

### Imagining Breakthrough Change in Learning

This activity will help you stretch your thinking about how public education might make use of future trends to support all learners in preparing for college, career, and life. Its news headline format provides a creative way of getting beyond today's challenges and identifying best possibilities for the future.

1. Working as a group, generate ideas about what kinds of breakthrough changes in public education you would like to see in ten years.
  - a. As you generate ideas, jot them down on a list.
  - b. Focus on surfacing as many ideas as you can, withholding judgment and observations about whether or not something sounds possible.
2. Next, select one of the ideas that seems most compelling. If your group finds it hard to choose an idea, you might try having each person vote for his or her top idea by placing a check mark next to it on the list.
3. After choosing one breakthrough change in learning for the group's focus, talk together about what you would be observing in ten years if that breakthrough change had come to pass, with the goal of developing a rich picture of what that change would mean for education in Iowa.
4. Next, use the template shown below (transferred onto a piece of paper or in digital format) to describe the change and its impacts in news format. You will develop:
  - a. A main story headline (e.g., "Iowa Districts Create Regional Internship Infrastructure")
  - b. 1-2 sentences explaining the main point of the story
  - c. 1-2 sentences explaining the benefits of the breakthrough for different stakeholders
  - d. 1-2 secondary story headlines illustrating related developments that support the main headline
  - e. A quotation from a key learning stakeholder about the change.
5. After developing your story, discuss what role you and/or partners might have played in making the change. Feel free to stretch your wings and imagine possibilities that might seem unattainable today.

**Story Headline**

Main point: explain the essence of the breakthrough change here.

Benefits of breakthrough by stakeholder

Related story headline #1

Related story headline #2

Quotation from a local learning stakeholder about the change