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School Board Member Fact Sheet 2016
School Board Recognition Month
May 2016

Role of School Board Members

Vision: The school board engages the community in setting the course to guide local education, keeping student achievement as the primary focus.

Structure: The school board employs a superintendent, adopts policies and plans, and ensures that human and financial resources are allocated to accomplish the vision.

Accountability: The board monitors student achievement, evaluates progress toward district goals and reports progress to the community.

Advocacy: The school board serves as the key advocate on behalf of students and public education and builds partnerships with others to support student learning.

Time Donated to Public Education: Iowa school board members are volunteer elected officials who donate their time to school board service. Each week, school board members donate their personal time in service to Iowa students.

K-12 School Boards

Iowa has 336 school districts with five or seven member school boards. School board members are elected by their local communities in an election held the second Tuesday of September in odd-numbered years. They may be elected at large or from director districts and serve four-year terms.

Area Education Agency Boards

The state's nine area education agencies (AEAs) are governed by board members who are elected for four-year terms by public school board members. Iowa AEAs are intermediate service units that provide special education, media and educational services to local schools.

Community College Boards

Iowa's 15 two-year community colleges are governed by five-to-nine board members elected by local residents in an election held the second Tuesday of September in odd-numbered years. They are elected to four-year terms.

K-12 Public School Board Data

Board seats in Iowa.....	1,908
Male board members	63%
Female board members	37%
Student enrollment 2015 - 16.....	483, 451 ¹
Total budget dollars 2015 -16.....	\$5.3 billion ²

AEA Board Members

Board seats in Iowa.....	79
Male board members	60%
Female board members	40%

CC Board Members

Board seats in Iowa.....	124
Male board members	73%
Female board members	27%

¹Iowa Department of Education, Certified Enrollment file - October 2015

²Source is the Iowa Department of Management