

IASB District Director Statement of Candidacy

Candidates for the position of District Director of the Iowa Association of School Boards should possess, at a minimum, the following qualifications:

- Demonstrated leadership and involvement on a local board of education.
- Demonstrated participation in IASB activities.
- Strong supporter of public education in Iowa.

Please supply information requested in all categories and return to: Stephanie Rousseau, Executive Assistant, Iowa Association of School Boards, 6000 Grand Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50312-1417.

-- Must be in IASB office no later than Friday, October 26, 2022 --

(Please feel free to supply additional information)

Name: Mary Poulter

Address (Home): 740 Boise St.
Colfax, Iowa 50054

Telephone: 515-674-3278

Address (Office):

Telephone:

Email: poultermk76@gmail.com

Occupation: retired elementary principal

School Board(s): Colfax-Mingo

Years Service as Board Member: 7 Present Term of Office Expires: 2023

School Board Activities (Local Level):

President 2 years; policy, finance, building & grounds, negotiations, curriculum & instruction, labor management, and technology committees

School Board Activities (State Level, including IASB Activities):

Basics/Better Boardmanship Award 7 years

IASB Board of Directors 2017-present, secretary of the Audit & Finance committee and have served on the president elect committee search team

ISEBA Board of Directors 2018-present, vice chair & chair

ISCAP 2020-present, vice president

Attendance at various workshops & conferences, including legislative days, as well as conventions 2015-present

IASB legislative delegate representative 4 years



School Board Activities (National Level, including NSBA Activities):

NA

Special Interests, Activities and Recognition:

Walk to Defeat ALS Team Captain
Polk County Master Gardener Program Chair
CM Athletic Booster Secretary
Colfax Library Board Secretary

Other Comments Including Personal Qualifications for IASB Leadership:

I taught in Newton 1980-88 and was a school administrator after leaving the classroom. 1988-1990 was my first principalship at Prairie City Elementary. I then spent 5 years as a shared curriculum director with Baxter and Colfax-Mingo, before returning to PCM as an elementary principal, where I worked until my retirement in 2015.

I have been a member of ISEA, SAI, PTA, PTO, and NAESP. I was a member of the AEA 11 Curriculum and Elementary Principal Networks.

I attended many educational workshops and conferences during my career. I have 3 children who graduated from Colfax-Mingo CSD. My husband is also retired from teaching and coaching at Colfax-Mingo.

I served on the Jasper County Empowerment Board for many years until it merged with two other counties. I was the secretary of that board.

I am a member of the Jasper County Retired School Personnel organization.

Please comment on your willingness and availability to serve as IASB District Director:

I am currently serving on the IASB state board of directors and have had excellent attendance. This commitment requires 2 days alternating months, plus evening conference call meetings, at a minimum. I have learned about the many facets of this organization and its ability to respond to educational concerns by providing support and information in a very timely manner.

Please explain your philosophy of what you believe the role of IASB should be to assist Iowa school boards and strengthen public education:

The mission statement of IASB *"To educate, support and challenge public school board members in their pursuit of world-class education for all students in Iowa"* is very relevant to today's needs in the state of Iowa. It is the guiding principle for the organization & is visible in everything they do.

I am very concerned with the future of public education. Iowa has strong public schools and we need to see that they continue to be strong. I believe that IASB will continue to be a leader in the promotion of Iowa schools and will continue to provide affordable services to local school boards. With the volunteer service of board members and tight school budgets, IASB can provide leadership and services to promote public education at minimal costs. It is a reliable and trustworthy source of information for schools, board members, and administrators.

The changes in employee bargaining rights have made the work of IASB even more important to the future of Iowa's public education system. IASB's advocacy at the legislature is an important aspect of this organization & their assistance to board members in advocacy is valuable and timely. We need adequate funding & effective educational legislation!

