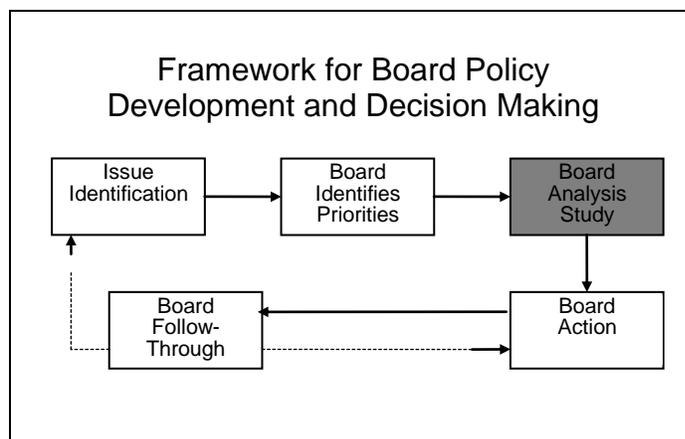


# Iowa State Board of Education

## Executive Summary

March 31, 2011



**Agenda Item:** Update – Statewide Research, Development, Demonstration and Dissemination School

**Iowa Goals:** All

**Equity Impact:** The new Statewide R & D School will be a resource for schools and teachers across the state.

**Presenters:** Kevin Fangman, Administrator  
Division of PK-12 Education

Gail Sullivan, Chief of Staff  
Iowa Department of Education

**Attachments:** 1

**Recommendation:** It is recommended that the State Board of Education hear and discuss this information.

**Background:** Senate File 470, passed in April 2009, established a Statewide Research, Development, Demonstration, and Dissemination School located at the University of Northern Iowa (UNI) (transitioned from the current Malcolm Price Lab School). This is a collaborative effort between UNI and the Department of Education in partnership with other educational entities in the state. The school is designed to raise student achievement, enhance educator preparation, and focus on research that transforms educational practice. A three year transition timeline was established with the school to be operational in the fall of 2012. This session will provide an update on transition activities and the R & D School.

# Guiding Principles about the Statewide R&D School -

Three guiding principles for the design and purpose of the statewide research, development, demonstration, and dissemination school.

The R&D school is to:

- Raise and sustain the level of all Iowa PK-12 students' educational attainment and personal development through innovative and promising practices.  
(PK-12 Focused)
  - Enhance the preparation and professional competence of Iowa educators through collaborative inquiry and exchange of professional knowledge in teaching and learning. (Educator Focused)
  - Focus on research which transforms practice to meet the changing needs of Iowa's educational system. (Evidence Based)
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## **The Four Primary Functions of the Statewide R&D School include -**

Research: study and test new innovative teaching and learning practices

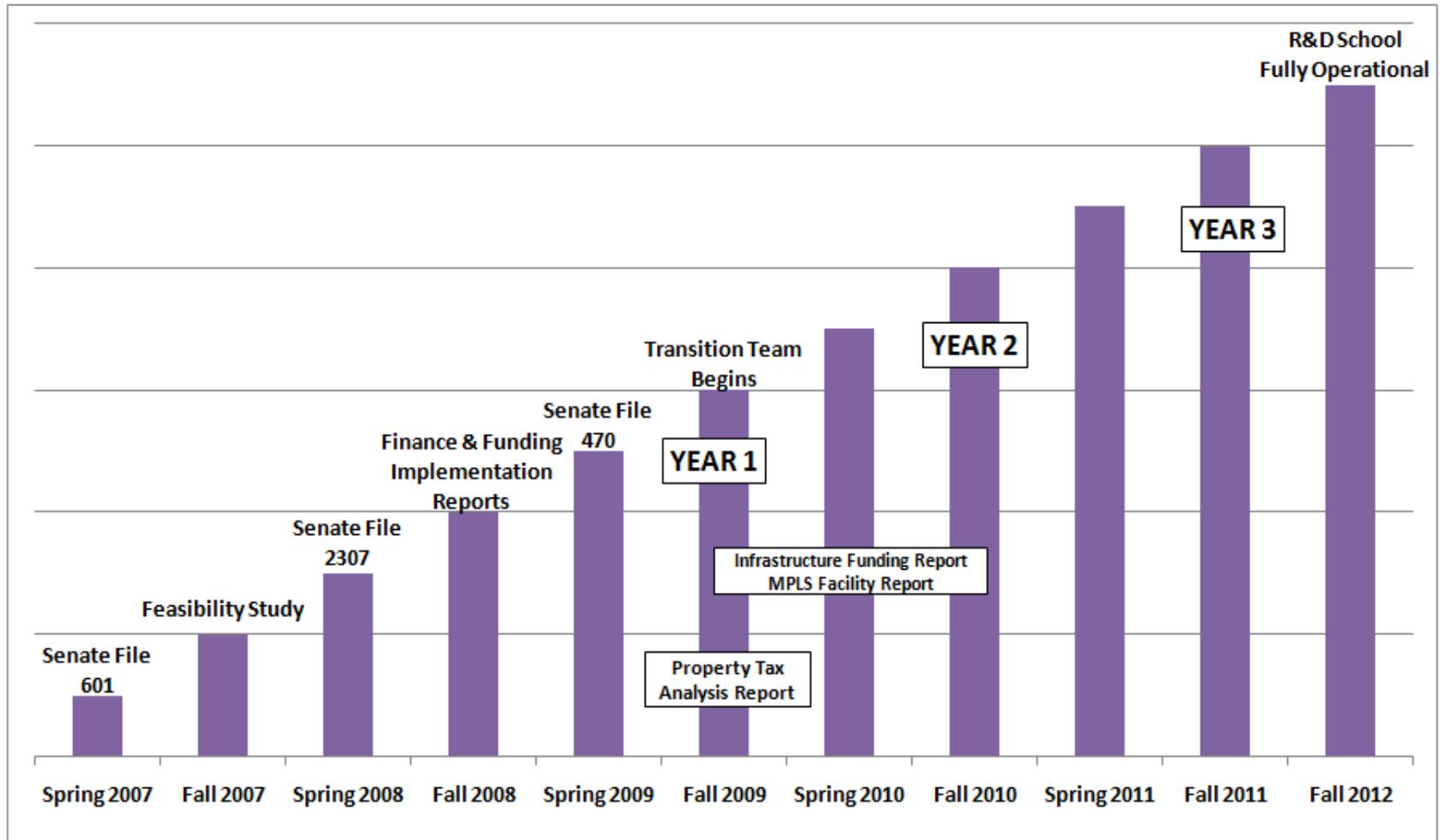
Development: determine effective pedagogical practices

