Iowa State Board of Education

Executive Summary

September 18, 2014

Agenda Item: Update on Phase 1 Schools: Build Shared Understanding of the Department of Education/Area Education Agencies/Local Education Agencies Collaborative and Update on the Work Regarding Phase 1 Schools Who are Implementing the Statewide Database and Universal Screening and Progress Monitoring Assessments as well as the Expansion of the Use of the Tools

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

State Board Role/Authority: All students will be proficient in reading by the end of third grade. Reducing achievement gaps is one of the State Board’s priorities.

Presenters: Sarah Brown, Chief Bureau of Learner Strategies and Supports
Barbara Ohlund, Administrative Consultant Division of Learning and Results
David Tilly, Deputy Director Division of Learning and Results
Amy Williamson, Chief Bureau of School Improvement

Attachments: None

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

Background: Collaborating for Kids (C4K) is a partnership among the area education agencies, the Iowa Department of Education, and local school districts. The intent of C4K is to work more effectively and efficiently as a full educational system. The C4K initial priority focus, collective efforts, and resources are on early literacy with the goal that every Iowa child is a skilled
reader by the end of third grade. C4K selected this priority focus because of the integral role literacy proficiency plays for success in all other academic and social areas.

Eighty-seven schools participated in the first phase of implementation during the 2013-2014 school year. This year, with the implementation of 281 Iowa Administrative Code chapter 62, the Iowa TIER (Tools for Innovation and Educational Results) database and the Early Warning Assessment were offered to all Iowa districts. This summer, training in the system and assessment were conducted throughout the state:

- 1,972 total participants
- 14 separate, 2-day events in 5 locations throughout the state
- 91 percent of districts (306)
- 660 elementary buildings

We will provide an update on the first year of implementation as well as an overview of next steps.