

## *From the President*

*By Kristine Condon*



All three of IASCD's major activities are tied to a single theme this year:

### *Differentiation of Instruction:*

*By Practitioners,  
For Practitioners.*

Our **Fall Institute**, attended by classroom teachers, building principals, district administrators, college/university professors and AEA staff, and hosted by Drake University, focused on the basics of differentiation.

The annual spring **Curriculum Academy**, May 9 and 10, is designed to meet the curriculum leadership needs of the many shapes of our Iowa schools' teaching and learning leaders—those who teach part-time, administer buildings, coordinate district-wide efforts, superintend, and assist from our intermediate

agencies. For the second year, a “crucial conversations” day is planned in conjunction with the Academy for experienced curriculum leaders and academy completers networking and focusing on issues related to differentiation.

This **Academy** is designed as a three-year experience with academy participants following four strands of common learnings over three years as they hone their instructional leadership skills together in cohort. The four strands include: Professional Development Responsibility, Monitoring Student Learning, Curriculum Leadership, and Technical Aspects of curriculum work.

There are still some registration spots remaining for the May **Academy** if you haven't yet sent yours.

Thursday, June 21 and Friday, June 22 we bring back the **Okoboji Effective Schools Conference** at Arrowhead Resort in Okoboji, Iowa. Traditionally, curriculum leaders from across the state have gathered to learn and play together in this beautiful setting each June. Dr. Lynda Franco will keynote this great conference.

Six breakout sessions focus on effective differentiation for six subgroup populations (TAG, special education, ELL, low SES and those in alternative settings) led by practitioners from Iowa

and Minnesota. Teams of two or more will be able to navigate the full conference schedule. Plan to join us in the beautiful Iowa lakes region for a Wednesday, June 20 pre-conference golf outing, a variety of cultural and recreational options, and two days of great summer learning and fellowship.

The **Okoboji Effective Schools Conference** registration spots are filling quickly.

As an organization we are grounded in our mission to be: **“The source for developing instructional leadership—A responsive network of educational leaders which serves as the first choice for those who influence instructional policy and practices in Iowa.”**

We are committed to **excellence**, and to our belief in being **responsive** to others, **proactive** leading others, **collaborative** seeking others and **professional**, acting with integrity.

*We welcome letters to the editor and opinions of our readers! All submissions may be edited for length, accuracy and clarity. Letters and guest opinions should be sent electronically to*  
**batys@caves.net**

*or to*  
Susanne Baty  
6446 Caves Rd.  
Maquoketa, IA 52060

**563-652-5656**