



**Minutes
State Board of Education
January 28, 2021**

Brooke Axiotis
President
Des Moines

Bettie Bolar
Vice President
Marshalltown

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Dubuque

Michael L. Knedler
Council Bluffs

Mike May
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Georgia Van Gundy
Waukee

Kimberly Wayne
Des Moines

Hannah Groos
Student Member
Norwalk

Ann Lebo
Director and
Executive Officer

The State Board of Education meeting was held on Thursday, January 28, 2021, in person at the Iowa Department of Education, Grimes State Office Building, ICN Room, 400 E. 14th Street, Des Moines, Iowa, and via Zoom. State Board members present were Brooke Axiotis, Bettie Bolar, Brian Kane, Mike Knedler, Mike May, John Robbins, Kimberly Wayne, and Hannah Groos. Iowa Department of Education staff members present were Ann Lebo, Shan Seivert, Amy Williamson, Thomas Mayes, Renee Jerman, Peter Anderson, Brad Niebling, Barbara Ohlund, Kassandra Cline, Janell Brandhorst, David Canaday, Matt Ludwig, Jennifer Denne, Kathy Bertsch, Chris Russell, Alison Jepsen, Jeremy Varner, Vladimir Bassis, Kris Kilibarda, Isbelia Arzola, Larry Bice, Sara Nickel, Holly Barnes, Marietta Rives, Maryam Rod Szabo, Jeanette Thomas, Denise Ragias, Bill Roederer, Janet Boyd, Eric Heitz, Jay Pennington, Mary Beilke, Hannah Walsh, Carol McMains, James Donoghue, Tom Deeter, Buffy Campbell, Barbara Guy, Pam Spangler, Heather Doe, Tom Cooley, Janice Evans, and Jody Crane. Also in attendance were Barb Bohach and Jodie Meyer-Mork, Luther College; Carol Page, Michael Gonzalez and Kathy Westcott, Viterbo University; Brady Fleming, Waukee Community School District; Steven Schulz, Shelly Schmit, and Charlene Widener, North Iowa Area Community College; Shane Williams, Bill Decker, and Kim Hofmann, Mississippi Bend Area Education Agency; Rebecca Bates, American Institutes for Research; Jake Klipsch, Brenda Thie, Amy Clayton, Sandy Schmitz, Lauren Hargrave-LaMaack, Lisa Crews, Shaney Ford, Bill Schneden, Susan Downs, Josh Urmanski, Corri Guy, Jen Boyd, Robert Scott, Jamie Kroeger, Mary Correthers, and Jami Weinzierl, Davenport Community School District; Dan Gosa, Linda Hayes, Allison Beck, and Karen Kline-Jerome, Davenport Community School District Board; Ron Robinson, Legislative Services Agency; Theresa Eichelberger; Phil Jeneary, Lisa Bartusek, Harry Heiligenthal, and Bridgette Johnson, Iowa Association of School Boards; Olivia Cronin; Craig Hansel, Iowa State University; Miriam Van Heukelem, Ahlers & Cooney, P.C.; Ann McGlynn; Dar Danielson, Radio Iowa; Michelle Wegner; Daniel Van Sant, Disability Rights Iowa; Anthony Watt; Joseph Adam; Deborah Harris, Western Governor's University; and Mike Vondran.

STATE BOARD INFORMATION SESSION – DISCUSS STATE BOARD MEMBERS’ INPUT

The information session started at 9 a.m.

State Board of Education (State Board) members and Department of Education (Department) staff discussed issues, concerns, and ideas regarding State Board meetings and future agenda items.

STATE BOARD BUSINESS MEETING

Brooke Axiotis called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

An attendance roll call was taken. Present: Brooke Axiotis, Bettie Bolar, Brian Kane, Mike Knedler, Mike May, John Robbins, Kimberly Wayne, and Hannah Groos.

Mike Knedler made a motion and John Robbins seconded to approve the agenda. The motion carried.

This meeting was conducted in electronic format, with remote access information provided in the notice of the meeting, as permitted by section nine of Governor Reynolds’ proclamation of May 26, 2020.

