



Iowa Reading Research Center Advisory

Meeting Notes

Date: April 12, 2013

Time: 9:00-2:30

Location: Iowa Department of Education Grimes Office Building

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mike Cormack, Lea Davidson, Kris Donnelly, Salli Forbes, Deb Hindman, John Hosp, Michelle, Hosp, Amy Hutchison, Shari Kuehl, Sara McInerny, Sandy Nelson, Barbara Ohlund, Ralph Reynolds, Barb Shafer, Davis, Tilly, Phil Wise, Amy Williamson, Mary Nelle Trefz

AGENDA ITEM: Welcome

Expected Outcome	Lead Sara McInerny, Interim Director Reading Research Center	Follow Up
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Notes: McInerny welcomed everyone and had each member introduced themselves and the organization they represented.

AGENDA ITEM: Summer School Sub Committee Update and connections to state work teams

Expected Outcome	Lead Kris Donnelly, Chair Barbara Ohlund, Department of Education Michelle Hosp, Department of Education	Follow Up
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Notes: Legislation charged the Iowa Reading Research Center with determining an evidence-based intensive Literacy summer literacy program. Donnelly, Hosp and Ohlund reported on progress.

- a. Summer Reading Program Team was established with Kris Donnelly as the lead and a group of members has been commissioned. This is an allocation of 20,000 from the IRCC budget.
- b. The work team made connections to other state-wide groups doing similar work
- c. Representative from the groups met to share current work and determine how they might together.
 - i. C4K – Collaborating for Kids, an DE/AEA/LEA collaborative with the goals of provide an effective systematic school improvement across all of Iowa
 1. C4K focus on Early Literacy though four work team

- a. Standards and Curriculum
- b. Educator Quality
- c. Response to Intervention
- d. School Improvement
- 2. The IRRC will have deep connections to the Standards and Curriculum and Response to intervention work teams
- ii. DE Research and Evaluation Team Action plan
 - 1. Determine criteria and develop a rubric for vetting evidence-based resources.
 - 2. The goal is to establish consistent review evidence-based resources across various work teams.
- iii. Early Literacy Task Team from C4K
 - 1. Collection of current literacy evidence based practices.
 - 2. Products developed and vetted through processes developed by the DE research and evaluation team.
- iv. The RTI Work Team from C4K
 - 1. Determining evidence-based targeted intervention for reading. This standard treatment protocol could be used for summer school
- d. The work of the summer reading program will focus on determining the importance infrastructure components needed to implement a summer reading program.
- e. The work of the C4K RTI work team will focus on determining the essential reading components for a standard treatment protocol to provide reading intervention.

AGENDA ITEM: Valid and reliable reading assessments/Data system

Expected Outcome	Lead Michelle Hosp, Department of Education Amy Williamson, Department of Education	Follow Up
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Notes: Hosp, And Williamson shared the elements of the data system and assessments purchased.

One charge of from the legislation was to determine valid and reliable reading assessments.

- a. The RTI Assessment Work Team recommended that The Iowa Reading Research Center help purchase the General Education portion of the Iowa RTI Data Base from TIES – Technology and Information Educational Services. The data base will allow teachers and schools to track literacy learning of students and the instruction provided to help struggling readers. The Iowa Department of Education will purchase the portion needed for special education. The contract is for \$400,000 and will be provided the Data Based to all Iowa Schools free of charge.
 - i. The system will be customized for Iowa
 - ii. A set of evidenced-based reading interventions will determined through work of the work of the summer school work team and the C4K
 - iii. The system will be aligned with the universal screener and progress monitoring assessments tools.

- b. The RTI Assessment Work Team recommended that The Iowa Reading Research Center purchase reading screening and progress monitoring assessment. These assessments will provide schools data which can serve as an early warning system that alerts teachers to students who are potentially in danger of not learning to read at a rate commensurate with their peers. The contact for these assessments will be \$740,000 and will be provided to all schools free of charge for one year.
 - i. New Version of Individual Growth and development Indicators (IGDI) assessment for pre-kindergarten students that measures five aspects of pre-reading skills.
 - ii. Formative Assessment System for Teachers (FAST) Assessment for kindergarten through grade 6. These assessments include a suite of assessments for early reading for Kindergarten through 1 grade, curriculum based measure of reading fluency and accuracy, plus a computer adaptive reading assessment for grades 1-6.
- c. The IRRC would like to establish a Higher Education Work Team that provides common training and access for pre-service educators around the assessments and the RTI Data Base for all public and private institutions of higher education that offer educator preparation programs. This would include speech and language pathologist, school physiologists and administrator in preparation programs.

