The Iowa State Education Association (ISEA) believes effective public schools require strong community support which involves education professionals, parents, students and elected officials. We build partnerships, promote advocacy and work together to achieve support for our common goals. We believe our legislative goals begin by placing students at the center of everything we do.

Ensure every student and education professional is setup for success
- Adequate school funding, minimum 4% Supplemental State Aide (SSA) to address achievement gaps, keep up with increased operational expenses, address unpredictable enrollment numbers and allow competitive wage and benefits for education professionals. **We must have adequate funding and resources so that every student, regardless of ZIP code, socio economic status or ability, receives a robust education that best meet their needs.** This includes dedicated resources to address ELL, at-risk and gifted programs.
- **Expand access to preschool for all 4-year-old children** and a greater statewide focus on the importance of early childhood education.
- **Adequate funding for our community colleges** to ensure competitive compensation for faculty to ensure quality instruction and affordable tuition.
- Educational professionals have the expertise to best meet the needs of our nearly 500,000 public school students and we must **maintain those high standards while incentivizing people into the profession and retaining our seasoned professionals.** This includes removing burdensome mandates that do not directly benefit students, increasing educator preparation and collaboration time, expanding loan forgiveness, and protecting IPERS.
- **Address the mental health needs of students and staff** including additional evidence-based resources to best meet the needs of our students in the form of additional school counselors, school nurses and social workers. Provide supports for educators so that they have the best tools to identify and educate students in crisis. Ensuring supports are available to address the mental health needs of our staff including a district wide emphasis on educator well-being. This includes implementing safety protocols to ensure a safe and disruption free learning and working environment.

Public dollars for Public Schools
- Ensure our precious state and federals funds are prioritized to first adequately fund public schools and educational services. This means:
  - Opposing vouchers for private schools and unregulated home schooling.
  - Opposing tax policies that adversely affect public education funding.
  - Before entertaining further tax cuts that do not directly benefit Iowa taxpayers, **restore special education budget cuts to the AEAs** so essential students and staff services may continue and be enhanced.
  - Ensuring that our public schools have adequate resources to **ensure our students receive a well rounded education** that includes access to the arts, music, recess, physical education and career and technical education.

The ISEA mission is to promote quality public education by placing students at the center of everything we do while advocating for education professionals, ensuring they are represented in all policy discussions.

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