



# Competency-based Education Task Force

## Meeting Notes

**July 11, 2013**

**9:00 A.M. – 3:30 P.M.**

**School Administrators of Iowa, Clive**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**, John Carver, Chris Coffman, Joan Corbin, Sandra Dop, Jason Ellingson, Ron Fielder, Liz Hollingsworth, D.T. Magee, Allan Nelson, Jen Sigrist, Andrea Stewart, Kari Webb, Shane Williams, Susan Walkup

**Non Members Present:** Alecia Brooks, Jason Chapman, Tori Cirks, Mike Cormack, Mary Delagardelle, Kathleen Hanlon, Tania Johnson, Dan Peterson, Kevin Range, Lisa Shimmel, Circe Stumbo, Andy Wermes, Ryan Wise, Lisa Wilson, Sara Wraight

**AGENDA ITEM: WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AGENDA, AND UPDATES**

Expected Outcome:	Lead	Follow Up
Open the meeting	Sandra Dop	

**Notes:** Sandra Dop opened the meeting at 9:05 and introduced guests:

Dop explained the agenda for the day and gave brief updates on the following:

- Chapter 12 changes: Changes recommended by the work group of the task force have been finalized and turned over to policy leaders at the Department of Education to file. The process should be complete by early November with the changes effective immediately upon completion of the process.
- The REL Survey: The survey of all districts should be sent to superintendents the last week of July.
- Guidelines: The Guidelines have been updated to reflect the changes in definitions from the work group process.
- Next Task Force Meeting: Changed from September 19 to September 18 as there was no meeting space available for the 19<sup>th</sup>. The meeting will be held at School Administrators of Iowa, 12199 Stratford, Clive.

**AGENDA ITEM:** AGORA AEA On Line Collaboration Site

Expected Outcome: Task Force understanding of the AGORA platform.	Lead Evan Abby  Marv Howard joined remotely from Minnesota.	Follow Up <u>The ning site will transfer over to the AGORA site sometime in the next year.</u>
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**Notes:** Evan Abby of AEA PD Online explained the availability of a free statewide on line collaboration site to which the current ning ([www.IACompEd.com](http://www.IACompEd.com)) will switch sometime in the next year.

- The site will be a community of practice – a digital environment for people to come together, discuss, and share ideas. The new platform will be Agora. (Agora is the term for the Ancient Greek market place.)
- Site: [agora.aeapdonline.org](http://agora.aeapdonline.org)
- There is help on the site about how to make an account. Evan can help with this as well.
- An advantage of the Agora site is that it brings together multiple Iowa education communities of practice in one space. Many of these sites are hard to find and exist in isolation. This started with the four blended learning communities and is expanding from there.
- The various communities can interact, share event information, etc.
- The CBE community site is being constructed on Agora, but contains some of the key components (link to a discussion board, Twitter feed, overview, etc.)
- Right now it is just a “store front” and the ning site is still being used. We have a year to transition as we have paid for the ning until next June.
- Task Force members expressed concerns about accessibility given the login steps since the ning is open and accessible. However, they suggested the DE website page might be expanded to have resources, perhaps the Twitter feed that would be open and accessible. Then the Agora site could be the place where the real interaction and discussion takes place.
- Another advantage of the Agora platform is that allows more formalization around the professional development for CBE – can have some official information, training—in addition to the “community crated” information.
- Another option would be to keep the ning, but keep the Agora “storefront” to connect people already in the Agora network to the ning.

Evan also discussed the Student Personalized Learning System which allows for tracking student progress, delivering instruction, and interaction between educators and students.

- This could be a tool that could support CBE implementation in the state.
- There is potential for linking with industry and community via this platform. Could facilitate “pathways” into professions/industries.
- AEA K-12 Online does not have the content expertise but could work with those who do to conduct the legwork and make the technology work to support our goals.
- The platform could contain modules at the state, AEA, and district levels.

**AGENDA ITEM: COLLEGE AND CAREER READY UPDATE**

Expected Outcome: Understanding of the college and career readiness as an expected outcome for students	Lead Tori Cirks Midwest Comprehensive Center	Follow Up <u>None</u>
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**Notes:** Tori Cirks explained the work of College and Career Readiness and Success Center and said the emphasis is on success not just getting to college and/or career but being successful there. They are working on non-cognitive skills as well. Although the definitions differ from state to state, more and more states are using competency-based approaches to provide a framework for supporting college and career readiness because CBE has the potential to address both academic and non-cognitive skills.

The group processed an article by David Conley on college and career readiness.

**AGENDA ITEM: THE ILN: WHAT IT IS, WHAT IT OFFERS, IOWA'S PLAN**

Expected Outcome: Understanding of the ILN and how it will further this work after the Task Force turns in its final report in November.	Lead Jennifer Davis ILN Director CCSSO  Also participating: Gene Wilhoit, Center for Education Innovation at the University of Kentucky (formerly the Executive Director of CCSSO)	Follow Up <u>None</u>
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**Notes:** Jennifer Davis introduced the history of the Innovation Lab Network (ILN).

- Chief state school officers believed the public education system needs to be transformed in order to prepare all learners to be college and career ready in the changing world of today and tomorrow
- CCSSO created ILN, a network which now includes 10 states taking collective action to identify, test, and implement student-centered approaches to learning
- The goal is to spur system-level change by scaling locally-led innovation to widespread implementation by creating enabling conditions through policy and implementation.

