



RSAI Leadership Group Minutes

January 23, 2026 at 1:30pm

(Rescheduled from January 21, 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), Brent Jorth, and Barb Schwamman

Staff Attendees: Margaret Buckton, Dave Daughton and Jen Albers

I Call to Order by Chair Bonjour

Bonjour called the meeting to order at 1:35 pm. A quorum of the board was present.

II Action on Agenda

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

III Action on Meeting Minutes

- Leadership Group Meeting from November 13, 2025
- Bylaws Workgroup Meeting from December 5, 2025

Hissem moved and Jorth 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 December 31, 2025 and bill pay listing. Schwamman moved and Hissem seconded approval of the financial statements and bill pay list as presented. Approved unanimously.

VI Mission Critical Actions/Updates

- **Report from the Bylaws Workgroup** (Ron Lorenz, Barb Schwamman, Caleb Bonjour)

Buckton shared an update from the Bylaws Workgroup meeting in December. The group reviewed the current mission and vision, and the revised version drafted by the workgroup. Discussion ensued. The group will discuss again at the February Leadership Group meeting, and any official recommendations will then go to the Regional Meetings, Legislative Committee and Annual Meeting.

- **2026 Legislative Session**

- [2026 Session Timeline](#)
- 2026 RSAI Advocacy Tools – Priorities, Position Papers, Advocacy Handbook, Legislator Lookup, Show & Tell Visits, and other Leadership & Supports
- LSA Requests Inputs on Fiscal Notes

The group reviewed the legislative session timeline and various advocacy tools.

- **Governor's Budget Recommendation and Condition of the State**
The group discussed legislation introduced thus far this session including: the various property tax reform proposals, the Governor's budget recommendation and priorities, open enrollment business, discipline of students for violent or nonviolent disruptions, operational sharing, and school start date.
- **Discussion re RSAI Regional Meetings** (start thinking about when and where as we need to finalize and circulate information during February if we're again them in April & May)
Buckton reminded the group that it was time to work on setting dates and locations for the RSAI Regional Meetings. More discussion will take place at the next meeting.
- **Update on TPRA Grant**
Albers shared that the TPRA grant concluded on 12/31/2025 and the RSAI/Cherokee Consortium just finished their final report and is finishing various cleanup requirements.

VII Networking Conversations – Share information about TSS, Enrollment Changes and Staffing Changes you might be considering for FY 2027
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.

VIII Other Business
The group discussed attendance for the upcoming Advocacy Day on the Hill.
No other business was brought up for discussion

IX Upcoming Leadership Group Meeting Dates:

- Wed., Feb. 25, 2026
- Tues., Mar. 24, 2026
- Wed., Apr. 29, 2026
- Wed., May 27, 2026
- Wed., July 29, 2026
- Wed., Aug. 26, 2026
- Wed., Sept. 23, 2026

X. Adjourn
The meeting concluded by unanimous consent at 2:30 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted
Margaret Buckton, RSAI Professional Advocate, As of 1/23/2026