

New Board Member Gathering Webinar



WISCONSIN
ASSOCIATION OF
SCHOOL BOARDS

Taking Office as a School Board Member

Presented by the WASB Legal Services Staff

Welcome and thank you!



How you can reach the WASB with your questions and comments:

- ▶ www.wasb.org
- ▶ info@wasb.org
- ▶ Call WASB by phone, toll-free, at 1-877-705-4422

You've won the election ... what happens next?

- A “Certificate of Election” should be issued by the school board clerk.
- You must take and file the written oath of office on or before the 4th Monday in April (April 25, 2022).

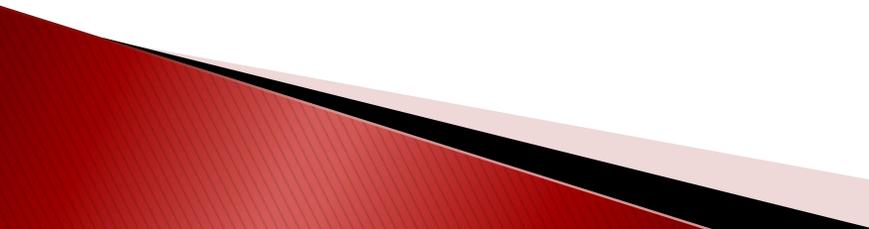
(NOTE: Taking the oath a second time for purely “ceremonial” purposes at a later school board meeting is OK).

- Regular terms start on the 4th Monday in April.

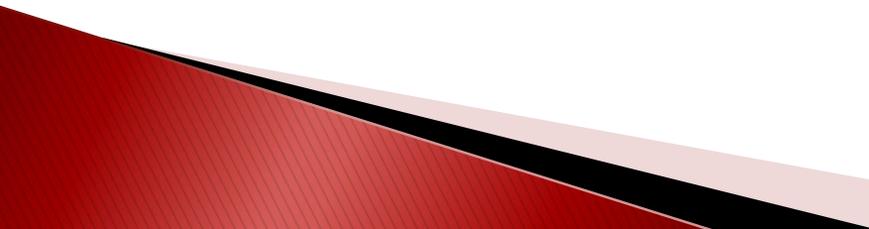
You will want to learn more about laws governing school boards

- Open Meeting Law.
 - Public Records Law.
 - Code of ethics and conflict of interest laws.
 - The WASB Spring Workshops will address these laws and more.
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Get your bearings and find some direction!

- Use the time between the election and taking office for orientation-type activities
 - Some school boards have an established orientation process for new members
 - In some school districts, the process is very informal
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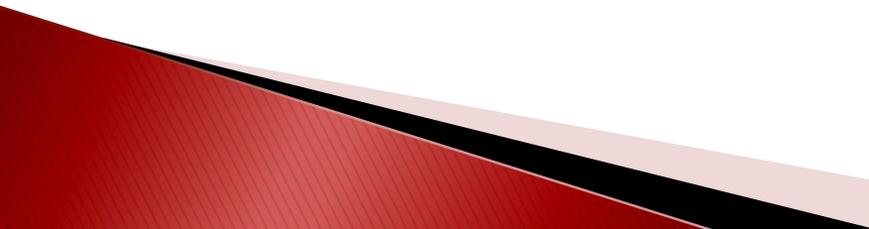
Review some of the key documents through which the school board governs

- The strategic plan and the board's priority goals
 - School board policies
 - The annual budget
 - Handbooks and collective bargaining agreements (if any)
 - The district administrator's contract and job description
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Attending board meetings before the start of your term

- Open session meetings
- Closed session meetings

Board Job Description

- ▶ Make **strategic decisions**.
 - ▶ Provide **general oversight** for administration and district.
 - ▶ Hire and evaluate District Administrator.
 - ▶ Review **board policies** and update as needed.
 - ▶ Adopt a **budget and allocate resources** consistent with board priorities and district goals.
 - ▶ Oversee negotiation and administration of critical contracts.
 - ▶ Be **advocates** for the district in the community and at the state, federal and other local governments.
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More resources about roles and responsibilities of school board members

- The WASB “[New School Board Member Handbook](#)” (available both online and in a printable format; a copy will also be included in a WASB welcome packet)
- The “[Basic Legal and Governance Resources for School Board Members](#)” web page

What is the WASB?

- ▶ A non-profit, voluntary association serving Wisconsin's 420 school boards and 12 CESA boards of control.



