

May 2022

# Strengthening, Growing, and Advocating for Christian Schools in Iowa!

# **Legislative Session**

It is hard to predict at this point when the session will come to a close. Legislators are no longer at the Capitol every day during the week, and there seems to be no clear time frame of when it could end. It could be this week or next month.

It is no secret that the Governor's Student First Scholarship bill remains at an impasse in the House and is the primary reason the legislature has not adjourned. We need our grassroots to continue to push messages of bill support to our legislators until the finish line!

We have kept our <u>advocacy alert</u> open for the time being. Please continue to contact your legislators and encourage them to pass SF 2369!

We are grateful to the Iowa Senate for leading the effort in introducing and passing ESA legislation. We hope that the Iowa House will follow in the affirmative.



#### Here are some important items for consideration:

- Though ESA's might be limited to a specific group of people at first, it WILL have a positive impact on school budgets, allowing schools to potentially look to improve their financial aid offerings to current families.
- Enrollments could go up, leading to more funding for quality staff and faculty, facilities, and more.

Our goal at IACS remains to help pass legislation that includes ALL current and prospective families.

We are only as strong as our grassroots efforts! Let's finish strong! Click on the link to send an email to your representative: **Action Alert Link** 

# **School Spotlight**

<u>Ireton Christian School</u> has moved to a four day school week for the 2022-23 school year as approved by the school's society at their May 4th annual meeting.



Administrator Megan Kooima told the local NW Iowa news outlet, "We are excited for the opportunities this will bring to our school. Many principals shared that teachers were more prepared, had more energy and that students felt more energized while they were at school. They were able to accomplish more during their school day."

The school added 35 minutes to their day, but will stay on the same start/end date and holiday schedule. Faculty will work one Friday a month.

"Our main goal is always to do what's best for kids and the most effective thing you can do is put effective teachers in the classroom," Kooima said. "Ireton Christian as a whole has struggled to hire and retain teachers as they're driving here from other communities. We want the best teachers in our classroom so we're willing to do what it takes to get the best teachers in so that our kids are getting the best instruction."

Read more about the change **here**.

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Visit <u>www.iowachristianschools.org</u> to keep up with information on legislative priorities and action alerts. Make sure you are informed AND involved!

#### **Contact Us**

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