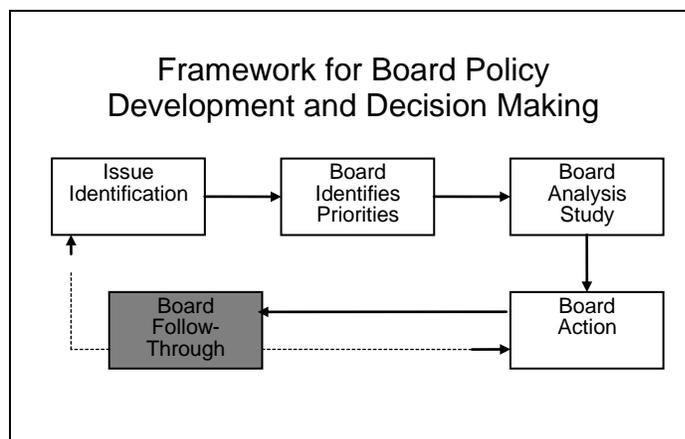


# Iowa State Board of Education

## Executive Summary

July 27, 2011



**Agenda Item:** Education Summit and State Board Retreat Follow-up Discussion

**Iowa Goals:** All

**Equity Impact Statement:** Education reform and innovation discussed at both the Education Summit and State Board retreat are aimed at increasing achievement for all students.

**Presenter:** Jason Glass, Ph.D.  
Director, Iowa Department of Education

**Attachments:** 1

**Recommendation:** It is recommended that the State Board hear and discuss this information.

**Background:** This session is an opportunity for the State Board to discuss information presented at the Education Summit, and the relationship between the ideas presented at the Summit and their own policy development priorities.

Follow-up information from the retreat will also be discussed. At the retreat, some additions to Goal 2 in the strategic plan were suggested. Proposed language incorporating those suggestions are attached for review.

## Guiding Principles

All students can learn at a high level.

Students respond best to challenging expectations.

Safety and respect are essential to student learning.

Educators need ongoing support and professional development to improve student achievement.

Improving student performance requires a broad constituency of support.

A quality education system is essential to a successful democracy, lifelong learning, and a vibrant economy.

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*Our Vision: Iowa students will become productive citizens in a democratic society, and successful participants in a global community.*

*Our Mission is to champion excellence for all Iowa students through leadership and service.*



# Education

IS IOWA'S FUTURE

State Board of Education  
Iowa Department of Education

## Strategic Plan

2010  
Grimes State Office Building  
400 E 14th Street  
Des Moines IA 50319-0146

515/281-5294  
[www.iowa.gov/educate](http://www.iowa.gov/educate)

# Goals

## **GOAL 1: All children will enter school ready to learn. (Early Childhood)**

### Measures of Success:

Increase the percentage of children entering kindergarten ready to read.

Increase the percentage of four-year-old children participating in a quality preschool program.

### Major Initiatives:

- Implement the *Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program for Four-Year-Olds*.
- Develop a comprehensive early childhood professional development system.
- Support implementation of the *Iowa Quality Preschool Program Standards*.

## **GOAL 2: All K-12 students will achieve at a high level. (K-12)**

### Measures of Success:

Increase the percentage of 4th, 8th, and 11th grade students achieving proficient or higher in reading and math.

Increase the percentage of students who graduate from high school.

Increase the number of high school students taking advanced coursework.

### Major Initiatives:

- Provide professional development and technical assistance for school districts and area education agencies (AEAs) in the areas of literacy, science, mathematics, and STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math).
- Expand high school reform efforts utilizing a network of AEA trainers to help districts implement the Iowa Core Curriculum and address the needs of struggling learners.
- Improve the quality of teaching and school leadership.
- Improve the quality of data and information.
- Improve educator preparation programs.

## **GOAL 3: Individuals will pursue post-secondary education in order to drive economic success. (Postsecondary Education)**

### Measures of Success:

Increase the percentage of students who have obtained an Associate of Arts degree who transfer into a four-year institution.

Increase graduation rates by race/ethnicity and gender at Iowa postsecondary institutions.

Increase the average hourly wage of clients employed as a result of vocational rehabilitation services compared with the state of Iowa average hourly wage.

### Major Initiatives:

- Provide support for STEM activities, *Project Lead the Way*, and entrepreneurship education.
- Facilitate student transfers through articulation agreements.
- Improve the quality of data and information.
- Align curriculum so that students are better prepared for the global workforce.

# Strategies

## **System Leadership**

Provide collaborative state level leadership and policy support for Iowa education in order to create system-wide improvement and increased student achievement.

## **System Support/Technical Assistance**

Provide information and data, technical assistance, and a system of support to help schools, school districts, and community colleges meet the needs of all their learners.

## **Quality Instruction/**

## **Professional Development**

Support the improvement of instructional practices and strengthen the quality of educator preparation and professional development programs to give educators at all levels the skills they need to improve teaching and learning.

## **Resources**

Advocate for adequate and equitable funding and support, and for the responsible stewardship and efficient use of public resources.

## **Collaboration/Partnerships**

Promote strong community partnerships and linkages among schools, school districts, AEAs, higher education, parents, community members, business, policymakers, and others in order to achieve positive results for children, youth, and adult learners.

## **Assurance/Accountability**

Implement policies and procedures that use information for decision making, assure that student or client needs are met, and support continuous improvement.

# Revisions to the Strategic Plan

(as discussed at the State Board Retreat)

## DRAFT

### Goal 2: All PK-12 students will achieve at a high level. (PK-12)

#### Measures of Success

Increase the percentage of 4<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 11<sup>th</sup> grade students in all subgroups achieving proficient or higher in reading and math.

Increase the percentage of students in all subgroups who graduate from high school.

Increase the number of high school students taking advanced coursework.

#### Major Initiatives:

- Provide professional development and technical assistance for school districts and area education agencies (AEAs) in the areas of literacy, science, mathematics, and STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math).
- Expand high school reform efforts utilizing a network of AEA trainers to help districts implement the Iowa Core and address the needs of struggling learners.
- Implement Response to Intervention (RTI), providing extra support to students who need it, in order to eliminate achievement gaps and help all students achieve at a higher level.
- Improve the quality of teaching and school leadership.
- Improve the quality of data and information.
- Improve educator preparation programs and accountability related to standards in order to increase educator effectiveness.
- Foster and support educational innovation that will transform the system and increase student success (i.e. competency-based education, online learning)