



A MONTHLY JOURNAL  
FOR IOWA EDUCATORS

# School Leader Update

October 2013

## Don't miss out: Teacher leadership planning grants

Iowa school districts have until October 31 to apply for a planning grant to support the development of a local teacher leadership and compensation plan.

The Legislature set aside \$3.5 million for planning grants under the Teacher Leadership and Compensation System. The purpose of these grants is to provide the resources necessary to facilitate a local planning process that includes school administrators, teachers, and parents.

Each district requesting a planning grant will receive \$5,000 plus \$3.71 per student. Accepting a planning grant does not commit a school district to adopting a teacher leadership system.

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## The Department's priorities for Iowa

In the past few weeks, I've had the chance to meet with many wonderful people who care deeply about our students and schools in Iowa.

As the new director, it's humbling to meet so many Iowans who share a passion for education. It serves as a reminder of the sturdy foundation our state has in education and the high hopes we share for the future.

We all want to carve a path to success for our students. And, as a state, we've already shown the ability to pull together around some key strategies to help our education system grow and improve.

At the Iowa Department of Education, our work is positioned to support these strategies. I'm pleased to share our ongoing areas of focus and how they fit into the big picture. These areas are high standards and expectations, educator quality, and customized instruction.

### Customized instruction

Customized instruction means having high-quality expectations and outcomes for all students, but delivering instruction in a way that is tailored to the individual student.

As an education system, we are working together to scale up the Response to Intervention framework to help students read proficiently by the end of third grade.



*Brad Buck, Director,  
Iowa Department of Education*

*Continued on page 2*

***Continued from page 1, Director Buck***

Response to Intervention is a proven practice to help schools identify and intervene with readers who are on track, as well as those who are struggling.

I had the privilege recently of talking to teachers and school administrators who will soon roll out Response to Intervention in their schools. This exciting work will be under way in about 10 percent of Iowa schools this fall, thanks to the hard work of Iowa's AEAs, school districts, and the Iowa Department of Education.

As a state, we also will continue to pursue other forms of customized instruction for students, such as competency-based education.

### **Educator quality**

Educator quality is a key part of historic education reform adopted by Iowa legislators this year. This legislation creates the most comprehensive teacher leadership and compensation system of its kind in the nation, with the goal of elevating the entire teaching profession.

Right now, Iowa is in a very important planning stage for this system. As the Iowa Department of Education announced in September, all public school districts are eligible for grant funding to support the development of local teacher leadership and compensation plans.

We hope that all school districts take the opportunity to apply for these planning grants by October 31. To learn more, please visit our website at <http://educateiowa.gov/>.

### **High standards and clear expectations**

One characteristic of a great school system is a clear set of standards and expectations for what students should know and be able to do.

Iowa has a strong foundation in place with academic standards that set statewide expectations but allow educators at the local level to make decisions about how to get students to reach those expectations.

The sole purpose of high statewide academic standards is to make sure Iowa students are ready for college or career training after high school.

At the Department, we understand that educators need more support when it comes to implementing high state academic standards. We are listening to you, and we will be working to bring clarity and focus, as well as better resources, to the process.

I look forward to walking with you on the path to world-class schools. Have a great October.



## AYP shows need for new federal accountability framework

Iowa Department of Education Director Brad Buck said this year's Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) results for the state's schools and school districts reinforce that the accountability system set up under the 2001 federal No Child Left Behind law is the wrong fit for states and should be revised.

The Department released the *2013 State Report Card for No Child Left Behind*, which includes information on schools and districts that met AYP, as well as schools and districts identified as "in need of assistance," according to the federal law.

Because annual targets increased significantly, the report shows 869 of 1,361 public schools (64 percent) missed AYP for test participation and proficiency in reading and mathematics in the 2012-13 school year.

"We believe in accountability and the continuous work to improve our schools, which is why we fully supported landmark education reform legislation this year," Buck said. "But this one-size-fits-all federal system is unfair and unequipped to drive us toward better outcomes for students. On paper, many more schools and districts are missing targets or moving into higher levels of accountability. No Child Left Behind's arbitrary rules fail to recognize that students come to school with different starting points. The rules also fail to reward schools that are making progress with the most disadvantaged students."

To read more, click [here](#).

## Reporting Requirement Review Task Force members

Iowa Department of Education Director Brad Buck announced the five Iowans who will serve on a task force to study state education reporting requirements.

The Reporting Requirement Review Task Force was established as part of [House File 215](#), the landmark education reform bill adopted by Iowa lawmakers this year.

For more information on state commissions and task forces established by state legislators during the 2013 session, visit the Iowa Department of Education's [website](#).

Members of the Reporting Requirements Review Task Force are as follows:

- K. John Casey, Teacher, Ogden Community School District, Ogden
- Bobi Jo Friesen, Teacher, Norwalk Community School District, Norwalk
- Sam Miller, Superintendent, Solon Community School District, Solon
- Patti Schroeder, Iowa Association of School Boards, Des Moines
- Amy Williamson, Iowa Department of Education, Des Moines

# Task force for suicide prevention, trauma-informed care

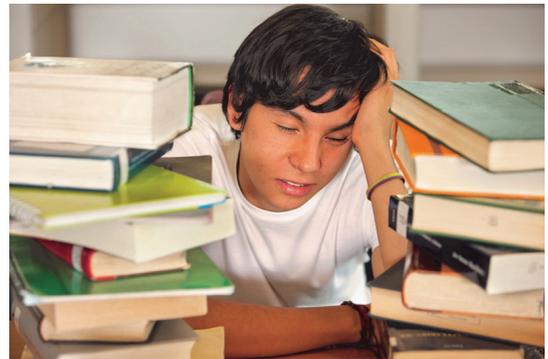
Iowa Department of Education Director Brad Buck has named 23 Iowans who will serve on a state task force to develop suicide prevention and trauma-informed care training requirements for Iowans who are licensed by the Iowa Board of Educational Examiners. The Iowa Suicide Prevention and Trauma-Informed Care Task Force was established as part of [Senate File 446](#).

The task force will meet for the first time on Friday, Sept. 20. The meeting will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. in Room B50 of the Grimes State Office Building. Meetings are open to the public.

For more information on state commissions and task forces established by state legislators during the 2013 session, visit the Iowa Department of Education's [website](#).

