

Administrator Mentoring Program

Background:

Under Iowa Code § 284A.5, all Iowa school districts are required to have a mentoring and induction plan for beginning principals and persons new to the superintendency regardless of whether a district has a beginning administrator in any given year. A beginning administrator is defined by law as “an individual ... who is assuming a position as a school district principal or superintendent for the first time.”

School Administrators of Iowa (SAI) is the professional organization for Iowa's principals and superintendents. SAI has a program that meets the requirements of Iowa Code § 284A.5.

Under the terms of the agreement with SAI to participate in their mentoring program, a school district agrees to

- annually provide SAI with the name(s) and position(s) of the beginning administrator(s) as soon as possible;
- pay \$500 to SAI per new administrator participating in the mentoring program;
- require the full participation of the mentee;
- inform SAI of any problems with such participation; and
- provide mileage expenses for mentee's attendance at the statewide meetings.

In exchange, SAI agrees to

- assign a mentor;
- develop and facilitate programming that supports the mentor-mentee relationship;
- provide direct supports to the mentee as requested; and
- comply with all the program requirements as stipulated in § chapter 284A.5.

We do not anticipate changes in our administrative team for next year. But if changes should occur, we need this mentoring program in place under law.

Voting to renew membership in SAI's Administrator Mentoring Program is an annual task.

Recommended Action:

I recommend the board move to renew membership in the Administrator Mentoring Program of the School Administrators of Iowa.