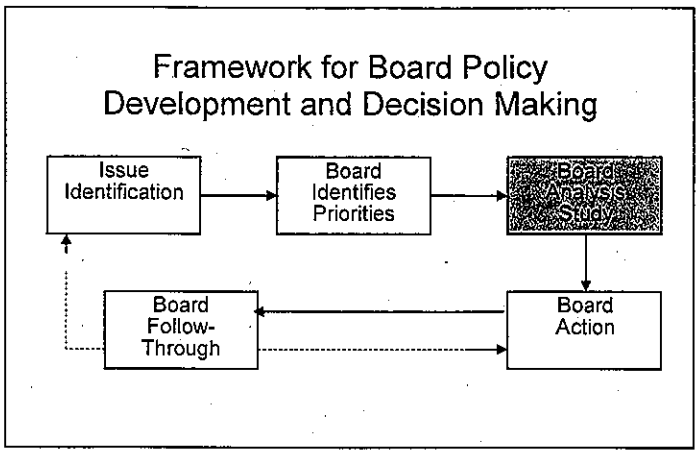
Iowa State Board of Education

Executive Summary

April 30, 2009



Agenda Item: Welcome Teachers from Taiwan

Iowa Goal: All children will enter school ready to learn.

All K-12 students will achieve at a high level.

Individuals will pursue postsecondary education in order to drive economic success.

Equity Impact Statement: In order to provide an education system that will prepare Iowa students to become successful participants in a global community, we must encourage the open exchange of ideas and embrace opportunities to learn about other cultures.

Presenters: Kevin Fangman, Administrator
Division of PK-12 Education

Rosie Hussey, President
State Board of Education

Judy Jeffrey, Director
Iowa Department of Education

Attachments: None

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

Background: Sixteen elementary English teachers, one director, and one principal from Taiwan are guests of the Iowa Department of Education April 26 through May 8, 2009. April 27 through May 1, the educators are visiting Heartland Area Education Agency, Iowa Public Television, Drake University, the Downtown School, and the Iowa Department of Education.

May 2 through May 8, they will be hosted by Des Moines Public Schools, Southeast Polk Community School District, and the West Des Moines Community School District. They will stay with host families and attend school for the week to learn about education practices in Iowa schools.

This is the second year the Iowa Department of Education has hosted the educators from Taipei County in cooperation with the Cultural Division of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Chicago. The visitors from Taiwan will be sharing the following information during the joint meeting of the State Board and the AEA Boards:

- How do they emphasize global literacy in Taiwan schools?
- How is technology used to educate students in Taiwan?
- How is their school system organized?
- What do they hope to learn from Iowa schools?