



**Minutes
State Board of Education Meeting
May 13, 2010**

Rosie Hussey
President
Clear Lake

Charles C. Edwards, Jr.
Vice President
Des Moines

Sister Jude Fitzpatrick
West Des Moines

Brian Gentry
Des Moines

Valorie J. Kruse
Sioux City

Ana Lopez-Dawson
Pella

Max Phillips
Woodward

LaMetta Wynn
Clinton

Kevin Fangman
Acting Director and
Executive Officer

The State Board of Education meeting was held on May 13, 2010, in the State Board Room, Grimes State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa. The following State Board members were present: Rosie Hussey, Charlie Edwards, Valorie Kruse, Sister Jude Fitzpatrick, Ana Lopez-Dawson, LaMetta Wynn, Brian Gentry, and Max Phillips. Acting Director Kevin Fangman and Iowa Department of Education (Department) staff members Gail Sullivan, Jeff Berger, Carol Greta, Roger Utman, Konni Cawiezell, Arlie Willems, Kent Farver, Phil Roeder, Sandra Dop, Colleen Hunt, Phyllis Hinton, Amy Vybiral, Gary Schwartz, and Jody Crane were in attendance. Also in attendance were Chris Mitchell, ACT; Pam Martin and Carolyn Pickrell, William Penn University; Ginny Maurer and Jay Simmons, Iowa Wesleyan College; John Carver, Deron Durlinger, John R. Seefeld, Jen Sigrist, Shannon Miller, Emma Durlinger, Maddy Darrah, Holly Baiotto, Shawn Hyer, Michael Kinley, Marcus Benton, Mike Linde, Clarice Baiotto, and Josh Porter, Van Meter Community School District; William Giddings, Northwest Iowa Community College; M. J. Dolan, Iowa Association of Community College Trustees; Kim Linduska and Sue Gibbons, Des Moines Area Community College/Central Iowa Works.

STATE BOARD BUSINESS MEETING

Acting Director Kevin Fangman, presiding officer, called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

It was moved by Sister Jude Fitzpatrick and seconded by Valorie Kruse that the May agenda be approved.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Charlie Edwards nominated Rosie Hussey for president of the State Board. Valorie Kruse seconded. Rosie Hussey accepted the nomination and nominations ceased. All voted aye.

Hussey was elected State Board president and presided over the remainder of the meeting.

Sister Jude Fitzpatrick nominated Charlie Edwards for vice president. Max Phillips seconded. Charlie Edwards accepted the nomination and nominations ceased. Phillips moved unanimous consent and Sister Jude Fitzpatrick seconded. All voted aye.

Charlie Edwards was elected vice-president.

COMMUNICATION

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Director Report

❖ Status of Hiring a New Department Director

Kevin Fangman reported that the advertisement to hire a new Department director is in the final stages. The position will be posted shortly and will close in June. A new director could be hired in the fall.

There was discussion on the State Board's involvement in participating on the search committee for a new director.

❖ Race to the Top

Fangman stated the Race to the Top (RTTT) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for school districts to submit if they are planning to participate in the RTTT application is due Friday, May 14. The Department has currently received MOUs from 70 of the 361 school districts. It is anticipated over 200 districts will sign on. Currently, four of the eight Urban Education Network districts have signed on; however, it is anticipated that all of them will sign on. The RTTT application will be submitted by June 1 and finalists will be notified in July. Fangman explained the process used to award the grants. There is approximately \$3.5 billion left to be disbursed during this round of RTTT.

As part of the RTTT application, Iowa must adopt the Common Core Standards by August 2. Therefore, it is likely that the Board will be asked to take action at the July State Board meeting. During the June State Board retreat, time will be taken to help build an understanding of what this means with regard to the Iowa Core.

Fangman reported that there is an assessment consortium competition for \$160 million (two consortiums will be awarded for a total of \$320 million). Iowa is in the Smarter Balance Assessment Consortium with 31 other states. This consortium is focused on a Balanced Assessment System around the Common Core Standards. Fangman provided additional details about the consortium.

Fangman also indicated that institutes of higher education are now being asked to sign on and say they will accept certain scores for summative assessments that are given in high school that measure college and career readiness. As a result, students would not be required to take remedial classes in math and reading.

