



**Minutes
State Board of Education
August 3, 2017**

Charles C. Edwards, Jr.
President
Des Moines

Michael L. Knedler
Vice President
Council Bluffs

Brooke Axiotis
Des Moines

Michael Bearden
Gladbrook

Bettie Bolar
Marshalltown

Diane Crookham-Johnson
Oskaloosa

Angela English
Dyersville

Mike May
Spirit Lake

Mary Ellen Miller
Mason City and
Wayne County

Robert Nishimwe
Student Member
Des Moines

Ryan M. Wise
Director and
Executive Officer

The State Board of Education meeting was held on Thursday, August 3, 2017, in the Grimes State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa. State Board members present were Charlie Edwards, Mike Knedler, Mike Bearden, Bettie Bolar, Diane Crookham-Johnson, Angela English, Mike May, Mary Ellen Miller, and Robert Nishimwe. Iowa Department of Education staff members present were Ryan Wise, Shan Seivert, Staci Hupp, David Tilly, Larry Bice, Paula Nissen, Matt Coulter, Brad Niebling, Tom Cooley, Nicole Proesch, Barbara Burrows, Sandra Johnson, Erika Cook, Carole Richardson, Marietta Rives, Barbara Ohlund, Kris Kilibarda, Phil Wise, and Jody Crane. Also in attendance were Margaret Buckton, Urban Education Network; Paul Gausman, Sioux City Community School District and Urban Education Network; Corey Vorthmann and Vickie Murillo, Council Bluffs Community School District; Jodi Grover; Phil Jeneary, Iowa Association of School Boards; Kristi Latta, Riverside Community School District; Sandy Schmitz, Iowa Reading Research Center; Christy Wolfe, Iowa Association of Colleges for Teacher Education; Josie Gerrietts, Legislative Services Agency; Linda Ankeny and Carrie Kee, Prairie Lakes Area Education Agency; Roberta Hersom, Jill Rhea, Angela Hunter, Jim Salvucci, Joshua Merchant, Dixee Bartholomew-Feis, Julie Finnern, and Monica Welander, Buena Vista University; Dan Kinney, Marge Welch, Tori Christie, and Patricia Donovan, Iowa Western Community College; Susan Fisher, Regents Alternative Pathway to Iowa Licensure; and Betsy Shelton, Reaching Higher Iowa.

**STATE BOARD WORK SESSION – EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS
ACT UPDATE**

Ryan Wise, Iowa Department of Education (Department), David Tilly, Deputy Director, and Barbara Ohlund, Administrative Consultant, Division of Learning and Results, provided an update on the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). ESSA is one of America's most important federal education laws. It provides for a number of national programs that support "leveling the playing field" for disadvantaged children in obtaining a high-quality education. This reauthorization provides states new opportunities and flexibilities in developing a plan that is right for their state.

This work session provided the State Board of Education (State Board) an opportunity to hear about revisions in Iowa's latest draft ESSA plan and to offer input on the development of the final draft of Iowa's ESSA plan.

A PowerPoint was presented that addressed:

- Brief Review of the History of ESSA
- Elementary and Secondary Education Act – No Child Left Behind – Every Student Succeeds Act
- The Work
- United States Department of Education ESSA Law, ESSA Plan, Rules, Guidance, Technical Assistance
- Stakeholder Input
- Connection of the Work to State Board Goals
- Tying “Initiatives” Together
- Objective
- Major Input from Issue Specific Groups
- State Board’s Input
 - Accountability Index
 - Specifically, the postsecondary readiness indicator and weights and other information the Department has received.
- ESSA Accountability Decision Matrix
- Postsecondary Readiness – College Readiness Index
- Accountability Index Weights

Handouts were distributed titled *Every Student Succeeds Act in Iowa/Iowa Department of Education Fact Sheet* and *Every Student Succeeds Act in Iowa/Connections: From the Work to State Board Goals*.

There was discussion regarding the federally mandated comment period and other activities the Department has led, how local school districts are being engaged, stakeholder input, Teacher Leadership and Compensation funding, the greatest challenges/barriers in being successful, graduation rate percentage, the ESSA decision matrix, and the need for the general public to better understand why this is necessary.

