



School Leader Update

Iowa Department of Education

June 2009

Resources for Iowa School Leaders

NEWS FROM THE DE

Jeffrey to Host Interactive, Live Webinar on The Partnership for 21st Century Skills' Cyber Summit

The [Cyber Summit on 21st Century Skills](#) will feature Judy Jeffrey, Director of the Iowa Department of Education, in a webinar focused on "Iowa's Path to 21st Century Learning."

Director Jeffrey will outline Iowa's efforts to implement 21st century skills and concepts in the classroom and change teaching and learning across the state. This is evidenced in the Iowa Core Curriculum, which includes the concepts and skills needed for success in today's world. Iowa's policy initiatives are a reflection of the belief that today's students must be prepared to be productive citizens in a diverse workforce and global economy with advanced technologies.

The Cyber Summit, which will take place solely online, brings together thousands of education, policy, civic, community and business leaders to discuss important education reform initiatives. In addition, the Cyber Summit will highlight the national examples set by states like Iowa in ensuring students have deep content knowledge and the ability to apply that knowledge across diverse disciplines.

The Cyber Summit leads up to the National Education Summit on 21st Century Skills, which will take place on June 12 in Washington, D.C. The Cyber Summit is sponsored by the Partnership for 21st Century Skills and Iowa is one of 10 states that is part of the Partnership's State Leadership Initiative.

During the Cyber Summit, there will be ongoing forums in which education leaders will analyze and discuss key 21st century skills and knowledge resources, including:

- The 21st Century Skills Implementation Guides, which outline recommended practices for assessments, standards, professional development, curriculum and instruction and learning environments;
- The Milestones for Improving Learning and Education (MILE) Guide, which helps educators measure the progress of their schools in defining, teaching and assessing 21st century skills; and
- The National Action Agenda, which will set the policy and reform agenda for the months following both summits and be signed by hundreds of education stakeholders.

Jeffrey's live webinar will take place on Wednesday, June 3, at 1:00 p.m. at

www.21stcenturyskills.org/cybersummit.

Governor Announces New Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program for 4-year-old Children

Visiting a preschool class at the Walnut Street School in downtown Des Moines, Governor Chet Culver announced on May 28 the names of 53 school districts in Iowa receiving state funds under the Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program for 4-year-old Children. This announcement will provide an estimated 3,247 additional children in the state a quality preschool experience during the upcoming school year.

The Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program for 4-year-old Children was established on May 10, 2007, when the Governor signed House File 877. The purpose of the statewide preschool program is to expand the opportunity for Iowa's young children to access quality preschool environments and enter school ready to learn...

For more information, please visit <http://www.iowa.gov/educate/>.

Iowa Veteran Honored as Outstanding Teacher

After 22 years in the U.S. Air Force, including serving in Africa for Operation Enduring Freedom, Kyle Teeselink of Manson wanted to take on another adventure — teaching Iowa high school students. He was honored on May 25 as Iowa's first Teacher of the Year for the Troops-to-Teachers Program. The Iowa Department of Education recognized Teeselink during the Manson Memorial Day Celebration.

Teeselink is a first-year business instructor at Manson Northwest Webster High School, where he teaches students in grades nine through 12.

In 2009, Iowa Department of Education Director Judy Jeffrey signed an agreement linking Iowa to the federal Troops-to-Teachers Program. This program is a joint effort between the United States Department of Education and the Department of Defense. The purpose of the program is to assist eligible men and women serving in our Nation's Armed Forces to seek second careers as teachers in America's public schools. Eligible military veterans registering for Troops-to-Teachers may receive federal funding to help them meet state of Iowa teacher certification requirements and bonuses for agreeing to teach in Iowa's high-needs schools.

Troops-to-Teachers candidates must meet the same certification requirements that any other Iowa teacher must meet. The Troops-to-Teachers Program does, however, provide financial assistance to eligible individuals in the form of a stipend of up to \$5,000 to help pay teacher certification costs or a bonus of up to \$10,000 for teaching in a high needs Iowa school.

For more information, contact Tom Beasley at 515-281-3490 or thomas.beasley@iowa.gov.

Journey to Excellence for Beginning Educators

Journey to Excellence is a mentoring and induction model developed for Iowa teachers and schools through a joint effort of the Iowa Department of Education (DE), the Iowa State Education Association (ISEA), area education agencies (AEAs) and Iowa school districts.

