



RSAI Regional Meeting Minutes - SW Region

May 4, 2022 at 8am (before the AEA Superintendent's Meeting)

Green Hills AEA in Red Oak or via Zoom

Attendees:

Tim Hood, Sidney, South Page and East Mills
 David Henrichs, Griswold and Lenox (non-members)
 Deron Stender, Creston
 Ron Lorenz, Red Oak
 Jason Shaffer, Mt. Ayr and Bedford
 Paul Croghan, CAM and Nodaway Valley
 Eric Trager, Audubon and Coon Rapids Bayard (zoom)
 Trevor Miller, IKM Manning
 Lolli Hawes, Green Hills AEA
 Devon Embray, Glenwood
 Margaret Buckton, RSAI
 Sharon Dentlinger, Interstate 35 (zoom)
 Dave Daughton, RSAI (zoom)

Paul Croghan, CAM/Nodaway Valley CSD, convened the meeting at 8:00 am.

1. Approval of the Agenda: *Tim Hood moved approval of the agenda, second by David Henrichs. Vote was approved unanimously. As each attendee introduced themselves, they shared a highlight of rural education.*
2. RSAI Overview and Processes: *Margaret Buckton shared an overview of RSAI including its mission and the history of the organization.*
3. RSAI Regional Representative to the Leadership Group. Term is 3-years, no term limits. RSAI Leadership Group meets virtually most months for approx. one hour, has responsibilities at the RSAI Annual Meeting in October, sets date and location for this Regional Meeting, assists with staffing RSAI tradeshow booth at IASB Convention, and supports advocacy efforts throughout the year. Thanks to Paul Croghan for serving!

Nominations: Trevor Miller nominated Paul Croghan to continue on the Leadership Group for another three-year term. Second by Tim Hood. No other nominations were brought forth. Tim Hood moved to cease nominations and appoint Paul Croghan. Second by David Henrichs. Paul Croghan was reappointed to the RSAI Leadership Group by unanimous consent.

RSAI SW Region 3-year term expires Sept. 2022 (Paul Croghan)

RSAI NW Region 3-year term expires Sept. 2023 (Justin Daggett)

RSAI SE Region 3-year term expires Sept. 2023 (Laurie Noll)

RSAI NE Region 3-year term expires Sept. 2024 (Nick Trenkamp)

One at-large position expires each Sept. for election at the Annual Meeting each October (Dennis McClain)

4. RSAI Regional Representative to the Legislative Committee. Annual Election, representative(s) attend Legislative Committee Meeting in Des Moines during August, attends the Annual Meeting in Ankeny during October, and supports legislative advocacy efforts during the 2023 Session. Thanks to Tim Mitchell, Riverside CSD, for serving during the 2022 legislative session!

Nominations: Jason Shaffer nominated Deron Stender to serve on the Legislative Committee. Second by Tim Hood. No other nominations were brought forth. Paul Croghan moved to cease nominations and appoint Deron Stender. Second by Trevor Miller. Deron Stender was reappointed to the RSAI Legislative Committee by unanimous consent.

Nominations: Paul Croghan nominated Sharon Dentlinger to serve on the Legislative Committee. Second by Trevor Miller. No other nominations were brought forth. Sharon Dentlinger was reappointed to the RSAI Legislative Committee by unanimous consent.

Tim Hood moved and Trevor Miller second, a request to the Leadership Group to recruit and appoint a representative from a member RSAI district to represent any other AEAs not sufficiently represented. Approved by unanimous consent.

5. Review of the 2022 Legislative Session and Supporting Data by Margaret Buckton and Dave Daughton, RSAI Professional Advocates. *Margaret Buckton and Dave Daughton reviewed the legislative actions that have taken place thus far during the 2022 Session on each of RSAI's priorities. Discussion ensued.*
6. RSAI Priorities and Services Discussion. *RSAI members split into groups to review the Discussion Guide and prepare recommendations to RSAI leadership for 2022 legislative priorities. See compiled notes in the separate document.*
7. Vote on 2023 Legislative Priorities Recommendation from SW Region. Requires simple majority vote to forward recommendations on to the RSAI Legislative Committee. *Motion by Paul Croghan to forward the SW Regional Priorities Recommendations to the RSAI Legislative Committee. Second by Trevor Miller. Motion approved unanimously.*
8. Other Business: *No other business was brought forth for discussion.*
9. Adjourn: *The meeting was adjourned at 9:28 am by unanimous consent.*

