



**Minutes  
State Board of Education  
May 9, 2019**

Brooke Axiotis  
President  
Des Moines

Michael Bearden  
Vice President  
Gladbrook

Bettie Bolar  
Marshalltown

Joshua Byrnes  
Osage

Angela English  
Dyersville

Michael L. Knedler  
Council Bluffs

Mike May  
Spirit Lake

Mary Ellen Miller  
Wayne County

Kimberly Wayne  
Des Moines

Fez Zafar  
Student Member  
Clive

Ryan M. Wise  
Director and  
Executive Officer

The State Board of Education meeting was held on Thursday, May 9, 2019, in the Grimes State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa. State Board members present were Brooke Axiotis, Mike Bearden, Mike Knedler, Mike May, Angela English, Mary Ellen Miller, Joshua Byrnes, and Kimberly Wayne. Iowa Department of Education staff members present were Ryan Wise, David Tilly, Jeremy Varner, Matt Coulter, Eric Heitz, Amy Williamson, Janet Boyd, Holly Barnes, Tom Cooley, Pam Spangler, Sandy Schmitz, Larry Bice, Nicole Proesch, Staci Hupp, Erika Cook, Kris Kilibarda, Matt Ludwig, Jay Pennington, Pradeep Kotamraju, Isbelia Arzola, Paula Nissen, Eric St Clair, Brad Niebling, Janice Evans, Barbara Ohlund, Bill Roederer, Rob Olsen, Jim Donahue, Aileen Sullivan, and Max Christensen. Also in attendance were Dave Epley, House Democratic Caucus staff; Jodi Grover, Iowa Association of Colleges for Teacher Education; Russell Reiter, Independence Community School District; Jillian Carlson, Senate Republicans; Jeff Herzberg and Lori Porsch, Iowa Principal Leadership Academy; Bill Decker, Mississippi Bend Area Education Agency; Nathan Arnold, Professional Educators of Iowa; Megan Valley, Quad-City Times; Karin Strohmeyer, Caroline Marlow, Brittany Boeset, Karissa Rasch, Nicole Lange, Kathryn Tyykila, Wava Jarr, and Erica Boettcher, Buena Vista University; Bridget Godes, Senate Democratic Caucus staff; Robin Lilienthal, Iowa Valley Community College District; Jason Crowley, Iowa Workforce Development; Katherine Beenken, Ahlers and Cooney; Colleen Heinz, Iowa State Education Association; TJ Schneckloth, Bill Schneden, Susan Downs, and Claudia Wood, Davenport Community School District; Ralph Johanson, Julie DeSalvo, and Dan Gosa, Davenport Community School Board; Gina Hale, Davenport Community School District Parent Teacher Organization.

## **STATE BOARD WORK SESSION – UNIVERSAL DESK AUDIT**

Amy Williamson, Chief, introduced Eric Heitz, Administrative Consultant, Bureau of School Improvement, who led the work session on the Universal Desk Audit process.

A PowerPoint was presented that addressed:

- Differentiated Accountability
- Differentiated Accountability Monitoring Process
- Desk Audits
- Desk Audits: Process and Timing
- Desk Audit Reviews
- Determining Support
- Financial Risk
- Support Examples Since 2014
- Anticipated Support for 2019-2020

Williamson and Heitz demonstrated the Universal Desk Audit portion of the Consolidated Accountability and Support Application (CASA) system.

There was discussion regarding the information presented.

## **STATE BOARD BUSINESS MEETING**

Brooke Axiotis called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

Kimberly Wayne made a motion and Mike Knedler seconded to approve the agenda. The motion passed.

## **COMMUNICATION**

### **Public Comment**

Karin Strohmyer, Associate Professor of Education - Special Education, Buena Vista University (BVU), provided public comment regarding the university being the recipient of the American Council on Rural Special Education Exemplary Preservice/Inservice Training Award for 2019.

Caroline Marlow and Wava Jarr, BVU students, provided public comment regarding their "Scholars Day" projects.

Cathryn Tyykila and Karissa Pash, BVU students, provided public comment regarding their experience at BVU. Specifically, they addressed the +1 Program and Bibliotribe.

Brittany Boeset and Nicole Lange, BVU students, provided public comment regarding why they chose BVU. Specifically, they addressed the special education major and mentor teachers.

Gina Hale from Davenport provided public comment on behalf of the Davenport Community School District Parent Teacher Organization regarding the Davenport Community School District audit.

## **Director's Report**

Ryan Wise, Director, Iowa Department of Education (Department), highlighted House File 690, which is Governor Reynolds' comprehensive approach to creating a children's mental health system. The area education agency (AEA) system received \$2.1 million to support the efforts outlined in the bill.