State Board members provided input regarding postsecondary readiness measures.

STATE BOARD BUSINESS MEETING

Charlie Edwards called the meeting to order at 10:10 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

Margaret Buckton lobbyist for the Urban Education Network (UEN) introduced Paul Gausman, Superintendent, Sioux City Community School District who also serves on the UEN; Vickie Murillo, Superintendent, Council Bluffs Community School District; and Corey Vorthmann, Assistant Superintendent, Council Bluffs Community School District.

Buckton talked about work of the ESSA stakeholder group, which she serves on.

Buckton provided public comment opposing the postsecondary readiness measure in the ESSA plan.

Gausman provided public comment. He talked about the philosophy of ESSA, crafting of the Iowa plan, and the opposition of the postsecondary readiness measure in the ESSA plan.

Murillo provided public comment opposing the postsecondary measure in the ESSA plan.

Vorthmann provided public comment opposing the postsecondary measure in the ESSA plan.

Director's Report

Ryan Wise asked State Board members to read his article in the August School Leader Update, which contains important items relating to the board's work.

Wise highlighted a book titled *Wait, What? And Life's Other Essential Questions* by James E. Ryan and encouraged State Board members to read this publication.

Wise reported that the September State Board meeting will be held in Marshalltown.

Wise encouraged State Board members to join him on his school visits around the state, which are in the process of being scheduled.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

STATE BOARD ACTION/DISCUSSION AGENDA

Rules: Chapter 83 – Teacher and Administrator Quality Programs (Notice)

David Tilly and Phil Wise, Policy Advisor, Division of Policy and Communications, presented an overview of the 281 Iowa Administrative Code (IAC) Chapter 83 rules, which implement

teacher and school administrator quality programs. The beginning teacher mentoring and induction program was significantly amended by Iowa Acts, House File 642, during the 2017 legislative session.

The beginning teacher mentoring and induction program offered by school districts had previously been mandatory under Iowa Code section 284.5. House File 642 made that beginning teacher mentoring and induction program voluntary for school districts. That legislation then created a second option for beginning teacher mentoring and induction through the Teacher Leadership and Compensation program in Iowa Code section 284.15. The successful completion of some form of beginning teacher mentoring and induction is required by the Board of Educational Examiners for a teacher to be able to be issued a standard teaching license. Whichever option a district chooses, the program still needs to reflect the Iowa Teaching Standards.

These amendments also make some technical changes necessitated by changes to collective bargaining in Iowa Code Chapter 20.

Ryan Wise reported that additional guidance will be provided by the Department.

Motion: Mike Knedler made a motion and Angela English seconded that the State Board give public notice of its intent to amend Chapter 83.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

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

Phil Wise and Tom Cooley, Chief, Bureau of Finance, Facilities, Operation and Transportation Services, provided an overview of 281 IAC Chapter 98, which outlines the financial management of school district categorical funding. These rules are being amended to reflect a number of statutory changes made during the 2017 legislative session that impact existing categorical funding programs.

House Files 564 and 565 created additional flexibility for school districts in use of a number of categorical funds, as well as the ability of school boards to create and utilize a new flexibility fund. House File 642 made major changes to how school districts provide beginning teacher mentoring and induction. It also repealed the requirement that school districts must provide an intensive summer literacy program for third grade students who are persistently at risk in reading, but adds a requirement that school districts must provide intensive supplemental reading instruction beyond grade three if necessary until such students are reading at grade level.

Cooley indicated that HF 564 makes changes to certain categorical funds that expand the allowable uses of those funds. HF 565 allows a different means to use carry forward funds from certain categorical funds. It creates a new flexibility account within the general fund that allows carry forward dollars to be used for broader purposes than the original categorical fund might have allowed. Charlie Edwards commented on the State Board's role in bringing about changes to this legislation.

Motion: Diane Crookham-Johnson made a motion and Mary Ellen Miller seconded that the State Board give public notice of its intent to amend Chapter 98.