The model utilizes a series of learning projects for beginning educators. Each project is focused on an Iowa Teaching Standard. *Mentoring Matters: A Practical Guide to Learning-Focused Relationships*, by Bruce Wellman and Laura Lipton is used as the content for mentor skills and training. *A Framework for Understanding the Iowa Teaching Standards and Criteria* by Charlotte Danielson is used for performance assessment of beginning educators.

Training on the Journey to Excellence Trainers of Mentors will be held June 22-26 at Stoney Creek Inn in Johnston, Iowa. Participants are eligible for a \$900 expense stipend funded by the federal Teacher Quality Enhancement Grant. Registration and lodging information is available at the end of this publication and at <http://www.isea.org/profdev/mentor.html>. Contact David Wilkinson at 515-471-8054 or dwilkinson@isea.org with any questions.

Competent Private Instruction (Home Schooling) Deadline for Reporting Student Progress

June 30, 2009, is the deadline for parents of home schooled students to report the results of standardized tests or portfolio evaluations to the resident district. Districts shall submit form C-1 (found on page 22 of the Competent Private Instruction Handbook) to the Iowa Department of Education (DE) for each student who has a national percentile rank of 30 or below in any one of the test areas indicated or who has less than six months progress on national grade equivalent from one year to another (see 299A.6 for more details). Districts do not report test scores to the DE for students who are served by licensed teachers, or who were younger than age 7 on September 15, 2009 or older than age 16 of the current school year. For additional information, contact Elizabeth Calhoun at 515-281-8170 or elizabeth.calhoun@iowa.gov.

Educational Sign Language Interpreters

Information about educational sign language interpreters is now available on the Iowa Department of Education (DE) Website. Information posted on the website includes the following documents: Iowa Educational Interpreter Licensure Information, Hiring Interpreters, Substitute Educational Interpreters, Speech-to-Text Services, and Interpreter FAQs. The documents provide guidance for area education agency (AEA) and local education agency (LEA) administrators, for individual education program (IEP) teams including parents, and for educational interpreters. To access those documents go to www.iowa.gov/educate and follow the instructions listed below:

- In the left-hand column, click on "Special Education"
- In the middle section, under "Special Education" click on "Program & Services"
- Click on "Audiology; Deaf And Hard Of Hearing"

For more information, contact Marsha Gunderson, 712-366-3284 or mgunderson@iowaschoolforthe deaf.org.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

Educators Encouraged to Volunteer for Site Visit Teams

Iowa educators are encouraged to volunteer to participate in the Iowa Department of Education (DE) school improvement site visits scheduled for the 2008-2009 school year. The site visit team member invitation is located at

http://www.iowa.gov/educate/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1558&Itemid=2342

For technical assistance, contact Elizabeth Calhoun at 515-281-8170 or elizabeth.calhoun@iowa.gov.

LEGAL LESSONS

The contact for all Legal Lessons items is Carol Greta, carol.greta@iowa.gov or 515-281-8661.

Healthy Kids Act – Link to FAQs

Frequently Asked Questions regarding this law are at

http://www.iowa.gov/educate/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1769&catid=838&Itemid=2545.

Included at the end of the FAQ document is a sample contract that schools should tailor to their own needs and use to track how secondary students meet the physical activity requirement.

New Law Regarding Emancipation of Minors

One of the lesser-heralded laws enacted this past legislative session was Senate File 366, relating to the emancipation of a minor. Until now, there has been no process set in statute for declaring a minor to be emancipated. A minor must be at least 16 to petition a juvenile court for an emancipation order.

These orders will not be granted often by a juvenile court because the elements to be proven by the minor are quite stringent. The emancipation order is not a “sealed” order; therefore, it is available to school officials. If a 16 or 17 year old student claims to be emancipated, school officials may and should ask for a copy of the order. In addition, school officials need to know the following:

1. An emancipated minor has the right to enter into binding contracts and to incur debts. The school may directly collect from an emancipated minor any lawful student fees.
2. An emancipated minor has the right to establish a legal residence.
3. An emancipated minor has the right to consent to medical, dental, or psychiatric care.
4. The parents of an emancipated minor are not obligated to provide medical support for the child, unless deemed necessary by the court.
5. The rights accorded to, and consent required of, a parent under Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA) transfer to an emancipated minor (the same as when the student turns 18).
 - a. The emancipated minor is to receive the annual FERPA and annual PPRA notices; the parent does NOT receive these notices.
 - b. Any required consents or “opt outs” are to come from the emancipated minor, NOT the parent.
 - c. The emancipated minor has access to his/her own education records; whether the parent still has access to the records of the parent’s child depends on the wording of the court order and whether the child is still considered a dependent of the parent for income tax purposes.
6. The rights accorded to a parent of a child with an individual education program (IEP) transfer to an emancipated minor with an IEP.
7. The emancipated minor MAY NOT vote.
8. The emancipated minor is still subject to compulsory attendance requirements. All students who are beyond compulsory attendance age and who are enrolled in school are subject to local attendance policies.
9. The emancipated minor is still subject to restrictions regarding gambling, alcohol, and tobacco.

