ISBA's 2021 Annual Convention Newsletter

October 20, 2021 Issue 5

Days Until Convention: 28

Status of Convention:

On Tuesday, October 12, 2021, the ISBA Executive Board made the decision to hold the 2021 ISBA Annual Convention by two methods, in-person and virtual.

Attending in person? Masks will be required. However, attendees who do not wish to wear a mask can submit a negative COVID test to be exempted from the requirement. Proof of negative COVID test may be done within 72 hours prior to arriving at the venue <u>or</u> ISBA will have rapid COVID tests on site of the event at no cost to the attendee. If you don't have a mask, one will be provided for you at registration.

If your COVID test results come back positive, the providers administering the test will direct you to receive confirmatory testing with an NAAT (Nucleic Acid Amplification Test) provider nearby. If you can receive results that the NAAT confirmation test was negative, you'll be allowed back on site. If it is still positive or you do not wish to receive confirmatory testing, you will be required to participate in the convention virtually.

As ISBA staff continue to work through logistics, we will provide more information. For current registrants who do not wish to attend with the options provided, the ISBA will allow for a FULL refund if you cancel by 3:00 p.m. on Friday, October 22nd.

Registration:

There will be a virtual option at Convention. It costs the same as the in-person registration. Please use the same registration form and indicate that they are virtual attendee.

Tips for a Successful Convention Experience:

- 1. Make sure you check out the Whova app the week November 8, 2021, so you can start planning your Convention experience. Utilize the Whova app by downloading it or use the web page. Whova allows users to network, engage in workshops, personalize your agenda, take notes, and more.
- 2. As a board, review the resolutions before you arrive at Convention to determine how your board will allocate its votes at the Business Session. Also take time before to read the ISBA Officer candidates information in the convention book to help prepare for when you vote.
- 3. Extend your learning beyond the regular workshops and attend an Early Bird workshop! Take time to dig deeper or learn a specialty during one of these 3-hour long workshops.

- 4. Arrive early to give yourself time to check-in at registration so you can grab your name badge and tote bag.
- 5. Please bring a mask, or if you plan to have a negative COVID test, please prepare to show that at registration. We will be providing masks. We will also be providing, at no cost to you, a rapid COVID test. If you choose this option, please give yourself an extra thirty to forty-five minutes if you plan to get a COVID test onsite.
- 6. Wear comfortable shoes.
- 7. Make sure you have a hearty breakfast on Wednesday, November 17, 2021, before we kick off Convention. Breakfast will not be provided, but we will provide lunch at 12:15 PM.
- 8. Get to know someone new at Convention by interacting in the Community Boards on Whova or by meeting someone at Convention.
- 9. Take time to review which companies will be exhibiting at the Convention and take note of any booths you hope to visit. This is a great place to network with other board members and industry professionals!
- 10. The ISBA Scholarship Trust was created to raise money to award scholarships to high school seniors who are the children or grandchildren of current or past school board members. The Auction is held each year to raise money to fund the scholarships! It is a great opportunity to donate items and bid in support!
- 11. Remember to wear your name badge every day because this will grant you access to the general sessions and workshops. You may be turned away from the general session if you do not have your name badge.
- 12. Ask Questions Don't worry about asking a "rookie" question. Many of the most important issues facing public education today are raised by new members who are taking a fresh look at situations confronting our schools.

Thank you to our 2021 Convention Sponsors:





















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