



**Minutes
State Board of Education
August 2, 2018**

Brooke Axiotis
President
Des Moines

Michael Bearden
Vice President
Gladbrook

Bettie Bolar
Marshalltown

Joshua Byrnes
Osage

Angela English
Dyersville

Michael L. Knedler
Council Bluffs

Mike May
Spirit Lake

Mary Ellen Miller
Wayne County

Kimberly Wayne
Des Moines

Fez Zafar
Student Member
Clive

Ryan M. Wise
Director and
Executive Officer

The State Board of Education meeting was held on Thursday, August 2, 2018, in the Grimes State Office Building, State Board Room, Des Moines, Iowa. State Board members present were Mike Bearden, Bettie Bolar, Joshua Byrnes, Angela English, Mike Knedler, Mike May, Mary Ellen Miller, Kimberly Wayne, and Fez Zafar. Iowa Department of Education staff members present were Ryan Wise, Nicole Proesch, Staci Hupp, Tom Cooley, Gwen Nagel, Jonnie Becker, Larry Bice, Carole Richardson, Matthew Coulter, Pradeep Kotamraju, Eric St Clair, Pam Spangler, Brad Niebling, Amy Williamson, Cindy Butler, Marietta Rives, Erika Cook, and Jody Crane. Also in attendance were Margaret Buckton, Rural School Advocates of Iowa and the Urban Education Network; Lindsay Grow, Grand View University; M.J. Dolan, Iowa Association of Community College Trustees; Judy Sweetman, Northwest Area Education Agency; Colleen Heinz, Iowa State Education Association; Josie Gerrietts, Legislative Services Agency; Molly Phillips and Ken Harrison, Iowa Public Television; Deborah Reed, Iowa Reading Research Center; Sandy Schmitz; and Karleen Stephens and Lorna Paxson, Diagonal Community School District.

STATE BOARD BUSINESS MEETING

Mike Bearden called the meeting to order at 9 a.m.

It was moved by Mike Knedler and seconded by Angela English that the agenda be approved. The motion carried unanimously.

COMMUNICATION

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Director's Report

Ryan Wise, Director, Iowa Department of Education (Department), announced the launch of the new "Director's Blog," which is located on the Department's website.

Wise reported on a meeting between Department staff, Iowa Testing Programs, and Pearson. Iowa Testing Programs has selected Pearson as the vendor to implement and deliver the new statewide assessment. Topics discussed at the meeting included test administration, accommodations for English language learners and students with special needs, test security, and training for Iowa educators. The Department will work closely with Pearson regarding communication to the field, educators, parents, and the general public. The assessment window will be March 1 through May 31.

Wise highlighted the following statewide learning opportunities that have occurred over the summer:

- Future Ready Learning
- English Language Learners Conference
- Adult Education Conference
- Special Education Symposium

Wise indicated that he presented on teacher leadership at an Education Commission of the States meeting in Washington, D.C. He also spoke about Iowa's work around early literacy and the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) implementation at The Campaign for Grade-Level Reading conference in Philadelphia.

There was discussion regarding the location of the September State Board meeting.

Wise announced that due to the retirement of Linda Carroll, Chief, Bureau of Educator Quality, that bureau has been dissolved and staff have been reassigned to other existing bureaus within the Division of Learning and Results.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mike May made a motion and Joshua Byrnes seconded to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed.

BOARD ACTION/DISCUSSION AGENDA

Grand View University Practitioner Preparation Program Approval

Carole Richardson, Consultant, Bureau of Standards and Curriculum, introduced Lindsay Grow from Grand View University. Richardson explained the seven-year practitioner preparation program review process, which includes a self-study, on-site visit, and development of a report.

Richardson shared background information on the institution and reviewed the commendations/strengths, recommendations, and concerns for each of the following

standards: Governance and Resources; Diversity; Faculty; Assessment; Teacher Education Clinical; and Teacher Education Knowledge, Skills, and Dispositions.

