of Governmental Relations, on education issues of importance to both organizations,” said IASA Executive Director Dr. Brent Clark. “We think it will be a great partnership between IASA and IAASE and a way to strengthen our presence in the state capitol.”



Prior to joining IASA/IAASE, Miller Bellini served as legislative liaison for three state agencies, including the Department of Financial and Professional Regulation, the Capital Development Board, and the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity. She is a graduate of Southern Illinois University-Carbondale.

She resides in Springfield with her husband, Nick, and 9-year-old son Seiger.



2015-2016 Readers' Choice Grant available to Illinois schools

The Illinois School Library Media Association/Library Book Selection Service Endowment Fund announces its 2015-2016 Readers' Choice Grant. All Illinois libraries registered in any of the Illinois Readers' Choice programs—the Monarch Award, the Bluestem Award, the Rebecca Caudill Young Readers Book Award, and the Abraham Lincoln Illinois High School Book Award—are eligible to apply for this competitive grant.

Grant recipients will be awarded one set of the 2015-2016 reading campaign books for the award program indicated on their application. The titles in each book award set are determined by the individual committees in charge of the reading award programs.

One major change has been made to the grant for 2015-2016. Libraries may apply for the same grant two years in a row. For example, if your library received a Monarch Grant for 2014-2015, you are eligible to apply for another Monarch Grant this year. In addition, some libraries may be awarded multiple sets based on need and programming.

Information about the grant is available at the ISLMA/LBSS Endowment Fund website (www.lbssfund.org). The online application form will be available at the website beginning March 15, 2015. All grant applications must be submitted by midnight April 30, 2015. Applicants must also be registered for the appropriate 2015-2016 Readers' Choice program by April 30, 2015 (a separate process). Questions may be sent to ISLMAexsec@gmail.com or phoned to 309-341-1099.

2014-2015 Senate Bill 7 Performance Rankings File is now available!

Illinois School Districts are working to comply with the requirements of education reforms. IASA has worked to provide support via the Senate Bill 7 Performance Rankings File. This program gives districts a method of managing district positions aligned to local qualifications, teacher's credentials, and performance ratings. The program compiles this local data and creates reports needed to comply with Senate Bill 7.

This software was originally reviewed by the Senate Bill 7 teams from the Illinois Federation of Teachers (IFT) and the Illinois Education Association (IEA). This version builds on the knowledge gained from these users. This includes the inclusion of many suggested improvements that were submitted by these users. Examples of new features include:

- ◆ Sorting data within the program
- ◆ Listing teachers not only in their current position but also for other positions they are eligible to hold in the district
- ◆ Filtering reports to display only current employees

The cost of using this software remains the same as last year. The annual licensing fee will be \$275 for IASA members and \$550 for non-members.

Several podcasts on how to use the software and well as the access request form can be found [here!](#)

Please note that previous versions of the IASA Senate Bill 7 Performance Rankings File are no longer supported as there have been legal changes which are not included in the previous versions of this software. Also, the service method for the 2014 software will be via email only.

Getting to know your IASA Governmental Relations and Advocacy Committee Members

Dr. Lindsey Hall Central Illinois Valley Region

School district: Morton CUSD 709

One thing you would like people to know about your school district: There are great things happening in public education in Morton.

Years as educator: 25

High school: Boulder High School, Boulder CO

Colleges or Universities: University of Colorado, WIU, EIU, University of Illinois

Family: husband of 23 years, four grown children, 1 grandson, one grandchild on the way

Favorite hobby: Running

Favorite movie: *The Right Stuff*

Favorite book: *Unbroken*

Favorite musical artist: Anything classic rock

One thing people probably would be surprised to know about you: In 1980, I accompanied my parents and spent 100 days on a ship sailing around the world. Started in San Francisco, ended in Fort Lauderdale.

Biggest concern about public education: Continual, unrelenting mandates that are often disjointed, ill-planned and consume valuable resources, regular and unwarranted criticism from the public and a barrage of poorly thought out ideas from politicians and others who are “experts” simply because they went to a school. While responding to mandates, requests, new initiatives and other “red tape,” our valuable time as instructional leaders is stolen away from our most important resource: children.

