

# State Board of Education Strategic Plan 2017-2018

## 1. Eliminating Early Literacy Achievement Gaps

**Goal 1:** Students in kindergarten through third grade will meet or exceed reading benchmarks.

**Action step:** Review data on the reading screening assessment three times each year.

**Goal 2:** Students not meeting grade level benchmarks will have access to differentiated interventions and learning opportunities.

**Action step:** Support the development of a reporting method for assessing which students need interventions and do not have access to those interventions.

**Goal 3:** Teachers will have access and training, in preservice and in-service, to early literacy best practices.

**Action step:** Support the training of teachers and develop a report for the Board to determine next steps.

## 2. Transitioning to New Assessments

**Goal:** Statewide assessment of student learning in English language arts, math, and science will be aligned to Iowa's academic standards.

**Action step:** Notice rules to adopt a statewide assessment.

**Action step:** Support the implementation of resources and opportunities for teacher development for new assessment and school readiness update on technology.

## 3. Implementing Iowa's Academic Standards

**Goal:** All school districts and accredited nonpublic schools will implement Iowa's rigorous academic standards to prepare students to be college and career ready.

**Action step:** Review implementation plan for social studies standards.

**Action step:** Adopt fine arts standards.

**Action step:** Adopt computer science standards.

**Action step:** Begin development of physical education and health standards.

## 4. Improving Teacher and Leader Preparation

**Goal:** All teacher and leader preparation programs in Iowa will align with comprehensive standards and prepare candidates to meet the high expectations of our teacher and leader workforce.

**Action step:** Emphasize practical experience, classroom management, appropriate and effective differentiation strategies and meaningful endorsements.

## 5. Increasing Accessibility of Career and Technical Education, Work-Based Learning, and Community College Credit and Preparing Productive Citizens for Rewarding Careers

**Goal 1:** Students across Iowa, regardless of geography, will have access to robust Career and Technical Education (CTE), work-based learning experiences, and community college credit and credential opportunities through an integrated system.

**Action step:** Monitor implementation of CTE redesign and support the Department in providing assistance to regional planning partnerships.

**Goal 2:** Students, including adult learners, will be prepared and supported by community colleges to be credentialed, productive citizens, and lifelong learners.

**Action step:** Adopt expanded high school equivalency rules.

**Action step:** Support the Department's work on alignment of the various sector boards.

**Action step:** Support the implementation of the Future Ready Iowa initiative.

## 6. Creating a Safe and Rich Learning Environment

**Goal:** All Iowa schools will foster a culture and climate in which students feel safe and supported.

**Action step:** Host a discussion with students, the Iowa Association of School Boards, and administrators who have had success in creating a positive school culture.

**Action step:** Discuss the impact of open enrollment date and impact at the district level.

**Action step:** Review relevant information on this priority.

