

Iowa Dyslexia Board - Meeting Minutes

February 25, 2025 - 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Meeting minutes taken by Megan Hunemuller

Present: Tammy Wilgenbusch, Lindsay Harrison, Jill White, Kay Stork, Shawn Datchuk, Michelle Geistkemper, Nina Lorimor-Easley, Kimberly Buryanek, Bambi Boggs, Megan Hunemuller, Katie Greving, Shane Williams, Wanda Steuri, Director McKenzie Snow, Tom Wood

Virtual: Katy Severe

Absent: Kristen Craig & James Northwick

Guests: Leah Zimmerman, Assistant Director of the IRRC

Welcome

1. Meeting called to order
 - a. 10:00 by Shane Williams
2. Public Comment
 - a. None

Approve Meeting Minutes and Agenda

1. Approve agenda
 - a. Kimberly moved to approve the agenda. There was a second by Michelle. The agenda was unanimously approved.
2. Approve December Minutes
 - a. Kimberly moved to approve the December meeting minutes. There was a second by Bambi. The December minutes were unanimously approved.
3. Board member announcements and updates:
 - a. Katie gave an update on DDIA's bills in legislation. They have been approved by the house as well as the senate and have been moved onto the next step. She also acknowledged that DDIA recognizes some of the changes in the administrative rules. She thanked the IA DOE and Director Snow for their work on the update.
 - b. Director Snow spoke more on the dyslexia endorsement grant as well as the draft rules for teacher preparation programs. The State of Iowa's NAEP results

have been released, and she is pleased with them. Iowa was top 5 in the nation in achievement growth.

- c. Katy told us about a Q&A opportunity Grandview University is offering to people who are interested in the dyslexia endorsement.
- d. Megan commended DDIA on the work they did for the bill that is currently working through legislation. She also expanded on their capitol day and what a great turn out they had.
- e. Shawn touched on NAEP administrations and different budget cuts he's heard of recently. He also mentioned his opportunities to present at multiple events this past month and is very thankful to have the Department's support for the Science of Reading Summit.

Department of Education Updates (Wanda & Director Snow)

- 1. Wanda worked with many to finalize the dyslexia handbook.
- 2. She attended the ORTli virtual conference which she found very valuable.
- 3. She updated us on the CLSD Grant and also touched on her time on the IRRC Advisory Board.
- 4. Wanda spent quite a bit of time on the Iowa Standards Vertical Progression Document. She advised us to sign up for the "Literacy News You Can Use" newsletter to see this as it rolls out.
- 5. Wanda also advised that she has been asked to present at multiple upcoming conferences.
- 6. She is also excited to share that LETRS round 6 is open with registrations closing August 22 and a start date in September.
- 7. She spent time these past 2 months working a bit with the state school improvement consultants and researching different dyslexia screeners.
- 8. She reminded us that teacher of the year nominations are open and also told us that a new administrative consultant has been hired for the literacy department.

Iowa Reading Research Center Updates (Shawn & Guest, Dr. Zimmerman)

- 1. Dr. Zimmerman gave an update and explained the caregiver data literacy project.
- 2. Shawn gave an update on the IRRC Summit planning and shared that early bird registration is open.

Final Review and Approval - Iowa Dyslexia Handbook (Working Lunch)

- 1. A printed copy of the handbook was provided for each Board member. We took time for a final review of the document. Everyone is very excited about this being near completion!
- 2. Katie brought up a concern about DDIA and IDA's Iowa Chapter not being listed as a local resource, Wanda will look into this more with the DoE and add it if possible.

3. Wanda then shared with the group the presentation plans she plans to offer in a webcast form. She asked for feedback and wanted to be sure everyone was on board with her presentation. Everyone loved it.
 - a. Nina moved to approve the handbook. The second was made by Megan. A roll call vote to approve the handbook. It was unanimously approved with excitement!

Early Literacy Assessments Presentation

1. Greg Feldmann & Connor Hood from the DoE were present to explain Iowa's assessment review process. They dove into FAST more as roughly 97% of Iowa districts use that option.

AEA Dyslexia Specialist Panel

1. A dyslexia specialist from each AEA was present (via Zoom) to talk with the group on what they are seeing across Iowa and what their specific roles are in their local AEAs. Many clarifying questions were answered by the specialists. Everyone appreciated their information and look forward to supporting them in the future to keep going strong.

Closing Remarks

1. None

Meeting adjourned

1. Kimberly moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Bambi. The adjournment was unanimously approved.