Members of the Iowa Suicide Prevention and Trauma-Informed Care Task Force are:

- Gladys Noll Alvarez, Trauma-Informed Care Coordinator, Orchard Place, Des Moines
- Barb Anderson, Consultant, Iowa Department of Education, Des Moines
- Penny Bisignano, Consultant, Iowa Department of Education, Des Moines
- Sarah Brown, Bureau Chief, Iowa Department of Education, Des Moines
- Brian Carico, Indianola High School Principal and School Administrators of Iowa Representative, Indianola
- Deb Chiodo, Principal, Cornell Elementary School (Saydel Community School District), Des Moines
- DeAnn Decker, Bureau Chief, Iowa Department of Public Health, Des Moines
- Amy DeGroot-Hammer, Sioux City West High School School Counselor and Iowa School Counselor Association President -Elect, Sioux City
- Mary Delagardelle, Associate Division Administrator, Iowa Department of Education, Des Moines
- Meredith Dohmen, Counseling Coordinator, Des Moines Public Schools, Des Moines
- Cyndy Erickson, Iowa Safe and Supportive Schools Grant Director, Iowa Department of Education, Des Moines
- Sharon Guthrie, Executive Director, Iowa School Nurse Organization, Cedar Rapids
- Jake Highfill, State Representative, Johnston
- Laura Larkin, Program Planner, Division of Mental Health and Disability Services, Iowa Department of Human Services, Des Moines
- Liz Mathis, State Senator, Cedar Rapids
- Isaiah McGee, Consultant, Iowa Department of Education, Des Moines
- Marianne Miller-Meeks, Director, Iowa Department of Public Health, Des Moines
- Steve Mitchell, Licensure Consultant, Iowa Board of Educational Examiners, Des Moines
- Keri Neblett, Community Intervention Director, The Crisis Center of Johnson County, Iowa City
- Ellen McGinnis-Smith, Consultant, Iowa Department of Education, Des Moines
- David Tilly, Deputy Director and Division Administrator, Iowa Department of Education, Des Moines
- Susan Walkup, Consultant, Iowa Department of Education, Des Moines
- Karolyn Zeller, School Social Worker, Heartland Area Education Agency, Johnston



# Teacher Leadership and Compensation System webinars

Iowa public school districts are invited to participate in a series of webinars intended to assist in the local development of Iowa's Teacher Leadership and Compensation System.

The webinars are scheduled for each Friday in October – Oct. 4, 11, 18, and 25 – from noon to 1:30 p.m. and again from 2 to 3:30 p.m. The webinars will provide information about the Teacher Leadership and Compensation System and will introduce teacher leadership models in place in other school districts and states. Each webinar will include a presentation and a question-and-answer session. The webinars will cover the following topics:

- October 4: This webinar, hosted by the Iowa Department of Education's Peter Ansingh, will feature an update of the current Teacher Leadership and Compensation System planning process.
- October 11: This webinar will be hosted by Jason Culbertson and other representatives from the TAP System for Student and Teacher Advancement (<http://www.tapschools.org/>).
- October 18: This webinar will be hosted by Barnett Berry and Ann Byrd from the Center for Teacher Quality (<http://www.teachingquality.org/>).
- October 25: This webinar will be hosted by representatives from Minnesota's Q-Comp system (<https://education.state.mn.us/MDE/SchSup/QComp/index.html>).

There are 100 slots available for each webinar. Because the legislation creating the Teacher Leadership and Compensation System requires the Iowa Department of Education to target technical assistance to districts with 600 or fewer students, the first session each week (noon to 1:30 p.m.) will be reserved for participants from school districts with 600 or fewer students. The second session (2 to 3 p.m.) will be open to participants from districts of any size.

Due to the limited number of slots for each webinar, we will limit participation to a maximum of one slot per district per webinar. To register, please visit [http://educateiowa.gov/index.php?option=com\\_docman&task=doc\\_download&qid=16089&Itemid=4434](http://educateiowa.gov/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_download&qid=16089&Itemid=4434). All webinars will be recorded and posted to the Iowa Department of Education's website at <http://educateiowa.gov/>.

For more information, contact Peter Ansingh at [peter.ansingh@iowa.gov](mailto:peter.ansingh@iowa.gov) or 515-281-5433. For more information about the Teacher Leadership and Compensation System, visit <http://educateiowa.gov/>.

## ***Continued from page 1, Planning Grants***

For application instructions and other information, visit the Iowa Department of Education's website at [http://educateiowa.gov/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=2936:teacher-leadership-a-compensation&catid=56:educator-quality&Itemid=5236](http://educateiowa.gov/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=2936:teacher-leadership-a-compensation&catid=56:educator-quality&Itemid=5236).



## Districts and Schools in Need of Assistance (DINA/SINA)

The deadline for completion of DINA and SINA plans is November 1. Every building that is designated SINA and receiving Title I funds is required to complete a SINA plan through C-Plan as well as a SINA budget through the Title I application. Both of these applications are available through the Iowa Department of Education portal, which is accessible at the following link:

<https://portal.ed.iowa.gov/iowalandingpage/Landing.aspx>

For additional information, refer to the Department's website under the A to Z index / Schools in Need of Assistance / GUIDANCE; the link is:

[http://www.educateiowa.gov/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=2820:schools-and-districts-in-need-of-assistance-sinadina-guidance&catid=497:no-child-left-behind](http://www.educateiowa.gov/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=2820:schools-and-districts-in-need-of-assistance-sinadina-guidance&catid=497:no-child-left-behind)

For questions, contact Karla Day at 515-281-7145 or [karla.day@iowa.gov](mailto:karla.day@iowa.gov).

## Rtl: Giving a boost to early literacy

Some 600 educators representing a partnership of the Iowa Department of Education, Area Education Agencies and school districts across the state convened in Des Moines in September as part of a statewide effort to implement Response to Intervention and help students read proficiently by the end of third grade.

Teachers and school administrators who are rolling out Response to Intervention, known as Rtl, in their schools this fall are among those who are learning how to effectively implement the practice.



Rtl is a proven practice to help schools identify, and intervene with, struggling readers early on. This is accomplished by adapting instruction to fit those students' individual needs and then monitoring their progress.

About 10 percent of the state's schools are rolling out Rtl this fall. Iowa's education system is working together to put in place Rtl statewide through Collaborating for Iowa's Kids, a partnership among Iowa's AEAs, school districts and the Iowa Department of Education.

Participants learned three key elements to Rtl: assessments for preschoolers (to ensure that students are ready to learn when they start kindergarten), kindergarten through sixth grade assessment (incorporating universal assessment and progress monitoring), and data-based decision-making. Remote training and coaching will continue among all partners on a monthly basis.

Participant Amanda Trei, a teacher from Rock Valley Elementary in the northwest Iowa community of Rock Valley, was eager to learn during the workshop.

"I am hoping to get a system where we are all on the same page in which the assessment helps students and teachers to ensure the students are progressing," she said.

"Right now, it is all scattered and not consistent from student to student," she said. "We don't collect data regularly so we don't know if what we're doing is truly making a difference."

