

Minutes State Board of Education May 5, 2022

Brooke Axiotis
President
Des Moines

Bettie Bolar
Vice President
Marshalltown

Rodney Bradley
Denison

Brian J. Kane
Dubuque

Michael L. Knedler
Council Bluffs

Mike May
Spirit Lake

Nathan Peterson
Iowa City

John Robbins
Iowa Falls

Georgia Van Gundy
Waukee

Hannah Groos
Student Member
Norwalk

Ann Lebo
Director and
Executive Officer

The State Board of Education (State Board) meeting was held on May 5, 2022, in person at the Iowa Department of Education, Grimes State Office Building, 400 E. 14th Street, Des Moines, Iowa.

State Board members present were Brooke Axiotis, Rod Bradley, Cindy Dietz, Cassandra Halls, Brian Kane, Mike May, Nathan Peterson, John Robbins and Alaina Whittington.

Iowa Department of Education staff members present were Ann Lebo, Shan Seivert, Earl Whipple, Jeremy Varner, Thomas Mayes, Rachel Bosovich, Heather Doe, Eric St Clair, Kassandra Cline, Alex Harris, Alison Jepsen, Amy Gieseke, Brad Niebling, Dennis Harden, Eric Heitz, Jane Bradley, Janice Evans, Jen Rathje, Janell Brandhorst, Justin Lewis, Kathy Bertsch, Lisa Albers, Larry Bice, Maryam Rod Szabo, Kelly Faga, Sandra Harris, Sara Nickel, David Canaday and Carol McMains.

Also in attendance were: Dar Danielson, Radio Iowa; Debra Vos, Indian Hills Community College; Brendan Beeter, David Epley and Lora Vargason, Legislative Services Agency; Elyse Fredin; Kathy Lockard, Karen Steffen and Michelle Catterson, Green Hills Area Education Agency; Katie Greving and Nina Lorimar- Easley, Decoding Dyslexia Iowa; Kim Buryanek; Lindsay Grow; Mark Wiederspan, Iowa College Aid; Michelle Dickey, Great Prairie Area Education Agency; Rebecca Bates, American Institutes for Research; Rob Robinson; Samantha Hernandez, Des Moines Register; Dan Kinney and Don Kohler, Iowa Western Community College; and Ted Drain.

State Board New Member Orientation

Ann Lebo, Director, Department of Education (Department) welcomed new State Board of Education (State Board) members Cindy Dietz, Cassandra Halls, Nathan Peterson and Alaina Whittington.

New board members and veteran board members introduced themselves.

A PowerPoint was presented that addressed:

- Board Priorities and Engagement
- Strategic Plan
- Board Authority, Roles and Responsibility
- Other Key Roles

State Board Business Meeting

Director Lebo called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Welcome New State Board Members

Director Lebo welcomed new board members Cindy Dietz, Cassandra Halls, Nathan Peterson and Alaina Whittington.

It was moved by Mike May and seconded by Rod Bradley to approve the May agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was conducted in person, with remote access information provided in the notice of meeting.

Election of Officers

Rod Bradley nominated John Robbins for president of the State Board and Brian Kane seconded.

A roll call vote was taken to elect John Robbins as president. Aye: Brooke Axiotis, Rod Bradley, Cindy Dietz, Cassandra Halls, Brian Kane, Mike May, Nathan Peterson and John Robbins. Nay: None. The motion carried.

John Robbins was elected State Board president.

Rod Bradley nominated Brooke Axiotis for vice president of the State Board, and Brian Kane seconded.

A roll call vote was taken to elect Brooke Axiotis as vice president. Aye: Brooke Axiotis, Rod Bradley, Cindy Dietz, Cassandra Halls, Brian Kane, Mike May, Nathan Peterson and John Robbins. Nay: None. The motion carried.

Brooke Axiotis was elected State Board vice president.

Communication

John Robbins made a statement regarding limiting the time of public comment based on the number of speakers.

