



Minutes
State Board of Education
January 25, 2018

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, January 25, 2018, in the State Capitol and the Grimes State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa. State Board members present were Charlie Edwards, Mike Knedler, Mary Ellen Miller, Brooke Axiotis, Robert Nishimwe, Angela English, Diane Crookham-Johnson, Bettie Bolar, and Mike Bearden. Iowa Department of Education staff members present were Ryan Wise, David Tilly, Jeremy Varner, Janet Boyd, Matt Coulter, Carole Richardson, Linda Carroll, Larry Bice, Nicole Proesch, Matt Ludwig, Tom Cooley, Staci Hupp, Jay Pennington, Kassandra Cline, Pradeep Kotamraju, Cindy Butler, Chris Russell, Lisa Albers, Carol McMains, Jim Flansburg, Deb Darge, Thomas Mayes, Erika Cook, Heather Doe, Barbara Burrows, Isbelia Arzola, and Jody Crane. Also in attendance were Governor Kim Reynolds, Lt. Governor Adam Gregg, and Linda Fandel, Governor's Office; Senator Amy Sinclair; Senator Jeff Edler; Senator Tim Kraayenbrink; Representative Walt Rogers; Representative Cindy Winckler; Representative Sharon Steckman; Representative Cecil Dolecheck; Representative Helen Miller; Jillian Carlson, Senate Staff; Robin Madison and Josie Gerriets, Legislative Services Agency; Jason Chapman, House Staff; Jodi Grover; Aileen Sullivan, 2018 Iowa Teacher of the Year; Shelly Vroegh, 2017 Iowa Teacher of the Year; Colleen Heinz, Iowa State Education Association; Sandy Schmitz, Iowa Reading Research Center; Mackenzie Ryan, Des Moines Register; Rob Dillard, Iowa Public Radio; Dar Danielson, Radio Iowa; Billie Cowley and Gail Moorman Behrens, Upper Iowa University; Marlene Sprouse, Matt Thompson, and Cammie Richards, Indian Hills Community College; Sarah Kress, Nancy Hayes, and Marty St. Clair, Coe College.

STATE BOARD WORK SESSION – DISCUSS LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

A work session was attended by the following legislators: Senator Amy Sinclair, Senator Jeff Edler, Senator Tim Kraayenbrink, Representative Cindy Winckler, Representative Sharon Steckman, Representative Walt Rogers, Representative Cecil Dolecheck, and Representative Helen Miller.

The purpose of the work session was to provide information and discuss some of the State Board of Education's (State Board) priorities with legislators. The priorities discussed included:

Increasing Accessibility of Career and Technical Education, Work-Based Learning, and Community College Credit and Preparing Productive Citizens for Rewarding Careers - A copy of The Annual Condition of Iowa's Community Colleges report was distributed.

Eliminating Early Literacy Achievement Gaps - There was discussion regarding the proficiency levels of kindergarten through third grade students.

Transitioning to New Assessments - The risk of losing federal funds with no assessment in place was discussed.

There was additional dialogue regarding cyber bullying/bullying, the State Board's role in hearing appeals, the value of community colleges and the need to keep tuition affordable, the significant progress being made with teacher and leader preparation in the state, Career and Technical Education (CTE), and career pathways.

STATE BOARD BUSINESS MEETING

Charlie Edwards 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/Legislative Update

Ryan Wise, Director, Iowa Department of Education (Department), provided an update on the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) plan. The Department received feedback from the United States Department of Education (USED) on the plan. The vast majority of the feedback was routine clarification comments and questions. There were three substantive areas that dealt with Iowa's accountability system. Specifically, how average scale scores in relation to proficiency are used, how Iowa designates schools with persistently underperforming subgroups, and the exit criteria for comprehensive and targeted schools. The deadline for Iowa's response to this feedback has been extended to March 1, 2018.