Save the Date: 2022 RSAI Annual Meeting

Oct. 25, 2022 4:30-7:30PM (includes working dinner)

FFA Enrichment Center (DMACC Campus)

1055 SW Prairie Trail Parkway, Ankeny, Iowa 50023

Conduct annual business, set Legislative Priorities, and plan for successful advocacy



RSAI Regional Meeting 2022 (SW Region) **RSAI Legislative Priorities & Services Discussion**

2022 Legislative Priorities:

	2022 RSAI Legislative Priority	Delete	Continue	Amend
1	Adequate School Resources: the increase in SSA should be no lower than 3.75% in FY 2023 due to abundant state surplus, maintain balanced state and local resources, be predictable, and assure adequate time for budget planning and staffing.		X	<i>4% minimum. We can't compete with private sector to pay people. No Brainer. Time to stop being nice (good soldiers) and just taking low numbers because they have no money. Return to formula/economic measures.</i>
2	Educator Shortage and Quality Instruction: maximum flexibility to hire staff to provide great instruction, including several strategies to attract and retain quality staff; flexibility to meet offer and teach requirements, loan forgiveness programs, a special education generalist credential, creation of a Public Service CTE strand, hire retirees without IPERS impact, and elimination of barriers to licensure.		X	<i>Pay student teachers. Change the language. Get creative about loan forgiveness. Partner with others. Community foundation. Business community. Maybe tax incentives for business to support loan forgiveness.</i>
3	Local School Board Authority: locally elected leaders closest to the community are in the best position to determine the interest of students, staff and stakeholders. District leaders need maximum flexibility to provide a great education to all students. The Legislature, the Executive Branch and the courts should follow Iowa Code 274.3 and liberally construe statute to effectuate local control.		X	
4	Quality Preschool: funding of quality PK at the 1.0 per pupil cost for full time or prorated proportionally and formula protections against budget and program impacts of PK enrollment swings (budget guarantee/on-time spending authority).		X	<i>Prorated based on time. 0.8 for 4 days, etc. It's not asking for something for nothing, but something for something.</i>
5	Opportunity Equity: resources based on at-risk need, in addition to enrollment. All school boards should have 5% dropout prevention funding. School districts should be granted spending authority for FRPL waived fees and Iowa should study the impact of poverty on educational outcomes.		X	

	2022 RSAI Legislative Priority	Delete	Continue	Amend
6	Sharing Incentives/Efficiencies: extension of Whole Grade Sharing, Reorganization and Operational Sharing Incentives. The 21-student cap should expand to allow access to any new flexibility. Weightings should be sufficient to encourage and support sharing opportunities.		X	<i>Decreasing the weightings last year changed the incentives from an incentive (weighting of 3 typically paid the local share) to a disincentive, with a weighting of 2, which doesn't cover the cost. Will work to inhibit rather than incentivize sharing.</i>
7	Assessing and Addressing Staff/Student Social, Emotional and Behavioral Health: access to funded mental health services for children and supports for staff. Address the shortage of mental health professionals and provide resources over the next two years for local districts to train school staff based on a local needs and community capacity to collaborate for a collective solution.		X	
8	Formula and Transportation Equity: formula equity, closing the state and district per pupil gap within ten years and continued transportation equity support without burdensome reporting requirements.		X	<i>Keep it there until done</i>
9	Internet Connectivity and Access: expanded access to high-speed Internet for all Iowans including incentives, investments, and creative solutions to close the technology gap for students, businesses and community members in rural Iowa. Low income should not be a barrier to internet access.	X		<i>Suspend this one. Governor is committed so it will get done.</i>

New Legislative Priorities for 2023:

- Support for AEAs. Rurals need services.
- Special Education credential flexibility: Strat II should be able to teach any spec ed
- HS social Studies teacher credentialed in multiple subjects, should be able to teach all high school social studies without the “all” certification.

Issues needing more information: none

- None

What other programs/services should RSAI look into to serve members?

- None