The Illinois Statewide School Management Alliance (the Alliance), made up of the Illinois Association of School Administrators (IASA), Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB), Illinois Association of School Business Officials (Illinois ASBO) and Illinois Principals Association (IPA), has a long history of developing, sponsoring and implementing programs that assist schools with effectively serving their students as cost effectively as possible. The programs listed herein represent an extensive (though not exhaustive) list of services currently provided, sponsored or developed by Alliance member organizations either individually or jointly.
The following are proudly offered by the Alliance as sponsored programs:

**ISDLAF+ Investment Fund**

The Illinois School District Liquid Asset Fund Plus (ISDLAF+) is an inter-governmental investment program for school districts and community colleges in Illinois. Co-sponsored by Illinois ASBO, IASA and IASB, the program offers opportunities to school districts for the investment and management of funds. The Fund is known for its excellent performance, built around the safety, liquidity and yield that school officials want.

**Benefit:** Provides efficient, effective and safe opportunities to school districts, community colleges and township treasurers for the investment and management of funds.

http://isdlafplus.com

**Illinois Energy Consortium**

The Illinois Energy Consortium (IEC) is a not-for-profit joint energy purchasing consortium sponsored by Illinois ASBO, IASB and IASA. It is designed to lower utility costs for member school districts and community colleges and make funds available for technology, staff development and educational goals. Since its inception in 1999, the consortium has generated millions of dollars in savings for Illinois education in both its electric and natural gas programs and is a ready resource to provide answers and solutions to its members.

Before a potential member decides to participate in the IEC Electric Program, the Program Administrator can perform a full Budget Projection, based on historical usage and current IEC supply costs. Program participants have access to an online energy management tool designed to bring information regarding your natural gas accounts directly to your desktop.

**Benefit:** Designed to lower utility costs and/or provide budget stability for Illinois school districts and community colleges.

www.illec.org

**SchoolGuard®**

The SchoolGuard® app places a “panic button” in the hands of school staff. The touch of a button instantly calls 911 while simultaneously alerting all teachers and staff and nearby law enforcement. There is a one-time only setup/activation fee per property (discounted with multiple properties within a district) and a monthly service fee thereafter which includes unlimited approved users.

**Benefit:** Protect K-12 schools against acts of violence by shortening the police notification and subsequent response time.

www.schoolguard.com/

**p-Card**

The p-Card is an Illinois ASBO-developed program co-sponsored by IASA, IASB and IPA. The program features Procurement Cards, or p-Cards, as a means to streamline and control the traditional purchasing process.

The benefits of a p-Card Program for school districts includes the ability to submit one monthly payment vs. multiple payments to multiple vendors; the reduction in paperwork; fraud prevention and protection through BMO Harris Bank and MasterCard; detailed reporting that’s available 24/7; easy online administration and dedicated customer support and, most importantly—control on spending limits and accepted vendors for each individual card.

**Benefit:** Streamlines the purchasing process, while increasing budget control and reducing the overall cost of payments.

http://illinois-pcard.com
Group Health Insurance:

**Illinois Schools Employee Benefits Consortium**

IASA, IASB and Illinois ASBO have developed the Illinois Schools Employee Benefits Consortium (ISEBC) that includes a proprietary, fully-insured, comprehensive group health insurance plan that offers member school districts the opportunity to provide employees health benefits at affordable prices.

The customizable benefits package includes a cafeteria plan and flexibility with deductibles and coverage, dental and vision coverage, out of state coverage, life insurance, early retirement option and other specialized services.

The ISEBC program is Health Care Reform Act compliant and offers COBRA Administration, and there is no exit fee if a school district decides to withdraw from the program. The ISEBC has four agencies serving all counties with the exception of Cook and the collar counties.

**Benefit:** Provides school district employees health benefits at affordable premiums.

**Email:** American Central Insurance Services: jeremy@iasaedu.org
(Abe Lincoln, Central Illinois Valley, Corn Belt, Illini, Kaskaskia (Bond, Macoupin and Montgomery counties) Two Rivers and Western)

Clemens and Associates, Inc.: tcockburn@clemensins.com
(Egyptian, Shawnee and Southwestern)

Randy House and Associates: randy@rkinsurance.com
(Egyptian, Kaskaskia (Clinton, Fayette and Marion counties) Shawnee, Southwestern and Wabash Valley)

J. Krug: lsimios@jkrug.com
(Blackhawk, Kishwaukee (Boone, DeKalb and Winnebago counties), Northwest and Starved Rock)

Group Health Insurance:

**Metropolitan Schools Employee Benefits Program**

IASA, IASB and Illinois ASBO have developed the Metropolitan Schools Employee Benefits Program (MSEBP) that includes a proprietary, fully-insured, comprehensive group health insurance plan that offers member school districts the opportunity to provide employees health benefits at affordable prices.

