Iowa Department of Education

Competency-based Education Pilot and Demonstration Projects

Iowa Department of Education
Grimes State Office Building
400 E. 14th Street
Des Moines, IA 50319

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House File 215 and House File 604
House File 215 provided for development of competency-based education (CBE) in Iowa through a group of districts that will investigate, pilot, and study CBE. The Iowa CBE Collaborative was formed to fulfill that legislation.

House File 604 provided $425,000 for writing competencies ($100,000), developing assessments ($100,000), investigating reporting and recording needs ($25,000), defining professional development ($100,000), and grants to participating districts ($100,000).

That legislation also required a report be filed each year on January 15 until 2019. This report is submitted as the first of those reports and outlines the initial work of the Iowa CBE Collaborative.

Iowa CBE Collaborative Grant Process and Selection
Over the summer of 2013, the Department of Education (DE) defined a grant application process in the School Leader Update and through their AEA superintendent networks (Collaborative documents: [http://tinyurl.com/IA-DE-CBEpage](http://tinyurl.com/IA-DE-CBEpage)).

The DE received and reviewed fourteen (14) district applications.

Iowa CBE Collaborative Membership

Collaborative Districts:
- Cedar Rapids Community School District
- Mason City Community School District
- Collins-Maxwell Community School District
- Muscatine Community School District
- East Union Community School District
- Nevada Community School District
- Howard-Winneshiek Community School District
- Spirit Lake Community School District
- Marshalltown Community School District
- Van Meter Community School District

For a complete list of individual participants from these districts, see Appendix A.

Institutions of Higher Education Participating in the Collaborative:
- Dordt College
- University of Iowa
- Hawkeye Community College
- University of Northern Iowa
- Kirkwood Community College
- Simpson College

For a complete list of individuals representing these institutions, see Appendix A.

Collaborative Area Education Agency (AEA) Partners:
- AEA 267
- Keystone AEA
- Grant Wood AEA
- Mississippi Bend AEA
- Green Hills AEA
- Northwest AEA
- Heartland AEA
- Prairie Lakes AEA

For a complete list of individuals representing these agencies, see Appendix A.

Department of Education and Board of Education Examiners:
The DE also has representation on the Collaborative as does the Board of Education Examiners; see Appendix A for complete list of individuals representing these agencies.

External Partners (Planning and Facilitation Support):
- Midwest Comprehensive Center at American Institutes for Research, Chicago, Illinois
- West Wind Education Policy Inc., Iowa City, Iowa

Meeting Dates
- November 19, 2013: Des Moines, Ramada Tropics, 8:00-4:30
- December 18, 2013: Des Moines, Ramada Tropics, 8:15-4:00
- January 22, 2014: Des Moines, Ramada Tropics, 8:15-4:00
- February 18, 2014: Des Moines, Ramada Tropics, 8:15-4:00
- March 12, 2014: Des Moines, Ramada Tropics, 8:15-4:00
- April 15, 2014: Altoona, Adventureland Inn, 8:15-4:00
Iowa CBE Collaborative Year One (2013-14 School Year)
The orientation meeting of the Iowa CBE Collaborative was held on November 19, 2013. Participants explored the state Guidelines for Competency-based Education (http://tinyurl.com/IowaCompEdGuidelines) and the Overview of the Collaborative (collaborative documents: http://tinyurl.com/IA-DE-CBEpage) and developed a set of questions to guide the planning team.

In December, the collaborative explored an example of what competency-based education might look like and spent time learning what is currently happening in the other collaborative districts. They began organizing into work teams, outlined below.

The January meeting will consist of a panel of state and national experts to develop a deeper understanding of the definitions already outlined in the State Guidelines and the differences among competency-based education, standards-based learning, and personalized learning. Work teams will develop goals for their work. And Re-Inventing School Coalition (http://www.reinventingschools.org/) will begin work with the collaborative on how and involve community in this work.

The work with Re-Inventing School Coalition will continue through the February meeting.

In March and April, the collaborative will learn to write competencies and corresponding scoring guides from Kim Carter, QED Foundation of New Hampshire (http://qedfoundation.org/).

The May meeting is being held open at this point for future planning.

The Department of Education and Iowa Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (IA-ASCD) are partnering to develop a two-day conference to allow others in the field to participate in the learning of the collaborative.

Work Teams
In addition to the district teams, participants of the collaborative have organized themselves into work teams in order to study and develop distinct parts of the Statewide Framework for Implementation of Competency-Based Education. The following teams have been organized:

- Personalized Learning
- College and Career Ready Definition
- Professional Learning
- Teacher/Leader Preparation
- System to Monitor, Record, and Report Learning
- Stakeholder Engagement
- Leadership Development at All Levels
- Instruction and Learning Environments
- Transitions to Post-secondary Education
- Structures and Policies to Support SBE Systems and Seamless Transitions with PK-12
- Getting Started
- Literature Review

Future Plans of the Collaborative
The planning team and collaborative participants will design the second and subsequent years according to the needs of the districts within the collaborative and the completion of the Statewide Framework for Implementation.

