Iowa State Board of Education Resolution on Statewide Assessment and Recommendations for the Iowa Legislature as Required by Iowa Code 256.7(21)

February 11, 2015

The Iowa State Board of Education (Board) adopts the following resolution:

Whereas ...

... a high quality, multiple assessment system aligned with Iowa’s rigorous academic standards is a priority of the Board and is critical to: (1) accurate reporting of student progress toward college and career readiness, (2) supplying cogent measurements that hold schools accountable for student learning, and (3) providing ongoing data to help educators improve instructional programs;

... student preparation for college and/or postsecondary career is a prerequisite for Iowa’s future competitiveness and economic wellbeing;

... the Board has followed closely the work of the Iowa Assessment Task Force commissioned in 2013 by House File 215, and finds the task force membership impressive in its diversity, inclusiveness, and depth of knowledge and experience; and

... the Board finds the task force’s deliberative process exceptionally rigorous and their recommendations well reasoned and sound.

Therefore, the Board endorses all the recommendations in the task force report to the Legislature dated December 31, 2014, and notably, the recommendation that Smarter Balanced Assessments be used for future measurements.

Charles C. Edwards, Jr., President
State Board of Education

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