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www.isba-ind.org/new-board-member-academy.html

2025 New Board Member Academy

Jump start your school board service with a comprehensive learning experience that will empower you with the knowledge and skills you need to govern your school community effectively and efficiently.

ISBA's New Board Member Academy is designed to give you valuable, practical information and guidance that you can put to use immediately. Through expert-led discussion and feedback, newly elected and appointed school board members will develop a better understanding of their roles and responsibilities so they can stay focused on making a difference for kids.

Not a new board member? No problem! This program is also a great refresher curriculum for veteran members.

Academy participants will first attend one of five in-person foundational workshops scheduled for January-February 2025 covering the essential basics of school board service, including **boardsmanship, public meeting procedure, communications, and maintaining a productive relationship with the superintendent**. Following the face-to-face workshop, new board members will attend a monthly sequence of live virtual clinics from March through June, each covering a different topic.

All in-person and virtual sessions are recorded and made available on demand — ensuring you can learn on a schedule that fits your needs. This package also includes access to bonus on-demand video content covering grassroots advocacy, optimizing public comment at board meetings, and conducting superintendent evaluations.

IN-PERSON WORKSHOPS

Northwest – January 11

Kesling Intermediate School - Cafeteria
306 E 18th St. La Porte, IN 46350

Northeast – January 18

Ivy Tech Fort Wayne Coliseum Campus
3800 N. Anthony Blvd. Fort Wayne, IN 46805

Central – February 1 (optional virtual live stream available)

Central Indiana Educational Service Center - Frontier Room
3500 DePauw Blvd. Indianapolis, IN 46268

Southeast – February 8

Columbus North High School - LGI Room
1400 25th St. Columbus, IN 47201

Southwest – February 22

Jasper High School - LGI Room
1600 Saint Charles St. Jasper, IN 47546

All in-person sessions will run from 10:00 am - 4:00 pm (local time)

VIRTUAL CLINICS

Public Access – Understand the school board's obligations under the Open Door and Public Records laws

March 4, noon or March 11, 6:30pm EST

Policy-Making – An introduction to the policy manual and the board's role in maintaining policies

April 9, noon or April 14, 6:30pm EST

Budgets and Funding – Delve into the fundamentals of the school finance issues that shape the fiscal health of your district

May 15, 6:30pm or May 22, noon EST

Your Six-Month Checkup: Ask ISBA Anything –

You have been on the job for six months. Now it's time to reflect, discuss, and ask questions

June 2, noon or June 3, 6:30 pm EST

Bundle package (in-person seminar and 4 webinars) is \$425