



School Leader Update

A MONTHLY JOURNAL
FOR IOWA EDUCATORS

September 2017

Third draft of Iowa's ESSA plan released for public view

Iowa Department of Education Director Ryan Wise announced that the [third draft of Iowa's state plan](#) for meeting the federal Every Student Succeeds Act is available for public review and comment. Iowa's plan will be finalized and submitted to the U.S. Department of Education in September.

"Iowa has several collaborative education improvement efforts under way, each with a goal of preparing students for success in high school and beyond, and the Every Student Succeeds Act is an opportunity to connect and build on those efforts," Wise said. "We've made great strides in designing a plan that makes sense for our state, and this is a final opportunity for Iowans to review this plan."

[Read a snapshot of the plan here.](#)

[Give feedback by Sept. 11.](#)



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Wait, what? Life's essential questions

My 11-year-old son, Weston, is the most avid reader I know. We usually end the day sitting next to each other reading. While I'll admit my reading time occasionally consists of catching-up on the day's news on Twitter, I also try to mix in good, old-fashioned books as much as possible.



Director Ryan Wise

One of my favorites this year is [Wait, What? And Life's Other Essential Questions](#) by James Ryan, the Dean of the Harvard Graduate School of Education. The book has a simple premise: we should spend less time worrying about always having the right answers and more time thinking about the right questions to ask. Ryan offers what he believes are life's five essential questions. These questions resonated with me and I made them the foundation of my presentation at this year's School Administrators of Iowa conference as well as the focus of this column.

Question 1: Wait, what?

"Asking 'Wait, what?' is a good way to avoid jumping to conclusions or making snap judgments. Too often we decide very early whether we agree or disagree with someone or with an idea, without making an effort to truly understand the person or the point" (p. 29).

This question first reminded me of the "Are you kidding me?" moments my wife and I sometimes have as parents, like when we told our son to find something to do and came downstairs to find him deconstructing an old keyboard with a hammer and using swim goggles as eye protection. *Wait, what?*

More often, though, this question helps to clarify and build common understanding. I always appreciate "wait, what" questions. For example, one superintendent recently asked me, "Can you share with me the thinking behind the inclusion of the

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postsecondary readiness measure included in the Iowa ESSA Plan?” As a Department, we took that question to heart and have attempted to both clarify the rationale and appropriately adjust course in the latest draft of [Iowa’s ESSA plan](#).

Question 2: I wonder...?

“In sum, the question ‘I wonder why?’ is essential because it is at the heart of curiosity... Asking ‘I wonder if?’ is equally essential because it is the way to remain engaged with the world and to begin thinking about ways to improve your corner of it” (p. 61).

Good data is a curiosity catalyst. I always appreciate it when I walk into a Professional Learning Community meeting and teachers are pouring over data to help strengthen their instruction. The Department of Education supports this work by providing information to stakeholders in reports like [Metrics that Matter](#) (which was developed jointly with several other agencies and released earlier this summer), the [Iowa Postsecondary Readiness Report](#) (which will be released again later this month), and the [Iowa School Report Card](#) (which will be updated in December) that are designed to spark “I wonder if...?” and “I wonder why...?” questions.

Question 3: Couldn’t we at least...?

“Couldn’t we at least agree?” is a way to find common ground. The key to maintaining healthy and productive relationships is consensus... Asking ‘Couldn’t we at least agree?’ especially in the midst of an argument, is a good way to pause, step back, and look for some areas of agreement” (p. 65).

Significant education improvement requires consensus building. In Iowa, we’ve taken on Herculean tasks like creating the nation’s most extensive teacher leadership system, redesigning how career and technical education is delivered, and committing to ensure all students are reading proficiently by the end of third grade. These efforts have been years in the making and it has taken us time to build alignment as an education system on how these programs are designed and delivered.

And we’re starting to see results. For example, the share of students who met or exceeded reading benchmarks on the screening assessment increased from 67 percent to 70 percent between fall 2016 and spring 2017, which is on top of a four percentage point increase in the previous year (read more about this [here](#)). Stopping to ask “Couldn’t we at least agree that...” along the way has benefited our efforts and will continue to do so in the future.

Question 4: How can I help?

“It is the question that forms the base of all good relationships. It is a question that signals that you care” (p. 102).

While state agencies like the Iowa Department of Education have a necessary compliance component inherent in their work, the Department strives to take a service-oriented approach. As director, I’ve tried to ask, “How can I help?” as often as possible (though probably still not as often as I should). In my [school visits](#), I also see teachers and administrators consistently take this approach with students and families. This question opens up dialogue and builds a spirit of collaboration, which is critical to both improvement and success.

Question 5: What truly matters?

“It’s the question that can help you separate the truly important from the trivial and can help you maneuver through the minutiae in pursuit of the momentous” (p. 103).

As a social studies teacher, I was sometimes guilty of getting lost in the details – names of leaders,

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location of capitols, dates of battles – and failing to focus on the knowledge and skills that would have the biggest impact on ensuring my students were prepared to succeed in and beyond school.

