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EDUCATIONAL FOCUS NEWS YOU CAN USE

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SPRING FEVER IS IN THE AIR

Welcome to V.I.P.S. Educational Focus!

V.i.P.S. is a family owned and operated School Equipment Company serving the Iowa. This year we are celebrating our 10th year of being in business.

We are proud to represent just about every type of equipment a school would need.

Once you learn of our company, you will appreciate the standards which our company keeps as our primary focus is on quality.

When you have a project, or even if you just need budgetary pricing, call and we will show you how we can save your School significant money.

We hope you enjoy meeting our Team Member of the Month and Product Promotion on page 2.

Senate OKs education reform

A significant step in what is becoming a legislative melee to find agreement among proposals from the governor and both parties before lawmakers go home. "Unfortunately, I think the Senate bill is a much-watered-down version," Gov. Terry Branstad told reporters Monday. "We want bold reform."

Differences in education plans

Here are some key differences in the reform plans of the House, Senate and Gov. Terry Branstad:

TEACHER EVALUATION

- **HOUSE:** Teachers would be evaluated annually, rather than every three years, as under current law. The state education department would have to come up with a new evaluation process to be approved in next year's legislative session.
- **SENATE:** Teachers would receive some evaluation annually. Every three years, the evaluation would be by an administrator, a review intended to be more detailed and include a portfolio review. In the other two years, teachers would be peer-evaluated, with a focus on their continuing improvement plans and goals.
- **GOVERNOR:** Teachers would receive annual evaluations similar to the kind outlined in the House plan. The education department would design the evaluation. It would not need legislative approval.

TESTING

- **HOUSE:** High school students would be required to complete end-of-course exams that would be factored into graduation requirements; high school juniors would be required to take either college entrance exams or career readiness assessments at no cost to them.
- **SENATE:** The Senate version doesn't address end-of-course testing at the high school level. Unlike the House's and governor's plans, the Senate bill would not implement a "value-added assessment" system using testing to measure student achievement and teacher performance. (The value-added results would be used to validate observation by school administrators, under the House's and governor's proposals.)
- **GOVERNOR:** His plan would require end-of-course exams like the House version.

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Team member of the month

V.i.P.S. is very excited about the addition of Jason in the Ohio market. Jason has nearly a decade of educational technology sales and solution experience and has a reputation of providing OUTSTANDING customer service.

Jason lives in Mansfield, Ohio with his family. In his free time, Jason enjoys drag racing, motorsports, debate, politics, carpentry, and computers.

The Possibilities Are Now Opportunities

Edhesion teacher tools support education leaders centering their efforts on proven instructional strategies and who strive to cultivate district wide professional knowledge building and sharing between stakeholders at all levels.

Edhesion functions as the leadership toolkit with which Best Practice Learning Communities can be planned and brought to fruition.

The Toolkit provides functionality in the areas of:

- **Communications and Collaboration**
- **Best practice learning communities**
- **Curriculum Mapping**
- **Standards & Instructional Alignment**
- **Professional Development**
- **Integration with Student Information System and other District Applications**
- **District Web Content Management**
- **Parent/Student/Teacher Portal Solutions and Teacher Websites**
- **Social media and Blogging solution tailored for education**

Edhesion drives collaborative learning



Design and manage an education environment where students and parents are connected, administrators are empowered and teachers are inspired. Edhesion offers accelerate teaching and learning solution tools and services needed to help educators and administrators design and manage an education environment where students are engaged, parents are connected, administrators are empowered, and teachers are inspired. Educators can maximize their time with students by reducing the time and effort they spend on administrative tasks.