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Diane Crookham-Johnson
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Angela English
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Mike May
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Mary Ellen Miller
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Robert Nishimwe
Student Member
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Ryan M. Wise
Director and
Executive Officer

Minutes State Board of Education November 15, 2017

The State Board of Education meeting was held on Wednesday, November 15, 2017, in the Grimes State Office Building, Conference Room B100, Des Moines, Iowa. State Board members present were Charlie Edwards, Mike Knedler, Brooke Axiotis, Mike Bearden, Bettie Bolar, Angela English, Mike May, Mary Ellen Miller, and Robert Nishimwe. Iowa Department of Education staff members present were Ryan Wise, David Tilly, Staci Hupp, Matt Coulter, Jim Flansburg, Linda Carroll, Phil Wise, Nicole Proesch, Thomas Mayes, Gwen Nagel, Jonnie Becker, Erika Cook, Holly Barnes, Rita Martens, Angela Matsuoka, Pradeep Kotamraju, and Jody Crane. Also in attendance were Deborah Reed and Sandy Schmitz, Iowa Reading Research Center; Kathy Hanlon and Josie Gerriets, Legislative Services Agency; Tyler Williams, Garner-Hayfield-Ventura Community School District; Doug Van Oort, Kirkwood Community College; Ronda Sternhagen, Grundy Center Schools/Central Rivers Area Education Agency, Jill Wilson, Luther College, and Leon Kuehner, Iowa Alliance for Arts Education; and Ann Lebo, Board of Educational Examiners.

STATE BOARD WORK SESSION – NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE BOARDS OF EDUCATION GRANT PROFESSIONAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITY

Charlie Edwards and Brooke Axiotis provided opening remarks. This was the first learning opportunity associated with the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) grant.

David Tilly, Deputy Director, shared comments and introduced Deborah Reed, Iowa Reading Research Center. Reed led the work session to help State Board members understand the types and amount of instruction that it takes for young learners to become proficient in reading by the end of 3rd grade.

Reed's presentation focused on *Theoretical Foundations of Reading: How the Magic Happens*, and *Components of Reading Instruction*. There was extensive board discussion regarding the information presented.

STATE BOARD BUSINESS MEETING

Charlie Edwards called the meeting to order at 11:05 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

Ryan Wise, Director, Iowa Department of Education (Department), read a letter from Duane Willhite, Superintendent, North Fayette and Valley Community School Districts, opposing the Chapter 36 rules.

Director's Report

Wise highlighted two reports showing how Iowa's Teacher Leadership and Compensation (TLC) system is transforming the teaching profession statewide, with most school districts meeting their goals and most educators reporting improvements in their classroom instruction and professional environments.

One report was the comprehensive external evaluation of the system titled *Iowa's Teacher Leadership and Compensation Program: Findings From 2016-17*, which was conducted by the American Institutes for Research (AIR).

The other report titled *Teacher Leadership and Compensation System 2016-17 End-of-Year Report Summary* was prepared by the Department. This report is a synthesis of all 333 Iowa school districts end-of-year reports on the impact of TLC.

There was board discussion regarding TLC funding, how the data included in the reports could be skewed by the assessment that is currently being used, how TLC goals were established, the negative media attention to the reports, the importance of positive public communication regarding TLC, and the need to showcase school districts that have exceptional programs in various areas.

Wise shared information regarding what's ahead in terms of evaluation. AIR will conduct in-depth case studies of six districts that have done well on student assessment and implementation impact.

Wise provided an update on the status of the statewide assessment. The Department has partnered with the Iowa Department of Administrative Services, which issued the request for proposal (RFP) for the assessment. The RFP was awarded to AIR and that decision has been appealed. At some point, the State Board will be tasked with noticing rules. There was discussion regarding the appeals process.

Wise commented on a school visit to the Shenandoah Community School District. Eighth graders in that district won a national championship for building high-performance radio controlled model cars in a competition called the Ten80 Education Student Racing Challenge. Wise talked about teamwork in the classroom and goals set by the students.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

STATE BOARD ACTION/DISCUSSION AGENDA

Nicole Proesch, Administrative Law Judge, congratulated Ryan Wise and Brooke Axiotis for recognition they received at a NASBE conference. Proesch received recognition for her role on the National Council of State Boards of Education Attorneys as well.

