

Ross Abels

340 Auburn Hills Drive • Coralville, Iowa 52241

Educational Background

- 2004 University of Iowa, College of Educational Policy and Leadership Studies, Superintendent Endorsement
- 1992 University of Iowa, College of Education, Division of Curriculum and Instruction, Course work and comprehensive examinations for Doctor of Philosophy degree in Education
- 1988 University of Northern Iowa, College of Education, Department of Educational Administration, Iowa Elementary Administrator certification
- 1978 M.A. University of Northern Iowa, College of Education, Department of Curriculum and Instruction, General Curriculum Studies
- 1973 B.A. University of Northern Iowa, College of Education, Department of Curriculum and Instruction, Elementary Education, Social Sciences emphasis

Professional Experiences

- 2009-Present Chief Executive Officer, Abels Consulting & Design, LLC
- 2015-Present Contract Trainer/Consultant, PowerSchool, LLC.
- 2009-2015 Contract Trainer/Consultant (PowerSchool), Pearson School Systems, Inc.
- 2010-2012 Contract Reviewer of Investing in Innovation Applications, U.S. Department of Education
- 2000-2009 Director of Instructional Services, Solon Community School District, Solon, Iowa. Responsibilities included:
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| Educational Programs | Curriculum/Instruction/Assessment |
| Staff Development | Entitlement Funded Programs Administration |
| Instructional Technology | Information Systems |
| Compliance/Reporting | Comprehensive School Improvement Planning |
- 1998-2000 Director of Instructional Services, Kodiak Island Borough School District, Kodiak, Alaska. Responsibilities similar to those with the Solon Community School District
- 1998-2000 Principal, Kodiak Alternative High School, Kodiak Island Borough School District, Kodiak, Alaska
- 1996-1998 Principal, East Elementary School, Kodiak Island Borough School District, Kodiak, Alaska
- 1987-1996 Sixth grade classroom educator, Hansen Elementary School, Cedar Falls Community Schools, Cedar Falls, IA
- 1989-1994 Sixth grade classroom educator, Program participant in the full inclusion of age-appropriate students with severe disabilities in regular education classrooms, Hansen Elementary School, Cedar Falls Community Schools, Cedar Falls, IA
- 1973-1986 Sixth grade classroom educator, North Cedar Elementary School, Cedar Falls Community Schools, Cedar Falls, IA

Related Experiences and Recognitions

- 2008 Apple Classrooms of Tomorrow (ACOT²) Project Development, Apple, Inc.
- 2006 Iowa Central Office Administrator of the Year, School Administrators of Iowa
- 2005 Region 10 Central Office Administrator of the Year, School Administrators of Iowa
- 2005-Present Apple Distinguished Educator, Apple, Inc.
- 2003 ePortfolio Project evaluator, University of Iowa, College of Educational Policy and Leadership Studies
- 2001 Committee to develop performance criteria for the Iowa Teaching Standards, Iowa Department of Education
- 1994 National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, Assistant Trainer of Scoring and Director of Scoring and Interviewer of Candidates for Young Adolescent Generalist Certification
- 1988-1989 University of Northern Iowa, Department of Curriculum and Instruction, Cedar Falls, Iowa. Adjunct Instructor, Course title: "Teaching of Reading and Language Arts."

Certifications

Education

Iowa: Permanent Professional — K-9 Teaching
Iowa: Professional — PK-6 Principal; Superintendent;
Iowa: Teacher and Administrator Evaluator Approval

PowerSchool®

Instant Productivity
PowerScheduler
Strategic Consultation

Professional and Academic Association Memberships

- 1991-2010 Alpha Chapter of Alpha Upsilon Alpha Honor Society in Reading, International Reading Association
- 1987-2010 Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development
- 1991-2010 International Reading Association
- 1991-1994 Iowa Association of Elementary Educators, steering committee member and Newsletter Editor
- 1987-1996 Iowa Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development
- 1992-1995 Iowa Association of Persons with Severe Handicaps — Advisory Committee
- 1988-2009 Phi Delta Kappa

Curriculum Development and Committee Membership

Curriculum Administrator/Committee Facilitator, Solon Community School District

- 2008-2009 Language Arts Curriculum Development
- 2007-2008 Mathematics Curriculum Development
- 2006-2007 Technology Integration, Career Technical Education & Guidance Curriculum Development
- 2005-2006 Health Curriculum Development
- 2005-2006 Science Curriculum Review
- 2005-2006 Instructional Technology Curriculum Review
- 2004-2005 Language Arts Curriculum Review
- 2004-2005 Social Studies Curriculum Review
- 2003-2004 Physical Education Curriculum Review
- 2003-2004 Math Curriculum Review
- 2001-2002 Extended Learning Program Review