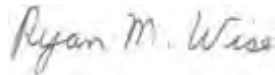
This summer I attended [Tech Journey's](#) annual tech camp, which is focused on creating opportunities and inspiring youth with limited resources to take an interest in technology. This is the type of big-picture thinking focused on important issues that will help ensure **all** kids in Iowa have access to the learning opportunities that set them up for a fulfilling life and career.

The bonus question: And did you get what you wanted from this life, even so?

"I am simply suggesting that you consider now what will likely matter to you when your time has run out" (p. 134).

This question provides a fitting conclusion to Ryan's book. It acknowledges that while pain and disappointment are necessary parts of life, joy and contentment can be as well. As educators, we're well-positioned to develop a sense of fulfillment. A great example is [Caroline Owen](#), a 103-year-old former teacher who recently reflected on the positive memories of life as a teacher.

As we move fully into a new school year, I hope each of you are able to take time to reflect on these questions and focus on what matters most in life.



Sign up today for early literacy support sessions

On Aug. 1 school leaders received a letter informing you of the supports available to you through the Differentiated Accountability system. Supplemental supports in early literacy are provided through regional, face-to-face professional learning sessions throughout the fall semester. Topics include the new FASTBridge data system, Universal Instruction, and Intervention System.

If you have not already registered a district or school team to attend and would like to participate, [REGISTER HERE](#) as soon as possible. You can use the individual links to access the session descriptions. All sessions are free to attend.

If you have questions about which session to attend or who to send, contact:

Mark Crady at mcrady@heartlandaea.org

Amy Williamson at amy.williamson@iowa.gov

We look forward to supporting you during the 2017-18 school year.

For second year in a row, early literacy efforts make strides

For the second year in a row, Iowa has made significant progress to improve the reading skills of students in kindergarten through third grade, Gov. Kim Reynolds announced recently.

Reynolds said the share of students who met or surpassed the benchmarks Iowa uses to measure statewide progress on the screening assessment increased from 67 percent to 70 percent in public schools between fall 2016 and spring 2017. That 3 percentage-point growth hits the target the state has set for annual early literacy growth. [Read more.](#)



Gearing up for Constitution Day

Constitution Day falls on Sept. 17, a weekend. Still, Congress requires all public schools to set aside on day during the week of Sept. 17 to teach all students about the U.S. Constitution and citizenship.

Though compliance is mandatory, the implementation is left to local districts. There are lots of [resources](#) for teaching about the Constitution. In addition, the Iowa Department of Education has partnered with the state's Judicial Branch and Bar Association for a Sept. 20 event in which students will have an opportunity to watch justices listening to arguments of real court cases. The event will be [livestreamed](#).

If your district is planning something special to celebrate Constitution Day or you have any questions, contact Stefanie Wager, social studies consultant, at 515-725-7842 or stefanie.wager@iowa.gov.

If you have legal questions about the matter, contact nicole.proesch@iowa.gov.



CTE best practice webinars begin Oct.4

The Iowa Department of Education Bureau of Career and Technical Education (CTE) will be holding a series of webinars focused on best practices in developing strong secondary CTE programs. Topics will include utilizing data, developing program partnerships, work-based learning, program advisory councils, and best practices in developing programs. All are welcome to participate in the live webinars, but the intended audience is secondary CTE instructors and high school administrators. The first webinar will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 4, at 3:30 p.m. To register and view a schedule of all webinars, visit the Department's [website](#).

Family, school partnerships needed

Do you or someone you know have a great family and school partnership for children receiving special education services and supports? The Iowa Department of Education wants to hear from you.

Since there is a lack of consistent family and school partnership practices in the state, the Department is looking for promising practices – whether it's a program, service, strategy or policy that shows potential for developing into an evidence-based practice. Promising practices can be in the early stage of implementation.

Nomination and application papers will be available soon. For questions, contact Kim Drew at 515-281-5265 or kim.drew@iowa.gov, or contact deb@askresource.org.

A note from 2017 Teacher of the Year

My passion is inspiring teachers to find the leaders within themselves. It's not rocket science, yet it isn't necessarily intuitive, either.

I have found that one of the critical components to nurturing leadership from within is surrounding myself with quality people who share my love of collaboration, commitment, high energy – with the end focused on student achievement.

I would love to come out to visit your districts. You can reach me at shelly.vroegh@iowa.gov.

Shelly Vroegh is an instructional coach and fifth grade teacher in the Norwalk Community School District. Her term as the state's Teacher of the Year runs through May 31.



Shelly Vroegh
2017 Teacher of the Year

Conditional licensure for teachers

The Class B License is valid for two school years and may be issued under the following conditions:

- The person is the holder of a valid Iowa license with one or more endorsements.
- The person is seeking to obtain some other endorsement.
- The employer requests the Class B be issued.
- The individual seeking this endorsement has completed at least two-thirds of the requirements or one-half in a shortage area.

