

Taking Care of **Business**

Wisconsin Association of School Business Officials

August 2023



**HISTORIC
REVENUE
INCREASE?**

**CUTTING THROUGH
THE NOISE TO
EXPLAIN THE
FUNDING GAP**

FALL CONFERENCE 2023

FACILITIES ACCOUNTING LEGISLATION LEADERSHIP



GROW THE POWER IN YOU!

OCT. 5-6, 2023
ELKHART LAKE, WIS.
WASBO.COM/FALL



GROW THE POWER IN YOU!

WASBO, in conjunction with the FALL Conference Planning committee, is pleased to present the 2023 WASBO Foundation FALL Conference on October 5-6 at The Osthoff in Elkhart Lake. This

conference is geared toward all roles. We encourage Bookkeepers, Facilities Directors, Accounting, Business Managers as well as Service Affiliates to attend.

The program will include sessions in the following tracks:

- Leadership & Wellness

- Trending Topics, including: Auxiliary Services, Facilities and Advocacy
- Best Practices, Money Saving Ideas, Innovative Solutions & Communications
- Year of Success
- Facilities Manager Core Certification Module 3 (Environmental Health & Safety) and Module 4 (Maintenance & Operations)

REGISTER NOW AT WASBO.COM/FALL



SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISERS

OCTOBER 4 • GOLF & 0.0 RUN





HIT THE GREENS AND/OR THE 0.0 INSTANT GRATIFICATION COMPETITION AND SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER TO SUPPORT NEARLY \$25,000 IN STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED BY WASBO ANNUALLY. [REGISTER AT WASBO.COM/FALL](http://WASBO.COM/FALL)



CUTTING THROUGH THE NOISE

Key dates for referenda

Chrissy Hamiel, Andy Phillips
& Sarah Hanneman • Attolles Law, s.c.

Turn to Page 44 to see a listing of the key dates and actions school districts need to take during all of the stages of referendum planning, including everything from putting it on the ballot and steps that need to happen after the voting results come in!

**READ THE ARTICLE
ON P. 44!**

To levy or not to levy

Potential local impacts of
expanded revenue limits

Anne Chapman • WASBO Research Director

Turn to Page 28 to learn where the 2023-25 state budget leaves schools, what the revenue limit increase means for your district, and key factors to consider when making budget and levy decisions.

**READ THE ARTICLE
ON P. 28!**

Declining enrollment in public schools

The impact of demographics and the pandemic

Anne Chapman
WASBO Research Director

Sarah Kemp • University of Wisconsin
- Madison Applied Population Lab

Turn to Page 32 to read more about how Wisconsin schools face an ongoing challenge to stabilize their revenues and budgets while enrollment trends continue to decline for the foreseeable future.

**READ THE ARTICLE
ON P. 32!**

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TO EXPLAIN THE FUNDING GAP

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Ensuring financial oversight

Mike Barry • WASBO Executive Director
Turn to Page 38 to ensure the financial report given to your district's Board of Education continues to be an essential element of school board governance, rooted in state statute and grounded in our desire for transparent, accountable local government.

READ THE ARTICLE ON P. 38!

Discussing the district's needs

Joelle Doye • Comms. Director, Mineral Point Unified School District & WASPRA President
Turn to Page 40 for communications questions taxpayers may have and answers to ponder when your district is considering an operational referendum.

READ THE ARTICLE ON P. 40!

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STAY CONNECTED

Participate on a WASBO Committee

Meet professional school colleagues and service affiliates, share ideas, enhance WASBO services and enrich your professional development. Serve on a WASBO committee — you'll do all that, and more.

Find out more at WASBO.com/committees. Contact Kristin Hauser at kristin.hauser@wasbo.com.

Mentorship Program

Remember yourself as someone new to school operations. How did your peers help as you navigated the first couple of years in your role? Consider becoming a mentor to those entering the field! Contact mentorship coordinators Sue Schnorr at Sue.Schnorr@wasbo.com and Jill Bodwin at Jill.Bodwin@wasbo.com. To be a school facilities mentor or protege, contact Joe Ledvina at jledvina@lacrossesd.org or Dave Hoh at dhoh@hgtigers.com.

Get Connected to Your Peers

WASBO's ConNectwork online community allows district professionals to share resources, network and ask and answer questions to their peers.

Try out the community by using your username (email

and password to access all things WASBO at wasbo.com. Then click on "Resources" at the top of the homepage and then ConNectwork.

Submit an Article

Share your experience by writing an article for Taking Care of Business or WASBO Focus. Email submissions to Ryan.Silvola@wasbo.com.

Download WASBO GO

Download WASBO's association app on your phone for a year-round connection to your association and fellow members. Search "WASBO GO" on your phone's App or Google Play Store.

Interim Assignments

As WASBO members take new positions or retire, the districts they leave are left may be temporarily short-handed. In addition, many districts are in need of consulting help. If you are interested in an interim assignment, please send a one-page resume to Mike Barry at Mike.Barry@wasbo.com.

Keep us Posted

Retiring? Contact WASBO before you leave so we can update your member type and get your new contact information. Email Kristin Hauser at kristin.hauser@wasbo.com. Changing Districts? Be sure to update your profile at WASBO.com so you don't miss any communications. Call 608.249.8588 if you need help.



More on Coaching for Mentors & Protégés

*WASBO offers a Mentorship Program which provides technical assistance and advice to **first- and second-year school business officials** relative to the myriad of duties and responsibilities that are inherent within every school business officials' job description. The mentorship program is designed to provide opportunities for new business officials. If you know of someone new in your region who could use the help of a mentor, contact WASBO's Mentorship Coordinators Sue Schnorr (Sue.Schnorr@wasbo.com) and Jill Bodwin (Jill.Bodwin@wasbo.com)!*