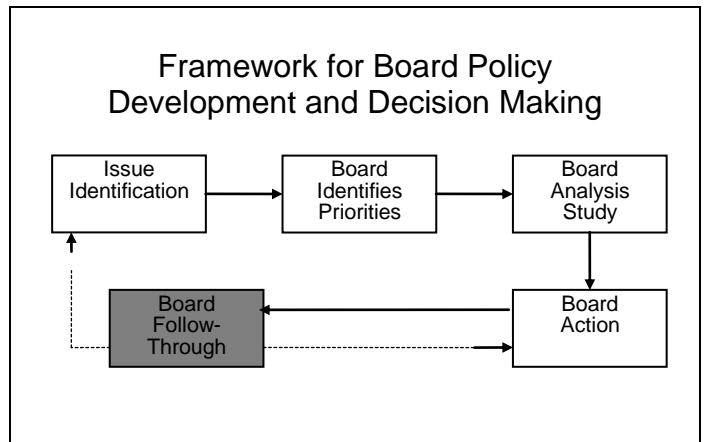


Iowa State Board of Education

Executive Summary

November 18, 2009



Agenda Item: Breaking Barriers to Learning and Teaching Awards

Iowa Goal: All K-12 students will achieve at a high level.

Equity Impact: These awards recognize districts that have successfully implemented programs to decrease achievement gaps.

Presenter: State Board of Education

Attachments: None

Recommendation: It is recommended that the State Board participate in the presentation of the Breaking Barriers to Learning and Teaching Awards.

Background: The “Breaking Barriers to Teaching and Learning Award” was created by the State Board of Education to recognize school districts that have been successful in reducing achievement gaps by improving instruction, curriculum and programs, and professional development opportunities for school staff.

Webster City, Shenandoah, Forest City, and Boone community school districts will receive the award this year. Districts earned the award if they made significant improvement among a subgroup of students without allowing any other subgroup of students to decline. This award provides an opportunity to recognize these districts that have dedicated considerable resources to focus on helping struggling students.