



**Minutes
State Board of Education
May 12, 2011**

Rosie Hussey
President
Clear Lake

Charles C. Edwards, Jr.
Vice President
Des Moines

Sister Jude Fitzpatrick
West Des Moines

Eric Goranson
Des Moines

Michael L. Knedler
Council Bluffs

Valorie J. Kruse
Sioux City

Ana Lopez
Pella

Max Phillips
Woodward

LaMetta Wynn
Clinton

Brandon Bolte
Student Member
Ankeny

Jason E. Glass
Director and
Executive Officer

The State Board of Education meeting was held on Thursday, May 12, 2011, in the State Board Room, Grimes State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa. The following State Board members were present: Rosie Hussey, Charlie Edwards, Max Phillips, Valorie Kruse, Ana Lopez, Mike Knedler, Eric Goranson, Sister Jude Fitzpatrick, and Brandon Bolte. Director Jason Glass and Iowa Department of Education (Department) staff members Gail Sullivan, Roger Utman, Phil Roeder, Del Hoover, Konni Cawiezell, Matt Ludwig, Jeff Berger, Kris Crabtree-Groff, Kevin Fangman, Carol Greta, Geri McMahon, Marietta Rives, David Mitchell, and Jody Crane were in attendance. Also in attendance were Staci Hupp, The Des Moines Register; Robin Trimble-White and Linda Espey, Grand View University; Chris Mitchell, ACT; Dwight C. Watson, Joel Haack, Melissa Heston and Gloria Gibson, University of Northern Iowa; Ed Starkenburg, Tim Van Soelen and Dennis Vander Plaats, Dordt College; Arlie Willems; and Teresa Krejci and Barb Crittenden, Southwestern Community College.

STATE BOARD BUSINESS MEETING

President Hussey called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

It was moved by Valorie Kruse and seconded by Mike Knedler that the May agenda be approved. The motion carried unanimously.

COMMUNICATION

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Rosie Hussey congratulated Director Jason Glass for recently receiving his doctorate degree. Glass indicated that his dissertation topic was teacher motivation.

Director Report

Legislative Session

Jason Glass indicated that the Department is optimistic about the outcome of this legislative session. He feels confident that there will be some kind of compromise reached and there will be a budget going forward.

Department Reorganization and Staff Recognition

Glass stated that the Department is in the process of being reorganized. The purpose of this reorganization is to create a sharper point in the Department around driving education reform and creating a policy agenda.

Glass reported on the changes which include:

- Creating a Policy Special Assistant position,
- Reassignment of Konni Cawiezell's duties as Legislative and Policy Liaison,
- Combining the areas of communication and statistical analysis,
- Adding responsibilities to Jeff Berger's position as Chief Operating Officer/Chief Financial Officer,
- Reorganization of the Division of PK-12 Education and promotion of Kevin Fangman to Deputy Director, and
- Possible name change and reorganization of the Division of Community Colleges and Workforce Preparation.

Glass introduced David Mitchell who is the new administrator for the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation. Mitchell shared information about his division with the Board.

Glass indicated that Phil Roeder will be leaving the Department and returning to the Des Moines Independent Community School District as the Director of Community Relations and Legislative Liaison.

Education Summit

Glass indicated that the upcoming Education Summit is an important event and the speakers will be exceptional. It is expected that 1,700 people will be in attendance. The purpose of the Summit is to build capacity in the state on the issues and options available and what direction needs to be taken. He doesn't expect to reach 100 percent consensus, but hopes to raise awareness and create conversations around the state that it is time to take bold action when it comes to education in Iowa. The goal of the Summit is to form a coalition around what is best for Iowa and move education reform forward. That information will be presented to the Legislature.

There was discussion about what the Board's role will be at the Summit, and what the role will be of the new Policy Special Assistant.

Legislative Update

Konni Cawiezell, Legislative and Policy Liaison, Office of the Director, indicated that the Legislature is almost at a standstill. The House is done until they can come to an agreement and the Senate is expected to debate two appropriation bills today; however, none of the appropriation agency bills will move until they can come to an agreement.

