



DRAFT Minutes
State Board of Education
November 16, 2022

Brooke Axiotis
Des Moines

Rodney Bradley
Denison

Cindy Dietz
Cedar Rapids

Cassandra Halls
Carlisle

Brian J. Kane
Dubuque

Mike May
Spirit Lake

Nathan Peterson
Iowa City

John Robbins
Iowa Falls

Georgia Van Gundy
Waukee

Alaina Whittington
Student Member
Diagonal

Ann Lebo
Director and
Executive Officer

The State Board of Education (State Board) meeting was held on November 16, 2022, at the in person at the Iowa Department of Education, Grimes State Office Building, 400 E. 14th Street, Des Moines, Iowa.

State Board members present were Brooke Axiotis, Cassandra Halls, Brian Kane, Mike May, Nathan Peterson, John Robbins, and Alaina Whittington.

Iowa Department of Education (Department) staff members present were Ann Lebo, Shan Seivert, Jeremy Varner, Earl Whipple, Thomas Mayes, Rachel Bosovich, Heather Doe, Eric St Clair, Cassandra Cline, Song Luong, Holli Marolf, Jina Brincks, Kathy Bowers, Kala Shipley, Kimberly Villotti, Eric Heitz, Janet Boyd, Maryam Rod Szabo, Kelly Faga, Isbelia Arzola, Alison Jepsen, Sandra Harris, Amy Gieseke, Buffy Campbell, Holly Barnes, Jason Crowley, Jen Rathje, Rachel Kruse, Tom Deeter, Xiaoping Wang, Bryan Bauer, Steve Ervin and Carol McMains.

Also in attendance were: Stan Rheingans and Dale Crozier, Keystone Area Education Agency; Dan Cox, Northwest Area Education Agency; John Speer, Grant Wood Area Education Agency; Susie Meade, Prairie Lakes Area Education Agency; Sam Miller, Central Rivers Area Education Agency; Cindy Yelick, Great Prairie Area Education Agency; Jon Sheldahl, Heartland Area Education Agency; Bill Decker and Shane Williams, Mississippi Bend Area Education Agency; Jason Plourde, Green Hills Area Education Agency; TJ Schneckloth, Willie Barney and Danielle Heller, Davenport Community School District; Linda Hayes and Karen Kline-Jerome, Davenport Community School District Board; Larry Bice and Amy Mayer, Regents Alternative Pathway to Iowa Licensure; Zach Fisher, WHO 13; Dar Danielson, Radio Iowa; Ben Walizer, Iowa Reading Research Center; Bridget Godes, Iowa Senate Democratic Caucus; Brendan Beeter, Legislative Services Agency; Angela Gillis and Patrice Becicka, Kirkwood Community College; Michelle Primm Veach; Melanie Anderson; Katie Greving, Decoding Dyslexia Iowa; Zach Sommers, WOI; and Dave Epley, Iowa House Democratic Caucus.

State Board Business Meeting

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

The meeting was conducted in person, with remote access information provided in the notice of meeting.

Thomas Mayes, General Counsel, explained that the Appeal Decision In re: Challenged Student Club (Johnston Community School District) agenda item will be delayed to a future meeting, as the parties are exercising additional procedural safeguards available under Iowa Code.

Motion: Brian Kane made a motion and Cassandra Halls seconded to exclude the Appeal Decision In re: Challenged Student Club (Johnston Community School District) from the meeting agenda.

Vote: The ayes were unanimous. The motion carried.

Communication

John Robbins made a statement regarding limiting the time of public comment based on the number of speakers.

Public Comment

Katie Greving, Decoding Dyslexia Iowa, shared comments regarding formal dyslexia guidance and reading curriculum.

Director's Report

Director Lebo shared information regarding review of Chapter 12 standards, school safety resources available to schools through the Governor's School Safety Initiative and cybersecurity resources offered by the Office of the Chief Information Officer.

Lebo also provided information regarding the Department's new website which was part of streamlining statewide services and updated onboarding procedures to welcome new staff.

There was discussion regarding school district safety assessments.

Consent Agenda

Motion: Mike May made a motion and Brooke Axiotis seconded to approve the consent agenda.

Vote: The ayes were unanimous. The motion carried.

