



## Welcome new Executive Director David Ludwig

David Ludwig began serving as the Executive Director for Iowa's AEAs on July 1. He can be reached via email at [dludwig@iowaaea.org](mailto:dludwig@iowaaea.org) and (402) 380-8571.

## FutureReady Clearinghouse

Gov. Kim Reynolds recently held a press conference to showcase Future Ready Iowa and the Clearinghouse for Work-based Learning. The Iowa Clearinghouse for Work-Based Learning is a virtual space that connects students and employers through shared projects that give students real-world work experience. This can include virtual projects, internships and apprenticeships. The Iowa Department of Education oversees the project in partnership with Iowa's AEAs, Iowa Workforce Development, the Iowa Economic Development Authority, and the Governor's STEM Advisory Council. These partners report to a Work-Based Learning Advisory Board made up of leaders in business, education, nonprofits and state agencies.

Visit the Clearinghouse at <https://clearinghouse.futurereadyiowa.gov/>

## AEA Purchasing Celebrates 20 Years of Service!

For 20 years, Iowa's AEAs provided schools with the opportunity to not only save money on the goods and services they use every day but have also simplified the procurement process. Since 1999, cooperative purchasing has been offered as a value-added service from the AEAs.

What began as a single program foodservice cooperative has expanded to include active membership in a national purchasing group and cover over nine different purchasing areas, from the basics (like pens, crayons, markers and paper) to more involved services like 21st century classrooms, building safety and security and video boards/message centers (to name a few)!



We've progressed from a handful of contracts to working with over 90 vendor partners, all accessible in an online marketplace making it even easier to increase the bottom line. Our mission is to focused on enabling administrators and educators to worry less about their procurement and focus more on student achievement. We look forward to continuing our services in the years to come.

## Save the Date: AEA Legislative Advocacy Event in Feb. 2020

Iowa's AEAs will host its annual Legislative Advocacy Event on Feb. 10-11, 2020 at Prairie Meadows.

## Chapter 103 Conversations

The Iowa Department of Education (DE) will be traveling to regions across the state for feedback regarding Chapter 103 rules. Dates for these conversations will be coming soon from the DE.

# Meeting the requirements of recent mental health legislation



Iowa's Area Education Agencies (AEAs) are providing support to Iowa schools to meet the requirements of Senate File 2113. This legislation requires school districts to provide annual employee training and protocols in two areas:

- 1 Suicide Prevention and Postvention
- 2 Identification of adverse childhood experiences (ACES) and strategies to mitigate toxic stress response

Iowa's AEAs also offer Youth Mental Health First Aid (YMHFA) training that focuses on how to help students experiencing a mental health, addiction challenge, or crisis. YMHFA is a nationally recognized curriculum.

Additional trainings are listed in the technical assistance guidance created by the Iowa Department of Education (<https://educateiowa.gov/sites/files/ed/documents/GuidanceSF2113.pdf>). The list is not exhaustive and school districts are not required to select from the list. School districts have the authority to select the evidence-supported training that best meets the needs of their district.

## Suicide Prevention and Postvention Training

An online course for district personnel supporting students, and knowing when and how to make referrals to school or community-based mental health providers.

- One hour
- Required annually
- AEA Learning Online, <https://training.aealearningonline.org>

## Identification of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES) and Strategies to Mitigate Toxic Stress Response

This training focuses on learning the risk and protective factors, outcomes associated with ACEs, and evidence-based strategies to reduce or eliminate the impact of ACEs and stop them from occurring in the first place.

- One hour
- Required annually
- Contact your AEA for training information

## Youth Mental Health First Aid

YMHFA is a course that focuses on how to help students experiencing a mental health, addiction challenge, or crisis. It is a quality, evidence-based training, but participation is not required of Iowa schools. YMHFA meets the suicide prevention training part of the legislation when it is completed along with the postvention module available on AEA Learning Online.

- Face-to-Face
- 6-8 hours
- Contact your AEA for training information
- AEA Learning Online Postvention Module, <https://training.aealearningonline.org>

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*Within the AEA Learning Online suicide modules, districts have the opportunity to personalize the content and add their own resources. Contact AEA Learning Online for information.*

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Iowa's Area  
Education  
Agencies