There was discussion regarding the rules dealing with reading literacy and school districts' obligation to provide intensive supplemental reading instruction to any student who has been identified as persistently at risk in reading, beyond grade three if necessary, until the student is reading at grade level.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

In re Open Enrollment of K.M. (Riverside Community School District)

Nicole Proesch, Legal Counsel, Office of the Director, introduced Jordan Esbrook, Assistant Attorney General, Attorney General's Office. Proesch presented *In re Open Enrollment of K.M. (Riverside Community School District)*.

Proesch explained the four criteria that must be met in order to overturn the decision of a local board.

Proesch recommended that the State Board affirm the proposed decision of the Riverside Community School District Board.

There was discussion regarding the facts of the case.

Esbrook explained the State Board's options, which are to affirm, reverse, or modify the administrative law judge's decision or a rehearing of the decision.

There was additional discussion regarding the criteria that must be met to reverse a local decision.

Motion: Bettie Bolar made a motion and Mike Bearden seconded that the State Board approve the proposed decision affirming the decision of the local board of directors of the Riverside Community School District denying the open enrollment appeal of the appellants.

Vote: A roll call vote was taken: Aye: None. Nay: Mike Bearden, Bettie Bolar, Diane Crookham-Johnson, Charlie Edwards, Angela English, Mike Knedler, Mike May, and Mary Ellen Miller. The motion failed.

A subset of the State Board will modify the decision.

In re Open Enrollment of T.L.U. and T.R.U. (Waco Community School District)

Nicole Proesch and Jordan Esbrook presented *In re Open Enrollment of T.L.U. and T.R.U. (Waco Community School District)*.

Motion: Mike Knedler made a motion and Mike Bearden seconded that the State Board approve the proposed decision affirming the decision of the local board of directors of the Waco Community School District denying the open enrollment appeal of the appellants.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Buena Vista University Practitioner Preparation Program Approval

Mike May recused himself from this discussion.

Larry Bice, Administrative Consultant, Bureau of Educator Quality, introduced the following Buena Vista University (BVU) staff members: Roberta Hersom, Assistant Dean; Angela Hunter, Regional Educational Program Coordinator; Monica Welander, Regional Educational Program Coordinator; Julie Finnern, former Dean, School of Education; Dixee Bartholomew-Feis, Interim Dean, School of Education; Joshua Merchant, President; Jim Salvucci, Vice President for Academic Affairs/Provost; and Jill Rhea, Dean of Online, Site and Graduate Programs.

Bice reported that the State Board granted BVU a conditional approval on March 31, 2016. At that time, the report to the board identified 26 compliance concerns, 15 repeat findings, with 12 findings in the Governance and Resources section.

Bice indicated that during the year following conditional approval, BVU administrators and Department consultants met several times to collaborate on BVU's plans to resolve concerns. Throughout the year, Department consultants monitored BVU's progress through meetings, visits, and verification of BVU provided quarterly reports.

To resolve the concerns, BVU developed and implemented a completely new organizational structure. The original structure was a dean position in oversight of several full-time faculty and a large number of adjunct faculty across 15 campus locations. Equity among campus sites was poor. The new structure features six departments within the Teacher Education Program (TEP), each with a chair responsible for curriculum and faculty review in the department. BVU also hired six new full-time faculty members and 18 part-time (at least half-time) faculty members to provide consistency for the program, significantly reducing the reliance on adjunct faculty members. The new faculty, along with the department chairs, are housed in various locations in the BVU off-site and Storm Lake campuses, providing equitable resources and permanent faculty across sites. BVU also decided to end offering teacher education in two of the off-site campuses. BVU has also committed a larger operational budget with policies to improve budget management.

In addition to the additional resources (both human and monetary), the BVU education program has developed or rewritten, approved, and implemented all program policies and procedures to ensure equitable access to quality preparation, opportunities, and assessment for all BVU candidates.

During May of 2017, Department consultants conducted follow-up on-site reviews at several off-site campuses and the Storm Lake campus.