Wise reported on the following Department legislative priorities:

Early Literacy – The Department has requested \$300,000 on top of the Iowa Reading Research Center’s existing budget to expand the work around the early literacy blueprint of best practices so all schools in the state will have access to high-quality practices and literacy instruction.

Teacher Leadership and Compensation (TLC) – The Department has a status quo ask of \$600,000 to continue evaluation and support of the TLC system. Wise shared information about work of the American Institutes of Research (AIR), which is the external evaluator of TLC. AIR is in the process of conducting six in-depth case studies on districts that are seeing outsized results on collaboration, professional development, and student achievement. The case studies will be concluded by early summer.

The Department has a prefiled bill that adds language requiring a sixth assurance that would require districts to adopt an instructional rubric/framework as part of their TLC plan. There was discussion about whether this bill would require additional funding, whether pushback is expected, and the reason why there is a need for this legislation.

Future Ready Iowa – The Department’s work will be to keep the focus on what is currently being done, particularly around CTE. There will be a renewed focus on work-based learning and some opportunities around the creation of an online clearinghouse.

Computer Science – The Department has requested \$500,000 to support the computer science professional development incentive fund, which will allow districts to build their local computer science teaching force by enabling teachers to either earn endorsements in computer science or to engage in professional development related to computer science. The Department has also requested a full-time equivalent position to lead this work.

Iowa Learning Online (ILO) – The Department has requested \$500,000, which will allow ILO to create a computer science course and also allow greater support for all ILO courses. There was discussion about accessibility (bandwidth) and school districts’ ICN usage.

Wise introduced his new executive secretary, Carol McMains.

A video was shown highlighting Robert Nishimwe who received the YMCA Youth Leadership Award. Nishimwe shared comments about receiving this honor.

CONSENT AGENDA

Diane Crookham-Johnson made a motion and Bettie Bolar seconded to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed.

BOARD ACTION/DISCUSSION AGENDA

Upper Iowa University Educator Preparation Program

Carole Richardson, Consultant, Bureau of Educator Quality, introduced Billie Cowley, and Gail Moorman Behrens, Upper Iowa University. Historical and current information about the university was provided.

Richardson highlighted strengths of the educator preparation program, reviewed the areas of concern, and discussed what the institution is doing to address those concerns. The standards are: Governance and Resources, Diversity, Faculty, Assessment, Teacher Education Clinical, and Teacher Education Curriculum.

Richardson shared information on the follow-up process. The Department will visit Upper Iowa University in one year to ensure that they are following their plan to address the concerns, and they will also provide an update on their annual report.

Motion: Angela English made a motion and Mike Bearden seconded that the State Board approve the Upper Iowa University Educator Preparation Program through the next state approval cycle scheduled for the 2023-2024 academic year.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Upper Iowa University representatives shared comments about the review process.

Coe College Educator Preparation Program

Larry Bice, Administrative Consultant, Bureau of Educator Quality, introduced Sarah Kress, Nancy Hayes, and Marty St. Clair, Coe College. Background on the college was provided.

Bice highlighted strengths of the educator preparation program. He also reviewed the compliance concerns in the areas of Governance and Resources, Assessment, Teacher Education Clinical, and Faculty. Bice talked about what the institution has done to resolve the issues.

There was discussion regarding candidates being properly prepared, and the State Board's confidence with improvements that have been made to the accreditation process.

Coe College representatives shared comments about the process and how they plan to move forward based on the feedback that they have received. They also talked about their observations of young people in Iowa going into the field of education. Another area discussed dealt with what the institution is doing to deal with feedback from graduates stating that they were struggling with technology and classroom management.

Motion: Angela English made a motion and Brooke Axiotis seconded that the State Board approve the Coe College Educator Preparation Program through the next state approval cycle scheduled for the 2023-2024 academic year.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Indian Hills Community College Interim Accreditation Report—Fiscal Year 2018

Barbara Burrows, Chief, Bureau of Community Colleges, introduced the following guests from Indian Hills Community College: President Marlene Sprouse, Vice President Matt Thompson, and Cammie Richards, Director of Connect 2 College Programs. Burrows reported that this interim accreditation visit was combined with an Office for Civil Rights Equity Review.