The customizable benefits package includes a cafeteria plan and flexibility with deductibles and coverage, dental and vision coverage, out of state coverage, life insurance, early retirement option and other specialized services.

The MSEBP is Health Care Reform Act compliant and offers COBRA Administration, and there is no exit fee if a school district decides to withdraw from the program. MSEBP serves the Cook and collar counties.

**Benefit:** Provides school district employees health benefits at affordable premiums.

**Email:** Alliant/Mesirow Insurance Services, Inc.: patrick.sheahan@alliant.com
(Cook North, Cook South, Cook West, DuPage, Kishwaukee (Kane and McHenry counties), Lake and Three Rivers)

**Forecast5 Analytics**

This platform provides powerful data analytic and collaboration tools to help school leaders drive strategic and financial decisions with better information. By utilizing this proprietary Business Intelligence software, schools spend time analyzing rather than trying to find data. The platform combines powerful data mining tools and interactive visuals to fast-track discovery and analysis. Schools gain meaningful insights across several disciplines of financial management including budgeting, compensation, staffing and strategic planning.

**Benefit:** Provides business intelligence allowing data driven decisions to be made at the operational and policy levels.

www.forecast5analytics.com
Workers’ Compensation Self-Insurance Trust
The Workers’ Compensation Self-Insurance Trust (WCSIT) offers school districts an effective way to contain the cost of workers’ compensation coverage. Member districts may receive dividends on premiums by vote of the trust’s board, composed of local school board members and administrators. Members of WCSIT are eligible to receive school board legal liability coverage with limits up to $10 million. School district treasurer surety bonds and student accident coverage are also available to qualified members.

**Benefit:** Helps school districts contain workers’ compensation costs.

www.wcsit-isda.com

Illinois School District Agency—Property-Casualty Coverage
The Illinois School District Agency (ISDA) offers a full line of property-casualty coverage for interested member districts. The pooled risk management program is governed by a board of regents composed of local school board members and administrators. ISDA provides property-casualty coverage to more than 150 school districts across Illinois. In addition to receiving competitively priced property-casualty coverage, ISDA members receive specialized loss control services and access to low-cost property appraisals to assure proper insurance-to-value coverage.

**Benefit:** Assists school districts contain property-casualty coverage costs.

www.wcsit-isda.com

Illinois School District Treasurer’s Bonds
One of the most important elements of managing a successful school district budget is to have all of the necessary components to make the system work. Brokers’ Risk provides you with an important component—a School Treasurer’s Bond at very competitive rates for limits up to $31.25 million. Illinois school code requires school districts to provide a Treasurer’s Bond covering their school treasurer as determined by the State Legislature.

**Benefit:** Easy and cost effective compliance with the Illinois School Code, Article 8, Section 8-2 [105 ILCS 5/8-2].

www.brokersrisk.com/programs/treasurer-s-bonds

Risk Management Support
The School Leaders Risk Management Association (SLRMA) is a not-for-profit organization created to assist public school districts, cooperatives, public school district self-insured pools and state school board associations with supplemental risk management support. It is governed by a board of directors consisting of executive directors of six state school board associations.

**Benefit:** Provides timely information to prevent unwanted and unwarranted school board legal liability claims.

www.slrma.org

NaviGate Prepared™
NaviGate Prepared™ is a school safety emergency response system that digitizes emergency plans, floor plans and other data into a format that allows sharing with law enforcement and first responders.

**Benefit:** Dispatchers can view emergency operations plans, locate critical access points, see live security camera feeds and utilize reunification plans and other crucial information quickly and easily.

www.NaviGatePrepared.com
Future Green Energy Consortium (FGEC)
Future Green is a brand new renewable energy program that is being offered to school districts and their residents to save money on the electricity supply costs for school buildings, residential homes and small businesses. In alignment with Illinois’ Future Jobs Act, the green energy project is designed not only to be a cost savings for schools but also the families they serve and the businesses that support them. This is an out-of-the-box program uniquely designed within Illinois law and specifically crafted to help our school communities. An automatic discount to the current electricity supply rates plus the ability to drive down your rates further and earn districts rebates makes this a very exciting program for all of Illinois. Future Green will be able to assist in on-site solar development and/or transmission level projects to increase the districts’ investment in the energy sector when needed.

