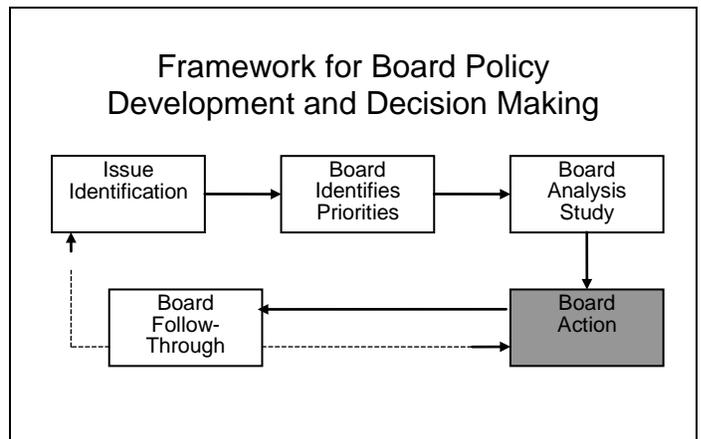


Iowa State Board of Education

Executive Summary

July 31, 2012



Agenda Item: Prairie Lakes Area Education Agency Paraeducator Preparation Program Approval

Iowa Goal: All PK -12 students will achieve at a high level.

Equity Impact Statement: The administrative rules governing this process require preparation programs to address diversity issues.

Presenter: Marietta Rives, Consultant
Bureau of Student and Family Support Services

Attachments: 1

Recommendation: It is recommended that the State Board approve for five years the paraeducator preparation programs submitted by Prairie Lakes Area Education Agency. The next review will be during the 2017-2018 school year.

Background: Legislation originally passed in 1998 and revised in 2000 created a voluntary paraeducator certification. The legislation was prompted by the need to have well trained paraeducators providing assistance to students and teachers. Licensure rules were established by the Board of Educational Examiners. The State Board of Education approves the voluntary preparation programs according to standards and procedures contained in Chapter 80 of the Iowa Administrative Code.

Programs Recommended for Approval July 31, 2012

Prairie Lakes Area Education Agency Paraeducator Programs to include:

- Generalist Level I
- Early Childhood
- Special Needs

Iowa's voluntary paraeducator certification program is one way for paraeducators to meet the requirements set forth in No Child Left Behind. An additional benefit of this program is that certification will establish realistic opportunities for upward mobility through a career ladder pathway for paraeducators.

The institution named above has submitted a request for approval or re-approval of programs to certify paraeducators in each of the listed content areas. Although the paraeducator certification program is voluntary, there are several benefits to having paraeducators certified.

1. All learners will be better served and the quality of education and related services will improve with the availability of a better-prepared paraeducator workforce.
2. Paraeducators have mastered skills that are required to support and supplement teacher/provider programs.

The programs have been reviewed. In reviewing the programs, it was important to look for three major components:

1. Verification that each of the standards included in Iowa Administrative Code Chapter 80 have been met.
2. Verification that all standards and competencies of Chapter 22, Board of Educational Examiners administrative rules were included.
3. Verification that criteria to evaluate performance of the standards were present and appropriate.

Strengths of the programs:

Prairie Lakes Area Education Agency has a well developed performance assessment system infused throughout each of their para programs.

Areas for improvement:

As this program continues to develop with the implementation of diversity efforts and the creation of various data collection protocols, use your advisory committee to make recommendations for program improvements.

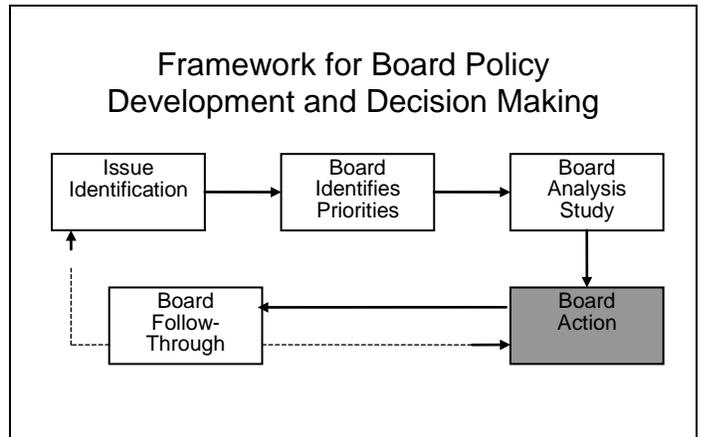
Recommendation:

Based upon the review of programs submitted for consideration, an approval is recommended for the Generalist Level I Paraeducator, Early Childhood Paraeducator and Special Needs Paraeducator programs through Prairie Lakes Area Education Agency.

