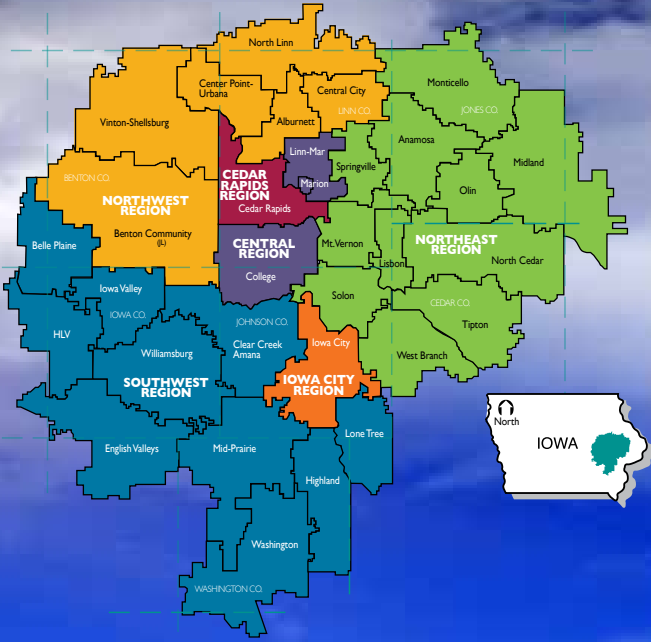


# School Districts and Counties served by Grant Wood AEA



Alburnett | Anamosa | Anamosa St. Patrick | Belle Plaine | Benton Community | Cedar Rapids | Cedar Rapids Metro Catholic | Cedar Rapids Trinity Lutheran | Cedar Valley Christian | Center Point-Urbana | Central City | Central Lutheran | Clear Creek-Amana | College Community | English Valleys | Heritage Christian | Highland | HLV | Iowa City | Iowa City Regina | Iowa Mennonite | Iowa Valley | Isaac Newton Christian Academy | Linn-Mar | Lisbon | Lone Tree | Marion | Mid-Prairie | Midland | Monticello | Monticello Sacred Heart | Mount Vernon | North Cedar | North-Linn | Olin | Scattergood Friends | Solon | Springville | Summit School | Tipton | Vinton-Shellsburg | Washington | Washington St. James | West Branch | Williamsburg | Williamsburg Lutheran Interparish | Willowwind

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# Brain Injury Resource Team

of  
Grant Wood Area Education Agency



**GRANT WOOD**  
AREA EDUCATION AGENCY

## Students With Brain Injury Have Unique Needs

Brain injuries are common and can result from accidents, tumors, strokes, infections, concussions, or other medical emergencies. When students have a brain injury, they may experience new problems with learning and behavior. Managing these problems and the student's return to school can be frustrating for students, parents and teachers. Students may also have long-term learning or behavior difficulties following a brain injury that occurred when the student was younger and are continuing to affect their school performance. Finding effective ways to deal with the effects of brain injury may require special support and assistance for students, families, the local school staff and AEA staff.

The Grant Wood Area Education Agency Brain Injury Resource Team (BIRT) was created to meet the needs of students with brain trauma. The transition from the hospital to the school, the strategies for mild to severe brain injuries, and the ability to provide resources are ways in which the teams can assist.

The BIRT team will collaborate with the Area Education Agency (AEA) team and the Local Education Agency (LEA) team to provide consultation for students who have sustained a recent brain injury (such as an accident or a concussion) or trauma to the brain in the past (seizure disorder, syndromes, etc.). This collaboration aids in ensuring the student's educational access and growth. The BIRT team can also support families and LEA staff in locating resources to better understand their student's challenges.

## How We Can Be Contacted

Parents may contact the AEA for support to the local schools. Hospitals may also advise the parents or local schools who in turn may contact the AEA.

**The Grant Wood AEA contact person is Jessica Knudson, the secretary for the team (319) 399-6801 or [jknudson@gwaea.org](mailto:jknudson@gwaea.org).**

Jessica will be in contact with the AEA Brain Injury Resource Team and the regional administrator for the school serving the student. The school nurse and counselors will contact or be contacted by the regional administrator for that school. The Brain Injury Resource Team will then work with the local team, school staff, and the parents to consult about the necessary resources and strategies needed for the student.