Public Comment

Katie Greving, Executive Director, Decoding Dyslexia Iowa, provided information regarding the recommendations of the Iowa Dyslexia Task Force.

Director's Report

Director Lebo provided information regarding the Iowa Reading Research Center (IRRC) and Superintendent's Advisory Council and shared that Larry Bice, Administrative Consultant, Bureau of School Improvement, will be leaving the Department to take a position at Iowa State University.

Legislative Update

Eric St Clair, Administrative Consultant and Interim Legislative Liaison, provided an update regarding legislation related to education including: school transparency, parent choice, attracting and retaining teachers, work-based learning, teacher preparation, allowable growth for school districts, education appropriations, Last Dollar Scholar program, retention payments for school staff, teacher scholarship program and recruitment incentive programs.

Consent Agenda

Motion: Brian Kane made a motion and Mike May seconded to approve the consent agenda.

Vote: The motion carried.

Iowa Western Community College Comprehensive Accreditation Report – Fiscal Year 2022

Amy Gieseke, Chief, Bureau of Community Colleges, presented the Iowa Western Community College (IWCC) Comprehensive Accreditation Report – Fiscal Year 2022. The report outlines the evaluation of IWCC for continued state accreditation as an associate degree-granting institution. The Department conducted the evaluation on March 2-3, 2022.

The report reflects the review team's observations and determinations made during the IWCC onsite visit. As mandated by Iowa Code section 260C.47, the accreditation team, including two peer reviewers, assessed IWCC'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) accreditation report to ensure that any findings have been addressed. Iowa's process has been designed not to duplicate the HLC accreditation process.

A PowerPoint was presented that addressed:

- State Accreditation Process
- IWCC Institutional Profile
- Standards #1 and #2 – Faculty Qualifications and Load
- Standard #3 – Special Needs
- Standard #4 – CTE Program Review
- Standard #5 – Physical Plant/Facilities
- Standard #6 – Strategic Planning
- Standard #7 – Quality Faculty Plan
- Standard #8 – Senior Year Plus
- Themes from Desk Review/Visit
- Recommendation

There was discussion regarding CTE program review findings, follow up to addressing issues and the program improvement process.

Gieseke introduced Dan Kinney, President, IWCC, who shared information regarding culture, communication, relationships with high schools, CNA and CTE programs, shared governance

work, strategic plan, relationships with high schools, HLC accreditation, building purchase, career academies, aviation grant, noncredit offerings and workforce hiring issues.

There was discussion regarding dual enrollment, auto, diesel and welding programs, electrical, construction and carpentry skilled trades, post-graduation measurement and similarities between the various accreditation processes.

Motion: Mike May made a motion and Rod Bradley seconded that the State Board grant continued accreditation for Iowa Western Community College. A state interim accreditation visit will be conducted in Fiscal Year 2027.

Vote: The motion carried.

Iowa Community Colleges Certified Budget Report – Fiscal Year 2023

Eric St Clair presented the Iowa Community Colleges Certified Budget Report for Fiscal Year 2023. The State Board has statutory responsibility for approval of the community college certified budgets. The annual certified budget report is prepared by the Department each year in an effort to provide the State Board with background information necessary to review and approve these budgets.

There were discussions regarding budget accuracy, targets and estimates subject to change throughout the fiscal year, estimated total tax rate and timelines for creating budgets.

Motion: Rod Bradley made a motion and Cindy Dietz seconded to approve the Fiscal Year 2023 Iowa Community Colleges Certified Budget Report.

Vote: The motion carried.

2021 Adult Education and Literacy Report and Summary

Alex Harris, Administrative Consultant, Bureau of Community Colleges, presented the 2021 Adult Education and Literacy (AEL) Report and Summary which provides fiscal information for AEL programs across Iowa, including program fiscal summaries by community college and participant data.

