

Iowa State Board of Education

Executive Summary

February 12, 2026

Agenda Item: Religious Groups Exempt from School Standards

State Board Goal(s): All Goals

State Board Role/Authority: Iowa Code section 299.24 provides for an exemption from compulsory attendance law and the educational standards law for members of established religious denominations which profess tenets that differ substantially from these laws, and who have been in existence for more than ten years.

Presenter(s): None (Consent Agenda)

Attachment(s): One

Recommendation: It is recommended that the State Board approve the exemption renewal requests for the attached list of 93 religious groups.

Background: Religious groups in Iowa may apply for exemption from the compulsory education and school standards laws under Iowa Code section 299.24. A one-year renewal of the initial two-year exemption may be requested annually by each religious group desiring to do so. These renewal requests may be granted by the Director of the Department of Education, with the approval of the State Board of Education.

A total of 93 out of 99 religious groups have submitted requests including an appropriate list of names, ages and post office addresses of children of compulsory age as required by Iowa Code section 299.24. The total student enrollment for the 93 schools requesting the exemption is 1928 students.

Each of the six religious groups who have not returned the required documentation has been provided with reminders and additional copies of the required forms by mail. In the event that these schools respond, their applications for exemption will be provided for State Board approval.

County	School Name	Denomination	Contact person	Address	City, State	Zip Code	Enrollment	Public District
Adams	Cedar Valley School	Old Order Amish	Richard Ray Miller	1281 210th Street	Nodaway, IA	50857	13	Nodaway Valley
Allamakee/Clayton	Bais Sholom	Jewish, Hassidic	Rabi Gavriel Levin	331 W Tilden St,	Postville, IA	52162	9	Postville CSD
Appanoose	Appanoose County School	Old Order Amish	Gideon Bontrager	26892 153rd Avenue	Centerville, IA	52344	32	Centerville CSD
Appanoose	Mormon Trail School	Old Order Amish	Gideon Bontrager	26892 153rd Avenue	Centerville, IA	52344	29	Centerville CSD
Appanoose	Shoal Creek School	Old Order Amish	Gideon Bontrager	26892 153rd Avenue	Centerville, IA	52344	31	Centerville CSD
Buchanan	Brookside	Old Order Amish	William Raber	1823 150th St	Hazleton, IA	50641	26	Oelwein CSD
Buchanan	Green Meadow	Old Order Amish	Andy E Raber	1286 Indiana Ave	Hazleton, IA	50641	32	Oelwein CSD
Buchanan	Hickory Grove	Old Order Amish	Andrew D. Kauffman	1701 150th Street	Hazleton, IA	50641	8	Oelwein CSD
Buchanan	Hilltop View	Old Order Amish	Dan Kaufman Jr.	1641 140th St	Hazleton, IA	50641	19	Oelwein CSD
Buchanan	Pine Grove School	Old Order Amish	David Kauffman	1758 Fairbank Amish Blvd	Independence, IA	50644	18	Jesup CSD
Buchanan	Sunnyside	Central Amish	Cornelius Lambright	1442 145th St	Fairbank, IA	50629	11	Jesup CSD
Buchanan	Timber Ridge	Old Order Amish	Freeman E. Yoder	1320 Central Ave	Fairbank, IA	50629	16	Oelwein CSD
	Cedar River Mennonite Schools							
Chickasaw	Bridge Water	Groffdale Conference	Lamar Burkholder	1255 Durham Ave	Alta Vista, IA	50603	22	Charles City CSD
Chickasaw	Cedar River	Groffdale Conference	Lamar Burkholder	1255 Durham Ave	Alta Vista, IA	50603	26	Charles City and Osage
Chickasaw	Countryside	Groffdale Conference	Lamar Burkholder	1255 Durham Ave	Alta Vista, IA	50603	24	Charles City and New Hampton
Chickasaw	Deerfield	Groffdale Conference	Lamar Burkholder	1255 Durham Ave	Alta Vista, IA	50603	28	Charles City and New Hampton
Chickasaw	East Lincoln	Groffdale Conference	Lamar Burkholder	1255 Durham Ave	Alta Vista, IA	50603	22	Charles City and Osage
Chickasaw	Jackson Woods	Groffdale Conference	Lamar Burkholder	1255 Durham Ave	Alta Vista, IA	50603	13	Charles City CSD
Chickasaw	Little Wapsi	Groffdale Conference	Lamar Burkholder	1255 Durham Ave	Alta Vista, IA	50603	25	Howard-Winneshiek and Riceville
Chickasaw	Nature Valley	Groffdale Conference	Lamar Burkholder	1255 Durham Ave	Alta Vista, IA	50603	20	Charles City CSD
Chickasaw	Scenic Ridge	Groffdale Conference	Lamar Burkholder	1255 Durham Ave	Alta Vista, IA	50603	14	Howard-Winneshiek CSD
Chickasaw	Sunny Meadow	Groffdale Conference	Lamar Burkholder	1255 Durham Ave	Alta Vista, IA	50603	14	Osage and Riceville
Chickasaw	Timber View	Groffdale Conference	Lamar Burkholder	1255 Durham Ave	Alta Vista, IA	50603	32	Howard Winneshiek & Riceville
Chickasaw	Walnut Grove	Groffdale Conference	Lamar Burkholder	1255 Durham Ave	Alta Vista, IA	50603	35	Osage CSD
Clarke	Fox Run	Amish	Mose E. Borntreger	2049 120th Ave	Murray, IA	50174	88	Murray CSD
Clarke	Meadow View	Amish	Mose E. Borntreger	2049 120th Ave	Murray, IA	50174		Murray CSD

