

House File 2204 - Introduced

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A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the Iowa core curriculum and core content
2 standards applicable to students in kindergarten through
3 grade twelve and including effective date provisions.
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 256.7, subsection 21, paragraph b,
2 subparagraphs (2) and (3), Code 2014, are amended to read as
3 follows:

4 (2) Notwithstanding subparagraph (1), for the school year
5 beginning July 1, 2016, and each succeeding school year, the
6 rules shall provide that all students enrolled in school
7 districts in grades three through eleven shall be administered
8 an assessment during the last quarter of the school year
9 that at a minimum assesses the indicators identified in this
10 paragraph "b"; ~~is aligned with the Iowa common core standards~~
11 ~~in both content and rigor~~; accurately describes student
12 achievement and growth for purposes of the school, the school
13 district, and state accountability systems; and provides valid,
14 reliable, and fair measures of student progress toward college
15 or career readiness.

16 (3) The director shall establish an assessment task force
17 to review and make recommendations for a statewide assessment
18 of student progress on the indicators identified pursuant to
19 this paragraph "b". The task force shall recommend a statewide
20 assessment that is ~~aligned to the Iowa common core standards~~
21 ~~and is~~, at a minimum, valid, reliable, tested, and piloted in
22 Iowa. In addition, in developing recommendations, the task
23 force shall consider the costs to school districts and the
24 state in providing and administering such an assessment and
25 the technical support necessary to implement the assessment.
26 The task force shall submit its recommendations in a report
27 to the director, the state board, and the general assembly by
28 January 1, 2015. The task force shall assist with the final
29 development and implementation of the assessment administered
30 pursuant to subparagraph (2). The task force members shall
31 include but not be limited to teachers, school administrators,
32 business leaders, representatives of state agencies, and
33 members of the general public. This subparagraph is repealed
34 July 1, 2020.

35 Sec. 2. Section 256.7, subsection 21, paragraph c, Code

1 2014, is amended to read as follows:

2 *c.* A requirement that all school districts and accredited
3 nonpublic schools annually report to the department and the
4 local community the district-wide progress made in attaining
5 student achievement goals on the academic and other core
6 indicators and the district-wide progress made in attaining
7 locally established student learning goals. The school
8 districts and accredited nonpublic schools shall demonstrate
9 the use of multiple assessment measures in determining student
10 achievement levels. The school districts and accredited
11 nonpublic schools shall also report the number of students
12 who graduate; the number of students who drop out of school;
13 the number of students who are tested and the percentage of
14 students who are so tested annually; and the percentage of
15 students who graduated during the prior school year ~~and who~~
16 ~~completed a core curriculum.~~ The board shall develop and
17 adopt uniform definitions consistent with the federal No Child
18 Left Behind Act of 2001, Pub. L. No. 107-110 and any federal
19 regulations adopted pursuant to the federal Act. The school
20 districts and accredited nonpublic schools may report on other
21 locally determined factors influencing student achievement.
22 The school districts and accredited nonpublic schools shall
23 also report to the local community their results by individual
24 attendance center.

25 Sec. 3. Section 256.7, subsection 26, paragraph a,
26 unnumbered paragraph 1, Code 2014, is amended to read as
27 follows:

28 Adopt rules that establish ~~a core curriculum~~ and high school
29 graduation requirements for all students in school districts
30 and accredited nonpublic schools that include at a minimum
31 satisfactory completion of four years of English and language
32 arts, three years of mathematics, three years of science, and
33 three years of social studies. Schools are encouraged to
34 include in locally developed standards the skills and knowledge
35 students need to be successful in the twenty-first century,

1 including but not limited to civic literacy, health literacy,
2 technology literacy, financial literacy, and employability
3 skills.

4 Sec. 4. Section 256.7, subsection 26, paragraph a,
5 subparagraph (3), Code 2014, is amended by striking the
6 subparagraph.