In fiscal year 2021, the allocations for state and federal funds for AEL programs was \$5,639,997 and \$4,225,511, respectively. There were 7,501 participants in AEL programs in FY21, including 3,566 participants in Adult Basic Education programs, 1,376 participants in Adult Secondary Education programs and 2,559 participants in English as a Second Language (ESL) programs.

Harris presented a PowerPoint which addressed:

- AEL Overview
- AEL Services
- Annual Report
- Summary of Expenditures
- Summary of Enrollment
- Focus on Skill Levels
- Summary of Performance
- Outcome Measures

There was discussion regarding working with employers and recruiting participants, delivery of programs to incarcerated individuals through distance learning, prevention programs targeting at-risk students, service providers, drop-out students and credential attainment.

Draft K-12 Computer Science State Plan

Dennis Harden, Chief, Bureau of Career and Technical Education, introduced Justin Lewis, Consultant, who provided information regarding the Draft K-12 Computer Science State Plan. The plan is called for by House File 2629, which was proposed by Governor Kim Reynolds and passed unanimously by the 2020 Legislature and, for the first time, requires schools to teach computer science using the following directives:

- High schools must offer at least one-half unit computer science course by July 1, 2022.
- Elementary and middle schools must provide high-quality computer science instruction in at least one grade level each by July 1, 2023.
- School districts and accredited nonpublic schools will develop and implement their own local K-12 computer science plans by July 1, 2022.

There was discussion regarding continual modernization plans, engagement with employers, funding, number of computer science educators required, number of students with computer science degrees and number of high school students taking computer science courses.

Rules: Chapter 17 – Open Enrollment (Adopt)

Thomas Mayes, General Counsel, provided background regarding Chapter 17 – Open Enrollment.

2021 Iowa Acts, House File 847 requires the State Board “to adopt by rule the criteria for determining a resident district’s consistent failure to reasonably respond to a student’s failure to meet basic academic standards.” This rule making adopts such criteria.

After a period of public comment, and responding to comment from the Iowa Association of School Boards (IASB), the Department made two changes: 1) deleting “including but not limited to” from two paragraphs in subrule 17.5(3); and 2) providing a specific timeframe (12 weeks) in subrule 17.5(3), paragraph “c.”

Mayes expressed his appreciation for the input provided by IASB.

Motion: Mike May made a motion and Nathan Peterson seconded that the State Board adopt amendments to Chapter 17.

Vote: The motion carried.

Board Reports

Cassandra Halls reported that the Community College Council (CCC) recently met and that the Community Colleges Conference will take place in July. The CCC typically meets the day prior to the State Board meeting. CCC members include Cindy Dietz, Rod Bradley, John Robbins, with Halls who is serving as council chair.

Brian Kane shared that he accompanied Director Lebo on a visit to West Delaware Community School District where he found the programming amazing. He also attended the Quad City-Wide High School Apprentice Signing Day, where 61 students signed letters of intent to registered apprenticeships. Kane reported that he is now a member of the Policy Committee for the National Association of State Boards of Education and is also part of a private foundation that has chosen third grade reading as their special project in conjunction with the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque and its affiliates.

Cindy Dietz reported that she attended a meeting with Kirkwood Community College and local employers regarding skills needs and barriers to recruit due to the lack of wraparound services. Collins Aerospace is having discussions regarding the high school registered apprenticeship programs and exposing students to earn and learn programs early.

Rod Bradley stated that a topic of discussion during the recent CCC meeting was the suggestion that State Board meeting presentations be provided to board members in advance.

Brooke Axiotis attended the NASBE legislative conference in Washington, D.C. at the end of March and recommended that new board members attend NASBE's New Member Institute this summer. During the NASBE conference there was discussion regarding the lack of teacher voice. Axiotis suggested having the state board hear from classroom teachers and parents regarding their experiences and struggles.

John Robbins recently presented to a meeting of school business officials. He encouraged all board members to be involved with NASBE and shared several of the opportunities the organization offers. He joined a recent NASBE webinar regarding summer school as an enrichment opportunity. Robbins is leading a school accreditation visit for a charter school in the Minneapolis-St. Paul area.