Wise provided an update on the statewide instructional rubric/framework. The National Institute for Effective Teaching was selected through a Request for Proposal process. To date, approximately 95 school districts (100 is the capacity) have signed up to receive training and support. The trainings will be offered across the state and include small and large districts. In addition, a special training will be offered to Iowa's teacher preparation programs.

Wise shared highlights of the Future Ready Iowa summit that was held on April 30.

Wise announced that there will be a statewide Teacher Leadership and Compensation Summit on July 16, which will be held at the Iowa Events Center. The focus will be on what works in teacher leadership.

Since being director, Wise has visited over 200 school districts. He shared a story regarding progress made in the Baxter Community School District, which was one of the 34 comprehensive designated schools under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

Wise reported that the Iowa Legislature did not appropriate funds for Iowa Learning Online (ILO). He explained past funding practices to support the program. The Department will sustain ILO for an additional year to help school districts transition into their own approach to online learning.

## **Legislative Update**

Shan Seivert, Policy Liaison, Division of Policy and Communications, provided a legislative update. A handout was distributed, which lists the majority of the education-related bills that have been signed by the Governor or are awaiting her signature.

Seivert highlighted the following bills:

- House File 758 – Education Appropriations
- Senate File 139 – Financial Literacy Requirement Under the State’s Educational Standards
- Senate File 394 – Offer and Teach Requirements Through Distance Learning Courses
- Senate File 603 – Concurrent Enrollment to Meet Certain Educational Requirements
- House File 499 – Vans and Pickups Transporting Students
- House File 546 – Secure an Advanced Vision for Education (SAVE)
- House File 690 – Children’s Mental Health System

The Department is developing the annual “Letter to the Field,” which outlines how the new laws will affect the Department and school districts.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

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

### **Rules: Chapter 43 – Pupil Transportation (Notice)**

Nicole Proesch, Administrative Rules Coordinator, Office of the Director, Tom Cooley, Chief, and Max Christensen, Transportation Director, Bureau of School Business Operations, presented the Chapter 43 rules. These rules outline requirements regarding pupil transportation. The proposed amendments to Chapter 43 reflect requests from the field, clarifying language and technical corrections, and changes to Department practices.

Christensen and Cooley highlighted the changes to the rules.

There was discussion regarding bus riding times and the public hearing requirements.

**Motion:** Mike Knedler made a motion and Kimberly Wayne seconded that the State Board give notice of its intent to amend Chapter 43.

**Vote:** The motion carried unanimously.

### **Rules: Chapter 44 – School Buses (Notice)**

Nicole Proesch, Tom Cooley, and Max Christensen, presented the Chapter 44 rules, which outline the construction standards for school buses used in Iowa. The proposed amendments to Chapter 44 reflect changes to these standards as recommended by the National School Transportation Specification and Procedures Manual 2015, the Department of Education’s Chapter 44 Update Group, and/or requests from the field.

Christensen highlighted the changes to the rules.

There was discussion regarding stop arms, the cost to equip a school bus with lap-shoulder belts, the frequency and reasons school districts purchase new buses, misperceptions of safety issues with lap-shoulder belts, and school bus drill requirements.

**Motion:** Angela English made a motion and Mike Bearden seconded that the State Board give notice of its intent to amend Chapter 44.

**Vote:** The motion carried unanimously.

There was additional discussion regarding buses entering into other districts and the color of private school buses.

**Rules: Chapter 77 – Standards for Teacher Intern Preparation Programs (Notice)**

Nicole Proesch and Larry Bice, Administrative Consultant, Bureau of Leading, Teaching Learning Services, presented the Chapter 77 rules. These rules provide the standards and program requirements that all teacher intern preparation programs must meet in order to be approved by the State Board to prepare teachers in Iowa. The current standards are in need of updating as a result of the passage of Senate File 159, which relates to assessment scores by the Department for successful completion of a practitioner preparation program and initial teacher licensure and for providing other related matters.

Bice outlined the changes to the rules.

There was discussion regarding the Department director's ability to waive the assessment requirements, when the rules will take effect, and the impetus for these changes.

**Motion:** Joshua Byrnes made a motion and Kimberly Wayne seconded that the State Board provide notice of the amendments to Chapter 77.

**Vote:** The motion carried unanimously.

**Rules: Chapter 79 – Standards for Practitioner and Administrator Preparation Programs (Notice)**

Nicole Proesch and Larry Bice presented the Chapter 79 rules, which provide the standards and program requirements that all practitioner preparation programs must meet in order to be approved by the State Board to prepare educators in Iowa. The current standards are in need of updating as a result of the passage of Senate File 159, which relates to assessment scores by the Department for successful completion of a practitioner preparation program and initial teacher licensure and for providing other related matters; and to align with updated national standards for administrator preparation.