COMMUNICATION

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Director’s Report

Director Lebo introduced new staff members Peter Anderson, Attorney II, and Renee Jerman, Legislative Liaison, who shared information about themselves.

Lebo also reported the following:

- Amy Gieseke will join the Bureau of Community Colleges on January 29 as bureau chief.
- Earl Whipple, the Department’s Chief Financial Officer, had unexpected major surgery and will be out of the office for an extended period of time.
- The State of Iowa Boards and Commissions is in the process of replacing Joshua Byrnes on the State Board.

Additional updates included:

- Waivers granted to school districts to move 100 percent online
- Meetings with legislators as part of Lebo's confirmation process
- Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act/COVID relief funding
- Department restructuring and review of internal process for approving contracts
- Speaking engagements and student listening tours
- New Davenport Community School District superintendent – T.J. Schneckloth

There was discussion regarding the information presented.

Legislative Update

Renee Jerman and Shan Seivert, Chief of Staff/Deputy Director, Operations and Initiatives, provided a legislative update. Senate subcommittee meetings are held via Zoom and are open to the public. The public can observe House subcommittee meetings through Webex; however, speakers need to be present to address the subcommittee. Written comments can also be presented to both the House and Senate.

An overview of the following Department policy bills and technical corrections/clarifications bills was presented:

Policy bills:

- Senior Year Plus Proficiency Requirements
- Open Enrollment Tuition Following the Student

Technical Corrections/Clarifications bills:

- Open Enrollment Billing for the District Providing the Prekindergarten Special Education Service
- Open Enrollment Adding a Good Cause Reason
- Child Development Assistance Duplicative Duties
- Programs for At-Risk Children
- Eliminates the Nonprofit School Organization Report to the Department
- Duties and Powers of Area Education Agency Board
- Funding for Special Programs, Update Method of Calculation

There was discussion concerning the State Board's role and restrictions with regard to the legislative process.

CONSENT AGENDA

John Robbins made a motion and Mike Knedler seconded to approve the consent agenda. The motion carried.

BOARD ACTION/DISCUSSION AGENDA

Rules: Chapter 1 – Organization and Operation (Notice)

Thomas Mayes, General Counsel, presented the proposed amendments to the Chapter 1 rules, which update the organizational structure of the Department.

Motion: Mike Knedler made a motion and John Robbins seconded that the State Board give notice of intended action to amend Chapter 1.

Vote: The motion carried.

Rules: Chapter 2 – Agency Procedure for Rule Making and Petitions for Rule Making (Notice)

Thomas Mayes presented the proposed amendments to the Chapter 2 rules, which modernizes the Department 's procedures for rulemaking in light of the revisions to the Administrative Procedure Act made by House File 2389.

There was discussion regarding the proposed amendments to the rules.

Motion: John Robbins made a motion and Mike Knedler seconded that the State Board give notice of intended action to amend Chapter 2.

Vote: The motion carried.

Rules: Chapter 4 – Waivers from Administrative Rules (Notice)

Thomas Mayes presented the proposed amendments to the Chapter 4 rules, which modernizes the Department's procedures for rules waivers in light of the revisions to the Administrative Procedure Act made by House File 2389.

Motion: Mike Knedler made a motion and John Robbins seconded that the State Board give notice of intended action to amend Chapter 4.

Vote: The motion carried.

Rules: Chapter 17 – Open Enrollment (Notice)

Thomas Mayes presented the proposed amendments to the Chapter 17 rules, which modernizes the language used in provisions on open enrollment of special education students, based on Senate File 2082. These proposed amendments also conform to the federal process for resolving disputes regarding placement of students with disabilities in school choice programs.

There was a question regarding 17.11(4).

Motion: John Robbins made a motion and Mike Knedler seconded that the State Board give notice of intended action to amend Chapter 17.

Vote: The motion carried.

Rules: Chapter 48 – Work-Based Learning (Notice)

Thomas Mayes presented the proposed amendments to the Chapter 48 rules. House File 2629 requires the Department to establish “a process by which the department shall approve state-recognized work-based learning programs,” a process established by these rules.

