News Release



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Education Leaders Advocate for Iowa Students at 2025 Day on the Hill

DES MOINES – On Tuesday, January 28, education leaders from across the state gathered at the Iowa Capitol for the 2025 Day on the Hill, an annual advocacy event hosted by Iowa's Area Education Agencies (AEAs), the Iowa Association of School Boards® (IASB®), and School Administrators of Iowa (SAI).

This powerful collaboration brought together superintendents, AEA chiefs, PK–12 and AEA board members, and public school leaders to speak with one voice in support of lowa students. United by shared legislative priorities, participants met with state legislators to advocate for increased support for public education, emphasizing key areas essential to student success:

- **Expanding early learning opportunities** by increasing funding and resources for full-day preschool to promote early literacy.
- Ensuring stable support for special education to provide consistent services and opportunities for ALL students.
- **Strengthening lowa's education workforce** through increased resources and flexibility to recruit and retain quality educators.
- Sustaining the essential services provided through AEAs to support students, families, and school districts statewide.

Student Showcase Highlights Innovation in Iowa Schools

A key feature of the event was the Student Showcase, where districts from across lowa highlighted innovative programs making an impact on student success. Legislators had the opportunity to engage with students and educators, gaining firsthand insight into the hands-on learning experiences shaping the future workforce. Participating districts and programs included:

- Oelwein Big Dog's Coffee Shop
- Norwalk The Leader in Me Lighthouse School
- **MMCRU** MMCRU Schools and Little Royals Daycare

- West Delaware Work-Based Learning Programs
- Urbandale Discover Your Path | Discover U
- Madrid A Community Impact: Project-Based Learning
- Woodbine iJAG
- Waterloo IT Programming and Cybersecurity
- Maquoketa/Storm Lake Classroom Clinic
- Pleasantville Pleasantville FFA
- Green Hills AEA Rising Hope Academy
- Davenport LETRS Training and Amplify Curriculum
- Linn-Mar Venture Academics
- Alburnett Alburnett 3DE
- Cedar Rapids Early Literacy
- Winterset WHS Cybersecurity Program
- Oskaloosa #ALLIN for All-Day Pre-K
- Marshalltown TPRA
- Olin Mini Farm / Farm-to-Table / Agricultural STEM Education
- **ADM** TechRise
- Cardinal 4-Day School Week

Thank You to Iowa Legislators

The AEAs, IASB, and SAI extend their sincere appreciation to the legislators who attended and engaged in meaningful conversations about the future of education in lowa. Their support is crucial in ensuring policies and funding align with the needs of students, educators, and schools.

For more information about ongoing advocacy efforts, visit <u>https://www.ia-sb.org/advocacy-center.</u>

Photo Series One

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1rwoEgdJxOAJ694gQxB25OB1XSEhfGmNn?usp =sharing

Photo Series Two https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1ifDDg9G2pcbIJLnSdzsb1L1ewv84Azj?usp=sharing