

**UEN Annual Dinner Agenda  
November 15, 2023, 6 – 8:30pm**

**Hilton Des Moines Downtown, 435 Park Street, Des Moines, IA 50309**

**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.*

- **Welcome by Matt Degner (UEN Chair) & Introduction of UEN Leadership**
- **SPEAKER - "Education is Everyone's Business" by retiring school board member Chris LaFerla, Council Bluffs Community School District**

*[break for dinner & conversation]*

- **Update on UEN & 2024 UEN Legislative Priorities**
- **Advocacy Actions & Supports**
- **Networking Conversations**



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