



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

- **Link to critical Department of Education due dates** - Check this link for each month's important deadlines: <http://bit.ly/dedeaddlines>.
- **A Capitol idea** - Now is a great time to check your calendars and plan a trip to the Iowa Capitol to visit with your locally elected representatives about legislation and issues facing your school. Bring along local community leaders, and have a plan of action for topics you'd like to address. Get some pictures while you're there, legislators love to use them in their communication back to constituents, and remember to thank them for their time and commitment. We'll need all hands on deck to promote Iowa's public schools and to hold our elected officials accountable for supporting public education! We've set up a sign-up sheet to help facilitate daily interactions between legislators and school districts/public schools with Capitol visits. SAI Government Relations Director Dave Wilkerson will assist you in any way he can. Secure your date and time at <https://goo.gl/9c4jEd>.
- **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, <http://bit.ly/SAIevents>.
- **Communication matters** - the National School Public Relations Association offers a free newsletter featuring sensible communication ideas and approaches that work to help you garner respect, gather support and gain approval for the great work your schools do. Sign up at nspra.org/cmsignup.
- **Leveling the Playing Field for Rural Students** - Limited access to advanced coursework, medical care, food and employment opportunities continue to daunt students in many rural communities, according to a report released in November. Access the report at aasa.org/content.aspx?id=41830.
- **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 by Friday, February 9.
- **Professional learning opportunities** - register online and find more information at <http://bit.ly/SAIevents>
January
11 & 12 - Executive Leaders

February
13 - School Law Conference
27 - Building a Contagious Culture [Intentional Energetic Presence (IEP) Fundamentals]