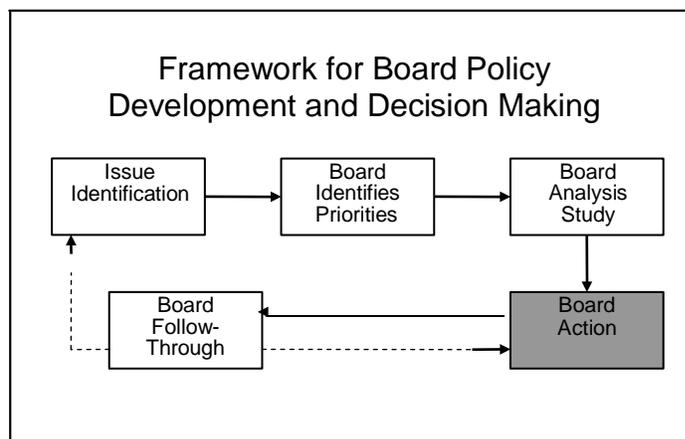


Iowa State Board of Education

Executive Summary

June 13, 2014



- Agenda Item:** Rules: Chapter 12 - General Accreditation Standards (Notice)
- Iowa Goal:** All PK-12 students will achieve at a high level.
- State Board Role/ Authority:** Iowa Code section 256.7(5) gives the State Board of Education the statutory authority to adopt rules under Chapter 17A.
- Presenter:** None (consent agenda)
- Attachments:** 1
- Recommendation:** It is recommended that the State Board give public notice of its intent to amend Chapter 12 in order to align that chapter with changes in Iowa Code.
- Background:** Iowa Administrative Code (IAC) section 12.5(4) provides that a school district or an accredited nonpublic school may award secondary credit towards graduation to students in grades 7 and 8 if the course meets certain requirements.

As directed by Senate File 2230, signed into law by the Governor on March 14, 2014, this noticed rule strikes the requirement that such a course must be in the curricular areas of English or language arts, mathematics, science, or social studies. Under the amended rule, credit could be awarded for any course that is part of the education program of a high school under IAC section 12.5(5). The effect of the amendment would be to allow credit for courses in a wider array of curricular areas.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT[281]

Notice of Intended Action

Pursuant to the authority of Iowa Code section 256.7(5), the State Board of Education hereby proposes to amend Chapter 12, “General Accreditation Standards,” Iowa Administrative Code.

This chapter sets accreditation standards for all Iowa school districts and accredited nonpublic schools. Item 1 conforms to 2014 Iowa Acts, Senate File 2230, section 2, by providing that school districts and accredited nonpublic schools have authority to grant secondary credit to students in grades 7 and 8 if the course meets all components listed in subrule 12.5(5) for the specific curricular area.

An agencywide waiver provision is provided in 281—Chapter 4.

Interested individuals may make written comments on the proposed amendments on or before July 29, 2014, at 4:30 p.m. Comments on the proposed amendments should be directed to Phil Wise, Iowa Department of Education, Second Floor, Grimes State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0146; telephone (515) 281-4835; E-mail phil.wise@iowa.gov; or fax (515)242-5988.

A public hearing will be held on July 29, 2014, from 10 to 11 a.m. in the State Board Room, Second Floor, Grimes State Office Building, East 14th Street and Grand Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa, at which time persons may present their views either orally or in writing. Any persons who intend to attend the public hearing and have special requirements, such as those related to hearing or mobility impairments, should advise the Department of Education of their specific needs by calling (515)281-5295.

After analysis and review of this rule making, no impact on jobs has been found.

This amendment is intended to implement 2014 Iowa Acts, Senate File 2230, section 2.

The following amendment is proposed.

ITEM 1. Amend subrule **12.5(4)** as follows:

12.5(4)(I) *Secondary credit.*

(1) An individual pupil in a grade that precedes ninth grade may be allowed to take a course for secondary credit if all of the following are true:

1. The pupil satisfactorily completes the course.

~~2. The course is in the curricular area of English or language arts, mathematics, science, or social studies.~~

3.2. The course is taught by a teacher licensed by the Iowa board of educational examiners for grades 9-12 and endorsed in the subject area.

4.3. The course meets all components listed in subrule 12.5(5) for the specific curricular area.

5.4. The board of the school district or the authorities in charge of the nonpublic school have developed enrollment criteria that a student must meet to be enrolled in the course.

(2) Neither school districts nor accredited nonpublic schools are mandated to offer secondary credit under this paragraph. If credit is offered under this paragraph, the credit must apply toward graduation requirements of the district or accredited nonpublic school.