



Summary Presented by:
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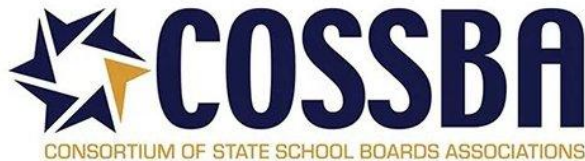




COSSBA at the Federal Advocacy Conference

[Consortium of State School Boards Associations](#) (COSSBA) is a nonpartisan, national alliance dedicated to sharing resources and information to support, promote and strengthen state school boards associations as they serve their local school districts and board members.

Purpose of conference: Leaders from across the country come together to champion public education and advocate for public education funding.





IASB at the Federal Advocacy Conference

[Illinois Association of School Boards](#) (IASB) had the largest presence at the conference. 44 IASB members attended - the largest group in the history of the conference. This was also the most well attended COSSBA Federal Advocacy Conference.





Meeting With Our Representatives

Attended advocacy meetings with the following offices:

- Representative Raja Krishnamoorthi
- Representative Mike Quigley
- Senator Dick Durbin
- Senator Tammy Duckworth





Day of Trainings

COSSBA Presentations:

- Congressional Staff Panel
- Federal Law Developments
- A conversation with Judy Woodruff

IASB Training:

- Practice storytelling to prep for meetings with our representatives





Funding Asks:

- **FY 2027 Funding** - Oppose education reductions: Support stable FY 2027 Appropriations Funding levels for Title 1 and other education programs
- **Student Achievement** - Support State Assessment Grants and robust funding for Education Research at the Institute of Education Services (IES)
- **E-Rate: Support E-Rate** - Oppose the FCC's Rule to End, Narrow or Reorient the E-Rate program
- **Student Mental Health** - Support increased funding for mental health services for students
- **Private School Vouchers** - Ensure that public school students are able to utilize this funding; oppose further efforts to erode the public school system by diverting federal resources to non-public schools
- **School nutrition** - Support SNAP funding and efforts to resolve SNAP eligibility
- **Teacher Recruitment and Retention** - Support funding for teacher training; Oppose \$100,000 H-1B Visa Fee
- **Individuals with Disabilities Education Act** - Fully fund IDEA



40 by 40: Fully Fund IDEA by 2040

The 40 by 40: Fulfill the IDEA Promise campaign is a national coalition of state school boards associations and other partners demanding Congress finally honor its commitment to fund special education.



1975

The year Congress promised to fund 40% of special education costs

10%

What Congress actually delivers today

8.3 million

The number of students with disabilities has more than doubled in the past 50 years



What can our Board do?

Support 40 by 40 initiative

- Vote on Board Resolution urging Congress to fulfill its promise to fund 40% of IDEA costs (November)
- 40 by 40 toolkit to aid advocacy: www.4oby2040.org
- Continue to advocate for our public school students with State and Federal leaders here in our district and at other convenings statewide and nationally.



