

School of Education

Today is January 23, 2015

Message from the Dean

On Monday we conclude January term and officially open the spring semester. With seven new undergraduate spring start transfer students and 66 spring student teachers, we have a full complement of teacher education candidates. For many of you, the classes for graduate students and Head Start infants and toddlers started right after the holiday break. Thanks to the faculty and staff who were actively involved during the last three weeks.

We welcome back the faculty and students who traveled outside of the U.S. During the last month, we received over \$300,000 in additional gifts for the new building and the support from our alumni and friends has never been better. Master's degrees and endorsements for teachers and administrators continue successfully in our metro areas. Grant opportunities abound. It's all good. Dr. Janet McMahill, Dean Drake University School of Education 3206 University Avenue Des Moines, Iowa 50311

Dates

Friday, Jan 30 last day to add a class; Wednesday, Feb 4 J term grades due at 10:00 am

Spotlight

Another face-off between SLASHERS (Team Hodgkinson) vs. FLYERS (Team Hayden). Come and join the FREE fun. There is a warm, protected place to watch the action. Sunday, January 25th at 3:15pm <u>Bucs Arena</u> 7201 Hickman Rd Urbandale, IA 50322

Pictures

Dr. Hodgkinson challenges Dr. Hayden in hockey while Dr. Grundmeyer spends time with Santa (who now has a cell phone?) at the arctic circle.



February 2-3, President-elect Marty on campus Friday, Feb 6 last day to drop without a W. February 12 career fair 3-6 pm

Reminders

Don't forget to validate course enrollment after you meet your students (not before! the point is to say "yes these people are present" and "these people were not present").

Add/Drop still via paper for Spring

Online add/drop hit some glitches and so the add/drop process will continue to be via paper this spring. DTS is hoping for online add/drop for summer.

UANDES

President Maxwell has signed Drake's MOU and Student Exchange Agreement with University of the Andes inSantiago, Chile. Consequently, we are now invited to nominate students for the Fall semester program, "UANDES Business Exchange Semester."

Students from any major at Drake are welcome to apply. The "regular" courses are taught in English, for both Chilean and visiting students. Spanish as a Second Language is also included.

As an exchange, Drake students will pay the usual tuition and fees (excluding room and board), and their normal financial aid will be applied as if they were enrolled at Drake but living off campus.

Interested students should be referred to Jen Hogan for assistance with the application process.

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Anual Condition of Education

DES MOINES – The Iowa Department of Education today released the latest edition of the Annual Condition of Education report.

The report provides a wide range of state-level data, including shifts in student populations and demographics, teacher salaries and characteristics, student achievement results and

school financial information.

"Data and information are vital in education," lowa Department of Education Director Brad Buck said. "They help us determine our needs, map out goals and action steps, and then evaluate our progress. We also depend on good data to help guide our improvement efforts, from the local classroom to the state level."

The Condition of Education report contains the most recent data through the 2013-14 school year, unless otherwise noted. Highlights include:

Students in Public Schools

478,921: The number of students enrolled in Iowa's public schools during the 2013-14 school year, up from 476,245 the year before.
21.1%: The percentage of minority student enrollment, up from 20.2 percent in 2012-13 school year and 5.5 percent in 1990.

• 41.1%: The percentage of students eligible for free or reduced-price lunch, up slightly from 41

 What do professors do all day? <u>http://m.huffpost.com/us/entry/5212149</u>
 School start date criteria released by lowa education department

Kathy A. Bolten, <u>kbolten@dmreg.com</u> 7:15 p.m. CST January 21, 2015

http://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/ne ws/education/2015/01/21/school-start-datecriteria-released-iowa-education-

department/22112403/

3. lowa lawmakers spar over education funding

DES MOINES — Legislative Democrats say lowa school superintendents they have surveyed are overwhelmingly opposed to the funding increases being proposed by Gov. Terry Branstad and Republican lawmakers for K-12 schools next year, saying they will force larger class sizes, property tax increases, teacher layoffs and other cutbacks.

Republicans who control the Iowa House have scheduled floor debates next week on bills that will set the fiscal 2016 increase in supplemental state aid at 1.25 percent for Iowa's 338 public school districts and provide another 2.45 percent boost in the following fiscal year. Those are the levels Branstad included in his biennial budget proposal. A public hearing on the proposals will be held at the state Capitol building at 7 p.m. Monday.

"Iowa superintendents have told us that the Branstad budget would narrow the futures and limit the opportunities of tens of thousands of Iowa students," said Sen. Herman Quirmbach, D-Ames, chairman of the Senate Education Committee. "I believe that this is unacceptable, and I hope that the governor reconsiders."

4. Lawmakers seeking compromise on school start dates

Jason Noble, <u>inoble2@dmreg.com</u> 2:38 p.m. CST January 22, 2015 An Iowa House panel on Thursday advanced legislation concerning school start dates that goes in exactly the opposite direction of a new policy announced Wednesday by Gov. Terry Branstad's administration. The sharply different proposals effectively

set the parameters for a debate that's expected to play out over the next few percent a year ago and up from 27 percent 13 years ago.

• 89.7%: The percentage of students from the Class of 2013 who graduated from high school in four years, up slightly from the year before (89.3 percent).

• 41.3%: The percentage of students from the Class of 2014 who took a higher-level mathematics course, including calculus and trigonometry. This is an increase from 40.2 percent the year before.

• 67.2%: The percentage of students from the Class of 2014 who took chemistry. Twenty-seven percent took physics.

• 22: The ACT composite score among students in the Class of 2014 who took the collegeentrance exam, down slightly from 22.1 the year before.

• 68%: The percentage of students in the Class of 2014 who took the ACT, up 2 percent from the year before.

Technology Readiness

• The number of computers available to lowa students continues to increase. In the 2013-14 school year, there were about 1.4 students per computer. This compares to 4.1 students per computer in the 2000-01 school year.

• The percentage of schools equipped with 50 MB or more of bandwidth climbed to 60.1 percent in the 2013-14 school year from 44.4 percent in 2012-13.

Schools, Teachers, Finance

Iowa's average teacher salary increased 3.7 percent to \$51,937 in the 2013-14 school year.

• Iowa's average teacher salary remains near the median of states (26th) in the national rankings. Iowa's Midwestern ranking improved to 6th from 7th out of 12 states from the 2011-12 school year to 2012-13.

There were 34,509 teachers in Iowa schools during the 2013-14 school year, up from 33,610 in 2000-2001.

• There were 346 school districts during the 2013-14 school year, down two from the year before. There are 338 school districts in the current school year.

The state's per-pupil expense was \$9,609 in the 2012-13 school year, down from \$9,645 the year before.

The full report is available on the Iowa Department of Education's website.

months and potentially resolve a decadesold conflict between educators and the tourism industry.

At issue is a state law that requires schools open their doors in the week that includes Sept. 1 but includes a waiver process for schools wanting to start earlier.

Waivers have been granted automatically for many years, and last year all but two districts statewide got the OK to start school earlier in August.

That's frustrated the state's tourism industry — led by the Iowa State Fair which sees earlier start dates as encroaching on the summer tourism season.

The bill approved by a subcommittee of the House Education Committee on Thursday, House File 13, gives local school districts total control over setting start dates, eliminating the current Sept. 1 date and the waiver process.

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