7 Sec. 5. Section 256.7, subsection 26, paragraph b, Code
8 2014, is amended by striking the paragraph.

9 Sec. 6. Section 256.7, subsection 26, paragraph c, Code
10 2014, is amended to read as follows:

11 c. Neither the state board nor the department shall require
12 school districts or accredited nonpublic schools to adopt a
13 specific textbook, textbook series, or specific instructional
14 methodology, or acquire specific textbooks, curriculum
15 materials, or educational products from a specific vendor
16 ~~in order to meet the core curriculum requirements of this~~
17 ~~subsection or the core content standards adopted pursuant to~~
18 ~~subsection 28.~~

19 Sec. 7. Section 256.7, subsection 26, Code 2014, is amended
20 by adding the following new paragraph:

21 NEW PARAGRAPH. d. Adopt rules prohibiting the department
22 from adopting and implementing statewide core curriculum
23 standards. School districts and accredited nonpublic schools
24 are strongly encouraged to set high expectations in locally
25 developed core content standards.

26 Sec. 8. Section 256.7, subsection 28, Code 2014, is amended
27 to read as follows:

28 28. Adopt a set of ~~core content~~ assessment standards
29 applicable to all students in kindergarten through grade twelve
30 in every school district and accredited nonpublic school.
31 For purposes of this subsection, "~~core content~~ assessment
32 standards" includes reading, mathematics, and science. The ~~core~~
33 ~~content~~ assessment standards shall be identical to the core
34 content standards included in Iowa's approved 2006 standards
35 and assessment system under Tit. I of the federal Elementary

1 and Secondary Education Act of 1965, 20 U.S.C. § 6301 et
2 seq., as amended by the federal No Child Left Behind Act of
3 2001, Pub. L. No. 107-110. ~~School districts and accredited~~
4 ~~nonpublic schools shall include, at a minimum, the core content~~
5 ~~standards adopted pursuant to this subsection in any set of~~
6 ~~locally developed content standards. School districts and~~
7 ~~accredited nonpublic schools are strongly encouraged to set~~
8 ~~higher expectations in local standards. As changes in federal~~
9 ~~law or regulation occur, the state board is authorized to amend~~
10 ~~the core content standards as appropriate.~~

11 Sec. 9. Section 256.7, Code 2014, is amended by adding the
12 following new subsection:

13 NEW SUBSECTION. 33. Adopt rules prohibiting the department
14 from adopting and implementing the next generation science
15 standards.

16 Sec. 10. Section 256.9, subsection 53, paragraph a, Code
17 2014, is amended to read as follows:

18 a. Develop and distribute, in collaboration with the area
19 education agencies, ~~core curriculum~~ technical assistance and
20 implementation strategies that school districts and accredited
21 nonpublic schools shall utilize, including but not limited to
22 the development and delivery of formative and end-of-course
23 model assessments classroom teachers may use to measure student
24 progress ~~on the core curriculum adopted pursuant to section~~
25 ~~256.7, subsection 26. The department shall, in collaboration~~
26 ~~with the advisory group convened in accordance with paragraph~~
27 ~~"b" and educational assessment providers, identify and make~~
28 ~~available to school districts end-of-course and additional~~
29 ~~model end-of-course and additional assessments to align with~~
30 ~~the expectations included in the Iowa core curriculum. The~~
31 model assessments shall be suitable to meet the multiple
32 assessment measures requirement specified in section 256.7,
33 subsection 21, paragraph "c".

34 Sec. 11. Section 256.9, subsection 54, Code 2014, is amended
35 by striking the subsection.

1 Sec. 12. Section 256.40, subsection 2, paragraph e, Code
2 2014, is amended to read as follows:

3 e. Integrate services provided through the program with
4 other career exploration-related activities such as the student
5 ~~core-curriculum~~ graduation plan and the career information and
6 decision-making system developed and administered under section
7 279.61, where appropriate.

8 Sec. 13. Section 256.42, subsection 6, Code 2014, is amended
9 to read as follows:

10 6. Coursework offered under the initiative shall be
11 rigorous and high quality, and the department shall annually
12 evaluate the quality of the courses and ensure that coursework
13 is aligned with the ~~state's~~ Iowa core curriculum and ~~core~~
14 ~~content requirements and standards~~, as well as national
15 standards of quality for online courses issued by an
16 internationally recognized association for kindergarten through
17 grade twelve online learning.