Curriculum Administrator/Committee Facilitator, Kodiak Island Borough School District

- 1999-2000 Reading Assessment Committee
- 1999-2000 Health Curriculum Review
- 1999-2000 Career Technology Curriculum Review
- 1999-2000 Physical Education Curriculum Review
- 1998-2000 Mathematics Assessment Committee
- 1998-2000 District Assessment Committee
- 1998-2000 District Staff Development Committee
- 1998-1999 Social Studies Curriculum Review
- 1998-1999 World Languages Curriculum Review
- 1998-1999 PreK-14 Steering Committee
- 1996-2000 Evaluation of Certificated Personnel
- 1996-1997 Mathematics Curriculum Review

Committee Member, Cedar Falls Community Schools

- 1993-1995 Science Curriculum Review, Professional Development Mentor
- 1990-1996 Assessment of Student Achievement
- 1989-1996 Language Arts Curriculum Review
- 1989-1996 District-wide Needs Assessment (280.12)
- 1989-1996 Human Growth and Development Curriculum Review
- 1987-1993 K-12 Technology

Publications

- “A Personal View of the ‘Regular Education Initiative’ from Two Regular Educators (With a Little Help From a Friend),” *TASH Newsletter*, 17(10), October 1991
- “A Few Thoughts About Integration from a Regular Educator,” *Iowa News*, March 1989
- “Hansen’s Whole Language Staff Development,” *The Black Hawk Reading Council Newsletter*, Fall 1989
- “School-Community Partnerships,” for the Cedar Falls Community Schools Partnerships Program, Fall 1989

Presentations

- 2011 *iPad Devices for School Administration*, School Administrators of Iowa, Clive, IA
- 2009 *Challenge-Based Learning*, Nebraska Educational Technology Association, Omaha, NE
- 2009 *Apple Classrooms of Tomorrow Today (ACOT²)*, Iowa Technology Educators Conference, Coralville, IA
- 2009 *Maximizing Student Achievement: Learning with Technology in Middle School Math and Science Classrooms*, Lexington Educational Technology Academy, Lexington, Nebraska
- 2008 *Maximizing Student Achievement: Learning with Technology in Middle School Math Classrooms*, AEA13, Council Bluffs, IA
- 2008 *Challenge-Based Learning and Apple Classrooms of Tomorrow Today (ACOT²)*, Iowa Technology Educators Conference, Des Moines, IA
- 2007 *Visioning Technology: ADE Panel Discussion*, Iowa Technology Educators Conference, Des Moines, IA
- 2006 *Visioning Technology: ADE Panel Discussion*, Iowa Technology Educators Conference, Des Moines, IA
- 2005 *Balanced Literacy Means Balanced Assessment*, 32nd Plains International Reading Association Regional Conference, Minneapolis, Minnesota
- 2005 *Technology Planning in a "Flat World"*, Iowa Technology Educator's Conference, Des Moines, IA
- 2005 *The Legacy We Leave: The Misalignment of NCLB and Progressive Education*, School Administrators of Iowa, Des Moines, IA
- 2004 *Learning with Technology: The Evolution of One District's Vision*, Grant Wood Area Education Agency, Cedar Rapids, IA
- 2003 *Learning with Technology: The Evolution of One District's Vision*, Iowa Technology Educators Conference, Des Moines, IA
- 1995 *Cedar Falls in CyberSpace*, in conjunction with Cedar Falls Utilities — Fiber Optics Division and CedarNet Public Access Internet Service Provider, Cedar Falls, IA
- 1993 *Strategies for Collecting Valid Data from Reading Response Journals*, Iowa Teachers of English State Conference, Des Moines, IA
- 1993 *Developing Consistent Data Collection Strategies*, Iowa Reading Association State Conference, Des Moines, IA
- 1992 *Creating a Successful School-Wide Writing Program*, Iowa Teachers of English State Conference, Des Moines, IA
- 1992 *Technology in an Elementary Classroom*, Iowa Computer Using Educators State Conference, Des Moines, IA
- 1992 *Publishing Your Work*, Middle Level Writing Conference, University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, IA
- 1991 *Multimedia: Digital Desktop Photography*, Area Education Agency 7 Staff Development, Cedar Falls, IA
- 1991 *Technology for Teachers: Using the Macintosh Computer*, Iowa Computing Using Educators State Conference, Des Moines, IA
- 1991 *Implementing Whole Language: One Building's Perspective*, Beginning Reading State Conference, University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls
- 1991 *The Process of K-6 Whole Language Staff Development*, Iowa Reading Association State Conference, Des Moines, IA
- 1991 *Issues in Whole Language*, Waterloo Community Schools, Waterloo, IA
- 1990 *Full Inclusion of Students with Severe Handicaps in Neighborhood Schools*, The Association of Persons with Severe Handicaps National Convention, Chicago, Illinois
- 1990 *Full Inclusion of Students with Special Needs in Regular Classrooms*, Cooperative Association for Special Education State Conference, Wheaton, Illinois
- 1989 *Days of Our Lives or How Diana Meets the Day-to-Day Challenges of Regular Class Integration*, The Association of Persons with Severe Handicaps National Convention, San Francisco, California
- 1989 *Supported Education: Educating Students with Moderate/Severe Disabilities in Regular Classes*, Iowa Association of Persons with Severe Handicaps State Conference, Des Moines, IA

