REPORT OF AREA DISTRICT ACTIVITIES FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF EDUCATION IN IOWA SCHOOLS

1964-1965 School Year

Arthur C. Anderson, Secretary
State Coordinating Committee and State Advisory Council

State of Iowa
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION
August, 1965

State Coordinating Committee Membership
(1964-1965 School Year)

Mr. Perry Grier, Superintendent
Black Hawk County Schools
Waterloo, Iowa (Chairman)

Mr. James R. Alexander, Superintendent
Wapsie Valley Community Schools
Fairbank, Iowa

Mr. Arthur C. Anderson, Director
Instructional Research and Publications
State Office Building
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

Mr. Eldon D. Archambault, Superintendent
Le Mars Community Schools
Le Mars, Iowa

Dr. Imon Bartley
Drake University
Des Moines, Iowa

Mr. P. O. Brunsvold, Superintendent
Mason City Independent School District
Mason City, Iowa

Mr. Donald D. Dunlavy, Superintendent
Newton Community Schools
Newton, Iowa

Mr. Robert V. Formanek, Superintendent
Mt. Pleasant Community Schools
Mt. Pleasant, Iowa

Mr. Glenn Holmes
Iowa State University
Ames, Iowa

Mr. Paul F. Johnston, Superintendent
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Mr. Eugene C. Pembrook, Superintendent
Corning Community Schools
Corning, Iowa

Dr. Gordon Rhum
State College of Iowa
Cedar Falls, Iowa

Mr. Ray Stephens
Iowa State Education Association
4025 Tonawanda Drive
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100 Riverside Road
Iowa City, Iowa

Note: The membership of the Coordinating Committee includes the Planning Board of the Iowa Association of School Administrators, representative members of the State Department of Public Instruction, and representatives of each of the four institutions of higher education in Iowa having graduate programs in education.

REPORT OF AREA DISTRICT ACTIVITIES FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF EDUCATION IN IOWA SCHOOLS (1964-1965 School Year)

This report reviews the accomplishments during the second year of operation of the Sixteen Area Education Districts, developed for the improvement of education in Iowa schools. A survey of special practices reveals that there has been an increase in the quantity and quality of research and experimentation taking place in the local schools of Iowa during the past year. This increase has been brought about through the whole-hearted cooperation of the local and county school administrators, members of the Iowa Association of School Boards, personnel of Institutions of Higher Education, and staff members of the Iowa State Department of Public Instruction. Much time this year was spent at the local and state levels in collecting information and analyzing data for the preparation of good school legislation.

Legislation pertaining to education received respectful attention by the 61st General Assembly. School bills enacted into law during this session reveal a greater scope of overall achievement in the interest of public schools than has been the case in recent sessions; and their accomplishments in the field of public education should help in providing a better educational program for the boys and girls of Iowa.

The increase in state aid was not as large as had been hoped for but it is a substantial improvement over previous appropriations. A major increase is in the annual appropriation for general aid which was raised from $19,529,780 to $33,500,000. This increase, supplemented by a $3,750,000 increase in agricultural land tax credit, will add up to a $17,720,220 offsetting impact on the ever-increasing property tax for schools.

A new program for the construction of a network of vocational-technical schools in Iowa was realized. This act provides for the establishment

of not more than twenty (20) areas which shall include all of the area of the state, to be supported by a biennial appropriation of $6,000,000 for capital outlay. This money will be used in the next two years to supplement federal and local funds. An increase of $1,750,000 in the annual appropriation for vocational education will help pay the operating costs of these schools.

The other substantial boost in state aid appropriations is the $1,000,000 annual increase in aid to handicapped children. The appropriation will now total $2,500,000 for each year of the biennium.

Perhaps next in importance to financial aids in the bills passed by the 61st General Assembly is the new law which requires all areas of the state to be included in districts maintaining 12 grades of school by July 1, 1966. This bill (SF 190) will lead to much better financial reorganization of Iowa's school system. It will give every property holder a part in financing the schools and will give every citizen a voice in the election of school officials, thus bringing uniform statewide responsibility for the support of schools.