**Benefit:** Renewable energy; cost savings for schools, residents and small businesses.

www.iasaedu.org

BuyBoard® Purchasing Cooperative
BuyBoard® is a national online purchasing cooperative that streamlines the purchasing process and helps members make confident buying decisions. The combined purchasing power provides participating school districts access to the cooperative’s ability to leverage better pricing from vendors in addition to reducing administrative and resource time. Additional savings can be realized by using the online request-for-quote function available.

**Benefit:** BuyBoard® members leverage their numbers to obtain better pricing from vetted vendors of well-known products, and save administrative and resource time.

www.buyboard.com

Standard For Success
The IPA and IASA partner with Standard For Success, an online customizable teacher and employee evaluation system that was created by Educators for Educators to help with the evaluation and management of employee evaluations. Its brand is built on high-quality customer support and helping to make evaluations simple and meaningful.

**Benefit:** Provides a cost-effective, user-friendly platform to complete and track all evaluations in your district.

www.standardforsuccess.com
Unemployment Claims Management

The IASB unemployment cost control program is handled through NSN Employer Services, a management firm based in Illinois that administers this program for IASB member school districts. NSN has been controlling unemployment cost for more than 25 years and is known for a high level of personal attention.

Fees are determined by the number of employees listed on the district’s March 15 payroll.

**Benefit:** Provides unemployment claim cost control.

www.iasb.com/sponsored/ucc.cfm

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U.S. Communities

The U.S. Communities Government Purchasing Alliance is sponsored by Illinois ASBO. The program provides all local agencies with publicly competitive bid contracts for various products and services. Smaller local agencies may ‘piggyback’ on a contract competitively solicited by another public agency. The ability to tap into the buying power of larger purchasers assures school districts receive access to excellent pricing and contract terms.

**Benefit:** Provides local school districts competitively bid contracts and most favorable local agency pricing.

www.uscommunities.org

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DotCom Therapy

DotCom Therapy offers licensed speech therapy, occupational therapy and mental health services that can be accessed via computer, tablet or smartphone. The service is designed to provide quality care which is not dependent on location, as the user only needs a webcam and a connection to the internet to utilize the integrated platform.

**Benefit:** Location and travel are no longer barriers to working with professionals in the field.

www.dotcomtherapy.com/

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Call One

Call One, the nation’s largest wholesaler/reseller of local and long distance service, has teamed up with Illinois ASBO to lower the cost of phone bills at school districts across Illinois.

Call One provides innovative, comprehensive telecommunications solutions to over 9,000 clients throughout the nation including 92 school districts in Illinois. Members that team up with Call One can switch over existing AT&T local services and apply the new rates with no physical change. Call One customers receive consolidated and customized billing, including online billing and records. Call One also consults with members so school districts can keep up with the newest technologies and services.

**Benefit:** Provides service and cost savings to Illinois ASBO members in AT&T areas for local and long distance calling.

www.callone.com

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Drug and Alcohol Testing Consortium

This IASB-initiated and sponsored Consortium offers a program that enables school districts to comply with state and federal drug testing requirements for school bus drivers. Although the program is not governed by an independent board, it was established by the Association staff working in conjunction with the Mid-West Truckers Association, which administers the service.

**Benefit:** Provides cost-effective mechanisms for districts to comply with state and federal drug testing requirements for school bus drivers.

http://www.mid-westtruckers.com/
The following programs or services are offered by the Alliance partners:

**Professional Development/Support Services**
Each member organization of the Alliance offers its members professional development opportunities that are timely, cost-effective, and help school board members govern effectively and school leaders meet statutory requirements. These opportunities include mandatory board member training and administrator academies. Professional development is offered in the form of face-to-face, online and on-demand as well as in-district and regional workshops, webinars, conferences, podcasts, publications, micro-credentials, etc.

Each Alliance partner also makes available practitioners and education experts to assist school boards and administrators navigate the complex issues schools face. Professional development and support services are the heart of each member organization and are designed to help Alliance members more effectively govern and lead their school.

**Benefit:** Provides professional development and support services for school governance and leadership cost effectively.


**Ed Leaders Network**
The Ed Leaders Network (ELN) is founded on the belief that educational leaders impact adult and student performance in their learning communities. The ELN assists educators by equipping and encouraging them with high quality, on-demand professional development content (including state mandated trainings) as well as access to a network of their peers and experts from across the United States. The ELN, operated by the IPA, has been developed through a collaborative effort between 13 principals associations in 10 states. Current affiliates include: Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, Vermont, Washington and Wisconsin.