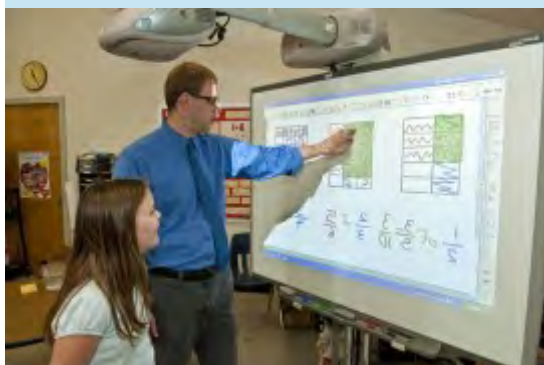


The Executive Director Decision License is valid for one school year and may be issued under the following conditions:

- Same as above, but the individual seeking this endorsement is not eligible for the Class B license.
- The employer verifies the diligent search to find a fully licensed teacher for the position.

Starting Sept. 1, late fees of \$25 per month will be added, so it is critical to apply for conditional licensure as soon as possible. For questions about general education, contact David Wempen at 515-281-3605 or david.wempen@iowa.gov. For questions about special education, contact Mike Cavin at 515-281-3437 or mike.cavin@iowa.gov.

Nominate an educator for a 2018 STEM teacher award



Do you know a STEM teacher who goes above and beyond to engage their students both in and out of the classroom? Nominations are now open for the 2018 Innovative, Outstanding, Worldly, Academic (I.O.W.A.) STEM Teacher Award sponsored by Kemin Industries.

The award, offered by the Iowa Governor's STEM Advisory Council, celebrates teachers whose leadership and dedication to STEM in Iowa increases students' interest and awareness in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. One teacher from each of the six STEM regions will receive a \$1,500 award along with an additional \$1,500 to be used in their classroom. Deadline for nominations is Oct. 6, and recipients will be announced in January. The nomination process is simple and open to everyone, including fellow teachers, school administrators, students and parents. Visit www.stemaward.fluidreview.com to submit a nomination and learn more.

Iowa Learning Online fall enrollment closes soon

The final enrollment period for the fall 2017 semester with Iowa Learning Online (ILO) closes soon. Enrollment for the fall 2017 Cohort B (Sept. 6 to Jan. 12) ends at 4 p.m. on Wednesday Sept. 13.

Spring enrollment is open. [Sign up now](#) to avoid the rush.



ILO is also piloting a new service, [Branch Out](#), to help schools take the first step to offering their own online service to meet local district needs. ILO provides the infrastructure and high school courses, and the local school provides the teacher.

New tool helps students learn about careers in energy

Today's energy industry is a rapidly changing and growing industry with influence in science, engineering, finance, business, policy, and even design. With many high-growth career opportunities in Iowa and the nation, it is important for students to see themselves working in energy.

To give students, parents, and educators a better understanding of what jobs in energy look like, the Iowa Department of Education worked with the Iowa Energy Workforce Consortium (IEWC), the Council for Adult and Experiential Learning, and Iowa Central Community College to develop a new tool that can be used when talking with

students. Matching personality traits and skills with different high-demand jobs in energy, the [Opportunities in Energy: Iowa](#) tool shows how career opportunities exist for every type of person, no matter interest or skill.



Jolene Rogers, executive director of community and business relations at Iowa Lakes Community Colleges and convener of the energy sector partnership in northwest Iowa, identified the lack of people in the pipeline as one of the major challenges facing Iowa's energy employers. Career pathway maps, like the Opportunities in Energy: Iowa tool, are important to show different types of jobs at varying levels of training and education, from noncredit training over the course of several days, to two- and four-year degrees and beyond.

"Employers in our area are expanding, but they compete for talent," Rogers said. "There are great careers along a continuum of training, certification, and education levels. These are well-rounded jobs with advancement opportunities and the skills are transferable to many areas."

The Iowa Sector Partnership Leadership Council, which helps identify best practices, provides direction, and serves in a formal advisory role for the state's sector partnerships, previously released a similar [tool](#) focusing on careers in information technology. More information, resources, and an interactive map to locate sector partnerships across Iowa can be found on the Department's [website](#).

'Dirty jobs' host Mike Rowe to talk skilled trades in Iowa



Mike Rowe

Celebrity Mike Rowe, best known for his work on the Discovery Channel's hit TV series Dirty Jobs, is coming to Iowa in September to help build awareness of the opportunities available in the skilled trades. The Iowa Department of Education is one of the co-sponsors of the event scheduled for Sept. 28 from 4 to 8 p.m. at the Iowa Events Center where Governor Kim Reynolds is scheduled to kick off the festivities.

Students and educators are encouraged to register to learn more about the high-demand jobs in skilled and technical fields and to network with industry professionals. The first 200 students and teachers who register as a pair will receive free registration, which includes dinner. For others, tickets are \$150 per seat or \$1,200 for 10 seats at a 12-person table; two seats at each table are being donated to educators and students.

