



LEGISLATIVE AGENDA OF IOWA ASCD

Iowa ASCD, an affiliate of ASCD and representing more than 1400 educators in Iowa, is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization whose members are educators from all levels and subject areas - superintendents, supervisors, principals, teachers, AEA staff, and professors of education.

This Iowa ASCD legislative agenda addresses perspectives and experiences of successful school leaders and effective educators. We collaborate with other organizations to achieve our goals in support of healthy, safe, engaged, supported, and challenged students and to assure their preparation in graduating ready for the demands of college, career, and citizenship.

We endorse the nation's and the state's goals to ensure all students enter our schools ready to learn and graduate ready for college, career, and citizenship in our state, nation, and the world.

Iowa ASCD believes your role as our representatives in the federal and state governments is indispensable in providing a bi-partisan broad vision for educational excellence, determining education reform priorities, and marshalling resources in support of these goals to develop the collective capacity of the system to assure all students are successful.

IOWA ASCD ADVOCATES BUILDING THE CAPACITY OF THE LEARNING SYSTEM TO ASSURE RELENTLESS FOCUS ON LEARNING THROUGH...

- Clarity and consistency in learning expectations that align to the Iowa Core, including "college, career, and citizenship readiness," and core instructional practices to achieve the intended learning
- The learning expectations that go beyond reading, math, and science, and include all core academic subjects - English, language arts, foreign languages, civics and government, economics, arts, history, geography, physical education, and health education
- The learning expectations must address the comprehensive knowledge and cognitive skills required of students both in school and after high school graduation
- A learning system informed by data and driven by results that are responsive to student learning needs
- An assessment system that includes both formative and summative metrics aligned to the learning expectations and evidence-based instructional practices
- An evaluation system that monitors both the student and adult learning needs and assures the coaching, feedback, and supports to achieve the intended outcomes
- A learning system that attends to the continuum of services responsive to struggling, accelerated and under-performing students
- Extended learning opportunities for all students beyond the traditional school day and school year
- Focused leadership at the central office level to build the collective capacity of the organization

IOWA ASCD ADVOCATES BUILDING THE CAPACITY OF THE LEARNING SYSTEM TO ASSURE GREAT TEACHERS AND LEADERS OF LEARNING THROUGH...

- Clarity in expectations for teaching and learning (e.g., "college, career, and citizenship" readiness, standards and criteria for school leaders, teaching standards and criteria, the Iowa Core, personalization)
- Pre-service and graduate preparation that includes rigor and relevance in content, instruction, clinical experiences, and ongoing connected learning accelerated through the use of technology
- Demonstrated mastery of content and pedagogy
- Use of innovative, criteria-driven programs and practices that impact student learning
- Job-embedded and connected learning for teachers, principals, and central office administrators, supported through defined collaboration (e.g., professional learning communities, personal learning networks, communities of practice) and research-based professional development around planning and preparation, classroom management, instruction, and subject content
- Transparency of teaching and learning through a collaborative process within the building and throughout the district, using technology as a means to further connect educators and students across the state and nation and around the world
- Coaching for a PK-12 system of effectiveness, to enhance statewide, national, and international excellence
- Development of increased capacity and skills of leaders at the building and central office to assure all students experience great teachers and leaders who positively impact and prepare students for a global world

IOWA ASCD Advocates Building the Capacity of the Learning System to Support a Spirit of Innovation Resulting in the Success of Each and Every Child through . . .

- Comprehensive early learning (birth - five) opportunities with wrap-around services for all students and their families
- Collaboration among federal/state/local governments, school systems, educational service agencies, and the social, health, and safety services that support youth
- An educational system designed and delivered through a strength-based system rather than a deficit model
- Schools and districts that serve as the educational research laboratories for pre-service and higher education
- Collaboration among the schools and with higher education, educational service agencies, foundations, regional laboratories, and other nonprofit entities to support the design, delivery, evaluation, and technical assistance of educational programming, based on best practice and educational research
- Technology as an equalizing accelerator for learning, both at the student and adult levels
- An accountability system based on growth (e.g., high performance, closure of achievement gap, success in cohort comparisons, improved education effectiveness) and provides for flexibility in use of funds, is learning centered and peer reviewed, and promotes supportive communities of adults to help children succeed in a culture of continuous growth

Learning is our work! We must build a culture and environment where we all work together purposefully and relentlessly for the success of each and every student in Iowa.

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Iowa ASCD is the source for developing instructional leadership and translating research into daily practice. Serving more than 1400 educators - teachers, principals, superintendents, directors of curriculum, technology specialists, college professors, AEA staff - Iowa ASCD strives to develop the collaborative capacity to impact the learning of each and every student in Iowa.



SCHOOL OF EDUCATION
ROOM 123
DRAKE UNIVERSITY
3205 UNIVERSITY AVENUE
DES MOINES, IOWA 50311

DEAR LEGISLATOR

I ENDORSE THE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA OF IOWA ASCD AND WOULD ESPECIALLY LIKE YOU TO CONSIDER...

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ PRINTED NAME: \_\_\_\_\_
ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_, IA \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

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