

VISION
2030

Welcome School Boards and Guests

One Community, One Goal: **OUR** Students CAN



Our Purpose...

- ★ Joint Board Meetings Bring OUR Learning Communities Together to focus on our Vision for 2030 and beyond
- ★ Theme this year: OUR Students CAN - Just Watch'Em!
- ★ Our Focus will be on Parent Engagement: Beyond just Participation and Involvement; **Engagement, Empowerment, and Voice**

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Welcome



Laura Martinez
Director, Outreach and Training

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Joint Board Meeting

Beach Park CCSD 3
Winthrop Harbor SD 1
Zion SD 6
Zion-Benton THSD 126

October 29, 2024

The What and the Why

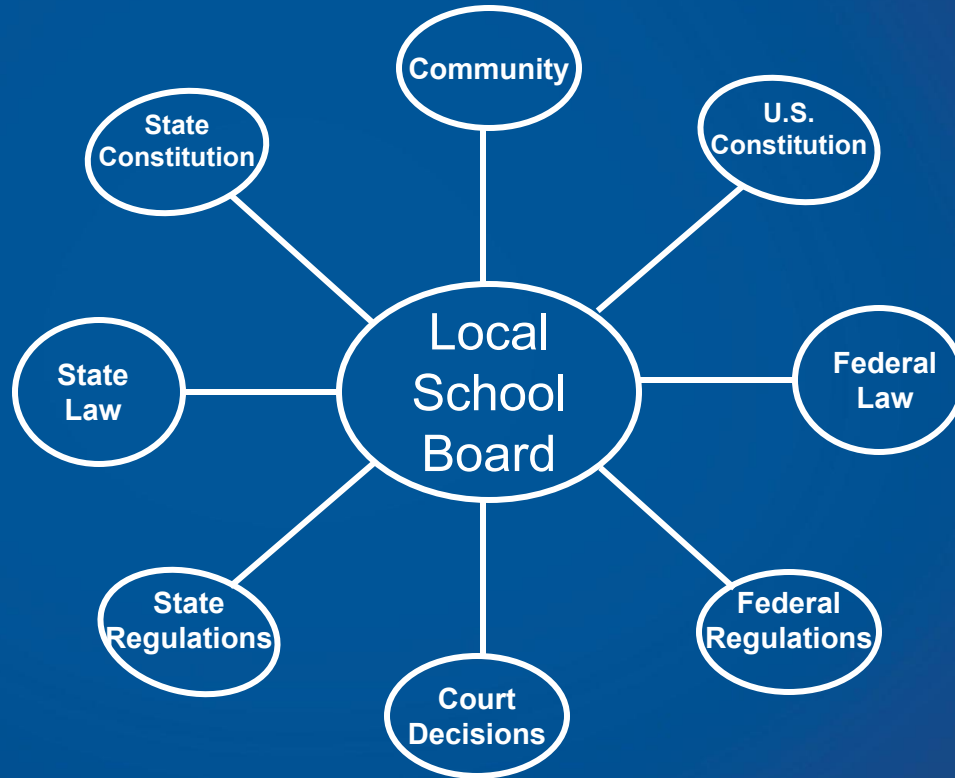


I'll tell you your what



You tell me your why

A Complex System with Competing Claims and Expectations



Huge responsibility

Unpaid volunteer position

Unique and essential

The board's work

The board clarifies the district purpose.

- *Foundational Principle #1*
- Ends
- Core values and beliefs
- "...providing the entire system with clarity of purpose and a clear direction."
- We do this because we believe...

The board's work

The board connects with the community.

- *Foundational Principle #2*
- Detecting ends
- “A board in touch with community-wide concerns and **values** will serve the **broad public good** rather than being overly influenced by special interests.”

The board's work

The board employs a superintendent.

Foundational Principle #3

“...mutual respect and a clear understanding of respective roles, responsibilities, and expectations.”

Trust and communication

Board and superintendent relationship

Arguably the most crucial relationship in the district

The board's work

The board delegates authority.

