

School of Education

Today is February 27, 2015

Comput er lab update

Currently Jonathan Dixon is working to replace the older white iMacs with updated silver iMacs. This will ensure that we can continue to provide reliable machines to students within SOE. A larger project to fully replace these iMacs with new iMacs is being planned for the near future.

Trivia Questio n

What percentage of SOE Grads are placed, per the

Media

1. <u>PostEverything</u> We don't need more STEM majors. We need more STEM majors with liberal arts training: The ability to draw from other disciplines produces better scientists.

http://www.washingtonpost.com/posteverything/wp/2015/02/18/we-dontneed-more-stem-majors-we-need-more-stem-majors-with-liberal-artstraining/

2. House panel OKs bill that would add fine arts to lowa Core DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) - A bill that would add fine arts to Iowa's mandated education curriculum for K-12 students advanced through a House panel Thursday, though several education groups expressed concern over adding another requirement for school districts. An education subcommittee heard several remarks over the bill, which would add music, theater, visual art and other fine arts to Iowa Core, the state's academic standards since 2008. The Iowa Core sets learning goals in literacy, mathematics, science, social studies and 21st century skills. "Number one, it's about not adding more mandates and number two, I think there's a real question about how you're going to assess this," said Emily Piper of the Iowa Association of School Boards. "Number three, we think the best approach is to infuse it into the existing curriculum through

the existing standards that we have." 3. Private college presidents say state school funding plan threatens stability

February 23, 2015 By O. Kay Henderson

The leaders of lowa's private colleges and universities say the stability of the state's higher education "ecosystem" is threatened by the proposed "performance-based" funding formula for the three state-supported universities.

Mark Putnam, the president of Central College in Pella, says rewarding the state universities with more tax dollars if they enroll more lowa high school graduates is "perilous" not only for private colleges, but the public universities as well.

"Instability is not a friend to students' education or research, so changes that occur abruptly can be incredibly disruptive and it creates behavior patterns that are not healthy for institutions," he says. "So if institutions begin to look at: 'How can I take students from the others?' or 'How can I start to position myself to win?'...then it becomes something that's not helpful."

Grand View president Kent Henning says even though legislators haven't

2013-2014 Grad Report Summary?



approved the plan yet, the University of Iowa is already reacting. "It's now financial aid season and we are getting reports of students receiving very generous financial aid packages from the University of Iowa, almost free rides," he says. "And while that's wonderful for those students...I think the state's taxpayers should be wondering and asking: 'What's going on? How is that possible?' if the state universities keep coming back to the legislature pleading poverty."

4. Fewer schools, more miles: lowa kids at greater risk?

PILOT MOUND, Ia. – On a frigid Tuesday morning last month en route to her high school, 17-year-old Aaliyah Scott's Ford Excursion skidded on ice, spun backward into a ditch and flipped lengthwise, landing on its hood. What she remembers most were the sounds of breaking glass and the screams of her sister and passenger, Vanessa, 16. Snow filled the vehicle. The sisters remained upside down in the ditch along a sparsely used rural highway for about 20 minutes until a passer-by happened upon them and called paramedics.

"When we were in there, I was thinking to myself that I was going to die because I was suffocating from the snow," recalled the junior at Southeast Valley High School. "I tried to calm down my breathing, and then I was just out."

Vanessa, a sophomore, was bruised but suffered only minor injuries. But Aaliyah had inhaled broken glass, and emergency responders weren't sure she'd survive the trip to a Des Moines hospital aboard a medical helicopter.

Both girls did survive and have recovered from their injuries. But the accident has reignited a concern about the unintended consequence of thousands of Iowa school closures: As the number of students who drive farther distances continues to increase, so has the risk of accidents. "One of the main objections the people opposed to the whole-grade sharing was it was too far to drive 'and someone's going to get in an accident,' " said the girls' mother, Lorna Scott. "And yes, that happened. And it happened to us, one of the biggest supporters of the whole-grade sharing."

Driving common for active students

Per mile, teen drivers are nearly three times more

likely<<u>http://www.cdc.gov/motorvehiclesafety/teen_drivers/teendrivers_fact</u> <u>sheet.html</u>> than people 20 or older to be at the wheel of a vehicle involved in a fatal crash, according to information from the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety.

5. Legislation on school bullying advances in lowa Legislature, though support remains unclear

By BARBARA RODRIGUEZ Associated Press, February 25, 2015 - 7:17 pm EST

DES MOINES, Iowa — Legislation aimed at reducing school bullying in Iowa advanced in the Legislature on Wednesday, but it remains unclear if it will have enough support to get to Gov. Terry Branstad's desk this session.

A three-member House education subcommittee gave unanimous approval for a bill that's slightly different than one approved later in the day by a full education committee in the Senate.

Lawmakers in both chambers said they recognize the bills are different now, but they expect to amend them before they're up for full votes. They also expressed some hope the legislation, which has failed in the past, could advance this year. 6. **Iowa Poll: Common core not so radioactive for Iowans** Jennifer Jacobs<<u>http://www.desmoinesregister.com/staff/8889/jennifer-jacobs/</u>>, jejacobs@dmreg.com 7:03 a.m. CST February 26, 2015 <u>http://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/news/politics/iowa-poll/2015/02/25/poll-common-core-radioactive-iowans/24023771/</u>

Drake University School of Education 3206 University Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa 50311 T 515-271-3726 W www.drake.edu/soe



Click here to unsubscribe