

1 **STATE OF IOWA**
2 **BOARD OF EDUCATIONAL EXAMINERS**
3 **400 E. 14th Street**
4 **Des Moines, Iowa 50319**

5
6 **Minutes**
7 **May 15, 2026**
8

9 The Board of Educational Examiners (Board or BoEE) held a meeting on May 15,
10 2026. Kathy Behrens, Board vice-chair, called the meeting to order at 8:34 a.m.
11 Members attending were Pam Bleam, Miranda Brus, Dr. Davis Eidahl, Eric St Clair,
12 Dr. Daniel Zylstra, Paige Thorson and Jennifer Sammons. Also in attendance was
13 Mike Cavin, Executive Director, Beth Myers, Attorney, Lori Lavorato, Diane Dennis,
14 Matthew Barron, and William Rector, Investigators, Lindsey Browning and Angela
15 Stuedemann, Assistant Attorneys General. Chad Janzen was unable to attend.

16
17 Eric St Clair moved, with a second by Miranda Brus, to approve the agenda. **MOTION**
18 **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

19
20 Paige Thorson moved, with a second by Daniel Zylstra to approve the consent agenda
21 (minutes for April 17, 2026). **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**
22

23 Eric St Clair moved, with a second by Miranda Brus, that the Board go into closed
24 session for the purpose of discussing closed session minutes whether to initiate
25 licensee disciplinary proceedings, the decision to be rendered in a contested case,
26 confidential health information, and mental health information, pursuant to Iowa
27 Code sections 21.5(1)(a), (d), and (f). Roll call vote: Behrens – yes; Brus- yes; Bleam –
28 yes; Eidahl – yes; St Clair – yes; Zylstra – yes; Thorson – yes; Sammons – yes;

29 **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**
30

31 The Board returned to open session at 10:20 a.m.
32

1 Pam Bleam moved, with a second by Davis Eidahl, that in **case number 23-169**, the
2 Board and find probable cause to establish a violation of the Code of Professional
3 Conduct and Ethics, 282 IAC rules 25.3(1) b (1) 4, and order the Board staff to
4 proceed with the case. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

5
6 Miranda Brus moved, with a second by Daniel Zylstra, that in **case number 26-91**,
7 the Board find probable cause to establish a violation of the Code of Professional
8 Conduct and Ethics, 282 IAC rules 25.3(1) e (4) 2 & 3, 25.3(6) d, 25.3(8) a, and order
9 the Board staff to proceed with the case. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

10
11 Davis Eidahl moved, with a second by Eric St Clair, that in **case number 26-60**, the
12 Board find probable cause to establish a violation of the Code of Professional Conduct
13 and Ethics, 282 IAC rules 282 IAC rules 25.3(2) a, and order the Board staff to
14 proceed with the case. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

15
16 Paige Thorson moved, with a second by Eric St Clair, that in **case number 26-116**,
17 the Board find probable cause to establish a violation of the Code of Professional
18 Conduct and Ethics, 282 IAC rule 25.3(2) a, and order the Board staff to proceed with
19 the case. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

20
21 Eric St Clair moved, with a second by Jennifer Sammons, that in **case number 26-24**,
22 the Board find probable cause to establish a violation of the Code of Professional
23 Conduct and Ethics, 282 IAC rules 25.3(3) e and 25.3(8) a, and order the Board staff
24 to proceed with the case. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

25
26 Davis Eidahl moved, with a second by Miranda Brus, that in **case number 26-51**, the
27 Board find that the evidence gathered in the investigation, including witness
28 statements and the documentary evidence, does not substantiate the allegations in the
29 complaint, and that the Board therefore lacks probable cause to proceed with this
30 matter. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

31
32 Eric St Clair moved, with a second by Daniel Zylstra, that in **case numbers 26-59**, the
33 Board finds that the evidence gathered in the investigations, including witness