There was discussion about whether there are alignment issues, concerns that the Common Core Standards and assessment model are so complex that they won't produce the desired end results, how information will be reported to the general public, the role of Board members to communicate this information in plain English, and how the Department can manage these initiatives with limited staff.

❖ State Employees Retirement Incentive Plan

Fangman and Jeff Berger, Chief Financial Officer, Office of Internal Administrative Services, have been working with the Iowa Department of Management on filling the Department's vacancies. The Department is anticipating 56 vacancies and plans to eliminate five positions and reclassify five positions. Fangman mentioned that the Department is 70 percent federally funded and that is factored in when filling vacancies. The Department has approximately 225 employees with 63 being state funded.

Berger indicated that the state anticipated \$57 million would be generated as a result of individuals taking advantage of the early retirement. However, twice as many people signed up than were originally expected. At this time, state agencies do not know how the numbers will play out.

Legislative Update

Konni Cawiezell, Legislative and Policy Liaison, Office of the Director, and Jeff Berger, Chief Financial Officer, Office of Internal Administrative Services, provided a legislative update.

Cawiezell indicated that the Governor did not veto any of the Department's bills. She also stated that a letter to the field is being drafted and will be sent to districts regarding adjustments to policies and procedures.

Cawiezell reported that school aid funding was appropriated at \$352 million which was a \$162 million shortfall from being fully funded.

Cawiezell indicated that preschool funding was appropriated at \$16.2 million for the final installment. New language states that all districts interested in a qualified preschool program would get a portion of the \$16.2 million. Kevin Fangman indicated that the preschool application is due Friday, May 14.

Cawiezell stated that the legislature appropriated \$7.5 million for instructional support aid and that the Iowa Core received \$1.9 million.

Berger indicated that setting allowable growth was delayed until next session and that the Governor and legislature supported education to the best of their ability. This was a difficult year and next year does not look much better.

There was discussion on what the State Board and Department can do in moving forward.

CONSENT AGENDA

Max Phillips moved and Charlie Edwards seconded to approve the consent agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

Teacher Preparation Program Approval - William Penn University

Arlie Willems, Practitioner Preparation Administrative Consultant, Bureau of Accreditation and Improvement Services, introduced Dr. Pam Martin and Carolyn Pickrell from William Penn University and provided an overview of the William Penn University teacher preparation program and site review.

Willems reported that a preliminary review was held in November 2008 and the visit was conducted in January 2009. In the initial team finding, the Diversity, Faculty, and Curriculum standards were met and the Governance and Resource, Assessment, and Clinical standards were met pending conditions.

Willems reviewed in-depth the items that needed to be addressed prior to State Board action for the Governance and Resource, Assessment, and Clinical standards. She indicated that at the final review, all of the standards had been met.

There was discussion regarding how follow-up is handled to ensure accountability, what percent of the program is dependent on the Iowa Communications Network (ICN), and what the results were of the assessment done between the campus and distance programs.

Charlie Edwards expressed concerns with granting full approval to the William Penn University teacher preparation program. His concerns included the response the Board received regarding assessment results, resources, annual review of the report, and if the institution understands how to integrate new technology to substitute for the ICN.

Motion: Max Phillips moved and Valorie Kruse seconded to grant William Penn University a one-year conditional approval for the program with a review on resources and technology.

Brian Gentry proposed a review of the practitioner preparation program approval process. He indicated a need for a better understanding of how the Department brings issues that are detected on an annual basis to the State Board's attention.

William Penn University staff responded regarding what ramifications a one-year conditional approval would have on the program.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Teacher Preparation Program Approval - Iowa Wesleyan College

Arlie Willems, Practitioner Preparation Administrative Consultant, Bureau of Accreditation and Improvement Services, introduced Dr. Jay Simmons and Dr. Ginny Maurer from Iowa Wesleyan College.

Willems reminded the Board that when the original review was presented at the September 2009 State Board meeting, all of the standards were met with the exception of the Governance and Resources standard.

Willems reviewed the concerns that were originally raised and described what the college has done to address those issues.