Why Choose the WASB?

- ▶ **Your State Association**
- ▶ Innovative ideas
- ▶ Timely information
- ▶ Legislative advocacy
- ▶ Essential services
- ▶ Quality resources
- ▶ Relevant programs



WASB Areas of Service



- ▶ Advocacy & Government Relations
- ▶ Communications
- ▶ Governance & Leadership Development
- ▶ Legal Services
- ▶ Organizational Consulting Services
- ▶ Policy Services
- ▶ Superintendent Search Services

Advocacy & Government Relations

Advocacy that is heard in the Capitol.



- ▶ A strong voice representing the interests of Wisconsin school boards.
- ▶ Resources and regular updates to help school board members be the most effective advocates possible.

Governance & Leadership Development

Building effective leadership.

- ▶ Providing information, tools and support to help boards respond to emerging trends, engage with their communities and foster strong relationships.



Legal Services

Helping you make sound management decisions.

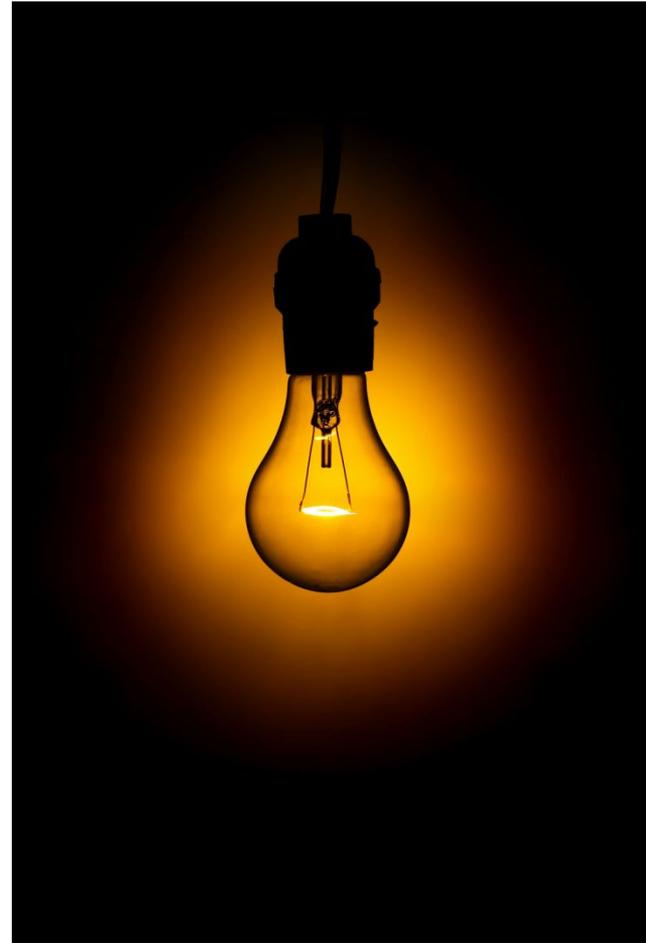


- ▶ General legal and human resources information
- ▶ Sample employment policies, compensation data and other resources
- ▶ Individual, fee-based services

Policy Services

From development through implementation.

- ▶ The [Policy Resource Guide](#) (PRG) is a Web-based policy tool designed to assist Wisconsin school boards and administrators in the important tasks of policy development and implementation.
- ▶ Policy Library, including thousands of sample policies, articles, guidance documents and other resources.



Organizational Consulting



- ▶ The WASB provides comprehensive, customized training, support, resources and inspiration to school boards and superintendents to maximize their effectiveness in carrying out their respective leadership roles.

Superintendent Search Service

Helping you find the right match.



- ▶ Customized search process for each board.
- ▶ Transition services to help boards and their new administrators begin their journey together.