Iowa State Board of Education

Executive Summary

July 31, 2012



Agenda Item: Keystone Area Education Agency Paraeducator Preparation Program Approval

Iowa Goal: All PK -12 students will achieve at a high level.

Equity Impact Statement: The administrative rules governing this process require preparation programs to address diversity issues.

Presenter: Marietta Rives, Consultant
Bureau of Student and Family Support Services

Attachments: 1

Recommendation: It is recommended that the State Board approve the paraeducator preparation programs submitted by Keystone Area Education Agency. The next review will be during the 2017-2018 school year.

Background: Legislation originally passed in 1998 and revised in 2000 created a voluntary paraeducator certification. The legislation was prompted by the need to have well trained paraeducators providing assistance to students and teachers. Licensure rules were established by the Board of Educational Examiners. The State Board of Education approves the voluntary preparation programs according to standards and procedures contained in Chapter 80 of the Iowa Administrative Code.

Programs Recommended for Approval July 31, 2012

Keystone Area Education Agency Paraeducator Programs to include:

Generalist Level 1
Early Childhood

Iowa's voluntary paraeducator certification program is one way for paraeducators to meet the requirements set forth in No Child Left Behind. An additional benefit of this program is that certification will establish realistic opportunities for upward mobility through a career ladder pathway for paraeducators.

The institution named above has submitted a request for approval or re-approval of programs to certify paraeducators in each of the listed content areas. Although the paraeducator certification program is voluntary, there are several benefits to having paraeducators certified.

1. All learners will be better served and the quality of education and related services will improve with the availability of a better-prepared paraeducator workforce.
2. Paraeducators have mastered skills that are required to support and supplement teacher/provider programs.

The programs have been reviewed. In reviewing the programs, it was important to look for three major components:

1. Verification that each of the standards included in Iowa Administrative Code Chapter 80 have been met.
2. Verification that all standards and competencies of Chapter 22, Board of Educational Examiners administrative rules were included.
3. Verification that criteria to evaluate performance of the standards were present and appropriate.

Strengths of the programs:

Keystone Area Education Agency has taken steps to enhance their Generalist Level 1 program by increasing the expectations for paraeducator mentors.

A highly organized advisory committee utilizes program and performance data to make adjustments to the program on a regular basis.

This agency provides on-going professional development to certified paraeducators in their area.

Areas for improvement:

Continue to look for ways to offer coursework to the general public in an effort to attract a more diverse candidate pool.

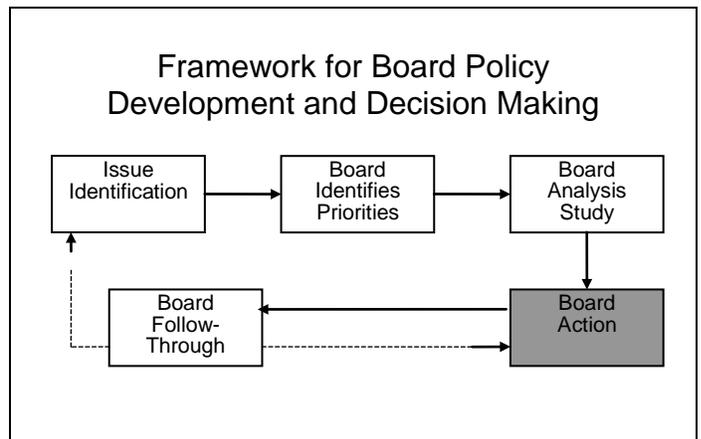
Recommendation:

Based upon the review of programs submitted for consideration, an approval is recommended for the Generalist Level I Paraeducator; and Early Childhood Paraeducator programs through Keystone Area Education Agency.

Iowa State Board of Education

Executive Summary

July 31, 2012



Agenda Item: Dordt College Paraeducator Preparation Program Approval

Iowa Goal: All PK -12 students will achieve at a high level.

Equity Impact Statement: The administrative rules governing this process require preparation programs to address diversity issues.

Presenter: Marietta Rives, Consultant
Bureau of Student and Family Support Services

Attachments: 1

Recommendation: It is recommended that the State Board approve the paraeducator preparation programs submitted by Dordt College. The next review will be during the 2017-2018 school year.

Background: Legislation originally passed in 1998 and revised in 2000 created a voluntary paraeducator certification. The legislation was prompted by the need to have well trained paraeducators providing assistance to students and teachers. Licensure rules were established by the Board of Educational Examiners. The State Board of Education approves the voluntary preparation programs according to standards and procedures contained in Chapter 80 of the Iowa Administrative Code.

