

**Call for Promising Practice Proposals now Open!**  
**Accepting Proposals from December 1, 2024 - February 23, 2025.**

## **Submission Guide**

### **OVERVIEW**

The School Administrators of Iowa Annual Conference brings together educational leaders from across the state to learn, network, and collaborate. The SAI team intends for participants to experience resonant, relevant, inspiring, energizing, and engaging professional learning.

### **PRESENTERS/SPEAKERS**

Promising Practice presenters include practicing Iowa administrators employed by an Iowa school district or Area Education Agency. Submissions from higher ed are also accepted. We strongly encourage our AEA and higher ed colleagues to partner with a school/district-based administrator/s. Sessions facilitated by district and building leaders tend to resonate most strongly with our audience. The best fit for vendors — those promoting a product or service — is in our Conference Exhibit Hall.

### **DATE & TIME OF PRESENTATION**

Promising Practice sessions are scheduled during two time slots (8:30-9:30 a.m. and 9:45-10:45 a.m.) on Thursday, August 7, 2025, and are 60 minutes in length. Please note, presenters wishing to attend conference should register. Travel expenses and any additional fees are the responsibility of the presenter(s).

### **AUDIENCE**

- Conference attendees (i.e., your colleagues/peers) seek innovative strategies, approaches, and practices to address learning and leadership challenges.
- Attendees of this conference are primarily principals, assistant/associate principals, deans, superintendents, and other central office leaders.

### **PRESENTATIONAL DESIGN**

SAI seeks proposals that incorporate sound adult learning principles and focus on a promising practice, strategy or approach that addresses a relevant and resonant leadership challenge.

To deliver exceptional learning experiences, preference may be given to proposals that demonstrate an ability to:

- Reflect innovation and transformation
- Target a broad audience of school leaders
- Stimulate and provoke discussion and audience engagement
- Facilitate transfer of knowledge, skill, and practice (without the need to purchase a product, program, or service)
- Provide concrete examples and relevant takeaways that can be readily applied to a wide variety of contexts
- Demonstrate relevance of lessons learned through sharing your story/experience

### **TOPIC AREAS/CONTENT FOCUS**

In your day-to-day experiences as leaders, you encounter any number of challenges for which you have designed solutions. You can anticipate that many of your colleagues likely have had similar experiences and would welcome the opportunity to learn from you! You might reflect on your work with any of the topics aligned to the Iowa Standards for School Leaders — building capacity of staff, addressing behavioral challenges, recruiting and retaining staff, leading through a lens of equity, addressing attendance and chronic absenteeism, supporting the well-being of staff and students, ensuring a safe and supportive environment, incorporating AI, realizing school improvement goals — the possibility of resonant topics is endless!!

### **PROPOSAL PROCESS SELECTION AND CRITERIA**

Using the criteria below, the SAI Professional Learning Advisory Committee, composed of volunteers representing various leadership roles in different sized schools from regions across the state, will assist in the selection process. Our goal is to bring you the most resonant sessions representing a diversity of options.

With years of experience and a long history of planning for highly positive and engaging conference experiences, selected members of SAI staff will help ensure the content lineup is strategically aligned and will systematically identify and fill potential gaps where appropriate.

#### **Criteria:**

Proposals will be rated according to these criteria:

**High interest topic** (Does this topic appeal to a broad audience of school leaders?)

**Utility of topic** (Is this topic useful to school leaders?)

**Replicability** (Is there potential for this practice/focus area to be replicated in other schools/districts?)

**Overall impression** (Would you encourage a colleague to attend?)

### **TIMELINE**

Proposal Submissions Open: December 1, 2024

Proposal Submission Deadline: February, 23, 2025

Proposal Notifications: Mid-April 2025

### **Additional Information**

Our SAI team is available to help make this process a positive experience!! We welcome any questions you may have. Thank you in advance for your time and the opportunity to learn from you and share your promising practice.

Al Neppi, SAI Associate Professional Learning Director

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[Access Promising Practice Proposal Form](#)