

Profile of Services

Several agency staff members are assigned specifically to the Mount Vernon Community School District and work individually with children and staff. They include:

Terry Arons	School Social Worker
Lisa Cannon	Speech-Lang. Pathologist
Claudia Carlson	Speech-Lang. Path. (EC)
Debra Cowley	Audiologist
Kathy Dolinaj	Work Experience Coordinator
Claudia Gegenheimer	Vision Screener
Nancy Hepker	Itinerant Vision Teacher
Betty Herr	Itinerant Hearing Teacher
Char Haddy	Media/Technology Liaison
Emily Hutchins	Speech-Lang. Path. (EC)
Janet Kovarik	School Social Worker (EC)
Kristy Kruse	Speech-Lang. Path. (EC)
Rose Landers	Occupational Therapist
Peg Maher	Audiologist (EC)
Marilyn Muhle	Physical Therapist (EC)
Barb Newport	School Psychologist (EC)
Terri Nicol	Audiometrist
Janet Scharnberg	Physical Therapist
Marissa Sia	School Psychologist
Mike Sinram	Adapted PE Consultant
Debra Thompson	Parent Child Educator (EC)
Mary Ann Thompson	Itinerant Preschool Teacher (EC)
Judy Weyant	Special Education Consultant

Mary Somerville Regional Facilitator



School Technology Services

- The district participated in the **Audio Visual Coop** and **participated in software buy** sponsored by Grant Wood AEA.
- The district uses Grant Wood AEA as an **Internet provider**.
- Mount Vernon staff participated in **Edutrac** programming during the 1998-99 year. Edutrac is an interactive series of programs designed for educators delivered via the Iowa Communications Network (ICN.)
- GWAEA assistive technology consultants provided **consultation concerning assistive technology software** and devices for elementary students with special needs. The consultants also provided inservices to students, parents, and Mount Vernon staff.

Management Services

- The Mount Vernon Community School District purchased audiovisual items, totaling \$17,627.98 through the **GWAEA Cooperative Purchasing Program**. All schools have an opportunity to save up to 40 percent depending on the purchase.
- Grant Wood AEA assisted the district with its **Compliance/School Improvement visit**, Dec. 7-9, 1998.
- The district uses Grant Wood AEA as an **Internet provider**.
- The district receives support from Grant Wood AEA's Administrative Technology department for **computerized processing of data for accounting and payroll**.
- Grant Wood AEA provides support for district statistical information through the **Annual Statistical Report**.
- The district is a member of the **Area 10 Eisenhower Funding Consortium**.
- The Mount Vernon Community School District participates in **Carl Perkins Funding**.

February 2000



Mount Vernon Community School District

Grant Wood Area Education Agency provides educational services and leadership for 33 public school districts and 23 approved non-public schools in seven East Central Iowa counties, including the Mount Vernon Community School District in Linn County.

Services and resources from the agency are available to the Mount Vernon Community School District and its staff without charge, except in cases of some non-mandated services such as printing or administrative data processing, or for individualized district requests.

Nearly 60 percent of the agency's staff members are assigned to specific school districts and work directly with children as an integral part of the local school staff. Other staff serve children through inservice and consultation with teachers and administrators, offer courses and workshops, and link schools with other resources that meet their needs.

The AEA's have specific responsibilities assigned by the Code of Iowa. To provide funding for these services, the state comptroller notifies each Area 10 school district of the divisional per pupil cost for Grant Wood AEA services. The school district then includes those costs, multiplied by its enrollment, in its budget calculations and collects the AEA funding for the state. The state, in turn, provides monthly payments to the agency. The 1998-99 costs for Grant Wood AEA services are as follows:

Educational Services	\$ 37.40 per pupil
Media Services	\$ 34.12 per pupil
Special Education Services	\$ 182.54 per pupil

This report will give you a brief look at specific services and projects currently taking place in the Mount Vernon Community School District. Together with you, we hope to make a difference in the educational programs for the children in your community.