In re: Open Enrollment of W.B. (Clinton Community School District)

Nicole Proesch presented *In re: Open Enrollment of W.B. (Clinton Community School District)*. Proesch reported an error on the executive summary cover page that should reflect the “Clinton Board” rather than the “Riverside Board.”

Proesch explained the four criteria that must be met in order to overturn the decision of a local board and recommended that the State Board affirm the proposed decision of the Clinton Community School District board.

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

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

In re: Open Enrollment T.J.U., T.R.U., T.A.M.U., T.J.U., T.L.U., and T.R.U. (Waco Community School District)

Nicole Proesch presented *In re: Open Enrollment T.J.U., T.R.U., T.A.M.U., T.J.U., T.L.U., and T.R.U. (Waco Community School District)*. Proesch recommended that the State Board affirm the proposed decision of the Waco Community School District.

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

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

There was discussion regarding the definition of “mutual horseplay” that was included in the proposed decision.

Rules: Chapter 12 – General Accreditation Standards (Computer Science Standards) (Notice)

Phil Wise, Administrative Rules Co-Coordinator, presented the Chapter 12 rules. 2017 Iowa Acts Chapter 106 Senate File (SF) 274 requires that the State Board submit a Notice of Intended Action to establish high-quality standards for computer science education taught by elementary, middle, and high schools. Those standards shall be applicable only to districts and schools receiving money from the Computer Science Professional Development Incentive Fund created by SF 274.

This legislation also established a Computer Science Education Work Group, which has developed findings and recommendations that have been recently submitted to the Governor, the State Board, and the General Assembly.

Ryan Wise provided additional comments about the Computer Science Education Work Group recommendations.

There was discussion about whether the State Board will have the ability to revisit the rules at a later time to make them more specific, and whether the grants have been funded.

Motion: Mike May made a motion and Angela English seconded that the State Board give public notice of its intent to amend Chapter 12 to establish high-quality standards for computer science in school districts and accredited nonpublic schools.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Rules: Chapter 41 – Special Education (Notice)

Thomas Mayes, Attorney, Division of Learning and Results, presented the Chapter 41 rules. The proposed changes to these rules are based on amendments to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) that were made by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). On June 30, 2017, the United States Department of Education issued final regulations that incorporated these changes that ESSA made to IDEA. The State Board was asked to notice these rules separately from a currently pending rulemaking. This is because these rules amendments, although required by ESSA, represent a practice change for many Iowa educators.

Item 1 amends the definition of “regular high school diploma.” This amendment makes it clear that a regular high school diploma must be fully aligned to state-required standards.

Item 2 explains the requirements that all students with disabilities participate in statewide and district-wide assessments, including providing children with significant intellectual

disabilities with alternate assessments aligned to alternate academic achievement standards.

There was discussion regarding the feedback that has been received on these rules.

Motion: Angela English made a motion and Mike Bearden seconded that the State Board give public notice of its intent to amend Chapter 41.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Rules: Chapter 64 – Child Development Coordinating Council (Notice)

Nicole Proesch and Amy Stegeman, Consultant, Bureau of Learner Strategies and Supports, explained the proposed changes to the Chapter 64 rules. Items 1, 2, 5, 6, and 7 contain non-substantive changes based on the suggestion of the Child Development Coordinating Council (Council) to use “person first” language. Item 3 corrects the name of an organization. Item 4 contains two changes to streamline the business operations of the Council. Item 8 contains revisions required by House File 658, which made changes to the criteria applicable to grantees. Item 8 also contains non-substantive amendments to use “person first” language.

There was discussion regarding how funding dollars are distributed.

Motion: Mike Knedler made a motion and Mike May seconded that the State Board give public notice of its intent to amend Chapter 64.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Charlie Edwards turned the gavel over to Mike Knedler.

Keystone Area Education Agency Paraeducator Preparation Program Approval

Marietta Rives, Consultant, Bureau of Educator Quality, reported that Keystone Area Education Agency (AEA) has submitted a request for approval of the Generalist, Level 1 and the Early Childhood paraeducator certification programs. Upon review of the evidence, Keystone provided factual evidence of meeting each of the program standard requirements. Both certificates represent the recently revised Board of Educational Examiner’s competencies.

There was discussion regarding an area in need of improvement under the diversity standard, and the type of monitoring and review that is done between now and November 2022.

