



UEN Steering Committee Meeting Minutes
September 20, 2024, 12 pm
(following UEN Superintendents Meeting)
1201 63rd Street, Des Moines, IA 50311
or Via Zoom (contact jen@iowaschoolfinance.com for link)

Steering Committee Attendees: TJ Schneckloth, Chair (Davenport), Rod Earlywine, Chair-Elect (Sioux City), Matt Degner, Past-Chair (Iowa City), Cindy Garlock (Cedar Rapids), Tawana Grover (Cedar Rapids), Patrick Peters (Council Bluffs), Vickie Murillo (Council Bluffs), Jackie Norris (Des Moines), Astor Williams (Waterloo), Jared Smith (Waterloo)
(Bylaws require a majority of charter members for a quorum, and the quorum was met for this meeting.)

Other Members in Attendance: Michelle Morse (Bettendorf)

Staff/Guest Attendees: Margaret Buckton (ISFIS), Larry Sigel (ISFIS), Jen Albers (ISFIS), Robert Endriss (Denman & Company)

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)

Chair Schneckloth called the meeting to order at 12:04 pm. A quorum was present.

2. Action on Agenda

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

3. Action on Steering Committee Minutes from May 10, 2024

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

4. Financial Reports

- a. Receive the Independent Auditors Report and Overview of IRS Form 990 for FYE 06/30/2024 – Robert Endriss, Denman
Albers introduced Robert Endress of the audit firm of Denman & Company. Endriss presented the independent auditor’s report and related letter for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024. Total Income of \$226,339, Total Expenses of \$168,553, Net Income of \$57,806, Total Equity of \$194,636. Discussion ensued. Robert Endriss shared that the IRS Form 990 will be circulated via email when it is finalized for any feedback. A motion was made by Norris to approve the independent auditors report. Seconded by Williams. Approved unanimously.

- b. Action on FY 2025 YTD Financial Report & Corporate Sponsors
Albers presented the YTD Financial Report through August 31, 2024, along with a bill pay listing of items since the last Steering Committee meeting. A motion was made by Norris to approve the 08/31/2024 YTD Financial Report and Bill Pay Listing as presented. Seconded by Smith. Approved unanimously.

5. 2025 UEN Legislative Priorities

- a. Review Legislative Issues Survey Results
- b. Report from 2025 Legislative Workgroup and Discussion on Legislative Priorities
- c. Next steps and process to prepare for final action at Nov. Steering Committee

Buckton shared the results of the UEN Legislative Issues Survey of members, along with details from the recent legislative workgroup around 2025 UEN legislative priorities. Discussion ensued. Final language for the 2025 priorities will come to the Steering Committee in November for approval.

6. UEN Annual Dinner – November 20, 2024

- a. Draft Agenda
- b. Networking Conversations
- c. Invitation & Registration - <https://www.uen-ia.org/uen-annual-meeting>

Buckton reviewed the draft agenda for the upcoming UEN Annual Dinner, including a panel discussion, as well as networking conversations.

7. Updates from Steering Committee Members

Steering Committee members shared updates from their local districts including the following topics: Cell Phone Policy discussion, recent legislator forums, Chamber connections, and PK-12 and childcare collaborations.

8. Other Business

No other business was discussed.

9. Adjourn

*Motion by Williams to adjourn the meeting. Second by Earleywine. Approved unanimously.
The meeting adjourned at 12:46 PM.*

Minutes respectfully submitted,

Margaret Buckton, UEN Executive Director, 09/20/2024

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

- November 20, 2024 - Steering Committee Lunch/Meeting 12-3 in Des Moines
- November 20, 2024 - Annual Dinner 6-8:30pm in Des Moines
- February 7, 2025 - Steering Committee 12-1pm via Zoom
- May 9, 2025 - Steering Committee Lunch/Meeting 12-1:30 in Des Moines or via Zoom