

Back to School: As staff and students return to school and you are implementing state and federal policy changes, it gets real and questions emerge. RSAI staff are a resource to school leaders on local decision-making regarding chronic absenteeism, grow-your-own programs, or to connect you to others for sharing expertise. We can help you plan advocacy actions, too. Reach out to us at any time for assistance.

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RSAI Legislative Priority Development: Thanks to RSAI members who filled out the legislative issues survey, which informed the RSAI Legislative Committee at their meeting on Aug. 13, to prepare a draft platform. The Committee also reviewed the notes of discussions at the spring RSAI Regional Meetings, where each region set priorities and discussed issues. The Committee's recommendations will be reviewed by the Leadership Group at the September meeting, then posted on the RSAI Annual Meeting webpage and distributed to all RSAI members before the **Annual Meeting, on Oct. 15th at the FFA Enrichment Center on the DMACC campus in Ankeny, beginning at 4:30pm.** Watch your inboxes for information about the Annual Meeting, including an announcement about our guest presenter. RSAI members have a voice at the Annual Meeting and a vote for their district as the priorities are set, but others who want to learn more about RSAI are also welcome to attend to learn more. Thanks to those of you who participated in the Legislative Committee discussion! Register now at: <https://www.rsaia.org/annual-meeting.html>

Vacancy on RSAI Leadership Group Filled: The Leadership Group appointed Caleb Bonjour at Gladbrook-Reinbeck CSD, to serve the remainder of an at-large position term to the Leadership Group, just in time for him to serve on the RSAI Legislative Committee that met last month. Thank you for all the nominations and recommendations. The at-large seat will be up for election to a new 3-year term at the Annual Meeting in October.

Interim Advocacy Action: Go to the Iowa Legislative Website to find your House and Senate District numbers <http://www.legis.iowa.gov/Legislators/senate.aspx> and then check the Iowa Secretary of State's Candidate Listing to determine who's running to represent you <https://sos.iowa.gov/elections/pdf/Candidates/primarycandidatelist.pdf> Reach out to candidates before the Nov. 5 Election and let them know what they can do to support your school district, students, families and staff.

RSAI Advocacy Resources: Check out the RSAI Website at <https://www.rsaia.org/2024-legislative-session.html> to find Advocacy Resources such as the RSAI Legislative Digest, Position Papers, RSAI Weekly Legislative Recap Reports and Videos, RSAI Calls to Action and more. Contact us with any questions, feedback or suggestions to better prepare your advocacy work.

Thanks to all of you for your energy and voice on behalf of the students in your schools!