

**Governing Iowa's public
universities and special schools**

University of Iowa
Iowa State University
University of Northern Iowa
Iowa School for the Deaf
Iowa Braille and Sight Saving School
Lakeside Lab Regents Resource Center
Quad-Cities Graduate Center
Southwest Iowa Regents Resource Center
Tri-State Graduate Center



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MEDIA ALERT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 22, 2012

Contact: Diana Gonzalez, (515) 281-3934

Announcement of Public Hearing and Meeting

Iowa Education Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired and Iowa School for the Deaf

The Iowa Education Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired (IESBVI) and Iowa School for the Deaf (ISD) have scheduled the second of two public hearings on increasing efficiencies and effectiveness in their service to Iowa students who are deaf, hard of hearing, blind, visually impaired or deafblind, including services provided at the state's two special schools (the Iowa School for the Deaf and Iowa Braille and Sight Saving School). Interested parties are invited to participate in the hearing, either in person or through written comments. Sign language interpreters will be present at the hearing.

The public hearing will be held on Monday, August 27, 2012, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. in the community room of the Lied Multipurpose Complex at the Iowa School for the Deaf in Council Bluffs.

The hearing is meant to gather input from the public. Those wishing to provide input at the hearing should register upon arrival. Comments will be limited to three minutes. Participants should not expect their comments or questions to be addressed by school officials at the time of the hearings.

Individuals preferring to provide comments and have them read publicly should submit them to khintz@iowa-braille.k12.ia.us or cangeroth@iowaschoolforthe deaf.org. Mailed comments should be addressed to Kathy Hintz, Iowa Braille School, 1002 G Ave., Vinton, IA 52349 or Cindie Angeroth, Iowa School for the Deaf, 3501 Harry Langdon Blvd, Council Bluffs, IA 51503.

The hearing will be preceded by a meeting of the Feasibility and Planning Study Committee, which is open to the public. The Committee has been charged with examining the structure for future effective statewide services to the Iowa student population described above. The August 27 Committee meeting will take place from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the community room of the Lied Multipurpose Complex at the Iowa School for the Deaf in Council Bluffs. Individuals wishing to submit comments for consideration by the Study Committee at this meeting (aside from the public hearings) should e-mail or mail them to any of the addresses listed above.

A component of the Feasibility and Planning Study includes Iowa Code 270.10 which requires such a study to occur before merging the special schools or closing either school. The Study Committee is working toward an early winter deadline to submit recommendations to the Department of Management, which may present the findings to the Iowa General Assembly. Comments from the public hearings will be summarized and presented at the Feasibility Study Committee meeting scheduled for September 24.

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