Bice highlighted the changes to the rules.

There was discussion regarding the Department director's discretion to set the passing score and how quality will be ensured.

**Motion:** Mike Bearden made a motion and Angela English seconded that the State Board provide notice of the amendments to Chapter 79.

**Vote:** The motion carried unanimously.

### ***In re Open Enrollment of D.K. (Independence Community School District)***

Nicole Proesch, Administrative Law Judge, Office of the Director, presented *In re Open Enrollment of D.K. (Independence Community School District)*. Proesch recommended that the State Board approve the proposed decision dismissing the appeal for lack of jurisdiction.

There was discussion about whether the point was moot, whether the school district was attempting to protect itself by not basing its decision on harassment which would make the student ineligible for athletics, and the timing of the student open enrolling out of the district.

**Motion:** Joshua Byrnes made a motion and Mike Bearden seconded that the State Board approve the proposed decision dismissing the appeal for lack of jurisdiction.

**Vote:** Nay: Mike May. The motion passed.

### **Iowa Principal Leadership Academy Practitioner Preparation Program Approval**

Larry Bice introduced Matt Ludwig, Consultant, Bureau of Leading, Teaching, Learning Services; Jeff Herzberg, Chief Administrator, Prairie Lakes AEA and Program Director, Iowa Principal Leadership Academy (IPLA); and Lori Porsch, Cohort Leader, IPLA.

Bice reported that the IPLA provides a unique principal preparation program through two AEAs, Prairie Lakes AEA and Keystone AEA, using practitioners to provide instruction. He shared historical information on the program.

The program has met four of the six 281 Iowa Administrative Code chapter 79 standards without condition and two standards (assessment and clinical) with condition. Bice reviewed the standards with condition in detail and explained the work and time needed for the program to be aligned to the new National Educational Leadership Preparation standards. The Department recommended that the State Board grant conditional approval of the IPLA principal preparation program.

Department staff will work with the IPLA as they work to meet the conditions and will conduct a review of the program in approximately one year. The Department will bring a report to the State Board following the one-year review.

IPLA representatives and Department staff responded to questions regarding the number of principals the program serves, the process to become and keep current with the standards, the usefulness and limitations of a state-specific program, cost comparison to other programs, how confident the institution is the standards will be met in a year, and whether there is a way to compare IPLA produced principals to principals produced in other programs. The State Board also asked about how IPLA interacts with the Board of Educational Examiners for license recommendation.

**Motion:** Mike May made a motion and Kimberly Wayne seconded that the State Board award conditional approval to the Iowa Principal Leadership Academy practitioner preparation program.

**Vote:** The motion carried unanimously.

## **Every Student Succeeds Act Update/Iowa School Performance Profiles 2.0 Release**

Jay Pennington, Chief, Bureau of Information and Analysis Services, presented an overview of the 2.0 release of the Iowa School Performance Profiles.

A PowerPoint was presented that addressed:

- Performance Profiles 2.0
- Goal and Considerations
- New Measures
- New Functionality
- Ratings
- Rating Category Ranges
- Distribution of Schools by Rating
- Schools by Rating and Targeted Status
- School Type by Rating Category
- Looking Forward to 3.0

Pennington demonstrated the Iowa School Performance Profiles 2.0 website. There was discussion regarding the information presented.

## **Closing Achievement Gaps Report**

Jay Pennington presented findings from the 2019 Closing Achievement Gaps report. The report contains the latest information about Iowa student demographics and achievement trends between groups of Iowa students.

A PowerPoint was presented that addressed:

- Report Requirements
- Demographic Changes
- Free or Reduced Eligibility Trend
- English Learners
- Closing Gap Focus
- ESSA Designations
- Reason for Targeted Status
- Top 9 Targeted Reasons

There was discussion regarding the information presented.

### **2018 Iowa Teacher of the Year – End-of-Year Report**

Isbelia Arzola, Consultant, Bureau of School Improvement, introduced Aileen Sullivan, the 2018 Iowa Teacher of the Year. Sullivan distributed a handout titled “Aileen Sullivan 2018 Iowa Teacher of the Year” and spoke about her experience while serving in this role.