In general, an emancipated minor is to be treated as if the student is now 18 years old. School officials know that when a student attains age 18, it does not mean that the student now gets to make his/her own decisions regarding consents for field trips, excuses for absences, and the like, if there is an adult responsible for the minor. When presented with an emancipation order, school officials should contact their school attorney with any questions that arise regarding the order.

The full bill is available at: <http://coolice.legis.state.ia.us/Cool-ICE/default.asp?category=billinfo&service=billbook&GA=83&hbill=SF366>

New Law Regarding Sex Offender Registry

Also of note is Senate File 340, which reflects changes made to the law governing sex offenders. This is a huge bill, but the items relevant to school officials are as follows:

1. First, there was no change to the law (Iowa Code section 282.9) that requires boards of school districts to determine the educational placement of a resident student who is required to be on the Sex Offender

Registry (SOR). Also, county sheriffs are still to inform school officials when a student or other person residing in the district is to register.

2. An offender convicted of an aggravated offense against a minor is still prohibited from residing within 2000 feet of a school, but the law has been clarified that this does not apply to those who are minors, who had established a residence before July 1, 2002, or who established a residence before a new school was built near that residence (i.e., offenders do not have to move if a school builds by them).
3. Those on the SOR *whose conviction involved a sex offense against a minor* are now prohibited from the following:
 - a. Being present on school property (public and nonpublic) without written permission of school administrator or administrator's designee, unless enrolled as a student at the school;
 - b. Loitering within 300 feet of the school's boundary, unless enrolled as a student at the school;
 - c. Being in any school vehicle when the vehicle is transporting students without written permission of school administrator or administrator's designee, unless enrolled as a student at the school;
 - d. **Being employed by, a volunteer at, or acting as a contractor at a school (public and nonpublic), and the law does not give school administrators the option of granting written permission.**
4. Those on the SOR *may* do the following:
 - a. Be on school property for the purpose of voting for the time reasonably necessary to vote;
 - b. Transport a child or ward of the person to and from school for the time reasonably necessary for this task.

As in the past, school officials are not the "residence police." If a patron calls the school to complain about the proximity of the residence of an offender to school property, the school should refer the caller to law enforcement. The full bill is available at: <http://coolice.legis.state.ia.us/Cool-ICE/default.asp?category=billinfo&service=billbook&GA=83&hbill=SF340>

Student Records and DHS Child Abuse Investigations

In response to questions raised about whether districts and area education agencies (AEAs) may provide information from student records to the Department of Human Services (DHS) when DHS is undertaking a child abuse investigation, the Iowa Department of Education (DE) has issued guidance. The guidance is at the following link:

http://www.iowa.gov/educate/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=257&Itemid=1441

Work Permits

The Iowa Department of Education (DE) has been asked by the Iowa Workforce Development (IWD) agency to ask schools to not issue any child labor work permits for the employer United Youth Careers of 1169 14th Place Des Moines, IA 50314, 515-243-8153. IWD states:

"This is a door to door candy sales business. Owner/officer is Ken McGregor and others involved are Majorie Watson, Antonio Ward, and Lillie Ward. There is an injunction in place in Polk County to restrain and enjoin these Defendants from utilizing, employing or otherwise engaging any minors to solicit donations or make sales on behalf of this entity. Therefore, no child labor work permits may be issued until further notice on behalf of this business. If you have questions about this, please contact Gail Sheridan-Lucht with the Iowa Division of Labor Services at 515-281-6374 or gail.sheridan-lucht@iwd.iowa.gov."

This brings up the larger issue of issuance of work permits in general. Iowa Code section 92.11 does authorize school superintendents to issue work permits. That law states as follows:

"A work permit, except for migrant laborers, shall be issued only by the superintendent of schools or department of workforce development, ... upon the application of the parent, guardian, or custodian of the child desiring such permit. The person authorized to issue work permits shall not issue any such permit unless the person has received, examined, approved, and filed:

1. A written agreement from the person, firm, or corporation into whose service the child under 16 years of age is about to enter, promising to give such child employment, describing the industry and the work to be performed.
2. Evidence of age showing that the child is 14 years old, or more"

Section 92.11 merely authorizes a superintendent (or superintendent's designee) to issue a work permit; it does not require the superintendent to do so. The DE urges school administrators to refer all students seeking a work permit to a local IWD office rather than issue the work permit.