Motion: Mike Knedler made a motion and John Robbins seconded that the State Board give notice of intended action to amend Chapter 48.

Vote: The motion carried.

There was a question regarding apprenticeship programs.

Rules: Chapter 60 – Programs for Students of Limited English Proficiency (Notice)

Thomas Mayes presented the proposed amendments to the Chapter 60 rules, which implements, in whole or in part, 2013 Iowa Acts, Senate File 452, and 2014 Iowa Acts, Senate File 2347. The above-referenced Senate Files made changes in supplementary weighting for students who are English learners. This rulemaking conforms to those Senate Files.

Motion: John Robbins made a motion and Mike Knedler seconded that the State Board give notice of intended action to amend Chapter 60.

Vote: The motion carried.

Rules: Chapter 98 – Financial Management of Categorical Funding (Notice)

Thomas Mayes presented the proposed amendments to the Chapter 98 rules, which renames a fund to align with current governmental accounting terminology and to conform to a legislative change in Senate File 2082.

There was a question regarding what is included in custodial funds.

Motion: Mike Knedler made a motion and John Robbins seconded that the State Board give notice of intended action to amend Chapter 98.

Vote: The motion carried.

In re Open Enrollment of R.N. et al. (CAM Community School District)

Thomas Mayes presented *In re Open Enrollment of R.N. et al. (CAM Community School District)*. Appellants seek to attend the Iowa Connections Academy, rather than the remote learning made available by the CAM Community School District. Viewed through an open enrollment lens, Appellants have not shown attendance at Iowa Connections Academy is necessary to address a serious health condition. Viewed through an attendance center assignment lens, Appellants have not shown CAM abused its substantial discretion in making attendance center assignments.

There was a question regarding the online platform.

Motion: Mike Knedler made a motion and John Robbins seconded that the State Board approve the proposed decision.

Vote: The motion carried.

In re Open Enrollment of S.B. et al. (CAM Community School District)

Thomas Mayes presented *In re Open Enrollment of S.B. et al. (CAM Community School District)*. Appellants seek to attend the Iowa Connections Academy, rather than the remote learning made available by the CAM Community School District. Viewed through an open enrollment lens, Appellants have not shown attendance at Iowa Connections Academy is necessary to address a serious health condition. Viewed through an attendance center assignment lens, Appellants have not shown CAM abused its substantial discretion in making attendance center assignments.

Motion: John Robbins made a motion and Mike Knedler seconded that the State Board approve the proposed decision.

Vote: The motion carried.

Mayes commented that he benefited as the presiding officer from exceptional lawyering for both sides.

In re Open Enrollment of M.W. et al. (Des Moines Independent Community School District)

Thomas Mayes presented *In re Open Enrollment of M.W. et al. (Des Moines Independent Community School District)*. The Appellant filed an appeal under Iowa Code sections 282.18(5) and 290.1. Since the allegations concern the District's refusal to comply with requirements of Senate File 2310 and disaster proclamations from the Governor, and do not concern serious health conditions or pervasive harassment, the State Board does not have jurisdiction of these appeals. Mayes recommended dismissal.

Michelle Wegner, Appellant, provided oral argument.

Miriam Van Heukelem, representing the Des Moines Independent Community School District, provided oral argument.

Mayes explained the reason why the hearing notice included Senate File 2310.

There was discussion regarding the reference to open enrollment in Senate File 2310, and why the siblings were separated.

Motion: John Robbins made a motion and Mike Knedler seconded that the State Board approve the proposed decision finding no jurisdiction to hear this appeal.

Vote: The motion carried.

There was additional discussion regarding the State Board's role and authority with changing laws and rules.

In re Open Enrollment of A.N. et al. (Iowa City Community School District)

Thomas Mayes presented *In re Open Enrollment of A.N. et al. (Iowa City Community School District)*. The Appellant filed an appeal under Iowa Code sections 282.18(5) and 290.1. Since the allegations do not concern serious health conditions or pervasive harassment, the State Board does not have jurisdiction of these appeals.