A PowerPoint was shown that addressed:

- Don't be a fault finder, be a star finder
- State of Iowa and Department of Education Work
- Preservice Teachers
- Practicing Teachers
- Community Groups
- National Cohort 2018 Teachers of the Year

### **Iowa Valley Community College District Accreditation Report – Comprehensive State Evaluation – Fiscal Year 2019**

Pradeep Kotamraju, Chief, Bureau of Career and Technical Education, introduced Robin Lilienthal, Provost and Chief Academic Officer, Iowa Valley Community College District (IVCCD). IVCCD's accreditation report was presented, which is an evaluation of IVCCD for continued state accreditation as an associate degree-granting institution. The report reflects the accreditation team's observations and determinations made during the comprehensive review. The Department conducted the on-site portion of the evaluation on February 26-27, 2019.

As mandated by Iowa Code section 260C.47, the accreditation team, including two external peer reviewers, assessed IVCCD's compliance with eight Iowa State Accreditation Standards, and their most recent Higher Learning Commission review via a structured process of document review and on-site interviews.

Kotamraju reviewed the findings under the Faculty Qualifications and Special Needs accreditation standards.

Lilienthal shared comments regarding the accreditation process and presented a PowerPoint that addressed:

- IVCCD Mission
- IVCCD District – Did you know?
- Institutional Effectiveness
- Compliance Review Process
- Special Needs/Diversity

There was discussion regarding how the institution lowered the student loan default rate.

**Motion:** Mike Knedler made a motion and Joshua Byrnes seconded that the State Board grant continued accreditation for Iowa Valley Community College District. A state interim accreditation evaluation will be conducted in fiscal year 2024.

**Vote:** The motion carried unanimously.

### **Iowa Community Colleges Certified Budget Report – Fiscal Year 2020**

Eric St Clair, Consultant, Bureau of Career and Technical Education, presented the Iowa Community Colleges Certified Budget Report. The State Board has statutory responsibility for approval of the community colleges certified budgets. The annual certified budget report is prepared by the Department each year in an effort to provide the State Board with background information necessary to review and approve these budgets.

St Clair reviewed the budget process, purpose, and content of the report. The budgets contained in the report are used by community colleges to set their property tax levies for the upcoming fiscal year.

There was discussion regarding what is included in the “Other Costs” category, other avenues to determine the fiscal health of community colleges, how the budgets presented are estimates, the changing demographics in Iowa, and reasons for the decrease in fund balance.

**Motion:** Mike Bearden made a motion and Joshua Byrnes seconded that the State Board approve the community colleges certified budgets as provided.

**Vote:** The motion carried unanimously.

### **Iowa Community Colleges Employment and Education Outcomes Reports**

Paula Nissen, Consultant, Bureau of Community Colleges, and Jason Crowley, Labor Market Research Economist, Iowa Workforce Development, presented the Iowa Community Colleges Employment and Education Outcomes Reports. These annual

reports provide educational outcomes of students enrolled in community college noncredit career and technical education programs during academic year 2016 and 2017 and credit-bearing certificate, diploma, and associate degree programs from academic year 2013 through 2017. Developed using state and national educational and employment records, the reports provide information about community college awards, time-to-degree, retention, migration, transfers to other postsecondary institutions, employment, and wages. Data is aggregated by student cohorts, awards earned, program types, and 16 career clusters.

These reports are developed in conjunction with Iowa Workforce Development so that once students complete the programs of study at the community colleges they can be tracked into the workforce or on to further education and training after they receive an award or training.

Nissen shared highlights of the reports. Specifically, she addressed:

- Informing Practice
- Program Outcomes Reports
- Student Demographics
- Continuing Education
- Employment
- Continued Education One Year After Award (2013-2017)
- Earnings
- Career Cluster to Industry Mapping of Students

### **Career and Technical Education Standards Review Process**

Pradeep Kotamraju provided an update on the Career and Technical Education Standards Review Process. House File 2392, the career and technical education (CTE) redesign legislation, requires all programs undergo a self-study as part of the program approval process. As part of the self-study, all career and technical education programs within each of the six service areas must determine whether they are adhering to state-approved standards. In five of the six service areas, an internal review process has been conducted, and draft standards are now ready for public input via an online survey.

Kotamraju distributed and discussed the contents of a document titled “Career and Technical Education Standards Review Process.” Specifically, he addressed standards development, standards review, and state standards for CTE service areas.

### **Davenport Community School District Accreditation**

Amy Williamson led the discussion on the Davenport Community School District (CSD). Davenport CSD received an intensive, on-site visit to determine compliance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act in early 2017. Several deficiencies were found by the site visit team, and the district was placed on a corrective action plan. The State Board ordered the Department to conduct a Phase II visit of Davenport CSD at

the November 2018 meeting. The Phase II visit took place February 4-8 and March 5, 2019.

