

# IASA Expands Partnership with ECRA Group to Help School Districts Implement AI Solutions

By Dr. John Gatta



As IASA launches its AI professional development programs, we are excited to release that IASA has expanded our partnership with ECRA Group (ECRA) to help school leaders implement AI within their school district.

This article provides answers to three questions IASA asked ECRA related to their work within the AI space.

## How long has ECRA been in the AI space?

ECRA has always been a national leader in leveraging advanced data science to support school leaders. We have been applying machine learning algorithms to quantitative data for decades. Over the past three years, we have evolved our machine learning algorithms to learn from qualitative data, allowing us to help school leaders overcome a whole new set of operational and communication challenges.

## How is ECRA helping school districts implement AI solutions?

ECRA is focused on developing AI Assistants for school leaders, trained on local school district data, that specialize in various areas related to local policy and operations. Below are two example AI projects that ECRA is actively implementing in Illinois school districts.

- **AI Human Resources Assistant**

Our AI HR Assistant is a virtual expert in local policy, procedures, collective bargaining agreements, benefit programs, and other state and federal regulations that govern HR in school districts. Whether an employee has a question about their benefits, or a school leader has a question about the teacher contract, our AI assistant allows employees to email or chat with an AI assistant to get immediate answers.

- **AI Parent Concierge**

Our AI Parent Concierge is a local expert in all district information that parents seek. Parents can send emails or chat with the AI Parent Concierge and ask questions related, but not limited to: *Where can I view my child's grades? – What is this week's lunch menu? - Who should I contact to discuss my child's IEP?*

## How can districts get started with ECRA?

### 1. Try ECRA's Illinois School Code Expert for Free

To demonstrate our technology, ECRA has developed an Illinois School Code expert trained on the entirety of the Illinois School Code. It is meant to demonstrate the power of our technology and to foster Superintendent thinking for how local school districts can leverage AI to support leaders. The Illinois School Code Expert is free as part of our partnership with IASA. Give it a try at: [ecragroup.com/ilschoolcode/](https://ecragroup.com/ilschoolcode/) or you can converse via email by sending an email to [ilschoolcode@ecragroup.ai](mailto:ilschoolcode@ecragroup.ai). Ask anything related to the Illinois school code!

### 2. Contact John Gatta, CEO of ECRA Group

If you would like to begin developing AI Assistants within your district to solve communication or operational problems, email John at [johngatta@ecragroup.com](mailto:johngatta@ecragroup.com).