Motion: Bettie Bolar made a motion and Angela English seconded that the State Board approve the paraeducator preparation program request submitted by Keystone Area Education Agency. This approval will extend through November 2022.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Kirkwood Area Education Agency Paraeducator Preparation Program Approval

Marietta Rives introduced Doug Van Oort, Kirkwood Community College. Kirkwood Community College submitted a request for approval of multiple paraeducator certification programs. Upon review of the evidence, it was determined that Kirkwood Community College met each of the program standard requirements. All certificates represent the recently revised Board of Educational Examiner's competencies.

Rives reviewed the program's strengths and areas in need of improvement.

Van Oort shared information about Kirkwood's Paraeducator Preparation Program.

There was discussion about whether any of Kirkwood's paraeducator offerings deal with reading instruction, how many people go through the program annually, and the recruitment process.

Motion: Angela English made a motion and Brooke Axiotis seconded that the State Board approve the paraeducator preparation program request submitted by Kirkwood Community College. This approval will extend through November 2022.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Fine Arts Standards Adoption

Erika Cook, Chief, Bureau of Standards and Curriculum, introduced Angela Matsuoka. Matsuoka introduced three members of the Fine Arts Standards Adoption Team: Ronda Sternhagen, Grundy Center Community School District/Central Rivers AEA; Jill Wilson, Luther College; and Leon Kuehner, Iowa Alliance for Arts Education.

A PowerPoint titled *Fine Arts Standards Adoption Overview* was presented that addressed:

- Mission and Vision of Iowa's Fine Arts Standards
- Why Adopt Statewide Fine Arts Standards?
- Fine Arts Standards Team Membership
- Team Organization
- Fine Arts Standards Team Process
- What are the National Core Arts Standards?
- National Core Arts Standards Structure
- Public Input Findings
- Recommendations
- Examples of Music and Theatre Revisions
- Guidance Document
- Fine Arts Assessment
- National Coalition for Core Arts Standards Model Cornerstone Assessments
- Implementation of the Standards
- Statewide Impact
- Quotes from Fine Arts Standards Adoption Team Members

Mike Knedler turned the gavel over to Charlie Edwards.

Motion: Mary Ellen Miller made a motion and Mike Knedler seconded that the State Board adopt the voluntary fine arts standards from the Fine Arts Standards Adoption Team.

There was discussion regarding the voluntary component of the standards, monitoring and enforcement, and standards-based grading.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Computer Science Education Work Group Recommendations

Ryan Wise and Erika Cook shared highlights of the Computer Science Education Work Group Recommendations. SF 274 established the Computer Science Education Work Group and laid the foundation for strengthening computer science education in Iowa. In accordance with SF 274, the Computer Science Education Work Group developed recommendations to address several issues related to expanding computer science in Iowa.

The recommendations address:

1. How computer science courses could satisfy graduation requirements for math and science.
2. How one or more high-quality computer science courses could be integrated into a career and technical education pathway.
3. The settings in which courses could be delivered, (including in traditional high school settings, concurrent enrollment classes, and online).
4. Guidelines for an appropriate scope and sequence of computer science instruction at each grade level.
5. How the computer science professional development fund created in the legislation could be used to meet the goals of the law.

There was discussion regarding the definition of computer science, equity and access, integration of computer science standards into math classes, K-6 instruction, school districts' reaction to this requirement and whether it will take away from other learning opportunities, lack of monitoring, and business partners' involvement.

Future Ready Iowa Recommendations

Ryan Wise shared highlights of the Future Ready Iowa recommendations. The Future Ready Iowa Alliance focused on developing recommendations that will help Iowa achieve an ambitious goal: By 2025, 70 percent of Iowans in the workforce will complete postsecondary education or training.

The condensed version of the recommendations are:

1. The Future Ready Iowa Last-Dollar Scholarship and Grant Program.
2. Better align and expand the ecosystem of support for Iowans beginning college or career training or returning to complete, with a focus on Iowans who are low income and/or underrepresented minorities. This should include career counseling, addressing the cliff effect (low-income Iowans losing benefits, such as child care assistance, disproportionately due to a small wage increase) and other wrap-around services.
3. Expand high-quality work-based learning experiences in high-demand fields and careers for all students, particularly traditionally underrepresented students.
4. Identify and scale effective early academic and career development and delivery approaches so all students are prepared for a changing world.
5. Develop a grassroots strategy to engage the business community, sector boards, regional workforce boards, STEM regions and other regional collaborations to align with Alliance recommendations.