1 statements and the documentary evidence, does not substantiate the allegations in the
2 complaints, and that the Board therefore lacks probable cause to proceed with this
3 matter. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

4
5 Daniel Zylstra moved, with a second by Miranda Brus, that in **case number 26-80**,
6 the Board find probable cause to establish a violation of the Code of Professional
7 Conduct and Ethics, 282 IAC rules 25.3(6) c, d, & u, and order the Board staff to
8 proceed with the case. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

9
10 Jennifer Sammons moved, with a second by Paige Thorson, that in **case number 26-**
11 **89**, the Board finds that the evidence gathered in the investigation, including witness
12 statements and the documentary evidence, does not substantiate the allegations in the
13 complaint, and that the Board therefore lacks probable cause to proceed with this
14 matter. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

15
16 Daniel Zylstra moved, with a second by Davis Eidahl, that in **case number 26-94**, the
17 Board finds that the evidence gathered in the investigation, including witness
18 statements and the documentary evidence, does not substantiate the allegations in the
19 complaint, and that the Board therefore lacks probable cause to proceed with this
20 matter. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

21
22 AAG Lindsey Browning and Executive Director Cavin recused from closed session
23 discussion for case no. 25-298.

24 Pam Bleam moved, with a second by Paige Thorson, that in **case number 25-298**, the
25 Board find probable cause to establish a violation of the Code of Professional Conduct
26 and Ethics, 282 IAC rule 25.3(5) a (3), 25.3(6) j, l, m, s, 25.3(8) a & b, and order the
27 Board staff to proceed with the case. Roll call vote: Behrens – yes; Brus- yes; Bleam –
28 yes; Eidahl – yes; St Clair – recused; Zylstra – yes; Thorson – yes; Sammons – yes;

29 **MOTION CARRIED**

30
31 Daniel Zylstra moved, with a second by Miranda Brus that in **case number 26-42**, the
32 Board finds that the evidence gathered in the investigation, including witness
33 statements and the documentary evidence, does not substantiate the allegations in the

1 complaint, and that the Board therefore lacks probable cause to proceed with this
2 matter. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

3
4 Davis Eidahl moved, with a second by Jennifer Sammons, that in **case number 25-**
5 **121**, the Board find probable cause to establish a violation of the Code of Professional
6 Conduct and Ethics, 282 IAC rule 25.3(6) d, and order the Board staff to proceed with
7 the case. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

8
9 Daniel Zylstra moved, with a second by Paige Thorson, that in **case number 26-70**,
10 the Board finds that the evidence gathered in the investigation, including witness
11 statements and the documentary evidence, does not substantiate the allegations in the
12 complaint, and that the Board therefore lacks probable cause to proceed with this
13 matter. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

14
15 Daniel Zylstra moved, with a second by Paige Thorson, that in **case number 26-71**,
16 the Board finds that the evidence gathered in the investigation, including witness
17 statements and the documentary evidence, does not substantiate the allegations in the
18 complaint, and that the Board therefore lacks probable cause to proceed with this
19 matter. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

20
21 Jennifer Sammons moved, with a second by Miranda Brus, that in **case number 26-**
22 **72**, the Board finds that the evidence gathered in the investigation, including witness
23 statements and the documentary evidence, does not substantiate the allegations in the
24 complaint, and that the Board therefore lacks probable cause to proceed with this
25 matter. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

26
27 Jennifer Sammons moved, with a second by Miranda Brus, that in **case number 26-**
28 **73**, the Board finds that the evidence gathered in the investigation, including witness
29 statements and the documentary evidence, does not substantiate the allegations in the
30 complaint, and that the Board therefore lacks probable cause to proceed with this
31 matter. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

32
33 Paige Thorson moved, with a second by Jennifer Sammons, that in **case number 26-**

1 **74,** the Board finds that the evidence gathered in the investigation, including witness
2 statements and the documentary evidence, does not substantiate the allegations in the
3 complaint, and that the Board therefore lacks probable cause to proceed with this
4 matter. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