18 Sec. 14. Section 257.11, subsection 11, Code 2014, is
19 amended to read as follows:

20 11. *Shared classes and curriculum standards.* A school
21 district shall ensure that any course made available to a
22 student through any sharing agreement between the school
23 district and a community college or any other entity providing
24 course programming pursuant to this section to students
25 enrolled in the school district meets the expectations
26 contained in ~~the core curriculum adopted pursuant to~~ section
27 256.7, subsection 26. The school district shall ensure that
28 any course that has the capacity to generate college credit
29 shall be equivalent to college-level work.

30 Sec. 15. Section 258.4, subsection 8, Code 2014, is amended
31 to read as follows:

32 8. Establish a minimum set of competencies and ~~core~~
33 ~~curriculum~~ for approval of a vocational program sequence that
34 addresses the following: new and emerging technologies;
35 job-seeking, job-keeping, and other employment skills,

1 including self-employment and entrepreneurial skills, that
2 reflect current industry standards, leadership skills,
3 entrepreneurial, and labor-market needs; and the strengthening
4 of basic academic skills.

5 Sec. 16. Section 260C.14, subsection 22, paragraph b, Code
6 2014, is amended to read as follows:

7 *b.* Collaborate with the state board of regents to meet
8 the requirements specified in section 262.9, subsection 33,
9 including but not limited to developing a systematic process
10 for expanding academic discipline and meetings between the
11 community college faculty and faculty of the institutions
12 of higher education governed by the state board of regents,
13 ~~developing criteria to prioritize core curriculum areas,~~
14 promoting greater awareness of articulation-related activities,
15 facilitating additional opportunities for individual
16 institutions to pursue program articulation agreements for
17 career and technical educational programs, and developing
18 and implementing a process to examine a minimum of eight
19 new associate of applied science degree programs for which
20 articulation agreements would serve students' continued
21 academic success in those degree programs.

22 Sec. 17. Section 261E.4, subsection 4, Code 2014, is amended
23 to read as follows:

24 4. A school district shall establish prerequisite
25 coursework for each advanced placement course offered and shall
26 describe the prerequisites in the course registration handbook,
27 which shall be provided to every junior high school or middle
28 school student prior to the development of a ~~core curriculum~~
29 graduation plan pursuant to section 279.61.

30 Sec. 18. Section 261E.6, subsection 2, Code 2014, is amended
31 to read as follows:

32 2. *Notification.* The availability and requirements of this
33 program shall be included in each school district's student
34 registration handbook. Information about the program shall be
35 provided to the student and the student's parent or guardian

1 prior to the development of the student's ~~core curriculum~~
2 graduation plan under section 279.61. The school district
3 shall establish a process by which students may indicate
4 interest in and apply for enrollment in the program.

5 Sec. 19. Section 261E.8, subsection 1, Code 2014, is amended
6 to read as follows:

7 1. A district-to-community college sharing or concurrent
8 enrollment program is established to be administered by the
9 department to promote rigorous academic or career and technical
10 pursuits and to provide a wider variety of options to high
11 school students to enroll part-time in eligible nonsectarian
12 courses at or through community colleges established under
13 chapter 260C. The program shall be made available to all
14 resident students in grades nine through twelve. Notice of
15 the availability of the program shall be included in a school
16 district's student registration handbook and the handbook shall
17 identify which courses, if successfully completed, generate
18 college credit under the program. A student and the student's
19 parent or legal guardian shall also be made aware of this
20 program as a part of the development of the student's ~~core~~
21 curriculum graduation plan in accordance with section 279.61.

22 Sec. 20. Section 261E.9, subsection 2, paragraph b, Code
23 2014, is amended to read as follows:

24 b. A regional academy may include in its curriculum virtual
25 or internet-based coursework and courses delivered via the Iowa
26 communications network, career and technical courses, ~~core~~
27 ~~curriculum coursework~~, courses required pursuant to section
28 256.7, subsection 26, or section 256.11, subsections 4 and 5,
29 and asynchronous learning networks.

