



J. SCOTT GOODING

BIG WALNUT LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
SUNBURY, OHIO



2026 Candidate for 2027 Board of Directors
**ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BUSINESS
OFFICIALS INTERNATIONAL**

ABOUT SCOTT

J. Scott Gooding II serves as Interim Treasurer/CFO for Big Walnut Local School District in Sunbury, Ohio. With nearly three decades of experience in school finance and operations, he has served school districts ranging from small rural systems to some of Ohio's largest public school organizations. Throughout his career, Scott has built a reputation for strategic financial leadership, transparent budgeting, and aligning fiscal stewardship with student achievement.

Scott served nine years on the Ohio Association of School Business Officials Board of Directors and has dedicated considerable time to mentoring emerging leaders and advancing the profession through collaboration, advocacy, and professional development. In 2025, he received ASBO International's Distinguished Eagle Award in recognition of his leadership and service to the profession.

VISION

Scott's vision for ASBO International is to strengthen the organization's role as the global leader in school business excellence by expanding leadership development, enhancing collaboration among state affiliates, and elevating the voice of school business professionals in educational policy and advocacy. He believes ASBO must continue investing in mentorship, innovation, and professional learning opportunities that prepare the next generation of leaders while supporting experienced professionals navigating increasingly complex financial and operational challenges. Scott is passionate about ensuring every school business official has access to the tools, resources, and professional network necessary to make ethical, student-centered decisions that sustain strong public schools and thriving communities.

If you were asked to deliver a “state of the association” address, what would you highlight as ASBO International’s greatest strengths and areas for growth in the coming years?

ASBO International’s greatest strength is its ability to bring together school business professionals from diverse backgrounds, districts, and regions under a shared mission of supporting student success through sound leadership and financial stewardship. The organization has built a strong reputation for professional development, ethical leadership, certification programs, and advocacy that elevates the profession globally. ASBO’s collaborative culture and strong affiliate relationships create a network where professionals can learn from one another and share innovative solutions to increasingly complex operational and financial challenges.

At the same time, the coming years present significant opportunities for growth. ASBO can continue expanding its influence by strengthening engagement with emerging professionals, increasing mentorship opportunities, and enhancing the visibility of school business officials as key educational leaders. As districts face workforce shortages, funding uncertainty, cybersecurity risks, and evolving operational demands, ASBO has an opportunity to lead conversations around innovation, succession planning, and strategic leadership development. Continued investment in technology, member connectivity, and advocacy will help ensure the association remains relevant and responsive to the evolving needs of its members.

As a board member, you may be asked to encourage professionals to join and actively participate in ASBO International. What would you say to inspire engagement and increase membership involvement?

I would encourage professionals to engage with ASBO International by emphasizing that membership is more than access to resources. It is an investment in professional growth, leadership, and connection. School business officials often face complex decisions that directly impact students, staff, and communities, and ASBO provides a trusted network of peers and experts who understand those challenges.

ASBO offers opportunities to learn from industry leaders, collaborate with colleagues from across the country and internationally, and stay informed on best practices and emerging trends. Whether through certification programs, mentorship opportunities, conferences, or affiliate partnerships, ASBO helps professionals strengthen both their technical expertise and leadership capacity.

I would also emphasize that active participation creates opportunities to shape the future of the profession. Members who engage through committees, leadership roles, and professional collaboration not only benefit personally, but also help advance the collective voice of school business officials in education. ASBO thrives when its members share their experiences, ideas, and leadership in service to one another.

If elected, you will have an opportunity to shape ASBO International's strategic priorities. What key initiatives or themes would you advocate for to ensure the association remains a valuable resource for its members?

If elected, I would advocate for strategic priorities centered on leadership development, member engagement, innovation, and advocacy. First, I believe ASBO should continue expanding pathways for mentorship and leadership development to prepare the next generation of school business professionals. Succession planning is critical as many experienced leaders retire, and ASBO is uniquely positioned to cultivate future leaders through professional learning and networking opportunities.

Second, I would support initiatives that strengthen collaboration among state affiliates and ASBO International. Sharing successful practices, resources, and innovative solutions across affiliates will help members navigate shared challenges more effectively while reinforcing the value of membership at every level.

Third, I would advocate for continued investment in technology, operational innovation, and professional development focused on emerging issues such as cybersecurity, fiscal sustainability, workforce recruitment, and data informed decision making.

Finally, I believe ASBO must continue elevating advocacy efforts that highlight the essential role

school business officials play in supporting educational excellence. By strengthening awareness of the profession's impact on student outcomes and district success, ASBO can continue positioning its members as trusted leaders in public education.