Richardson indicated that Grand View University will receive an on-site follow-up visit in one year to ensure that the plans that have been put in place to address the concerns are still being implemented and supported by the institution.

Richardson recommended approval of the Grand View University Practitioner Preparation Program until the next review scheduled for the 2024-2025 academic year.

There was discussion regarding the seven-year review cycle, whether there were any repeat findings from previous reviews, the institution's accountability and practice in hiring faculty, the need for continuous improvement without direction from the State Board, the institution's difficulty in hiring qualified faculty, the responsibilities of the literacy faculty member, faculty turnover, and evaluations of adjunct professors.

Motion: Mike Knedler made a motion and Mike May seconded that the State Board award full approval to the Grand View University practitioner preparation program through the next review scheduled for the 2024-2025 academic year.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Ryan Wise reported that Kent Henning, President, Grand View University, has been involved in statewide education conversations. He was also a member of the Teacher Leadership Task Force that created the Teacher Leadership and Compensation system.

There was additional discussion regarding the reporting process.

Northwest Area Education Agency Paraeducator Preparation Program Approval

Marietta Rives, Consultant, Bureau of Standards and Curriculum, introduced Judy Sweetman from Northwest Area Education Agency (AEA). Northwest AEA submitted a request for approval of the Generalist, Level I paraeducator certification program and the early childhood area of concentration. Upon review of the evidence, it was determined that Northwest AEA has met each of the program standard requirements and submitted the appropriate curriculum exhibits. This certificate program and the area of concentration represent the recently revised Board of Educational Examiner's competencies.

Rives shared background information regarding the paraeducator programs in the state.

Rives also reviewed the areas of strength and areas in need of improvement and recommended approval.

There was discussion regarding the examples shared with the program to improve diversity, the number of hours it takes to complete the certification, the number of students enrolled in the program, and how this program helps pre-kindergarten students.

Motion: Angela English made a motion and Joshua Byrnes seconded that the State Board approve the paraeducator preparation program request submitted by Northwest Area Education Agency. This approval will extend through August 2023.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

State Board Policy Development Priorities for 2018-2019

Ryan Wise presented a draft of the 2018-2019 State Board Policy Development Priorities. State Board members discussed the contents and suggested changes.

Motion: Mike May made a motion and Kimberly Wayne seconded that the State Board approve the Policy Development Priorities for 2018-2019 as amended.

Vote: The motion did not pass.

Motion: Angela English made a motion and Mary Ellen Miller seconded that the State Board table this item until September.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Educator Preparation Programs – One-Year Follow-up Report

Erika Cook, Chief, and Larry Bice, Administrative Consultant, Bureau of Standards and Curriculum, presented the Educator Preparation Programs One-Year Follow-up Report. During the 2017-2018 academic year, Department consultants conducted follow-up reviews on five programs that received full approval from the State Board in 2016-2017: Graceland University, Grinnell College, Buena Vista University, Northwestern College, and Regents Alternative Pathway to Iowa Licensure (RAPIL) (RAPIL approval was in 2015-2016). The compliance concerns and the follow-up findings contained in the report were discussed.

There was additional discussion regarding resources to inform the public about practitioner preparation programs, feedback from school districts regarding the quality of Iowa educators, and data collection on practitioner preparation candidates.

Diagonal Community School District Site Visit Report

Amy Williamson, Chief, Bureau of School Improvement, provided an update on the Diagonal Community School District. As part of the Department's oversight through Differentiated Accountability, it reviews district program and financial information routinely to determine if any districts would benefit from an on-site visit to engage in deeper inquiry about the district's compliance with state and federal education laws. The Department provided an initial summary of an intensive visit to the Diagonal Community School District at the June 2018 meeting.

Williamson reviewed a document titled "Diagonal Community School District Corrective Action Status as of July 16, 2018," which showed 34 citations. Sixteen of the citations have been

corrected or resolved. There are still 18 outstanding citations; 10 of those are multiple citations for the same issue.