Consultation

- 2013-2015 *Digital Transformation of Professional Development*, Pearson School Systems, Rancho Cordova, CA
- 2011-2012 *iPad Devices to Support Teaching and Learning*, Boone Community School District, Boone, IA
- 2010-2011 *Designing Technology Infused 21st Century Learning Lessons and Units*, Boone Community School District, Boone, IA
- 2009-2010 *Reaching All Learners*, Apple Professional Development Road Show, West Des Moines, IA; Indianapolis, IN; St. Louis, MO
- 2009-2010 Technology Integration Opportunities Audit and Project Proposal Development, Boone Community School District, Boone, IA
- 1994-1995 *Using ClarisWorks to Generate Elementary Parent-Teacher Conference Reports*, Orchard Hill Elementary School Staff Development Program — Project Developer and Consultant, Cedar Falls, IA
- 1994-1995 *Technological Administration and Management of Elementary Student Demographic Information* — Project Developer and Consultant, Cedar Falls Community Schools, Cedar Falls, IA
- 1994 *Development of Language Arts Mini-lessons via a Computer Network and FileMaker Pro®* — Project Facilitator, Hansen Elementary School Staff Development Program, Cedar Falls, IA
- 1994 Development of computer files (in FileMaker Pro and ClarisWorks formats) to generate elementary parent-teacher conference reports, Hansen Elementary School Staff Development Program — Project Developer and Consultant, Cedar Falls Community Schools, Cedar Falls, IA
- 1994 *Using Technology to Generate Elementary Conference Reports*, Hansen Elementary School staff development program facilitator, Cedar Falls Community Schools, Cedar Falls, IA
- 1993 *Creating a Successful School-Wide Writing Program* — Staff Development Program Facilitator, Sibley Community Schools, Sibley, IA
- 1993 *Technology for Teachers³: Networking Applications in Educational Settings*, District Staff Development Program Facilitator, Cedar Falls Community Schools, Cedar Falls, IA
- 1992 *Technology for Teachers²: Educational Applications of Computer Technology*, District Staff Development Program Facilitator, Cedar Falls Community Schools, Cedar Falls, IA
- 1992 *Alternative Assessment of Language Arts*, Grundy Center Community School District, Grundy Center, IA
- 1991 *Technology for Teachers: Using the Macintosh Computer as a Tool for Change*, District Staff Development Program Facilitator, Cedar Falls Community Schools, Cedar Falls, IA

Community Service

- 2004-2009 University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics Adolescent Health and Resource Center, Advisory Board, Iowa City, IA
- 2001-2009 Johnson County Public Health, Community Health Improvement Planning Committee Iowa City, IA
- 1999-2000 Kodiak Public Broadcasting Corporation, Board of Directors, Kodiak, Alaska
- 1995-1996 CedarNet Public Access Internet Service Provider, Advisory Board, Cedar Falls, IA
- 1991-1996 Cedar Falls Organization of Macintosh Educators, President, Newsletter Editor and Education Special Interest Group Coordinator
- 1988-1996 Hearst Center for the Arts — Educational Advisory Board, Cedar Falls, IA