[Learn more about Rtl.](#)

## Five Iowa schools are 2013 National Blue Ribbon Schools

Five Iowa schools are among 286 schools nationwide named 2013 National Blue Ribbon Schools for their overall academic excellence or for their progress in improving student academic achievement levels:

Meeker Elementary School (Ames Community School District)  
Herbert Hoover Elementary School (Bettendorf Community School District)  
Harlan Community High School (Harlan Community School District)  
Taft Elementary School (Humboldt Community School District)  
Okoboji Elementary School (Okoboji Community School District)

The U.S. Department of Education will honor 236 public and 50 private schools at a recognition ceremony on November 18-19 in Washington, D.C.

“Iowa’s Blue Ribbon Schools will help lead the way as our state’s education system works to give all students the best education possible,” Iowa Department of Education Director Brad Buck said.

The U.S. Department of Education’s National Blue Ribbon Schools award honors public and private elementary, middle, and high schools where students perform at very high levels or where significant improvements are made in students’ levels of achievement.

Since 1982, nearly 7,500 schools in the U.S. have received the coveted award. Read more about the 2013 National Blue Ribbon Schools at <http://www2.ed.gov/programs/nclbbrs/index.html>.

## Changes to the Department’s website

The Iowa Department of Education is working to bring its website, <http://educateiowa.gov/>, into compliance with a new standard for state government websites. As part of this effort, our agency must transition to a new content management system, which will result in some website changes that you’ll notice starting in mid-October:

- The new platform will result in a more user-friendly, functional, and secure website with a working search function, better web statistics, and a more effective way to display video work and social media.
- The website will have a different look, but it is organized in much the same way. Information about features that have changed will be posted to the website in mid-October and distributed in letters to the field.
- We expect some URLs within the website to automatically update in the conversion, while others will not. ***This means bookmarks used to save web pages and embedded links may no longer work.*** The Department has worked to automatically update old links where possible, but there will be gaps because this is an entirely new program.

Questions about this website conversion should be directed to Lisa Albers at [lisa.albers@iowa.gov](mailto:lisa.albers@iowa.gov) or 515-281-0972.

## Web portal assists students with transfers

Iowa's three regent universities and 15 community colleges have joined to create a web portal dedicated to assisting students with the transfer process. The site serves as a one-stop resource for students planning their future. The url for the site is [www.transferiowa.org](http://www.transferiowa.org).



Each year, thousands of students transfer from Iowa community colleges to one of the state's three public universities. The website streamlines the process and contains resources helpful in educational planning, as well as information for students to discuss with their counselors or advisors.

The No. 1 question transfer students ask is: How will my credits transfer? Students can learn about how their community college courses transfer to each of the three state public universities by following the links on the website. The website contains resources explaining statewide articulation agreements and individual program-to-program articulation agreements by community colleges. The resources are useful for students planning to transfer, as well as counselors and advisors. In addition to online resources, it's always a good idea for students to discuss their plans with both a community college and university counselor or adviser. Contact information for the office or person responsible for transfer and articulation at each postsecondary institution is available on the site.

School districts should communicate information about the articulation website to all elementary and secondary school students interested in attending a community college or public university.

## Grants available for fire safety needs

For public school districts that have fire safety needs, there are grants available for this school year through reverted funds from the previous grant program. The Iowa Department of Education had applied for a one-year extension to use reverted grant funds from the previous grant program for one-year fire safety grant projects. The approximate amount of reverted funds is \$800,000. The budget and project period for the fire safety grants is October 1, 2013 through September 30, 2014, as approved by the U.S. Department of Education's Impact Aid Office.

To qualify for fire safety grant funding, a school district must have received an order or citation within the past three years from the state fire marshal (or local fire department officials acting in the capacity of the state fire marshal) for one or more fire safety violations regarding a school facility. A district also may apply for a grant to correct a fire safety deficiency not cited by the fire marshal, which district officials believe is a significant hazard; however, the district must consult with the state fire official and include a letter indicating the official agrees with the significant hazard. All eligible projects must comply with the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504, Iowa Code chapter 104A, the National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106, and the Davis Bacon Act.



The new fire safety grant application is available online [here](#). Fire safety grant applications are due to the Iowa Department of Education by November 15. Approved projects must be completed by September 15, 2014. For more information about this grant funding opportunity, contact Gary Schwartz at 515-281-4743 or [gary.schwartz@iowa.gov](mailto:gary.schwartz@iowa.gov).

## EPA Region 7's Healthy Schools Toolkit now online

As schools across the country are returning to classes, EPA Region 7 is introducing a suite of new, free web-based resources designed to help school administrators and service providers keep school buildings and facilities clean, green and healthy.

EPA Region 7's Healthy Schools Toolkit, available online at [www.epa.gov/region7/citizens/schools/toolkit.htm](http://www.epa.gov/region7/citizens/schools/toolkit.htm), is also intended to help the public better understand the importance of maintaining environmentally safe and healthy schools. The virtual toolkit's downloadable materials are suitable for a wide range of audiences, from school superintendents and building custodians to community organizations and student groups, and can be adapted for classroom curriculum.



The Healthy Schools Toolkit consists of more than 50 educational and informational documents structured around 15 separate subject areas: asbestos, chemical cleanout, composting, Energy Star, green cleaning, healthy schools, school Integrated Pest Management (IPM), lead, mercury, mold, PCBs, radon, rain barrels, rain gardens and recycling. Materials include PowerPoint presentations, fact sheets, brochures, flyers, and lists of helpful resources and contact information, all grouped by subject.

School representatives with questions or comments about the new Healthy Schools Toolkit are urged to contact Kathleen Fenton, EPA Region 7's Healthy Schools Coordinator, at 913-551-7874, or [fenton.kathleen@epa.gov](mailto:fenton.kathleen@epa.gov).

School representatives with questions or comments about the new Healthy Schools Toolkit are urged to contact Kathleen Fenton, EPA Region 7's Healthy Schools Coordinator, at 913-551-7874, or [fenton.kathleen@epa.gov](mailto:fenton.kathleen@epa.gov).

## Iowa Public Building Benchmarking Project Phase II

The Iowa Public Building Benchmarking Partnership, which includes the Iowa Economic Development Authority, Iowa Energy Center, University of Northern Iowa, and The Weidt Group, seeks your participation in the Iowa Benchmarking System, a free energy benchmarking tool that identifies your buildings' energy use in comparison to energy efficient buildings that meet the latest energy code.

Benchmarking is the first step toward building energy efficient improvements. With the reports from the tool, as shown in graphic below, you can analyze your energy use and request building audits. From there, you can develop an action plan for building energy improvements.