Motion: It was moved by Max Phillips and seconded by Sister Jude Fitzpatrick to approve the Iowa Wesleyan College practitioner preparation program through the next state cycle visit scheduled for the 2014-2015 academic year.

Vote: A roll call vote was taken as follows: Aye: Hussey, Gentry, Phillips, Wynn, Lopez-Dawson, Kruse, and Fitzpatrick. Edwards recused from voting.

There was Board discussion as to if the right items are being reviewed as part of the teacher preparation program review process, how substantive pieces are reviewed, if the Board has the authority to emphasize other areas to be reviewed, how to maintain the academic integrity of the programs, the challenge with distance programs, and if there are more effective ways to communicate expectations.

In response to questions regarding the Iowa Core, Willems described the activities of the Department over the past year that have facilitated integration of the Iowa Core into teacher preparation programs.

Iowa's Community College Adult Literacy Annual Report

Colleen Hunt, Chief, introduced Phyllis Hinton, State Staff Development Consultant, and Amy Vybiral, Federal Data Consultant, Bureau of Community College Services.

Phyllis Hinton provided a synopsis of a success story of a community college student and shared highlights of Iowa's Community College Adult Literacy Annual Report. Highlights included:

- Iowa being selected as a recipient of an incentive award to design and implement a statewide effort – Adult Literacy for the Workforce in Iowa (ALWI);

- Iowa's involvement in the Center for Adult English Language Acquisition (CAELA)-sponsored professional development; and
- Iowa being selected as a Performance-Based Funding Technical Assistance recipient by the United States Department of Education, Office of Vocational and Adult Education.

Hinton shared additional detailed information on ALWI that described the grant requirements, partnerships and outcomes. She also stated that Iowa is eligible for another incentive grant for requirements met with the 2009 federal data.

Hinton reported that the federal funding for adult literacy was cut by an additional \$183,599 or 4.89 percent. However, increased funding is expected next year.

Hinton indicated that in 2008, Iowa earned the CAELA technical assistance award for helping promote professional development with research-based English as a Second Language instruction. Iowa was one of 11 states to win this award. She described the overall goals and desired outcomes of the award.

Amy Vybiral reviewed a PowerPoint and shared information on the following:

- Enrollment 2009
- Goals Set by Students
- State and Federal Benchmarks
- State Benchmark Comparison 2007-2009
- General Education Development (GED) Pass Rate
- Federally-Reported Benchmarks 2007-2009 Comparison
- Other National Reporting System Core Follow-up Measures
- Federally Reported Core Measures
- Data Related Goals for the Future
- What's Coming in the Year Ahead

Vybiral also indicated that 80 percent of the students in the adult literacy program are between the ages of 18-50, data sets from 2005 through 2009 have earned and/or are eligible for incentive grants totaling \$4 million because of Iowa's high performance, the Department is working with professional development to align data integrity across each program, and the family literacy incentive grant and ALWI incentive grant will be the first longitudinal data sets.

Max Phillips asked if GED statistics could be measured by completers rather than dropouts. Vybiral indicated she will provide that information to the State Board next year.

Demonstration of State Board Blog

Phil Roeder, Special Assistant to the Director's Office, Office of the Director, demonstrated a blog that has been dedicated to the work of the State Board.

This blog replaces the current e-newsletter and is an innovative way for Board members to communicate with constituents. The blog highlights the Board's efforts and provides a forum that reports and supports the Board's work. The blog is also linked to Twitter and Facebook.

Rosie Hussey asked Board members to update their constituent lists and submit that information to the Department.

Innovation in Van Meter Community Schools

Kevin Fangman, Acting Director, introduced John Carver, Van Meter Community School District Superintendent. Carver reported that there are 14 other Iowa school districts implementing the 1:1 laptop program and next year there will be between 35-40 schools.

John Seefeld, Van Meter School Board President, provided a broad perspective on how Van Meter became a 1:1 laptop school. He indicated that the Van Meter School Board likes to make data-based decisions and challenge their staff with a vision.

John Carver stated that the 1:1 laptop program was rolled out last September and is currently available to students in grades 7-12. They are currently looking at the possibility of including grade 6 next year.

