

House File 2205 - Introduced

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BY SHEETS, FISHER, HEARTSILL,
WATTS, ALONS, GUSTAFSON,
GASSMAN, SHAW, SALMON,
MAXWELL, and VANDER LINDEN

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to academic and assessment standards and
2 consortiums and contracts for the development and
3 implementation of such standards.

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~~ content
11 standards in both content and rigor; accurately describes
12 student achievement and growth for purposes of the school, the
13 school district, and state accountability systems; and provides
14 valid, reliable, and fair measures of student progress toward
15 college 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~~ content
21 standards and is, at a minimum, valid, reliable, tested, and
22 piloted in Iowa. In addition, in developing recommendations,
23 the task force shall consider the costs to school districts and
24 the 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 This subparagraph is repealed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 Iowa content standards. The
17 board shall develop and adopt uniform definitions consistent
18 with the federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, Pub. L. No.
19 107-110 and any federal regulations adopted pursuant to the
20 federal Act. The school districts and accredited nonpublic
21 schools may report on other locally determined factors
22 influencing student achievement. The school districts and
23 accredited nonpublic schools shall also report to the local
24 community their results by individual 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~~ the Iowa
29 content standards which school districts and accredited
30 nonpublic schools may elect to use. The state board shall also
31 adopt high school graduation requirements for all students in
32 school districts and accredited nonpublic schools that include
33 at a minimum satisfactory completion of four years of English
34 and language arts, three years of mathematics, three years of
35 science, and three years of social studies.

1 Sec. 4. Section 256.7, subsection 26, paragraph a,
2 subparagraph (3), Code 2014, is amended to read as follows:

3 (3) The rules establishing a ~~core curriculum~~ the Iowa
4 content standards shall address the ~~core content~~ assessment
5 standards in subsection 28 and the skills and knowledge
6 students need to be successful in the twenty-first century.
7 The ~~core curriculum~~ Iowa content standards shall include
8 social studies and twenty-first century learning skills which
9 include but are not limited to civic literacy, health literacy,
10 technology literacy, financial literacy, and employability
11 skills; and shall address the curricular needs of students
12 in kindergarten through grade twelve in those areas. The
13 department shall further define the twenty-first century
14 learning skills components by rule.

15 Sec. 5. Section 256.7, subsection 26, paragraph b, Code
16 2014, is amended by striking the paragraph.

17 Sec. 6. Section 256.7, subsection 26, paragraph c, Code
18 2014, is amended to read as follows:

19 c. Neither the state board nor the department shall require
20 school districts or accredited nonpublic schools to adopt a
21 specific textbook, textbook series, or specific instructional
22 methodology, or acquire specific textbooks, curriculum
23 materials, or educational products from a specific vendor
24 in order to meet the ~~core curriculum~~ requirements of this
25 subsection or the ~~core content~~ assessment standards adopted
26 pursuant to subsection 28.

27 Sec. 7. Section 256.7, subsection 28, Code 2014, is amended
28 to read as follows:

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

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

12 Sec. 8. Section 256.7, Code 2014, is amended by adding the
13 following new subsection:

14 NEW SUBSECTION. 33. Adopt rules prohibiting the department
15 from adopting and implementing the common core state standards
16 published by the national governors association center for best
17 practices and the council of chief state school officers. The
18 rules may only allow the department to adopt and implement
19 the Iowa content and assessment standards identified or
20 developed by Iowa educators. The rules shall also prohibit
21 the department from entering into a contract or a memorandum
22 of understanding with another state or national organization
23 for the development or implementation of statewide content
24 or assessment standards unless the state board submits the
25 contract or memorandum of understanding to the general assembly
26 while the general assembly is in session or the director
27 appears before the standing committees of the senate and house
28 of representatives having jurisdiction over education to report
29 on the proposed contract or memorandum of understanding.

30 Sec. 9. Section 256.9, subsection 53, paragraph a, Code
31 2014, is amended to read as follows:

32 a. Develop and distribute, in collaboration with the area
33 education agencies, ~~core curriculum~~ Iowa content standards
34 technical assistance and implementation strategies that school
35 districts and accredited nonpublic schools ~~shall~~ may utilize,

1 including but not limited to the development and delivery
2 of formative and end-of-course model assessments classroom
3 teachers may use to measure student progress on the ~~core~~
4 ~~curriculum~~ content standards adopted pursuant to section
5 256.7, subsection 26. The department shall, in collaboration
6 with the advisory group convened in accordance with paragraph
7 "b" and educational assessment providers, identify and make
8 available to school districts end-of-course and additional
9 model end-of-course and additional assessments to align with
10 the expectations included in the Iowa ~~core curriculum~~ content
11 standards. The model assessments shall be suitable to meet the
12 multiple assessment measures requirement specified in section
13 256.7, subsection 21, paragraph "c".