Another item of major legislation was the passage of a bill setting out new standards for the approval of schools, both public and private, by the State Department of Public Instruction. Legislation in this area was made necessary by a Supreme Court decision which declared that previous procedures for enforcement of standards were unconstitutional.

This standards bill incorporated a new feature in Iowa law by authorizing "shared time" for enrollment of students from private schools. However, such enrollments should be subject to a showing of satisfactory completion of prerequisite courses in schools maintaining standards equivalent to approval standards for public schools.

Throughout the session, it had been hoped that sufficient strength could be developed to gain a major breakthrough in tax reform via the Proportionate Sharing Plan for school aid or some equivalent plan. The majority leadership refused to approve or give blessing to this move, so this important legislation must therefore wait again until another assembly convenes.

Corrective legislation was also passed to remove obsolete sections of the Iowa Code.

At the national level, the 89th Congress has passed and President Johnson has signed into law legislation that will provide more federal funds for research and general improvement of the educational programs in elementary and secondary schools and institutions of higher learning. A number of grants have been received during the past several years and with the continued cooperation of the administrators of the local and county schools, institutions of higher education and the State Department of Public Instruction, many more worthwhile educational grants should become a reality.

The most recent grant of $103,000 was received under the Vocational Education Act of 1963. The purpose of this grant is to organize a Research Coordinating Unit to collect, evaluate, and disseminate past and present research that has implications on improvement of vocational education.

The Northwest Iowa Telewriter Project, with a grant of $12,800 from the Ford Foundation, has just been completed. This unique project emerged from the efforts of the school administrators in Area IV-A including Lyon, O'Brien, Osceola, and Sioux Counties to provide a quality in-service training program in the content and methods of teaching modern mathematics in the elementary schools.

See page 6 of this report for a summary of the Northwest Iowa Telewriter Project. A complete report including evaluations by teachers,

parents, and administrators of the project was printed and distributed to all school administrators.

Another worthwhile project, partially financed by Title X NDEA funds and completed cooperatively by local and county school administrators, was the Statewide Survey of Dropouts in Iowa Public Schools. The study showed that during the twelve-month period, July 1, 1963 - June 30, 1964, there were 7,242 pupils in kindergarten through grade 12 who dropped out of Iowa public schools. This represents 1.19 per cent of the total enrollment at the beginning of the regular school year, September, 1963. Assuming that this was a typical year and that all variables remain constant, this would indicate approximately 15 children out of every 100 who enroll in kindergarten will not complete the 12th grade.

Many of the reasons given for dropping out of school are interrelated. Those who give the school- and curriculum-oriented reasons, Lack of Appropriate Curriculum, Academic Difficulty, and Lack of Interest in School Work, for dropping out, accounted for 41.2 per cent of all dropouts--2,985 pupils. There were 691 pupils, or 9.5 per cent of the total number of dropouts reported, who left school for socio-economic reasons--Employment, Economic Reasons, Need at Home, and Parental Influence. The combination of Marriage and Pregnancy was reported for 1,533 pupils, or 21.2 per cent of all dropouts.

The one-year study disclosed that the probability of a pupil dropping out of school is greater when the county population is low or the median income of residents of the county is low. A low dropout rate is related to a high assessed value of property and a high real or market value of taxable property per resident pupil in average daily attendance.

A detailed, illustrated booklet on the Iowa dropout study has been published and distributed to school personnel by the State Department of

Public Instruction. It is planned to continue the Iowa dropout survey each year in order to provide more complete information beyond the one-year period covered by the current study.

Other statewide projects included:

A new approach to Proportionate Sharing of Public School support in the State of Iowa.

Combined meetings of local board members and local and county superintendents with the State Board of Public Instruction for the purpose of becoming better informed on legislative policies.

The second statewide summer workshop for local and county superintendents held at Vacation Village, Spirit Lake, Iowa.

A Survey of Special Practices and Educational Experimentation in Iowa Public Schools.

A Survey of Summer School Programs in Iowa Public Schools.