Burrows shared general comments about the institution, which offers over 70 academic programs at three campus locations: Ottumwa Main Campus, Ottumwa North Campus, and Centerville Campus. The college extends educational opportunities and services within its region through the operation of five county service centers, four regional career academies, and additional concurrent enrollment and academy programs in partnership with area high schools.

Indian Hills focuses on student learning and prides itself in being student-centered. They experienced a 9.2 percent increase in college completion and ranks second among Iowa community colleges in credits and student awards.

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. In addition to Burrows' comments regarding the college's compliance with these standards, Indian Hills representatives shared comments regarding findings and their outreach efforts.

There was discussion regarding offerings in sustainable agriculture at Indian Hills and other Iowa community colleges. Ryan Wise reported that Secretary of Agriculture, Bill Northey, accompanied him to the Indian Hills Sigourney County Service Center and observed a precision agriculture class. He was very impressed with the practical problem-solving exercises the students were engaged in during their visit.

One of the recommendations in the report is that Indian Hills needs to revise some of the programs in their catalog that do not exactly match those approved by the state. Angela English asked if this was just a catalog publishing issue or whether they actually graduate students based on unapproved program content. Burrows assured the board that this was simply a publishing issue that college officials are diligently working to correct.

There was additional discussion regarding student demographics and the institution's four-day schedule. Diane Crookham-Johnson closed the discussion stating how valued Indian Hills is within their service region.

Motion: Mike Knedler made a motion and Mary Ellen Miller seconded that the State Board grant continued accreditation for Indian Hills Community College. A state comprehensive accreditation evaluation will be conducted in fiscal year 2023.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Charter and Innovation Zone Schools in Iowa Legislative Report

David Tilly, Deputy Director, and Janet Boyd, Consultant, Bureau of School Improvement, presented the Charter and Innovation Zone Schools in Iowa legislative report. Tilly explained that the Department is required by Iowa Code to produce a variety of legislative reports. Under Ryan Wise's leadership, these reports have become more focused and direct in terms of doing the required reporting to the Legislature. During this reporting improvement process, it was discovered that this report needed to be submitted by the State Board to the Legislature. The existing charters have traditionally self-reported to the Department.

Boyd reported that the Dubuque Community School District board has voted not to renew the Prescott Elementary Charter status this spring.

Boyd reviewed the proposed State Board recommendation to the Legislature. She reminded the board that a charter school is authorized and accountable to its local public school board and that there is also an advisory board. Charter schools are also required to annually report to their local public school board.

Boyd reported that the Storm Lake/Iowa Central/Buena Vista Early College High School Charter and the West Central Charter High School are highly supported by their communities. Boyd reviewed data contained in the report.

There was discussion regarding why Prescott Elementary chose not to renew its charter status and the data regarding first generation college students in the Storm Lake program.

Motion: Angela English made a motion and Bettie Bolar seconded that the State Board approve the submission of the Charter and Innovation Zone Schools in Iowa legislative report to the Iowa Legislature.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Introduction - 2018 Iowa Teacher of the Year

Isbelia Arzola, Consultant, Bureau of Educator Quality, introduced and shared information about the 2018 Iowa Teacher of the Year, Aileen Sullivan.

Sullivan provided comments, talked about her educational background, and shared “her story” as to why she became a teacher. She has identified the following areas regarding teachers and teaching that are worthy of time and attention: student engagement and perspective, teacher preparation, and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math).

Sullivan talked about her role as Teacher of the Year and her hopes in fostering and developing teacher leadership in Iowa as part of her work.

Discussion with Governor Kim Reynolds and Lt. Governor Adam Gregg

Charlie Edwards welcomed Governor Kim Reynolds and Lt. Governor Adam Gregg. Reynolds thanked State Board members for their focus on early literacy and efforts to close the achievement gap, ensuring students have great CTE options, and a high-quality state assessment that is aligned with the academic standards.

