

School of Education

Today is Friday the 13th
of March

Event to promote entitled SEXtival

Hello distinguished professors and staff, I am promoting an upcoming event for students [and staff/faculty are welcome to attend] that engages awareness and

education/resources around sexual health and wellness, called SEXtival, held on March 25th 4-7pm in Pomerantz Stage breezeway.

I would appreciate you promoting this to your students in classes and student groups you're affiliated with, to attend. This is important information because in the last Collegiate Health Assessment in 2013, Drake students stated several areas in which sexual health information and their

Reminders

Have a happy and safe spring break, whether you are in Des Moines or not.

Spotlight

1st phase of Drake's new event management system
Drake University launched the first phase of our new Event Management System (EMS). This initial phase will allow student organizations to browse potential campus locations for an event. You can begin this process by clicking on the following link: <https://ems.drake.edu/virtualems/>

- If you decide not to save the EMS link to your browser, continue to email roomreservations@drake.edu and the autoreply will contain the EMS link.
- Each student club must continue to complete the Qualtrics form in order to request an event location. This form is now located on the EMS page by clicking on <https://ems.drake.edu/virtualems/>
- Do not proceed with the marketing of your event until you have received a confirmation email stating your event location has been confirmed and that Student Life has verified all processes have been completed and/or in process.
- For questions related to student organizations and EMS, please contact Tony Tyler at tony.tyler@drake.edu or by calling 515-271-3987.

New Title & Relocation: Tony Tyler, M.Ed., Director, Olmsted Center & Student Organizations

In order to more effectively work with Drake's student organizations and the new Event Management System, we are excited to announce that Tony Tyler, M.Ed., has the new position title of Director, Olmsted Center & Student Organizations. Tony will be the day-to-day lead working with student organizations on their event planning and development in coordination with their faculty/staff advisor and appropriate building manager. Tony's new office will be located in the Student Life Center (SLC). This relocation will occur throughout the week of March 9-13th. Please congratulate Tony in his revised role which will allow the Division of Student Life, the Office of Student Involvement & Leadership (STIL), the Student Life Center (SLC), and the Office of Events more thoroughly serve our student organizations. For more information on event planning

experiences raised issues that this event will address directly. I also am working diligently in correlating sexual health and healthy relationship dynamics in this platform of positive sexuality more on our campus now that I am a certified sexual health educator. I appreciate your support. Let me know if you have questions about this event. All best and happy spring break next week!

Alysa Mozak, M.S.,
CVSP, CSHE
Coordinator for Sexual
Violence Response &
Healthy Relationship
Promotion
Drake University-
Student Life Division
Lower Olmsted Center
2875 University Ave
Des Moines, IA 50311
515-271-4141
alysa.mozak@drake.edu
[du](http://www.drake.edu)

Celebratio n

"Positive Psychology
Applications in
Education", co-edited
by Associate Professor
Bengu Tekinalp has
just been published.

processes outside of EMS, please visit the STIL website (<http://www.drake.edu/studentinvolvement/resourcesandforms/>) or stop-in at the Student Life Center located in Olmsted.

Media

1. A look at bills both alive and dead in the Iowa Legislature
By BARBARA RODRIGUEZ

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) - The Iowa Legislature will reach a procedural deadline Friday that requires many bills to receive committee-level approval in the Senate or House to continue this session. Here's a look at some measures that made the cut and others that will need to go back to the drawing board:

ALIVE:

ANTI-BULLYING

The bill would expand guidelines for educators responding to cases of bullying at Iowa schools. It includes more language on handling off-campus bullying and cyberbullying.

BROADBAND

The bill would expand efforts to increase the state's infrastructure for high-speed Internet. The future of a grant program is unclear, but a property tax relief program has been expanded.

EARLY SCHOOL START

Bills in both chambers would change state law on when school districts can start their school calendar year. Senators have pushed forward with a bill that offers local control, while some House members are backing a governor-supported bill that would start classes around Aug. 23.

GUN LEGISLATION

Legislation in both chambers would make several changes to the state's gun laws, including lowering age limits for when children could use guns with a parent's supervision. It would legalize the use of a suppressor to silence a weapon and ban public access to a database of names of people with permits to carry and purchase weapons.

FIREWORKS

Legislation also moving ahead would legalize more fireworks sales in the state, including firecrackers and roman candles. State law only allows sales of sparklers or certain novelty fireworks.

DEAD:

HAIR BRAIDING

The bill in the House would have allowed people who specialize in African-style hair braiding to work without completing 2,100 hours of training at a cosmetology school.

CIVICS EXAM

The bill in the House would have required high school students to pass an exam with questions that are also given to immigrants seeking U.S. citizenship.

GAY MARRIAGE BAN

Republicans introduced a joint resolution to ask Iowa voters to decide whether to place a ban on gay marriage in the Iowa Constitution. The joint resolution for a referendum to limit marriage

between one man and one woman was co-sponsored by more than 20 Republicans.

