



**UEN Steering Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**February 11, 2022, 11am – 12:30pm**  
**Via Zoom (contact [jen@iowaschoolfinance](mailto:jen@iowaschoolfinance) for the link) or**  
**ISFIS Office, 1201 63<sup>rd</sup> Street, Des Moines, Iowa, 50311**

**Committee Member Attendees:** Noreen Bush, Chair (Cedar Rapids), Jane Lindaman, Chair-Elect 2 (Waterloo), Vickie Murillo, Past-Chair, (Council Bluffs), Perla Alarcon-Flory (Sioux City), Dan Gosa (Davenport), Kelli Soyer (Des Moines), JP Claussen (Iowa City)

Erick Pruitt (Ankeny), Paula Vincent (Ames), Michelle Morse (Bettendorf), Doug Wheeler (College), Derrick Joel (Fort Dodge), Matt Degner (Iowa City), Paul Gausman, (Sioux City), Stacey Cole (Storm Lake)

**Others/Staff/Guest Attendees via Zoom:** Margaret Buckton (ISFIS) and Jen Albers (ISFIS)

**1. Welcome, Call to Order by Noreen Bush (UEN Chair)**

Bush, Chair, called the meeting to order at 11:04 am. A quorum was present.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

*Alarcon-Flory moved approval of the agenda. Wheeler seconded. Approved unanimously.*

**3. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

**a. November 17, 2021 Steering Committee Meeting**

**b. December 10, 2021 Steering Committee Meeting**

*Gausman moved approval of both the November 17, 2021 and the December 10, 2021 Steering Committee minutes. Lindaman seconded. Approved unanimously.*

**4. Approval of YTD Financial Report**

Albers presented the YTD financial report through December 31, 2021, along with a bill pay listing of items since the last Steering Committee meeting. *A motion was made by Soyer to approve the 12/31/2021 YTD Financial Report and Bill Pay Listing as presented. Alarcon-Flory seconded. Approved unanimously.*

**5. Guidance to Staff on Preparing the FY 2023 UEN Budget & Dues Schedule (will be presented for approval in May)**

Albers and Buckton shared questions and assumptions to be used in preparing the upcoming FY 2023 budget and dues schedule. Discussion ensued. The FY 2023 proposed budget and dues schedule will be presented for approval in May.

**6. Report from the UEN Bylaws Subcommittee**

Buckton shared a recap of the recent UEN Bylaws Subcommittee meeting and discussion around UEN leadership continuity and request for membership by districts that meet some but not four of the criteria stated in the bylaws. Buckton also shared proposed UEN leadership for FY 2023: Cedar

Rapids – Chair; Iowa City – Chair-Elect; Dubuque – Chair-Elect II/Treasurer; fourth superintendent officer TBD until hiring season is concluded. Discussion ensued. No action required.

#### **7. Consideration of Pleasant Valley CSD as new UEN member**

*A motion was made by Gausman to follow the membership criteria defined in the UEN Bylaws, which would mean rejecting Pleasant Valley CSD as UEN membership until such time they meet the criteria. Second by Murillo. Approved unanimously.* Staff were directed to reach out to Pleasant Valley CSD to determine if there were particularly supports or membership benefits UEN could assist them with a la carte to support their needs.

#### **8. Status of 2022 UEN Legislative Priorities**

Buckton provided an update on the UEN legislative priorities and the latest actions and advocacy efforts from the Statehouse. Discussion ensued.

#### **9. Executive Director Report**

Buckton provided an update on various UEN matters including the following:

- UEN financial and membership trends are healthy.
- UEN website and communications processes have been expanded with distribution of weekly reports and Calls to Action.
- We are beginning to work on the PR/media campaign on Public School Proud in cooperation with P4GIS.
- UEN Job Alike Groups are really engaged, with zoom meetings, surveys, email communication list serves. This is also helping with advocacy efforts as groups are regularly able to weigh in on specifics of proposed legislation.
- We're seeing high quality advocacy information to legislators and use of talking points and data from the weekly reports, Issue Briefs, and Calls to Action.
- We have not yet aggressively pursued corporate sponsors.

#### **10. Superintendent Updates**

Superintendents discussed certain updates from their local districts. Specifically discussed was the Teacher Para-educator Grants and whether districts were pursuing those opportunities.

#### **11. Other Business**

No other business was discussed.

#### **12. Upcoming Meeting Dates - <https://www.uen-ia.org/calendar>**

##### **a. May 20, 2022 (11-1) Steering Committee**

#### **13. Adjourn**

*Motion by Soyer to adjourn the meeting. Second by Murillo. Approved unanimously.* The meeting adjourned at 12:07 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted,  
Margaret Buckton, UEN Executive Director, as of 02/11/2022