The first series of meetings to introduce CARDPAC. CARDPAC includes 250,000 students from all public junior and senior high schools. A second series of meetings, involving secondary principals in a mock demonstration of the system, gave help in administering CARDPAC. This program was initiated the last semester of 1964-1965 school year.

A number of area projects were reported by District Chairmen.

An in-service teacher training workshop in mathematics was held in each of four area education districts. In Areas III, X, and XIV the workshops were conducted in two phases. In Phase I, each school selected a representative to attend the workshop at a central location. The workshop consisted of eight meetings of two-hour periods. Persons completing Phase I of the workshop then conducted a similar workshop (Phase II) at the local level.

In Area IV-A instruction was provided via telephone and electrowriter equipment at centers located in Orange City, Rock Valley, Hawarden, Primghar, Sheldon, Sibley, and Rock Rapids. The electrowriter equipment enabled the instructor to provide instantaneous reception of his voice and of written symbols and diagrams in the seven receiving centers. Teachers enrolled in the course were also given an opportunity to ask questions during the presentation. Teachers from the other public schools in the four-county area traveled to the nearest of the seven centers to participate. Using this instruction media it was possible to combine Phases I and II so all teachers received the instruction at the same time. The Northwest Iowa Telewriter Project in Area IV-A cost approximately $21,000. It was financed by local and county school districts, the Fund for the Advancement of Education of the Ford Foundation, and the Iowa State Department of Public Instruction. A grant of $12,800 was received from the Ford Foundation, and the State Department of Public Instruction utilized funds authorized by the National Defense Education Act. The Encyclopaedia Brittanica provided additional funds to pay the instructors for the in-service training program in mathematics.

In-service teacher training workshops in science were held in Area I, IV-C, VI, and XI. The workshops were conducted in two phases. In Phase I, each school selected a representative to attend the workshop at a central location. The workshop consisted of eight meetings of two-hour periods. Persons completing Phase I of the workshop then conducted a similar workshop (Phase II) at the local level.

An experimental project utilizing two-way, school-to-studio, telephonic communication in ETV Spanish instruction was initiated by five county boards of education in Jefferson, Keokuk, Mahaska, Wapello, and Washington counties in the 1964-1965 school year. Two-way communication by telephone is

possible between the pupils and teachers in the classrooms and the teacher in the television studio. Participating in the project were four rooms in Wilson Elementary School, Ottumwa, in a hookup with station KTVO-TV. All schools throughout the receiving area were asked to view the program. An evaluation of the project at the end of a period of 20 school days was made by approximately 50 teachers and administrators involved in the experiment at Wilson Elementary School. The concensus was that the program offers a valuable service in strengthening instruction in the TV Spanish courses.

Over 100 different educational experiments or innovations were also carried on by individual schools during the 1964-1965 school year. A brief summary of these may be found in the publication, "Special Practices and Educational Experimentation In Iowa Public High School Districts for the 1964-1965 School Year."

Other Educational Topics or Innovations Discussed or presented at Area Meetings:

Study and Survey needs for vocational schools

Changing role of the superintendent

Federal Legislation and its effect on education

Elementary and Secondary Act of 1965

Area Vocational Technical School and Community College (Several applications have been received by the State Department of Public Instruction)

State Reports

Problems and goals of the State Board of Education

Educational TV for Northwest Iowa

Language Arts Improvement of Instruction as conducted in Fort Dodge Community Schools

Mathematics Laboratory as established in the Marion High School

Cedar Rapids experimental reading program

Certification of school personnel

Operation of Iowa High School Music Association

Establishment of an instructional resource center

Pupil dropout program in Chariton

Salary survey on non-teaching personnel

Insurance - building, athletics, etc.

