



**Minutes
State Board of Education
June 8-9, 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 retreat/meeting was held on Thursday, June 8, and Friday, June 9, 2017, at the Des Moines Area Community College. State Board members present were Charlie Edwards, Mike Knedler, Diane Crookham-Johnson, Mike May, Mike Bearden, Angela English, Brooke Axiotis, Bettie Bolar, Mary Ellen Miller, and Robert Nishimwe. Iowa Department of Education staff members present were Ryan Wise, David Tilly, Jeremy Varner, Matt Coulter, Matt Ludwig, Pradeep Kotamraju, Phil Wise, Shan Seivert, Larry Bice, Isbelia Arzola, Carole Richardson, Linda Carroll, Brad Niebling, Jay Pennington, Nicole Proesch, Erika Cook, Barb Burrows, Staci Hupp, Chris Russell, Barbara Ohlund, and Jody Crane. Also in attendance were Frank Hilton; Julie Finner and Angela Hunter, Buena Vista University; Heidi Doellinger, Iowa State University; Molly Duffy, Cedar Rapids Gazette; Emily Behrens and Anne Sullivan, Des Moines Independent Community School District; Sandy Jensen and Jane Bradley, Hawkeye Community College; Chris Guidry, Pearson; Shelly Schmit, North Iowa Area Community College; Rob Denson, Karen Stiles, and Joanne Larsen, Des Moines Area Community College; Janet McMahill and Catherine Gillespie, Drake University; Neil Adams, Iowa Central Community College; Brian Burnight and Jennifer Gomez, Sioux City Community School District; and Martin Flaherty, Holy Family School (Des Moines).

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION RETREAT

Charlie Edwards provided opening remarks and talked about the goals of the retreat.

Ryan Wise, Director, Iowa Department of Education (Department), shared comments and talked about the format and agenda of the retreat.

Systemic Approaches to Diversity

This presentation focused on systemic approaches that institutions/schools are taking toward minimizing the challenges and maximizing the opportunities that come along with Iowa's changing cultural landscape.

Teacher Preparation Programs

Larry Bice, Administrative Consultant, Bureau of Educator Quality, provided comments and introduced Julie Finnern and Angela Hunter, Buena Vista University; Heidi Doellinger, Iowa State University; and Carole Richardson, Consultant, and Matt Ludwig, Consultant, Bureau of Educator Quality.

Richardson shared information regarding Iowa Demographics (2014-2015) and Standards Related to Diversity in 281 Iowa Administrative Code (IAC) sections 79.2, 79.15(2), 79.15(3), 79.14(4), 79.11(1), and 79.11(2).

Doellinger discussed how Iowa State University meets the curriculum standards outlined in 281 IAC 79.15(2) and 79.15(3).

Finnern and Hunter talked about teacher candidate clinical experiences at Buena Vista University.

There was discussion regarding diversity of instructors, field experiences for teacher candidates and exposure to ethnic diversity, how teacher preparation programs prepare candidates for the variety of roles in the classroom, the diversity of classroom materials for teacher candidates, teacher candidate preparation experience, student teaching experiences, the length of time teacher preparation programs have focused on diversity, the need for teacher preparation programs to prepare teacher candidates to help diverse students succeed, teacher preparation program recruitment efforts and whether it is reviewed as part of the accreditation process, whether there are models of success that could be institutionalized through the accreditation process and the State Board's expectations with accreditation, and retention efforts.

K-12 School Districts

David Tilly, Deputy Director, Division of Learning and Results, provided comments and introduced Linda Carroll, Chief, Bureau of Educator Quality, who shared comments and introduced Isbelia Arzola, Consultant, Bureau of Educator Quality.

Carroll also introduced Brian Burnight and Jennifer Gomez, Sioux City Community School District; Martin Flaherty, Holy Family School (Des Moines); and Anne Sullivan and Emily Behrens, Des Moines Independent Community School District.

Dual Language Program

Burnight and Gomez shared information regarding the Sioux City Community School District's Dual Language Program.

A PowerPoint was presented that addressed:

- Focus 2022
- Purpose
- Guiding Questions
- Student Data and Achievement
- Elementary Data Comparisons
- Irving Dual Language Program (DLP)/English Language Learner (ELL) v. Non DLP/ELL
- Irving DLP/Non ELL v. Non DLP/Non ELL
- Middle School Class 2021 Cohort DLP v. Non DLP
- Middle School Class 2021 Cohort DLP/Non ELL v. DLP/ELL
- High School Class 2019 Cohort DLP v. Non DLP
- High School Class 2019 Cohort DLP/Non ELL v. DLP/ELL
- Assessment Procedures
- Curriculum
- Staffing and Resources
- Program Budget and Funding Sources
- Recommendations

There was discussion regarding the number of native Spanish speaking teachers at Irving, student eligibility to be placed in the dual language program, how educational practice takes place in Irving, and whether there are other school systems in Iowa that have similar programs.

