

## Minutes State Board of Education November 19, 2025

John Robbins  
President  
*Iowa Falls*

Brooke Axiotis  
Vice President  
*Des Moines*

Todd Abrahamson  
*Arnolds Park*

Cassandra Halls  
*Carlisle*

Brian J. Kane  
*Dubuque*

Mary Meisterling  
*Cedar Rapids*

Grace Bechtel  
Student Member (non-voting)  
*Lake Mills*

Beth Townsend  
Iowa Workforce Development  
(non-voting)

McKenzie Snow  
Director and  
Executive Officer

The State Board of Education meeting was held on November 19, 2025, at the Grimes State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa. The meeting was conducted in person, with remote access information provided in the notice of the meeting.

State Board members present: John Robbins, Brooke Axiotis, Brian Kane, Mary Meisterling, Todd Abrahamson, Cassandra Halls, and Grace Bechtel. Beth Townsend attended virtually.

Iowa Department of Education staff members present: McKenzie Snow, John Elkin, Bryce Amos, Tina Wahler, Eric St Clair, Heather Doe, Thomas Mayes, Sandra Hurtado-Peters, Amy Gieseke, Barbara Ohlund, Jay Pennington, Angelisa Fynaardt, Kassandra Cline, Kyle Morin, Kimberly Villotti, Liza Garcia and Jeremy Anzevino.

### State Board Business Meeting

John Robbins called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**Motion:** Brian Kane made a motion and Mary Meisterling seconded to approve the agenda.

**Vote:** The ayes were unanimous. The motion carried.

John Robbins announced public comment for 30 minutes.

No public comment was made.

The following reports were provided:

Director's Report, by Director Snow.

Nonpublic Schools Advisory Committee Update, by Brian Kane.

Community Colleges Advisory Committee Update, by Cassandra Halls.

### Consent Agenda

**September 12, 2025 Meeting Minutes**

**Appeal Decision 5226 (In re Open Enrollment of D.F.)**

**Appeal Decision 5225 (In re Open Enrollment of L.L.)**

**Rules: Chapters 12, 79 and 80 – Conformity with Senate File 418 (Adopt)**

**Rules: Chapters 12, 14 and 36 – Seizure Response, Career Instruction, Robotics, and Online Assessments (Adopt)**

**Rules: Chapters 12 and 32 – Civics Test Requirement (Adopt)**

**Rules: Chapters 14 and 21 – Vaccine Exemption Communications (Adopt)**

**Rules: Chapter 37 – Activity Conference realignment Committee (Adopt)**

**Rules: Chapter 41 – Out-of-State Placements under House File 787 (Adopt)**

**Motion:** Brian Kane made a motion and Brooke Axiotis seconded to approve the consent agenda.

**Vote:** The ayes were unanimous. The motion carried.

**Appeal Decision 5215 – Education Savings Account Eligibility – Appeal of Proposed Decision (10-10-5) Appellant Sara Ferneding and Assistant Attorney General Lindsey Browning Presented Argument**

**Motion:** Brian Kane made a motion and Todd Abrahamson seconded to affirm the Administrative Law Judge's decision.

**Vote:** The ayes were unanimous. The motion carried.

John Robbins announced a break until 10:35 a.m.

**Rules: Chapter 12 – Human Growth and Development (Notice)**

**Motion:** Brian Kane made a motion and Mary Meisterling seconded to give notice of intent to amend Chapter 12.

**Vote:** The ayes were unanimous. The motion carried.

**Rules: Chapter 21 – Community College Accreditation (Notice)**

**Motion:** Mary Meisterling made a motion and Brooke Axiotis seconded to give notice of intent to amend Chapter 21.

**Vote:** The ayes were unanimous. The motion carried.

**Rules: Chapters 41 and 120 – Foster Parent Decision-Making Clarification (Adopt)**

**Motion:** Brooke Axiotis made a motion and Todd Abrahamson seconded to amend Chapters 41 and 120.

**Vote:** The ayes were unanimous. The motion carried.

**Rules: Chapter 102 – Student Abuse Investigations (Adopt)**

**Motion:** Brian Kane made a motion and Brooke Axiotis seconded to amend Chapter 102.

**Vote:** The ayes were unanimous. The motion carried.

## **Student Participation in Assessment and Chronic Absenteeism: Choice Charter School**

The matter was discussed.

## **Storm Lake/Iowa Central/Buena Vista Early College Charter High School and West Central Charter School One-Year Contract Extension Request**

**Motion:** Brian Kane made a motion and Todd Abrahamson seconded to approve the Storm Lake/Iowa Central/Buena Vista Early College Charter High School and West Central Charter School One-Year Contract Extensions.

**Vote:** The ayes were unanimous. The motion carried.

## **Charter Schools Legislative Report**

**Motion:** Mary Meisterling made a motion and Brooke Axiotis seconded to approve the Charter Schools Legislative Report.

**Vote:** The ayes were unanimous. The motion carried.

John Robbins announced a lunch break until 12:35 p.m.

## **Review Charter Contract for Fiscal year 2026**

The matter was discussed.

## **Prairie Lakes Area Education Agency Accreditation Progress Report**

The matter was discussed.

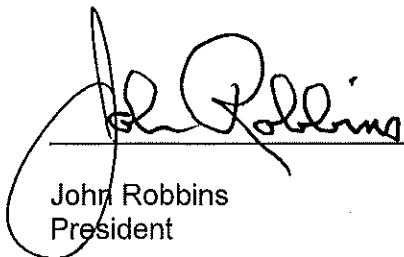
## **Preschool Programs Overview**

The matter was discussed.


## **October School Budget Review Committee Hearing Update**

The matter was discussed.

Meeting adjourned at 2:14 p.m.



John Robbins  
President



McKenzie Snow  
Director