

Working FOR YOU

W A S B R E P O R T T O T H E M E M B E R S H I P



The WASB works for our members through events, advocacy efforts, policy services, board governance, legal services, and publications. The WASB is here to serve school boards and the students they educate.

Built on a tradition of providing high-quality service to member districts, WASB membership provides school boards with a statewide voice in public

education and valuable member services.

Below are highlights of the 2015-16 Report to the Membership outlining the many services and benefits that membership provides for your district. For more information about WASB services, publications, and events, visit wasb.org or contact us toll-free at 877-705-4422.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 2015-16 REPORT TO THE MEMBERSHIP

Legislative Update

Launched the [Legislative Update](#) blog, which provides real time updates of important legislative activities, and allows members to receive notifications when new stories are posted.



Responded to more than **4,480** law-related inquiries from members in **371** districts.



Provided training and information to more than **4,400** school board member and administrator attendees at more than **50** WASB conferences, workshops, webinars, gatherings, and seminars.

Assisted **86** percent of districts (**366**) via the WASB Policy Library and/or other policy services.

Recognized **29** Service Associates as reputable, valuable partners of public education.



Responded to more than **850** individual requests from member districts for sample policy information.

Completed **9** successful superintendent searches and helped many other districts via presentations and advice by WASB superintendent search consultants.

Served **17** school districts and assisted numerous others through presentations and consultations by the Organizational consultants.



Offered the Annual Board Development Tool Survey to **435** school boards and CESA boards of control.

A NOTE ON LEGAL AND POLICY SERVICES

As indicated by the numbers in this report, the WASB is happy to assist member school districts with any legal and policy-related questions. Providing assistance and support to all of our members is the top priority of the WASB.

However, not all legal and policy inquiries can be handled or resolved with a single phone call or email. Simple

questions that can be answered quickly are considered a part of member services and are answered without additional cost to the district. For questions that require a greater level of involvement, member districts have the option to work with WASB staff under the WASB legal and policy services fee.

If you have any questions, please contact the WASB at info@wasb.org or call toll free at 877-705-4422. ■

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE JANUARY 2016 MEMBER SURVEY

In January, the WASB asked members to give their impression of WASB services, events and products. Thank you to those who took the time to respond. Below are some highlights from the survey results.

► Which WASB events are important to you?

Top three responses:

- Annual State Education Convention
- New Board Member Gatherings
- Fall Regional Meetings

► What professional development would have been helpful as a new member?

Top two answers:

- Board member legal roles and responsibilities
- How to work effectively as a board member

Editor's Note: Responses to these questions stayed the same from the 2014 Member Survey. As a result, many of the WASB workshops throughout 2015-16, including the 2016 Spring Academy Workshops, have focused on these two topics: board member legal roles and responsibilities, and how to work effectively as a board member.

► What are the critical decisions facing your school board in the next 12 months?

Top two responses:

- Referenda
- Budget

Editor's Note: The upcoming 2016 Summer Leadership Institute will feature a series of sessions on school finance, budgeting and planning for a referendum. In addition, there will continue to be relevant sessions at the annual State Education Convention featuring districts that have recently passed a referendum and experts discussing whether a referendum is needed, and if so, how best to approach a referendum.

When asked how the WASB could improve its services, there were a number of suggestions but no overwhelming uniform response. However, the comments about improving the WASB website were particularly relevant as the staff will be embarking on a website redesign later this year with the intent of releasing a new design in 2017. According to the survey results, the vast majority of members visit the WASB website on a regular basis. Less than 10 percent said that they visit the website once a year or not at all. To provide greater input, visit the WASB website to take a short survey specific to the website.

Are You Receiving WASB Emails?

As your member association, the WASB wants to ensure that you are receiving all of the timely legislative updates, legal and policy notices, and meeting invitations that you are entitled to receive with your membership.

If you are not receiving WASB emails or would prefer they be sent to a different email address, please contact us at info@wasb.org or by calling toll-free 877-705-4422 and provide us with your current, preferred email address.

You may need to whitelist "robust.wasb.org" if your WASB emails are being blocked. Contact the WASB or district IT for assistance.

The WASB is committed to working with member school boards to strengthen local governance and advocacy of Wisconsin public schools. Make sure you are receiving WASB emails to benefit from the full range of services. □