

2014 Legislative Priorities

RSAI

IASB

UEN

AEAs

<p>State Supplemental Aid: RSAI supports a goal to get Iowa's investment in education to the national average, as measured in per pupil expenditures, beginning with a commitment of no lower than 6 percent for the 2015-16 school year. Timing of the decision is crucial and must be made in the 2014 session.</p>	<p>Supplemental State Aid: Supports setting supplemental state aid (replaces the term "allowable growth") by the date specified in the Iowa Code at a rate that encourages continuous school improvement and reflects actual cost increases experienced by school districts and AEAs.</p>	<p>Funding Adequacy: The UEN supports a goal to get Iowa's investment in education to the national average, as measured in per pupil spending, beginning with a commitment of no lower than 6 percent annually for a minimum of three years. Timing of the decision is crucial and must be made in the 2014 session for the 2015- 16 school year.</p>	<p>Full Funding of the School Aid Foundation Formula • Supports a state commitment to provide every child in Iowa equity of access to high quality education through specialized supports, regardless of where that child may live, through fully funding per pupil AEA allocations as established by the school aid foundation formula.</p>
<p>Operational Sharing: Rural Student Advocates of Iowa supports complete and full funding of operational sharing incentives approved by the 2013 Iowa Legislature.</p>	<p>Operational Sharing: Supports continuation of sufficient incentives and assistance to encourage sharing, reorganization or regional high schools to expand academic learning opportunities for students and to improve student achievement.</p>		
	<p>Supports reform of Iowa's K-12 education system that: Is research-based; Is focused on student achievement; Includes comprehensive assessments to measure the full range and rigor of the Iowa Core; Maintains oversight and control by locally elected boards of directors; Does not "repurpose" existing education funds; and Does not impose new mandates unless they are fully funded .</p>	<p>Assessment - The UEN supports assessments aligned with the Iowa Core, such as the promise of the computer adaptive Smarter Balanced tests.. We support a college readiness test, such as ACT, for all eleventh-graders..</p>	
	<p>Supports the repeal of the mandatory school start date. <i>New</i></p>		
<p>Transportation: Rural School Advocates of Iowa supports a formula that accounts for square miles, number of pupils, etc. that is provided as state aid in addition to the regular school finance formula.</p>			
<p>PPEL/SAVE: Rural School Advocates of Iowa supports a change in the law that encompasses a simple, straightforward rule: If you can buy it from the fund, you can fix it with the same fund.</p>			
<p>AtRisk: Rural Student Advocates of Iowa supports an increase of additional funding to support the education of at-risk students in Iowa.</p>			

		<p>Student Mental Health Services - UEN supports access to mental health services for students and clarity of funding sources and funding responsibilities, particularly for students costly to educate, such as those in residential facilities.</p>	
<p>Early Retirement: RSAI supports lifting the age cap on the use of the Management Fund to pay for retirement benefits, rather than using the General Fund designed to pay for instruction.</p>			
	<p>Supports continued progress in the development of rigorous content standards and benchmarks consistent with the Iowa Core focused on improving student achievement, including the following state actions:</p> <p>Provide and fund technical assistance to help school districts fully implement the Iowa Core.</p> <p>Develop or obtain high-quality summative and formative assessments, aligned to the skills students should know and be able to do to succeed globally and locally.</p> <p>Include and fund all the components of successful standards systems: assessments aligned to high expectations, improved and aligned instruction and quality professional development.</p>		<p>Competency Based Education • Supports a state commitment of \$720,000 for the AEA system to provide adequate support to move Competency Based Education toward becoming a reality in Iowa school districts.</p>
			<p>Early Literacy/Response to Intervention (RtI) • Supports a state commitment of \$8 million for the AEA system to reach the goal of every Iowa child reading at or above grade level by the end of third grade...</p>
			<p>Teacher Leadership and Compensation Training • Supports a state commitment of \$1 million to provide training and technical support for implementation of the Teacher Leadership and Compensation System...</p>
			<p>STEM • Supports a state commitment of \$2 million for the AEA system to reach the Governor's STEM Advisory Council's top priority of increasing student interest and achievement in STEM related fields.</p>