Racial and Socioeconomic Status Diversity

Flaherty talked about the story of Holy Family Catholic School. A presentation was shared that addressed:

- Our Full Circle
- Uniqueness – Ellis Island of the Midwest
- Our Strategic Plan
- Response to Change
- Improving Our Services
- Vital Time
- The Holy Family Model
- Iowa Assessment Results

There was discussion regarding the state law on year-round school calendars, funding and tuition, whether Holy Family follows up on students and their educational success, the intentional approaches in regard to culture and climate that led to their successful results, faculty recruitment, the school's minority makeup, and whether Holy Family's model could be replicated in a public school setting.

Recruiting and Grow Your Own, 3D

Sullivan and Behrens talked about addressing diversity from a human resources perspective.

A PowerPoint was presented that addressed:

- Des Moines Public Schools (DMPS) Staff and Students
- Where We are Now – DMPS Human Resources Goals
- Equity Affirmative Action Plan
- Strategies and Student Data
- DMPS Student Data
- Certified Hiring Algorithm – DMPS Gold Standard
- Employee Recruitment
- BLUE (Building Leaders in Urban Education) Contract Partnership with Drake University
- Grow Our Own Promising Educators
- 3D Program
- Iowa Board of Educational Examiners Supports
- Building Pipelines for Diverse Leadership
- DMPS Student to DMPS Teacher
- Future

There was discussion regarding the building placement of diverse staff and the effects of the new collective bargaining law on the district.

Community Colleges

North Iowa Area Community College

Chris Russell, Consultant, Bureau of Community Colleges, shared diversity statistics in Iowa community colleges and introduced Shelly Schmit, North Iowa Area Community College (NIACC).

Schmit highlighted systemic efforts at NIACC that are in place to ensure that their diverse population is successful. A PowerPoint was presented that addressed:

- About North Iowa Area Community College
- Department of Education Equity Visit
- Innovation Grants
- Diversity Initiatives
- Disability Services

There was discussion regarding NIACC's efforts to offer learning opportunities for staff and the institution's diversity efforts towards the transgender, gay, and lesbian population.

Hawkeye Community College

Chris Russell introduced Jane Bradley and Sandra Jensen, Hawkeye Community College, who presented a PowerPoint that addressed:

- What is I-BEST?
- Hawkeye I-BEST Programs
- Hawkeye I-BEST Program Future Plans
- Student Demographics
- Tracking Students
- Hawkeye I-BEST Program Data
- Student Success
- Student Quotes
- Hawkeye I-BEST Program Partners

There was discussion regarding schedule flexibility of the programs and whether the students are from urban or rural areas.

Outcomes, Impact, and Implications of the 2017 Legislative Session

Ryan Wise provided an overview and explained the multistep process that occurs at the end of the legislative session to inform school personnel of legislative action. Phil Wise, Policy Advisor, Division of Policy and Communications, talked about the administrative rules process.

Matt Coulter, Administrator, Division of School Finance and Support Services; Shan Seivert, Policy Liaison, Division of Policy and Communications; Nicole Proesch, Attorney, Office of the Director; and Phil Wise were part of a panel to discuss the outcomes, impact and implications of the 2017 legislative session. The 2017 “Letter to the Field” was distributed.

There was discussion regarding the loss of funding for support of the Iowa Core and Teacher Leadership and Compensation system, and support and funding for area education agencies.

Ryan Wise highlighted Senate File (SF) 274 (Computer Science), which created a statewide computer science education work group. Charlie Edwards serves on that group as an ex officio member. The recommendations will come to the State Board after November 1. Wise talked about the charge of the work group.

Ryan Wise also highlighted SF 240 (State Assessment Request for Proposal). The Department’s focus is on running a fair and transparent process and is working closely with the Department of Administrative Services to launch the request for proposal (RFP). There was discussion regarding what the legislation requires to be included in the RFP.

Proesch talked about House File (HF) 573 (Limited Home Rule). There was discussion regarding consequences to school districts that don’t follow the law and rules, development of guidance and possible kickback on oversight; and intent, impetus, and interpretation of the bill.

Seivert shared information on HF 564 (School District Funding Flexibility) and HF 565 (School District Funding Flexibility Account).

The Department is working on guidance so school districts will have a clear understanding of HF 573, HF 564, and HF 565.

There was discussion regarding the loss of funding for Competency-based Education.

A document was distributed titled *Iowa Department of Education State Fiscal Year 2018 Appropriations*. There was discussion regarding Empowerment Boards funding, loss of funding for Administrator Mentoring, and Family Support and Parent Education funding.