Most encouraging thing about public education: We welcome all children through our doors at any time on any day. The reality is that public schools, overall, are doing a great job in educating a populace with varying and demanding needs and we do so in an environment of shrinking resources and massive bureaucracy. Public schools are filled with valuable, knowledgeable and dedicated employees who love children, and parents who entrust us every day to care for their precious kids.



Tom Mahoney, Northwest Region

School district: Oregon CUSD 220

One thing you would like people to know about your school district: Our high school has received national

recognition from Newsweek, US News and The Daily Beast as a top-ranked high school.

Years as educator: 24

High school: Montini Catholic High School

Colleges or Universities: Millikin University, Loyola University, Western Illinois University

Family: Wife, Angela, daughters Maisie and Delaney

Favorite hobby: Fitness

Favorite movie: *Major Payne*

Favorite book: *The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People*

Favorite musical artist: Johnny Cash

One thing people probably would be surprised to know about you: I have a high school football message board, Turk190.

Biggest concern about public education: The lack of adequate and equitable funding

Most encouraging thing about public education: Public education is working and continues to serve our student population well.



Assurant Employee Benefits in conjunction with American Central Insurance Services are pleased to offer an ancillary benefit offering* for board paid life insurance, supplemental voluntary life insurance, and voluntary or contributory vision insurance for the Illinois Schools Employee Benefits Consortium.

Contact Jeremy Travelstead or Stan Travelstead at 877-698-2247
jeremy@iasaedu.org or stan@iasaedu.org

Board Paid Life Insurance:

- Offer 10% under currently charged rate with a three year rate lock as long as sold with voluntary life.
- Offer to match current rate if sold without voluntary life with a three year rate lock.
- Allow the school to have varying schedule of benefits to mirror current features as closely as possible.

Supplemental Voluntary Life Insurance:

- Offer consortium block pricing to schools not currently offering voluntary life to employees.
- Benefits include options for \$10,000 units of insurance from \$20,000 to \$500,000; not to exceed five times employee's annual earnings. Additional coverage is available for spouses and children.
- Offer to match current voluntary life rates upon underwriting review for schools that currently offer voluntary life to employees

Eligible Lives	Elevated School Employee Guarantee Issue Amount
10-99	\$120,000
100-249	\$150,000
250-499	\$180,000

Voluntary or Contributory Vision Insurance:

- Offer 5% under currently charged rates with a two year rate lock.
- Offer consortium block pricing to schools not currently offering vision insurance.
- Allow the school to have varying schedule of benefits to mirror current features as closely as possible.



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CONTACT:

Scott Smith, *National Sales Director*

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THE PROOF IS IN THE NUMBERS

The Illinois Education Job Bank has been redesigned to combine a more user-friendly interface, professional layout and enhancements such as the ability to apply online and manage resumes and vacancies easier. Whether you are seeking qualified applicants to fill permanent, interim, part of full-time vacancies, the Illinois Education Job Bank makes posting jobs and finding candidates as easy as **1-2-3!**

With over **750** Illinois school districts and **225** other educational institutions subscribing to the Illinois Education Job Bank, the proof is in the numbers. Since 1999, the Job Bank has provided the opportunity for more than **60,000** vacancies and **83,000** profiles to be posted online.

www.illinoiseducationjobbank.org



**Illinois Association of School Administrators (IASA)
uses website to connect employers with Job Seekers**



"As a Superintendent, I have utilized the Illinois Education Job Bank consistently. It has become a useful resource in my district for seeking qualified candidates. We utilize the Illinois Education Job Bank to not only seek qualified applicants, but we also use this job bank to post any open positions we may have. I have been extremely pleased with the quality of applicants provided by the Illinois Education Job Bank, as well as their response in answering questions regarding the site!"

- Dr. Kimako Patterson, Superintendent at Prairie-Hills Elementary School District 144



"Without a doubt, the Illinois Education Job Bank is the ONLY site school districts need when posting openings. Candidates in Illinois know that the Job Bank is the site to use, so school districts are confident they are getting the best possible candidates. For the cost and ease of use, the Illinois Job Bank is simply in a class of its own."

- Chad Allison, Superintendent at Illinois Valley Central Unit 321



"I have utilized the Illinois Education Job Bank since it's launch by IASA several years ago. It has and continues to be the staple for educational job postings in Illinois. As a superintendent I really appreciate the service it provides."

