

**RSAI Legislative Update:** This week is funnel week. Bills must be approved by a committee in their chamber of origin in order to survive. Many flexibility bills and policies to address teacher shortages have already survived the funnel. We will have a complete list next week. The following bills are scheduled for consideration in Education Committees Wednesday and Thursday:

**Senate Education Committee Agenda: 9:30 a.m. 3/1/23**

- SF 177 - Seizure disorder training mandate (opposed)
- SF 393 - School Finance Interim Committee (amendment to add poverty factor to the agenda) (support)
- SF 335 - Requires people in schools to use bathrooms that match their biological sex at birth (opposed)
- SF 29 - Open Enrollment busing (amendment may limit allowing school buses to come into resident district without permission to those circumstance where the attendance center in the receiving district is closer than that of the resident district and limited to no more than 2 miles) (opposed)
- SSB 1145 - Governor's Omnibus Education Bill regarding transparency, library books, gender pronouns, parent permission for surveys, etc. Amendment expected (opposed)

**House Education Committee Agenda Posted: 1:00 p.m. 3/1/23**

- HF 221 - Licensure for teachers from other states/countries (supports)
- HF 233 - Optional March 1 second count date for enrollment growth, PK, Special Education to impact upcoming budget (undecided).
- HF 285 - Requires districts to excuse absences for Autism treatments (opposed)
- HF 341 - Prohibits use of margarine in school lunches (opposed)
- HF 367 - Prohibits disciplinary action against school employees who refer to others by legal names, refuse to disclose their pronouns or choice or refuse to address others by specific pronouns (opposed)
- HF 390 - Requires 30 minutes of physical activity in K-5 (opposed)
- HSB 206 - Allows licensed employees to report complaints to the Ombudsman. Requires complainant's identify to remain secret. Allows teachers to remove disruptive students from class, etc. (opposed)
- HF 379 - Mandated Seizure disorder training (opposed)
- HF 101 - Suicide hotline on school ID cards (undecided)
- HSB 219 - Library state policy, limitations on content, teacher librarian duties, prohibition of sexually explicit images (opposed)
- HF 454 - Requires all school administrators to teach a class on a rotation (opposed)
- HF 73 - Requires gun safety classes in schools (opposed)
- HF 393 - Allows nonpublic schools to withdraw from state accreditation (undecided)
- HF 297 - PK weighting, 1.0 for students below 200% FPL (support)

Another House Education Committee is scheduled for Thursday afternoon. It's possible many of the bills on the Wednesday Agenda will carry over until Thursday and others could be added.

**RSAI Regional Meetings Coming Soon:** mark your calendars for the upcoming RSAI Regional Meetings **during April and May**. Whether you are an RSAI member district there to express your voice about rural school matters, or are not a member district but interested in listening and learning more about legislative issues and RSAI, we'd love to have you attend. These Regional Meetings are an important step in the work of advocating for rural school districts and the students we serve across Iowa. Registration will be coming soon at: <https://www.rsaia.org/region-meetings.html>

<b>RSAI Region</b>	<b>Meeting Date</b>	<b>Meeting Location</b>	<b>Meeting Start Time</b>	<b>Regional Meeting Host</b>
NE Region	April 4, 2023	Elkader	Follows Keystone AEA Sups Meeting	Nick Trenkamp Central
SW Region	April 5, 2023	Red Oak	Follows Green Hills AEA Sups Meeting	Paul Croghan CAM/Nodaway Valley
NW Region	May 2, 2023	Pocahontas	Follows Prairie Lakes AEA Sups Meeting	Justin Daggett Manson NW Webster
SE Region	May 3, 2023	Fairfield	Follows Great Prairie AEA Sups Meeting	Laurie Noll Fairfield

At each Regional Meeting, RSAI Legislative Committee liaison(s) are elected by the members for the upcoming year. At the SE and NW Regional Meeting, there will also be an election for the RSAI Leadership Group representative, as these region's three-year term is up this year. We will let everyone know the official start times soon, but generally meetings will begin around noon.

**RSAI Annual Meeting:** Save the date for the RSAI Annual Meeting, which will be held on Tuesday, October 17, 2023, at the FFA Enrichment Center in Ankeny. More details coming soon!

**Advocacy Efforts:** Watch for weekly reports with updated advocacy efforts following the funnel deadline. Some RSAI priorities are still alive, including restoration of operational sharing weighting at the original student count.

**Thanks for all you do for your students and communities!**