



**UEN Steering Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**May 10, 2024, 1 pm**  
**(following UEN Superintendents Meeting)**  
**1201 63<sup>rd</sup> Street, Des Moines, IA, 50311 or**  
**Via Zoom (contact [jen@iowaschoolfinance.com](mailto: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), Jan George (Sioux City CSD), Rod Earlywine (Sioux City CSD), 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:** Darin Haack (Ankeny), Michelle Morse (Bettendorf), Josh Porter (Fort Dodge), Stacey Cole (Storm Lake).

**Staff/Guest Attendees:** Margaret Buckton (ISFIS), Larry Sigel (ISFIS), 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 and Introductions by Matt Degner (UEN Chair)**

Chair Degner called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm. A quorum was present.

**2. Action on Agenda**

*Schneckloth moved approval of the agenda, seconded by Murillo. Approved unanimously.*

**3. Action on Steering Committee Minutes from March 9, 2024**

*Schneckloth moved approval of the minutes, seconded by Hawkins. Approved unanimously.*

**4. Action on YTD Financial Report and Corporate Sponsorships**

Albers presented the YTD Financial Report through April 30, 2024, along with a bill pay listing of items since the last Steering Committee meeting. *A motion was made by Murillo to approve the 04/30/2024 YTD Financial Report and Bill Pay Listing as presented. Schneckloth seconded. Approved unanimously.*

**5. Action on Budget and Dues Schedule for FY 2025**

Albers and Buckton shared the FY 2025 Draft Budget and reviewed the line items, along with several options for FY 2025 UEN membership dues. Discussion ensued around membership services and rates. *Garlock moved FY 2025 dues be set at \$10,750 for Charter/Founding Members and \$6,500 for Associate Members (no change from FY 2023 and FY 2024), and approval of the FY 2025 Budget as presented. Second by Hawkins. Approved unanimously.*

**6. Action on Steering Committee Members & Election of Treasurer for FY 2025**

Albers and Buckton shared the list of Steering Committee officers and members for FY 2025. Discussion ensued around which districts need to appoint a board member and the election and role of a UEN Treasurer. *Schneckloth nominated Jared Smith, Waterloo CSD, to serve as UEN Treasurer for FY 2025. Seconded by Murillo. Approved unanimously.*

**7. Meeting Schedule for FY 2025**

Included in the packet was the draft meeting schedule for FY 2025. Discussion ensued. Final dates and times will be circulated via email by Staff.

**8. Report on Status of 2024 UEN Legislative Session & Priorities**

Buckton will circulate via email to this group the legislative update that was shared at the UEN Superintendents meeting.

**9. Legislative Issue Survey and Committee for 2025 Priorities**

Buckton shared that a Legislative Issues Survey will be circulated to UEN membership this summer, the results of which will help inform the 2025 legislative priorities.

**10. Updates from Steering Committee Members**

No updates were shared by Steering Committee Members.

**11. Other Business**

No other business was discussed.

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

UEN Superintendents will meet next on August 7<sup>th</sup> in Des Moines during the SAI Conference. The UEN Steering Committee will meet next on September 20<sup>th</sup> via Zoom.

**13. Adjourn**

*Motion by Schneckloth to adjourn the meeting. Second by Murillo. Approved unanimously.  
The meeting adjourned at 1:20 PM.*

Minutes respectfully submitted,  
Margaret Buckton, UEN Executive Director, 05/10/2024