- *Foundational Principle #4*
- “Ultimately, the school board is **responsible for everything**, yet must recognize that everything **depends upon** a capable and competent staff.”
- Set up for success
- Empower
- Trust

The board's work

The board monitors performance.

- *Foundational Principle #5*
- "...has a **moral obligation** to itself and the community to determine whether that authority is being used as intended."
- Are we getting what we wanted?
- How do we know?

The board's work

The board takes responsibility for itself.

Foundational Principle #6

“The board, collectively and individually, takes **full responsibility** for board activity and behavior...”

“The school board's role as trustee for the community is **unique and essential** to both the district and community.”



THANK YOU!



**SCHOOL BOARD
MEMBERS DAY –
NOVEMBER 15**



Learning never stops



Commitment



Modeling behavior

What is your why?

“Why on earth would you want to be on a school board?”



It takes up soooo much time – meetings, preparing for meetings, emails, texts, attending events...



You have to listen to negative comments from people and **not** respond!



All you hear about is how bad schools are and how students are failing miserably.



You never have enough money, and you're the reason my tax bill is so high.



You don't really get to **do** anything, what **do** you do, anyway?

What is your why?

“Why on earth would you want to be on a school board?”



5-10 minutes to come up with 3 responses to “What is your why?”



Each group will share.

The Why and the What



The best way to serve your district and community is to wrap yourselves up in governance.



Think upward and outward more than downward and inward.

You are unique and
essential!

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THE FUTURE OF OUR ZEE-BEES

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Partner Organizations:



The Association
of Illinois Rural
and Small Schools



Three Pillars

1

**Future-
Focused
Learning**

2

**Shared
Accountability**

3

**Predictable
Funding**



Each pillar includes
3-4 priority statements.

Each priority statement
includes multiple
advocacy goals that
will drive legislative
proposals.

Leadership Matters

May 2021 Special Edition



91 Districts Sharing Their Stories

How Evidence-Based Funding is Helping Illinois Students



Learn How EBF Helped Schools Prepare
and Persevere Through COVID-19 Pandemic

Special
Edition

Protect Evidence-Based Funding \$350 Million Annual Allotment



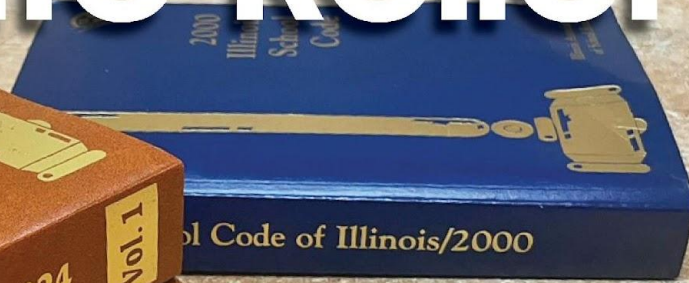
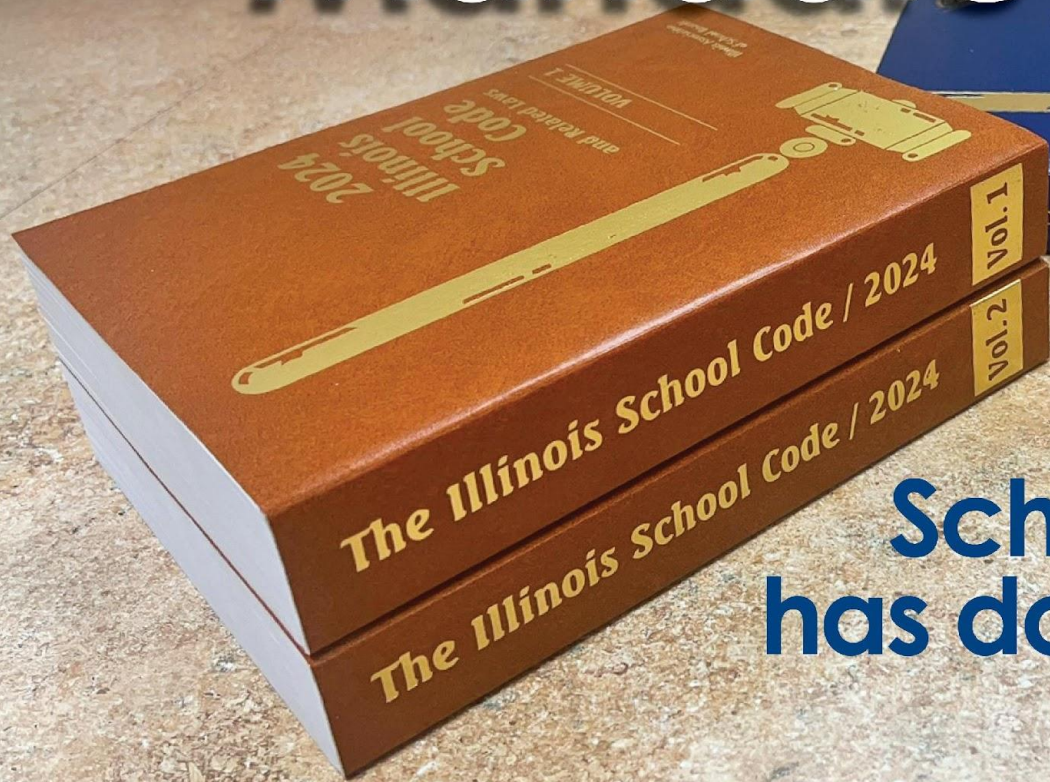
The **Teacher** Shortage