Reynolds talked about highlights of the Condition of the State address where she shared her vision for unleashing opportunities for education, workforce, and healthcare. Reynolds reported that \$37 million has been invested in STEM through a public-private partnership to introduce and encourage students to have a strong foundation in those disciplines.

Seven hundred thirty-five million dollars in new funding has been added to the preK-12 education system. She referenced a study released by the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities showing that there were only three states, over the past ten years, that had increased education funding at a higher level than Iowa. Education funding is and continues to be a priority of the Reynolds’ administration. Even with the tight budget year and the struggle with incoming revenue, Reynolds has proposed \$54 million for K-12 education.

Reynolds’ budget also includes \$300,000 to create a blueprint of best practices for teaching students to read proficiently by the end of third grade.

Reynolds reported that Iowa received the Pacesetter Award from the Campaign for Grade Level Reading for collective work to improve/lead early literacy.

Reynolds talked about the Future Ready Iowa initiative. The goal of this initiative is for 70 percent of Iowa’s workforce to have education or training beyond high school by 2025. She highlighted the Last-Dollar Scholarship and Grant Program, expanding work-based learning, and an employer innovation fund.

Reynolds shared her pride and excitement with the TLC system.

Lt. Governor Gregg talked about a rural Iowa initiative and the impact it will have on education. This initiative will look at how to encourage investment in rural Iowa, how to grow rural Iowa, and how to connect rural Iowa.

Charlie Edwards talked about the importance of alignment between the Governor's Office and the State Board.

Brooke Axiotis shared information on the State Board's priority of Eliminating Early Literacy Achievement Gaps.

Mary Ellen Miller discussed the State Board's priority of Transitioning to New Assessments.

Mike Knedler provided information about the State Board's priority of Increasing Accessibility of CTE, Work-Based Learning, and Community College Credit and Preparing Productive Citizens for Rewarding Careers.

Charlie Edwards and Angela English shared information about the State Board's priority of Improving Teacher and Leader Preparation.

Diane Crookham-Johnson talked about the importance of keeping education topics student centered.

Mary Ellen Miller shared a copy of The Annual Condition of Iowa's Community Colleges report with the Governor and Lt. Governor and discussed the contents.

Governor Reynolds recognized Linda Fandel for her efforts.

Breaking Barriers to Teaching and Learning Awards Presentation and Luncheon

Charlie Edwards and Ryan Wise provided comments and presented the Breaking Barriers to Teaching and Learning Awards. Five Iowa schools were honored for their work to raise achievement among groups of students who traditionally face challenges in the classroom.

Award-winners were recognized for having the highest proficiency rates statewide in math and reading among a specific subgroup of students, such as students whose first language is not English and students from low-income backgrounds. State assessment results from the last three years were examined to confirm a positive trend for each school.

2017 winners were:

- Riverdale Heights Elementary School, Pleasant Valley Community School District
Riverdale Heights Elementary has won the Breaking Barriers Award for an unprecedented four times in as many years. This year Riverdale Heights was honored for its work with students whose native language is not English, otherwise known as English Language Learners (ELL). Eighty-two percent of ELL students at the school are proficient in reading and math, compared to a statewide average of 50 percent among ELL students.
- Pleasant Valley High School, Pleasant Valley Community School District
For the first time ever, two schools from the same district have won the Breaking Barriers Award, with Pleasant Valley High School being honored for its work with black students. Eighty-nine percent of black students are proficient in reading and math, compared to a statewide average of 54 percent.
- Carlisle High School, Carlisle Community School District
Carlisle High School was honored for its work with Hispanic students. Among its Hispanic students, 98 percent are proficient in reading and math. That compares to a statewide average of 66 percent for the same group of students.
- Sergeant Bluff-Luton High School, Sergeant Bluff-Luton Community School District
Sergeant Bluff-Luton High School received its Breaking Barriers Award for its work with students who come from low-socioeconomic backgrounds. Among those students, 94 percent are proficient in reading and math, compared to a statewide average of 68 percent.
- Gilbert Intermediate School, Gilbert Community School District
Gilbert Intermediate School was honored for its work with students with disabilities who are on Individualized Education Programs. Among those students at Gilbert Intermediate, 79 percent are proficient in reading and math, compared to a statewide average of 35 percent.