GWAEA Board of Directors

Local district school boards are represented through the nine members of the Grant Wood AEA Board of Directors. The AEA Board meets monthly and sets policy and budget for the agency. The Grant Wood AEA board member representing the Mount Vernon Community School District is Ron Barney.

Please feel free to contact him with your questions, concerns or appreciation for services.

Our Mission

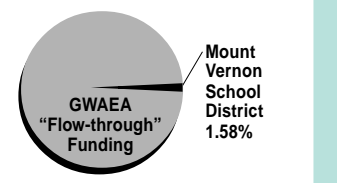
As a partner, we provide exemplary leadership and service to support learning in schools and communities.

Grant Wood AEA Administration

Board President	Lynne Cannon
Chief Administrator	Ron Fielder
Executive Directors	Clifford Ehlinger Jeananne Hagen
Associate Directors	Bonnie Boothroy Leslee Sandberg
Asst. to Admin.	Robert McNiel
Board Secretary/ Treasurer	Ron Bowers

"Flow-through" Funding

Mount Vernon School District	\$280,045
Total Grant Wood AEA "Flow-through" Funding	\$17,745,360



Grant Wood Area Education Agency does not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, marital status, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, age or disability in its educational programs, activities or employment practices, or as otherwise prohibited by statute or regulation. For more information, contact Cliff Ehlinger, equity coordinator, at (319) 399-6730 or 1-800-332-8488 or TDD (319) 399-6766.



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Services for Mount Vernon Students and Families

The agency's most direct student contact occurs with students who have disabilities. Through district and agency cooperative efforts, each child has an Individualized Educational Plan (IEP) and receives instruction and therapy to meet his/her needs.

Screening Services

Catching difficulties early is the goal of Grant Wood AEA's various screening programs. Student services include the following:

- **CHILD CHECK**, a screening of three and four year olds for hearing, vision, speech, coordination and ability to learn, is held in the district yearly. Last year, 20 children from the district participated in the screening.
- Students in kindergarten, first, second and fifth grades, as well as new students to the buildings, are **tested annually for hearing impairments**. Last year in the Mount Vernon School District:
 - 392 students were screened
 - 53 students received a diagnostic hearing evaluation
 - 14 students were referred for medical follow-up.

In addition to the annual testing, many hearing evaluations are conducted throughout the year in response to medical or educational referrals.

- Mount Vernon pre-kindergarten through 12th-grade students receive **vision screening** annually. A total of 749 students were screened and 48 were referred to a physician for further testing.
- One Mount Vernon student was evaluated in the **Child Evaluation Clinic**. Referrals are made through a school's Student Planning Team.

Student Services

The agency sponsors various student educational activities. The following activities do not represent the only contact that Grant Wood AEA staff have had with Mount Vernon students and families, but rather highlight recent efforts.

- Grant Wood AEA staff provide **direct student services** in the areas of speech and language, occupational therapy, physical therapy, hearing and vision, work experience, assistive technology, adapted physical education, counseling, and social and cognitive skill development.
- Fifty-one Mount Vernon students participated in the Grant Wood AEA **College for Kids** program, which is a two-week tuition summer school for high-ability students in sixth, seventh, or eighth grade.
- **Kids on the Block puppeteers** annually present puppet shows to students at Washington Elementary. These puppet shows and classroom activities are designed to promote positive attitudes and increase understanding between students with and without disabilities.
- Mount Vernon High School students participated in **Think Careers on IIN Fridays (TCIF)** programming. The discussions, held via the Iowa Communications Network (ICN), allow juniors and seniors to discuss a variety of careers through questions and discussions with local experts.

Family Resources

- Mount Vernon parents have access to the **Grant Wood AEA Parent Educator Partnership (PEP) Library**, materials and services.
- The **Grant Wood AEA Work Experience and School-To-Work** staff support parents in linking with community resources in the areas of health and human services, vocational assessment and training, and transition to adulthood.
- **Grant Wood AEA's Specialty Resource Teams** (Autism, Brain Injury, Health, and Inclusion) provide educational consultation, information, and coordination for students with special needs and their families.

