

REQUEST FOR PRESENTATIONS

Deadline: November 6, 2026

73rd Annual ASBA Conference Request for Presentations Deadline: November 6, 2026

DETAILS

The Arkansas School Boards Association is excited to be planning the program for our 73rd Annual Conference. We invite presentation proposals from school district staff, board members, and organizations focused on key issues relevant to board members and administrators across Arkansas.

For the 2026 ASBA Annual Conference program, we are seeking presentations that:

- Target board members as the primary audience
- Enhance the knowledge, skills, and abilities of board members with an emphasis on improving student outcomes
- Include a school board member as a participant in the presentation (not required but preferred)
- Demonstrate innovative ideas and solutions

PRESENTATION CRITERIA

The conference theme is "**Where Leadership Finds Its Rhythm – Setting the Tone for Stronger Schools.**"

These presentations are intended to explore innovative strategies, share best practices, foster positive change, and drive excellence in education while also addressing the challenges facing school board members and administrators. Topics should address one of the following:

- **Board Members' Legal and Ethical Responsibilities** – Presentations in this category will provide guidance on the legal requirements and ethical standards that govern school board service. Topics may include understanding statutory obligations, avoiding conflicts of interest, maintaining transparency, and making decisions that uphold the law and the community's trust.
- **School Laws & Regulations** – Presentations in this category will address laws and regulations affecting public schools. Topics may include recent legislative updates, compliance requirements, court decisions, and practical strategies to ensure district policies and practices align with legal mandates.
- **Board Member Roles & Responsibilities** – Sessions will explore the core duties of school board members, including policy setting, oversight, and advocacy. Presentations may highlight best practices for fulfilling these responsibilities effectively and in alignment with district goals.

- **Board/Superintendent Relationships** – This category focuses on building and maintaining a strong, collaborative relationship between the board and superintendent. Topics may include communication strategies, role clarity, and approaches for working together to support student success.
- **Board Ethics** – Presentations will cover ethical standards for school board members, including decision-making, avoiding conflicts of interest, maintaining transparency, and fostering trust within the school community.
- **Student Achievement** – Sessions will showcase innovative practices that improve student outcomes. This category gives districts a chance to share successful strategies with a “we did it and so can you” approach.
- **Community Relations** – This category highlights ways to strengthen partnerships between the district, parents, and the broader community. Presentations may feature communication strategies, public engagement initiatives, and collaborative projects that benefit students.
- **School Operations** – Presentations will address the management and oversight of school facilities, transportation, nutrition services, and other operational areas essential to supporting teaching and learning.
- **How to Interpret and Apply School Finance Concepts** – Sessions will help board members understand school finance fundamentals, from budgeting and funding formulas to interpreting financial reports. Presentations may include tips for making informed, strategic financial decisions.
- **Student Discipline and Safety** – This category will focus on policies and practices that promote safe, supportive learning environments. Topics may include student behavior management, restorative practices, and emergency preparedness.
- **Effective Governance Practices** – Presentations will highlight governance models, processes, and tools that enable boards to operate efficiently and effectively while maintaining a focus on student success.
- **Effective Leadership and Accountability** – This category will explore strategies for setting high expectations, monitoring progress, and holding the district accountable for results while modeling effective leadership.
- **Learning and Leadership** – Sessions will focus on continuous improvement and professional growth for board members and district leaders, including opportunities for ongoing training, reflection, and capacity-building.

VENDOR-SPONSORED PRESENTATION CRITERIA

Presentations from companies or organizations associated with a commercial enterprise must meet the following selection criteria, in addition to those listed above.

- Only **Premier Plus** ASBA Commercial Affiliates are eligible to present breakout sessions at our annual conference. For more information on becoming a Premier Plus partner, please contact Kathy Ivy at kivy@arsba.org.
- Presentations should exclude commercial sales solicitations. Solicitation opportunities should be limited to booths available through our partnership program.

DEADLINES & KEY DATES

- **November 6, 2026:** Deadline to submit a presentation proposal
- **November 20, 2026:** Final selection of presentations will be made, and applicants notified.
- **December 4, 2026:** Handouts, PPTs, and other materials due to ASBA for online posting (A link to submit materials will be provided to all presenters.)
- **December 9-11, 2026:** ASBA Annual Conference

NOTES:

- ASBA reserves the right to revise session titles and descriptions.
- Some presenters may be asked to repeat their session up to two times.
- All participating presenters are responsible for their own travel and expenses.

Your proposal will NOT be considered if you do not submit a fully completed form.

To submit a presentation proposal, use the following link:

<https://bit.ly/acrfp26>

Questions? Contact Tammie Reitenger: treitenger@arsba.org, (501) 492-4822