Bice provided an overview of the work done by BVU and how that work applies to compliance concerns.

Bice explained the State Board's three approval options, which are to deny approval, grant full approval, or grant conditional approval.

Charlie Edwards commented on his disappointment with the initial report and how impressed he is with the work that has occurred to remedy the concerns.

There was discussion regarding the State Board's approval options, the school's response to the concerns and the strain on the Department, the effect on BVU students, and the State Board's expectation of substantial reporting of what's happening at the satellite offices.

BVU staff reported on feedback received through a survey reaching out to students to see why they did not complete the program or if there was anything the institution could do to assist them; changes that have been made to the governance structure, faculty, and curriculum; the institution's commitment to continuous improvement; and appreciation for the Department's efforts.

Motion: Bettie Bolar made a motion and Charlie Edwards seconded that the State Board approve the Buena Vista University Educator Preparation Program through the next state approval cycle scheduled for the 2021-2022 academic year with a formal visit in six months and one year.

Bice informed the State Board that the next formal visit will occur in six years rather than seven years because of the accreditation cycle.

Angela English will work with Bice on the six month and one-year visits.

Vote: A roll call vote was taken. Aye: Bettie Bolar, Diane Crookham-Johnson, Charlie Edwards, Mike Knedler, and Mary Ellen Miller. Nay: Mike Bearden and Angela English. The motion passed.

Edwards complimented BVU's dean on the work that has occurred to resolve the issues.

State Board members expressed their high expectations for this work.

Prairie Lakes Area Education Agency Paraeducator Preparation Program Approval

Marietta Rives, Consultant, Bureau of Educator Quality, distributed and discussed the content of a document titled *Summary of Paraeducator Certification Totals for 2015-2016 and Aggregated Totals for 2000-2016 – October 1, 2016*. Rives shared comments she received regarding the effectiveness of paraeducators. The law allows them to be used and requires them to be trained and these programs must meet State Board adopted standards.

Rives reported that community colleges are interested in upping the requirements for paraeducator certification making it a requirement that every paraeducator be certified.

Rives talked about the five-year cycle of approving paraeducator programs. In the next three years, all 15 programs will be brought before the board.

Rives introduced Linda Ankeny, Professional Development Coordinator, and Carrie Kee, Professional Development Specialist, Prairie Lakes Area Education Agency (PLAEA). A strength of PLAEA's program is the desire to not only offer great courses for paraeducator candidates, but to create a program that meets all of the standards in an effort to build an infrastructure that will maintain the program over time.

Based on the evidence provided, Rives recommended State Board approval of this program.

Motion: Diane Crookham-Johnson made a motion and Angela English seconded that the State Board approve the paraeducator preparation program request submitted by Prairie Lakes Area Education Agency. This approval will extend through August 2022.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

PLAEA representatives provided comments about the important work of paraeducators.

Iowa Lakes Community College Paraeducator Preparation Program Approval

Marietta Rives reported that Iowa Lakes Community College (ILCC) offers paraeducator coursework for college credit. A paraeducator candidate can take the coursework at ILCC and transfer it to a four-year institution to pursue their teaching license. ILCC uses many of their institutional structures to support paraeducator programming.

Based on the evidence provided, Rives recommended State Board approval of this program.

Motion: Mike May made a motion and Mike Bearden seconded that the State Board approve the paraeducator preparation program request submitted by Iowa Lakes Community College. This approval will extend through August 2022.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Iowa Western Community College Paraeducator Preparation Program Approval

Marietta Rives introduced Patricia Donovan, Continuing Education Coordinator, Iowa Western Community College (IWCC). Rives stated that upon review of the evidence, it was determined that the organization had developed a quality program. They work collaboratively with their local area education agency and they recognize areas that need improvement.

Based on the evidence provided, Rives recommended State Board approval of this program.

Motion: Bettie Bolar made a motion and Mary Ellen Miller seconded that the State Board approve the paraeducator programs request submitted by Iowa Western Community College. This approval will extend through August 2022.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Donovan stated that this program is very much needed in southwest Iowa.