2017 Report on the State of Educator Preparation in Iowa and the 2017 National Council for Teacher Quality Iowa Report

Larry Bice, Carole Richardson, and Matt Ludwig, Consultant, Bureau of Educator Quality, presented the 2017 Report on the State of Educator Preparation in Iowa. This report was prepared to provide information on educator preparation programming in Iowa to the State Board, educator preparation stakeholders, and consumers.

Bice reviewed the report in detail and highlighted two errors: The first was on page 3, Table 1.1. The percentage change in total teachers prepared compared to the previous year was left blank. The correct percentage is -4 percent. The second error was on page 8 - Section 3.b. Program Assessment Results: The report should reflect 1,195

teachers employed in a position for which they were prepared rather than 2,295. The corrected version is posted on the Department's practitioner preparation webpage.

There was discussion regarding educator preparation programs' screening of candidates, why there are fewer teacher candidates, diversity of teacher candidates, the institutions' perception of the process, and whether future compliance visits will show improvement.

Bice provided background information on the National Council for Teacher Quality (NCTQ), which produces an annual report on teacher preparation and related information on each state. Bice provided context to the grades Iowa received from that organization. Ryan Wise commented that NCTQ has improved their efforts in working with state departments of education to ensure their information is accurate.

There was discussion regarding NCTQ's policy areas and Iowa's standards alignment with NCTQ policies.

Iowa School Report Card, 2017 Annual Condition of Education Report, and the Postsecondary Readiness Report Website

Jay Pennington, Chief, Bureau of Information and Analysis Services, indicated that the Iowa School Report Card, the 2017 Annual Condition of Education Report and the Postsecondary Readiness Report website supports the Department and State Board priorities.

Pennington demonstrated the Iowa School Report Card website and shared information on the measures and trends. The Iowa School Report Card and the Postsecondary Readiness Report website meet a legislative requirement and align with Department efforts to provide Iowans easier access to meaningful education statistics and to pair accountability and support for schools.

There was discussion regarding navigation of the system of the Iowa School Report Card website.

Pennington provided context to the development of the first Annual Condition of Education Report, which has been produced for 28 years. This report provides information about enrollment, K-12 programs and student performance. He also demonstrated an online version of this publication.

A PowerPoint was presented that addressed:

- K-12 Enrollment by District
- Public School Enrollment Trend Select Years
- Minority Students Enrollment by Race/Ethnicity
- Educators
- Student Performance Highlights

There was discussion regarding tracking of homeschooled students.

Pennington discussed and demonstrated the Postsecondary Readiness Report website, which supports the Future Ready Iowa initiative. Along with the website demonstration, a PowerPoint was presented that addressed:

- Findings
- 2017 High School Overview

There was discussion regarding tracking of students six years out. Diane Crookham-Johnson thanked the Department for transparency and availability of data.

Charlie Edwards turned the gavel over to Mike Knedler.

Annual Condition of Iowa's Community College Report, Academic Year 2017

Barbara Burrows and Heather Doe, Consultant, Bureau of Community Colleges, presented highlights from The Annual Condition of Iowa's Community Colleges report (20th edition). Iowa's 15 community colleges serve hundreds of thousands of credit and non-credit students each year. The report provides a comprehensive overview, including academic year and trend data on enrollment, credit and noncredit programs, joint enrollment, adult education, online course delivery, student success, human resources, and finances. This data were reported by Iowa community colleges through the division's Management Information System (MIS) or was gathered from other resources that are identified in the body of the report.