Motion: Mike Knedler made a motion and John Robbins seconded that the State Board approve the proposed decision finding no jurisdiction to hear this appeal.

Vote: The motion carried.

In re Educational Placement of M.R. (Waukee Community School District)

Thomas Mayes presented *In re Educational Placement of M.R. (Waukee Community School District)*. The Appellants filed an appeal under Iowa Code section 290.1, asserting M.R. should be placed in first grade. The Board's review is for abuse of discretion. The evidence shows the District did not abuse its discretion to place M.R. in kindergarten for the 2020-2021 school year. M.R.'s year in kindergarten in the 2019-2020 school year was in an unaccredited school, and his performance this year does not show he would "profit by first-grade work."

Brady Fleming, Waukee Community School District, provided oral argument.

There was a question regarding when the student moved.

Motion: John Robbins made a motion and Mike Knedler seconded that the State Board approve the proposed decision, which affirms the District's placement of M.R. in kindergarten.

Vote: The motion carried.

Iowa Core Essential Elements and Dynamic Learning Maps Set Cut Scores Adoption

Brad Niebling, Chief, introduced Barbara Guy, Administrative Consultant, Bureau of Learner Strategies and Supports, and Jennifer Denne, Consultant, Bureau of Information and Analysis Services. The State Board heard the background on the need to formally approve the Iowa Core Essential Elements, which are the Alternate Academic Achievement Standards at the November 18, 2020, State Board meeting.

A PowerPoint was presented that addressed:

- Rationale – Review
- What are Alternate Academic Achievement Standards? – Review
- Essential Elements

There was a question about whether the essential element standards are current.

Motion: Mike Knedler made a motion and John Robbins seconded that the State Board adopt the Iowa Core Essential Elements as presented.

Vote: The motion carried.

The PowerPoint presentation continued and addressed:

- Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) Set Cut Scores
- English Language Arts (ELA) Example of Linkage Levels
- DLM Set Cut Scores - ELA
- DLM Set Cut Scores – Math
- DLM Set Cut Scores – Science
- DLM Set Cut Scores

There was discussion regarding the levels, the number of years the data is based on, and how often the cut scores will be reviewed.

Amy Williamson, Deputy Director, Learning and Results, provided additional background information regarding the development of the cut scores.

Motion: John Robbins made a motion and Mike Knedler seconded that the State Board adopt the Iowa Core Essential Elements Dynamic Learning Maps set cut scores for students that meet participation criteria for the alternate assessments.

Vote: The motion carried.

North Iowa Area Community College Interim Accreditation Report—Fiscal Year 2021

Chris Russell, Consultant, Bureau of Community Colleges, introduced the following North Iowa Area Community College (NIACC) staff: Steve Schultz, Charlene Widener, and Shelly Schmit. The NIACC Interim Accreditation Report is for continued state accreditation as an associate degree-granting institution. The Department conducted the interview portion of the evaluation on October 22-23, 2020. This report reflects the review team's observations and determinations made during NIACC's interim (virtual) visit.

As mandated by Iowa Code section 260C.47, the accreditation team, including two external peer reviewers, assessed NIACC's compliance with eight Iowa State Accreditation Standards via a structured process of document review and interviews. The team also reviewed the most recent Higher Learning Commission (HLC) regional accreditation report to ensure that any findings have been addressed. Iowa's process has been designed not to duplicate the HLC accreditation process.

Russell spoke about the community college accreditation schedule, members of the accreditation team, and background information on the institution.

Russell reviewed the compliance standards and findings presented in the report.

Schultz provided comments and presented a PowerPoint that addressed:

- Finding #1 – The continuous nondiscrimination statement must be prominent, complete and consistent on the college's website and in major publications, including board policy, handbooks and all admissions, academic, housing, financial aid and student services material directed at students and within employment information directed at employees.
- Finding #2 - While NIACC has individual pieces of the facilities master plan approved by the Governing Board when they are ready to act upon them, current state rules require that the full five-year plan be approved by the Board.
- Four Areas to Highlight
- Guided Pathways at NIACC
- Meta-Majors
- Alignment of Resources
- Career Technical Education Task Force
- John V. Hanson Career Center Forest City
- Four School Districts
- Regional Career Center Charles City
- Four Academies
- Work-based Learning and Apprenticeship
- Progress
- NIACC Solar Project
- Solar Project Details
- Percent of Total Consumption
- Cost Savings if NIACC Purchases Project in January of 2027

Motion: Mike Knedler made a motion and John Robbins seconded that the State Board grant continued accreditation for North Iowa Area Community College. A state comprehensive visit will be conducted in Fiscal Year 2026.

