



Minutes State Board of Education May 14, 2026

John Robbins
President
Iowa Falls

Todd Abrahamson
Arnolds Park

Cassandra Halls
Carlisle

Jeff Henderson
Hiawatha

Jeremy Lindquist
Runnells

Mary Meisterling
Cedar Rapids

Erica Roth
Sioux Center

Cecelia Harris
Student Member (non-voting)
Spirit Lake

Beth Townsend
Iowa Workforce Development
(non-voting)

McKenzie Snow
Director and
Executive Officer

The State Board of Education meeting was held on May 16, 2026, 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, Cassandra Halls, Jeff Henderson, Jeremy Lindquist, Mary Meisterling, Erica Roth, Cecelia Harris and Beth Townsend.

Iowa Department of Education staff members present: McKenzie Snow, John Elkin, Heather Doe, Thomas Mayes, Eric St Clair, Jay Pennington, Tina Wahlert, Amy Gieseke, Vlad Bassis, Amy Stegman, Celeste Mortvedt, Becky Dodd, Liza Garcia and Tana Mullen.

State Board Business Meeting

Director Snow called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

Motion: John Robbins made a motion and Cassandra Halls seconded to approve the agenda.

Vote: The ayes were unanimous. The motion carried.

State Board of Education Officer Elections

Motion: Cassandra Halls made a motion and Mary Meisterling seconded to nominate John Robbins as Board President.

Vote: The ayes were unanimous. The motion carried.

Motion: Cassandra Halls made a motion and Jeff Henderson seconded to nominate Mary Meisterling as Board Vice President.

Vote: The ayes were unanimous. The motion carried.

State Board of Education Appointments to Fill Vacancies

Appointed by President Robbins:

Nonpublic School Advisory Committee – Jeff Henderson

Iowa Public Broadcasting System Board – John Robbins

John Robbins announced public comment.

No public comment was made.

The following reports were provided:

Community College Advisory Committee Update.

Director's Report, by Director Snow.

Consent agenda

April 16, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Final Decision Appeals

Motion: Jeremy Lindquist made a motion and Cassandra Halls seconded to approve the Consent Agenda.

Vote: The ayes were unanimous. The motion carried.

Petition for Rehearing Regarding Appeal 5232

Motion: Jeff Henderson made a motion and Mary Meisterling seconded to deny the petition for rehearing regarding appeal 5232.

Vote: The ayes were unanimous. The motion carried.

Annual Condition of Community Colleges Report

The matter was discussed.

Fiscal Year 2027 Certified Budget Approval – Indian Hills Community College

Motion: Cassandra Halls made a motion and Erica Roth seconded to approve the Fiscal Year 2027 Certified Budget for Indian Hills Community College.

Vote: The ayes were unanimous. The motion carried.

Fiscal Year 2027 Certified Budget Approval – Northwest Community College

Motion: Jeff Henderson made a motion and Cassandra Halls seconded to approve the Fiscal Year 2027 Certified Budget for Northwest Community College.

Vote: The ayes were unanimous. The motion carried.

Fiscal Year 2027 Certified Budget Approval – Kirkwood Community College

Motion: Cassandra Halls made a motion and Erica Roth seconded to approve the Fiscal Year 2027 Certified Budget for Kirkwood Community College.

Vote: The ayes were unanimous. The motion carried.

Fiscal Year 2027 Certified Budget Approval – Des Moines Area Community College

Motion: Mary Meisterling made a motion and Jeff Henderson seconded to approve the Fiscal Year 2027 Certified Budget for Des Moines Area Community College.

Vote: The ayes were unanimous. The motion carried.

Fiscal Year 2027 Certified Budget Approval – Eastern Iowa Community College

Motion: Mary Meisterling made a motion and Cassandra Halls seconded to approve the Fiscal Year 2027 Certified Budget for Eastern Iowa Community College.

Vote: The ayes were unanimous. The motion carried.

Fiscal Year 2027 Certified Budget Approval – Southeastern Community College

Motion: Jeff Henderson made a motion and Cassandra Halls seconded to approve the Fiscal Year 2027 Certified Budget for Southeastern Community College.

Vote: The ayes were unanimous. The motion carried.

Fiscal Year 2027 Certified Budget Approval – Iowa Valley Community College

Motion: Erica Roth made a motion and Cassandra Halls seconded to approve the Fiscal Year 2027 Certified Budget for Iowa Valley Community College.

Vote: The ayes were unanimous. The motion carried.

Fiscal Year 2027 Certified Budget Approval – Iowa Lakes Community College

Motion: Mary Meisterling made a motion and Erica Roth seconded to approve the Fiscal Year 2027 Certified Budget for Iowa Lakes Community College.

Vote: The ayes were unanimous. The motion carried.

John Robbins announced a lunch break until 12:45.

Fiscal Year 2027 Certified Budget Approval – Iowa Western Community College

Motion: Jeff Henderson made a motion and Erica Roth seconded to approve the Fiscal Year 2027 Certified Budget for Iowa Western Community College.

Vote: The ayes were unanimous. The motion carried.

Fiscal Year 2027 Certified Budget Approval – Iowa Central Community College

Motion: Cassandra Halls made a motion and Jeff Henderson seconded to approve the Fiscal Year 2027 Certified Budget for Iowa Central Community College.

Vote: The ayes were unanimous. The motion carried.

Fiscal Year 2027 Certified Budget Approval – Western Iowa Tech Community College

Motion: Mary Meisterling made a motion and Erica Roth seconded to approve the Fiscal Year 2027 Certified Budget for Western Iowa Tech Community College.

Vote: The ayes were unanimous. The motion carried.

Fiscal Year 2027 Certified Budget Approval – Northeast Community College

Motion: Jeff Henderson made a motion and Cassandra Halls seconded to approve the Fiscal Year 2027 Certified Budget for Northeast Community College.

Vote: The ayes were unanimous. The motion carried.

Fiscal Year 2027 Certified Budget Approval – North Iowa Area Community College

Motion: Cassandra Halls made a motion and Mary Meisterling seconded to approve the Fiscal Year 2027 Certified Budget for North Iowa Area Community College.

Vote: The ayes were unanimous. The motion carried.

Fiscal Year 2027 Certified Budget Approval – Hawkeye Community College

Motion: Mary Meisterling made a motion and Erica Roth seconded to approve the Fiscal Year 2027 Certified Budget for Hawkeye Community College.

Vote: The ayes were unanimous. The motion carried.

Fiscal Year 2027 Certified Budget Approval – Southwestern Community College

Motion: Cassandra Halls made a motion and Jeff Henderson seconded to approve the Fiscal Year 2027 Certified Budget for Southwestern Community College.

Vote: The ayes were unanimous. The motion carried.

Revised Iowa Quality Preschool Program Standards – Second Read

Motion: Jeff Henderson made a motion and Mary Meisterling seconded to approve the Revised Iowa Quality Preschool Program Standards.

Vote: The ayes were unanimous. The motion carried.

Revised Iowa Early Learning Standards – First Read

The matter was discussed.

State Board of Education 2027 Meeting Dates

Motion: Mary Meisterling made a motion and Cassandra Halls seconded to approve the State Board of Education 2027 Meeting Dates.

Vote: The ayes were unanimous. The motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 2:41 p.m.

John Robbins
President

McKenzie Snow
Director