Green Hills Area Education Agency Paraeducator Preparation Program Approval

Maryam Rod Szabo, Consultant, Bureau of School Improvement, introduced Kelly Faga, Consultant, who will begin overseeing paraeducator preparation program approvals.

Rod Szabo presented the Green Hills Area Education Agency (GHAEA) Paraeducator Preparation Program Approval Report. GHAEA has submitted a request for approval of the Paraeducator Generalist Certificate. Upon review of the evidence, it is determined that GHAEA has met each of the program standard requirements in IAC 281-80 and has submitted the appropriate curriculum exhibits to meet the Board of Educational Examiners (BoEE) requirements in IAC 282-24.

Motion: Rod Bradley made a motion and Brian Kane seconded that the State Board approve the Green Hills Area Education Agency Paraeducator Preparation Program through the next review scheduled for the 2027-2028 academic year.

Vote: The motion carried.

Great Prairie Area Education Agency Paraeducator Preparation Program Approval

Maryam Rod Szabo presented the Great Prairie Area Education Agency (GPAEA) Paraeducator Preparation Program Approval Report. GPAEA has submitted a request for approval of the Generalist, Early Childhood, English as a Second Language and Special Education areas of concentration. Upon review of the evidence, it is determined that GPAEA

has met each of the program standard requirements in IAC 281-80 and has submitted the appropriate curriculum exhibits to meet BoEE requirements in IAC 282-24.

There was discussion regarding best practices and development of a repository of resources.

Motion: Cassandra Halls made a motion and Cindy Dietz seconded that the State Board approve the Great Prairie Area Education Agency Paraeducator Preparation Program through the next review scheduled for the 2027-2028 academic year.

Vote: The motion carried.

Indian Hills Community College Paraeducator Preparation Program Approval

Maryam Rod Szabo presented the Indian Hills Community College (IHCC) Paraeducator Preparation Program Approval Report. IHCC has submitted a request for approval of the Generalist Certificate. Upon review of the evidence, it is determined that IHCC has met each of the program standard requirements in IAC 281-80 and has submitted the appropriate curriculum exhibits to meet BoEE requirements in IAC 282-24.

There was discussion regarding credit transfer and AEAs not offering credit.

Motion: Cindy Dietz made a motion and Brian Kane seconded that the State Board approve the Indian Hills Community College Paraeducator Preparation Program through the next review scheduled for the 2027-2028 academic year.

Vote: The motion carried.

School Budget Review Committee Update

Kassandra Cline, Chief and School Budget Review Committee Liaison, Bureau of School Business Operations, presented the Summary of Action from the School Budget Review Committee (SBRC) regular hearing held on March 15, 2022.

There was discussion regarding school district cash flow timelines, district ability to levy for cash and how the SBRC uses the information reported by school districts.

Dyslexia Task Force Recommendations Update

Brad Niebling, Chief, Bureau of Learner Strategies and Supports, and Kathy Bertsch, Administrative Consultant, provided the State Board with information regarding the Department's work related to the implementation of Iowa's recent laws related to supporting students with dyslexia. Niebling shared what is required and what work is being done to address the requirements related to dyslexia.

Niebling presented a PowerPoint that addressed:

- Alignment with Board Priorities & Goals
- Update on Department Progress on Task Force Recommendations
- Accomplishments to Date
- Membership Campaign
- Dyslexia Consultant Position


- Dyslexia Guidance
- Dyslexia Board Strategic Plan and Task Force Recommendations
- Next Steps

There was discussion regarding draft guidance, when impact will be seen in the classroom, IRRRC, success metrics and use of the word "dyslexia" by educators.


State Board Retreat Planning

There was discussion regarding a one-day June State Board meeting and moving the board retreat to the Fall.

The meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m.



John Robbins
President



Ann Lebo
Director