Vote: The motion carried.

Equity Committee Update and Equity Statement Approval

Kimberly Wayne provided an update on the work of the Equity Committee.

A PowerPoint was presented that addressed:

- 2020-2021 State Board of Education (SBE) New Equity Committee Members
- Iowa's SBE's Proposed Equity Statement
- 2020-2021 Priorities and Updates of the Committee
 - Proposed Equity Goals and Statement to SBE
 - Preparing Teachers for Equity
 - Professional Development and Professional Learning
 - Recruiting and Retaining Educators and Administrators of Color
 - Community Alignment for Equity

An update was also provided on the Department's social justice and equity webinar series. The Department invited some SBE Equity Committee student members to participate on a panel webinar.

Motion: John Robbins made a motion and Mike Knedler seconded that the State Board approve the Iowa State Board of Education Equity Statement as presented.

Vote: The motion carried.

Viterbo University Practitioner Preparation Program

Larry Bice, Administrative Consultant, Bureau of School Improvement, indicated that the format for the practitioner preparation program reports has been restructured and that the site visits were conducted virtually.

Matt Ludwig, Consultant, Bureau of School Improvement, presented the Viterbo University Practitioner Preparation Program report. This report is a summary of the program review and site visit under 281 Iowa Administrative Code chapter 79. Viterbo provides principal preparation programs through their Des Moines campus.

Ludwig provided background information and discussed the report findings. The Viterbo University program met all Chapter 79 standards without condition. Ludwig recommended that the State Board grant full approval to the Viterbo University practitioner preparation program.

Carol Page, Viterbo University, responded to questions regarding the number of candidates, completers, and students of color at the institution.

Motion: John Robbins made a motion and Mike Knedler seconded that the State Board award full approval to the Viterbo University Practitioner (Principal) Preparation Program through the next review scheduled for the 2026-2027 academic year.

Vote: The motion carried.

Luther College Practitioner Preparation Program

Kris Kilibarda, Consultant, Bureau of School Improvement, introduced Barb Bohach and Jodi Meyer-Mork from Luther College. Kilibarda presented the Luther College Practitioner Preparation Program report, which is a summary of the program review and on-site visit under 281 Iowa Administrative Code chapter 79. Luther College provides teacher preparation programs on their Decorah campus.

Kilibarda provided background information and discussed the report findings.

The Luther College program met all Chapter 79 standards without condition. Kilibarda recommended that the State Board grant full approval to the Luther College practitioner preparation program.

Luther College representatives responded to questions regarding the number of diverse students and efforts to recruit minority students and faculty, and follow-up efforts with program completers.

There was discussion regarding the need for the college to have the proper supports in place for diverse students.

Motion: Mike Knedler made a motion and John Robbins seconded that the State Board award full approval to the Luther College Practitioner Preparation Program though the next review scheduled for the 2026-2027 academic year.

Vote: The motion carried.

Annual Condition of Iowa's Community Colleges Report, Academic Year 2020

Jeremy Varner, Administrator, Division of Community Colleges and Workforce Preparation, shared highlights of the Annual Condition of Iowa's Community Colleges Report, Academic Year 2020. A companion online version of this report is also available, which allows users to explore state trends and localize information for specific districts and communities. In the 2019-2020 academic year, Iowa's 15 community colleges served over 127,013 credit and 145,814 noncredit students. This report provides data on programs, enrollment, awards, costs, financial aid, human resources, finances, etc. This data was reported by Iowa community colleges through the division's Management Information System or was gathered from other resources that are identified in the body of the report.