Class schedule

Teacher load

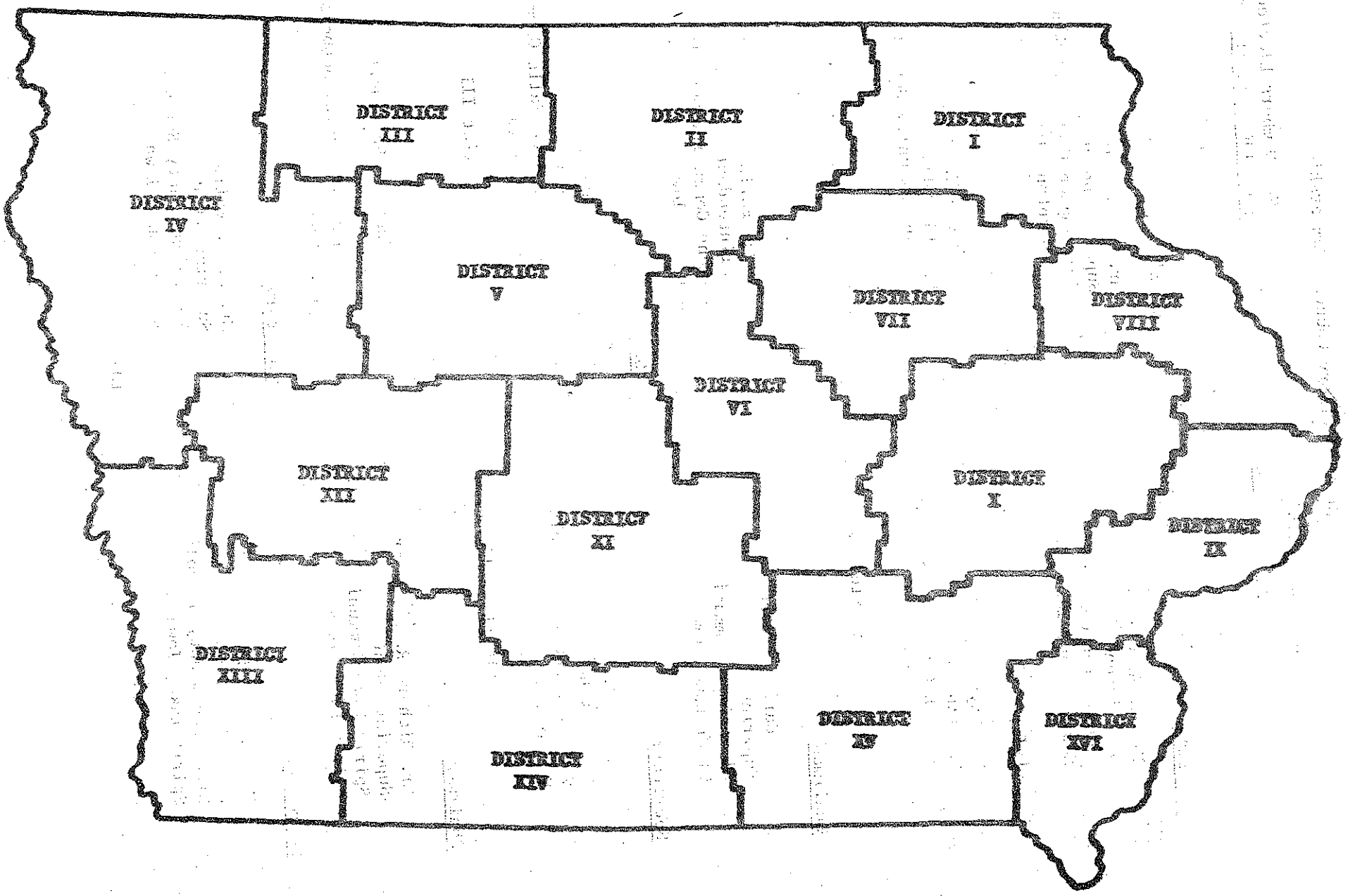
Teacher salary schedule

County Institutes

Library

Iowa Educational Directory

Sixteen Area Education Districts



State Advisory Council Membership

Members Serving 1964-1965 School Year	New Members Elected 1965-1966 School Year
District I	**District I**
Chairman	Chairman
Mr. E. A. Colbert Superintendent New Hampton Community Schools New Hampton, Iowa	Mr. E. A. Colbert Superintendent New Hampton Community Schools New Hampton, Iowa
Secretary	Secretary
Mr. Wayne W. Burns Superintendent Decorah Community Schools Decorah, Iowa	Mr. Wayne W. Burns Superintendent Decorah Community Schools Decorah, Iowa
District II	**District II**
Chairman	Chairman
Mr. Earl O. Berge Superintendent Clear Lake Community Schools Clear Lake, Iowa	Mr. Don Faris Superintendent Belmond Community Schools Belmond, Iowa
Secretary	Secretary
Mr. Leo J. Esbeck Superintendent Ventura Community Schools Ventura, Iowa	Mr. Jess Watson Superintendent Nora Springs-Rock Falls Community Schools Nora Springs, Iowa
District III	**District III**
Chairman	Chairman
Mr. Richard R. Schuchert Superintendent Spirit Lake Community Schools Spirit Lake, Iowa	Mr. Richard R. Schuchert Superintendent Spirit Lake Community Schools Spirit Lake, Iowa
Secretary	Secretary
Mr. E. D. Baird Superintendent Dickinson County Schools Spirit Lake, Iowa	Mr. E. D. Baird Superintendent Dickinson County Schools Spirit Lake, Iowa

District IV-A*

Chairman

Mr. Alvin C. Leuthauser
Superintendent
Sibley Independent School District
Sibley, Iowa

Secretary

Mr. J. B. Speake
Superintendent
George Community Schools
George, Iowa

District IV-A*

Chairman

to be elected

Secretary

to be elected

District IV-B*

Chairman

Mr. Melvin Samuelson
Superintendent
Alta Community Schools
Alta, Iowa

Secretary

Mr. Carlos Bryan
Superintendent
