Our Mission...

...is to champion excellence in education through superior leadership and service. We are committed to high levels of learning, achievement and performance for all students, so they will become successful members of their community and the workforce.
Several major policy and funding actions were taken during the 2007 legislative process. Increased rigor was addressed by the expansion of Iowa’s Core Curriculum; teachers’ salaries were greatly enhanced, a step that will help Iowa keep its best and brightest; a quality statewide 4-year-old preschool program was created; and incentives were developed to promote sharing and efficiencies in schools. At this critical juncture, policy stability and the alignment of resources to funded priorities are keys to ensuring that the hopes created by these new initiatives are realized. The State Board of Education believes that Iowa should seize the opportunity ahead and continue to evolve into the system that meets ALL students’ needs in the 21st century.

Expected Outcomes

- Increase the proficiency of all students in reading, math, and science.
- Increase the K-12 graduation rate.
- Increase the number of 4-year-olds accessing quality preschool programs.

Support Improved Programming and Academic Achievement for ALL Students

- Continue to expand the Teacher Quality and Student Achievement Program.
  - Increase the quantity and quality of professional development supports for teachers especially in reading, mathematics, and science using content specific teacher academies.
  - Provide $30 million in professional development funding that ensures support for every teacher in the state.
- Increase the minimum salary levels for beginning and career teachers as defined in Iowa Code Chapter 284 by an additional $2,500, achieving the minimum teacher salary target in the original 2001 legislation ($28,000).
- Reinstate support for the National Board Certification as it currently exists and extend that commitment for five years.
- Continue support for Teacher Development Academies and Mentoring and Induction programming for teachers and administrators.
- Continue to expand access to quality preschool programming. This program should continue to include the following components:
- Access for all 4-year-olds.
- Board of Educational Examiners (BOEE)-licensed teachers.
- Support for established program standards.
- Support for established developmental early learning standards.
- Fiscal accountability and statewide student data management support.
- Provide for efforts to improve the quality of the educational system.
- Continue to support the implementation of Iowa’s Core Curriculum statewide.
- Support efforts to ensure the implementation of systems that provide PreK-16 data articulation.
- Improve and expand opportunities to develop Iowa’s workforce.
- Continue to promote the expansion of career academies as they exist under current statute.
- Support the statewide expansion of Project Lead the Way (STEM) to make it available to all school districts.
- Expand opportunities to require collaboration between state agencies and other governmental entities on the provision of workforce development programming.