

Critical Department of Education due dates - Check this link for each month's important deadlines: bit.ly/dedeaddlines.

Allowable use of TLC funds - There are six categories of allowable uses for Teacher Leadership and Compensation funds as specified in legislation. The DE has created a document intended to introduce or reinforce understanding of TLC allowable uses of funds. District leaders may use this tool to identify TLC resources to leverage student achievement. Access the information at educateiowa.gov/sites/files/ed/documents/TLC-AllowableFundingUses.pdf

Legislative outreach - February and March are the months when the bulk of legislative action takes place. It's important that administrators stay engaged with the process, even in your busy daily lives. Legislators listen to what you have to say, so please reach out to them. Attend the local forums that legislators host back in your districts so that education's voice is heard. Don't forget a visit to the Capitol as well, and bring along a board member and several community leaders/parents as well.

Public Education Policy (PEP) Talk, The AASA Advocacy Podcast - AASA is trying something new in the new year: PEP Talk is the officially unofficial podcast for the AASA advocacy team. PEP Talk will focus on the research, advocacy, and policies impacting public school superintendents. Guests will include superintendents, researchers, advocates, policymakers, and other folks doing interesting things in the field.

Each episode will be a new topic from a different angle. AASA public policy staffers will talk federal, state and local policies impacting superintendents and public education. They'll talk advocacy and bring in folks to discuss new and interesting research and emerging trends in the field. Check out the first episode at <http://bit.ly/AASAPEPtalk>, covering all things AASA Advocacy, including everything to expect and consider in 2019!

Celebrate the profession! - Retirees, members observing 25/30/35/40 years in administration and 2019 SAI district Administrator of the Year nominees will be recognized at the SAI Spring District Meetings. Individuals eligible to be recognized will be asked to sign up with the district meeting registration. Once established, meeting dates will be posted at bit.ly/SAIevents.

Evaluator Approval offered in Ankeny this June - Human Capital Systems to Support 21st Century Learning will be held June 10 & 11 as now, more than ever, the world demands more of our students. A student's educational journey must not only provide for the acquisition of rigorous academic content, it must also be more intentional about fostering critical thinking, communication, collaboration, creativity and other 21st century skills.

Fostering these critical outcomes in students demands significantly different competencies from our educators. Defining, growing and valuing those new competencies has profound implications for each district's evaluation system and all components of the human capital management system. During these two days, facilitators Tony Bagshaw and Mike Nicholson of Battelle for Kids will help us explore the current landscape, potential competencies and how they might be evaluated, and how local educational leaders can align their human capital management systems to ensure these skills for each learner.

This course also includes an online learning module that requires 3-5 hours to complete. Participants will earn 1 licensure renewal credit that includes Evaluator Approval certification. Register at bit.ly/SAIevents.

Future SAI Annual Conference dates - Reserve July 30-Aug. 1, 2019, and Aug. 4-6, 2020, on your calendars.

Professional Learning Opportunities - register online and find more information at bit.ly/SAIevents

February

- 12 - School Law Conference - reached capacity
- 21 - Building a Contagious Culture - reached capacity

March

- 20 - Mississippi Bend District Meeting (tentative)
- 27 - Great Prairie District Meeting
- 28 - The Brain and Adversity: How Leaders Can use Applied Educational Neuroscience to Address the Needs of Emotionally and Behaviorally Challenged Students