Clarke	Pleasant View	Amish	Mose E. Borntreger	2049 120th Ave	Murray, IA	50174		Murray CSD
Clarke	Sunny Ridge	Amish	Mose E. Borntreger	2049 120th Ave	Murray, IA	50174		Murray CSD
	Hidden Valley Schools							
Clayton	Hidden Valley	Old Order Amish	Dan Borntreger	23951 Harvest Rd	Edgewood, IA	52042	13	Edgewood Colesburg CSD
Clayton	Hilton Ridge	Old Order Amish	Dan Borntreger	23951 Harvest Rd	Edgewood, IA	52042	18	Edgewood Colesburg CSD
Clayton	Meadow Lawn	Old Order Amish	Dan Borntreger	23951 Harvest Rd	Edgewood, IA	52042	15	Edgewood Colesburg CSD
Clayton	Pleasant Valley	Old Order Amish	Dan Borntreger	23951 Harvest Rd	Edgewood, IA	52042	8	Edgewood Colesburg CSD
Clayton	Pleasant View	Old Order Amish	Dan Borntreger	23951 Harvest Rd	Edgewood, IA	52042	12	Edgewood Colesburg CSD
Dallas	Dallas Center Christian	Dunkard Brethren	James Meyers	26331 205th St.	Dallas Center, IA	50063	16	Dallas Center Grimes CSD
Davis	Bloomfield Mennonite	Bloomfield Mennonite Church	Randy Hauder	28452 Lilac Ave	Bloomfield, IA	52537	23	Davis County CSD
Davis	Cedar Lane	Bloomfield Old Order Amish	Erwin Jay Yoder	21475 Ice Ave	Bloomfield, IA	52537	25	Davis County CSD
Davis	Clearview	Bloomfield Old Order Amish	Erwin Jay Yoder	21475 Ice Ave	Bloomfield, IA	52537	20	Davis County CSD
Davis	Cloverdale	Bloomfield Old Order Amish	Erwin Jay Yoder	21475 Ice Ave	Bloomfield, IA	52537	17	Davis County CSD
Davis	Driftwood Gems	Old Order Amish	Erwin Jay Yoder	21475 Ice Ave	Bloomfield, IA	52537	28	Davis County CSD
Davis	Echo Ridge	Old Order Amish	Erwin Jay Yoder	21475 Ice Ave	Bloomfield, IA	52537	26	Davis County CSD
Davis	Friendship School	Bloomfield East District	Erwin Jay Yoder	21475 Ice Ave	Bloomfield, IA	52537	19	Davis County CSD
Davis	Happy Hollow	Bloomfield Old Order Amish	Erwin Jay Yoder	21475 Ice Ave	Bloomfield, IA	52537	32	Davis County CSD
Davis	Hillview	Old Order Amish	Erwin Jay Yoder	21475 Ice Ave	Bloomfield, IA	52572	25	Davis County CSD
Davis	Maple Grove	Old Order Amish	Erwin Jay Yoder	21475 Ice Ave	Bloomfield, IA	52572	18	Davis County CSD
Davis	Meadow Lane	Old Order Amish	Erwin Jay Yoder	21475 Ice Ave	Bloomfield, IA	52572	17	Davis County CSD
Davis	Pioneer Trails	Bloomfield Old Order Amish	Erwin Jay Yoder	21475 Ice Ave	Bloomfield, IA	52537	23	Davis County CSD
Davis	Pleasant Hill	Bloomfield Old Order Amish	Erwin Jay Yoder	21475 Ice Ave	Bloomfield, IA	52537	19	Davis County CSD
Davis	Pleasant Valley	Bloomfield Old Order Amish	Erwin Jay Yoder	21475 Ice Ave	Bloomfield, IA	52537	27	Davis County CSD
Davis	Prairie View	Bloomfield Old Order Amish	Erwin Jay Yoder	21475 Ice Ave	Bloomfield, IA	52537	24	Davis County CSD
Davis	Rock Island	Bloomfield Old Order Amish	Erwin Jay Yoder	21475 Ice Ave	Bloomfield, IA	52572	21	Davis County CSD
Davis	Singing Prairie	Bloomfield Old Order Amish	Erwin Jay Yoder	21475 Ice Ave	Bloomfield, IA	52572	19	Davis County CSD
Davis	Walnut Grove	Bloomfield Old Order Amish	Erwin Jay Yoder	21475 Ice Ave	Bloomfield, IA	52537	18	Davis County CSD