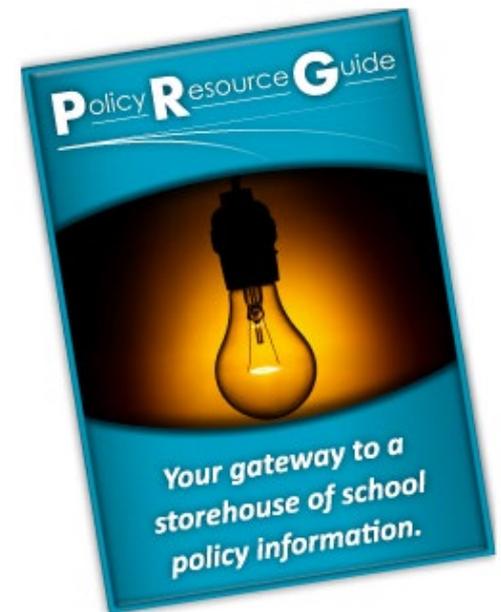
Conferences and Seminars

- ▶ State Education Convention
- ▶ Legal and Human Resources Conferences
- ▶ Legislative Advocacy Conference
- ▶ Workshops and Webinars
- ▶ Leadership Conference
- ▶ School Law Conference
- ▶ Day at the Capitol
- ▶ Spring Academy
- ▶ Regional Meetings



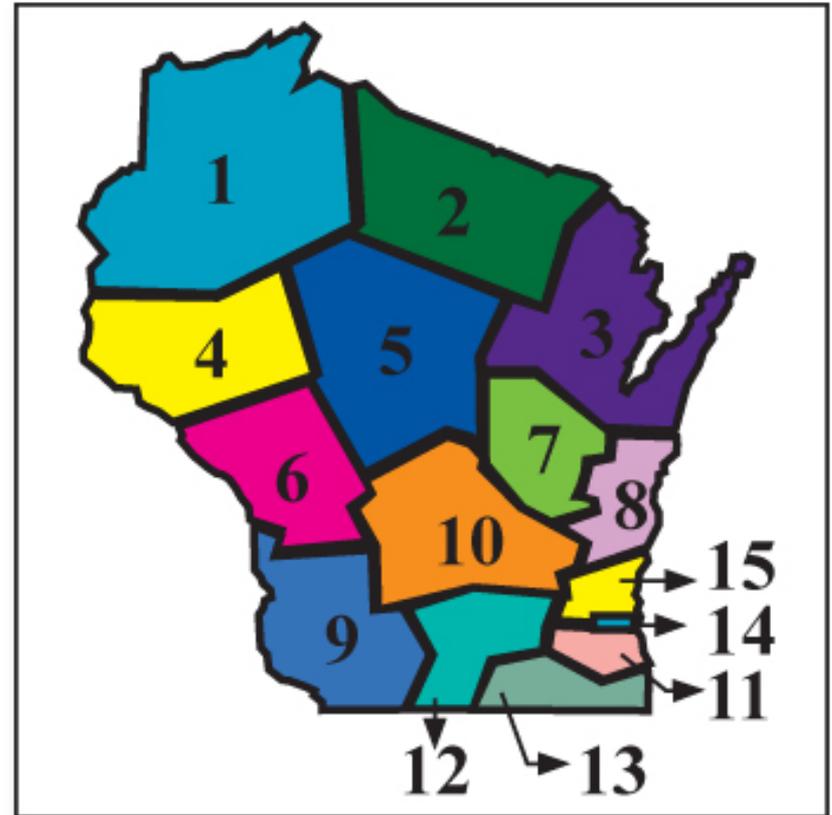
Publications & Subscriptions

- ▶ Award-winning magazine
- ▶ Legislative updates
- ▶ Policy and legal newsletters
- ▶ Policy Resource Guide web-based tool
- ▶ Model Employee Handbook
- ▶ Special Issue Publications and Bulletins



WASB Board of Directors

- ▶ Each member board has one vote to elect a regional representative to the WASB Board of Directors.
- ▶ The executive director is responsible for carrying out the policies of the Board of Directors and coordinating Association programs and services.



WASB Delegate Assembly



- ▶ Each member board has one vote on the policy positions determined at the annual WASB Delegate Assembly, held in conjunction with the State Education Convention.

Upcoming online learning opportunities

- ▶ Recorded webinar on **School Board Organizational Meetings, Officer Roles, and Board Member Orientation** (from April 2022; [link posted on WASB website](#))
- ▶ [Spring Workshops](#) (advance registration is required for these workshops, which are geared toward new board members)

Get to know the WASB ... it is your Association!

- Test your login ID and establish your personal password for the WASB website (www.wasb.org)
- Consider attending WASB programs (upcoming programs are listed on the WASB website and promoted in various WASB publications)
- Look for WASB materials to arrive by both email and U.S. mail
- Contact us directly via email (info@wasb.org) or telephone (toll-free: 1-877-705-4422)
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