

Critical Department of Education due dates - Each month's important deadlines are posted at bit.ly/dedeadlines.

Be informed, share your message - 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 the voice of educators is heard. Don't forget a visit to the Capitol, and bring along a board member and several community leaders/parents as well.

Iowa Standards for School Leaders - Anticipating the July 2020 adoption of the Professional Standards for Educational Leaders as Iowa's new standards for school leaders, a stakeholder group continues to meet to develop tools and resources to support the implementation of the new standards.

The stakeholder group has recently drafted leadership progressions for superintendents aligned to each standard. We've scheduled an opportunity to gather input and feedback regarding the resources, which will be optional for use.

On Fri., Feb. 28, at the SAI office, superintendents may provide feedback on progressions aligned to anticipated new standards for Iowa leaders. If you plan to attend either the morning (9:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.) or afternoon session (1 - 3:30 p.m.), complete the form at bit.ly/22820SAI by Friday, Feb. 7, so we can accommodate the number of participants.

Make sure kids are counted - Title I funds for low income schools are allocated based on the number of K-12 children you have in your community, and special education funds are allocated based on the number of 3 to 21-year-olds you have. Funding allocations for programs that help get kids ready to learn, like WIC, child care, Children's Health Insurance Program, Medicaid, and many others, are also based on the census data in your community and your state. So making sure every child is counted helps get kids ready to learn, and helps schools have the resources they need. Learn more: bit.ly/census20. A toolkit is also available at ia-sb.org/census.

Recognizing leaders - Retirees, members observing 25/30/35/40 years in administration and 2020 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 using the district meeting registration. Once established, meeting dates will be posted at bit.ly/SAIevents.

SAI Annual Conference 2020 - Reserve Aug. 4-6, 2020, on your calendar.

Professional learning opportunities - register online and find more information at bit.ly/SAIevents

February

- 11 - School Law Conference (event has filled)
- 20 - Building a Contagious Culture (event has filled)

March

- 12 - Building a Contagious Culture