

IOWA ASSOCIATION OF AGRICULTURAL EDUCATORS



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At this point you have undoubtedly viewed your fair share of comments regarding HF2392 from various stake holders in the future of Ag Education. It is my hope that this update will help to further clear the air regarding HF2392 even though there are still many unknowns. IAAE leadership met with the Department of Education recently to discuss HF2392 and concerns that we have as well as those that our membership have expressed. These issues include; SAE's, the importance of extended days in Ag teacher contracts, and the importance of state vocational funds. Another topic of discussion was the importance of having a DE consultant for Ag Ed. The DE guaranteed we would have a consultant regardless of the out-come of Dale's Administrative Leave. If you need any services that would normally be provided by Dale as the DE consultant please contact Pradeep Kotamraju (pradeep.kotamraju@iowa.gov) and he will assist you. Pradeep would even like to be involved with your district fire-ups if you would like. I feel that this meeting was very productive and informative and I am thankful that the DE reached out to include IAAE in this process. Currently, HF2392 is in the administrative rules writing phase. Which means that we don't currently know exactly how this legislation will impact CTE. It is the goal of the DE to have the rules available for public review and comment by late September/early October. IAAE membership along with the public will have the opportunity to review the rules, and make comments/suggestions to help ensure that HF2392 does not negatively impact agricultural education or any CTE discipline. Be sure that when this opportunity presents itself, that you take the time to read the rules and give constructive feedback. Encourage others to do the same. This is the most effective way for us to have an impact on the process. It was communicated to us that the goal of HF2392 is to make CTE a priority in Iowa schools. I believe that Agriculture Education will serve as the model for CTE under this new legislation, and the only way for us to make sure of this, is to be involved in its development.

Brydon Kaster - IAAE President