There was discussion and concern raised about overlapping initiatives (Sector Partnerships, Career Pathways, Work-based Learning) all trying to move individuals towards a better future, particularly if there was no additional legislative appropriation for Future Ready Iowa. Additionally, the challenge for individuals to improve their technical skills remain because many cannot afford to leave their low-wage job even though tuition would be free.

Area Education Agency Accreditation Update

David Tilly reported that as a result of ESSA, the Department is working with AEA leadership on a new AEA accreditation process. Tilly talked about specific details of the process.

This year all AEAs are deemed to be meeting standards. Next year the new accreditation process, which is parallel to the local education agency accreditation process, will be in place.

School Budget Review Committee Update

Matt Coulter, Administrator, Division of School Finance and Support Services, reported that at the October 3 School Budget Review Committee meeting, the following action occurred:

- Approval of modified supplemental amount for two districts, Algona and Pekin, for asbestos abatement and testing.
- Action pertaining to late filing of the Certified Annual Report, Special Education Supplement, and/or Transportation Annual Report, which were all due by September 15. There were two districts that late-filed one or more of these reports: Lake Mills and Sioux City. These districts were directed to provide corrective action plans for the upcoming December hearing.
- Approval of requests for additional weighting by districts in whole-grade sharing arrangements. Districts making this request are required to submit a report of progress toward reorganization. Each of the following 12 districts requesting the weighting reported sufficient progress and were approved:

Adair-Casey	North Winneshiek
Guthrie Center	Harmony
Alta	Marcus-Meriden-Cleghorn
Aurelia	Remsen-Union
North Fayette	Prairie Valley
Valley	Southeast Webster Grand

There was discussion about whether expenditures are being monitored as a result of recent legislation that gave schools more flexibility with categorical funding.

Secondary Career and Technical Education Redesign Update/Regional Planning Partnership Update

Pradeep Kotamraju, Chief, Bureau of Career and Technical Education, provided an update on Secondary Career and Technical Education (CTE) Redesign and Regional Planning Partnerships, which were created in House File (HF) 2392.

The goal of the RPPs is to ensure that high-quality CTE is made available and accessible to all middle and high school students in Iowa without regard to geography, student selectivity, and socioeconomic status. Fifteen RPPs have been established and are aligned with each of the 15 community college regions. RPP membership is made up primarily of school superintendents (or their representatives), but other stakeholders are members also.

During the 2017-2018 academic year, RPPs are charged with completing three tasks: (1) develop a multi-year plan, whose overall focus is to provide high-quality CTE to all students within their respective regions; (2) set a five-year schedule for approving all

secondary CTE programs; and (3) set out a budget and expenditure plan that is tied to the RPP multi-year plan goals, objectives, and strategies. The RPPs are well on their way to completing all three tasks.

A key feature of HF 2392 implementation is the approval of all secondary CTE programs, which is to occur over a period of five years starting this academic year. The Department is engaging in a “pilot” of a few school districts to work through a program self-study template, using the input to refine the template. The “pilots” are proceeding as scheduled and will be completing their work early next year.

A corresponding rubric will be developed to have programs placed at different levels from which a review process and an action plan follows. The first set of programs will be reviewed and approved in the fall of 2018, with the RPPs first reviewing and moving the programs within their region forward to the Department for approval.

In the future, CTE standards will be developed and brought before the State Board.

There was discussion about membership on RPPs, whether there is a process for annual evaluation of RPPs, and the purpose of the approval process.

State Board Priorities Brochure/Strategic Plan

Ryan Wise presented a draft of the State Board’s Priorities Brochure/Strategic Plan and board members discussed and suggested changes.

Board Reports

Robert Nishimwe attended the NASBE Annual Meeting in Atlanta, Georgia, where he had an opportunity to meet and connect with other student State Board of Education members from around the country. He also talked about his role as a member of the State Board.

Mike Knedler shared information about the Council Bluffs Community School District locating a high school on the Iowa Western Community College campus.

Mike May attended an international fair in the Orange City Community School District, a career academy at the Spirit Lake Community School District, and a preschool at the West Central Valley Community School District.

Bettie Bolar attended an Iowa Coordinating Council for Post High School Education meeting and talked about the role of that group.

There was discussion about preparing for upcoming meetings with the Governor, Lt. Governor, and legislators.

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

Charles C. Edwards, Jr.
President

Ryan M. Wise
Director