Davis	Timber Trails School	Old Order Amish	Erwin Jay Yoder	21475 Ice Ave	Bloomfield, IA	52537	21	Davis County CSD
Decatur	Bloomington	Old Order Amish	David E. Yoder	17094280th St	Davis City, IA	50065	18	Lamoni CSD
Decatur	Evergreen	Old Order Amish	Menno Byler	17648 310th St	Davis City, IA	50065	16	Lamoni CSD
Decatur	Franklin Christian School	Salem Mennonite/Beachy Amish	Myron Yoder	25865 Perry Rd	Leon, IA	50144	37	Central Decatur CSD
Fayette	Scenic View Christian	Scenic View Christian	Levi Yost	16225 Nature Rd	West Union	52175	11	North Fayette Valley CSD
Howard	Pine Grove Mennonite	Holdeman Mennonite	Steven Wedel	8241 River Road	Chester, IA	52134	48	Howard Winn, Riceville,
Jefferson	Barnyard Echo School	Old Order Amish	Marlin Mast	2881 136th St.,	Brighton, IA	52540	24	Fairfield CSD
Jefferson	Whistling Meadow	Old Order Amish	Marlin Mast	2881 136th St	Brighton, IA	52540	22	Fairfield CSD
Johnson	Brookside	Old Order Amish	Cephas Yoder	2639 520th St SW	Kalona, IA	52247	13	Mid Prairie CSD
Johnson	Centerville	Old Order Amish	Cephas Yoder	2639 520th St. SW	Kalona, IA	52247	30	Mid Prairie CSD
Johnson	Deerview	Old Order Amish	Cephas Yoder	2639 520th St. SW	Kalona, IA	52247	21	Mid Prairie CSD
Johnson	Echo Vale	Old Order Amish	Cephas Yoder	2639 520th St. SW	Kalona, IA	52247	20	Mid Prairie CSD
Johnson	Friendship	Old Order Amish	Cephas Yoder	2639 520th St. SW	Kalona, IA	52247	26	Mid Prairie CSD
Johnson	Glenbrook	Old Order Amish	Cephas Yoder	2639 520th St. SW	Kalona, IA	52247	14	Mid Prairie CSD
Johnson	Maple Grove	Old Order Amish	Cephas Yoder	2639 520th St. SW	Kalona, IA	52247	13	Mid Prairie CSD
Johnson	Middleburg	Old Order Amish	Cephas Yoder	2639 520th St. SW	Kalona, IA	52247	12	Mid Prairie CSD
Johnson	Pleasant Valley	Old Order Amish	Cephas Yoder	2639 520th St. SW	Kalona, IA	52247	22	Mid Prairie CSD
Johnson	Shady Lane	Old Order Amish	Cephas Yoder	2639 520th St. SW	Kalona, IA	52247	21	Mid Prairie CSD
Johnson	Sunny Slope	Old Order Amish	Cephas Yoder	2639 520th St. SW	Kalona, IA	52247	13	Mid Prairie CSD
Johnson	Sharon Bethel	Beachy Amish Mennonite	Matt Petersheim	2260 520th St. SW	Kalona, IA	52247	29	Mid Prairie CSD
Johnson	Timber Creek	Old Order Amish	Cephas Yoder	2639 520th St. SW	Kalona, IA	52247	16	Mid Prairie CSD
Keokuk	Meadow View	Old Order Amish	Aaron Miller	18667 Highway 149	Sigourney, IA	52591	26	Sigourney CSD
Mitchell	Plainview	Old Order Amish	Eli Petersheim	3151 470th St	McIntire, IA	50455	18	Riceville CSD
Mitchell	Oak Grove	Old Order Amish	Eli Petersheim	3151 470th St	McIntire, IA	50455	14	Riceville CSD
Mitchell	Wapsi Valley	Old Order Amish	Eli Petersheim	3151 470th St.	McIntire, IA	50455	14	Riceville CSD
Mitchell NEW	Wild Rose Christian	Mennonite	Harley Unruh	PO Box 31	Staceyville, IA	50476		
Montgomery	Red Oak Country School	Red Oak Mennonite	Kenton Toews	1671 250th St.	Red Oak, IA	51566	24	Red Oak CSD
Ringgold	Middle Fork	Old Order Amish	Paul Troyer	3161 170th Ave.	Redding, IA	50860	10	Mount Ayr CSD