Demonstration: model effective teaching practices

Dissemination: share effective instructional practices



# Timeline of Statewide R&D School





IOWA STATE  
UNIVERSITY



January 12, 2011 update on the statewide Research, Development, Demonstration, and Dissemination (R&D) school.

The Director of the Department of Education and the President of the University of Northern Iowa, in collaboration with Iowa State University and the University of Iowa, were directed by the General Assembly in the 2009 legislative session through Senate File (SF) 470 to follow the three year timeline. Beginning fall 2012, the transition to a statewide R&D school will be completed.

### **YEAR ONE - 2009-2010**

- ✓ Transition Team defined the vision, mission, and guiding principles of the school. This 15-member team also reviewed enrollment targets, procedures, management models, governance structure, partnership roles and responsibilities, and school functions. The Transition Team also recommended that a separate statewide committee be formed to draft the R&D school strategic plan.
- ✓ Property Tax Analysis report was completed fall 2009 analyzing the fiscal impact of SF470 on the eight school districts that had students attending MPLS, with a primary focus on the Waterloo and Cedar Falls school districts.
- ✓ Independent report was completed identifying potential access to various infrastructure funding sources for the statewide R&D school.
- ✓ Architectural firm, Perkins & Will, completed a study spring 2010 analyzing the current condition of MPLS and provided estimates of both renovating the current facility and new construction in their June 2010 report.

### **YEAR TWO - 2010-2011**

- ✓ DE and UNI are convening the Statewide Advisory Council. This Council will review and evaluate educational processes and results of the R&D school. Next meeting will be held in Des Moines on February 4, 2011.
- ✓ DE and UNI will complete Strategic Planning by March, 2011. The committee was formalized fall 2010 by our new College of Education Dean, Dwight Watson. Committee will meet January 20-21, 2011 to draft the strategic plan.
- ✓ Research and Development Education Summit was held at UNI Oct. 9, 2010. (Four R&D schools presented.)
- ✓ Submitted R&D report to the General Assembly Jan. 3, 2011.
- ✓ Tools and processes for statewide demonstration and dissemination will be determined.

- ✓ Roles and responsibilities for partnerships with AEA's and school districts will be defined.
- ✓ Individuals throughout the state with research and educational expertise will be considered for the 11-member Standing Institutional Research Committee (SIRC).
- ✓ Search process for the R&D School Director will begin spring 2011.

### **YEAR THREE - 2011-2012**

- ✓ On a quarterly basis, progress will be reported to the President of the University of Northern Iowa and the Director of the Iowa Department of Education who will then report to the Board of Regents and the State Board of Education.
- ✓ Convene the Standing Institutional Research Committee (SIRC) which will prepare research plans and procedures (PLS, UNI, ISU, UI, DE).
- ✓ Continue process to seek additional grant and other funding resources.
- ✓ Engage in ongoing implementation and evaluation of the R&D school.
- ✓ Prepare to fully implement the statewide R&D school the fall semester of 2012.

### **ADDED VALUE**

The statewide R&D school will be of great value to the state of Iowa in many ways. By completing research and advancing teaching practices, we will have educational resources readily available for the state. The R&D school is essential to future generations and to the vitality of the state of Iowa.

Three principles guide the work on this statewide initiative:

1. Raise and sustain the level of all Iowa PK-12 students' educational attainment and personal development through innovative and promising practices. [PK-12 Focused]
2. Enhance the preparation and professional competence of Iowa educators through collaborative inquiry and exchange of professional knowledge in teaching and learning. [Educator Focused]
3. Focus on research which transforms practice to meet the changing needs of Iowa's educational system. [Evidence Based]

### **FOUR PRIMARY FUNCTIONS**

Research – study and test new innovative teaching and learning practices.

Development – determine effective pedagogical practices.

Demonstration – model effective teaching practices.

Dissemination – share effective instructional practice.