Building awareness of Iowa's high-demand jobs, including those in the skilled trades, is in line with legislation passed last year in Iowa to raise the quality of [career and technical \(CTE\) education](#) programs in the state. Formerly known as vocational education, CTE consists of programs that integrate technical and academic skills with work-based learning experiences to better prepare students to succeed after high school, whether that be in the workforce or in postsecondary education. More information about the event, including online registration, is available at the [Iowa Skilled Trades website](#).

Title II Part A FY18 preliminary allocations, application available

The local education agencies preliminary allocation for Title II Part A FY18 is \$14,716,470. The 2017-2018 public school annual notification and allocations are available on the [Iowa Department of Education Title II A webpage](#).

Districts must complete an application on www.iowagrants.gov. School districts can request reimbursement once the application is completed, submitted by the district, and approved by the Department.

Title II Part A Improving Teacher Quality grants 2016-17 unspent funds

Title II Part A funds are intended to be used within a fiscal year.

If public school districts have unspent funds by June 30, a request for an extension to utilize funds for up to an additional six months must be requested and submitted to the Iowa Department of Education by Oct. 1, along with challenges for spending funds and a description of how these funds are going to be spent by Dec. 30. This request can be sent via email to isbelia.arzola@iowa.gov.

Nonpublic schools unable to spend funds by June 30 will need to submit challenges for spending funds and a plan for professional development services to the public school district. The request for an extension will need to be submitted to the public school district Title II A contact by Oct. 1.

For questions, contact Isbelia Arzola at 515-281-3954 or isbelia.arzola@iowa.gov.

Options for supporting beginning teachers

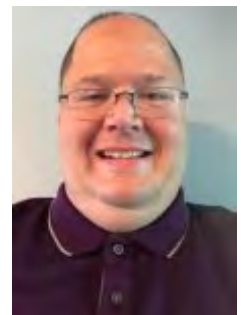
If you missed the webinar originally conducted on Aug. 16 about supporting beginning teachers, the [recording](#) and technical assistance [documents](#) are now available for viewing. Changes to Mentoring and Induction legislation are described, options for district supports for beginning teachers are explained, as well as reporting expectations for the 2017-18 school year.

Iowa's new social studies standards...Now what?

For 15 years, I taught high school social studies at North Scott Community School District in Eldridge, primarily in the subjects of geography, sociology and psychology. During most of those years, our curriculum was guided by the previous Iowa social studies standards. Those standards helped to guide my instruction and frame my courses in meaningful ways for my students, and gave me a framework for assessment of the student learning in my class.

However, as we begin to embark on a new trail with the passing of the new Iowa Core Social Studies standards, I cannot help but be envious of my colleagues who are still in the classroom. The new standards will bring about some positive changes to the "whats" and "hows" of Iowa social studies instruction.

[Read more.](#)



Chad Guge is a secondary (7-12th Grade) instructional coach in the North Scott Community School District in Eldridge.

Nominate a Presidential Scholar by Oct. 13

The Iowa Department of Education is seeking nominations for outstanding high school seniors for the 2017-18 U.S. Presidential Scholars selection cycle. We encourage you to nominate students who, while demonstrating outstanding scholarship, might not otherwise be nominated through the current SAT/ACT, arts, or Career and Technical Education recognition processes. If you have an outstanding high school senior deserving of consideration, please submit a nomination through the Department's online [Presidential Scholar Nomination Form](#) by Oct. 13.

Department Director Ryan Wise will select 25 students (10 males, 10 females, and five in the Career and Technical Education [CTE] category) to submit to the U.S. Presidential Scholar Program for consideration. The 2018 Presidential Scholars will be selected by the Commission on Presidential Scholars and will receive the Presidential Scholars Medallion at a ceremony in their honor in Washington, D.C. Reviewers will consider the following categories:

- Involvement and service (in school and community);
- Leadership and character;
- Writing samples;
- Academic achievements;
- Discretionary points for extraordinary achievement, heavy workload, family responsibilities, or obstacles overcome.



The CTE component of the program will honor students on the basis of outstanding scholarship and demonstrated ability and accomplishment in career and technical education fields. Reviewers will consider the following categories:

- Mastery of technical skills;
- Strength in teamwork, decision-making, and problem-solving;
- Real-world application.

Specific information to be included in each nomination is described on the Department's online [Presidential Scholar Nomination Form](#). Nominations must be submitted no later than Friday, Oct. 13. For questions regarding the nomination process, contact Deborah Darge at (515) 242-6176 or deborah.darge@iowa.gov. Read more about the [Presidential Scholars Program](#).

United States Senate Youth Program

The United States Senate Youth Program is a unique educational experience for outstanding high school students interested in pursuing careers in public service. Established in 1962, the annual program will be held in Washington, D.C., from March 3-10.

Two student leaders from each state, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense Education Activity will gather for an intensive week-long study of government and those who lead it. In addition, each selected delegate receives a \$10,000 scholarship. The overall mission of the program is to help instill knowledge of the American political process and a lifelong commitment to public service. Oct. 2 is the first deadline for application to the program. Additional program information, including the student application, is available [here](#) or by accessing the United States Senate Youth Program website here.

