Grant Wood Area Education Agency is one of 15 area education agencies in Iowa, established by the state legislature in 1975. The agency employs approximately 450 staff and is governed by a nine-member board of directors. Board members represent designated segments of the agency's service area, called "director districts." They are elected for three-year rotating terms by the school district board members in their director districts.

The board oversees the activities of the agency as it seeks to provide equal educational opportunities to all students. In short, Grant Wood AEA provides support to...

Students and Families

- Provides identification, diagnosis, curriculum and therapy for more than 8,000 students with disabilities.
- Supports students through ongoing services in a variety of areas including school psychology, social work, OT/PT, and speech/hearing/vision.
- Screens annually the hearing of Area 10 kindergarten, second, and fifth-grade students.
- Screens annually the vision of Area 10 pre-kindergarten through 12th-grade students.
- Screens three-year-olds annually for vision, hearing, speech development, coordination and ability to learn through a program called "Child Check".
- Provides ongoing support for students at risk or in crisis, including services from school psychologists, social workers, occupational and physical therapists, speech/language pathologists, and vision and hearing teachers.
- Offers free educational opportunities to preschool children (birth to age six) who have delays with motor control, self-help, social, cognitive, or language development skills.
- Offers a diversified program for students needing adapted physical education.
- Provides evaluations, recommendations and follow-up services through the Child Evaluation Clinic for students under age 16 with behavioral, emotional, developmental, communication and/or learning problems.
- Provides support and resources for enhancing home/school relationships the Parent Educator Partnership.
- Serves students in juvenile home settings, residential settings, day treatment or hospital units.
- Coordinates work experience and transitional services for career exploration for secondary students.
- Supports students in special education attending vocational training programs at Kirkwood Community College through the Vital Program.
- Sponsors special learning opportunities for students such as College for Kids, Invent, Jowell, Academic Decathlon, the Future Problem-Solving Bowl, and others.
- Offers Kids-on-the-Block puppet shows to area third-graders to educate children about physical and academic disabilities.

Educators

- Provides training on processes, focused on student learning.
- Provides a variety of professional growth opportunities, focused on best practices in curriculum and instruction, integration of technology, assessment of student learning, and strategies to meet the diverse needs of all students.

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Provides training and support for interdisciplinary instruction.

Provides training and support using best practices for monitoring student progress and using data to form instructional decisions.

Provides leadership and support to schools through the following resource teams: inclusion, brain, autism, and health services.

Provides curriculum assistance as well as consultation in gifted and talented education, multicultural/nonsexist education, inclusion, curriculum development, performance, and assessment of student needs.

Coordinates a technical tools library with CNC mills, CAD systems, robots, lathes, power modules, and desktop publishing software.

Offers staff development courses for graduate credit, certificate renewal, or endorsement, as well as professional development workshops.

Provides support and training focusing on the development and implementation of quality planning, programing, and services for students in transition.

Provides practical, decision-making information in print and electronic formats to meet individuals' needs through systematic data collection, analysis, and reporting.

Provides consultation to meet the needs of students through the areas of behavioral issues, preparing students for employment, accommodations and adaptations, curriculum development, performance assessments, assistive technology, and Service-Learning.

Provides a teacher workroom and a traveling production lab with equipment for laminating materials and making buttons, T-shirts, posters, color copies, transparencies and die cuts for bulletin boards and display materials.

Operates a Tech Resources Room for preview and use of hardware and software.

Provides consultation on materials selection, media center development, technology plans and the use of technology, information retrieval, library automation, and reference research.

Circulates more than 22,000 films, videos, CD ROMS, and laserdisks; 11,000 student books; 130 professional journals; 6000 professional nonprint; and 2000 classroom materials for classroom use.

Provides commercially produced video and computer software at reduced prices for building school collections.

Offers a wide variety of graphics and printing ranging from designing and printing of forms to brochures, color copies, visual presentations, and displays.

**Schools and School Districts**

Assists local schools with state financial reports and school finance consultation.

Provides support with strategic and school/community planning efforts.

Provides support with continuous school improvement planning, including development of standards and assessments.

Provides consultation in school public relations, publications, news media relations, and marketing.

Provides training and support for the effective use of technology into the curriculum.

Offers volume purchasing of computer hardware, software, audiovisual equipment, assistive technology devices and materials.

Assists local school districts with the implementation of technology plans.

Consults with local administrators on hiring and recruitment, benefit programs and personnel procedures.

Provides consultation in administrative data-processing, cooperative purchasing, curriculum and guidance, research and testing, classroom instruction and management, and staff development.

Provides leadership at the community level to create partnerships with families, community representatives and educators to support students with disabilities in their pursuit of success.

Provides graphic production and printing services, with nearly 20 million impressions annually.

Provides van delivery to approximately 250 school buildings and off-site classrooms, covering a 4,900 square-mile area.

Conducts communication audits and community perception studies.

*Updated 8/98*