**Vision 2030
Advocates for:**

Grade band and licensure flexibility
Alternative Licensing Programs
Growing the Teacher Pool
Increased Autonomy



Mandate Relief



**Illinois
School Code
has doubled since
2000**



Vision 2030 Summary

- How can we ensure predictable funding?
- How can we improve post-secondary success?
- How can we effectively work together to create a pathway for student success?

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Strategic Plan Journey



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Preparing our students
for the Future
They Choose



ZEE BEE

Graduate

— 721 Ready —

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Legacy Statements:

- ★ As ONE community, our students are provided the resources, holistic support, and inspiration to succeed academically and professionally.
- ★ Create a sense of belonging for ALL students, staff, and our community. Our students will leave with skills, knowledge, and tools to be successful.
- ★ Our learning community will provide strong communication and transparency to foster community engagement ensuring the emotional, social, and academic development of all OUR students.

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A Quick Recap:

- ★ Fall of 2022 The process begins with districts creating their own individual "Legacy Statements"
- ★ Fall of 2023 Working together to define our "Joint Legacy Statement"
- ★ Fall of 2024 Solidify "Joint Legacy Statement"

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What is a Joint Legacy Statement:

Joint Legacy Statements are a simple set of commonalities that districts share and serves as a unified declaration of the values, experiences, and guidance to pass on to future board members.

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The statements you have in front of you are based on a list of core beliefs that each board member brought to the table when discussing your legacy.

There are 6 core belief statements that make up the rationale behind the Joint Legacy Statements

- It shall have a shared vision and values
- It shall provide guidance for future boards
- It shall encourage responsibility
- It shall provide Non-negotiables
- It shall highlight benefits
- It shall show personal growth and understanding

For the sake of time, let's focus on a few and connect how the "Legacy Statements" encourage responsibility and engagement.

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Encouraging Responsibility and Engagement...

- **Legacy of Giving:** It can serve as a platform to articulate goals and encourage social responsibility and family/community engagement.
- **Inspiring Service:** Future boards may be inspired to continue efforts initiated by both families and community.

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Encouraging Responsibility and Engagement...

- **Meaningful Reflection:** The process of creating a joint legacy statement allows for deep, meaningful reflection on life, goals, and values.
- **Healing and Understanding:** It can be emotionally healing, providing a sense of closure for what we are all here to accomplish, the growth of ALL students.

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Encouraging Responsibility and Engagement...

- **Mutual Discovery:** The process of a joint legacy statement can lead to new discoveries about each other's values, priorities, and aspirations.
- **Growth in Relationship:** For school boards, it can be a bonding exercise that deepens emotional connection, enhancing mutual respect and understanding.

