

Fast Facts...



Northwest AEA serves:

- 44,684 students
- 3,398 teachers
- 4,764 students with special education needs
- 35 school districts
- 33 accredited private schools
- 22 alternative programs/schools
- 10 counties in northwest Iowa—Cherokee, Crawford, Ida, Lyon, Monona, O'Brien, Osceola, Plymouth, Sioux and Woodbury

Early Childhood service facts:

- Nearly 500 children (ages 3 to 5 years) were referred to Northwest AEA Early Childhood Department for assistance
- Over 500 intakes to Early ACCESS (children birth to age 3)
- Various specialties that make up our Early Childhood teams include: speech-language pathology, occupational therapy, physical therapy, consultation, hearing, social work and vision

Results of the state customer satisfaction survey indicated our districts had this to say about Northwest AEA:

- 93%* agreed or strongly agreed that the services they had received or participated in met their professional needs
- 90%* agreed or strongly agreed that Northwest AEA helps teachers meet the needs of students in special education
- 80%* agreed or strongly agreed that Northwest AEA helps plan or implement practices to ensure that all students have access to the Iowa Core
- 75%* agreed or strongly agreed that Northwest AEA helps teachers prepare students to experience success as citizens, in post-secondary education and in the workplace

** Represents the results without the "no opinion" responses.*



Vision and Mission

Vision: We will provide exemplary leadership and educational services to all children, families and communities in Northwest AEA.

Mission: Northwest AEA provides visionary leadership and quality, student-centered services through relationships with families, schools and communities.

more fast facts...

- Northwest AEA not only offers **dozens of special education services and programs** but also provides: **media services** for classroom instruction, **education support**, and **instructional services**.
- In the last few years, AEA's have been mandated to **take on more administrative duties** including Iowa Core, adding foster and homeless children to birth-to-three services and providing follow-ups for newborn hearing screening at all area hospitals and new early childhood initiatives.
- Special Education has seen a **dramatic increase in challenging behavior** and autism. Northwest AEA has made adjustments to address these needs.
- We **test approximately 32,000 children** for hearing every year.
- Our print and production services produce over **4 million impressions** a year for schools.
- The Iowa Educators' Consortium (IEC) **saves our school districts millions of dollars** a year by using a consortium to purchase needed school supplies.
- Northwest AEA provides teachers and administrators with **hundreds of professional development opportunities** each year.
- Our **Media Services** department provides books, CDs, DVDs, videos and a host of other materials to teachers every day.
- We **provide many services not mandated** for the area education agencies, including the services of social workers, autism teams and consultants, to name a few. We have been able to provide these services through economies of scale.
- Northwest AEA maintains a **Science Center** in order to help schools improve student achievement by implementing supplemental research-based science instruction in grades K-8.
- Media and Information Technology provides **Iowa AEA Online** which consists of 13 of the best online databases for students and teachers. It is available, at no cost to schools, 24/7 and 365 days a year.
- **AEA PD Online offers online trainings to school districts** across the state. AEA PD Online increases the amount of online professional development opportunities for Iowa's teachers, including diversifying along subject areas, grade levels and online format.

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