Programs Recommended for Approval July 31, 2012

Dordt College Paraeducator Programs to include:

- Generalist Level I
- Career and Transitional Program
- English as a Second Language
- Special Needs
- Early Childhood

Iowa's voluntary paraeducator certification program is one way for paraeducators to meet the requirements set forth in No Child Left Behind. An additional benefit of this program is that certification will establish realistic opportunities for upward mobility through a career ladder pathway for paraeducators.

The institution named above has submitted a request for approval or re-approval of programs to certify paraeducators in each of the listed content areas. Although the paraeducator certification program is voluntary, there are several benefits to having paraeducators certified.

1. All learners will be better served and the quality of education and related services will improve with the availability of a better-prepared paraeducator workforce.
2. Paraeducators have mastered skills that are required to support and supplement teacher/provider programs.

The programs have been reviewed. In reviewing the programs, it was important to look for three major components:

1. Verification that each of the standards included in Iowa Administrative Code Chapter 80 have been met.
2. Verification that all standards and competencies of Chapter 22, Board of Educational Examiners administrative rules were included.
3. Verification that criteria to evaluate performance of the standards were present and appropriate.

Strengths of the programs:

Dordt College has in place a very structured practicum experience that all paraeducator candidates complete. They have created an observation tool based on program competencies that will provide very useful data to inform future decision making.

Dordt College has a very diverse campus population. They recruit students from nineteen countries and thirty-three states providing for the potential of a more diverse paraeducator candidate pool.

Areas for improvement:

Consider ways to enhance program elements focused specifically on candidates interested in paraeducator certification.

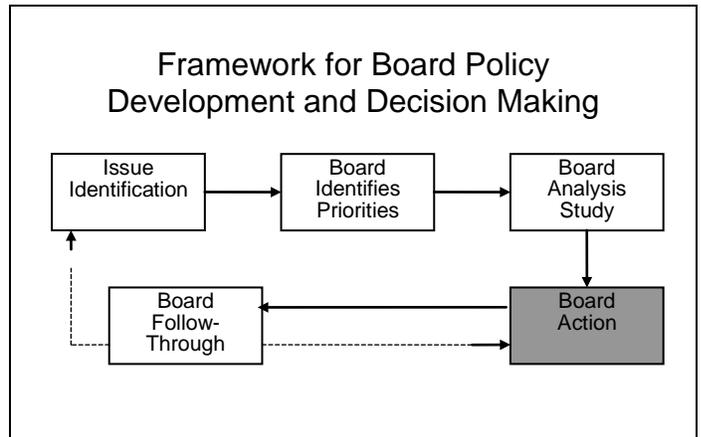
Recommendation:

Based upon the review of programs submitted for consideration, approval is recommended for the Generalist Level I, Career and Transitional Program, English as a Second Language, Special Needs, and Early Childhood paraeducator programs through Dordt College.

Iowa State Board of Education

Executive Summary

July 31, 2012



Agenda Item: Iowa Western Community College Paraeducator Preparation Program Approval

Iowa Goal: All PK -12 students will achieve at a high level.

Equity Impact Statement: The administrative rules governing this process require preparation programs to address diversity issues.

Presenter: Marietta Rives, Consultant
Bureau of Student and Family Support Services

Attachments: 1

Recommendation: It is recommended that the State Board approve the paraeducator preparation programs submitted by Iowa Western Community College. The next review will be during the 2017-2018 school year.

Background: Legislation originally passed in 1998 and revised in 2000 created a voluntary paraeducator certification. The legislation was prompted by the need to have well trained paraeducators providing assistance to students and teachers. Licensure rules were established by the Board of Educational Examiners. The State Board of Education approves the voluntary preparation programs according to standards and procedures contained in Chapter 80 of the Iowa Administrative Code.

Programs Recommended for Approval July 31, 2012

Iowa Western Community College Paraeducator Programs to include:

- Generalist Level 1
- Early Childhood
- Special Needs
- English Language Learner
- Library, Media, Technology
- Speech-Language Paraeducator Assistant

Iowa's voluntary paraeducator certification program is one way for paraeducators to meet the requirements set forth in No Child Left Behind. An additional benefit of this program is that certification will establish realistic opportunities for upward mobility through a career ladder pathway for paraeducators.

The institution named above has submitted a request for approval or re-approval of programs to certify paraeducators in each of the listed content areas. Although the paraeducator certification program is voluntary, there are several benefits to having paraeducators certified.