Aurelia Independent School District
Aurelia, Iowa

District IV-B*

Chairman

Mr. L. B. Leavengood
Superintendent
Cherokee and Ida County Schools
Cherokee, Iowa

Secretary

Mr. Charles Waterbury
Superintendent
Schaller Community Schools
Schaller, Iowa

District IV-C*

Chairman

Mr. E. D. Archambault
Superintendent
Le Mars Community Schools
Le Mars, Iowa

Secretary

Mr. Robert Kiser
Superintendent
Sergeant Bluff-Luton Community Schools
Sergeant Bluff, Iowa

District IV-C*

Chairman

Mr. Robert Kiser
Superintendent
Sergeant Bluff-Luton Community Schools
Sergeant Bluff, Iowa

Secretary

Mr. C. Roland Brown
Superintendent
Maple Valley Community Schools
Mapleton, Iowa

*The State is divided into Sixteen Area Districts; but since Area IV includes a greater area, it has been sub-divided into three parts so there are 18 area district chairmen who make up the State Advisory Committee.

District V

Chairman

Mr. John F. Fields
Superintendent
Webster City Community Schools
Webster City, Iowa

Secretary

Mr. John T. Gannon
Superintendent
South Hamilton Community Schools
Jewell, Iowa

District V

Chairman

Mr. Clyde Mease
Superintendent
Humboldt Community Schools
Humboldt, Iowa

Secretary

Mr. Jack Hoenshel
Superintendent
Pocahontas Community Schools
Pocahontas, Iowa

District VI

Chairman

Mr. Paul J. Simons
Superintendent
Eldora Community Schools
Eldora, Iowa

Secretary

Mr. Bernard J. Pelleymounter
Superintendent
Ackley-Geneva Community Schools
Ackley, Iowa

District VI

Chairman

to be elected

Secretary

to be elected

District VII

Chairman

Mr. Perry H. Grier
Superintendent
Black Hawk County Schools
Waterloo, Iowa

Secretary

Mr. Lloyd A. Simester
Superintendent
Dunkerton Community Schools
Dunkerton, Iowa

District VII

Chairman

Mr. Dale Mulford
Superintendent
Grundy Center Community Schools
Grundy Center, Iowa