Williamson also reviewed a document titled “Diagonal Community School District Student Achievement Data August 2018.” The percentages for the Iowa Assessments and the Formative Reading Assessment System for Teachers (FAST) show Diagonal at or above the state averages overall.

Williamson summarized high points of a document titled “Diagonal Equity and Americans with Disabilities Act.”

There was discussion regarding the State Board’s responsibility, the implications for the Department, how the due dates were established for the noncompliance items, and whether progress is being made.

Karleen Stephens, Superintendent, and Lorna Paxton, Principal, Diagonal Community School District, and Margaret Buckton, Rural School Advocates of Iowa and the Urban Education Network, shared comments and discussed the compliance issues at the district. The following handouts were distributed and discussed:

- Iowa School Finance Information Services – Financial Analysis and Comparison Tool (FACT)
- Unspent Authorized Budget Worksheet
- Diagonal CSD: Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Improvements

There was discussion regarding the district’s enrollment, the district’s intent to resolve the equity issues, financing for the ADA improvements, achievement data, and how the counseling noncompliance issue will be resolved.

Davenport Community School District Site Visit Report

Amy Williamson and Brad Niebling, Chief, Bureau of Learner Strategies and Supports, provided an update on the Davenport Community School District (CSD). A program accreditation and finance team from the Department visited the Davenport CSD from January 30 – February 1, 2018, to monitor the district’s compliance with state and federal special education law and to conduct a review of the district’s financial health with regard to special education receipts and expenditures. The goal of the program accreditation and finance team visit was to further review issues identified during a desk audit, check for additional Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) compliance issues, and determine the reason for the district’s large increase in their special education deficit.

Ryan Wise introduced Sandy Schmitz who has been hired by the Department as an implementation advisor to assist the Davenport CSD with their plan to resolve the noncompliance issues.

The program accreditation team determined that the Davenport CSD was out of compliance with seven general areas of IDEA. Williamson and Niebling described the following areas of noncompliance:

1. Placement Decisions for Students with Disabilities
2. Providing Prior Written Notice to Parents
3. Disproportionality
4. Services for Students with Behavior Needs
5. Removals and Suspension of Students with Disabilities
6. Evaluation Procedures, Including Initial Evaluations
7. Seclusion and Restraint, as Applied to Students with Disabilities

There was discussion regarding the intent of the district concerning placement decisions for students with disabilities, categorization of students in least restrictive environments, and how the district will address the noncompliance issues for 2,200 Individualized Education Plans.

Schmitz provided an overview of her work with the district and the approach that will be taken to resolve the noncompliance issues.

There was additional discussion about whether the systemic problems were a leadership issue, whether the accreditation team heard concerns from teachers and others, whether the solutions will be sustainable, the local school board's role, and the gender and race of the students affected.

Williamson talked about next steps and the role of the Department and the State Board.

Early Literacy Update and Every Student Succeeds Act School Improvement

Brad Niebling and Amy Williamson provided an update on early literacy implementation and ESSA school improvement. Iowa Code section 279.68 requires all public schools to universally screen students in kindergarten through grade three and provide interventions and monitor the progress of students who are not on track to become proficient readers. An update was provided on work being done by the Department and the AEA system to support early literacy work in districts and schools.

A PowerPoint was presented that addressed:

- Alignment with State Board 2017-2018 Goals
- Our Foundation
- Early Literacy Implementation/Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS)/Differentiated Accountability
- Our Efforts
- Resource Examples
- Our Future

As the Department works to implement the state's ESSA plan, it is required to provide assistance for schools designated as needing Targeted or Comprehensive support. The following documents were described in detail:

- ESSA School Timeline: 2018-2019
- ESSA Accountability Index: Identification of Targeted and Comprehensive Schools
- ESSA School Improvement Supports

There was discussion regarding ESSA's graduation rate of 66 percent, the site visit process, the timetable on selecting a new data system, and why the weighting changed from year one to year three.