14 Sec. 10. Section 256.9, subsection 54, Code 2014, is amended
15 to read as follows:

16 54. Submit an annual report to the general assembly by
17 January 1 regarding activities, findings, and student progress
18 under the ~~core curriculum~~ Iowa content standards established
19 pursuant to section 256.7, subsection 26. The annual report
20 shall include the state board's findings and recommendations.

21 Sec. 11. Section 256.40, subsection 2, paragraph e, Code
22 2014, is amended to read as follows:

23 e. Integrate services provided through the program with
24 other career exploration-related activities such as the student
25 ~~core curriculum~~ graduation plan and the career information and
26 decision-making system developed and administered under section
27 279.61, where appropriate.

28 Sec. 12. Section 256.42, subsection 6, Code 2014, is amended
29 to read as follows:

30 6. Coursework offered under the initiative shall be
31 rigorous and high quality, and the department shall annually
32 evaluate the quality of the courses and ensure that coursework
33 is aligned with the ~~state's core curriculum and core~~ Iowa
34 ~~content requirements~~ standards and the assessment standards, as
35 well as national standards of quality for online courses issued

1 by an internationally recognized association for kindergarten
2 through grade twelve online learning.

3 Sec. 13. Section 257.11, subsection 11, Code 2014, is
4 amended to read as follows:

5 11. *Shared classes and curriculum standards.* A school
6 district shall ensure that any course made available to a
7 student through any sharing agreement between the school
8 district and a community college or any other entity providing
9 course programming pursuant to this section to students
10 enrolled in the school district meets the expectations
11 contained in ~~the core curriculum adopted pursuant to~~ section
12 256.7, subsection 26. The school district shall ensure that
13 any course that has the capacity to generate college credit
14 shall be equivalent to college-level work.

15 Sec. 14. Section 258.4, subsection 8, Code 2014, is amended
16 to read as follows:

17 8. Establish a minimum set of competencies and ~~core~~
18 curriculum content standards for approval of a vocational
19 program sequence that addresses the following: new and
20 emerging technologies; job-seeking, job-keeping, and
21 other employment skills, including self-employment and
22 entrepreneurial skills, that reflect current industry
23 standards, leadership skills, entrepreneurial, and labor-market
24 needs; and the strengthening of basic academic skills.

25 Sec. 15. Section 260C.14, subsection 22, paragraph b, Code
26 2014, is amended to read as follows:

27 *b.* Collaborate with the state board of regents to meet
28 the requirements specified in section 262.9, subsection 33,
29 including but not limited to developing a systematic process
30 for expanding academic discipline and meetings between the
31 community college faculty and faculty of the institutions
32 of higher education governed by the state board of regents,
33 developing criteria to prioritize ~~core curriculum areas~~
34 Iowa content standards, promoting greater awareness of
35 articulation-related activities, facilitating additional

1 opportunities for individual institutions to pursue program
2 articulation agreements for career and technical educational
3 programs, and developing and implementing a process to
4 examine a minimum of eight new associate of applied science
5 degree programs for which articulation agreements would serve
6 students' continued academic success in those degree programs.

7 Sec. 16. Section 261E.4, subsection 4, Code 2014, is amended
8 to read as follows:

9 4. A school district shall establish prerequisite
10 coursework for each advanced placement course offered and shall
11 describe the prerequisites in the course registration handbook,
12 which shall be provided to every junior high school or middle
13 school student prior to the development of a ~~core curriculum~~
14 graduation plan pursuant to section 279.61.

15 Sec. 17. Section 261E.6, subsection 2, Code 2014, is amended
16 to read as follows:

17 2. *Notification.* The availability and requirements of this
18 program shall be included in each school district's student
19 registration handbook. Information about the program shall be
20 provided to the student and the student's parent or guardian
21 prior to the development of the student's ~~core curriculum~~
22 graduation plan under section 279.61. The school district
23 shall establish a process by which students may indicate
24 interest in and apply for enrollment in the program.