Collaborative Website
The work of the Iowa CBE Collaborative can be followed at www.IACompEd.com.
Appendix A: Individual Membership by District/Organization

**Cedar Rapids Community School District**
- Michelle Barker, Middle School English
- Shawn Cornally, Lead Teacher-BIG School
- Kevin Darrow, High School English
- Becky Martin, Professional Development
- Trace Pickering, Associate Superintendent
- Autumn Pino, Middle School Principal
- Karla Ries, Director of Curriculum
- Jessica Vasquez, Middle School Science,

**Mason City Community School District**
- Todd Godfrey, 5th-6th Math
- T.J. Jumper, Central Office Administrator
- Sarah Leichtsenring, High School Social Studies
- Dan Long, High School Principal
- Lindsey Millsap, Elementary SAM*
- Theresa Murray, Elementary Literacy Teacher
- Tom Novotney, 5th–6th Grade Principal
- Teresa Schlichting, Elementary SAM*
- Josh Smith, Middle School SAM*
- Ashley Stout, Middle School Science
  *School Administration Manager

**Collins-Maxwell Community School District**
- Cherri Bates, K-12 Talented and Gifted
- Jill Bjorklund, 6-12 Vocal Music
- Jason Ellingson, Superintendent
- Cheryl Fricke, 4th Grade
- Kristi Haupert, 2nd Grade
- Sue Lee, 3rd Grade
- David Perrigo, 6-12 Principal
- Jeff Watson, PK-5 Principal

**Muscatine Community School District**
- Diane Campbell, Central Office
- Ashley Enabnit, 5th Grade
- Chanda Hassett, High School English
- Mark Olmstead, High School Assoc. Principal
- Andrea Stewart, Gifted/Talented Coordinator
- Kyle Sustich, 3rd Grade
- Christina Walker, High School English
- Jason Wester, Elementary Principal
- Shane Williams, Central Office

**East Union Community School District**
- Robin Borrall, 4th Grade
- Joan Gordon, Elementary Principal
- James Hardy, High School Social Studies
- Kit Mostek, Elementary Talented and Gifted
- Jason Riley, Middle School Social Studies
- Gail Thatcher, High School Business
- Jill Tussey, 2nd Grade
- Pam Vogel, Superintendent
- Mark Weis, 6-12 Principal
- Emily Wuebker, 3rd Grade

**Nevada Community School District**
- John Boylan, High School English
- Katie Borton, Middle School Science
- Ryan Brown, High School Science
- Kathy Goecke, Elementary Principal
- Justin Gross, High School Principal
- Allison Ingham, Middle School 5th/6th Math
- Michelle Knott, 3rd-4th Grade
- Nancy Port, Curriculum Director
- Chris Schmidt, Middle School Principal

**Howard-Winneshiek Community School District**
- Deb Day, High School English
- Justin Denner, High School Math
- Tim Felderman, Secondary Principal
- Kerigan Hunziker, Student
- Crystal Johnson, Junior High Science
- Karen LeFebvre, Secondary Vocal
- Chris Lentz, High School Industrial Tech
- Jill McConnell, High School Special Education

**Spirit Lake Community School District**
- Ryan Friederich, High School History
- Cathy Kuker, High School History
- Angela Olsen, Curriculum
- Kathy Owens, High School Math
- Clint Profit, High School Science
- Kevin Range, High School Principal
- Marcy Toews, High School English
Libby Schwade, High School World Language
Shirley Sovereign, Director Teaching & Learning
Gary Steffen, Junior High Social Studies

Marshalltown Community School District
Pam Brewer-Michael, Instructional Design
John Fiscus, Middle School Math
Kristyn Kell, High School Social Studies
Jacy Large, Middle School Principal
Susan Pecinovsky, Assoc. Superintendent
Angela Pierce, High School Math
Cheri Reed, Middle School English
Theresa Theis, High School Science
Marvin Wade, Superintendent
Brad Weidenaar, High School English

Van Meter Community School District
Joel Bartz, Middle School Reading
Deron Durflinger, Superintendent/HS Principal
Kate Goodwin, 5th Grade
Grant Gordon, Student
Adam Lamoureux, High School Social Studies
Renee Martin, High School English
Shannon Miller, Teacher Librarian
Jen Sigirst, Elementary Principal
Summer Sobotka, Student
JoEllen Wesselmann, K-12 Talented and Gifted

Area Education Agencies
Wendy Anderson, Grant Wood AEA
Beverly Berns, Keystone AEA
Rob Brookhart, AEA PD Online
Angi Calhoun, Heartland AEA
Deborah Cleveland, AEA PD Online
Mark Crady, Heartland AEA
Julie Graber, Prairie Lakes AEA
Melissa Hesner, AEA 267
Charlie Johnson, Heartland AEA
Jeremiah McGraw, Grand Wood AEA
Nancy McIntire, Mississippi Bend AEA
Millie Olsen, Northwest AEA
Melissa Smith, Green Hills AEA
Darla Stack, AEA 267
Keith Stamp, Grant Wood AEA
Lisa Wilson, Grant Wood AEA
Mona Yanacheak, Northwest AEA

Postsecondary Partners
Linda Allen, Hawkeye Community College
Jane Bradley, Hawkeye Community College
Connie Buhr, Hawkeye Community College
Will Coghill-Behrends, University of Iowa
Jackie Crawford, Simpson College
Nadene Davidson, University of Northern Iowa
Ron Fielder, University of Iowa
Blaine Greteman, University of Iowa
Rick Knivsland, University of Northern Iowa
Sara Marcketti, Iowa State University
Randal Peters, Drake University
Amy Petersen, University of Northern Iowa
Nick Proctor, Simpson College
Al Rowe, Kirkwood Community College
Carl Smith, Iowa State University
Jan Thompson, Iowa State University
Tim Van Soelen, Dordt College
Kari Vogelgesang, University of Iowa

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  Lisa Shimmel, Policy Analyst
  Sara Wraight, Director

West Wind Education Policy Inc., Iowa City, Iowa
  Mandi Bozarth, Project Associate
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