



UEN Steering Committee Meeting Minutes
February 9, 2024, 11 am
(following UEN Superintendents Meeting)
1201 63rd Street, Des Moines, IA, 50311 or
Via Zoom (contact jen@iowaschoolfinance.com for link)

Steering Committee Attendees: Matt Degner (Iowa City), TJ Schneckloth (Davenport), Amy Hawkins (Dubuque), Vickie Murillo (Council Bluffs), Cindy Garlock (Cedar Rapids), Tawana Grover (Cedar Rapids), Ian Roberts (Des Moines), Jan George (Sioux City CSD), Astor Williams (Waterloo). *(Bylaws require a majority of charter members for a quorum, and the quorum was met for this meeting.)*

Other Members in Attendance: Theron Schutte (Marshalltown)

Staff/Guest Attendees: Margaret Buckton (ISFIS) and Jen Albers (ISFIS)

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, Welcome to Astor Williams, and Introductions by Matt Degner (UEN Chair)

Chair Degner called the meeting to order at 11:03 am. A quorum was present.

2. Action on Agenda

George moved approval of the agenda, seconded by Garlock. Approved unanimously.

3. Action on Steering Committee Minutes

- November 14, 2023
- November 15, 2023

Garlock moved approval of the minutes, seconded by George. Approved unanimously.

4. Action on YTD Financial Report

Albers presented the YTD Financial Report through December 31, 2023, along with a bill pay listing of items since the last Steering Committee meeting. *A motion was made by Hawkins to approve the 12/31/2023 YTD Financial Report and Bill Pay Listing as presented. Garlock seconded. Approved unanimously.*

5. Report on Status of 2024 UEN Legislative Priorities

Buckton reviewed the status of the 2024 UEN Legislative Priorities and the latest proposals from the Statehouse. Discussion ensued around many of the proposed bills.

6. Updates from Steering Committee Members

Steering Committee members shared some positive things happening in their local districts.

7. Other Business

No other business was discussed.

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

- Feb 22 (10-1) - Founding Supts Coaching (via Zoom)
- March 21 (10:30-2:30) - Founding Supts Coaching/Lunch (in person in Des Moines)
- March 22 (11:30-1) - All Superintendents Meeting (via Zoom)
- April 19 (10-1) - All Superintendents Meeting/Lunch (in person in Des Moines)
- April 19 (1-4:30) - Founding Supts Coaching (in person in Des Moines)
- May 9 (2-7) - Founding Supts Coaching/Dinner (in person in Des Moines)
- May 10 (10-1) – All Superintendents Meeting/Lunch (in person in Des Moines)
- **May 10 (12-3) – Steering Committee Lunch/Meeting (in person in Des Moines)**

9. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned by mutual consent at 11:40 am.

Minutes respectfully submitted,

Margaret Buckton, UEN Executive Director, 02/09/2024