Services for Mount Vernon Staff

Grant Wood AEA provides a variety of services for teachers and administrators. It is difficult to assess the importance of any one activity. Sometimes a single phone call will give the information to solve a problem; at other times, a consultant and teacher may spend an entire year working together on a regular basis.

The following activities do not represent the only contact that Grant Wood AEA staff have had with Mount Vernon staff, but rather highlight recent efforts.

Curriculum Development, Instruction and Assessment

- Mount Vernon staff, parents, and Grant Wood AEA support staff work together through **The Solutions-Focused Approach** to bring ideas, strategies, and resources to diverse learners in the Mount Vernon Schools.
- Agency staff consult with teachers on **instructional design and classroom management**.
- Mount Vernon parents and administrators can receive answers to **home school questions** from Grant Wood AEA staff.
- Agency consultants provide **curriculum assistance** and serve as classroom resources for Mount Vernon staff.
- Mount Vernon staff joined more than 4,200 area educators at Grant Wood AEA's "**Kaleidoscope of Learning**" Conference, held Nov. 5-6, 1998, at various locations in Cedar Rapids.
- The Mount Vernon District was involved in an **Accreditation visit** from the Iowa Department of Education. Grant Wood AEA staff assisted in preparation for the visit and participated in focus groups during the three days.
- Grant Wood AEA early childhood staff work with parents, local preschools, in-home care givers, health providers, and the elementary staff to **address the needs of infants and young children**.

Instructional Media Services

- Grant Wood AEA's **Traveling Production Lab** visited the district during 1998-99. The lab provides teachers with the equipment for making buttons, books, bulletin board letters/shapes and for laminating materials.
- Mount Vernon received a \$429.40 allotment of **enrollment-based credit** from Grant Wood AEA Graphics and Printing Services during the 1998-99 school year.

Professional Development

- Twenty Mount Vernon staff attended courses through the **Grant Wood AEA Staff Development Program**. Seven individuals received recertification credit; 11 received graduate credit; and two received other credit.
- Fourteen Mount Vernon staff participated in **Grant Wood AEA Professional Development** workshops during 1997-98.
- Twenty-nine Mount Vernon staff attended **Grant Wood AEA Media & Technology** workshops and events.

School-Community Planning and Support

- Grant Wood AEA and Mount Vernon staff have worked together to maintain and expand **inclusive education models** to serve students in their home community.
- Mount Vernon staff and administrators have been involved in the **Comprehensive School Improvement Seminars** provided by Grant Wood AEA during the 1999-2000 school year.

Profile of Services for 1998-1999 school year

Use of GWAEA Media Center Materials by Mount Vernon

Collection	No. of Items
Books	84
Films, Videos, Laser Discs, CD's	1,183
Nonprint (kits, microcomputer software)	2

Use of GWAEA Media Center Classroom Materials by Area 10 Schools

Collection	No. of Items
Books	20,244
Films, Videos, Laser Discs, CD's	132,630
Nonprint (kits, microcomputer software)	379

Use of GWAEA Professional Library Support for Information Needs

	Mount Vernon	AEA 10
Information Searches	0	100
Retrieval Requests	5	313
Reference Support	0	25
ProQuest Resource	2,412	50,351

Use of GWAEA Professional Materials by Mount Vernon

Collection	No. of Items
Prof. Books/Journals	66
Prof. Classroom Materials	67
Prof. Nonprint Materials	7

Use of GWAEA Professional Materials by Area 10 Schools

Collection	No. of Items
Prof. Books/Journals	5,143
Prof. Classroom Materials	3,395
Prof. Nonprint Materials	2,932

Use of GWAEA Technical Services by Mount Vernon

Service	Amount
Equipment Repair	3
Laminating	0
Printing Impressions	135,020
Video Curriculum (No Charge)	66

Use of GWAEA Technical Services by Area 10 Schools

Service	Amount
Equipment Repair	194
Laminating	186,873.19 (sq. ft.)
Printing Impressions	16,442,664
Video Curriculum (No Charge)	3,065