For questions, contact Stefanie Wager at 515-725-7842 or stefanie.wager@iowa.gov.



Win \$1,000 for your school

The Iowa Safe Schools Alliance (ISSA) is sponsoring a video contest for Iowa high school students.

The winner of the contest will take home \$1,000 for your school (there also are cash prizes for second and third place). This year's contest theme is "See something, say something," and videos should be focused on ISSA's mission: Assist schools in preparing for, mitigating, responding to and recovering from natural and man-made threats and incidents.

Sample topics could be identification of external or internal threats such as a student with a weapon, intruder, hazardous material spill outside the school, etc.

The winners of last year's competition can be viewed here:

- [1st place North Fayette Valley High School](#)
- [2nd place Alburnett High School](#)
- [3rd place Abraham Lincoln High School](#)

Submission deadline is Sept. 19. For more information about the video contest visit the [ISSA website](#).

Ditch the distraction video contest

The Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) is co-sponsoring a video contest aimed at raising the awareness of distracted driving among teenage drivers in Iowa. The competition includes \$2,000 in total prize money to be awarded to the top five public service announcement (PSA) videos submitted by teens, with the winner receiving \$1,000.

The contest is intended to get high school students thinking about the dangers of distractions while driving and to promote greater awareness of the resulting facts and statistics. Creating a short (approximately 30 seconds) video that can be shared on social media channels is an excellent opportunity for creative teens. The video can be created individually, with friends, or as a class project, and is open to Iowa high school students in grades 9-12.

Contest details and entry information can be found at [Ditch The Distraction Contest](#).

In addition, the Iowa Department of Transportation has a website dedicated to information for driver's education teachers at [Driver's Ed Info](#).



This was a real game-changer

Turning one's life around isn't that easy when you've had past run-ins with the law. With a felony in his past and no high school diploma, Kirk Howard had many doors closed in his face.

"I found myself looking at my life and seeing that I wasn't getting any younger," Howard said. "But after my trouble with the law, it was a lot harder to go out and get a job. It just wasn't that easy."

Howard decided he needed a high school diploma and made a decision in 2015 that would forever change his life, boost his confidence, and restore faith in himself and humanity. He walked through the doors of Hawkeye Community College's Metro Center with the intention of working on his high school equivalency diploma (HSED), but ended up with a whole lot more. [Read more.](#)



Kirk Howard accepts his completion certificate from State Senator Bill Dotzler.

Data and Reporting

Fall BEDS staff data collections 2017-18

The following information pertains to the Fall BEDS staff data collection for 2017-18.

Important dates

September 1	Fall BEDS & Fall BEDS Staff Opens
September 1	Deadline for requesting conditional licenses via the Board of Educational Examiners (BOEE)to ensure compliance with the Fall BEDS Staff reporting deadline
October 15*	Fall BEDS & Fall BEDS Staff deadline
October 16	Operational Sharing opens
October 31	Operational Sharing deadline

New requirements for 2017-18

Public School districts are required to designate a staff person to coordinate efforts to comply with three federal laws.

- Equity Coordinator
- Title IX Coordinator
- Section 504 Coordinator

Counselors – Each public district is required to identify the counselor serving each attendance center (building).

Nurse License # - Any school nurse hired by a district/school will be required to report the nurse license number (Public Health).

Obsolete sections

Special Education Delivery Method - Removed

Mentoring/Induction – Moved to Fall BEDS

For information about the Fall BEDS Staff application, contact Connie Brooks at 515-281-7509 or connie.brooks@iowa.gov.

Fall Student Reporting in Iowa (SRI) preliminary checklist

As school districts gear up for Fall Student Reporting in Iowa (SRI), consider the preliminary checklist below:

- Districts should have received an email in mid-late August highlighting upcoming training opportunities and deadlines, and requirements for the Gold Start list this fall. If you did not receive this email, contact an SRI consultant. In addition, make sure that your contact information on the School Information Update application is accurate.
- If you have any new staff working on Student Reporting and/or Certified Enrollment, encourage them to register and attend the [New User Training](#) on Sept. 8.
- The [SRI website](#) is a tremendous resource for Dates to Remember, training opportunities this fall, recorded webinars of past trainings, and 2017-18 documentation including the 2017-18 SRI Data Dictionary. Share this link with all staff working on student reporting through the year and/or certified enrollment this fall.

Data and Reporting cont.