Jen Sigrist, Van Meter Schools curriculum director, shared a video and provided comments on how the Iowa Core and Van Meter's instructional plan are about teaching and learning. She also spoke about their assessment system.

Deron Durlinger, Van Meter Schools secondary principal, provided a presentation about how teaching and learning has changed at Van Meter. He demonstrated and talked about how Van Meter's students and teachers are using technology to connect with each other and others around the country.

There was discussion about the culture change and the change in the traditional student teacher relationship, and how to get teachers, school boards, and others to understand that it takes these types of relationships and tools to promote better learning.

Shawn Hyer, Van Meter Schools teacher, showed a PowerPoint and described his experience while teaching in the 1:1 laptop program. He also described students' work. There was discussion on the security system used by the district.

There was additional discussion on how the district deals with teachers that are reluctant to change their way of teaching and connections with higher education and other entities.

Shannon Miller, Van Meter School's librarian, shared her perspective on dealing with change and supporting others in the district. Miller shared information on different ways she has created change through technology.

Van Meter School's students Maddy Darrah, Emma Durlinger, Marcus Benton, Michael Kinley, Holly Baiotto, and Josh Porter shared information on their experience with different technologies including blogs, Skype, Twitter, Web 2.0 tools, the Computer Efficiency Workers League, Blender, and Facebook.

There was discussion on how schools should work (from a student's perspective), how Van Meter is tracking students to monitor their success, what other Iowa school districts are or will be offering a 1:1 laptop program, how Van Meter supports students advancing to higher education, and redesigning the education system.

Community Colleges Fiscal Year 2011 Certified Budget Report

Roger Utman, Division of Community Colleges and Workforce Preparation Administrator, introduced William Giddings, Northwest Iowa Community College President, and Kent Farver, Bureau of Community College Services Consultant.

Farver provided an overview and explanation of the certified budget process. He indicated that the State Board has statutory responsibility for approval of the community college budgets. The budget report provides the Board with information necessary to review and approve the proposed budgets prior to June 1 each year.

Farver stated that the purpose of the report is to help community colleges set their tax levies for the upcoming fiscal year and to set expenditure limits for the community colleges.

Farver reviewed the report as well as the timeline that community colleges have for submitting their budgets to the Department. He indicated that in the last two years, the state general aid is down approximately \$24 million and at the same time enrollment is increasing.

Farver stated that in the past, a narrative section had been included in the report. However, the 2011 Department of Education's appropriations bill (Senate File 2376) requires the Department to compile and submit a report to the State Board of Education and the Iowa Legislature on community college efficiencies initiatives and funding reduction. This report will include more detailed information that will be shared with the State Board at a later time.

Dr. Giddings commended Kent Farver and Roger Utman for their assistance with all of the financial reporting that community colleges are required to complete. He

reviewed a PowerPoint and talked about the community college's perspective of the budget process.

There was discussion regarding the March 15 due date and if it should be changed. Roger Utman indicated that the Department is looking at moving the date.

Motion: Sister Jude Fitzpatrick moved and Max Phillips seconded approval of the community college budgets as provided.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Northwest Iowa Community College Accreditation Report

Colleen Hunt, Bureau of Community College Services Chief, indicated that the item being presented is the interim accreditation report for Northwest Iowa Community College. The college is participating in the Program to Evaluate Advanced Quality (PEAQ) process with the Higher Learning Commission which is a ten-year self-study process. Hunt explained that this review was done on the interim (five-year period) after the comprehensive visit.

Hunt provided details of the review process. When preparing accreditation reports, they look at Iowa Code requirements, a document review is completed, and intensive interviews with individuals that represent all aspects of the community are held.

Hunt reported that the review team looked at Adequacy of Progress in Addressing the Previous Accreditation Visit and the college did not receive any recommendations during the past visit. There were opportunities for institutional improvement and the college met all of those.

The review team also looked at Additional State Review Requirements. She indicated that there were no problems with faculty load.