Area Education Agency Accreditation Overview

Eric Heitz, Administrative Consultant, Bureau of School Improvement, presented a PowerPoint which explained the Area Education Agency (AEA) accreditation process.

Iowa Code section 273.10 requires the State Board to approved AEA accreditation for a term up to five years. The process requires the use of an accreditation team appointed by the Director of the Department to conduct an evaluation, including an on-site visit of each AEA. The AEA accreditation team shall determine whether the accreditation standards for a program have been met and shall make a report to the Director and the State Board, together with a

recommendation as to whether the programs of the AEA should receive initial accreditation or remain accredited. The accreditation team shall report strengths and weaknesses, if any, for each accreditation standard and shall advise the AEA of available resources and technical assistance to further enhance the strengths and improve areas of weakness.

Heitz introduced the following AEA chief administrators who shared their thoughts regarding the accreditation process: John Speer, Grant Wood AEA; Susie Mead, Prairie Lakes AEA; Jon Sheldahl, Heartland AEA; Sam Miller, Central Rivers AEA; Stan Rheingans, Keystone AEA; Dan Cox, Northwest AEA; Bill Decker, Mississippi Bend AEA; Cindy Yelick, Great Prairie AEA; and Jason Plourde, Green Hills AEA.

Heitz shared the Central Rivers AEA 2022 Accreditation Report and recommended full accreditation for five years.

Motion: Brian Kane made a motion and Brooke Axiotis seconded that the State Board grant continued accreditation to Central Rivers Area Education Agency through the next review period.

Vote: The ayes were unanimous. The motion carried.

Heitz shared the Grand Wood AEA 2022 Accreditation Report and recommended full accreditation for five years.

Motion: Cassandra Halls made a motion and Nathan Peterson seconded that the State Board grant continued accreditation to Grant Wood Rivers Area Education Agency through the next review period.

Vote: The ayes were unanimous. The motion carried.

Heitz shared the Great Prairie AEA 2022 Accreditation Report and recommended full accreditation for five years.

Motion: Nathan Peterson made a motion and Brian Kane seconded that the State Board grant continued accreditation to Great Prairie Area Education Agency through the next review period.

Vote: The ayes were unanimous. The motion carried.

Heitz shared the Green Hills AEA 2022 Accreditation Report and recommended full accreditation for five years.

Motion: Mike May made a motion and Nathan Peterson seconded that the State Board grant continued accreditation to Green Hills Area Education Agency through the next review period.

Vote: The ayes were unanimous. The motion carried.

Heitz shared the Heartland AEA 2022 Accreditation Report and recommended full accreditation for five years.

Motion: Brooke Axiotis made a motion and Cassandra Halls seconded that the State Board grant continued accreditation to Heartland Area Education Agency through the next review period.

Vote: The ayes were unanimous. The motion carried.

Heitz shared the Keystone AEA 2022 Accreditation Report and recommended full accreditation for five years.

Motion: Brian Kane made a motion and Nathan Peterson seconded that the State Board grant continued accreditation to Keystone Area Education Agency through the next review period.

Vote: The ayes were unanimous. The motion carried.

Heitz shared the Northwest AEA 2022 Accreditation Report and recommended full accreditation for five years.

Motion: Mike May made a motion and Brooke Axiotis seconded that the State Board grant continued accreditation to Northwest Area Education Agency through the next review period.

Vote: The ayes were unanimous. The motion carried.

Heitz shared the Prairie Lakes AEA 2022 Accreditation Report and recommended full accreditation for five years.

Motion: Nathan Peterson made a motion and Brian Kane seconded that the State Board grant continued accreditation to Prairie Lakes Area Education Agency through the next review period.

Vote: The ayes were unanimous. The motion carried.

Rules: Chapters 6, 17 and 36 – Open Enrollment Deadline Repeal (Adopt)

Thomas Mayes provided background regarding Chapters 6, 17 and 36 – Open Enrollment Deadline Repeal.

2022 Iowa Acts, House Files 2589, division VI, eliminates open enrollment deadlines, eliminates open enrollment appeal rights to the State Board and makes conforming changes, including changes to athletic eligibility. This rule making reflects the changes made by House File 2589.

Based on public comment and staff reviews, certain changes were made to further align the rules with the underlying statute.

There was discussion regarding rescinding open enrollment requests.