Consolidated Accountability and Support Application (CASA)

Submissions required by Friday, Sept. 15

- [Assurances](#) (Public and Nonpublic)
- [Consolidated School Improvement Plan \(CSIP\)](#) (Public and Nonpublic)
- [Preschool Desk Audit](#) (Public only)

Submissions available on Friday, Sept. 15

- [Preschool Desk Audit \(Evidence of Iowa Quality Preschool Program Standards \(IQPPS\) Implementation\)](#) (Pilot districts only)
- [K12 Desk Audit](#) (Public and Nonpublic)
- [AEA Desk Audit](#)

Webinar Schedule

- [Preschool Desk Audit \(Session Id Information\) Q&A](#) – Sept. 7 from 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
- [K12 and AEA Desk Audit](#) – Sept. 15 from 10 -11 a.m.
- [Preschool Desk Audit \(Evidence of Iowa Quality Preschool Program Standards \(IQPPS\) Implementation\) Q&A](#) (Pilot districts only) – Sept. 20 from 10 -11:30 a.m.

Security webinars offered by Iowa Communications Network

Iowa Communications Network (ICN) is offering a variety of security webinars for our k-12 users. Visit the [ICN website](#) for an overview of each webinar.

Securing your wireless networks: Presenters: Rich Bates (LightEdge) and Mike Lauer ((CN)

<p>Manage 1:1 and Bring your own Devices (BYOD) (Part 1) Date: Aug. 29 Time: 2 – 3 p.m. <i>Recording will be available</i></p>	<p>Allocate Resources for Testing (Part 2) Online (Zoom) Date: Sept. 5 Time: 2 – 3 p.m. Register for Allocate Resources for Testing</p>	<p>Confidently Protect Students and Maintain Security (Part 3) Online (Zoom) Date: Sept. 26 Time: 1 – 2 p.m. Register for Confidently Protect Students and Maintain Security</p>
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<p>Mobility Management (Fortinet): Presenters: Rich Bates (LightEdge) and Mike Lauer (ICN) Online (Zoom) Date: Sept. 19 Time: 1 – 2 p.m. Register for Mobility Management</p>	<p>Cyber Security Best Practices Presenters: Jake Gibson (LightEdge's Chief Security Officer & Chief Compliance Officer) and Ryan Mulhall (ICN Security Services Officer) Date: Oct.11 Time: 10 – 11 a.m. Register for Cyber Security Best Practices</p>
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Early Childhood Preschool Programs

Resources to support the *MyTeachingStrategies*[™] GOLD upgrade

Additional opportunities for support in Iowa's upgrade to *MyTeachingStrategies*[™] GOLD are available for subscribers.

The *MyTeachingStrategies*[™] website includes a variety of resources to support this upgrade, including FAQs, guides, videos, and a [webpage with information to support GOLD® Administrators which includes archived webinars](#).

It is recommended that local GOLD® Administrators who are the point of contact for all data entry, reporting, and information updates related to the management of *MyTeachingStrategies*[™] GOLD® peruse these resources.

In addition, a webinar to demonstrate the features and functionality of the Family Area of *MyTeachingStrategies*[™] will be offered for Iowa users on Oct. 4 from 3 – 4:30 p.m. Iowa subscribers are encouraged to [register](#) to take advantage of this opportunity.

For information about the *MyTeachingStrategies*[™] upgrade, contact Kimberly Villotti at 515-281-4709 or kimberly.villotti@iowa.gov.

Early Care and Education Fall Institute coming in Sept. 21

Early childhood educators are encouraged to attend an upcoming pre-session scheduled for Sept. 21 at the Early Care and Education Fall Institute focusing on “The Power of Peers: Using peer-mediated strategies and embedded routines within routines to foster and support children’s social-emotional development.” The institute will be at the Prairie Meadows Conference Center in Altoona.

Learn about the key social skills, aligned to the Iowa Early Learning Standards, that preschool teachers should be teaching. Intervention skills and strategies for embedding instruction into routines throughout the day will be shared by national experts Ted Bovey and Ronald Roybal.

This full-day workshop will be a great way to kick-off the fall institute on Sept. 22-23 at the Prairie Meadows Conference Center in Altoona. Additional featured speakers will include Rhian Evans Allvin, Chip Donahue, and Cate Heroman.



To register, visit the [Iowa AEYC website](#) or contact Betsy Lin at 515-725-2039, or betsy.lin@iowa.gov.

Nutrition and Health Services

Team Nutrition—Your nutrition education resource

The Iowa Department of Education has received a United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Team Nutrition Grant for the last 20 years. Team Nutrition, an initiative of the USDA's Food and Nutrition Service, promotes lifelong healthy food choices and physical activity providing resources to support Child Nutrition Programs in schools, child care settings, and summer meal sites.



Team Nutrition materials help schools integrate nutrition education into classroom learning and also includes materials for home, cafeteria, and community connections. In addition to being standards based, materials are child, teacher, and parent tested through extensive research including focus group testing, interviews, and field testing. Materials are based on the Social Cognitive Theory, since this theory addresses personal, behavioral, and environmental factors that influence behavior. Visit the [Online Store](#) to explore resources that are available at no charge and shipping is free. For bulk orders, contact Carrie Scheidel at carrie.scheidel@iowa.gov. Stay connected on Facebook: [@healthyschoolsIA](#) Twitter: [@IAhealthyschool](#)

Want a free water-bottle filling station?