- Dr. Keith Oates, Superintendent at Marion Community 2

March 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 Abe Lincoln / Shawnee / Two Rivers Region meeting	4	5 Corn Belt Region meeting	6	7
8	9 Blackhawk Region meeting	10	11 Du Page/ Illini Region meeting	12	13 Kaskaskia Region meeting	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 Egyptian Region meeting	26 Three Rivers Region meeting	27 Western Region meeting	28
29	30	31				

Click on a color-coded date to open a link for more information about the event.

**IASA
Event**

**Professional
Development
Event**

**Legislative
Event**

**Region
Meeting
(Contact your
Region President
for details)**

April 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 Corn Belt / Kishwaukee Region meeting	3	4
5	6	7 Shawnee Region meeting	8 Cook West / Illini Region meeting	9	10 Kaskaskia Region meeting	11
12	13	14	15 DuPage Region meeting	16	17	18
19	20	21	22 Egyptian Region meeting	23	24 Western Region meeting	25
26	27	28	29	30		

Click on a color-coded date to open a link for more information about the event.

IASA Event

Professional Development Event

Legislative Event

**Region Meeting
(Contact your Region President for details)**

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF YOUR MARKETING OPPORTUNITIES

You and your firm are invited to participate in the

51st ANNUAL IASA CONFERENCE

ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS

SEPTEMBER 30
to
OCTOBER 2
2015

SPONSOR AN EVENT,
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RESERVE YOUR BOOTH

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SUITE FOR ATTENDEES



[Click here for additional information.](#)





Call for Presentations

**IASA Annual Conference
Sept. 30-Oct. 2, 2015**

**President Abraham Lincoln
Hotel by DoubleTree and the
Prairie Capital Convention
Center
Springfield, Illinois**

Annually, hundreds of school leaders attend IASA's Annual Conference for the purpose of increasing their professional growth.

Key Dates:

*Submission Deadline: May 29, 2015
Presenters Notified: Mid-July 2015*

Questions:

Contact Jodi Gillespie
at 217/753-2213 or
jgillespie@iasaedu.org.

The Illinois Association of School Administrators (IASA) is soliciting breakout session proposals for the IASA Annual Conference, scheduled on September 30-October 2, 2015, at the President Abraham Lincoln Hotel by Double Tree and Prairie Capital Convention Center in Springfield, IL. This is an opportunity to share your best practices on educational issues with your colleagues. Past sessions have addressed topics such as: assessments; technology; short-term borrowing solutions for schools; retirement planning for school professionals; violence prevention programs; curriculum alignment; hiring and evaluation of personnel; legal updates and school district reorganization. We look forward to reviewing what you have to offer!

Breakout sessions will be held from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Thursday, October 1, 2015 and 8:30 to 9:30 a.m., Friday, October 2, 2015.

Guidelines and Criteria:

- No more than two proposals per person will be considered.
- Speakers do not need to be IASA members in order to submit a presentation proposal; however, if a proposal is accepted for presentation, speakers will be required to pay the full conference registration fee if they are eligible for any class of IASA membership.
- IASA reserves the right to edit session titles and descriptions for marketing purposes.
- All breakout sessions have a moderator that will be assigned by IASA.
- Audio/visual equipment needs must be provided via this proposal. The standard audio/visual equipment provided by IASA includes LCD projector, screen, podium, and a microphone. Computers, internet connections, or other audio/visual equipment will be at the cost of the presenter.
- Presenters will be required to provide an electronic copy of their handouts three weeks prior to the conference. There will be no exceptions.
- Presenters will be responsible for providing the handouts for the attendees.
- All presentations must adhere to copyright laws.
- Presentations accepted by IASA may not be altered or changed without approval.
- IASA reserves the right to record sessions and make those audio and/or video recordings, available to its members. Likewise, photos will be taken for inclusion on the IASA website. By returning the proposal form, you and the other presenters listed, agree to be recorded.
- IASA will not pay an honorarium, speaker fees or travel expenses.
- Please note that proposals constituting sales promotions for products or services will not be considered (proposals submitted by vendors).