Selection for this enrollment period ends November 15. To learn more about the opportunity, or if your organization is interested in participating, visit <https://ia.b3benchmarking.com/Participation-Request.aspx> or email [jeff.beneke@uni.edu](mailto:jeff.beneke@uni.edu).

An organization's dashboard from the Iowa B3 benchmarking





Ryan Cazin, first-place winner of Technology Student Association National Competition

## Math, science whiz traces talent back to Dad and Legos

Ryan Cazin of Burlington seems like your typical college freshman. He hangs out with friends and plays football, basketball, and the trombone. Unlike many of his classmates, however, he has developed a love for science and math. It paid off for the Iowa State University freshman this summer with a first-place win in the Technology Student Association National Competition. What prompted him to pursue math and the sciences? Read about it [here](#).

## Seeking input on science standards

The Iowa Department of Education has launched a [public opinion survey](#) for Iowans regarding the Next Generation Science Standards.

The survey is part of a broader state effort to seek input on the [new science standards](#), which represent a multi-state effort to develop a common set of learning expectations for students in kindergarten through high school.

Iowa was one of 26 states that worked to develop the science standards, which were released in April and are available for voluntary adoption in states.

Last month, the Iowa Department of Education convened a state task force to review the science standards. The task force will make a recommendation later this year to the State Board of Education about whether to adopt the standards as part of the Iowa Core, the statewide academic standards in math, science, English/language arts and social studies.

Survey results will provide guidance and feedback to the task force, the Iowa Department of Education, and the State Board of Education.

The Next Generation Science Standards were developed during a two-year, state-led process that was managed by Achieve, a nonprofit education organization. About 70 Iowans were involved, including K-12 educators, science consultants, higher education faculty, and Iowa Department of Education staff members.

The standards are internationally benchmarked and identify science and engineering practices and content with a focus on preparing K-12 students to go to college or to enter the workforce. To read the Next Generation Science Standards, visit <http://www.nextgenscience.org/>.

The survey will be open through Friday, October 11. To participate, visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/JBQM56P>.

For more information about the Next Generation Science Standards Task Force, visit [http://www.educateiowa.gov/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=2951&Itemid=5238](http://www.educateiowa.gov/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=2951&Itemid=5238).



## Social studies standards available for review

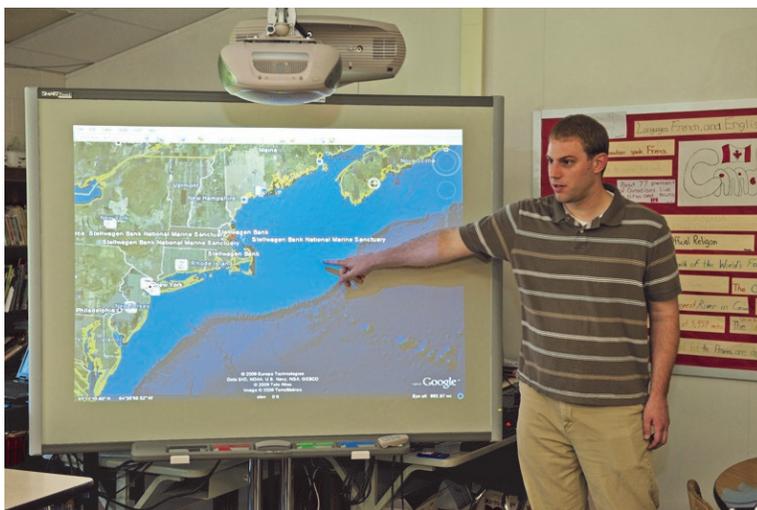
The finalized version of the College, Career and Civic (C3) Life Framework for social studies state standards is available for viewing at <http://www.socialstudies.org/c3>.

Since 2010, the Iowa Department of Education has been working with the Social Studies Assessment, Curriculum, and Instruction collaborative, which is run through the Council of Chief State School Officers to create a framework for enhancing social studies standards and instruction.

The finalized version of this document was published on September 17. The purpose of this document is to provide guidance to states on the “concepts, skills, and disciplinary tools necessary to prepare students for college, career, and civic life” and to provide a framework for Iowa to upgrade its standards from the Iowa Core.

This is an exciting step for social studies education; however, the Iowa Core for Social Studies and the English Language Arts Literacy Standards for History/Social Studies are still mandated as part of Iowa Code and should be the focus for implementation. This year, the Statewide Social Studies Leadership Team will examine the C3 Framework and will determine possible next steps.

For more information, contact Stefanie Wager at [stefanie.wager@iowa.gov](mailto:stefanie.wager@iowa.gov).



## No-cost arts workshops available

In partnership with the Iowa Department of Education, VSA Iowa — the state organization on arts and disability — is offering free creative and performing arts workshops to classrooms across Iowa. This unique opportunity is available to educators with one or more students who have an Individualized Education Plan, ages pre-K through 22.

During a VSA Iowa workshop, learning becomes an interactive process that challenges students to approach a subject from a new and exciting perspective. Classes are instructed by professional teaching artists — many of whom are nationally recognized. VSA teaching artists work with teachers to integrate classroom goals into the art lesson.

VSA offers a range of arts media including painting, music, drawing, sculpture, stained glass, collage, mosaic, storytelling, creative writing, mixed media, theater, playwriting and more. To download a registration form or view a complete list of media offered, visit <http://vsaiowa.org/services/arts-for-children-workshops-for-schools/>. For more information, contact VSA Iowa's Elyssa Shapiro at [elyssa@vsaiowa.org](mailto:elyssa@vsaiowa.org).



## Data and Reporting

### New English Language Proficiency standards

School officials are encouraged to take a survey about the draft of the English Language Proficiency (ELP) standards.

The draft standards were developed by the Council of Chief State School Officers in conjunction with a group of states, including Iowa. These new ELP standards are based on the increased language expectations of the Iowa Core and aim to give English Language Learners access to the Core as they are building their language proficiency.

The proposed new ELP Standards can be found at the following link:

[https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ELP\\_Standards\\_Review](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ELP_Standards_Review)

You will want to have the draft standards document available for reference as you complete the survey. The standards document can be retrieved at the following link: <https://wested.box.com/s/yikltbk2sic2vufemios>. Participating in the survey will provide important information for successful planning and implementation.



### Properly licensed teachers for BEDS reporting

When filling out the Basic Educational Data Survey (BEDS) report, you may discover a practitioner whose assignment does not align with endorsements or licensure. The licensure consultants at the Board of Educational Examiners are available to provide assistance. Often the issue can be resolved through conditional licensure. Please remember that there are no allowances for a “teacher of record.” Each practitioner listed must be the exact person serving in that capacity and delivering the instruction. New graduates who are waiting for Praxis II scores should not be serving as teachers until their licenses have been issued. Please use the “contact us” tab at [www.boee.iowa.gov](http://www.boee.iowa.gov) if you have further questions.