There was discussion regarding who pays the tuition.

Iowa Western Community College Interim Accreditation Report – Fiscal Year 2017

Barbara Burrows, Chief, Bureau of Community Colleges, introduced the following guests from Iowa Western Community College (IWCC): Dan Kinney, President; Marge Welch, Vice President, Academic Affairs; and Tori Christie, Vice President, Student Affairs. Burrows reported that this interim accreditation visit was combined with an Office for Civil Rights (OCR) Equity Review, which yields a separate report to the OCR.

Burrows shared general comments about the institution, which serves seven counties and has grown to one main campus in Council Bluffs and three centers in Atlantic, Harlan, and Shenandoah. Most recently, a state-of-the-art Advanced Nursing & Allied Health Building and an Engineering and Technology Building has been added.

IWCC has earned tremendous community support through the passage of bond issues that have allowed them to expand facilities, increase program offerings and housing, and create a safer, more collegiate environment for their students.

Burrows reviewed the compliance standards and findings presented in the report. The eight standards in Iowa Code are: Faculty Qualifications, Faculty Teaching Load, Special Needs, Career and Technical Education Program Evaluations and Timelines, Strategic Planning, Physical Plant and Facilities, Quality Faculty Plan, and Senior Year Plus Programs.

Burrows also reviewed a finding in the section of the report dealing with Compliance with Non-Accreditation State or Federal Requirements.

President Kinney spoke about improvements made to the institution's strategic planning process.

Motion: Angela English made a motion and Diane Crookham-Johnson seconded that the State Board grant continued accreditation for Iowa Western Community College. A state comprehensive accreditation evaluation will be conducted in fiscal year 2022.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Kinney spoke about "Free College Tuition" as he introduced a brief presentation made by Tori Christie about their Pottawattamie Promise, which is an innovative partnership among metro area foundations. Pottawattamie Promise is based on the belief that students who

receive education and wraparound services can – and will – go on to earn competitive wages through fulfilling careers. Kinney explained that this program, while a great service to the students and community, costs the college \$1M a year in staff resources and student support services.

State Board Policy Development Priorities for 2017-2018

Ryan Wise presented the State Board Policy Development Priorities for 2017-2018.

Motion: Mike May made a motion and Diane Crookham-Johnson seconded that the State Board approve the Policy Development Priorities for 2017 – 2018.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

The 2017-2018 priorities are:

Eliminating Early Literacy Achievement Gaps – Brooke Axiotis, Diane Crookham-Johnson, and Robert Nishimwe

Transitioning to New Assessments – Charlie Edwards and Mary Ellen Miller

Implementing Iowa's Academic Standards – Mike Knedler and Ryan Wise

Improving Teacher and Leader Preparation – Charlie Edwards, Angela English, and Mike May

Increasing Accessibility of Career and Technical Education, Work-Based Learning, and Community College Credit and Preparing Productive Citizens for Rewarding Careers - Bettie Bolar and Mike Knedler

Creating a Safe and Rich Learning Environment - Mike Bearden, Diane Crookham-Johnson, and Mike May

Charlie Edwards suggested that State Board members work with Department staff on their respective priorities as plans are developed to address each of the priorities.

National Association of State Boards of Education Grant

Charlie Edwards and David Tilly provided an update on the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) grant. The first year of the grant is focused on board development. Proposed activities and timelines of the grant were discussed; specifically, professional learning opportunities around what it takes to teach children to become proficient readers and closing achievement gaps.

Practitioner Preparation Program Report on Follow-up Visits Conducted During 2016-2017

Larry Bice presented the Practitioner Preparation Program Report on Follow-up Visits Conducted During 2016-2017. During the 2016-2017 academic year, Department staff conducted follow-up reviews on five programs that received full approval from the State Board in 2015-2016: Cornell College, Wartburg College, Regents Alternative Pathway to Iowa Licensure (RAPIL), Kaplan University, and Maharishi University of Management. Bice reviewed the compliance concerns and the follow-up findings for each institution.

There was discussion regarding communication with the institutions, the process if a concern is unresolved, and membership of the follow-up review team.