A PowerPoint was presented that addressed:

- Differentiated Accountability Monitoring Process - Phase II Visits, Conditional Accreditation, Accreditation Removal – State Board Action
- State Board of Education Authority: K-12 Accreditation
- Davenport CSD Phase II Visit

Williamson reviewed the accreditation team's recommendations that the State Board place Davenport CSD in conditional accreditation status until they are able to satisfy the following requirements:

1. All citations noted in the April 2018 special education report are corrected.
2. All additional citations noted in the Phase II report are corrected.
3. The district has met the following conditions:
  - a. The district achieves stability in the position of superintendent.
  - b. A comprehensive, evidence-based, district-wide system for behavior management and social-emotional learning is put into place in every building with fidelity.
  - c. The district works with one or more expert coaches to address needs in:
    - i. Board training and boardsmanship
    - ii. Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) implementation
    - iii. Remediation of disproportionality
    - iv. Engagement with parents and community

There was discussion regarding the length of time a district can remain on conditional accreditation, the expert coaches' authority, required reporting to the federal government, and whether the Department has considered the impact on the Davenport CSD in regard to the flooding that has occurred in that area.

Williamson reviewed the Noncompliance Citations and Required Corrective Actions and the Phase II Visit Noncompliance Citations and Required Corrective Actions.

There was additional discussion regarding the timeline for the district to complete the compensatory education, the last time the district appointed an equity coordinator, how compensatory education is being provided to the students, examples and effectiveness of processes to overcome disproportionality, the Department's recommendation regarding the district's administrative structure, and structural challenges with larger school districts.

TJ Schneckloth, Interim Superintendent, Davenport CSD, shared comments regarding the Phase II audit. He addressed the District Self-Assessment of MTSS Implementation (DSAMI) work that has been occurring in the district. This is the first time a district has done a self-assessment.

Schneckloth stated that the district accepts the report and plans to move forward as fast as feasible and do everything in their power to become the best district in the state. The district looks forward to the assistance from the national experts.

Bill Schneden, Associate Superintendent, Davenport CSD, spoke about the DSAMI process and work of the leadership team.

Schneckloth introduced the following Davenport representatives: Susan Downs, Interim Program Director for Special Education and Claudia Wood, Chief Financial Officer. Board members: Ralph Johanson, President, Director Julie DeSalvo, and Director Dan Goas. He also introduced Bill Decker, Mississippi Bend Area Education Agency (MBAEA).

Schneckloth reported on progress that has been made as a result of the Phase II audit.

Joshua Byrnes commended Schneckloth for his leadership and acceptance of the situation. Schneckloth recognized Rob Scott, Associate Superintendent, Bill Schneden, and Susan Downs for their efforts in moving this situation forward as well.

Discussion continued regarding how the floods in Davenport have affected the district, the district's plan to ensure constituents feel supported by the administration and the board's involvement in this process, how often the board meets, attendance at board meetings, the average length of each board meeting, the board's communication with constituents in the district, the need for the district and board to take ownership, the licensing situation with the newly hired superintendent, whether the new superintendent is aware of the severity of the conditions in the district, and restructuring in the district.

There was discussion regarding the State Board's options for accreditation.

**Motion:** Joshua Byrnes made a motion and Mike Knedler seconded to place the Davenport Community School District on conditional accreditation subject to negotiated terms between the district and the State Board.

There was a comment that there is not a district in the state that is too large to fail. There will be a subcommittee of the State Board that will work on negotiated milestones.

**Vote:** The motion carried unanimously.

### **Mississippi Bend Area Education Agency Update**

Amy Williamson and Bill Decker, Chief Administrator, MBAEA, provided an update on MBAEA. At the March 2019 State Board meeting, the State Board voted to conditionally accredit MBAEA. The Department is in the process of securing expert mentors to support MBAEA. The State Board will receive regular updates on progress being made.

There was discussion about whether MBAEA is on track for financials and who will be paying for the expert mentors.

### **State Board Retreat Planning**

Ryan Wise led the discussion on the State Board retreat. The agenda and format of the retreat were discussed. Board members shared items that they would like to be addressed.

### **Board Reports**

Mary Ellen Miller accompanied Ryan Wise on a visit to the Lamoni Community School District.

Joshua Byrnes shared the passing of his sister-in-law Anne Sullivan, who was a career educator and member of the Board of Educational Examiners.

Brooke Axiotis attended the National Association of State Boards of Education legislative conference.

Mike Bearden reported that his company is working with the Marshalltown CSD to create educational opportunities.

Angela English attended the Governor's signing of a proclamation celebrating Iowa Public Television's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

Kimberly Wayne attended the Future Ready Iowa Summit.

The meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

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Brooke Axiotis  
President

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Ryan M. Wise  
Director