Varner introduced Alison Jepsen, Executive Officer, and Vlad Bassis, Consultant, Division of Community Colleges and Workforce Preparation.

A PowerPoint was presented that addressed:

- Condition Report
- Credit Enrollment
- Demographics
- Joint Enrollment
- Online Enrollment
- Credit Student Awards
- Credit Programs
- Noncredit Programs
- Adult Education and Literacy
- Skilled Worker and Job Creation Funds
- Economic Development and Registered Apprenticeships
- Sector Partnerships
- Student Success
- Tuition and Fees
- Financial Aid
- Community Impact
- Special Sections

There was discussion regarding the Gap Tuition Assistance Program and community college enrollment.

An attendance roll call was taken. Present: Brooke Axiotis, Bettie Bolar, Brian Kane, Mike Knedler, Mike May, John Robbins, Kimberly Wayne, and Hannah Groos.

Davenport Community School District Accreditation Update

The following individuals introduced themselves: T.J. Schneckloth, Davenport Community School District; Bill Decker and Shane Williams, Mississippi Bend Area Education Agency; and Dan Gosa and Linda Hayes, Davenport Community School District Board.

Amy Williamson, Deputy Director, Learning and Results, reviewed a document titled “Davenport Corrective Actions Update December 2020.” Williamson reported that Davenport has been working on correcting the corrective actions and laying the groundwork to structurally implement everything that is in the action plan. The district has focused on the Crisis Response and Violence Prevention work; what the district needs to look like moving forward; and how the leadership team needs to work together and partner with the area education agency, the Department, and other organizations (e.g., Iowa Association of School Boards).

Schneckloth spoke about the collaborative meetings with Department staff, where the district receives honest feedback and barriers are eliminated. He provided an update on the district’s financial situation, adjustments that have been made, and systemic changes. A chief financial officer has been hired and will begin on February 15.

Schneckloth also provided an update on work the district is doing around Crisis Response and Violence Prevention. Lastly, he spoke about work with the Iowa Association of School Boards planning professional development and board training.

Gosa shared comments. He spoke about professional development for board leadership and engagement. He indicated that the district is moving in the right direction with earning back the trust of the State Board as well as the community.

Schneckloth indicated that the next step for the district is engagement and building consensus in the community.

Williamson recognized Bill Decker and Shane Williams for their assistance and the board’s leadership.

There was a comment regarding the positive progress that is being made. There was discussion regarding the selection of the Community Crisis Response and Violence Prevention Team members, the need to engage and create consensus with students, the social emotional learning and mental health needs of students as they return to the classroom, the potential impact to the district due to loss of student enrollment, Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports implementation, and the hard work, collaboration, and support that has occurred to help make Davenport successful.

An attendance roll call was taken. Present: Brooke Axiotis, Bettie Bolar, Brian Kane, Mike Knedler, John Robbins, Kimberly Wayne, and Hannah Gross.

Iowa e-Learning Central Update

Brad Niebling, Chief for the Bureau of Learner Strategies and Supports, and Barbara Ohlund, Administrative Consultant, Learning and Results, provided an update on Iowa e-Learning Central (ILC). The Department was awarded a federal, \$17.7 million grant to establish an online learning platform built by Iowa teachers, for Iowa teachers. This presentation provided the State Board an overview of the work, a progress update, and connections with the board's goals.

A PowerPoint was presented that addressed:

- Alignment of ILC with Board Priorities & Goals
- Top Three Department Priorities: 2020-21 School Year
- Background information
 - The Beginning
 - Rationale for Iowa e-Learning Central
- Description of Iowa e-Learning Central
 - What is Iowa e-Learning Central?
 - Process for Developing Resources and Supports for Educators and Families
 - Process for Developing Courses for Repository
 - Process for Developing Repository and Exchange
 - Projected Timeline and Current Work
- Connection with Other Department Work
 - The Work

There was discussion regarding the importance that the website be easy to navigate, important skills students have been exposed to during the pandemic, and clarification that there is no connection between Iowa e-Learning Central and Iowa Learning Online.