25 Sec. 18. Section 261E.8, subsection 1, Code 2014, is amended
26 to read as follows:

27 1. A district-to-community college sharing or concurrent
28 enrollment program is established to be administered by the
29 department to promote rigorous academic or career and technical
30 pursuits and to provide a wider variety of options to high
31 school students to enroll part-time in eligible nonsectarian
32 courses at or through community colleges established under
33 chapter 260C. The program shall be made available to all
34 resident students in grades nine through twelve. Notice of
35 the availability of the program shall be included in a school

1 district's student registration handbook and the handbook shall
2 identify which courses, if successfully completed, generate
3 college credit under the program. A student and the student's
4 parent or legal guardian shall also be made aware of this
5 program as a part of the development of the student's ~~core~~
6 ~~curriculum~~ graduation plan in accordance with section 279.61.

7 Sec. 19. Section 261E.9, subsection 2, paragraph b, Code
8 2014, is amended to read as follows:

9 b. A regional academy may include in its curriculum virtual
10 or internet-based coursework and courses delivered via the Iowa
11 communications network, career and technical courses, ~~core~~
12 ~~curriculum~~ Iowa content standards coursework, courses required
13 pursuant to section 256.7, subsection 26, or section 256.11,
14 subsections 4 and 5, and asynchronous learning networks.

15 Sec. 20. Section 261E.9, subsection 4, Code 2014, is amended
16 to read as follows:

17 4. Information regarding regional academies shall be
18 provided to a student and the student's parent or guardian
19 prior to the development of the student's ~~core-curriculum~~
20 graduation plan under section 279.61.

21 Sec. 21. Section 261E.10, subsection 4, Code 2014, is
22 amended to read as follows:

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

27 Sec. 22. Section 262.9, subsection 33, paragraph c, Code
28 2014, is amended to read as follows:

29 c. Develop criteria to prioritize ~~core-curriculum areas~~ the
30 Iowa content standards and create or review transition guides
31 for the ~~core-curriculum areas~~ Iowa content standards.

32 Sec. 23. Section 279.61, Code 2014, is amended to read as
33 follows:

34 **279.61 Student plan for progress toward university admissions**
35 **— report.**

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

22 2. ~~For the school year beginning July 1, 2008, and each~~
23 ~~succeeding school year, the~~ The board of directors of each
24 school district shall report annually to each student enrolled
25 in grades nine through twelve in the school district, and, if
26 the student is under the age of eighteen, to each student's
27 parent or guardian, the student's progress toward meeting the
28 goal of successfully completing the ~~core curriculum and~~ high
29 school graduation requirements adopted by the state board of
30 education pursuant to section 256.7, subsection 26.

31 Sec. 24. Section 280.3, subsection 3, Code 2014, is amended
32 by striking the subsection.

33

EXPLANATION

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

1 This bill continues to direct the state board of education
2 to adopt sets of academic and assessment standards, but amends
3 the terms used to describe the standards and makes use of the
4 academic standards by school districts and accredited nonpublic
5 schools voluntary. The bill directs the state board to adopt
6 rules to prohibit the department from adopting and implementing
7 common core state standards and from entering into a contract
8 or memorandums of understanding with another state or national
9 organization for the development or implementation of statewide
10 content or assessment standards unless the contract or
11 memorandum is presented before the general assembly. The
12 bill provides that the rules may only allow the department to
13 adopt and implement the Iowa content and assessment standards
14 identified or developed by Iowa educators.

15 The bill replaces the terms "core curriculum", "Iowa
16 core curriculum", and "Iowa common core", which were used to
17 describe the academic standards adopted by the state board,
18 with the term "Iowa content standards". Also, provisions
19 directing school districts to cooperate with each eighth grade
20 student on a core curriculum plan to meet core curriculum
21 requirements are amended to replace "core curriculum plan"
22 with "graduation plan" and "core curriculum requirements"
23 with "high school graduation requirements". The term "core
24 content standards", which was used to describe the assessment
25 standards adopted by the state board, is replaced with the
26 term "assessment standards". The assessment standards will
27 remain applicable to all students in kindergarten through
28 grade 12 in every school district and accredited nonpublic
29 school. Corresponding changes are made throughout the Code,
30 and obsolete language is eliminated.