



A monthly update from SAI for distribution at AEA Superintendents' meetings via the SAI Rep. Council superintendent officer.

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- **Link to critical Department of Education due dates** - Check this link for each month's important deadlines:  
<http://bit.ly/dedeaddlines>.
- **Prepping for the session** - The legislative priorities have been finalized by the SAI Legislative Committee, and approved by Rep Council and Executive Committee. There is a link to the priorities under the Advocacy tab on the SAI website, [sai-iowa.org](http://sai-iowa.org). As we head into 2018 and the upcoming legislative session, remind your local legislators that the schoolhouse on the back of the Iowa quarter is there for a reason. That reason being that lowans have always been extremely proud of our schools and the quality education they provide our students! Our legislators' priorities should reflect our Iowa values!
- **Code clean up** - In addition to SAI's legislative priorities, we are working on some Code cleanup suggestions that will help make reporting easier and more efficient. If you have ideas/suggestions in this area, please contact us so that we can include your ideas as part of our advocacy efforts.
- **IPERS meeting** - Members of the SAI IPERS Committee met at IPERS headquarters November 28. IPERS CEO Donna Mueller joined the group to provide information on the quarterly expected return of 2.5 percent and noted that the fund currently stands at \$31.6 billion. Next July, contribution rates will likely increase less than 1 percent from 14.88 to 15.73 percent. She also informed them of the new IPERS microsite, [thetruthaboutipers.org](http://thetruthaboutipers.org).
- **Student early learning opportunities** - AASA has increased its attention to early childhood education specifically with the changes to early learning brought about by ESSA. Read more about the opportunities and requirements at <https://goo.gl/i36MkK>. AASA will also offer a toolkit for state and district leaders to understand the new early learning components of ESSA; this is scheduled to be available soon. Look for more information at [aasa.org](http://aasa.org).
- **Executive Leaders** - Join the Executive Leaders January 11 & 12 to deepen your knowledge with expanded presentations of select transformative practices that were shared in November, review legislative advocacy strategies and engage in collaborative conversations focused on an individual leadership challenge. Register today at <http://bit.ly/SAIevents>.
- **National Conference on Education** - If you're attending AASA's National Conference, you're invited to the Iowa/Nebraska Reception, Friday, February 16 from 5-7 p.m. at City Tap Nashville, 204 3rd Avenue South. Spouses and guests are welcome. RSVP with the name(s) of who will attend to [tharms@sai-iowa.org](mailto:tharms@sai-iowa.org) by Friday, February 9.
- **Professional learning opportunities** - register online and find more information at <http://bit.ly/SAIevents>  
**December**  
5 - Measuring and Building the Skills That Matter Most  
  
**January**  
11 & 12 - Executive Leaders  
  
**February**  
13 - School Law Conference