GRANTS AND FUNDING

ARRA: Frequently Asked Questions Continue to be Updated

The Iowa Department of Education (DE) is continuing to update the Frequently Asked Questions posted to its American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) [Webpage](#).

Please check the DE Website at www.iowa.gov/educate regularly for information.

DATA AND REPORTING

Electronic Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) Reporting Site

The Iowa Department of Education has opened the 2008-2009 Electronic Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) Reporting site for public school districts. This site may be accessed at <https://www.edinfo.state.ia.us/> then enter the Basic Education Data Survey (BEDS) password and ID.

The AYP timelines are as follows:

- May 18: Districts may access their AYP Website, pre-populated for fall and mid-year, spring test data will be uploaded as received in May and June.
- May 18-June 30: Preliminary certification period
- July 1-July 8: Final certification (districts that do not certify will be certified on July 8.)
- July 13: District and school AYP status notifications will be sent to superintendents.

A video presentation on entering AYP data may be viewed at

http://www.iowa.gov/educate/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=1461&Itemid=1

If questions arise during data entry, please contact Paul Cahill (515-281-3944 or paul.cahill@iowa.gov) or Tom Deeter (515-242-6025 or tom.deeter@iowa.gov).

EARLY CHILDHOOD PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS

Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program for Four-Year-Old Children

The dates and locations for required orientation of 2009-2010 newly awarded Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program districts are as follows:

- July 16: Jessie Parker Building in Des Moines
- August 4: Prairie Lakes AEA 8 — Pocahontas office (revised date from prior information distributed)
- August 6: Keystone AEA 1 — Dubuque office (revised date from prior information distributed)

Additional information will be sent via email to district superintendents. This orientation is for districts awarded funding for 2009-2010 only. The orientation meetings are scheduled from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Districts that were part of the Statewide Voluntary Preschool Programs during the 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 school years will complete their year-end report via a data system that is currently under development at the Iowa Department of Education (DE). This data system is expected to be available mid-summer. Look for more information in future *School Leader Updates*.

The DE recommends children receive **age appropriate** immunizations, for the Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program, according to the immunization schedule referenced in the text below. For further clarification regarding immunization requirements of the Iowa Quality Preschool Program Standards (IQPPS), please refer to criteria 5.2:

The program maintains current health records for each child:

- *Within six weeks after a child begins the program, and as age-appropriate thereafter, health records document the dates of service to show that the child is current for routine screening tests and immunizations according to the schedule recommended, published in print, and posted on the Websites of the American Academy of Pediatrics, <http://www.aap.org/>, The Centers for Disease Control of the United States Public Health Service (CDC-USPHS) <http://www.cdc.gov/>, and the Academy of Family Practice, <http://www.aafp.org/online/en/home.html>;*

- *When a child is overdue for any routine health services, parents, legal guardians, or both provide evidence of an appointment for these services before the child's entry into the program and as a condition of remaining enrolled in the program, except for immunizations for which parents are using religious exemption.*

For information regarding the Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program, contact Lorri Cooper at 515-281-3033 or lorri.cooper@iowa.gov or visit the DE website at http://www.iowa.gov/educate/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=940&Itemid=1279

BOARD OF EDUCATIONAL EXAMINERS

For questions regarding licensure, call 515-281-3245.

2 Up, 2 Down Rule Repealed in 2006

The 2 Up, 2 Down rule no longer exists. The Board of Educational Examiners amended the rules in 2006 in order to provide a more accurate description of the authority of a licensee. Content area endorsements used to be grade levels K-6 and 7-12. A licensee used to be able to teach two grade levels up and two grade levels below in their content area even though it did not say so on the actual license. *Now the grade level and content endorsement found on the license is the actual authority.*

For example, educators with the K-6 elementary education endorsement are only allowed to teach in a self-contained kindergarten through 6th grade classroom and are not allowed to teach at the preschool level or in grades 7 and 8. The content area endorsements now read K-8 and 5-12. A person with a 5-12 math endorsement is not allowed to teach math to third and fourth graders. The old license read 7-12 math; the new license will now read 5-12 math. We have eliminated the two up, two down rule and now have the accurate grade levels on the license.