Cawiezell reported on four major issues that the Legislature is negotiating. The issues are the two-year budget, allowable growth, preschool, and property tax relief. Until an agreement is reached, it is unknown where the Department's numbers will land.

Cawiezell reported on Senate File 533, which is the "standings" appropriations bill. She highlighted proposed cuts to the AEAs and funding instructional support.

Cawiezell stated that at the upcoming retreat, she will provide the Board with the final numbers.

Rosie Hussey asked Cawiezell to contact the Board if their attention is needed on any legislation.

There was discussion on the Department's perception on the outcome of the session.

Miscellaneous

Hussey welcomed new student State Board member, Brandon Bolte.

Hussey also thanked Phil Roeder, Communication Consultant, for his service to the Department.

CONSENT AGENDA

Sister Jude Fitzpatrick moved and Ana Lopez seconded to approve the consent agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

BOARD ACTION/DISCUSSION AGENDA

University of Northern Iowa Practitioner Preparation Programs: Teacher Preparation, Principal and Superintendent Preparation, School Psychology, School Counseling, and Speech Pathology

Kris Crabtree-Groff, Consultant, and Del Hoover, Deputy Division Administrator, Bureau of Accreditation and Improvement Services, presented the University of Northern Iowa practitioner preparation report. Crabtree-Groff explained that the site visit was conducted under her predecessor; therefore, the final report and plan of action is a combination of that work as well as her own.

Crabtree-Groff shared highlights and provided an overview.

The preliminary review was conducted on January 25, 2010. All educator preparation programs are held to the six standards for review and for strategic planning. Four of the standards (Governance, Diversity, Faculty, and Assessment) are umbrella standards that cover all educator preparation programs at an institution. Two standards (Clinical and Curriculum) are program-based in order to address the unique expectations of each preparation program. The review team also looked at the following programs: Principal and Superintendent Preparation, School Counseling, School Psychology, and School Pathology.

Crabtree-Groff reviewed the General Comments. She indicated that the Governance and Resources standard was not met; however, the other standards have been met. She reviewed the Strengths and Concerns/Recommendations for the Governance and Resources standard.

There was concern about whether this item should be tabled because the Governance Standard had not been met. Department staff shared additional information regarding what has occurred in an attempt to meet this standard. Crabtree-Groff indicated that the program is ready; however, they ran out of time. The goal is that next fall they will have a chance to implement the changes.

There was discussion on the meaning and expectations of conditional approval and if the University of Northern Iowa felt they were on track to meet this goal. University of Northern Iowa staff indicated that they have made tremendous progress and shared examples of changes that have been made to meet this standard.

There was additional discussion regarding how long conditional approval should be granted, why it takes seven years for concerns to come up rather than consistently working to improve the program, how concerns are followed up on, and what the recourse would be if an issue that was to be addressed is not being addressed.

Crabtree-Groff stated that the Department recommends conditional approval to the University of Northern Iowa practitioner preparation programs until May 2012.

Motion: It was moved by Max Phillips and seconded by Charlie Edwards to grant conditional approval to the University of Northern Iowa practitioner preparation programs until May 2012 with the understanding that they will come back before the State Board before that time if they are ready.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Grand View University Practitioner Preparation Program

Kris Crabtree-Groff, Consultant, Bureau of Accreditation and Improvement Services, presented the Grand View University practitioner preparation program report.

Crabtree-Groff shared highlights and provided an overview.

Crabtree-Groff reviewed the General Comments. She also reviewed the standards: Governance and Resources, Diversity, Faculty, Assessment, Teacher Preparation Clinical, and Teacher Preparation Curriculum as well as the Strengths and Concerns/Recommendations.

There was discussion about how Grand View University is preparing teachers as high tech innovators in the classroom and how they are addressing competency-based education and virtual learning. There was also discussion about whether technology is taught or used interactively, and the recruitment process.