The Iowa Department of Education along with a host of public-private partnerships want students this year to turn away from sugary drinks and replace them with fluoridated water.



“Rethink Your Drink” is a campaign thanks to a \$100,000 grant from the Delta Dental of Iowa Foundation. Qualifying Iowa schools will receive free water bottle filling station installations. Schools that are selected for the “Rethink Your Drink” program will have an old drinking fountain replaced with a new Elkay water fountain/bottle filling station. [Read more.](#)

Walker receives national 2017 Outstanding State School Nurse Consultant Achievement award

Melissa Walker, a consultant with the Iowa Department of Education bureau of nutrition and health services, received the 2017 Outstanding State School Nurse Consultant Achievement Award from the National Association of State School Nurse Consultants (NASSNC), Inc. The NASSNC annually recognizes and honors the contributions and demonstrated excellence of state school nurse consultants.



Melissa Walker, 2017 Outstanding State School Nurse Consultant

Walker received the award this summer at the annual NASSNC membership meeting in San Diego, California. She was nominated for the award by Ann Feilmann, bureau chief for the Bureau of Nutrition and Health Services at the Iowa Department of Education.

“Melissa shows no apparent fear when tackling big projects and is obviously able to accomplish them to the satisfaction of multiple stakeholders,” Feilmann said in a brief narrative outlining Walker’s exemplary achievements. “She is committed to a high standard of professional ethics which contributes to a high level of integrity in Student Health Services in Iowa Schools.” [Read more.](#)



Legal Lessons

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

Swing into September

As we start the school year, it's time to get back onto the swing of things. In my house we are adjusting to new schedules, new teachers, new classes, and new friends and we welcome the changes. It's a fresh start to a new school year. We are looking forward to all the new things that we will learn and enjoy throughout the school year. It's finally time to enjoy school picnics, fall sports, fall concerts, and other events that kick off the new school year. We really enjoy reconnecting with friends, teachers, and other school staff after a long summer. It's good to be back to school.

So, as we prepare the new school year, remember to get prepared with these Legal Lessons. I bring you a refresher on the top 10 points about Chapter 103: Corporal punishment, important school bus reminders, update on amendments to the open enrollment rule, and win \$1,000 for your school.

Refresher on the top 10 points about Chapter 103: Administrative rules on corporal punishment, restraint, and physical confinement and detention

1. Add a training requirement

- Understand the law – Chapter 103 and Employer's policies
- Positive behavior interventions and supports
- Disciplinary options to seclusion & restraint
- Crisis prevention, crisis intervention, crisis de-escalation techniques
- Student and staff debriefing
 - ◇ Everyone who might need to implement seclusion or restraint should have the professional development described above. With supplemental information added regarding your district policies, the accompanying PPT presentation will serve the needs of this group.
- Safe, effective use of restraint and confinement and detention
 - ◇ All staff who will definitely use seclusion and/or restraint should be trained in depth regarding holds, restraint, and seclusion (e.g., Mandt, CPI).

2. Corporal punishment is still banned in Iowa. The definition of corporal punishment is, "The **intentional** physical punishment of a student," including "the use of **unreasonable** or unnecessary physical force, or physical contact made with the **intent** to harm or cause pain."

3. No mechanical restraints may be used. This includes misusing physical devices that are meant for safety, therapy, or another purpose (E.g., you may not use Rifton chair to discipline a child).

4. You can still use necessary and reasonable force. Necessary and reasonable are defined by the context of the event. (E.g., restraining someone for tearing up a paper is unreasonable and unnecessary force).

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5. If using seclusion (or physical confinement), the room must be of adequate size, sufficient light, adequate ventilation, and temperature similar to the rest of the building.
6. Period of time for confinement should be reasonable and allow for bodily needs.
7. If confinement extends past 60 minutes or one period (whichever is shorter), an administrator must authorize the continued confinement.
8. Adequate and continuous adult supervision is necessary.
9. Material restraints cannot be used to maintain confinement. Door latches must be non-locking and allow for easy exit if pressure is released. May not be disabled by duct tape or chairs. No keyed locks.
10. Notice to parents: if restraint or seclusion is used with a student, parents must be notified that day and in writing within 3 days. Share documentation with parents. Documentation includes:
 - Name of student involved,
 - Name of employees involved, including the administrator authorizing further confinement, *Date, time, and duration of incident.

Kadyn's Law – Iowa School Bus Safety

In 2012, the Iowa Legislature unanimously adopted Kadyn's law. The law was in response to the death of seven-year-old name Kadyn Jade Halverson who was struck by a pickup and killed while trying to cross the road to board a school bus.

The driver of the pickup violated Iowa's stop arm law – prohibiting drivers from passing a stopped schools bus with the stop arms out or when the red or amber lights are flashing.

Kadyn's law increased the criminal penalties for passing a stopped school bus and increased the license sanctions for these offenses. Under Kadyn's law an individual who is convicted of failing to stop for a School Bus Stop Arm will be subjected to the following punishment for unlawful passing of a school bus under Iowa Code section 321.372(5)(b):



Kadyn Jade Halverson

First offense – A fine of at least \$250 but not more than \$675, and/or imprisonment not to exceed 30 days, and a 30-day license suspension.