Statement of Professional Recognition Renewal

Statements of Professional Recognition (SPR) are now a renewable authorization with the Board of Educational Examiners. This is being done to comply with the requirements of the background checks and to ensure the accuracy of reporting of properly licensed professionals in our school districts and area education agencies. The only requirements for the renewal are to verify a current valid license with their governing board through the Iowa Department of Public Health and completion of the Mandatory Child and Dependant Adult abuse certification no older than years years. The application is available at www.boee.iowa.gov under "Renew, Convert, or Extend a License" and the same \$85.00 renewal fee will apply.

The Board of Educational Examiners will attempt to notify individuals who hold the SPR's prior to the expiration date of their license. However, many individuals in the database do not have current contact information and so will be unable to be notified. Any holder of a License, Authorization, or Statement of Professional Recognition may go to our Website at any time and update their e-mail address and receive a notice one year in advance and again at one month prior to the expiration of their license. For more information, contact Mike Cavin (515-281-3437 or mike.cavin@iowa.gov) or visit www.boee.iowa.gov and click on "SPR Information" or "Update Personal Information."

CALENDAR

Deadlines and Dates to Remember

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|---------|---|
| May 31 | Certified Budget – last day for districts to amend |
| June 19 | Project Easier Spring Certification Deadline |
| June 30 | Competent Private Instruction/Homeschooling Deadline for homeschool reporting results of standardized tests or portfolio evaluation to resident district and DE 281-IAC 31.8(2) |

Click [HERE](#) for a complete
Iowa Department of Education Calendar

SCHOOL LEADER UPDATE is produced monthly by the Iowa Department of Education for school leaders of Iowa. Comments and submissions should be sent to Elaine Watkins-Miller at elaine.watkins-miller@iowa.gov or 515-281-5295.

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

Journey to Excellence
Training of Trainers of Mentors 2009
June 22, 11:00 a.m. to June 26, 3:30 p.m.
Stoney Creek Inn, Johnston, IA

Bruce Wellman and Laura Lipton, authors of Mentoring Matters: Learning-Focused Relationships along with Connie Richardson and Pat Shipley (ISEA), Loess Hills AEA Mentor trainers for the Journey to Excellence

The Journey to Excellence training is available to those who are responsible for training district and AEA mentors. This year's training will cover both first and second year mentor program content. PARTICIPANTS WHO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE THE ENTIRE TRAINING WILL BE ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE A \$900 EXPENSE STIPEND to be reimbursed by the Iowa Department of Education from the federal Teacher Quality Enhancement Grant.

Registration is limited to 100 and will close June 8, 2009

Journey to Excellence was created by a joint team of representatives from the Iowa Department of Education, Iowa State Education Association, area education agencies, and school districts.

The Journey to Excellence program:

- Focuses on the Iowa Teaching Standards and Criteria
- Uses the Iowa Initiatives Cycle
- Provides beginning educators and mentors with meaningful Learning Projects (action research)
- Uses *Mentoring Matters: A Practical Guide to Learning-Focused Relationships* as text for mentor training
- Uses *A Framework for Understanding the Iowa Teaching Standards and Criteria* (based on Charlotte Danielson's framework)
- Provides a combination of direction and flexibility
- Offers a very reasonable cost
- Provides on-going support
- Field-tested in 29 districts by Loess Hills Area Education Agency

Registration cost is \$300 per person and includes:

- The Journey to Excellence notebook
- The Journey to Excellence USB drive
- *A Framework for Understanding the Iowa Teaching Standards and Criteria*
- *Mentoring Matters: A Practical Guide to Learning-Focused Relationships*
- Suggested training outlines
- Lunch daily and refreshments

Participants are responsible for lodging and other meals.

Stoney Creek Inn
5291 Stoney Creek Court
Johnston, IA 50131-1799
For individual reservations, call (800) 659-2220

The hotel will hold a block of rooms at a rate of \$89.00 plus 12% tax until June 08, 2009. After this date, the hotel will release all unreserved and guaranteed rooms for general sale, and requests for reservations will then be accepted on a space and rate available basis only. A 24-hr notice is required for cancellations or changes to any reservation to avoid penalty of (1) night's room and tax per reservation. All reservations must be guaranteed with a major credit card. If no form of deposit or guarantee acceptable to the hotel accompanies the reservation, it may be cancelled without notice.

Participants may earn two license renewal or graduate credits for a modest additional cost.

Registration information is available via the ISEA website www.isea.org/profdev

Questions may be directed to David Wilkinson at dwilkinson@isea.org or (515) 471-8054.