



RSAI Leadership Group Minutes March 24, 2026 at Noon

Via Zoom or at ISFIS 1201 63rd Street, Des Moines, IA 50311
(Contact jen@iowaschoolfinance.com for Zoom link)

Leadership Group Attendees: Caleb Bonjour (Chair), Scott Williamson (Vice-Chair), Jeremy Hissem (Secretary/Treasurer), Justin Daggett, and Ron Lorenz

Staff Attendees: Margaret Buckton, Dave Daughton, Ken Sturgis, and Jen Albers

I Call to Order by Chair Bonjour

Bonjour called the meeting to order at 12:02 pm. A quorum of the board was present.

II Action on Agenda

Williamson moved and Hissem seconded approval of the agenda. Approved unanimously.

III Action on Meeting Minutes from February 25, 2026

Hissem moved and Williamson seconded approval of the meeting minutes as presented. Approved unanimously.

IV Review Membership Report

Albers shared the YTD membership report for FY 2026. Discussion ensued.

V Action on Monthly Financials and Corporate Sponsors

Albers reviewed the financial statements through February 28, 2026 and bill pay listing. Daggett moved and Hissem seconded approval of the financial statements and bill pay list as presented. Approved unanimously.

VI Mission Critical Actions/Updates

• Update on 2026 Legislative Priorities & Actions

Buckton updated the group on the status of legislation around: property tax reform, Make American Healthy Again (MAHA), operational sharing & flexibility, charter schools, TSS/Flexibility, TAG and accelerated learning, and student discipline. Discussion ensued.

• Update on Agenda/Planning/Roles & Responsibilities for RSAI Regional Meetings

- **SW – April 1** – (Lorenz hosts)
at Green Hills AEA in Red Oak (11:45 Lunch; 12:00 Meeting)
- **NW – April 7** (Daggett hosts)
at Prairie Lakes AEA in Pocahontas (11:30am Lunch; 12 Meeting)
- **SE – May 6** - (Hissem hosts)
at Great Prairie AEA in Fairfield (12pm lunch, meeting at 12:30pm)
- **NE – May 7** – (Schwamman hosts) –
at Central Rivers AEA in Cedar Falls (8-9:30am Breakfast & Meeting)

Buckton shared the agenda and reviewed plans for the upcoming RSAI Regional Meetings. Buckton shared our new RSAI election resources webpage, and a list of advocacy influence by RSAI thus far. Discussion ensued.

- **Discussion/Planning for FY 2027, including leadership transitions**
Buckton and Albers lead the group in discussion around several planning topics ahead of the FY 2027 membership renewal cycle, including: changes known to date for RSAI Leadership & Legislative Committees, plans for corporate sponsor renewals similar to previous years, updates to the NASDTEC Licensure Service, and plans to move to a new RSAI website. The group also discussed timing for the Oct 2026 Annual Meeting and the upcoming election cycle. Discussion ensued.

VII Networking Conversations – Share information around: (1) local efforts to support at-risk learners; (2) attendance and chronic absenteeism challenges and improvements; (3) strategies to show staff they are valued.

Buckton shared that we have added this Networking Conversation agenda topic to the agenda and each meeting we'll ask members to come with information from their local districts to share. The group discussed various topics including: TSS and student transitions, staff reductions & building closures, the student behavior bills proposed, DE Requirements and how to better help legislators understand the impact of federal and state laws on classrooms and students.

VIII Other Business

No other business was brought up for discussion.

IX Upcoming Leadership Group Meeting Dates:

- Wed., April 1, 2026 – SW Region Mtg
- Tues., April 7, 2026 – NW Region Mtg
- Wed., Apr. 29, 2026
- Wed., May 6, 2026 – SE Region Mtg
- Thurs., May 7, 2026 – NE Region Mtg
- Wed., May 27, 2026
- Wed., July 29, 2026
- Wed., Aug. 26, 2026
- Wed., Sept. 23, 2026

X. Adjourn

Williamson moved and Daggett seconded adjourning the meeting. The meeting concluded by unanimous consent at 12:49 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted

Jen Albers on behalf of Margaret Buckton, RSAI Professional Advocate, As of 3/24/2026