Assessment Update and Discussion

Ryan Wise and David Tilly provided an update on the Iowa Statewide Assessment of Student Progress Request for Proposal (RFP) process. Wise explained the role of the Iowa Department of Administrative Services, which is the state agency that is leading the procurement process to ensure it is done correctly.

Tilly talked about the timeline for the Iowa Statewide Assessment of Student Progress RFP and indicated that the legislation directs the State Board to promulgate administrative rules that would formally adopt the assessment.

There was discussion regarding the scoring criteria, when the new assessment will take effect, the term of the contract, and ESSA assessment requirements.

Future Ready Iowa Initiative

Ryan Wise provided information on the Future Ready Iowa initiative, which is focused on strengthening Iowa's talent pipeline to help assure students and workers have the career opportunities, and that business and industry have the skilled employees they need to compete in an increasingly knowledge-based and globalized economy.

Governor Reynolds has established a goal of 70 percent of Iowans in the workforce having education or training beyond high school by 2025. Future Ready Iowa will connect Iowa's efforts in education, workforce and economic development.

A booklet titled *Metrics That Matter* was distributed. This publication lays out a variety of measures that demonstrate where the state of Iowa is currently and goals for closing the skills gap by adequately preparing students to meet the needs of employers.

The Future Ready Iowa Alliance recommendations will be coming out late fall. Wise chairs the Get Iowans Ready subgroup that is helping the alliance develop their recommendations. Wise commented on the connection between this work and the State Board's priorities.

There was discussion regarding the age groups included in this initiative, the skill set needed in the future, the changing landscape of business and the workforce in the state, Future Ready Iowa Alliance membership, and a document titled *Opportunities in Energy Iowa Career Pathways*.

Early Warning System and Early Literacy Results

David Tilly, Barbara Ohlund, and Brad Niebling, Chief, Bureau of Learner Strategies and Supports, reported on the Department's work in early literacy.

Ohlund addressed early literacy implementation, Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS), and Differentiated Accountability within Collaborating for Iowa's Kids (C4K). In 2015-2016, there was a 4.2 percent growth of K-3 students meeting or above benchmark. This equals 9,000 students that are now on track to reading proficiently. 2016-2017 data are currently being analyzed and the preliminary data look promising. In addition, 3,000 educators have received training in assessment and data-based decision making and universal instruction.

Tilly commented on the infrastructure that has been developed that will allow the state to scale at a larger level.

Niebling talked about training that will occur in 2017-2018 on assessment and data-based decision making. One and two day sessions will be offered around universal instruction.

Tilly reported that Differentiated Accountability will be integrated into the ESSA plan. The Differentiated Accountability model will continue to be implemented this year. Through the area education agencies, 15 school districts will receive intensive level support, and 300 districts will receive supplemental support. The high-quality tools that have been developed will be available to all school districts.

There was discussion about whether the supports and interventions adequately address the issues of socioeconomic impact, social and emotional impact, and cultural impact on early learning; the percentage of K-3 teachers that have received training and the need to have all teachers trained; and the number of districts that have received intensive level support.

Board Reports

Diane Crookham-Johnson talked about efforts to expand C.O.R.E. (Community of Racial Equity) in the state. A task force of Des Moines area students is being assembled to develop some recommendations regarding what can be done to reduce the achievement gap statewide.

Bettie Bolar shared highlights of the NASBE New Member Institute as well as materials offered by this organization.

Mike Bearden continues his involvement with the Future Ready Iowa initiative.

Mary Ellen Miller commented on author James E. Ryan's Harvard University commencement speech. She also talked about more women running for local school board positions.

Mike May reported that in 1962 he was elected state commerce commissioner of Boys State. His granddaughter was recently elected governor of Girls State.

Robert Nishimwe commented on the issue of mental health in schools and how he would like to see the State Board address this issue. He also suggested that students be invited to State Board meetings.

Charlie Edwards adjourned the meeting at 2:25 p.m.

Charles C. Edwards, Jr.
President

Ryan M. Wise
Director