

CENTRAL RIVERS AEA

Playbook



Our Vision

To positively impact children, families and educators.



Our Mission

Central Rivers AEA provides innovative leadership, services and support to empower our educational partners.



CENTRAL RIVERS
AREA EDUCATION AGENCY



CORE OPERATING PRINCIPLES

UTILIZE
RESEARCH

We utilize research and quality data in making decisions on services.

CONTINUOUS
IMPROVEMENT

We engage in continuous improvement as a proactive, learning organization.

QUALITY
RELATIONSHIPS

We foster quality relationships that promote trust, respect, collaboration and communication.

QUALITY
WORK

We take pride in the quality of the work that we do and challenge each other to achieve our mission and goals.

RESPECT
AND SUPPORT

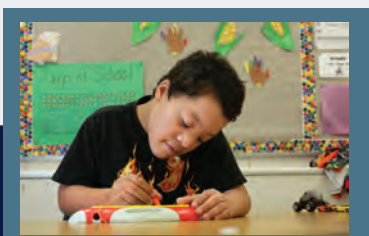
We respect, promote and support leadership, creativity and diversity.

UTILIZE
RESOURCES

We utilize our resources to provide equitable and efficient services.

PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT

We provide and engage in high quality professional development as we strive to become a high performing organization.



THREE MAJOR AREAS OF FOCUS

While Central Rivers AEA provides hundreds of individual services to children, families and educators, the agency has identified three major areas of focus as the highest leverage points for overall system improvement.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Congress enacted the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) in 1975, and Iowa developed Area Education Agencies (AEAs) to provide support services required by the Act. Roughly 75 percent of each AEA's budget is tied to special education which results in the following roles, along with many others, for local schools:

- Speech-Language Pathologists
- Social Workers
- Physical & Occupational Therapists
- School Psychologists
- Special Education Consultants
- Early Childhood Special Educators

MULTI-TIERED SYSTEM OF SUPPORTS

A Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) is a systemic, continuous improvement framework in which data-based problem solving and decision-making is practiced across all levels of the educational system for supporting students. Central Rivers AEA promotes and applies this framework to key areas of professional learning such as literacy, numeracy, and social emotional learning (SEL).

DEEP LEARNING

Central Rivers AEA has partnered with Michael Fullan and others steeped in the work of ensuring that students possess the skills needed to achieve, excel and flourish in today's complex world. These six skills include: collaboration, creativity, critical thinking, citizenship, character, and communication. An array of professional learning and technical assistance and consulting is available to local schools in this arena.



CENTRAL RIVERS AEA

MISSION

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CORE VALUES

- Service to Others
- High Expectations
 - Accountability
 - Innovation
- Positive Climate
 - Collaboration

GOAL AREAS

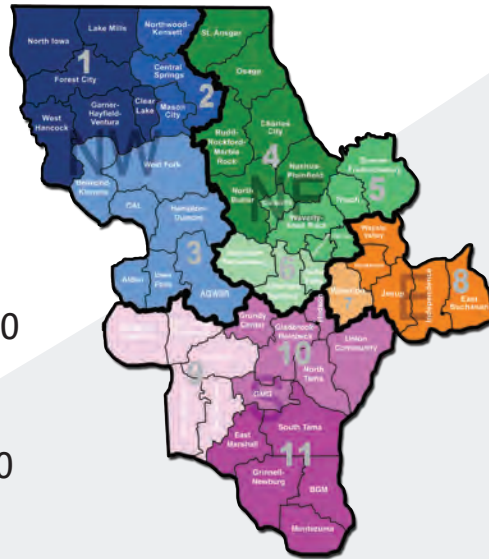
- Increase literacy skills for each and every child.
- Increase numeracy skills for each and every child.
- Provide support for teacher leadership.
- Narrow the test score gap between student subgroups (i.e. students in poverty, English Learners, special education students, etc.)

THEORY OF ACTION

“If our staff have content expertise, make decisions based on quality data and build relationships through effective service...Then we will positively impact children, families and educators.”

STUDENTS SERVED: 66,000

EDUCATORS SERVED: 5,000



DISTRICTS SERVED: 53 public districts
18 non-public districts

OFFICE LOCATIONS: Cedar Falls
Clear Lake
Marshalltown

