Iowa State Board of Education

Executive Summary

September 15, 2016

Agenda Item: Deep Dive into Iowa’s Early Literacy Initiative with Amana Elementary School

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

State Board Role/Authority: The State Board has identified reducing achievement gaps as one of its priorities.

Presenters: David Tilly, Deputy Director
Division of Learning and Results

Tim Kuehl, Superintendent
Clear Creek Amana School District

Ben Macumber, Principal
Amana Elementary School

Anita Reihmann (Instructional Coach)
Amana Elementary School

Heather Hess (5th Grade Teacher)
Amana Elementary School

Attachments: None

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

Background: Approximately four years ago, Iowa redoubled its commitment to ensuring that every Iowa student becomes a proficient reader by the end of third grade. Much progress has been made in this direction and many school districts have made significant progress in improving early literacy results. Amana elementary school in Clear Creek Amana Schools is one such school. This presentation will bring to life the types of early literacy strategies schools have been using to improve K-3 literacy results for all children in this school.