5
6 Paige Thorson moved, with a second by Jennifer Sammons, that in **case number 26-**
7 **76,** the Board finds that the evidence gathered in the investigation, including witness
8 statements and the documentary evidence, does not substantiate the allegations in the
9 complaint, and that the Board therefore lacks probable cause to proceed with this
10 matter. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

11
12 Eric St Clair moved, with a second by Jennifer Sammons, that in **case number 24-49,**
13 **83, 136, 150,** the Board reject the agreement submitted by the parties, and return the
14 cases for further proceedings consistent with this decision. **MOTION CARRIED**
15 **UNANIMOUSLY**

16
17 Eric St Clair moved, with a second by Jennifer Sammons, that in **case number 24-50,**
18 **87, 139, 147,** the Board reject the agreement submitted by the parties, and return the
19 cases for further proceedings consistent with this decision. **MOTION CARRIED**
20 **UNANIMOUSLY**

21
22 Angela Stuedemann recused from closed session discussion of case no. 23-139.

23 Eric St Clair moved, with a second by Miranda Brus, that the Board not initiate review
24 of the proposed decision in **case number 23-139,** In the Matter of Kristine Evans, and
25 allow the proposed decision to become the final decision of the Board unless an appeal
26 is taken by one of the parties within the time allowed by rule. **MOTION CARRIED**
27 **UNANIMOUSLY**

28
29 Daniel Zylstra moved, with a second by Davis Eidahl, to accept the signed consents to
30 waive the deadline in case numbers **25-255, 25-262, and 25-266, 25-268, 25-269**
31 **25-289,** and issue an order extending the deadline. **MOTION CARRIED**
32 **UNANIMOUSLY**

1 Paige Thorson moved, with a second by Jennifer Sammons, to extend the 180-day
2 deadline for issuance of the final decision in **case number 25-258**, based on the need
3 to schedule the hearing or negotiate settlement and conclude the contested case
4 process. Respondent did not file an objection to the extension even though given an
5 opportunity to object and dismissal of the case would undermine public trust in
6 educational licenses and would result in disparate treatment of similar ethical
7 violations. Roll call vote: Behrens – yes; Brus- recused; Bleam – yes; Eidahl – yes; St
8 Clair – yes; Zylstra – yes; Thorson – yes; Sammons – yes; **MOTION CARRIED**

10 Daniel Zylstra moved, with a second by Pam Bleam, to extend the 180-day deadline for
11 issuance of the final decision in **case number 25-259**, based on the need to schedule
12 the hearing or negotiate settlement and conclude the contested case process.
13 Respondent did not file an objection to the extension even though given an
14 opportunity to object and the Respondent would not be prejudiced by the additional
15 time necessary to resolve the pending complaint given that investigative information
16 remains confidential pending the final decision. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

18 Miranda Brus moved, with a second by Paige Thorson, to extend the 180-day deadline
19 for issuance of the final decision in **case number 25-260**, based on the need to
20 schedule the hearing or negotiate settlement and conclude the contested case process.
21 Respondent did not file an objection to the extension even though given an
22 opportunity to object and the Respondent would not be prejudiced by the additional
23 time necessary to resolve the pending complaint given that investigative information
24 remains confidential pending the final decision. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

26 Daniel Zylstra moved, with a second by Pam Bleam, to extend the 180-day deadline for
27 issuance of the final decision in **case number 25-265**, based the need to schedule the
28 hearing or negotiate settlement and conclude the contested case process. Although the
29 respondent has objected to the extended time, probable cause of an ethical violation
30 has been determined by the Board. Retaining this pending licensing matter ensures
31 that any potential threats or risks to students are thoroughly evaluated while also
32 guaranteeing the educator has the opportunity to dispute the alleged ethical