Hunt highlighted a few strengths which included:

- The Board of Trustees indicated that new board members receive a one-on-one orientation to the college from the college president and other employees. This all-day training involved touring the college and obtaining program information and other items, such as financial information.
- It is evident that the mission guides the behavior of the Board, administration, faculty, staff, and students.
- The college uses MyPlaceNCC which is a web portal that was activated in January 2010 which allows one-stop access to e-mail, grades, unofficial transcripts, college calendars, emergency alerts, campus events, and other information.

- The college conducts bilingual marketing; offers workplace Spanish classes; and develops curriculum for pre-Certified Nurses Aid, for English as a Second Language, and Spanish Commercial Drivers' License classes.
- The college was ranked first in the state in fiscal year 2009 for the success rate of students.
- The Quality Faculty Plan Committee reviews the annual individual faculty professional development reports to determine faculty observance of state code. The college uses the recommendations from the Quality Faculty Plan Committee to provide professional development for faculty.
- Northwest Iowa Community College provides a \$500 scholarship to GED graduates who attend their college.
- Northwest Iowa Community College provides education assistance for faculty and staff obtaining additional or advanced degrees. Tuition reimbursement is available for employees, spouses, and dependents who take college credit courses at Northwest Iowa Community College.

Hunt stated that at the conclusion of their visit, there were no recommendations for institutional improvement; therefore, continued accreditation is recommended for Northwest Iowa Community College.

Motion: Max Phillips moved and Charlie Edwards seconded continued accreditation for Northwest Iowa Community College through fiscal year 2014-2015.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence Review

The Board reviewed and discussed a letter that was being sent to the Governor regarding the search for a new director.

How Community Colleges Engage Business Leaders

Roger Utman, Division of Community Colleges and Workforce Preparation Administrator, introduced Kim Linduska, Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs, Des Moines Area Community College. Linduska introduced Sue Gibbons, Director of Central Iowa Works.

Linduska provided an overview of how community colleges engage business. She shared a listing of initiatives and provided highlights. The initiatives include the following:

- 1) Career/Technical Education Advisory Committees
- 2) Partnerships in Specialized Programs
- 3) Internships/Clinical Sites
- 4) Partnerships and Grants and Contracts for Special Programs

- 5) Accelerated Career Education
- 6) Iowa New Jobs Training and Retraining Programs
- 7) Contract Training
- 8) Continuing Education Programs
- 9) Support for Workforce Investment Act Adult and Dislocated Worker Programs
- 10) Foundation/Development Office Support

Sue Gibbons provided an overview of Central Iowa Works which is dedicated to developing a world-class workforce system that meets the needs of both employers and workers and aligns with economic development goals. She shared a handout and talked about the partners involved in developing this initiative and reviewed and discussed a diagram that illustrates the system and its components.

Board Reports

Rosie Hussey thanked Board members for their service. She indicated that she and Department staff will be working on the June retreat agenda. She also announced that new appointments to the State Board are in the process of being filled.

Sister Jude Fitzpatrick reported that the Coordinating Council for Hearing Services met on April 12. A subcommittee is working on a proposed draft of a final report. Once the report is finalized, it will be submitted to the Board of Regents and the State Board. She has also been asked to serve on the Iowa Braille and Sight Saving School legislative study committee.

Max Phillips reported that the Business Education Alliance is focusing on education transformation. He stated that the Iowa Business Council has formed an Education Excellence in Iowa Roundtable to look at education structure and virtual education as the number one goal for transformation in the state. There is also a general effort to save the four-year-old prekindergarten program and elimination of Empowerment.

Ana Lopez-Dawson has talked with a Department of Education staff member about the possibility of being involved on an English as a Second Language committee.

Charlie Edwards had no report.

Valorie Kruse had no report.

LaMetta Wynn attended a Community College Council ICN meeting. She also stated that the Eastern Iowa Community College District has a new science wing.

Brian Gentry had no report.

Kevin Fangman announced that Board members should have received an invitation to attend the Partnership for 21st Century Skills Conference that will be held in Iowa on June 14-15. In addition, Sarah Brown Wessling, Iowa's Teacher of the Year, was selected as the National Teacher of the Year.

President Hussey adjourned the meeting at 2:20 p.m.

Rosie Hussey
President

Kevin Fangman
Acting Director