

State Board Members



Gene E. Vincent
President
Carroll



Rosie Hussey
Vice President
Clear Lake



Charles Edwards
Des Moines



Sister Jude Fitzpatrick
West Des Moines



Brian Gentry
Des Moines



Kameron Dodge
(Student Member)
Cambridge



Wayne Kobberdahl
Council Bluffs



Mary Jean Montgomery
Spencer



Max Phillips
Woodward



Judy Jeffrey
Director and
Executive Officer



Iowa State Board of Education

2008

Legislative Advocacy Agenda

Our Mission...

...is to champion excellence in education through superior leadership and service. We are committed to high levels of learning, achievement and performance for all students, so they will become successful members of their community and the workforce.



Funding...

K-12:

- Fund the four percent allowable growth rate already established in 2007-2008.
- Continue to enhance the commitment to increase teachers' salaries by providing an additional \$75 million new dollars to Teacher Quality in fiscal year 2009.
- Increase the commitment to quality professional development for teachers by increasing funding for professional development within Teacher Quality from \$20 million to \$30 million in fiscal year 2009.
- Continue to enhance the commitment to providing statewide quality preschool to 4-year-olds by providing an additional \$15 million new dollars in fiscal year 2009.
- Create a mechanism by which existing categorical funding, including but not limited to Class Size/Early Intervention funds, Educational Excellence funds, and Teacher Quality funds, are permanently incorporated into the state's school funding formula.

Community Colleges:

- Increase funding for Iowa's community colleges by \$12.7 million.
- Increase the community college levy authority to provide increased capacity to support local and regional decision-making that ensures continued vigorous economic and workforce development.

AEAs:

- Ensure that area education areas (AEAs) are adequately funded so they can meet the needs of districts, teachers, and students, specifically in curriculum and professional development areas. A minimum first step would be to restore all funding cuts to AEAs over the last 10 years.

Iowa Department of Education:

- Assure the adequate staffing of the Iowa Department of Education to ensure quality technical assistance, monitoring of quality, and accountability for results. This includes supporting existing staffing levels, while also ensuring that any new policy or funding priorities include staff members to implement the added expectations.

Iowa State Board of Education

2008 Legislative Advocacy Agenda

Several major policy and funding actions were taken during the 2007 legislative process.

Increased rigor was addressed by the expansion of Iowa's Core Curriculum; teachers' salaries were greatly enhanced, a step that will help Iowa keep its best and brightest; a quality statewide 4-year-old preschool program was created; and incentives were developed to promote sharing and efficiencies in schools. At this critical juncture, policy stability and the alignment of resources to funded priorities are keys to ensuring that the hopes created by these new initiatives are realized. The State Board of Education believes that Iowa should seize the opportunity ahead and continue to evolve into the system that meets ALL students' needs in the 21st century.

Expected Outcomes

- Increase the proficiency of all students in reading, math, and science.
- Increase the K-12 graduation rate.
- Increase the number of 4-year-olds accessing quality preschool programs.

Support Improved Programming and Academic Achievement for ALL Students

• *Continue to expand the Teacher Quality and Student Achievement Program.*

- * Increase the quantity and quality of professional development supports for teachers especially in reading, mathematics, and science using content specific teacher academies.
- * Provide \$30 million in professional development funding that ensures support for every teacher in the state.
- * Increase the minimum salary levels for beginning and career teachers as defined in *Iowa Code Chapter 284* by an additional \$2,500, achieving the minimum teacher salary target in the original 2001 legislation (\$28,000).
- * Reinstate support for the National Board Certification as it currently exists and extend that commitment for five years.
- * Continue support for Teacher Development Academies and Mentoring and Induction programming for teachers and administrators.
- *Continue to expand access to quality preschool programming. This program should continue to include the following components:*

- * Access for all 4-year-olds.
- * Board of Educational Examiners (BOEE)-licensed teachers.
- * Support for established program standards.
- * Support for established developmental early learning standards.
- * Fiscal accountability and statewide student data management support.
- *Provide for efforts to improve the quality of the educational system.*
- * Continue to support the implementation of Iowa's Core Curriculum statewide.
- * Support efforts to ensure the implementation of systems that provide PreK-16 data articulation.
- *Improve and expand opportunities to develop Iowa's workforce.*
- * Continue to promote the expansion of career academies as they exist under current statute.
- * Support the statewide expansion of Project Lead the Way (STEM) to make it available to all school districts.
- * Expand opportunities to require collaboration between state agencies and other governmental entities on the provision of workforce development programming.