1 wrongdoing. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

2
3 Paige Thorson moved, with a second by Miranda Brus, to extend the 180-day deadline
4 for issuance of the final decision in **case number 25-267**, based on the need to
5 schedule the hearing or negotiate settlement and conclude the contested case process.
6 Retaining this pending licensing matter ensures that any potential threats or risks to
7 students are thoroughly evaluated while also guaranteeing the educator has the
8 opportunity to dispute the alleged ethical wrongdoing. Allowing more time for
9 resolution of the complaint assures due process for the respondent. **MOTION**
10 **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

11
12 Jennifer Sammons moved, with a second by Pam Bleam, to extend the 180-day
13 deadline for issuance of the final decision in **case number 25-271**, based on the need
14 to schedule the hearing or negotiate settlement and conclude the contested case
15 process. Respondent did not file an objection to the extension even though given an
16 opportunity to object and dismissal of the case would undermine public trust in
17 educational licenses and would result in disparate treatment of similar ethical
18 violations. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

19
20 Daniel Zylstra moved, with a second by Miranda Brus, to extend the 180-day deadline
21 for issuance of the final decision in **case number 25-272**, based on the need to
22 schedule the hearing or negotiate settlement and conclude the contested case process.
23 Respondent does not object to the extension and retaining this pending licensing
24 matter reinforces the significance of due process for both the complainant and the
25 respondent within the licensing disciplinary system. **MOTION CARRIED**
26 **UNANIMOUSLY**

27
28 Davis Eidahl moved, with a second by Paige Thorson, to extend the 180-day deadline
29 for issuance of the final decision in **case number 25-274**, based on the need the need
30 to schedule the hearing or negotiate settlement and conclude the contested case
31 process. Although the respondent has objected to the extended time, probable cause of
32 an ethical violation has been determined by the Board. Retaining this pending
33 licensing matter ensures that any potential threats or risks to students are thoroughly

1 evaluated while also guaranteeing the educator has the opportunity to dispute the
2 alleged ethical wrongdoing. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

3
4 Jennifer Sammons moved, with a second by Pam Bleam, to extend the 180-day
5 deadline for issuance of the final decision in **case number 25-275**, based on the
6 amount of time needed to complete the investigation and conclude the contested case
7 process. The seriousness of the accused violation is of such a magnitude, additional
8 time is required to complete a comprehensive investigation and conclude the contested
9 case process. The Respondent does not object to the extension. Justice would not be
10 served by dismissing a pending complaint concerning alleged ethical wrongdoing of an
11 educator given the need to maintain safe learning environments for Iowa students.

12 **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

13
14 Daniel Zylstra moved, with a second by Miranda Brus, to extend the 180-day deadline
15 for issuance of the final decision in **case number 25-283**, based on the need to
16 schedule the hearing or negotiate settlement and conclude the contested case process.
17 Respondent did not file an objection to the extension even though given an
18 opportunity to object and dismissal of the case would undermine public trust in
19 educational licenses and would result in disparate treatment of similar ethical
20 violations. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

21
22 Paige Thorson moved, with a second by Davis Eidahl, to extend the 180-day deadline
23 for issuance of the final decision in **case number 25-284**, based the need to schedule
24 the hearing or negotiate settlement and conclude the contested case process.
25 Retaining this pending licensing matter ensures that any potential threats or risks to
26 students are thoroughly evaluated while also guaranteeing the educator has the
27 opportunity to dispute the alleged ethical wrongdoing. Allowing more time for
28 resolution of the complaint assures due process for the respondent. **MOTION**

29 **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

30
31 Jennifer Sammons moved, with a second by Miranda Brus, to extend the 180-day
32 deadline for issuance of the final decision in **case number 25-285**, based on the need
33 to schedule the hearing or negotiate settlement and conclude the contested case

1 process. Although the respondent has objected to the extended time, probable cause of
2 an ethical violation has been determined by the Board. Retaining this pending
3 licensing matter ensures that any potential threats or risks to students are thoroughly
4 evaluated while also guaranteeing the educator has the opportunity to dispute the
5 alleged ethical wrongdoing. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

6
7 Daniel Zylstra moved, with a second by Pam Bleam, to extend the 180-day deadline for
8 issuance of the final decision in **case number 25-290**, based on the need to schedule
9 the hearing or negotiate settlement and conclude the contested case process.