### Training sessions on E-rate available

The Universal Service Fund E-rate application process for funding year 2014 (2014-2015 school year) is tentatively scheduled to begin in November. To prepare for the annual application process, the Iowa Department of Education will offer training webinars for districts and schools.

*Introduction to E-rate:* (designed for E-rate newcomers; select one session)

Wednesday, October 16; 9 to 10 a.m.

Monday, October 21; 3 to 4 p.m.

Tuesday, October 22; 1 to 2 p.m.

*Completing Form 470:* (for new and returning E-rate contacts; select one session)

Tuesday, November 12; 9 to 10:30 a.m.

Thursday, November 14; 3 to 4:30 p.m.

Tuesday, November 19; 2 to 3:30 p.m.

*Completing Form 471:* Webinar dates will be announced in the November School Leader Update.

To participate in any of the above sessions, go to <https://iowa.adobeconnect.com/a830042961/e-rate/> and select “enter as a guest.” For more information, contact the Department’s Pam Jacobs at [pam.jacobs@iowa.gov](mailto:pam.jacobs@iowa.gov) or call 515-975-0071.

# Certified Enrollment deadlines for public, non-public schools

## Public School Districts

This year, all applications associated with Certified Enrollment (VRF, SRI, and Certified Enrollment) are available in the portal at <https://portal.ed.iowa.gov>. You must have an A&A account to access the portal. Checkpoints to lead to successful completion of Certified Enrollment by October 15 are:

1. Submit files for all buildings through Pearson SIF Works – VRF Data Collector beginning October 1.
2. Move SRI data to Certified Enrollment no later than October 8.
3. Certify your Certified Enrollment by the end of the day October 15. (IC 257.6)

Certified Enrollment will contain your

- Non-fall supplementary weighting from spring 2013
- Fall 2013 supplementary weighting
- Fall 2013 Enrollment

All changes must be completed in the student information system and new files submitted through the series of applications: VRF to SRI to Certified Enrollment.

Since all data are submitted by the attending district and Certified Enrollment is based on resident district, no district can see complete counts until the last district in the state has moved data into Certified Enrollment. Early submission not only allows more time to verify the accuracy of your information, it also demonstrates collegiality among your neighboring districts. Districts that have tested their data during September and who meet the October 8 and 15 targets will be formally recognized in the November 2013 School Leader Update.

Contact [Margie Hanson](mailto:Margie.Hanson@ed.iowa.gov) at 515-281-3214, [Rachel Kruse](mailto:Rachel.Kruse@ed.iowa.gov) at 515-281-4153 or [Gary Kirchhoff](mailto:Gary.Kirchhoff@ed.iowa.gov) at 515-281-6278 for assistance.

## Nonpublic Schools

The Certified Enrollment/NP application will be available for completion from October 1 through October 15. The application is available in the portal at <https://portal.ed.iowa.gov>. Tutorials for creating an A&A account or requesting applications are available at this same location. For assistance with setting up an account, contact [ed.portal@iowa.gov](mailto:ed.portal@iowa.gov).

Nonpublic schools submitting student-level data through VRF and Student Reporting in Iowa (SRI) must complete this part of the collection before completing Certified Enrollment. The information from your data submission will pre-populate the Certified Enrollment student count by resident district. Once a school's data have been moved to Certified Enrollment, only the textbook request will need to be completed and certified.

For nonpublic schools not submitting electronic student files, there is no change to the process. Directions for both methods of completing Certified Enrollment for Nonpublic Schools can be found at the [Nonpublic Schools-Certified Enrollment](http://www.educateiowa.gov/Nonpublic-Schools-Certified-Enrollment) website. All nonpublic schools must certify on or before October 15. Contact [Carla Schimelfenig](mailto:Carla.Schimelfenig@ed.iowa.gov) for assistance at 515-281-3111.

# Early Childhood Preschool Programs



## Qualifications for teacher associates

Districts and community partners participating in the Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program (SWVPP) and/or any early childhood program serving a child on an Individualized Education Program (IEP) must comply with one of three program standards: Iowa Quality Preschool Program Standards, Head Start Program Performance Standards or National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC).



## GOLD Assessment System checkpoints

By Oct. 31, preschools and child care centers in the state of Iowa participating in *GOLD* Online will have completed the first of three required checkpoints. The remaining checkpoints are due Feb. 17 and May 30. Programs enter child data for each of the objectives in each of the developmental areas.

For more information on the Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program, go to [http://educateiowa.gov/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=940&Itemid=1279](http://educateiowa.gov/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=940&Itemid=1279)

or contact Penny Milburn at [Penny.Milburn@iowa.gov](mailto:Penny.Milburn@iowa.gov) or 515-281-7844, Jennifer Adkins at [Jenni-fer.Adkins@iowa.gov](mailto:Jenni-fer.Adkins@iowa.gov) or 515-725-2219 or Amy Stegeman at [Amy.Stegeman@iowa.gov](mailto:Amy.Stegeman@iowa.gov) or 515-725-2273.

Teacher associate requirements specific to Iowa Quality Preschool Program Standards (IQPPS), Head Start and NAEYC program standards can be found on the SWVPP website under "Application Documents and Guidance" in the document entitled *Qualifications for Preschool Teacher Associates* [http://educateiowa.gov/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=940&Itemid=1279](http://educateiowa.gov/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=940&Itemid=1279).

Teacher associates who have an associate's degree or two years of college meet requirements for qualifications needed of teacher assistants in programs that have adopted IQPPS standards or Head Start standards. NAEYC standards would also be met if a teacher associate had an associate's degree, but would need a total of 12 hours of college credit for requirements to be met.

For more information on the Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program or the Iowa Quality Preschool Program Standards, visit the Iowa Department of Education [website](http://www.educateiowa.gov) or contact Penny Milburn at [penny.milburn@iowa.gov](mailto:penny.milburn@iowa.gov) or 515-281-7844, Jennifer Adkins at [jenni-fer.adkins@iowa.gov](mailto:jenni-fer.adkins@iowa.gov) or 515-725-2219, or Amy Stegeman at [amy.stegeman@iowa.gov](mailto:amy.stegeman@iowa.gov) or 515-725-2273.



## Nutrition and Health Services

### National School Lunch Week celebrates healthy choices

National School Lunch Week is scheduled for October 14-18 and is an observance to celebrate the benefits of healthy school lunches.

The federally funded National School Lunch Program provides nutritionally balanced, healthy meals to students every day. The program has been serving the nation's children for more than 60 years and requires school meals to meet federal nutrition standards.