1. All learners will be better served and the quality of education and related services will improve with the availability of a better-prepared paraeducator workforce.
2. Paraeducators have mastered skills that are required to support and supplement teacher/provider programs.

The programs have been reviewed. In reviewing the programs, it was important to look for three major components:

1. Verification that each of the standards included in Iowa Administrative Code Chapter 80 have been met.
2. Verification that all standards and competencies of Chapter 22, Board of Educational Examiners administrative rules were included.
3. Verification that criteria to evaluate performance of the standards were present and appropriate.

Strengths of the programs:

Although this is a new program, there is evidence to show that Iowa Western Community College is working collaboratively with various agencies and has developed programs that will meet the needs of the local communities.

Areas for improvement:

Continue to seek ways to add rigor to the performance assessments of all paraeducator candidates.

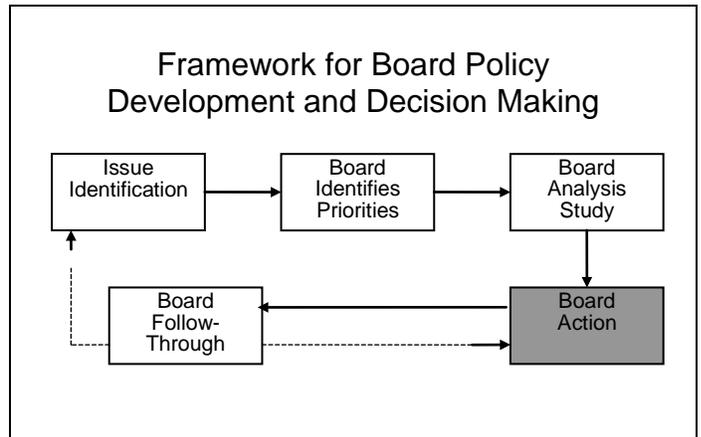
Recommendation:

Based upon the review of programs submitted for consideration, approval is recommended for the Generalist Level I Paraeducator; Early Childhood Paraeducator; English Language Learner Paraeducator; and Library, Media, Technology Paraeducator; Special Needs Paraeducator and Speech Language Pathology Assistant programs.

Iowa State Board of Education

Executive Summary

July 31, 2012



Agenda Item: Northeast Iowa Community College Paraeducator Preparation Program Approval

Iowa Goal: All PK -12 students will achieve at a high level.

Equity Impact Statement: The administrative rules governing this process require preparation programs to address diversity issues.

Presenter: Marietta Rives, Consultant
Bureau of Student and Family Support Services

Attachments: 1

Recommendation: It is recommended that the State Board approve the paraeducator preparation programs submitted by Northeast Iowa Community College. The next review will be during the 2017-2018 school year.

Background: Legislation originally passed in 1998 and revised in 2000, created a voluntary paraeducator certification. The legislation was prompted by the need to have well trained paraeducators providing assistance to students and teachers. Licensure rules were established by the Board of Educational Examiners. The State Board of Education approves the voluntary preparation programs according to standards and procedures contained in Chapter 80 of the Iowa Administrative Code.

Programs Recommended for Approval July 31, 2012

Northeast Iowa Community College Paraeducator Programs to include:
Generalist Level 1
Special Needs

Iowa's voluntary paraeducator certification program is one way for paraeducators to meet the requirements set forth in No Child Left Behind. An additional benefit of this program is that certification will establish realistic opportunities for upward mobility through a career ladder pathway for paraeducators.

The institution named above has submitted a request for approval or re-approval of programs to certify paraeducators in each of the listed content areas. Although the paraeducator certification program is voluntary, there are several benefits to having paraeducators certified.

1. All learners will be better served and the quality of education and related services will improve with the availability of a better-prepared paraeducator workforce.
2. Paraeducators have mastered skills that are required to support and supplement teacher/provider programs.

The programs have been reviewed. In reviewing the programs, it was important to look for three major components:

1. Verification that each of the standards included in Iowa Administrative Code Chapter 80 have been met.
2. Verification that all standards and competencies of Chapter 22, Board of Educational Examiners administrative rules were included.
3. Verification that criteria to evaluate performance of the standards were present and appropriate.

Strengths of the programs:

Upon completion of certification coursework, candidates are awarded an Associate of Arts degree.

A newly formed advisory committee will provide input for program enhancements in the future.

Areas for improvement:

Consider ways to enhance program elements focused specifically on candidates interested in paraeducator certification.

Recommendation:

Based upon the review of programs submitted for consideration, approval is recommended for the Generalist Level I and Special Needs paraeducator programs of Northeast Iowa Community College.