10 Respondent did not file an objection to the extension even though given an
11 opportunity to object and justice would not be served by dismissing a pending
12 complaint concerning alleged ethical wrongdoing of an educator given the need to
13 maintain safe learning environments for Iowa students. **MOTION CARRIED**
14 **UNANIMOUSLY**

15
16 Paige Thorson moved, with a second by Jennifer Sammons, to extend the 180-day
17 deadline for issuance of the final decision in **case number 25-291**, based on the need
18 to schedule the hearing or negotiate settlement and conclude the contested case
19 process. Respondent did not file an objection to the extension even though given an
20 opportunity to object and justice would not be served by dismissing a pending
21 complaint concerning alleged ethical wrongdoing of an educator given the need to
22 maintain safe learning environments for Iowa students. **MOTION CARRIED**
23 **UNANIMOUSLY**

24
25 Paige Thorson moved, with a second by Jennifer Sammons, to approve the closed
26 session minutes for April 17, 2026. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

27
28 Request for Reinstatement- Case No. 24-228 Taurean Rivers. Mr. Rivers rented the
29 school gym but never turned the money into the district in violation of IAC 25.3(4) a,
30 b, d & e. He received a sanction of: a reprimand, a one-year suspension followed by a
31 two-year probation, completion of an ethics class and agreed to not be responsible for
32 educational funds for five-years. Mr. Rivers filed an application for reinstatement of his
33 license on April 20, 2026. The Board noted that the Respondent had met the timeline

1 of the suspension and fulfilled the requirements of the disciplinary order. Eric St Clair
2 moved, with a second by Daniel Zylstra, that the Board grant the application for
3 reinstatement as the reason for the suspension no longer exists and reinstatement is
4 in the public interest. It was further moved that the Board authorize the Executive
5 Director to sign the reinstatement order consistent with the Board's discussion.

6 **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

7
8 Communication from the Public

9 The Board heard public comment.
10

11 Board Member Reports

12 None
13

14 Executive Director's Report

15 Legislative Report:

16 Many bills were passed that will impact the BoEE, including: an Arts and Sciences
17 Authorization, a reduction of experience hours in Career and Technical Education
18 preparation, a special education basic's short course for those on conditional
19 licensure, SAVE requirements as part of the background check process, elimination of
20 a type of bachelor's degree for Athletic Director Authorization. The proposed grooming
21 definition was adopted. Additionally, the BoEE's required 25% contribution to the
22 general fund was rescinded.
23

24 Agency Update:

25 Administrative Support Assistant 3, Chelsea Koster, will join the BoEE on May 22nd.
26 The top choices for open Education Program Consultant position have been forwarded
27 to Department of Education leadership for second interviews.
28

29 Financial Report:

30 Elimination of 25% to general fund will assist in maintaining positive cash flows for
31 the next few years, notwithstanding any major expenditures or modifications to
32 income. FY 26 will finish strong financially and the FY27 budget has been drafted and
33 will be going through the approval process with no major changes to expenses.

1
2 License Report:

3 Renewal applications are approximately two weeks out. Iowa graduate applications are
4 starting to be received and will continue over the next few weeks. These are processed
5 within two to three days of submission, providing the backgrounds are clear.

6
7 The BoEE retreat that had been planned for Thursday, June 18th will not be held, due
8 to low attendance. Board member, Kathy Behrens, will be retiring and her last BoEE
9 meeting will be in June. With her departure, a new Vice-Chair will need to be elected.

10
11 Reports and approvals:

12 None

13
14 There being no further business, Paige Thorson moved, with a second by Eric St Clair,
15 to adjourn the meeting at 11:03 a.m. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**