Secretary

Mr. Glenn McCoy
Superintendent
Grundy County Schools
Grundy Center, Iowa

District VIII

Chairman

Mr. Max R. Clark
Superintendent
Dubuque Community Schools
Dubuque, Iowa

Secretary

Mr. C. H. Koppen
Superintendent
Dubuque County Schools
Dubuque, Iowa

District VIII

Chairman

Mr. Max R. Clark
Superintendent
Dubuque Community Schools
Dubuque, Iowa

Secretary

Mr. C. H. Koppen
Superintendent
Dubuque County Schools
Dubuque, Iowa

District IX

Chairman

Mr. Selby Ballantyne
Superintendent
Bettendorf Community Schools
Bettendorf, Iowa

Secretary

Mr. Lou Pickett
Superintendent
Scott County Schools
Davenport, Iowa

District IX

Chairman

to be elected

Secretary

Mr. Lou Pickett
Superintendent
Scott County Schools
Davenport, Iowa

District X

Chairman

Mr. Bill Diedrichsen*
Superintendent
Tipton Community Schools
Tipton, Iowa

Secretary

Mr. Ira Larson
Superintendent
Linn County Schools
Cedar Rapids, Iowa

District X

Chairman

Mr. Bill Diedrichsen
Superintendent
Tipton Community Schools
Tipton, Iowa

Secretary

Mr. Ira Larson
Superintendent
Linn County Schools
Cedar Rapids, Iowa

*John Messerli served as Chairman until March, 1965

District XI

Chairman

Mr. Roy Reeves
Superintendent
Carlisle Consolidated School District
Carlisle, Iowa

Secretary

vacant

District XI

Chairman

Mr. Wilford Anderson
Superintendent
Adel Community Schools
Adel, Iowa

Secretary

Mr. Lloyd Godfrey
Superintendent
Dallas County Schools
Adel, Iowa

District XII

Chairman

Mr. Kenath B. Koch
Superintendent
Denison Community Schools
Denison, Iowa

Secretary

Mr. Edwin Coen
Superintendent
Crawford County Schools
Denison, Iowa

District XII

Chairman

Mr. Harley Merritt
Superintendent
Guthrie Center Community Schools
Guthrie Center, Iowa

Secretary

Miss Carol J. Henning
Superintendent
Guthrie County Schools
Guthrie Center, Iowa

District XIII

Chairman

Mr. Armond Schuler
Superintendent
Atlantic Community Schools
Atlantic, Iowa

Secretary

Mr. Warren R. Morrow
Superintendent
Cass County Schools
Atlantic, Iowa

District XIII

Chairman

Mr. Norman Ash
Superintendent
Missouri Valley Independent School
Missouri Valley, Iowa

Secretary

Miss Eileen Eckrich
Superintendent
Harrison County Schools
Logan, Iowa

District XIV

Chairman

Mr. Eugene C. Pembrook
Superintendent
Corning Community Schools
Corning, Iowa

Secretary

Mr. George S. Bergmann
Superintendent
Adair County Schools
Greenfield, Iowa

District XIV

Chairman

Mr. Robert Wagstaff
Superintendent
Chariton Community Schools
Chariton, Iowa

Secretary

Mr. Walter V. Starry
Superintendent
Wayne County Schools
Corydon, Iowa

District XV

Chairman

Dr. Mel A. Everingham
Superintendent
Ottumwa Community Schools
Ottumwa, Iowa

Secretary

Mr. Edwin E. Green
Superintendent
Jefferson County Schools
Fairfield, Iowa

District XV

Chairman

to be elected

Secretary

to be elected

District XVI

Chairman

Mr. Robert V. Formanek
Superintendent
Mount Pleasant Community Schools
Mount Pleasant, Iowa

Secretary

Mr. Dwaine N. Hoffman
Superintendent
Winfield-Mt. Union Community Schools
Winfield, Iowa

District XVI

Chairman

Mr. Arthur Hansen
Superintendent
Fort Madison Community Schools
Fort Madison, Iowa

Secretary

Mr. Edwin E. Green
Superintendent
Henry County Schools
Mount Pleasant, Iowa