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Leaving OUR Collective Legacy...

A joint legacy statement not only serves as a lasting testament of shared values and beliefs but also strengthens school boards and provides future boards with meaningful guidance.

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Solidify Joint Legacy Statement

Take a few minutes to discuss the comfort level to solidify our “Joint Legacy Statements” I will go around and get either a thumbs up or bring up questions and/or concerns by a group.

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Participation, Involvement, Engagement, Oh My...

- ★ **Participation:** receiving information from school and talking with child at home
 - Examples: Looks at PowerSchool once in a while to check in on student progress, may volunteer in classrooms
- ★ **Involvement:** The active participation of parents or primary caregivers in their child's education and development
 - Examples: chaperoning events, attending and participating in parent-teacher conferences, one way communication between school and home
- ★ **Engagement:** active participation is regular two-way and meaningful communication between schools and families
 - Examples: schools intentionally give parents opportunities to offer their own input, develop on their own abilities and take ownership over ideas

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Participation, Involvement, Engagement, Oh My...

★ Let's play a game!

1. We will show a picture and you will raise your hand
 - i. You will say whether you think it demonstrates participation, involvement, or engagement
2. You can double your points if the picture shows less than Engagement by giving an example of what it would look like for engagement.

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Participation, Involvement, Engagement?



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Participation, Involvement, Engagement?



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Participation, Involvement, Engagement?



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Participation, Involvement, Engagement?



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Participation, Involvement, Engagement?



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OUR Goal is ENGAGEMENT

1. Parent Engagement is OUR Priority

- i. Participation and Involvement are nice, but they are surface level we want deep level engagement to fully develop a Partnership between school and home

WHAT CAN WE DO COLLECTIVELY TO MAKE PARENT ENGAGEMENT OUR NORM???

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Collective Community Efficacy

Definition:

A group's shared belief that they can work together to achieve a goal or produce a desired outcome. It's based on the idea that a group's efficacy can be developed through a process of updating and feedback.

What is Collective Efficacy in Terms of OUR Boards Work?

Jointly, we need to work in collaboration to make OUR work less taxing on individual Districts, bringing together our learning community as a whole to do what is best for ALL OUR students learning outcomes because they are ALL OUR students

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Collective Efficacy

How Do We Increase Academic Excellence Collectively through
COMMUNITY Engagement?

Events

Goals

Outcomes

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Collective Efficacy

How Do We Increase Academic Excellence Collectively
through COMMUNITY Engagement?

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Example Event: Community Back to School Bash



Back To School Bash 2024

- ★ Our First joint Back to School Bash was a HUGE Success!
- ★ We had Almost 4000 people in attendance
- ★ Over 40 local vendors with tables set up

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Bringing the Community Together to Celebrate the New School Year 2024-2025



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Bringing the Community Together to Celebrate the New School Year 2024-2025



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Collective Efficacy

How Do We Increase Academic Excellence Collectively through COMMUNITY Engagement?

Example Event: Community Back to School Bash

Goals: Bring Community Together

Offer Free event

Share theme for the year

Encourage engagement with community vendors and school PTO's

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Collective Efficacy

How Do We Increase Academic Excellence Collectively?

Event: Community Back to School Bash

Outcomes:

1. Offers the community an opportunity to celebrate a return to school
2. Demonstrates how we value our community as a whole
3. Creates a sense of belonging for students and their families
4. Creates a sense of community

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Now It's Your Turn...

How Do We Increase Academic Excellence Collectively?

- ★ Events
- ★ Goals
- ★ Outcomes

For Each Big Post it your group will:

1. Offer a suggestions for "collective" community events
2. Offer goals that align with each event suggestion
3. Provide expected outcomes from the event suggestion

***List as many possibilities as your group can develop within the next 15 minutes, and then we will share out whole group**

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Next Steps...

1. **Develop an action plan from suggestions**
2. **Plan for State of Education in OUR Learning Community Event (Joint Board Meeting #2)**
3. **Share Joint Legacy Statements with the Community**

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