National Association of State Boards of Education Grant Discussion

David Tilly, Deputy Director, Division of Learning and Results, and Brooke Axiotis presented information on the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) grant. This grant will allow the State Board to focus on addressing the needs of K-3 teachers by assisting them in delivering high-quality early literacy programming to students. The board intends to do this by developing a standard of care for K-3 teachers, which can be implemented in classrooms.

A PowerPoint was presented that addressed:

- Standard of Care: Why Do We Need It?
- Standard of Care: What Is It?
- Standard of Care: The Plan
- Standard of Care: Questions

State Board members discussed proposed activities and timelines of the NASBE grant.

Board Reports

Brooke Axiotis has accepted a position at Drake University Law School as the Director of Academic Success.

Review of Every Student Succeeds Act Draft Plan

Ryan Wise explained the submission timeline of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) second draft and final version of the plan. A document was presented that displayed how Iowa's plan ties together and builds on Iowa's collaborative education reform efforts that are under way.

David Tilly provided comments about the contents of the ESSA plan and the time spent on building the infrastructure that can support this work into the future.

Brooke Axiotis commented about the contents of the plan and how it ties Department initiatives together.

State Board of Education Priority Review – Breakout Conversations

State Board members broke into work groups, along with Department staff, and discussed major accomplishments for each priority and what the year ahead looks like. They also reviewed existing priorities and compared them to the strategic plan goals.

The 2017 priority areas and work groups are:

Legislative Priorities

- Reducing Achievement Gaps – Brooke Axiotis, Diane Crookham-Johnson, and Robert Nishimwe
- Transitioning to New Assessments – Charlie Edwards and Mary Ellen Miller
- Implementing Iowa Academic Standards – Mike Knedler, Robert Nishimwe, and Ryan Wise

State Board Development Priorities

- Improving Teacher and Leader Preparation – Charlie Edwards, Angela English, and Mike May
- Developing a Comprehensive Career Pathways System
 - Supporting Competency-based Education – Brooke Axiotis and Angela English
 - Increasing Accessibility of Career and Technical Education 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

Work groups reported out on recommended changes to the priorities and how they link back to the strategic plan goals.

Charlie Edwards adjourned the retreat for the day at 5:00 p.m.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION BUSINESS MEETING

Charlie Edwards called the meeting to order at 8:15 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 announced that he has visited 100 school districts since his appointment as director two years ago.

Wise recently served on a panel in Washington, D.C., launching Linda Darling-Hammond's book titled *Empowered Educators: How High-Performing Systems Shape Teaching Quality Around the World*.

Wise reported that the Department has ended its contract with the TIES vendor effective July 1, 2017, and will work with a different vendor that has supplied the FASTBridge assessments.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mike May made a motion and Diane Crookham-Johnson seconded to approve the consent agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

BOARD ACTION/DISCUSSION AGENDA

Rules: Chapter 61 – Iowa Reading Research Center (Notice)

David Tilly and Phil Wise presented changes to the Chapter 61 rules. HF 642, adopted during the 2017 session of the General Assembly and signed into law by the Governor, substantially amended Iowa Code section 279.68 dealing with the successful progression for early readers.

The requirement that school districts must offer an intensive summer literacy program to students who are not proficient in reading by the end of grade three was repealed. 281 IAC Chapter 61 established the program criteria and guidelines for such intensive summer literacy programs.

The amendments to this chapter are designed to keep in place certain program criteria and guidelines for school districts that choose to voluntarily offer intensive summer literacy programs as a means of fulfilling the remaining requirements for early literacy in Iowa Code section 279.68(2).

There was discussion regarding the need to support districts that voluntarily offer intensive summer literacy programs.

Motion: Angela English made a motion and Mike Knedler seconded that the State Board give public notice of its intent to amend Chapter 61.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Rules: Chapter 62 – State Standards for Progression in Reading (Notice)

David Tilly and Phil Wise presented changes to the Chapter 62 rules. Iowa Code section 279.68, adopted in 2012, deals with student progression toward literacy. That Code section was amended substantially by HF 642 during the 2017 session of the Iowa General Assembly.

The requirement that school districts must offer an intensive summer literacy program to students who are not proficient in reading by the end of grade three was repealed, and the requirement that students who are not proficient in reading by the end of grade three may be

retained in grade three was also repealed. A statutory requirement was added to ensure that school districts continue to offer beyond grade three intensive reading instruction to any student who is persistently at risk in reading.

Tilly shared additional information regarding item 1 of the rules that deals with alternative assessment.

