

Minutes State Board of Education June 9, 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 June 9, 2022, in person at DMACC Urban Campus, Building 7, Room 171, 1100 7th Street, Des Moines, Iowa.

State Board members present were Brooke Axiotis, Cindy Dietz, Cassandra Halls, Brian Kane, Mike May, John Robbins, Georgia Van Gundy and Alaina Whittington.

Iowa Department of Education (Department) staff members present were Ann Lebo, Shan Seivert, Earl Whipple, Jeremy Varner, Thomas Mayes, Rachel Bosovich, Heather Doe, Eric St Clair, Kassandra Cline, Marietta Rives, Jay Pennington, Brad Niebling, Barbara Ohlund, Maryam Rod Szabo, Kelly Faga, Hannah Walsh, Janet Boyd, Janice Evans, Jodi Bruce, Kathy Bertsch, Sara Nickel, Tom Deeter, David Canaday and Carol McMains.

Also in attendance were: George Anderson; Benjamin Forsyth, University of Northern Iowa; Rick Snyder, Wartburg College; Dar Danielson, Radio Iowa; Brendan Beeter, Legislative Services Agency; Kimberly Buryanek; Grant Gerlock, Iowa Public Radio; Hezekial Israel; Jason Plourde, Green Hills Area Education Agency; Susan Brandt, Decoding Dyslexia Iowa; and Valerie Norville.

State Board Business Meeting

John Robbins called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

It was moved by Mike May and seconded by Georgia Van Gundy to amend the meeting agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

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

Communication

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

Public Comment

Susan Brandt, Board Member, Decoding Dyslexia Iowa, shared information regarding having a son with dyslexia.

Director's Report

Director Lebo provided information regarding new staff joining the Department as well as school safety requirements and resources available to schools.

Consent Agenda

Motion: Brian Kane made a motion and Cindy Dietz seconded to approve the consent agenda.

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) special hearing held on May 3, 2022.

There was discussion regarding additional school staff retention payments.

Legislative Update

Eric St Clair, Legislative Liaison, provided an update regarding legislation passed during the legislative session that the Department is monitoring related to: school safety, operational sharing, teacher preparation assessments, appropriations and budget, open enrollment, work-based learning and career and academic planning.

St Clair also shared information regarding provisions of legislation that did not pass session including: private school scholarships, curriculum transparency, social studies and civics instruction, parent and student bill of rights, master teacher licenses, obscene materials, and computer science incentive fund grants timeline and voluntary substitute teachers.

Thomas Mayes, General Counsel, shared that new legislation, if signed by the Governor, will eliminate State Board jurisdiction to hear open enrollment appeals.

There was discussion regarding open enrollment deadlines, funding tied to open enrolled students and school districts sharing of guidance counselors.

2021/2022 Iowa Teacher of the Year End of Year Report

Marietta Rives, Consultant, Bureau of School Improvement, shared information regarding the Iowa Teacher of the Year program, which was established in 1958 and is sponsored by the Department through an appropriation from the Iowa Legislature. The award provides an opportunity to recognize an Iowa teacher who motivates, challenges and inspires excellence; who is respected by students and peers; who is a dedicated professional that helps nurture hidden talents and abilities; who is a creative and caring individual; and who is an exceptional teacher helping to redefine American education.

Rives introduced George Anderson, 2021/2022 Iowa Teacher of the Year. Anderson presented a PowerPoint highlighting the events he took part in during his term. He thanked the State Board for the honor of representing Iowa the last two years.

2021 Graduation Rates

Jay Pennington, Chief, Bureau of Information and Analysis Services, shared findings from the class of 2021 graduation rates. A PowerPoint was presented which addressed:

- Iowa Public Schools Four- and Five-Year Graduation Rates for 2011, 2018-2021
- Graduation Rates by Student Group
- Dropout Rates by Student Group

There was discussion regarding data for dropout rates by grades 9-12 and re-enrollment.

Iowa Postsecondary Readiness Reports

Jay Pennington shared the Iowa Postsecondary Readiness Reports website including the latest release of findings.