Ringgold	Timber View	Old Order Amish	Paul Troyer	3161 170th Ave	Redding, IA	50860	10	Mount Ayr CSD
Union	Crestview A. M. School	Crestview Amish Mennonite	Scott Kropf	2609 REA Rd.	Afton, IA	50830	54	Creston CSD
Van Buren	Honeycreek	Old Order Amish	Merlen Yoder	21431 White Ave.	Bonaparte, IA	52626	26	Van Buren CSD
Van Buren	Lone Spruce	Old Order Amish	Joni Miller	21175 Spruce Ave	Keosauqua, IA	52565	21	Van Buren CSD
Van Buren	Meadowview	Old Order Amish	Paul J Yoder	907 N. Sunset Dr.	Milton, IA	52542	12	Van Buren CSD
Van Buren	North Prairie	Old Order Weaverland Mennonite	Lavern Hoover	27238 Gold Avenue	Cantril, IA	52542	26	Van Buren CSD
Van Buren	Plainview	Old Order Amish	Paul J Yoder	907 N. Sunset Dr.	Milton, IA	52570	25	Van Buren CSD
Van Buren	Roscoe	Old Order Amish	Paul J Yoder	907 N. Sunset Dr.	Milton, IA	52570	15	Van Buren CSD
Van Buren	Lebanon Parochial School	Old Order Amish	Marvin Detweiler	22387 Rte V64	Milton, IA	52570	29	Van Buren CSD
Van Buren	Sunnyside School	Old Order Amish	John Lengacher	21940 Heather Road	Keosauqua, IA	52565	21	Van Buren CSD
Van Buren	Waneta	Old Order Amish	Paul J Yoder	907 N. Sunset Dr.	Milton, IA	52570	17	Van Buren CSD
Worth	Echo Valley School	Northwood Old Order Amish	Jonas Borntreger	4981 Nightingale Avenue	Northwood, IA	50459	19	Northwood-Kensett CSD
Worth	Willow Dale School	Northwood Old Order Amish	Jonas Borntreger	4981 Nightingale Avenue	Northwood, IA	50459	10	Northwood-Kensett CSD
	Number of Schools:	93			Total Students:		1928	