

As required, please consider this our final report for the Professional Development Assistance Program (PDA) received on behalf of Region XII Council of Governments to attend and exhibit at the School Administrators of Iowa (SAI) Conference held on August 3, 2022 at Community Choice Credit Union Convention Center at Veterans Memorial, 833 5th Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa.

Because there is an annual turnover rate of roughly 18-percent for school administrators in Iowa, the primary goal of the proposed project included showcasing the portfolio of waste minimization services available through IWE/FABA to new and returning SAI Conference attendees and school districts throughout the state.

The secondary goal of the proposed project included reconnecting Area Resource Specialists with the Iowa Waste Exchange (IWE). IWE Area Resource Specialists had limited opportunities to interact with school administrators face-to-face or onsite following the onset of the Covid 19 pandemic and the implementation of various district restrictions. The proposed project succeeded in reconnecting and reintroducing school administrators of Iowa to the free, confidential and non-regulatory waste reduction and recycling services available to Iowa schools through the Iowa Waste Exchange program.

In addition to direct marketing to Iowa's school administrators through the SAI Conference, IWE area resource specialists in attendance were given the opportunity to network with numerous vendors and agencies also exhibiting at the conference. Direct onsite interactions included the following:

AB Creative, Grimes	Larry Rife
Access Systems, Waukeg	Lindsay Baessler
Allamakee CSD	Jennifer Garin
American Reading Company, Minneapolis	Karen Wendlandt
Audubon CSD	Sam Grave
Bellevue CSD	Tom Meyer
Boland Recreation, Marshalltown	Mark Boland
Bondurant-Farrar CSD	Ben Anderson
Boyd Jones, Urbandale	Danielle Carlson
Boyden-Hull, Des Moines	Steve Grond
Buena Vista University	Laura Todd
Career Connections, Altoona	Mark Smith
Cedar Falls CSD	Rafael Benitez
Cedar Rapids CSD	Mark Groteluschen
Claim Aid, Waukeg	Traci Barry
Clarke CSD	Jenn Drake
Clear Creek Amana CSD	Barb Hunt
Colo-Nesco CSD	Mike Boeve
Corning CSD	Anthony Donahoo
Decatur CSD	Amy Whittington
Denavo Construction Solutions, West Des Moines	Patrick Davis
DLR Group, Des Moines	Brett Nanninga
Drake University	Trent Grundmeyer

Eagle Grove CSD
Earlham CSD
EdWise LLC, Alta
Energy Association of Iowa Schools, Creston
Gilbert CSD
Glenwood CSD
Harlan CSD
Herff Jones CSD
Iowa Area Education Agencies
Iowa Association of School Boards, Des Moines
Iowa Association of Student Councils, Des Moines
Iowa Department for the Blind, Des Moines
Iowa Prison Industries, Des Moines
Iowa Ready Mix Concrete Association, Ankeny
Iowa State University
Lamoni CSD
Le Mars CSD
LFI Education, Ankeny
Lynnville-Sully CSD
Mason City CSD
Masonry Institute of Iowa, Johnston
Mid States Council of Boy Scouts, Des Moines
Mt Ayr CSD
Nashua-Plainfield CSD
North Butler CSD
North Mahaska CSD
Northwest AEA
NPCG, LLC, Carlisle
Oelwein CSD
Osceola CSD
Oskaloosa CSD
Pekin CSD
Pella CSD
Perry CSD
Public Progress, LLC, Grimes
Schemmer, Grimes
Service Master, Clive
Sioux Center CSD
Sioux City CSD
South Tama, CSD
Southwest Valley CSD
Spencer CSD
Story Construction, Ames
Student Administrators of Iowa, Des Moines
Sumner Fredricksburg CSD
Treydor CSD
University of Iowa
Van Meter CSD
Vinton-Shellsburg CSD
West Hancock CSD

Heidi Vasquez
Jason Hammen
Paul Tedesco
Julie Weisshaar
Dr. Christine Trujillo
Devan Embray
Jenny Barnett
Marc Havnen
Connie Johnson
Tammy Votava
Vicki Carstens
Sarah Willeford
Ann Baughman
Lee Shepard
Dennis Wulf
Chris Coffelt
Kyle Formanek
Dustin Walker-Woods
Teri Bowlin
Lori Cooling
Jennifer Irlmeier
Ben Chiochon
Jason Shaffer
Shannon Wurzer
Tiffany McConnelee
Amber Goematt
Seth Prio
Janna Sharp
Connie Adams
Jenn Drake
Justin Copeland
Jenny Ball
Adam Beckel
Morgan Maharry
Amy Williamson
Seth Shannon
Liz Rice
Jared Ackerman
Tori Albright
Ben Adams
Chris Fenster
Tammy Delaney
Mitch Anderson
Jennifer Barry
Fred Matlage
Jenny Berens
Steven Triplett
Deron Durlinger
Ryan Davis
Michelle DeHart

In addition to meeting new school staff, onsite IWE Area Resource Specialists had many discussions regarding past IWE successes with various school representatives and exhibitors present. In addition, several onsite attendees stated that they receive IWE correspondence on a regular basis including general emails, hot listings, newsletters, potential financial opportunities and other school-related information.

At the Conference, IWE was approached (once again) by the Iowa Association of Student Councils to present a *hands-on* conference session at their 2022 annual Student Leadership Conference. The Conference was held at Johnston High School on October 31, 2022.

Working with Rachel Jensen, student council advisor of Johnston High School, IWE organized a hands-on session for the conference. An IWE Representative and Jennifer Wright, FABA Supervisor utilized the consumer science room and assisted attending students in completing and packaging chemo caps made from new, misprinted tee shirts during four breakout sessions –roughly 125 students from all over the state attended the scheduled sessions. The description of the session was as follows:

“Nothing is more fulfilling or demonstrates effective leadership or content of character more than using your time and talents to meet the needs of those within your community. Couple those pursuits with the environmentally responsible practice of diverting materials from the landfill and they become even more gratifying. During this session, student leaders will participate in a hands-on activity that includes completing and packaging chemo caps. Both the caps and the packing are made from upcycled, misprinted and/or outdated tee shirts that have never been worn but were destined for the landfill. Completed caps will be donated directly to a non-profit that will distribute them to cancer patients undergoing chemotherapy.”

One hundred and twenty-five (125) chemo caps and drawstring bags made from upcycled teeshirts were completed at this conference. A few of the students took their completed project with them for sharing back home, but most donated them to Rachel Jensen for Johnston High School's cancer care bag project. Student Council members at Johnston High School annually fill and distribute cancer care bags to cancer patients undergoing chemotherapy. At this event, fifty (50) IWE business cards were distributed to students who might be interested in doing similar projects at their respective schools, and/or cafeteria waste sorts or other waste diversion projects with their respective area resource specialist – all business cards were expended by the final session.

Throughout the sessions, session leaders experienced multiple interactions with students from all over the state, amazing volunteers and observed interest and excitement for the project and the reuse of perfectly good, misprinted tee shirts to facilitate *Recycling for Good*.

Since the SAI conference, IWE Area Resource Specialists have reached out directly to all districts within their respective service areas – roughly 1500 total and continue providing direct assistance on an as-contacted and as-needed basis in the form of waste audits, technical and financial assistance and matching wanted and needed materials. Additionally, Area Resource Specialists continue to market DNR's SWAP and Increased Food Storage Capacity Grants to schools in their respective areas.