



## ISBA/IAPSS Fall Conference

Check out page 5 of this e-Dition for information about the 2018 Fall Conference agenda, notable items and more! And don't forget to register!

## [REGISTER HERE!!](#)

### FAST FACTS ON INDIANA K-12 EDUCATION

Despite ranking 36th in the nation on per pupil spending (NCES, 2018), the return on the investment in K-12 public education is strong as Indiana ranked 14th best in the nation for educational outcomes in the 2018 Kids Count Report (Casey Foundation, 2018).

Notable indicators for Indiana included 7th best in nation on both the Grade 4 Mathematics and Grade 8 Reading scores on the National Assessment of Education Progress.

### ISBA IN THE NEWS

Julie Slavens was a panelist on the Noon Edition for WFIU to discuss school safety. More information can be found [HERE](#).

[New MCS board to meet after daylong orientation](#)

[ISBA Legal Staff issued a memo on metal detectors in schools that was spotlighted in Dr. Jennifer McCormick's weekly email on 7/27/2018](#)

# Teacher Appreciation Grants/Use of Metal Detectors

by Julie M. Slavens, ISBA Staff Attorney ([jslavens@isba-ind.org](mailto:jslavens@isba-ind.org))

REMINDER! -- Teacher Appreciation Grants Policy

IC 20-43-10-3.5 provides for teacher appreciation grants to be distributed to schools for teachers who are rated Effective and Highly Effective.. The requirements for this grant are as follows:

1. The school board must annually adopt a policy on the amount of the stipends that will be given to its effective and highly effective teachers.
2. The policy must be adopted and submitted to the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) for approval. If the Department does not approve the school corporation policy, the school corporation will not receive the teacher appreciation grant monies. The stipend and policy must be discussed with the exclusive representative of the teachers.
3. The law requires the IDOE to set the deadline for school corporations to submit their adopted policies. The deadline the IDOE has set for this year is **September 14, 2018**. The IDOE has guidance on the submission of the adopted policy and how the grant monies will be distributed to interlocal cooperations and joint services and cooperative programs. The IDOE guidance may be found at <https://www.doe.in.gov/sites/default/files/evaluations/teacher-appreciation-grant-sy-18-19.pdf>.
4. The school corporation is required to give a different amount to its highly effective teachers and then to its effective teachers. The difference must be at least 25% more given to highly effective teachers than to effective teachers.

The school board also has the option to add up to 50% of the stipend paid to each teacher to the base salary of the teacher. If a school board chooses to do so, a provision may be included in the policy to this effect. Additions to the base salary do not have to be bargained but must be discussed with the exclusive representative of the teachers.

The adoption of this policy should be a priority for school boards. Most school boards require policies to go through second and/or third readings before the policy may be adopted by the board. This is a local process and is not required by law. A school board may vote to suspend this process if it is needed to adopt the teacher appreciation grant policy in time to send it to the Indiana Department of Education. The ISBA sample policy for the teacher appreciation grants has been reviewed by the Department and may be found [HERE](#).

### TRAINING -- USE OF METAL DETECTORS

Many school corporations are anticipating the arrival of and/or making preparations for the use of hand-held metal detectors. ISBA has previously sent out guidance, sample policies and sample procedures for the use of the metal detectors. School boards need to determine the employees who will be trained to use the detectors and who will provide the training. The school administrators who ordinarily conduct student searches should be trained to use the metal detectors. The school corporation should work with the local law enforcement agency as to the actual training provided to the designated school administrators and work with the agency on the details of the training sessions.