Motion: It was moved by Charlie Edwards and seconded by Mike Knedler to grant approval to Grand View University practitioner preparation program through the next state visit cycle scheduled for the 2017-2018 academic year.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Dordt College Practitioner Preparation Program

Kris Crabtree-Groff, Consultant, Bureau of Accreditation and Improvement Services, presented the Dordt College practitioner preparation program report.

Crabtree-Groff shared highlights and provided an overview.

Crabtree-Groff reported that the review was conducted on August 10, 2010, and the site visit occurred November 7-11, 2010. She reviewed the General Comments and the following standards: Governance and Resources, Diversity, Faculty, Assessment, Teacher Preparation Clinical, and Teacher Preparation Curriculum as well as the Strengths and Concerns/Recommendations. She indicated that all six standards were met at the site visit.

Board members commented on being impressed with the report and the results of the academic achievement of the schools where Dordt graduates teach. Clarification was sought on a concern/recommendation under the Diversity standard and the role of the Department and/or State Board in the college's profile of desired qualifications for new hires. There was also discussion regarding the rationale behind why the college is starting an administrator preparation program, and the number of teacher preparation programs in the state that have a faith-based focus.

Motion: It was moved by Ana Lopez and seconded by Charlie Edwards to grant approval to Dordt College practitioner preparation program through the next state visit cycle scheduled for the 2017-2018 academic year.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Community College Distance Education Registration

Roger Utman, Administrator, Division of Community Colleges and Workforce Preparation, reported that due to a proposed United States Department of Education (USDE) rule, postsecondary institutions which offer on-line courses to residents in other states must be registered in those states with the appropriate state agency in charge of such registration. While the USDE rule may be postponed from its original effective date of July 1, 2011, most states already have such a requirement of out-of-state institutions.

The state of Minnesota has agreed to allow Iowa's 15 community colleges to apply as a single entity if the colleges' state governing authority (State Board of Education) is willing to approve and sign the application. If this request is approved, the Department of Education and the Community College Distance Education Coordinators will complete the application and provide the necessary required materials and have the State Board president sign the application for submission to Minnesota. The costs associated with the application will be paid by Iowa's 15 community colleges.

Motion: It was moved by Max Phillips and seconded by Mike Knedler to support the registration application of Iowa's 15 community colleges with the state of Minnesota by signing the completed application. The completion of the application process will meet the required registration of Iowa's 15 community colleges within the state of Minnesota.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

As the application process moves forward with Minnesota and other states, Utman stated that he will keep the Board updated.

Paraeducator Preparation Program Approvals

Kevin Fangman, Deputy Director, Division of PK-12 Education, and Marietta Rives, Consultant, Bureau of Student and Family Support Services, reported on paraeducator preparation program approvals.

Fangman stated that the voluntary paraeducator certification system started in 2000. The Department set standards and collaborated with the Board of Educational Examiners to establish competencies for the eight paraeducator certifications in Iowa. Most, but not all, of the programs have gone before the State Board in the past 11 years. There have been over 5,000 paraeducators certified in the state.

Rives reported that nationally there is a push for paraeducators to become more of a contributing part of the educational team in a variety of content areas. All institutions who currently offer paraeducator coursework are aware of the Department's standards on organization and resources, diversity, and evaluation in their programs. At the AEAs, paraeducator programs reside primarily in the professional development department and offer the coursework that allows these individuals to become a certified paraeducator.

Rives explained that there are two levels of paraeducator certification – Generalist Level I and Generalist Level II. In the past, Great Prairie AEA, has offered the Generalist Level I paraeducator certification and also offered Generalist Level II paraeducator certification (Early Childhood and Library, Media, Technology) and has, in addition, submitted a request for approval of the Special Needs certification.

Green Hills AEA has, in the past, offered Generalist Level I paraeducator and Early Childhood paraeducator and has, in addition, submitted a request for approval of the following programs: English as a Second Language, Special Needs, and Speech Language Pathologist Assistant.