Support Provided to School Districts to Deal with Mental Health Issues During the Pandemic

Brad Niebling introduced Kathy Bertsch, Administrative Consultant, Bureau of Learner Strategies and Supports. This presentation focused on the Return to Learn mental health supports the Department has been providing to districts to deal with mental health during the pandemic.

A PowerPoint was presented that addressed:

- Alignment with Current Board Priorities and Goals
- Mental Health Needs of Students and Educators
 - Mental Health and Social-emotional Behavioral Health (SEBH)
 - What Concerns Us
 - Research-based Recommendations for Schools
- Department Response to Mental Health Needs
 - Return to Learn (R2L) SEBH Guidance
 - R2L SEBH Supports and Website
 - Support Success with Social-Emotional-Behavioral Supports
 - Modules Support Teachers, Students and Families
 - Mental Health Webinar Series
- What We've Heard from Stakeholders
- How the Supports are Being Used
- Other Mental Health Supports
- Reflect on Our Goals

There was a comment regarding the value and importance of this work.

School Budget Review Committee Update

Kassandra Cline, Consultant, Bureau of School Business Operations, provided a summary of recent School Budget Review Committee (SBRC) hearings and action. The SBRC met on December 15, 2020, and January 22, 2021.

Actions included:

- Supplementary weighting was granted for concurrent enrollment and shared teachers as well as costs to provide instructional services to limited English proficient students.
- Modified supplemental amounts (MSA) were approved for the following class action requests:
 - excess cost for English language learner programs,
 - open enrolled-out students not on the previous year's count,
 - on-time funding for increased enrollment, and
 - special education deficit

There were no districts required to submit a corrective action plan due to incurring a negative unspent balance at the end of Fiscal Year 2020. However, Davenport, after four consecutive years of incurring a negative unspent balance (FY15-FY19), appeared to provide an update to the Committee as an informational item, meaning no action was requested or taken.

Other actions by the SBRC included the following:

- Approved the corrective action plan for two districts (Colo-NESCO and Wayne) that filed late fiscal reports.
- Approved MSA for hazard abatement (asbestos) for four districts: Audubon, Gladbrook-Reinbeck, South Central Calhoun, and Southeast Webster Grand.
- Authorized use of the unexpended General Fund for one district (Sioux Center) to complete the construction of their voter-approved new high school project.
- Approved requests related to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Based on recent legislative action (House File 2418 signed by the Governor on June 25, 2020), authorizing the SBRC to consider late filed requests for MSA relating to at-risk, alternative school, dropout and dropout prevention program plans (AR/DOP), the SBRC took action to share an intent to notice rules to bring consistency between the SBRC's administrative rules and the newly enacted legislation.
- Based on the same newly enacted legislation, the Committee heard requests from four districts (Alta-Aurelia, Carroll, Clarinda, and Collins-Maxwell) requesting a rule waiver so the SBRC would consider each district's late filed MSA request relating to their AR/DOP plans for FY21. The Committee approved the rule waiver for each district and tabled the request for MSA until criteria for considering late filed requests could be established.
 - The Committee then held a related work session on Friday, January 22, 2021, where a process and criteria were established to consider late filed requests for MSA related to AR/DOP programs.
 - The Committee is scheduled to hold hearings on Friday, January 29, 2021, to reconsider the four tabled requests.

There was discussion about whether there were any unintended costs related to COVID-19.

Board Reports

John Robbins has been working with a Nebraska school district on an upcoming accreditation visit. He has also been doing work/training to assist schools in meeting accreditation standards. Local superintendents are concerned about current legislation relating to open enrollment and voucher expansion.

Mike Knedler announced the appointment of a new president at Iowa Western Community College.

Hannah Groos has been hearing concerns regarding the legislation relating to vouchers, alternative enrollment, and the Iowa Statewide Assessment of Student Progress (ISASP). She hosted a discussion with teachers and administrators in her school district regarding ISASP. In addition, she onboarded a new team of students to the Iowa Student Learning Institute, which she serves as the executive director.

Mike Knedler made a motion and John Robbins seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Brooke Axiotis
President

Ann Lebo
Director