



## Support for **Grade Acceleration**

Acceleration, also known as grade skipping, is an evidence-based practice for gifted students.

Considering a change in grade placement requires specific testing data and a team process. You may not have acceleration cases come up often, but when you do, ask Heartland AEA to facilitate!



### **Data Collection**

The *Integrated Acceleration System* is used to collect and analyze student testing data and input from school staff, the student and the student's family.



### **Test Administration**

Assessment of a student's grade-level achievement, above-grade aptitude and general ability are necessary for acceleration decisions. We can help administer required assessments your school doesn't already have.



### **Meeting Facilitation**

A child study team meeting is convened to discuss test results and the *Integrated Acceleration System* report and recommendation.

## **Grade Acceleration Decisions: Assessment & Facilitation**

Acceleration means moving through an educational program at a faster pace or at younger ages than typical peers. It aims to match an individual student's readiness and rate of learning to the level of content presented.

More than 100 years of research indicates that students who are accelerated demonstrate positive academic effects and equal, if not better, levels of social and emotional development to those students not accelerated. (*Johnsen et al., 2021*)

## **Time/Cost Estimates**

- Correspondence, data collection and report preparation | ½ day
- Test administration | *varies upon district needs*
- Preparation for and facilitation of meeting with family | ½ day

## **Learn More**

**Kate Boonstra** | *Consultant for Gifted and Talented Education*  
kboonstra@heartlandaea.org | (515) 473-6779



6500 Corporate Drive, Johnston, IA 50131  
(515) 270-9030 | (800) 362-2720  
FAX (515) 270-5383  
[www.heartlandaea.org](http://www.heartlandaea.org)

