



UEN Steering Committee Meeting Agenda
February 20, 2026 at Noon
(following UEN Superintendents Meeting at 11am)
Via Zoom (contact jen@iowaschoolfinance.com for link)

UEN Purpose Statement:

The Urban Education Network keeps the state's lawmakers, the media, and the public informed about the progress and problems in our state's largest and most diverse schools. The organization does this through advocacy, legislation, communications and research.

The UEN also helps to build capacity in urban education by facilitating connections between member districts to improve student academic performance and narrow achievement gaps, improve professional development; and strengthen leadership, governance, and management.

In addition, joint efforts with other state organizations and policymakers extend the UEN's influence and effectiveness outside member school districts to the broader community that will ultimately benefit from the contributions of today's urban students.

All members of the Urban Education Network help determine program priorities. For guidance, the members rely upon data retrieved from local, state, regional and national sources. In addition, specific issues arise addressing contemporary events, legislative concerns and current trends. The priorities of the UEN continually evolve, reflecting the changing needs of urban students, families and communities.

- 1. Call to Order and Introductions by TJ Schneckloth (UEN Chair)**
- 2. Action on Agenda**
- 3. Action on Steering Committee Minutes from November 19, 2025**
- 4. Action on FY 2026 YTD Financial Report**
- 5. Report on Status of 2026 Session & UEN Legislative Priorities**
- 6. Discussion/Feedback on UEN Annual Dinner (November 19, 2025 at the Hilton)**
- 7. Updates on FY 2027 UEN Transitions**
- 8. Updates from Steering Committee Members**
- 9. Other Business**
- 10. Upcoming Meeting Dates - <https://www.uen-ia.org/calendar>**
- 11. Adjourn**

UEN 2025-26 Steering Committee Members:

- Chair - TJ Schneckloth, Davenport
- Chair-Elect - Amy Hawkins, Dubuque
- Chair-Elect II – Jim Vanderloo, Acting Superintendent, Sioux City
- Past-Chair - Matt Degner, Iowa City

- Board Member - Cindy Garlock, Cedar Rapids
- Board Member - Astor Williams, Waterloo
- Board Member - Patrick Peters, Council Bluffs
- Superintendent –Matt Smith, Des Moines
- Treasurer - Jared Smith, Waterloo

All UEN Member Districts have a vote on matters in front of the Steering Committee.

Upcoming Steering Committee Meeting Dates - <https://www.uen-ia.org/calendar>

- April 24, 2026 - Steering Committee 12-1 via Zoom