Consider holding a "Take Your Parent to School Day" during National School Lunch Week. This opportunity would allow parents to enjoy lunch with their children and learn firsthand about the healthy meals schools serve each day.

For promotional materials to promote the lunch program at your school, including the cost comparison of lunches brought from home and lunches from school, as well as how to hold a "Take Your Parent to School Day," visit: <http://schoolmeals.educateiowa.gov>. For more information, contact Carrie Scheidel at [carrie.scheidel@iowa.gov](mailto:carrie.scheidel@iowa.gov).



### Extra academic schedules, additional reimbursements?

It is exciting to hear about schools offering additional academic assistance outside of the usual schedule. The Iowa Department of Education's Bureau of Nutrition and Health has received questions about claiming reimbursable meals on those additional days. The activity needs to be approved by the Department as an activity that is an integral part of or extension to the curriculum. The process for this approval is not yet determined; however, contact the Department's Patti Harding at [patti.harding@iowa.gov](mailto:patti.harding@iowa.gov) if you feel that your program might qualify.

### Required vision screening starts next school year

A new law starting with the 2014-15 school year requires students enrolled in public or accredited nonpublic elementary schools to be screened for vision impairment. The requirement is for kindergartners and third graders and requires that the parent or provider doing the screening provide the information to the school. The Iowa Department of Public Health is in the rule-making process currently. Additional communication about meeting the requirements is anticipated mid-January.





## Legislative Update

Contact Mike Cormack for all legislative items: [mike.cormack@iowa.gov](mailto:mike.cormack@iowa.gov) or 515-281-3399.

### Cormack at the Capitol

### Baseball, (football), and extended learning

This summer, I have had many folks kindly inform me that they have read my column and like what I have to say about baseball. I wrote quite a bit last summer about one of my great passions but haven't this year. Which indicates those were memorable columns – or folks quit reading this last year and are just being the typical Iowa nice. It's appreciated either way.

Since we've reached October, let me reflect on the 2013 baseball season. This is the first summer I can recall since I was a sophomore in high school that I didn't coach a team or attend a major league baseball game. I still got my fix of live baseball by watching my first Cape Cod league game in Hyannis, Mass., my first Pawtucket Red Sox game in Rhode Island where I dined on clam chowder at the park, Omaha Storm Chaser and Creighton Blue Jay games where I wore a winter coat last spring, a St. Paul Saints game with the Minnesota State Fair Midway in the background and the Iowa Cubs where one night I had my first complimentary pancake at a game. What a summer!

Sheepishly, I have to admit to finally getting my first foul ball at a St. Paul Saints ballgame. I don't normally leave early, but this particular game I left after the seventh inning stretch. As I was walking to the car outside the stadium, a ball flew by and hit the wheel of a car. In a dramatic move, I reached down and picked up the ball off of the ground. After a thousand-or-so games of never getting a foul ball, it was rather anticlimactic. There wasn't even a kid to flip the ball to so now I own an official American Association baseball. Go Saints!

Which brings me to where I watched the most baseball this summer. That was at Des Moines' Principal Park where the Iowa High School Athletic Association Baseball championships were held. It has been an honor to witness the hard work and talent that Iowa student-athletes display at our boys and girls state tournaments throughout the year. In presenting trophies to teams after such contests, I have two basic goals: honor the teams and don't end up on YouTube as the guy who dropped the trophy in the presentation. So far, it has been mission accomplished.

Extracurricular activities are the essence of a complete school experience. I don't care if the activity is speech, music, theater, sports, or any host of community organizations such as 4H, FFA or scouting; the bottom line is that young people need a sense of belonging and an opportunity to have fun. In attending new-coach workshops put on by the Iowa High School Athletic Association, it was interesting that the main reason students participate in their activity is that it is fun. Not to win state trophies, but to have fun. When I studied after-school programs as a facilitator of the 2012 Instructional Time Task Force, research showed that those programs are effective when they are not just a continuation of exactly what took place during the school day. Translation? If a program is fun, then students will participate and learn. That doesn't mean there has to be horseplay and that there aren't standards or expectations. It does mean that there has to be a reason why the student wants to be there. Once that has taken place, then learning can follow. Attitude is so important in learning; I know I am preaching to the choir.

As a former middle school athletic director, I saw firsthand how students engaged in an activity

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# Legislative Update continued

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can have their lives changed in a positive way. I believe the same is true for extended-learning opportunities.

The Iowa General Assembly, in its education reform legislation, directed the Iowa Department of Education to produce a report on best practices for pilot projects in our state in this policy area. We will have a series of meetings around the state this month soliciting input from Iowans both inside and outside of education on how to best do that (*locations and dates are below; contact host for times*). The research shows that the best programs are cooperative efforts where the school and community work cooperatively to meet the local needs of their students. We want to blend the best research we can find with the input of Iowans to produce solid recommendations for the Legislature to consider.

I encourage you to attend one of the meetings in your area as your schedule allows. We want to craft an Iowa document that reflects our ideas on how an ideal extended learning program would operate. The report will be completed by December 15. All of our task force reports and studies are posted on our website upon completion. Please read the work of the groups and studies. Finally, in agreement, disagreement or somewhere in between, let policymakers know what you think about the conclusions.

I am excited about the opportunities that lay before us in so many areas of educational policy. This is truly a historic year in education and with Iowans coming together to put education reform into practice, I look forward to the positive impact we can have in the lives of our children. Extended learning programs, building upon the good work being done in so many areas of our state, is one policy area where that can take place.

I am not so excited about my Minnesota Twins and secondarily, the Chicago Cubs. It looks like both teams are in some serious need of reform if they are to quit losing over 90 games a season. In any case, let's remember that October is the time for the round white ball just as much as the oblong tanned leather one. Now, you can let me know that you've read a baseball column recently, and I hope we cross paths soon to visit about it.

## **Burlington**

Wednesday, October 2

Local Host: Jackie Swink, Burlington Community School District

[jacalyn.swink@bcsds.org](mailto:jacalyn.swink@bcsds.org)

## **Cedar Falls**

Tuesday, October 29

Local Host: Dave Welter, Principal, Holmes Jr. High School

[david.welter@cfschools.org](mailto:david.welter@cfschools.org)

## **Council Bluffs**

Tuesday, October 22

Local Host: TBD

## **Des Moines**

Thursday, October 17

Local Host: Jodie Warth, CPO, Boys & Girls Club of Central Iowa

[jwarth@bgcci.org](mailto:jwarth@bgcci.org)

## **Sioux City**

Thursday, October 10

Local Hosts: Matt Ohman, Siouxland Human Investment Partnership;

Jenna Meyer, Beyond the Bell Program

[mohman@siouxlandship.org](mailto:mohman@siouxlandship.org); [jmeyer@beyondthebell.us.com](mailto:jmeyer@beyondthebell.us.com)

## **Waukon**

Thursday, October 3

Local Host: Barb Winters, Allamakee Community School District

[bwinters@allamakee.k12.ia.us](mailto:bwinters@allamakee.k12.ia.us)

For more information on these events, contact Indira Blazevic at [iblazevic@sppg.com](mailto:iblazevic@sppg.com) or at 515-237-0324. (Spanish available).