PREVAILING WAGE

Legislation in the House would have required contractors to offer better pay to workers for public improvement projects costing more than \$25,000.

FISH NOODLING

A bill in the Senate would have lifted a state ban on hand-fishing catfish, a practice also known as "noodling."

2. **Governor plans student debt, financial literacy event**

Brianne Pfannenstiel

Iowa students are graduating with more than \$29,000 in student debt <http://projectonstudentdebt.org/state_by_state-data.php> - the ninth-highest in the nation, Gov. Terry Branstad said Monday.

That's a significant improvement from just a couple of years ago, when the state ranked third in the nation in 2010<<http://projectonstudentdebt.org/files/pub/classof2010.pdf>>. But more needs to be done, Branstad said.

3. Year-round schools fear program loss over start date debate

Mackenzie Ryan and William Petroski, maryan@dmreg.com and bpetrosk@dmreg.com 10:14 p.m. CDT March 10, 2015

When Susan and Nick Bruck moved to Indianola, they chose to enroll their children in Irving Elementary, which operates on a year-round calendar, instead of their neighborhood school. Private tutors told the Brucks that Irving, with its shorter summer breaks, would provide a better education for their daughter Devon, who is dyslexic. "She needs the constant learning experience," Susan Bruck said. "When she's off in the summer time, she's that much further behind than when they started back up."

Only a handful of Iowa schools operate on a year-round calendar. While they have a similar number of class days as schools on traditional calendars, they have shorter summer vacations and more frequent breaks during the school year. And typically, classes start sooner — some as early as mid-July. But now, year-round programs find themselves caught in the middle of Iowa's contentious debate over when the school year should start.

4. **Davenport school leader vows to break state law**

Davenport schools Superintendent Art Tate Monday said he intends to "violate state law" and use more money than the state of Iowa has authorized.

The move will stave off budget cuts that Tate and the board had been discussing for months.

"I am taking this action after careful consideration and understanding the possible personal consequence," Tate said. "I take full and sole responsibility for the violation of state law."

"With this action, I am following the example of our state Legislature, which has ignored the law this year by not providing districts with the state supplemental aid amount by Feb. 12, 2015."

Tate's address to the board and the audience was greeted with thunderous applause and a standing ovation.

Tate said a legislative forum on Saturday, when he saw some of his students wearing T-shirts that said "I'm Worth-Less," influenced his decision.

Three students wore those T-shirts to the Monday board meeting and spoke about the inequity of the state funding system for education.

"We won't stand for our schools being underfunded," North High School student Anthony DeSalvo said. "We won't stand for inequality. Our students are not worth less than anyone else."

All three students briefly stood behind Tate during the board meeting. The forum, Tate said, made him realize his personal responsibility as the district leader to take action. The students' T-shirts, he said, are literally correct.

"Our students are valued less than many others in the state," he said. "This unfair situation."

It evolved from a formula that was put in place in the early 1970s. The process remains, with the value placed on Davenport district students at \$175 less than the value for students in other districts that receive the highest per-student rate in Iowa.

The state funding formula explicitly values a Davenport student less than students in more than 170 other districts, including Pleasant Valley and Bettendorf, Tate said.

At the legislative forum, Tate also listened to members of the audience ask why the state Legislature "can ignore the law by not producing a timely two-year education budget."

"Why I should be held to a higher standard when it comes to statutes concerning budgets?" Tate asked Monday night.

The state prohibits districts from spending more than they are authorized to spend, based on the district's certified budget and the increase in allowable growth and state supplemental aid that the state provides.

"In other words, the state restricts how much a district can spend, no matter how much you have in the bank," Tate said.

Now Tate plans for the district to spend more than the state authorized during the school year 2016-2017, which would violate state code.

Tate emphasized that enough money is in the cash reserve.

5. Senate approves 'local control' of school starts

By Rod Boshart, Gazette Des Moines Bureau

DES MOINES - Iowa senators voted Tuesday to nix the state's school start date law and give K-12 schools control over when they start fall classes - a position that likely will set up a showdown with the Iowa House and Gov. Terry Branstad, who don't want schools to start before Aug. 23.

The Senate voted 32-17 to eliminate the law that bars public and private schools from starting before the week in which Sept. 1 falls unless they get a state waiver. Twenty Democrats and a dozen Republicans favored the measure, while six Democrats joined 11 GOP senators in opposing the bill.

It would authorize districts to set their calendars based on the best interests of the students while ending the waiver process and repealing an aid reduction penalty for early starts.

6. Recruiting More Minority Teachers Could Do Wonders For Minority Students, Study Says

Posted: 03/09/2015 4:27 pm EDT

<http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2015/03/09/why-recruit-minority->

[teachers_n_6833086.html?ir=Education&ncid=tweetInkushpmg00000023](https://www.drake.edu/soe/teachers_n_6833086.html?ir=Education&ncid=tweetInkushpmg00000023)

One way to help low-performing students d

Drake University School of Education 3206 University Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa 50311
T 515-271-3726 W www.drake.edu/soe



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