Rives indicated she has reviewed the evidence of each of the components of the standards for both agencies as well as the assessment they have in place for their courses and programs. She also reported on the Strengths of the Programs and Areas for Improvement. Rives is recommending that both agencies continue to work on the rigor of assessment and analysis of both their candidates and programs.

There was discussion about how often the programs are reviewed and what steps are in place to ensure that institutions follow through on the recommendations for improvement, how districts will be able to afford the training as budgets decline and the degree of professionalism of the paraeducator role is elevated, and how paraeducators play a valuable role in schools and districts across the state.

Green Hills Area Education Agency Paraeducator Preparation Program Approval

Motion: It was moved by Sister Jude Fitzpatrick and seconded by Charlie Edwards to approve the paraeducator preparation programs submitted by Green Hills Area Education Agency. The next review will be during the 2016-2017 school year.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Great Prairie Area Education Agency Paraeducator Preparation Program Approval

Motion: It was moved by Sister Jude Fitzpatrick and seconded by Valorie Kruse to approve the paraeducator preparation programs submitted by Great Prairie Area Education Agency. The next review will be during the 2016-2017 school year.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Charter Schools

Charlie Edwards raised a question to Department staff and to the Board regarding the Des Moines charter school. He requested that, at the least, Department staff gather additional information on the charter school and invite the Des Moines School officials to meet with the Board and revisit the specifics of the charter school that was approved by the State Board in March 2010.

Edwards recalled that a good deal of the focus of the charter school was going to be on lower achieving students. It now appears that there is an expansion of the focus to include the entire school district and students at all levels. It's not clear if what is happening with the charter is what the Board agreed to; therefore, he would like to understand what drove the change and would like an explanation.

Jason Glass indicated that the State Board has the authority and charge to bring these groups back and to oversee them as the Board sees fit. The next step is to have the Department staff contact the school and ask the questions that have been raised. The Department will prepare a report and present it to the Board. At that time, the Board can decide if they want Des Moines officials to come back to the Board.

Del Hoover, Deputy Division Administrator, Bureau of Accreditation and Improvement Services, indicated that the original charter talked about addressing the social, emotional, physical, and intellectual needs of young men and women of great potential who struggle to find success in traditional middle school settings and are at risk of dropping out. The charter also addressed disadvantaged middle and high school students with small personalized engaging learning environments.

There was discussion on what was meant by the term disadvantaged in the original charter application, what the actual intent is of the charter, if the information originally presented to the Board was misunderstood, and how the charter will address the group that the Board is concerned about.

Iowa Community Colleges Certified Budget Report – FY 2012

Roger Utman, Administrator, Division of Community Colleges and Workforce Preparation; introduced Kent Farver, Consultant, Bureau of Community Colleges and Career and Technical Education Services; and Barbara Crittenden, President, and Teresa Krejci, Chief Financial Officer, Southwestern Community College.

Farver presented an overview and explanation of the certified budget process and some of the issues with the forms that are used. Each of the community college budgets include line items for estimated revenues, estimated expenditures, and estimated fund balances for 2012.

Farver reviewed the timeline that community colleges have for submitting their budgets to the Department. Because of the reporting timeline, there is a lot of preparation

involved in this process without knowing the basic main building blocks of the budget for the next fiscal year.

Farver stated that the Board has statutory responsibility for approval of the community college certified budgets prior to June 1 each year. The purpose of the report is to help community colleges set their tax levies for the upcoming fiscal year and to set expenditure limits for the community colleges.

Farver emphasized that the information included in the report are estimated numbers and not financial statements and the numbers are estimated at a time when there are a lot of unknowns.

Farver stated that when reviewing the budgets, it is important to understand the trend of the community colleges. Three years ago, community colleges were looking at a state general aid appropriation of approximately \$183 million. In January, the Governor proposed a state general aid appropriation of \$144 million. In past years, tuition has made a huge impact on the revenues. In the last fiscal year, enrollment has increased 10 percent. When setting budgets, all of these factors are intertwined.