There are “Six Critical Attributes” advanced by ILN innovative practices, which align with CBE:

- World-class knowledge and skills
- Comprehensive systems of support
- Personalized learning
- Performance-based learning
- Anytime, anywhere learning
- Student ownership of learning

The network has coalesced around a shared agenda – there are 5 state outcomes that have emerged with the larger goal of preparing every student for college and career.

- States define and systematize college and career readiness consistent with deeper learning
- States enable personalized learning and prepare the educator workforce so that all students can succeed
- States establish balanced systems of assessment to meaningfully measure college and career readiness
- States anchor accountability in college and career readiness
- States develop seamless pathways to college and career

ILN works with the states to set specific targets related to these outcomes and provides support.

Gene Wilhoit provided some additional history and talked through the benefits of state involvement in the ILN.

Mary noted that Iowa became involved in the ILN, and it made sense to bring together the CBE work and the ILN work because they are so connected.

Iowa has been involved in the ILN in several ways so far:

- Participated in study tours
- Will participate in a consortium looking at performance-based assessment tasks that are aligned with the Common Core but go beyond
- Participate in biweekly calls to learn from other states and share ideas
- CCSSO facilitates online resources for sharing of resources, networking to address questions and develop shared solutions

**AGENDA ITEM: PLAN FOR THE AFTERNOON**

Expected Outcome: An outline of recommendations to be included in the report.	Lead Sandra Dop	Follow Up <u>Write the recommendations to bring back to the group at the September meeting.</u>
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**Notes:** Sandra explained the plan for processing several things in the afternoon.

**AGENDA ITEM: PROCESSING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE WORK**

Expected Outcome: An outline of recommendations to be included in the report.	Lead Circe Stumbo of West Wind Education Policy	Follow Up <u>Write the recommendations to bring back to the group at the September meeting.</u>
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**Notes:** Taskforce members had the opportunity to provide feedback on the preliminary recommendations, suggestions for the network schools, and funding needs and other recommendations for the final report to the legislature. Sandra will compile the input and bring it back in September.

**AGENDA ITEM: DEEPER LEARNING**

Expected Outcome: .	Lead Kari Webb	Follow Up
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**Notes:** Kari Webb presented on deeper learning. Several lowans toured High Tech High (hallmark - project based learning) and Met School (focus on business partnerships and internships) to look at deeper learning.

Attributes of deeper learning

- Master core academic content
- Think critically and solve complex problem
- Work collaboratively
- Communicate effectively
- Learn how to learn

**AGENDA ITEM:** STRATEGIC PLAN

Expected Outcome: Input toward the strategic plan toward statewide implementation of competency-based education.	Lead Mary Delagardelle Iowa	Follow Up <u>Develop the strategic plan requested by the 2013 Legislative Session.</u>
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**Notes:** Mary asked for input on what are the most important things that the lab schools need to do in the first year in order to work toward the 5 year goals listed on the handout.

- The Task Force requested the name have CBE back up front so as not to lose site of the fact that the purpose of this Task Force has been to redesign the learning system through competency-based pathways for all students.
- There was some discussion about how STEM and CBE might collaborate. Caution was that STEM often loses the humanities and that CBE is the overarching goal with STEM as a part of it for this Task Force. We can collaborate but the learning environment is CBE.
- We can share lessons learned, network, and come together to learn from each other.

**AGENDA ITEM:** FINAL REPORT OUTLINE

Expected Outcome Input toward what should be included in the final report.	Lead Sandra Dop	Follow Up <u>Begin the final report to vet with members.</u>
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**Notes:** Sandra asked for input on the framing for the final report to the legislature and received the following input:

- Include new data from early implementers
- Include the toolkit overview
- Work to explain the language for those outside of education.

Sandra will work on an outline for the September 18<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM:** PILOT SCHOOLS PROCESSING

Expected Outcome Task Force input on the Overview of the Iowa Deeper Learning Project	Lead Mary Delagardelle	Follow Up <u>Overview and application will be completed and application released for submission</u>
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**Notes:** Mary walked through the preliminary draft of the overview document for review and asked for input on the entire document to the extent possible. She asked Task Force members to review individually, make notes, and then discuss in table groups.

Sandra and Mary will work to compile feedback from today's meeting so that the Task Force can comment on information that contains that feedback. Sandra will post it as soon as she can clean it up. Task Force members are asked to provide feedback on overview document before July 24<sup>th</sup>.

**AGENDA ITEM:** NEXT STEPS AND TALKING POINTS

Expected Outcome: Develop talking points from the meeting as per meeting norms.	Lead Sandra Dop	Follow Up <u>None</u>
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**Notes: Talking Points – Big Ideas from Today**

- As we are aligning appropriately to other things (e.g., CCR, ILN, STEM) don't lose the phrase that has guided us: "redesigning the delivery system." We remain committed to CBE as a system change. We are here to develop the next system of education in the state and nationally.
- We are working towards statewide implementation in the context of local decision making.

**AGENDA ITEM:** ADJOURN

Expected Outcome:	Lead Sandra Dop	Follow Up
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**Notes:** Meeting adjourned at 3:40 PM

Next Task Force meeting: September 18, 2013      9:00 AM to 3:30 PM    at    SAI