

January 20, 2021



Security Monitoring and
Identity Restoration

Discounts for PEI members
and their families.

Visit the member area of the PEI
website for details!

[Board of Educational Examiners](#)

[Iowa Department of Education](#)

[Public Employment Relations Board](#)

[Professional Educators of Iowa](#)



Annual Legislative Survey Results

Thank you for participating in the Annual Legislative Survey! We were encouraged by the number of responses and the positive feedback despite the most unusual circumstances caused by the pandemic.

As we considered the data, it became clear that safety within our schools is the most important issue for our members, with 92% of those responding either agreeing or strongly agreeing. Even though many schools throughout central Iowa experienced a "snow day" recently, 87% agreed that their district was adequately prepared for future emergencies such as weather or pandemics. Substitute teachers are still in high demand with 90% stating there are shortages within their districts.

Districts worked tirelessly this past summer on technology issues and it shows! Seventy-seven percent said their district is equipped to handle the technology demands of virtual learning, and the Technology Specialists are successfully managing issues that arise.

Eighty-seven percent of our educators regard the IEP process for students as being successfully implemented within their districts.

The two greatest concerns our members have for their students are **1) the loss of learning** and **2) the loss of peer relationships**.

Each year PEI distributes our survey responses to legislators to help inform them of areas of concern for our educators. You can view the survey results by clicking [here](#).

A View from the Hill



Governor Reynolds delivered her Condition of State address the evening of January 14, 2021. The address in its entirety can be found [here](#).

Below are specific topics addressed which will impact the field of education, along with selected comments from the Governor on each.

Universal Broadband

"...high-speed internet is as vital to our communities as running water and electricity; if they don't have it, they can't grow."
"...about a third of our counties are still broadband deserts, where high-speed internet is rarely offered...and for Iowans, it's just not affordable." "...Iowa has the second lowest broadband speeds in the country."
"I'm done taking small steps and hoping for big change...a **\$450 million dollar commitment over 5 years will provide Iowa with affordable, high-speed broadband by 2025.**" ([Click here to read more.](#))

License Renewal Classes



Ethical Educators

With the increase in litigation and risk, it is important for educators to know the legal and ethical boundaries while working with students.

February 5-6, 2021

For more information or to register, click [here](#).

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATORS OF IOWA

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