AGENDA ITEM: Needs Assessment Proposal- Iowa State University, University of Iowa, University of Northern Iowa,

Expected Outcome	Lead Amy Hutchison, Iowa State University Project Manager	Follow Up <u>Sept. 2013</u>
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Notes: Hutchison shared the assessment plan.

Iowa code allows all Iowa school to determine at the local level the type of instruction and assessment used to implement the Iowa Core for Literacy. State leaders in need to know the data on the current state of literacy instructional practices in Iowa schools. The three Regent Universities have formed a Needs Assessment Work Team with an allocation of \$ 80,000. The Work Team will develop and analyze a state wide survey from pre-school through 3rd grade teacher and principals. The survey will identify existing initiatives related to literacy programming in Iowa. It will also learn more about the way that teachers are being supported through AEAs, districts and schools to implement the Iowa Core/Common Core State Standards (CCS), and where gaps in best practice exist. The analysis will include recommendations based on what has been learned to better assist teachers.

- a. Data Analysis will occur in June and July with final reports in August

- b. IRRC Director and the C4K Oversight leaders will work together to communicate with the AEA Chiefs so that information can be presented to superintendents about the purposes of the spring surveys surrounding literacy.

AGENDA ITEM: Governance Structure

Expected Outcome	Lead Sara McInerny, Interim Director Iowa Reading Research Center	Follow Up <u>Sept. 2013</u>
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Notes McInerny shared the proposed structure. The IRRC has developed a rough draft of governance structure to outline the aspects work of the Iowa Reading Research Center. Advisory members provided input and revisions will be added to the document.

AGENDA ITEM: Web design Task Team

Expected Outcome	Lead Sara McInerny, Interim Director Iowa Reading Research Center	Follow Up <u>Sept. 2013</u>
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Notes: The RFP process has determined a vendor to develop the website for IRRC. The costs for development through June will be \$18,000.

- a. The advisory council reviewed other national website on literacy and brainstormed components that should be a part of Iowa’s website.
- b. The Bureau Chief for Standards will find information on how IRRC website will be connected to Equella digital repository for the State of Iowa and the AGORA on-line collaborative community for Literacy.
- c. The website should be online by the end of June.

AGENDA ITEM: Materials Acquisition

Expected Outcome	Lead Sara McInerny, Interim Director Iowa Reading Research Center	Follow Up
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Notes:

The IRRC will work with the AEA system to purchase literacy software for all Iowa schools. A work team from the AEA Educational Services and Media Services will make recommendations to the IRRC for \$400, 000 has been allocated for online instructional materials.

AGENDA ITEM: Evidence-based Instructional Strategies Work Teams

Expected Outcome	Lead Sara McInerny, Interim Director Iowa Reading Research Center	Follow Up
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Notes: In June the Evidence-based Instructional Strategies Work Teams will work to review and vet core, targeted and intensive reading materials. The review will provide schools the information they will need to develop a comprehensive literacy program to meet the needs of all students. \$200,000 has been allocated to pay for contracted consultant work from literacy experts at AEAs, Regent universities, private colleges and national experts.

AGENDA ITEM: Literacy Policy

Expected Outcome	Lead David Tilly, Deputy Director, Iowa Department of Education	Follow Up
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Notes: The work of a Literacy Policy Work Team will be added to the IRRC action plan. The purpose of this group is to review the current Iowa code and work with various literacy groups across Iowa to determine ideas for a comprehensive literacy policy for Iowa’s students. Advisory Council members were asked to determine key components for a literacy policy and to submit the names of members for the work team.

AGENDA ITEM: Legislative Update

Expected Outcome	Lead Mike Cormack, Iowa Department of Education	Follow Up
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Notes:
The IRRC Advisory Council was given Legislative Talking Points. There has been some confusion in the legislature that additional funds are not needed for the Iowa Reading

Research Center for next year. This fall as advisory committee waited for administrative rules to be written and approved in January, time spent was spent marshalling various groups working to improve literacy in Iowa. The IRRC has developed an action plan that is coordinated with many groups to eliminate gaps and overlaps in what is needed to improve literacy. A budget for this year, plus a budget for next year has been developed and given to the legislators.

McInerney thanked members for their participation

The meeting concluded at 2:30

Next Meetings:

September 5, 2013
9:00-2:30
Grimes Office Building Room B100

December 5, 2013
9:00-2:30
Grimes Office Building Room B100