Crittenden reviewed a handout that provided information from the *The Annual Condition of Community Colleges 2010* report and talked about the community college's issues and perspective of the budget process. Krejci talked about the process when setting the levy.

There was discussion about whether the State Board could provide any assistance with the budget approval timing issue. It was suggested that this issue be reviewed with the Community College Coordinating Council, community college presidents, and financial officers.

There was additional discussion about whether there are upper limits for tuition fees, who's included in the Cooperative Programs/Services expenditure category, and who has the authority to standardize the budget reporting process.

Motion: Valorie Kruse moved and Mike Knedler seconded approval of the community college certified budgets as provided.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Addressing Achievement Gaps

Kevin Fangman, Deputy Director, Division of PK-12 Education; introduced Connie Maxson, Chief, Bureau of Teaching and Learning Services; and Marty Ikeda, Chief, Bureau of Student and Family Support Services.

Maxson stated that in order to promote higher achievement for all, the Department is supporting Response to Intervention (RTI). RTI is a decision-making framework to judge overall health of one's educational system, to provide supports to students who need

extra supports, and to measure whether or not these supports are making a difference for those children.

Ikeda described a tiered diagram and talked in-depth about RTI. RTI includes:

- Universal screening in reading, math, and behavior
- Extra instruction for students not meeting performance expectations
- Grade referenced Individualized Education Programs (IEP) goals with data-based decision making

Ikeda stated that the Department wants to help districts implement RTI over the next several years with a goal to have higher achievement in both academic and behavior expectations for students in Iowa.

Ikeda indicated that conversations have been happening with institutes of higher education and AEAs about working together to implement RTI. It will take everyone working together to implement RTI with integrity so it can make a difference for Iowa's students.

Maxson and Ikeda described details of the work to be done by Department staff and how staff will be providing leadership to the field.

The goals of RTI are:

- Goal 1: All districts have a measure of general health of schools within the district.
- Goal 2: All school buildings have data tools available to them to understand the health of their system.
- Goal 3: 100 percent of the school buildings in Iowa have a general education system that provides students who need more supports, the level of supports they need.
- Goal 4: 100 percent of the students with IEPs will have ambitious goals. In addition, there will be evidence that services provided target college or career readiness.

There was discussion about the results that are being seen, how current interventions compare as far as time and resources, if stress within the home can be measured, if there have been studies on the impact of the 10-15 percent low performing students on the general population to make the case for change, what age groups are being targeted, implementation cost, and what support is needed from the Board.

Glass indicated that he is in support of RTI and hopes the Board is supportive as well.

It was decided that the topic of RTI will be on the State Board retreat agenda in June.

Board Reports

Charlie Edwards had no report.

Eric Goranson has been added to the Technology Task Force/Online Learning Planning Group.

Ana Lopez had no report.

Valorie Kruse indicated that there was a Wallace meeting; however, she was not able to attend and she has not received an update. The next meeting will be held in June.

Kruse also stated that future Competency-based Education Design Team meetings will be held on May 19 and June 20.

Rosie Hussey reported that the State Board retreat agenda is being finalized. She reminded the Board of the Education Summit on July 25-26, the July State Board meeting on July 27, and the Iowa Association of Community College Trustees (IACCT) meeting on July 27-29. On July 28, at the IACCT meeting, there will be an informal conversation with some of the community college presidents and she hopes other Board members will be able to join that meeting. At that meeting, one issue to be discussed will be the role of the Community College Council.

Mike Knedler plans to attend a National Association of State Boards of Education Teacher Preparation, Evaluation, Continuation, and Compensation Study Group meeting on June 10-11. The final report will not be published until October; however, Knedler will summarize the findings at the next State Board meeting.

Sister Jude Fitzpatrick attended an Iowa Coordinating Council on Post High School Education meeting. They discussed the challenges of the new federal regulations that all of the institutions of higher learning will be confronting and student retention.

Brandton Bolte looks forward to working with the Board and being able to give a student perspective.

Rosie Hussey adjourned the meeting at 2:15 p.m.

Rosie Hussey
President

Jason E. Glass
Director