Iowa Public Television's Education Services

Molly Phillips, Executive Director, and Ken Harrison, Director of Educational Services, Iowa Public Television (IPTV), presented information on the educational services that IPTV provides statewide to formal and informal educators, parents, and libraries. A document was distributed titled "IPTV Guidebook - 2017."

A PowerPoint was presented that addressed:

- Mission
- Educational Services Staff
- Ready for School
- Ready for School Educational Events
- Ready to Learn 2016-2020 – Storm Lake
- Ready to Learn Research
- Teacher Community Program – Centerville
- Educational Media Resources
- Iowa Pathways
- Market to Market: Classroom
- Iowa Land and Sky
- Time Travel Iowa Department of Education
- IPTV Virtual Summer Camp
- Statewide Outreach Efforts by Zip Code Visits
- 2017-2018 Statewide Outreach

There was discussion regarding teaching through songs.

Iowa Reading Research Center Update

Deborah Reed, Director of the Iowa Reading Research Center (IRRC), shared information about her background and the work of the IRRC, which was created as part of the early literacy law passed in 2012 (Iowa Code section 279.68). This presentation focused on progress that has been made implementing a major statewide professional learning initiative entitled the "Early Literacy Blueprint," an effort led by the IRRC in collaboration with the Department. This initiative will provide statewide trainers the knowledge and skills needed for them to teach K-3 teachers to implement highly effective early literacy practices in their classrooms.

Reed reviewed the accomplishments of the IRRC, as outlined in the center's flyer. She also described the development and highlights of a document titled "High-Priority Milestones for K-3 Reading Development" (Early Literacy Blueprint Initiative). This document is available electronically on the IRRC website.

Reed shared information about interest from other states in the milestones document, plans to align assessment or progress monitoring tools with the blueprint components, training and professional development on the delivery of the blueprint, and membership of the blueprint advisory group.

School Budget Review Committee Update

Tom Cooley, Chief, Bureau of Finance, Facilities, Operation and Transportation Services, reported that the School Budget Review Committee (SBRC) met on July 3, 2018, for an emergency hearing requested by the Davenport CSD to consider a request for modified supplemental amount in the amount of \$1,129,034, for the 2018-2019 school year, to begin an Enhanced School Security Program. This included an assurance that the district would use cash on hand rather than levy additional funds. After significant discussion, on a 4-1 vote, the SBRC approved the request. The specified use for the requested funds was to provide the following staff:

- Two Resource Officers
- District Security Specialist
- 18 Campus Security Supervisors

Ryan Wise shared background information regarding what prompted this request and the actions taken for an emergency hearing. Cooley talked about the history in the SBRC granting similar individual situations and sustainability.

There was discussion regarding where the money comes from, how it is known that the district is spending the money on security features, the need for school safety in all schools, guidance provided to school districts on school safety, and Davenport CSD's overall budget.

Board Reports

Kimberly Wayne reported that she attended the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) New Member Institute. She also mentioned that Iowa was featured in a NASBE newsletter for Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM).

Joshua Byrnes shared information about the "Art of Education" program in Osage, Iowa.

Bettie Bolar shared highlights of a White House Workforce Development briefing conference call. The NASBE Government Affairs Committee was invited to participate on the call.

Ryan Wise reported that President Trump signed a bill reauthorizing the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act. He also talked about State Board meetings going paperless. In addition, he distributed a document "State Board of Education Significant Topics/Accomplishments June 2017 – May 2018."

Angela English, Mary Ellen Miller, Mike May, and Joshua Byrnes commented on the Davenport CSD situation and the State Board's role and authority.

Mike Bearden completed the nomination paperwork to serve in a regional position with NASBE. However, because of personal reasons, he has withdrawn that paperwork.

Angela English made a motion and Joshua Byrnes seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Mike Bearden adjourned the meeting at 2:20 p.m.

Michael Bearden
Vice President

Ryan M. Wise
Director