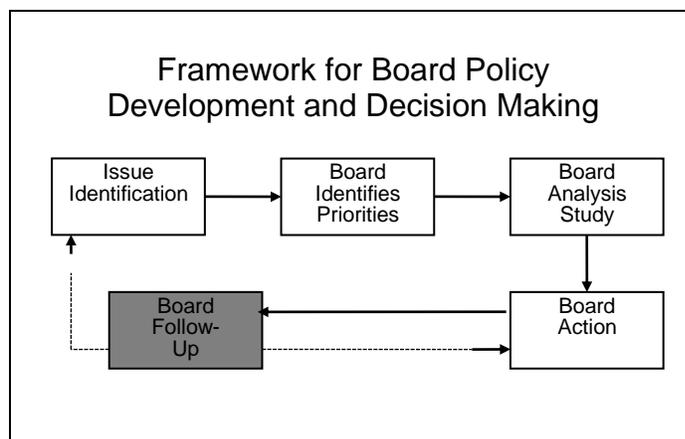


# Iowa State Board of Education

## Executive Summary

November 19, 2014



**Agenda Item:** Breaking Barriers to Teaching and Learning Awards

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

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

**Presenter:** State Board of Education

**Attachments:** None

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

**Background:** Schools from the West Des Moines, Cedar Falls, Waverly-Shell Rock, Grinnell-Newburg, and Pleasant Valley school districts will receive the award this year. The schools 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 achieved considerable success in helping struggling students.