



IASPA This Week

August 18, 2026

What To Know This Week

Don't Miss Tomorrow's Webinar Wednesday!

Finding time for professional learning during the school year isn't always easy. That's why [Webinar Wednesdays](#) make it simple to learn, stay current and connect with colleagues in just one hour.

The full 2026-27 Webinar Wednesday lineup is now available on the IASPA website. These one-hour virtual sessions are free for IASPA members and cover timely topics throughout the school year, including legal updates, recruitment, difficult conversations, AI, HR and PR partnerships, ADA compliance and plenty more.

Don't miss tomorrow's session! Join Jeff Knapp, Assistant Superintendent of Professional Learning and HR at Winnetka School District 36, as he leads a panel of IASPA mentors and mentees in a conversation about the experiences, challenges and breakthroughs that have shaped their professional journeys. Through candid conversation and real-world examples, you'll gain insight into what makes a mentoring relationship successful, how mentors and mentees can make the most of the experience and why investing in professional relationships strengthens our entire school HR community.

Whether one topic catches your eye or you're planning your professional learning for the year ahead, Webinar Wednesdays make it easy to stay connected and keep learning all year long. Explore the lineup and register for the sessions that interest you.

[Explore the Webinar Wednesday Lineup](#)

HR Essentials: The Human Side of HR

Some of the best professional learning happens when ideas, experiences and people come together.

On **Thursday, September 10**, school HR professionals from across Illinois will gather at the NIU Naperville Conference Center for HR Essentials 2026. Centered around this year's theme, "[The Human Side of HR: Connecting People, Purpose, and Practice](#)," this annual event brings together school HR professionals for practical learning, meaningful conversations and opportunities to connect with colleagues who understand the unique challenges of school HR.

Whether you're looking for fresh ideas, new perspectives or simply the chance to learn alongside your peers, HR Essentials is a day designed with school HR professionals in mind.



[Register Today!](#)

On the Horizon

Administrator Academy: Title IX: Responding to Discrimination on the Basis of Sex

When: Thursday, August 20 | 8:30am-12:30pm

There's still time to register for this week's virtual Administrator Academy.

Join **Stephanie Jones**, Partner at F3 Law, as she explores current Title IX requirements, investigation procedures and practical strategies for responding to complaints. You'll leave with greater confidence and a stronger understanding of your responsibilities when challenging situations arise.



Whether you're looking to deepen your own understanding or have a principal, district administrator or colleague who would benefit from this learning opportunity, this session offers valuable insights you can put to use right away. Anyone is welcome to attend for professional learning, with no Administrator Academy coursework required.

[Reserve Your Spot](#)

WW: Legal Updates: Laws, Loopholes and the Latest

When: Wednesday, September 9 | 12-1pm

If legal updates are on your back-to-school checklist, we've got you covered.

Join **Sara Boucek**, Partner at F3 Law, for Legal Updates: Laws, Loopholes and the Latest and hear what school HR professionals need to know about recent legislation, court decisions and emerging legal issues before the year gets into full swing.



[Register Today!](#)

Partner Connection

Thank You to Our HR Essentials Lunch Sponsor – Red Rover

IASPA is proud to recognize **Red Rover** as the **Lunch Sponsor for our 2026 HR Essentials Conference on September 10** at the NIU Naperville Conference Center.



As one of IASPA's Platinum Business Partners, Red Rover's support helps make conferences like HR Essentials possible. Our business partners don't simply sponsor IASPA events. They are organizations that share our commitment to supporting school HR professionals and strengthening Illinois schools.

While you're at HR Essentials, be sure to stop by the Red Rover exhibit table to meet their team and learn how they're helping school districts simplify HR with intuitive tools for hiring, employee records, absences, time tracking, and professional development.

If you haven't registered yet, there's still time! Join HR professionals from across Illinois for a day of practical learning, collaboration, and networking. We look forward to seeing you on September 10.

Thank you, [Red Rover](#), for your continued partnership and investment in Illinois school HR.

IASPA Job Board

Whether you're looking for your next role or helping someone else discover theirs, the [IASPA Job Board](#) is your go-to resource for HR and leadership opportunities across Illinois.

Featured Opening:

- Human Resources Coordinator, *St Charles CUSD 303*
- Human Resources Specialist, *Glenbrook High School District 225*

[Visit the Job Board](#)



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Illinois Association of School Personnel Administrators | 1770 South Randall Road A104 | Geneva, IL 60134 US

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