## Legal Lessons

Contact Nicole Proesch for all Legal Lessons items: [nicole.proesch@iowa.gov](mailto:nicole.proesch@iowa.gov) or 515-281-8661

### Ach, du lieber — it is October!

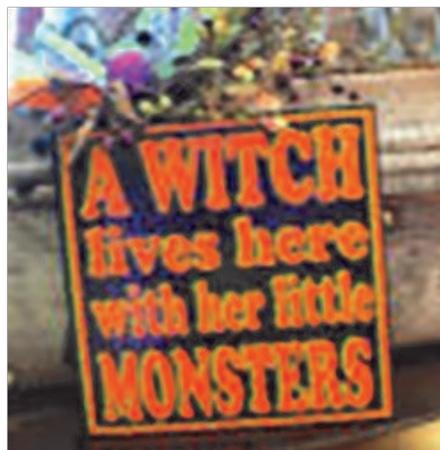
#### Octoberfest!

Happy October! We are officially in the fall of the 2013-2014 school year. Halloween will be here in a few short weeks and I can finally start decorating my house for the festivities. At the Proesch house we LOVE the holidays, and this includes Halloween. Last year I was able to take advantage of some great Halloween sales and get some fun decorations for a fraction of the cost. I cannot wait to get everything out and decorate with the kids. The witch and her little monsters are here.

My youngest, Liam, is really into superheroes this year so I imagine he will be dressing up as Superman, Spiderman, Batman, or Hulk smash. The beauty of having a son is that he has heavily influenced his sister's choice of outfits since he has no interest in playing princesses with her. So, this year Sophia plans to be Wonder Woman. I, on the other hand, will go as myself this year – but I would argue this is impressive because I am “Wonder MOM.” I can leap tall forts in a single bound, dress my kids in seconds, use my X-ray vision to determine that the kids are making a mess in the bathroom, and all this while getting myself ready to hit the door!

WOW! I really don't know how teachers handle a room full of kids when I juggle only

two. They must have superhero patience. Here are some superhero articles to give you super knowledge this October.



#### Appeals, appeals, and more appeals

Appeals do not come up that often for school districts or school corporations; however, when they do, many administrators have a lot of questions about the process and procedures that must be followed. As the designated administrative law judge for the Department who presides over most of these appeals, I am prohibited by law from having “ex parte” communications with the parties to discuss these appeals or answer questions. This means I cannot discuss an appeal with only one party without the other parties. You should not be offended when I do not respond to you regarding these appeals because I am prohibited from discussing them. Since I cannot discuss them, here are some general guidance and resources regarding appeals for your reference. As always, be sure to consult your legal counsel for advice.

#### Appeals to the State Board of Education

Under Iowa Code section 290.1 an affected pupil, or parent or guardian of an affected pupil who is aggrieved by a decision or order of the board of directors of a school corporation or a decision of a board of directors under section 282.18(5) regarding open enrollment appeals may within 30 days (calendar days) after the decision appeal the decision to the State Board of Education. Iowa Code § 290.1 (2013). The Iowa Administrative Code (281 — 6) outlines the appeal procedures in State Board of Education appeals.

The most common appeals are open enrollment appeals that are filed under Iowa Code section 282.18(5). However, an aggrieved party may file an appeal on almost any other decision of the board of directors. An appeal decision by the State Board of Education is final agency action and shall be subject to judicial review in district court in

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## Legal Lessons continued

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accordance with the terms of the Iowa Administrative Procedure Act, Chapter 17A.

Use the link below for:

- Iowa Code Chapter 290, which provides the statutory authority for filing of an appeal;
- Administrative Code 281, Chapter 6 which details the appeal procedures in rules;
- Ex-parte communications with the Administrative Law Judge;
- and the Iowa Administrative Procedures Act regarding administrative appeals:

[http://www.educateiowa.gov/index.php?option=com\\_docman&task=cat\\_view&gid=417&Itemid=4434&limitstart=5](http://www.educateiowa.gov/index.php?option=com_docman&task=cat_view&gid=417&Itemid=4434&limitstart=5)

### TIMELINE FOR STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION APPEALS

<b>Filing Deadline</b>	within <b>30 days</b> (calendar) from the decision
<b>Notice of Receipt of Appeal</b>	within <b>5 days</b> (calendar) after receiving the appeal the State Board of Education shall notify the parties of the taking of the appeal
<b>Certified Record Due</b>	within <b>10 days</b> (calendar) from the receipt of notice of the taking of the appeal the secretary of the proper school corporation shall complete a certified transcript of the record.
<b>Written Hearing Notice</b>	A written notice of the date and time of the hearing shall be sent to the parties within <b>10 days</b> (calendar) of the hearing.
<b>Proposed Decision</b>	A proposed decision of the Administrative Law Judge shall be mailed to the parties and the decision shall be placed on the agenda of the next State Board meeting for review and approval. Any adversely affected party may appeal a proposed decision to the State Board within <b>20 days</b> (calendar) after the issuance of the proposed decision.
<b>Decision</b>	It can take several months to have a final decision from the State Board.

### Appeals to the Director of the Department of Education

Certain decisions may be appealed to the director of the Iowa Department of Education as outlined in specific state statutes. Those appeals include, but are not limited to, athletic appeals under Iowa Code section 280.13 and Iowa Administrative rule 281-- 36.17, transportation appeals under Iowa Code section 285.12, appeals regarding disagreements between boards under Iowa Code section 285.13, and Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) appeals.

The Iowa Administrative Code (281 -- 6) outlines the appeal procedures in director appeals. Director appeals may have varying timelines, so it is important to look at the specific statute or rules to determine what your timelines are. A decision by the Director on appeal (except for Athletic appeals) is final agency action and shall be subject to judicial review in accordance with the terms of the Iowa administrative procedure Act, chapter 17A.

