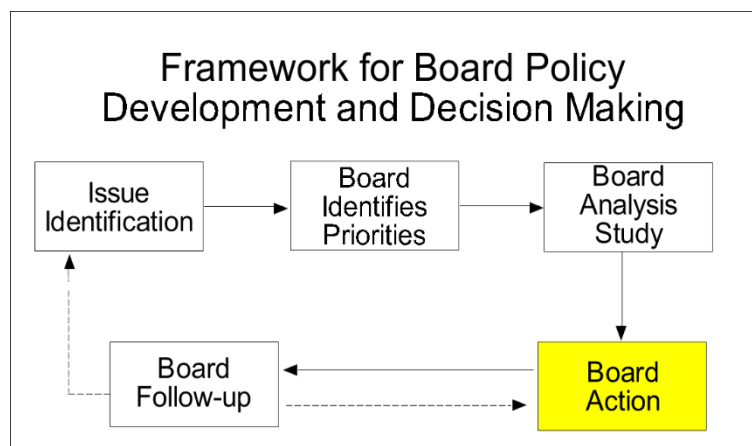


Iowa State Board of Education

Executive Summary

March 29, 2018



Agenda Item: Iowa Early Learning Standards – 3rd ed. (2017)

State Board Priorities:

- Eliminating Early Literacy Achievement Gaps
- Implementing Iowa's Academic Standards
- Creating a Safe and Rich Learning Environment

State Board Role/Authority: The State Board adopted rules that set forth the procedures and conditions under which state funds shall be made available to assist local school districts in the implementation of voluntary preschool programs. These rules require that preschool programs demonstrate how the curriculum, assessment, staff development, and instructional strategies are aligned to the Iowa Early Learning Standards. (Iowa Administrative Code 281-16.3[5]).

Presenter(s): Erika Cook, Chief
Bureau of Standards & Curriculum

Kimberly Villotti, Administrative Consultant
Bureau of Standards & Curriculum

Melissa Schnurr, Consultant
Bureau of Educator Quality

Attachment(s): One, available electronically at [IELS 3rd ed. \(2017\)](#)

Recommendation: It is recommended that the State Board approve the Iowa Early Learning Standards – 3rd ed. (2017).

Background:

The Iowa Early Learning Standards (IELS) were first developed in 2006 in response to federal requirements and included a broad group of leaders representing Iowa's early care and education system. A second revision occurred in 2012. In 2017, more than 60 early childhood stakeholders met again to review and revise the IELS.

The IELS describe what young children should know and be able to do throughout their first five years prior to entering a formal school setting.

The IELS are represented as an expectation in Iowa Administrative Code Chapter 16 Statewide Voluntary Preschool Programs and in Chapter 41 Special Education. School districts providing preschool programming (Statewide Voluntary Preschool Programs and/or Early Childhood Special Education Services) demonstrate how curriculum, assessment, staff development, and instructional strategies are aligned with the IELS.

IELS 3rd ed. (2017) revisions include several changes in format as well as updated content for rationale, benchmarks, and references. In addition, Department early childhood and content specialist consultants collaborated to create five alignment documents of the IELS to the Iowa Core for literacy, fine arts, mathematics, science, and social studies.