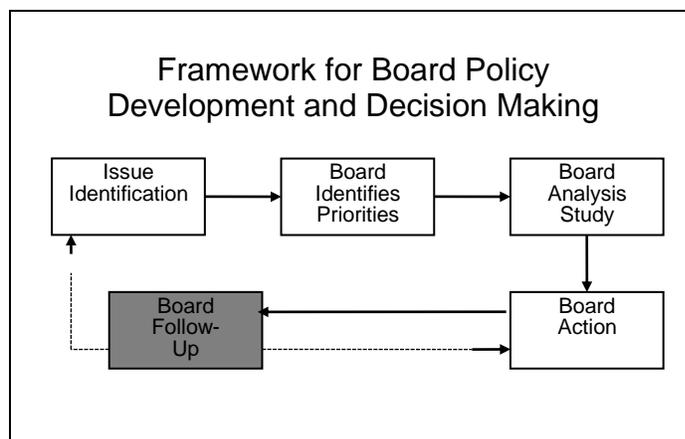


# Iowa State Board of Education

## Executive Summary

November 19, 2014



**Agenda Item:** Update and Overview of the Work of the Iowa Reading Research Center (Reducing Achievement Gaps)

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

**State Board Role/Authority:** The State Board acts in an advocacy role to promote effective education opportunities for all students in Iowa. In that capacity, they identify policy development priorities each year and advocate for change as necessary to implement those policies.

**Presenter:** Michelle Hosp  
Iowa Reading Research Center

**Attachments:** None

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

**Background:** During the 2012 legislative session, the Iowa Reading Research Center (IRRC) was funded (Senate File 2284) with continued appropriations in the 2013 and 2014 sessions. The center operates under the auspices of the Iowa Department of Education and Grant Wood Area Education Agency is the fiscal agent. The purpose of the IRRC is to apply current research on literacy to provide for the development and dissemination of the following:

- Instructional strategies for prekindergarten through grade 12 to achieve literacy proficiency that includes reading, reading comprehension, and writing for all students

- Strategies for identifying and providing evidence-based interventions for students, beginning in kindergarten, who are at risk of not achieving literacy proficiency
- Models for effective school and community partnerships to improve student literacy
- Reading assessments
- Professional development strategies and materials to support teacher effectiveness in student literacy development
- Data reports on attendance center, school district, and statewide progress toward literacy proficiency in the context of student, attendance center, and school district demographic characteristics
- An intensive summer literacy program

The legislation also identified the first focus should be kindergarten through grade 3.

This session will provide an update and overview of the work of the Iowa Reading Research Center.