

## Board Meeting - Interim (Thursday, October 2, 2025)

Zoom

### Board Meeting Opening Items

**Call to Order** | The meeting was called to order by President Brophy at 1:58 p.m.

*Present* | *Officers:* Edward J. Brophy, President; Seth Chapman, President Elect; Alicia M. Cieszykowski, Treasurer; Tamara L. Mitchell, Immediate Past President; *2023-2026 Directors:* Anton Inglese, Angela Smith, Frank Williams; *2024-2027 Directors:* John N. Benedetti, Cindy J. Dykas, Jennifer A. Porter; *2025-2028 Directors:* Katie A. Hannigan, Ray C. Toliver Jr., Mike Vargas; *Liaisons:* Byron Given, SAAC Chair; Cassidy Tarpey, SAAC Vice Chair; *Illinois ASBO:* Kristopher P. Monn, Executive Director/CEO; Carla D. Paschal, Assistant Executive Director for Finance and Operations/CFO; Michael Van De Voort, Director of Marketing & Communications; Julie A. Warner, Sr. Administrative Director for Board Relations; *Absent* | None

### Consent Agenda Items

**Approval of Minutes** | *A motion was made by Director Smith and seconded by Treasurer Cieszykowski to approve the 9/11/2025 Board Meeting Minutes as presented. All were in favor and the motion carried.*

### Action Items

**Action Items** | There were no Action Items presented.

### Leadership Team Reports

**Director of Marketing & Communications** | 1) *Publications: Update* - Fall issue distributed, gathering winter and spring articles; Superintendent's Guide was updated; Support Professionals Guide was created; updating the online School District Task Calendar and creating a customizable downloadable digital version; EAB Meeting on 11/12/2025 at NIU Naperville; 3) *Higher Logic:* Hot Topic reports created for PDC Networking Meeting on 10/3/2025; a new social media strategy started in September with increased post clicks; p2p continues to do well with year over year growth in every metric; 4) *Annual Conference:* Service Associate communications to begin on 11/10/2025 and on 12/1 for school districts; conference website in review process; met with President Elect Chapman on 9/25/2025 to discuss the theme for 2027.

**Assistant Executive Director of Finance and Operations/CFO** | 1) *Finance:* A draft of the financial audit to be received next week; Form 990 draft received; 2) *Operations:* Moving toward paperless forms, including the following applications created as Google Forms: grant, scholarship, Board Nominating & Selection Committee (opens 10/9/2025 to 11/10/2025); Board and SAAC Applications (opened last week through 12/15/2025); researching ways to automate various data directly into AMS (Nimble); 3) *Membership:* Membership remains steady; 4) *Events:* An events dashboard is being created; Presidents' Gala registration at 152; attendance for the Regional Conferences is lower, may be due to early bird discount not being offered; creating sponsorship offerings for ElevatHer; 5) *Annual Conference:* School district registration opens 12/1/2025; contracted with Cvent to provide onsite badge printing stations for all attendees; wristbands for evening events to be replaced with hand stamps; registration desk and general session stage to have new looks; a band has been contracted for Wednesday's late night hospitality; researching options for Thursday evening; 6) *Staff:* Kara Mitchell to begin her Maternity Leave in early December.

**Executive Director/CEO** | 1) *Nominating & Selection Committee Application:* Included in October and November regional talking point lists; 2) a 5-year marketing agreement with PTMA has been signed; 3) *2026 Board Retreat:* Finalizing details and will share soon; 4) *IDI Training:* Waiting to receive a proposal; 5) *Illinois ASBO Pre-Conference Event at ASBO International:* Details are finalized and after expenses are paid, it is the hope to reimburse registration fees to paying school district members; 6) *PDC Networking Meeting:* 10/3/2025 at Abbingdon Distinctive Banquets in Glen Ellyn; an email was sent to PDC Chairs from President Brophy and Executive Director/CEO Monn noting suggested changes; attendees will see live session submissions during the meeting; 7) *Bespoke:* Met with two representatives from Bespoke, along with Directors Smith and Dykas at Aurora West SD 129; the board will evaluate the program at February board meeting; 8) *ASBO International's Leadership Forum:* 1/29 to 1/30/2026 in New Orleans, Louisiana; it was the consensus of the Board that the expectation would be that officers, 1st year directors, Executive Director/CEO and the Assistant Executive Director for Finance and Operations/CFO attend and an invitation to the second and third year directors would be extended; staff will survey the board and register those interested; 9) *Food Service:* ISBE is open to providing a seminar with Illinois ASBO on the best practices for the RFP process, however, it's not as urgent with only 15 districts scheduled to go out for RFP; February was suggested as a good time for the seminar to avoid spring breaks; provide an update to the membership since it was mentioned in past Board Briefs; ISBE has revised their guidance documents and are currently in legal review; a meeting will be scheduled once all documents are ready; 10) *School Business Practice Reviews:* Received requests from some superintendents for Illinois ASBO to provide school business practice reviews; those interested in meeting to define best practices of how Illinois ASBO should move forward in this area should contact Executive Director/CEO Monn; it was suggested that IETL/CoSN and IASPA may be of assistance; 11) *Schedule:* Due to heavy travel schedule through the end of the month he suggested the board text or call him, if needed.

### Board & SAAC Strategic Goals

**Board & SAAC Strategic Goals** | The board briefly reviewed the goals.

### Executive Committee Reports

**President** | 1) Commended Director Inglese for his article in *The Journal of School Business Management*; 2) would like to have a conversation regarding a post retirement health care funding seminar; 3) asked those attending the PDC Networking Meeting

to be mindful and observational regarding conversation dynamics and idea generation in regard to the perception of the possible changes.

**President Elect** | 1) *2026 Board Retreat*: President Elect Chapman and Executive Director/CEO Monn will take the board's feedback into consideration when finalizing the details. There were no objections to traveling and that the Wednesday through Friday schedule worked, with Tuesday being optional; 2) *MCATS* and the need for an aligned message on the possible solution for transportation reimbursements was briefly discussed.

#### **Board Member Q & A**

**Board Member Q & A** | There were no additional questions asked.

#### **Other Items**

**Other Items** | *Non-NIU CSBO Certificate Only Programs*: A question was asked if teaching at an entity other than NIU was competing against the NIU Program. Illinois ASBO supports the profession, not where the education is received.

#### **Closed Session**

**Closed Session** | The board did not go into a Closed Session.

#### **Adjournment**

**Motion to Adjourn** | *A motion was made by Treasurer Cieszykowski and seconded by Director Williams to adjourn the meeting at 3:14 p.m. All were in favor and the motion carried.*

#### **Signatures**

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President | Edward Brophy

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Executive Director/CEO | Kristopher P. Monn