Motion: Angela English made a motion and Diane Crookham-Johnson seconded that the State Board give public notice of its intent to amend Chapter 62.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Drake University Practitioner Preparation Program Approval

Charlie Edwards and Brooke Axiotis recused themselves from this presentation. Edwards turned the gavel over to Mike Knedler.

Larry Bice introduced Drake University representatives Janet McMahon, Dean of the School of Education, and Catherine Gillespie, Associate Dean of the School of Education. Bice reported that Drake University operates a traditional preparation program for teachers, administrators, and professional school counselors. Drake's program is complex as ten standards need to be reviewed as part of the accreditation process rather than the traditional six standards. The ten standards are: Governance and Resources, Diversity, Faculty, Assessment, Teacher Education Clinical, Teacher Education Curriculum, Administrator Clinical, Administrator Knowledge Skills and Dispositions (Curriculum), Counselor Clinical, and Counselor Knowledge Skills and Dispositions (Curriculum).

Bice talked about strengths of the program, which are strong leadership, strong faculty, good partnerships, and collaboration with other programs on the Drake campus.

Bice addressed concerns in the areas of systemic coherence and faculty and indicated that the institution has worked hard to resolve the concerns.

Drake University's practitioner preparation program has met all 281 IAC Chapter 79 standards without condition. The Department recommended that the State Board grant full approval to the Drake University practitioner preparation program.

There was discussion regarding one of the faculty concerns and who would be responsible to ensure compliance, the follow-up review process, what can be done to recruit more teachers of color into the Des Moines Independent Community School District or statewide, and whether Drake follows up on graduates and makes adjustments to their program based on that data.

Motion: Mike May made a motion and Diane Crookham-Johnson seconded that the State Board approve the Drake University Practitioner Preparation Program through the next state approval cycle scheduled for the 2023-2024 academic year.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Mike Knedler turned the gavel over to Charlie Edwards.

Regional Planning Partnership Update and Conversation

Jeremy Varner, Administrator, Division of Community Colleges and Workforce Preparation, introduced Neil Adams, Iowa Central Community College. Adams provided a local perspective on the progress of Regional Planning Partnerships (RPPs) in rural Iowa. Varner talked about the state level perspective of RPPs.

Varner presented a PowerPoint that addressed:

- Overarching Goals of Career and Technical Education (CTE) Redesign Bill
- Leading up to CTE Redesign Implementation
- CTE Redesign: The Role of the Department
- CTE Redesign Implementation at Ground Level
- Early Observations on RPP Progress
- Next Steps for RPPs

There was discussion about whether there are a common set of barriers; the administrative costs; sources of funding; who is responsible for the program approvals; how many programs there will be; how Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) and the computer science curriculum connects to RPPs; sharing offering options; challenges for the Department and the State Board; the need to share resources; and opportunities/challenges for rural areas.

Adams continued with presentation of the PowerPoint that addressed the following. The focus was on Iowa Central Community College's Regional Planning Partnership:

- History
- Evolution of Partnerships
- North Central Career Academy
- Challenges
- Rewards
- Facilities and Equipment
- Tours – Hi Capacity
- Teacher Academy
- Students Saving Money
- Greatest Reward – Class of 2017
- RPP Structure
- RPP Next Steps

There was discussion regarding career planning and improvements made as a result of feedback.

Board Reports (continued)

Diane Crookham-Johnson commented on the number of students in the Oskaloosa area that open enroll and how members of the community have started a transportation company to transport students to the district they are open enrolled in.

Robert Nishimwe talked about an experience he had where there were transgender restrooms, why things are the way they are, and the State Board's responsibility to ensure Iowa's education system serves all students.

Mike May presented at two events where he shared education information.

Charlie Edwards adjourned the business meeting at 9:55 a.m.

State Board Retreat (continued)

Finalize Strategic Plan and Board Priorities

Ryan Wise distributed a document titled *Iowa State Board of Education Policy Development Priorities 2017-2018 Working Draft – State Board Retreat*. State Board members discussed the proposed priorities and goals.

State Board members and Department staff broke into small groups and reviewed the 2012 Strategic Plan and discussed format and changes for a new plan.

Meeting Schedule (Master Calendar, Dates, and Locations)

State Board members reviewed the proposed 2018 meeting dates and discussed a possible offsite meeting location.

Closing Remarks

Charlie Edwards provided closing remarks. He thanked Ryan Wise for his work in facilitating the process to identify the board's priorities and update the strategic plan. He also thanked State Board members and Department staff for their efforts.

Ryan Wise shared closing remarks and thanked State Board members for their engagement and dedication to the well-being of all learners in the state of Iowa.

Charlie Edwards adjourned the retreat at 11:00 a.m.

There was an optional tour of the Des Moines Area Community College campus.

Charles C. Edwards, Jr.
President

Ryan M. Wise
Director