**Benefit:** Provides professional development and collegial networking that is available online, on-demand and cost effective. Illinois educators are provided access at no cost.

www.edleadersnetwork.org

**Job Banks**
Both IASA and Illinois ASBO host job banks to assist districts in attracting the best candidates for leadership positions. IASA's Illinois Education Job Bank is the most comprehensive Illinois education job vacancy list. The site is an interactive, searchable resource for Illinois schools to post vacancies. It also provides educators seeking employment in Illinois schools the opportunity to find openings at no charge.

The Illinois ASBO job bank focuses on school business related positions in Illinois and surrounding states. There is no fee for a district to post a position on the site. Most school business professionals who are seeking to be a candidate in Illinois will continually access the site to see what positions are available.

**Benefit:** Provides Illinois schools and educators a place to match vacancies and job qualifications.

www.illinoiseducationjobbank.org | www.iasbo.org/jobbank

**Executive Searches**
Recruiting and selecting a superintendent or other key administrators takes time and expertise, which is why the selection procedure and process must be planned carefully. IASB has developed a service to help boards prepare for that decision. The search and selection process includes conducting a needs assessment, collecting candidate information, keeping records and maintaining contact with educational agencies.

IASB has conducted superintendent searches for member districts for 50+ years. A member of the National Association of Superintendent Searchers, IASB staff has facilitated searches for hundreds of districts.

**Benefit:** Assists districts with searching for and hiring district superintendents economically.

www.iasb.com/executive
School Business Official Hiring & Evaluation Resources

Illinois ASBO Value of the Profession Resources include step-by-step processes for districts for hiring, evaluating and ensuring the success of their SBOs. The Recruitment and Selection Guide includes how to create a job description, find qualified candidates and interview. The Evaluation Guide includes frameworks for a constructive SBO evaluation process. There is also a Contract Checklist to help SBOs to evaluate what to look at in a job offer.

Benefit: Helps districts to use best practice processes when hiring or evaluating a SBO.

www.iasbo.org/hiring-training

Curriculum Crafter

Curriculum Crafter, sponsored by the IPA, is a curriculum and standards management platform. It also provides one of the largest repositories of fully vetted and tightly aligned K-12 curriculum in Math, Science, ELA and Social Studies. Already have your own curriculum? No problem! With Curriculum Crafter you can easily import your curriculum and lesson plans into our integrated platform to take advantage of all the collaborative features and reporting. Curriculum Crafter’s strategy of integrating the entire educational workflow under one platform means teachers will spend less time on research, planning, reporting and building and more time on doing what they love to do...TEACH!

Benefit: Provides tools to improve, manage and communicate curricula and standards.

http://www.curriculumcrafter.com/

Legal Support

IASA, IASB and IPA each have attorneys on staff available to assist members with complex issues and legal challenges. Though not meant to replace a school district’s legal representation, this support provides legal information and legal resources that members can rely on.

Benefit: Provides school districts legal support and resources.

www.iasaedu.org | www.iasb.com | www.ilprincipals.org

Joint Annual Conference

The Joint Annual Conference of the Illinois Association of School Boards, Illinois Association of School Administrators and Illinois Association of School Business Officials is recognized as one of the nation’s largest state education conferences. This event is open to school board members, superintendents, school administrators, school attorneys, school administration professionals, state and regional educators and officials, university staff, exhibitors and guests. Participants can confer with experts, hear from knowledgeable speakers, attend workshops and panel discussions, visit commercial exhibits and meet with colleagues.

Benefit: Provides cost-effective professional development to help school board members and leaders run their school districts effectively.


Alliance Leadership Summit

The biennial Alliance Leadership Summit is a jointly sponsored event designed for district leadership teams: the superintendent, school board members, business officials and principals. The Summit offers the opportunity for stakeholders to come together as a unified team to learn, discuss educational issues and to engage legislators.

Benefit: Opportunity for the school district’s educational stakeholders to support and promote the priorities of educational issues in Illinois.

School Business In-District Services
Illinois ASBO keeps an updated list of retired business officials, recent school business management graduates and others seeking employment in a school business capacity. Illinois ASBO also offers mentoring services, as well as operational/program audits to ensure your programs are being run efficiently and maximizing your education resources.

Benefit: Fill in gaps in knowledge for current employees or bring someone into the district to fill a role on a temporary basis.

www.iasbo.org/programs-services

School Business Career Center
Illinois ASBO offers support to school business officials (SBOs) as they begin their career or manage the sometimes tricky process of making transitions between jobs or districts. The online Career Transitions Center is filled with advice, articles and resources to help SBOs who are experiencing career transitions of all kinds (including crisis situations) and offers contacts for legal support.

