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From the New Editor of Iowa Educational Leadership

~ by Thomas Ahart



Here we are, three-quarters of the way through the 2007-2008 school year and you are just now receiving your first edition of IEL for the year...my apologies. Last year, under the leadership of Dr. David Darnell, the Iowa ASCD Board of Directors recognized that our organization was very reliant on the services of a couple of individuals for some of our most important functions. One of the key areas discussed was the editorship of *Iowa Educational Leadership* (IEL). Susanne Baty (retired principal, Maquoketa), with the assistance of June Wahl, had taken sole responsibility for all facets of publishing IEL for over nine years and over 60 issues. What if she decided to retire?

I agreed last spring to work with Susanne over the summer to learn “the *IEL* process” which she had so skillfully refined over her many years of expert service. When she was ready to retire from the *IEL* we would then be ready. Unfortunately, serious health issues struck Susanne’s family and we were unable to meet as planned. Late in the summer, Susanne herself took ill and was hospitalized.

Finally, months later, with the help of several contributors and June Wahl, we have a new edition of *Iowa Educational Leadership*. Please accept my apology for the late date of delivery.

Plans for IEL

Now that the rocky road of transition has for the most part been traversed, I would like to share some of the future plans for IEL.

- IEL will be published at least twice a year: once in the fall and once in the spring.

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- At least one portion of each issue will be dedicated to the publication of juried research from one of our state's universities. Work is underway to assemble an IEL review panel to review and approve for publication research articles submitted for publication.
- Each issue will update our membership of the work of the Iowa ASCD Executive Board since the last issue.
- Other ideas under consideration for IEL...
 - √ Features on Iowa practitioners recognized as leaders in instructional "best practice,"
 - √ Updates from the Department of Education relative to supervision and instruction,
 - √ Regular articles from members of the Iowa ASCD Executive Board.

Whether you are new to Iowa ASCD or have been with us for a long time, you know that our board has been working diligently to establish Iowa ASCD as the leader for instructional leadership.

We have increased the size of our Board, we have committed to maintaining a tight focus on our mission, and we continue to look for ways to operate more efficiently and more effectively for our membership. As we look toward the future of IEL, we hope you will share your thoughts and ideas for improvement. Is there something that has been a part of IEL in the past that you would like to see continued or re-introduced? Do you have new ideas for IEL?

Please contact me at tom.ahart@ankenyschools.org if you have suggestions for content, comments about IEL, or if you have a piece you would like to have considered for inclusion in our May issue. Submissions for the May issue are due to me (either electronically or by mail) by April 30, 2008. Send your submissions by mail to:

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Des Moines, IA 50316

or electronically as a Word document to tom.ahart@ankenyschools.org

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The Editor of *Iowa Educational Leadership* is Tom Ahart, Des Moines. The Editorial Assistant is June Wahl, Maquoketa.