**RSAI Leadership Group Minutes**

**February 9, 2022 at 12:30pm**

Via Zoom or at ISFIS 1201 63rd Street, Des Moines, IA 50311

*(Contact* [*jen@iowaschoolfinance.com*](mailto:jen@iowaschoolfinance.com) *for Zoom link)*

***Leadership Group Member Attendees:*** *Dennis McClain (Chair), Paul Croghan (Vice Chair), Justin Daggett, Dan Peterson, Nick Trenkamp, and Scott Williamson*

***ISFIS Staff Attendees:*** *Margaret Buckton, Larry Sigel, Dave Daughton and Jen Albers*

**I Call To Order/Roll by McClain**

*McClain called the meeting to order at 12:31 pm.*

**II Approve Agenda**

*Croghan moved and Peterson seconded approval of the agenda. Approved unanimously.*

**III Approve Meeting Minutes**

* Legislative Committee - January 12, 2022
* Leadership Group – January 12, 2022

*Croghan moved and Williamson seconded approval of the Leadership Group meeting minutes and the Legislative Committee meeting minutes, both from 1/12/2022. Approved unanimously.*

**IV Approve Membership Report**

*Albers shared the YTD membership report showing 151 member districts received to date. Discussion ensued. No corporate sponsorships were brought forth for approval at this meeting.*

**V Approve Monthly Financials**

*Albers reviewed the year-to-date financials through December 31, 2021 and the request for reimbursement to ISFIS. Noll moved and Croghan seconded approval of the financial report through December 30, 2021, including a total payment to ISFIS for $2,207.91. Approved unanimously.*

**VI Mission Critical Actions/Updates**

* Teacher and Paraeducator Apprenticeship Grant Assistance  
  *Buckton and Daughton shared information about the Teacher and Paraeducator Apprenticeship Grant program and discussions that have taken place with Western Governor’s University (WGU) about forming a coalition of rural schools to apply for the grant together. Discussion took place about the merits of this ideas and interest of Leadership Group members in proceeding. The consensus was that RSAI should continue to explore this opportunity in cooperation with WGU.*
* Status of RSAI Legislative Priorities
  + SSA ([RSAI Call to Action on SSA](https://nebula.wsimg.com/c38c48a1bfc414bd4c1645391db4422d?AccessKeyId=D081CCCCA2DCE3941176&disposition=0&alloworigin=1))
  + School Choice & Rural School Supplement ([RSAI Call to Action on Vouchers](https://nebula.wsimg.com/81a44354fc7e0e55922f793cc1d6f1c9?AccessKeyId=D081CCCCA2DCE3941176&disposition=0&alloworigin=1))
  + Tax Cuts
  + Other

*Buckton and Daughton shared information about RSAI legislative priorities and reviewed the status of various items from the most recent RSAI Capitol Recap Report, recent RSAI Calls to Action on School Choice and School Funding, the latest on Iowa’s tax cuts, and other legislative issues. Discussion ensued.*

*Buckton also shared a draft letter from RSAI to Governor Reynolds regarding a request for an immediate rule change to continue allowing paraprofessionals to act as substitute teachers in all classrooms past the February 15th expiration. Discussion ensued. Staff were directed to send the letter.*

* Leadership Group Member Updates (anything to share with the group?)   
  *Leadership Group members shared and discussed various topics including: identifying books currently being discussed by legislators as “obscene” at the school district, bus driver ELDT endorsement, involving parents in advocacy efforts, staffing issues and recruitment efforts.*
* RSAI Regional Meetings

*Leadership Group members discussed the upcoming RSAI Regional Meetings and coordinating with AEA Superintendent meetings during April – June. More information will be circulated and the four regional directors will need to determine which date and AEA location would be best.*

**VII Other Business**

*No other business was brought up for discussion.*

**VIII. Upcoming Meeting dates:**

* **March 9, 2022** – 12:30pm
* **April 13, 2022** – 12:30pm
* **May 11, 2022** – 12:30pm
* **April/May/June 2022** – Regional Meetings (Dates TBD)
* **July 13, 2022** – 12:30pm
* **Sept 14, 2022** – 12:30pm
* **Oct 25, 2022** – Annual Meeting

**IX. Adjourn**

*Williamson moved to adjourn and Croghan seconded. Approved unanimously. The meeting concluded at 1:54 pm.*

*Minutes respectfully submitted,*

*Margaret Buckton, RSAI Professional Advocate, As of 02/09/2022*