Benefit: SBOs can learn from the experience of others to navigate the nuances of their career.

www.iasbo.org/career-roadmap

IASA/ECRA Strategic Dashboard
The IASA/ECRA Strategic Dashboard is designed with the school district in mind as new data points become available for you to report to your community on the progress you’re making in your schools. This is a statewide uniform system that allows for local customization backed by a high-capacity analytics team at ECRA. Bringing transparency to your reporting mechanisms while highlighting your local successes is the optimum usage of this tool.

Benefit: Analytics tool to promote district successes, locally customizable, FREE to IASA member school districts.

www.iasaedu.org | https://ecragroup.com/asa/

Principal Evaluation Tool
IASA has developed a Principal Evaluation Tool that aligns with education reform laws as they pertain to the evaluation of principals and assistant principals. The tool is an Excel Spreadsheet that includes recommended procedures and forms. The user has the ability to customize the tool by selecting goals and giving weight to the goals. Once the data is entered into the tool, it scores the data and also saves the information.

Benefit: Helps facilitate school district compliance with education reform laws in Illinois.

www.iasaedu.org

Teacher Performance Rating for RIF Purposes
IASA has developed an Excel spreadsheet program through which school districts can enter teacher performance ratings. The tool will group all of the district’s teachers in accordance with education reform law. This tool allows the district to have local flexibility relative to determining qualifications for district positions. Technical support will be provided and the tool is updated annually to accommodate legislative or other changes.

Benefit: Helps facilitate school district compliance with education reform laws in Illinois.

www.iasaedu.org
Policy, Procedure, and Handbook Services:

Policy Reference Education Subscription Service (PRESS)
For over 20 years, IASB has offered districts comprehensive sample policy and administrative procedures. The material is legally referenced and contains footnote explanations where appropriate. The material is updated in several PRESS issues each year that are available online.
**Benefit:** Allows access to legally compliant policies and procedures for local customization and adoption.
www.iasb.com/policy

PRESS Plus
This full-maintenance policy update service, based on PRESS, helps districts to keep their policy manuals up to date with changes in law, regulations and local conditions.
**Benefit:** Saves valuable staff time and maintains the integrity of the manual’s style, format, cross references, alphabetical index, tables of contents and legal citations.
www.iasb.com/policy

Policy Manual Customization
An IASB policy consultant will work with the board and superintendent to develop a new and up-to-date local school board policy manual. This policy manual will be based upon IASB’s Policy Reference Manual and will be customized to include your district’s current policy and practices, as appropriate.
**Benefit:** In addition to an up-to-date board policy manual, the board will benefit from in-district board development on the topics of effective board governance, the policymaking role of the board, and board-superintendent roles and responsibilities.
www.iasb.com/policy

Administrative Procedures Project
An IASB policy consultant will work with districts to develop a new and up-to-date administrative procedures manual to implement the board policy manual. These administrative procedures manuals are based upon the sample procedures contained in the IASB Policy Reference Manual and customized according to requirements of the district’s policy manual and current district practice. This service is available to districts that have developed and maintained or updated their current policy manuals with IASB Policy Services.
**Benefit:** Improves district systems by providing for alignment of board policy administrative procedures and district practices.
www.iasb.com/policy

School Board Policies Online
IASB can web-publish a district’s board policy and administrative procedures manuals. This service provides easy access to current district board policy and administrative procedures with quick updates, complete searches for words or phrases, timesaving links to legal references and cross-references and a policy-archiving feature.
**Benefit:** No more three-ringed binders to maintain. Accessible board policy and administrative procedures provided cost-effectively.
www.iasb.com/policy
BoardBook®

BoardBook® is an easy-to-use, web-based software application that streamlines the preparation, distribution and publishing of board agenda packets. It opens the door to electronically distributing the agenda packet, posting selected materials on the district website and conducting paperless board meetings.

Benefit: Timely availability and cost-effective delivery of board meeting materials to school board members, administrators and the public.

www.iasb.com/policy

Online Model Student Handbook

The IPA offers schools the Online Model Student Handbook Service (MSH). With schools now facing a great deal of litigation focused on student handbooks as well as the rising cost of attorney fees, the MSH is a cost-effective way to help keep student handbooks legal and avoid an expensive lawsuit down the road. The Online MSH provides quick, user-friendly access to model student handbook procedures that are attorney drafted and fully aligned with PRESS, IASB’s school district policy service, as well as state, federal and case law that change on a frequent basis.

Benefit: Ensures school handbook procedures are aligned with school board policy and statutorily compliant cost effectively.

www.ilprincipals.org/resources/model-student-handbook
The Illinois Statewide School Management Alliance...
Working together to assist schools to effectively serve students.