Second offense – (in five years) A fine of at least \$315, but not more than \$1,875, and/or imprisonment not to exceed one year, and a 90-day license suspension.

Third offense – (in five years) A fine of at least \$315, but not more than \$1,875, and/or imprisonment not to exceed one year, and a 180-day license suspension.

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Violations resulting in injury or death have increased fines and increased periods of suspension. Iowa Code § 321.482A.

Other offenses not affected by Kady's law could be applicable in a case involving a violation of the law resulting in injury or death. The possible charges and penalties for those violations are listed below.

Serious injury by vehicle – A Class D felony – is punishable by up to five years imprisonment, a fine of at least \$750 but not more than \$7,500, surcharges and court costs and a one-year license suspension.

Homicide by vehicle while Intoxicated – A Class B Felony – is punishable by a mandatory 25 years imprisonment, fines, surcharges and court costs and a six-year license suspension.

Homicide by vehicle reckless/eluding – A Class C Felony – is punishable by up to 10 years imprisonment, a fine of at least \$1000 but not more than \$10,000, surcharges and court costs and a one-year license suspension.

Do you know when stopping is required?

Find out here: [Additional Information on Kady's Law from the DOT.](#)

IS THE LAW WORKING?

School bus drivers in the state have expressed increased frustration with the lack of enforcement of Kady's law throughout the state. In survey conducted by the National Association of State Directors of Pupil Transportation Services (NASDPTS) in 2016, Iowa bus drivers were asked to keep track of violations for one day. The 1,200 drivers who responded recorded 165 bus stop violations just in that one day.

Any one of those violations could have resulted in serious injury or death of a student.

School districts are asked to increase awareness of the law by sharing the rules with parents and the community. Consider sending information home with your students, and using social media to direct the community to additional information. Sometimes, a simple reminder is all it takes.

If you're curious about the bus driver survey, find it here: [2017 Survey Results](#)

Kady's Law [Bulletin](#)

Send this bulletin home with your kids this year or post a link to it online.

Update on amendments to open enrollment rules

The State Board of Education recently made technical revisions to the rules on open enrollment. Those rules are effective on Aug. 9. Read the rules amendments at the following link: <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/aco/arc/3181C.pdf>.

The first set of revisions involved changes required by House File 2336 in 2016. Item 1 of the rulemaking updates the

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mechanism for sharing the teacher leadership supplement between resident and receiving districts. Item 2 establishes that payment from the resident district to the receiving district is February 15 and July 15.

The second set of revisions involved updates to terminology and internal cross-references for students receiving special education services. The amended rules retain the requirement that the receiving district must consult with the resident district and relevant area education agencies before approving an open enrollment application. The rules retain the requirement that the Area Education Agency director of special education will make a determination about the appropriateness of the resident district's special education program if there is a dispute, which is reviewable under procedural safeguards. The rules clarify that the resident district is a member of the child's Individualized Education Program team.

If you have any questions about the fiscal provisions of this rule-making, contact Tom Cooley at 515-725-1120 or tom.cooley@iowa.gov. For questions about special education law, contact Thomas Mayes at 515-242-5614 or thomas.mayes@iowa.gov. For general open enrollment questions, contact Eric Heitz at 515-281-4726 or eric.heitz@iowa.gov.

Students with Disabilities

For questions regarding students with disabilities contact Thomas Mayes at 515-242-5614 or thomas.mayes@iowa.gov.



Calendar

- Sept. 1 • Fall BEDS opens 8 a.m.
- Sept. 1 • Fall BEDS Staff opens 8 a.m.
- Sept. 1 • New Regional Academy application due
- Sept. 5 • Fall SRI and Certified Enrollment test sites open 8 a.m.
- Sept. 15 • CAR, SES, Transportation reports due
- Sept. 27 • VRF, Fall SRI, Certified Enrollment test sites close 8 a.m.



It is the policy of the Iowa Department of Education not to discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, gender, disability, religion, age, political party affiliation, or actual or potential parental, family or marital status in its programs, activities, or employment practices as required by the Iowa Code sections 216.9 and 256.10(2), Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. § 2000d and 2000e), the Equal Pay Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. § 206, et seq.), Title IX (Educational Amendments, 20 U.S.C. §§ 1681 – 1688), Section 504 (Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. § 794), and the Americans with Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. § 12101, et seq.). If you have questions or grievances related to compliance with this policy by the Iowa Department of Education, please contact the legal counsel for the Iowa Department of Education, Grimes State Office Building, Des Moines, IA 50319-0146, telephone number 515/281-5295; or the Director of the Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, Citigroup Center, 500 W. Madison Street, Suite 1475, Chicago, IL 60661, telephone number 312-730-1560, fax 312/730-1576, e-mail: OCR.Chicago@ed.gov



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