Iowa Achievement Gaps Legislative Report

Jay Pennington shared findings from the 2022 Iowa Achievement Gaps Legislative Report. A PowerPoint was presented which addressed:

- Shift in Student Demographics: K-12 Statewide Enrollment
- Percent Minority Enrollment in Iowa District 2021-2022
- Shift in Student Demographics: Mathematics – Black/White Achievement Gap
- Gaps Summary
 - Achievement Gaps Status
 - Summary of Achievement Gaps
- Magnitude of Gaps: ELA – Achievement Gap Effect Sizes 2020-2021
- Summary
- Mathematics Course Pathways
- Different Pathways by Student Group: Mathematics – Class of 2020
- Impact: Grade 11 Mathematics Proficiency by Student Group – Class of 2020

There was discussion regarding home and school support systems, student educational plans and the role of guidance counselors.

Wartburg College Educator Preparation Program Approval

Maryam Rod Szabo, Consultant, Bureau of School Improvement, presented the Wartburg College Educator Preparation Approval Report, which summarizes the program review and virtual visit that took place in September 2021 under 281 Iowa Administrative Code Chapter 79. Wartburg College has met all Chapter 79 standards without condition.

Ros Szabo introduced Rick Snyder, Associate Professor of Education, Wartburg College. There was discussion regarding the review process, previous patterns and the issue of staff overload.

Motion: Mike May made a motion and Georgia Van Gundy seconded that the State Board grant full approval to the Wartburg College Educator Preparation Program through the next review scheduled for the 2028-2029 academic year.

Vote: The motion carried.

University of Northern Iowa Educator Preparation Program Change Approval

Maryam Rod Szabo presented the University of Northern Iowa (UNI) Educator Preparation Program Change Report, which outlines UNI's plan to offer an accelerated, online, practice-based elementary education and special education program that honors and incorporates the professional experience and work-based exposure to classrooms of current paraeducators. Under 281 Iowa Administrative Code Chapter 79, UNI will be able to meet the requirements for licensure. This program will lead to a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education and a minor in Special Education that fulfills the requirements for both the K-6 Teacher Elementary Classroom and K-8 Instructional Strategist 1: Mild/Moderate Iowa teaching endorsements.

Rod Szabo introduced Ben Forsythe, Director of Educator Preparation, UNI. There was discussion regarding the program delivery format, length of the program, bundling courses, expected interest, scalability, registered apprenticeships and funding.

Motion: Brian Kane made a motion and Brooke Axiotis seconded that the State Board grant full approval to the University of Northern Iowa to offer an accelerated, online, practice-based elementary education and special education program until the next review of the unit scheduled for 2023-2024.

Vote: The motion carried.

Board Reports

Mike May shared that he has had continued discussions to try to get more people into the teaching field and that he had attending several State sporting events.

Cassandra Halls reported that the Community College Council (CCC) plans to hold a meeting/orientation in Sioux City in July, combined with attendance at the Community Colleges for Iowa Conference. She also shared information regarding a greenhouse project partnership in Carlisle that will include an outdoor classroom and community garden.

Brian Kane recently met with Northeast Iowa Community College (NICC) staff regarding adult learning. He toured the facility and shared that NICC staff were very complimentary of support received from the Department.

Cindy Dietz participated in a recent meeting of the Governor's STEM Advisory Council and shared information regarding the Collins Aerospace teacher extern program.

John Robbins shared information regarding his accreditation visit of a first year charter school in Minnesota that requires one teacher to be part of the school board and attracts students from across the country.

State Board of Education 2023 Meeting Schedule

Director Lebo shared the State Board meeting dates for 2023.

State Board Business Meeting

Work Session: Multi-Tiered Systems of Supports and Closing Achievement Gaps

Brad Niebling, Chief, Bureau of Learner Strategies and Supports, and Barbara Ohlund, Executive Officer, Division of Learning and Results, provided the State Board with an update regarding the Department's work around Multi-Tiered Systems of Supports (MTSS) and how it supports the State Board priority of eliminating achievement and opportunity gaps.

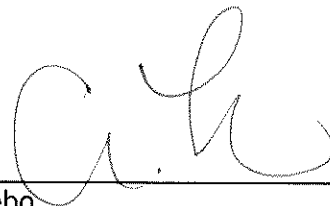
MTSS is an evidence-based approach to improve student learning and close achievement gaps. There are multiple federal and state policies that require components of MTSS be implemented. The Department has invested time and expertise in building our state's capacity to support districts and schools in implementing MTSS connected 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.

There was discussion regarding proficiency, benchmarks, measures, intervention needs, limited resources, using data as a guide, targeted instruction and special education focus aspects.

Brian Kane made a motion and Brooke Axiotis seconded to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.



John Robbins
President



Ann Lebo
Director