A new format and layout of the publication, including the addition of student success stories to illustrate the widespread impact the colleges have on their communities, were outlined.

A PowerPoint was presented that addressed:

- Interactive Tools
- Joint Enrollment
- Credit Programs
- Non-Credit Programs
- Credit Enrollment
- Demographics
- Online Enrollment
- Developmental Education
- Adult Education and Literacy
- Credit Student Awards
- Student Success
- Tuition and Fees
- Financial Aid
- Skilled Worker and Job Creation Funds

- Economic Development and Registered Apprenticeship
- Sector Partnerships
- Human Resources
- Financial
- Guiding Principles

Mike Knedler turned the gavel over to Charlie Edwards.

Iowa Central Community College Interim Accreditation Report, Fiscal Year 2017 – Resolution Follow-up

Barbara Burrows reported that the Department conducted the Iowa Central Community College's (ICCC) interim accreditation review on November 14-15, 2016, and the State Board approved their report and continuing accreditation on January 19, 2017. However, due to numerous findings, the State Board asked the accreditation team to follow-up with them regarding the college's progress to resolve its issues.

Burrows presented the follow-up report, referencing a final resolution letter that was sent to ICC's president, Dr. Daniel Kinney, Jr., on December 5, 2017. The letter documents how each of the findings in ICC's interim accreditation review have been resolved to the satisfaction of the Department's community college accreditation team. She also described the follow-up review process.

There was discussion about whether this follow-up process was desirable for all colleges and the relationship between the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) and the state accreditation processes. Board members stated that sharing the follow-up is only necessary when the findings are numerous and concerning to them. Burrows explained that the statewide Accreditation Advisory Committee has guided the Department's adaptations to the state accreditation process to ensure that it is not duplicative of the HLC regional accreditation process, which focuses more on student learning outcomes, student affairs practices, and the college's System Portfolio and quality improvement initiatives. These items are reviewed by the state accreditation team to ensure the colleges are in good status with the HLC, but they are not a compliance component of the state process.

School Budget Review Committee Update

Tom Cooley, Chief, Bureau of Finance, Facilities, Operation and Transportation Services, shared highlights of the December 12, 2017, School Budget Review Committee (SBRC) meeting. The SBRC took action on requests for supplemental weightings and modified supplemental amounts for items including open enrolled out students not on previous year's count, excess cost for ELL programs, and special education deficit. The approved requests for special education deficit totaled nearly \$116.6 million.

In December, every other year, on odd numbered years, the SBRC can act on recommendations regarding the special weighting plan for the state. No change in the weighting was recommended so the three weighting levels remain at .72, 1.21, and 2.74.

At the December meeting, districts that ended the previous fiscal year with a negative unspent balance must present a correction plan. This year, Davenport was the only district reporting a negative unspent balance.

Cooley distributed and discussed a handout titled "Districts with Projected Negative Unspent Balance for FY 2018."

There was discussion regarding the positive impact of the early warning system and the recent legislative action dealing with categorical funding flexibility.

Cooley also reviewed other actions by the SBRC at the December meeting.

Board Reports

Mike Bearden reported that there will be a Future Ready Iowa Summit in April.

Mike Knedler reported on retention scholarships that Iowa Western Community College (IWCC) offers. In addition, the Council Bluffs Community School District will partner with IWCC and select a few students to take their junior and senior years at the community college.

Robert Nishimwe plans to go to Washington D.C. in March as part of the United States Senate Youth Program.

Ryan Wise reported on behalf of Brooke Axiotis. Axiotis will be going off the National Association of School Boards (NASBE) board and has accepted a position as chair of NASBE's Public Education Positions Committee.

Diane Crookham-Johnson announced that she will be going off the State Board. She talked about accomplishments and regrets during her six-year term on the board.

Charlie Edwards adjourned the meeting at 3:20 p.m.

Charles C. Edwards, Jr.
President

Ryan M. Wise
Director