

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

Welcome back to school! Once everyone catches their breath, don't forget to reach out to your legislators to advocate on behalf of your schools and invite them into your buildings. Thank them for the passage of SAVE and the transportation and per-pupil equity efforts. Point out the great work that is underway, but also let them know where your critical issues are and the need for more adequate funding and overall support for public education. It's important to let them know what you could do for students with increased resources!

Executive Leaders – Dates for the 2019-20 Executive Leaders events are set. The group will meet Sept. 19-20 and Jan. 16-17, continuing the Thursday evening, Friday morning format. Meetings will be held at the FFA Enrichment Center in Ankeny. The September meeting will feature student mental health resources, table conversations about board-superintendent relations, legislative advocacy, a progress update on new standards for Iowa school leaders, and conversations among new and veteran superintendents. An invitation to participate was mailed to all superintendents and more information is available under the event listing at bit.ly/SAIevents.

Fall District Meetings – SAI district officers and staff are in the midst of planning upcoming district meetings. Email invitations will be sent to all SAI members with meeting details, which will include a professional learning opportunity with a licensure renewal credit option. The learning focus for this year's meetings is on equity of educational opportunity and culturally responsive practices to promote each student's academic success and well-being. Once confirmed, event information will also be posted at bit.ly/SAIevents.

Executive Committee and Representative Council - SAI's governing boards will kick off the 2019-20 year September 11 at the SAI office. The association's Annual Meeting will also be held at this time.

Mentors for New Administrators - Mentor/mentee role-alike meetings will be held beginning this month. If you have an individual to enroll in the program, please do so immediately. If your district plans to use the SAI Mentoring and Induction Program for 2019-20 to meet the requirements of § chapter 284A.5, let us know right away as well. Required forms are available online at sai-iowa.org/mentoring-and-induction.cfm. Contact SAI at 515-267-1115 with questions.

Public's Attitude Toward Public Schools - PDK International released its 51st annual poll August 5. For the first time since 2000 public school teachers were included, adding their voices to those of parents and the general public on crucial issues in public education. The study covered issues including school discipline; state-issued school report cards and other means of assessing school quality; school funding; civics, values, and religious studies in the curriculum; and attitudes toward workforce development classes. Of particular note is the number of teachers who indicated they have seriously considered leaving the profession. Read all about it at pdkpoll.org.

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
September

- 5 - Building a Contagious Culture
- 12 - Discover Your Strengths
- 17 - Statewide Mentoring Meeting for Assistant and Associate Principals and Deans
- 19 - Statewide Mentoring Meeting for Superintendents
- 19 & 20 - Executive Leaders
- 24 - Statewide Mentoring Meeting for Middle Level and Secondary Principals
- 26 - Statewide Mentoring Meeting for Elementary Principals

October

- 8 - Brain-Aligned Learning & Discipline
- 15 - Fall Legal Lab
- 29 - Building a Contagious Culture