[Click here for additional information.](#)



Membership includes:

◆ Legal Support Program

IASA's in-house attorney provides legal counsel regarding superintendent contracts and legal assistance in job-related legal actions or proceedings.

◆ Return of Dues Program

A payment proportionate to the amount of dues paid during the past 10 consecutive years is made to a member's beneficiary upon an active member's death.

◆ Mentoring

Whether it is through one-on-one contact with the IASA Executive Director or through one of the Field Services Directors, members have quick access to experienced school administrators.

◆ Legislative Advocacy

IASA's governmental relations director tracks legislation that affects public education, lobbies on behalf of IASA's positions and keeps members informed with *Capitol Watch* updates and analysis.

◆ Professional Development

IASA's professional development director offers timely academies, workshops and blogs that provide helpful instruction to deal with emerging issues facing school leaders.

◆ Communications Services

IASA's communications director assists superintendents in the development of talking points, media statements or letters to parents regarding issues that arise in a school district.

◆ Conference Opportunities

IASA's Annual Conference in the fall and its biennial Alliance Leadership Summit in the spring offer members the opportunity to hear from nationally known speakers and to network with colleagues from throughout the state.

Renew your membership or join IASA today

For more information or to join or renew online, go to the IASA website at www.iasaedu.org and click on the Membership Tab at the top of the page.

If you have any questions, please contact Misti at 217.753.2213 or mmurphy@iasaedu.org.



Are you ready?

Never has there been a more sweeping package of education reform initiatives than were contained in Senate Bill 7 and in the Performance Evaluation Reform Act (PERA), and many of the teacher evaluation requirements are on the horizon.

Teacher Supervision Advanced Training in the Danielson Model

is designed to help you not only comply with the new laws, but to help improve the evaluation process and, in turn, improve the quality of teaching in your district – the real goal. This training includes:

- ◆ “Six Steps for Successful Teaching Evaluation”
- ◆ Tips on how to “coach” teachers on how to improve
- ◆ How to collect and synthesize evidence
- ◆ How to work with teachers to develop SMART goals
- ◆ New 2013 research and instruction on performance-based teacher evaluation

“The Advanced Danielson training was perfect for evaluators in our district...it deepened our understanding of the legal and practical implications of the Danielson Model and, more importantly, started a discussion with our school leaders that has continued after the training.”
Dr. Nick Polyak, Superintendent of Leyden Community High School 212



“Managing the dynamic improvement of instruction through evidence-based evaluation can be daunting for teacher evaluators. This academy provides administrators with the practical tools necessary to support teachers using the evaluation process as a springboard to enhanced professional practice.”
Dr. Jason Henry, Superintendent of Sesser-Valier 196



“Dr. Voltz engaged, inspired and empowered school and district leaders with his wit, wisdom and words tied to actions related to Danielson’s

Frameworks for Teaching. I recommend that everyone who evaluates teachers using the Danielson Frameworks learn from Dr. Voltz. His deep knowledge and strong ability to relate theory and practice is extremely valuable.”
Dr. Michael Lubelfeld, Superintendent of Deerfield 109



“During my tenure as a superintendent in both a large unit district and now a smaller, high-performing suburban district, we have provided Dr. Voltz’s training for our administration teams. In both instances, he was able to tailor the message to our specific needs. At the end of the day, our team walked out of the room more confident and more knowledgeable about the evaluation process.”
Lonny Lemon, Superintendent of Oak Grove 68



“Utilizing a coaching approach to guide effective feedback and practice, the Teacher Supervision Advanced Training in the Danielson Model provides useful strategies and applications that school leaders can incorporate to more effectually develop distinguished staff...incorporating humor and charisma into the session kept all attendees engaged throughout the day.”

Dr. Art Fessler, Superintendent of Community Consolidated 59 in Arlington Heights

“The Paxton Buckley Loda School District is in the process of implementing many facets of the Danielson Evaluation Model. Dr. Voltz provides this training in a collaborative fashion, sharing his knowledge of best practices and strategies that we can utilize to implement a new evaluation system with integrity.”
Cliff McClure, Superintendent of Paxton-Buckley-Loda School District 10



For more information, contact Kim Herr at 217.753.2213 or by email kherr@iasaedu.org.