Here is a link to Iowa Code section 280.13:

[http://www.educateiowa.gov/index.php?option=com\\_docman&task=cat\\_view&gid=417&Itemid=4434](http://www.educateiowa.gov/index.php?option=com_docman&task=cat_view&gid=417&Itemid=4434)

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# Legal Lessons continued

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Here is a link to Iowa Administrative Code Ch. 36: [http://www.educateiowa.gov/index.php?option=com\\_docman&task=cat\\_view&gid=417&Itemid=4434](http://www.educateiowa.gov/index.php?option=com_docman&task=cat_view&gid=417&Itemid=4434)

Here is a link to Iowa Code section 285.12: [http://www.educateiowa.gov/index.php?option=com\\_docman&task=cat\\_view&gid=417&Itemid=4434&limitstart=10](http://www.educateiowa.gov/index.php?option=com_docman&task=cat_view&gid=417&Itemid=4434&limitstart=10)

Here is a link to Iowa Code section 285.13: [http://www.educateiowa.gov/index.php?option=com\\_docman&task=cat\\_view&gid=417&Itemid=4434&limitstart=5](http://www.educateiowa.gov/index.php?option=com_docman&task=cat_view&gid=417&Itemid=4434&limitstart=5)

Here is a link to information on CACFP appeals:

[http://www.educateiowa.gov/index.php?option=com\\_docman&task=cat\\_view&gid=417&Itemid=4434](http://www.educateiowa.gov/index.php?option=com_docman&task=cat_view&gid=417&Itemid=4434)

Here is a link to 7 C.F.R. 226 regarding CACFP Regulations: [http://www.educateiowa.gov/index.php?option=com\\_docman&task=cat\\_view&gid=417&Itemid=4434](http://www.educateiowa.gov/index.php?option=com_docman&task=cat_view&gid=417&Itemid=4434)

## TIMELINE FOR DIRECTOR APPEALS

### ATHLETIC APPEALS

<b>Filing Deadline</b>	within <b>10 business days</b> after the date of mailing of the decision of the governing organization.
<b>Notice of Receipt of Appeal</b>	within <b>5 days</b> (calendar) after receiving the appeal the Director shall notify the parties of the taking of the appeal.
<b>Certified Record Due</b>	within <b>10 days</b> (calendar) from the receipt of notice of the taking of the appeal the secretary of the proper school corporation shall complete a certified transcript of the record.
<b>Written Hearing Notice</b>	The Director shall establish a date for hearing within <b>20 days</b> (calendar) of receipt of written notice of appeal by giving at least <b>5 business days' written notice</b> of hearing to the appellant unless another time is mutually agreeable.
<b>Decision</b>	The Director shall notify the parties of the decision in writing.

### TRANSPORTATION / BOARD DISAGREEMENTS

<b>Filing Deadline</b>	within <b>5 days</b> (calendar) after receipt of notice of the decision of the agency Board.
<b>Notice of Receipt of Appeal</b>	within <b>5 days</b> (calendar) after receiving the appeal the Director shall notify the parties of the taking of the appeal.
<b>Certified Record Due</b>	within <b>10 days</b> (calendar) from the receipt of notice of the taking of the appeal the secretary of the proper school corporation shall complete a certified transcript of the record.
<b>Written Hearing Notice</b>	The Director <b>shall hear the appeal within 15 days</b> (calendar) of the filing of the records in the Director's office notifying all parties of the date and time of the appeal.
<b>Decision</b>	The Director shall notify the parties of the decision in writing.

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# Legal Lessons continued

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## TIMELINE FOR DIRECTOR APPEALS

### CACFP APPEALS

<b>Filing Deadline</b>	within <b>15 days</b> (calendar) after receipt of notice of the decision complained of
<b>Notice of Receipt of Appeal</b>	within <b>5 days</b> (calendar) after receiving the appeal the Director shall notify the parties of the taking of the appeal.
<b>Written Hearing Notice</b>	The Director shall notify the parties affected by the appeal of the hearing date and location at least <b>10 days</b> (calendar) prior the hearing.
<b>Decision</b>	The Director shall notify the parties of the decision in writing within <b>60 days</b> (calendar) from the receipt of the appeal.

If you have questions about appeal procedures, contact your legal counsel. You may refer parents to the Department's Deborah Darge at 515-281-5295 or provide the information in this article to parents.

### Service Animals in Schools

Here is a Q&A document to assist Iowa's school districts, area education agencies, and accredited nonpublic schools in responding to the use of service animals by students and members of the public. This is in response to amended regulations, effective on March 15, 2011, issued by the United States Department of Justice (DOJ) under Titles II and III of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Title II governs school districts and AEAs. Title III governs accredited nonpublic schools.

Here is a link to the document: [http://www.educateiowa.gov/index.php?option=com\\_docman&task=cat\\_view&gid=417&Itemid=4434](http://www.educateiowa.gov/index.php?option=com_docman&task=cat_view&gid=417&Itemid=4434)

If you have questions about this document, contact Thomas Mayes at the Department at 515-242-5614 or [thomas.mayes@iowa.gov](mailto:thomas.mayes@iowa.gov). Additionally, the following web pages may be of assistance:

United States Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights: [www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/index.html](http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/index.html)

United States Department of Justice's ADA page: [www.ada.gov](http://www.ada.gov)

Iowa Civil Rights Commission: [icrc.iowa.gov](http://icrc.iowa.gov)

Iowa Department of Education: [www.educateiowa.gov](http://www.educateiowa.gov)

Disability Rights Iowa: [disabilityrightsiaowa.org](http://disabilityrightsiaowa.org)

Iowa Legal Aid: [www.iowalegalaid.org](http://www.iowalegalaid.org)

Iowa Association of School Boards: [www.ia-sb.org](http://www.ia-sb.org)

School Administrators of Iowa: [www.sai-iowa.org](http://www.sai-iowa.org)

### Students with Disabilities

For questions regarding students with disabilities, contact Thomas Mayes at 515-242-5614 or [thomas.mayes@iowa.gov](mailto:thomas.mayes@iowa.gov).

## Iowa Learning Online will expand offerings

As part of the education reform bill, the Iowa Department of Education's virtual school program Iowa Learning Online will expand its online course curriculum to include all "Offer and Teach" requirements for grades 9-12, including core courses, world languages, fine arts, physical education, and vocational education. Visit ILO any time at [www.iowalearningonline.org](http://www.iowalearningonline.org) and be sure to watch for big changes this spring. For questions or additional information, contact Gwen Wallace Nagel at 515-419-3275 or [gwen.nagel@iowa.gov](mailto:gwen.nagel@iowa.gov).

## Calendar

- October 1 • Board resolutions to study reorganization due
- October 1 • If CAR, SES, and ATR not filed based on valid extension granted
- October 15 • Last date to notify the SBRC if district incurred negative unspent balance
- November 1 • C-Plan deadline for SINA and DINA
- November 1 • Last date for public notice of board intent to whole grade share
- November 1 • School board officers report deadline

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