

Chester J. Culver, Governor

Patty Judge, Lt. Governor

Elisabeth Buck, Director



December 20, 2007

Mr. Ken Kay
President
Partnership for 21st Century Skills
177 N. Church Avenue, Suite 105
Tuscon, AZ 85701

Dear Mr. Kay:

I am pleased to support the Iowa Department of Education's application to be a Partnership for 21st Century Skills Leadership State (P21 Leadership State). As director of Iowa Workforce Development, I know the demand for skilled workers is going to continue to increase at a rate that Iowa will not be able to keep pace with over the next five years.

The need for Iowa's students to develop proficiency in 21st century skills is critical for our businesses and our economy. The workforce of the future will need to be well versed in these skills.

I believe this is a worthwhile effort for the state. Iowa Workforce Development and the Iowa Department of Education have been working collaboratively on how to best inform students of the choices that will await them when they leave our school systems. I look forward to hearing that Iowa's application has been accepted as a P21 Leadership State.

Sincerely,

Elisabeth Buck
Director