30 Sec. 21. Section 261E.9, subsection 4, Code 2014, is amended
31 to read as follows:

32 4. Information regarding regional academies shall be
33 provided to a student and the student's parent or guardian
34 prior to the development of the student's ~~core curriculum~~
35 graduation plan under section 279.61.

1 Sec. 22. Section 261E.10, subsection 4, Code 2014, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 4. Information regarding career academies shall be provided
4 by the school district to a student and the student's parent
5 or guardian prior to the development of the student's ~~core~~
6 curriculum graduation plan under section 279.61.

7 Sec. 23. Section 262.9, subsection 33, paragraph c, Code
8 2014, is amended by striking the paragraph.

9 Sec. 24. Section 279.61, Code 2014, is amended to read as
10 follows:

11 **279.61 Student plan for progress toward university admissions**
12 **— report.**

13 1. ~~For the school year beginning July 1, 2008, and each~~
14 ~~succeeding school year, the~~ The board of directors of each
15 school district shall cooperate with each student enrolled
16 in grade eight to develop for the student a ~~core curriculum~~
17 plan to guide the student toward the goal of successfully
18 completing, at a minimum, the ~~core curriculum developed~~ high
19 school graduation requirements adopted by the state board of
20 education pursuant to section 256.7, subsection 26, by the
21 time the student graduates from high school. The plan shall
22 include career options and shall identify the coursework
23 needed in grades nine through twelve to support the student's
24 postsecondary education and career options. Additionally, the
25 plan shall include a timeline for each student to successfully
26 complete, prior to graduation, all components of the
27 state-designated career information and decision-making system
28 administered by the department in accordance with section 118
29 of the federal Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education
30 Improvement Act of 2006, Pub. L. No. 109-270. The student's
31 parent or guardian shall sign the ~~core curriculum graduation~~
32 plan developed with the student and the signed plan shall be
33 included in the student's cumulative records.

34 2. ~~For the school year beginning July 1, 2008, and each~~
35 ~~succeeding school year, the~~ The board of directors of each

1 school district shall report annually to each student enrolled
2 in grades nine through twelve in the school district, and, if
3 the student is under the age of eighteen, to each student's
4 parent or guardian, the student's progress toward meeting the
5 goal of successfully completing the ~~core curriculum~~ and high
6 school graduation requirements adopted by the state board of
7 education pursuant to section 256.7, subsection 26.

8 Sec. 25. Section 280.3, subsection 3, Code 2014, is amended
9 by striking the subsection.

10 Sec. 26. EFFECTIVE UPON ENACTMENT. This Act, being deemed
11 of immediate importance, takes effect upon enactment.

12 EXPLANATION

13 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
14 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

15 This bill eliminates requirements and references to the
16 (Iowa) core curriculum and to core content standards, but
17 continues to direct the state board of education to adopt high
18 school graduation requirements and assessment standards.

19 The bill requires the state board to adopt rules prohibiting
20 the department from adopting and implementing statewide core
21 curriculum standards. However, schools are strongly encouraged
22 to set high expectations in locally developed core content
23 standards and are also encouraged to include in locally
24 developed standards 21st century skills. The bill also directs
25 the state board of education to adopt rules prohibiting the
26 department of education from adopting and implementing the
27 next generation science standards as developed by the national
28 research council and cooperating states.

29 Provisions directing school districts to cooperate with each
30 eighth grade student on a core curriculum plan to meet core
31 curriculum requirements are amended to replace "core curriculum
32 plan" with "graduation plan" and "core curriculum requirements"
33 with "high school graduation requirements". The term "core
34 content standards", which was used to describe the assessment
35 standards adopted by the state board, is replaced with the term

1 "assessment standards". The assessment standards will remain
2 applicable to all students in kindergarten through grade 12 in
3 every school district and accredited nonpublic school.

4 The bill makes technical and corresponding changes to
5 provisions which contain references to the language stricken.

6 The bill takes effect upon enactment.