Motion: Brian Kane made a motion and Nathan Peterson seconded that the State Board adopt amendments to Chapters 6, 17 and 36.

Vote: The ayes were unanimous. The motion carried.

Rules: Chapter 19 – Charter Schools (Adopt)

Thomas Mayes provided background regarding Chapter 19 – Charter Schools.

This rule making revises charter school funding in accordance with the requirements of 2022 Iowa Acts, House File 2575. The Department received no public comment; however, one charter school leader appeared at the Administrative Rules Review Committee on September 13, 2022. Those comments, which concerned the charter school funding formula as amended by House File 2575, were considered by the Department. Because the concerns expressed at the Administrative Rules Review Committee went to the underlying statute, and the rules reflect the underlying statute, the amendments are identical to those published in the notice of intended action.

There was discussion regarding funding from the sending district, checkpoints throughout the year and limitations on where charters schools can receive money from.

Motion: Mike May made a motion and Brooke Axiotis seconded that the State Board adopt amendments to Chapter 19.

Vote: The ayes were unanimous. The motion carried.

Rules: Chapter 24 – Community College Accreditation (Notice)

Thomas Mayes provided background regarding Chapter 24 – Community College Accreditation.

This rule making updates standards for community college accreditation, as required by Senate File 2128. The changes modernize standards for faculty qualifications and faculty quality and development.

Members of the Community College Council (CCC) recommended approval of the changes to Chapter 24.

Motion: Brian Kane made a motion and Cassandra Halls seconded that the State Board give notice of its intent to amend Chapter 24.

Vote: The ayes were unanimous. The motion carried.

Rules: Chapter 49 – Individual Career and Academic Plan (Notice)

Thomas Mayes provided background regarding Chapter 49 – Individual Career and Academic Plan.

Division II of Senate File 2382 expands opportunities for work-based learning in Iowa schools, including requiring work-based learning to be considered in a student's academic planning and requiring the Department to gather data on each district's provision of work-based learning. These proposed rules implement the portion of Division II within the Department's authority.

There was discussion regarding hardship waivers.

Motion: Nathan Peterson made a motion and Cassandra Halls seconded that the State Board give notice of its intent to amend Chapter 49.

Vote: The ayes were unanimous. The motion carried.

Rules: Chapter 80 – Standards for Paraeducator Preparation Programs (Notice)

Thomas Mayes provided background regarding Chapter 80 – Standards for Paraeducator Preparation Programs.

Due to state initiatives to expand alternative education programs to teacher licensure, it is expected that the demand and interest to offer paraeducator preparation programs will continue to grow. Many of these new programs are taught at higher education institutions, which require additional rigorous standards. Due to the added number of programs, it will be challenging to administer high quality reviews that provide meaningful feedback for program change and growth within the required five-year cycle. Thus, a seven-year cycle is proposed. Changing the review timeline to every seven years will allow the educator preparation team to align the paraeducator preparation review with the educator preparation review. This will make the process more efficient for the programs and Department consultants due to close alignment of other preparation standards with paraeducator standards.

There was discussion regarding the authority to review programs earlier than seven years and the number of higher education institutions not offering paraeducator preparation programs.

Motion: Brian Kane made a motion and Brooke Axiotis seconded that the State Board give notice of its intent to amend Chapter 80.

Vote: The ayes were unanimous. The motion carried.

Board Reports

Brooke Axiotis shared information regarding the recent Iowa Public Television (IPTV) Board meeting and the programming IPTV offers.

Brian Kane discussed the meetings he held with three groups of teachers regarding 3rd Grade reading and the input received.

Mike May shared a book regarding Chinese education and his communications with staff, students and administrators from neighboring districts.

Cassandra Halls provided an update on the Carlisle greenhouse, her mentoring work with student member Alaina Whittington and the work of the CCC. She invited Board members to attend CCC meetings, which take place the day prior to State Board meetings.

Nathan Peterson shared that he and Cindy Dietz were invited by a local nonprofit to meet with a delegation from Armenia for a discussion regarding Supporting Education Reform and Positive Youth Development.

John Robbins recently joined the National Association of State Boards of Education session featuring Dana Suskind, author of “Parent Nation: Unlocking Every Child’s Potential, Fulfilling Society’s Promise.” Robbins also reported that he completed his service as interim superintendent at CAL Community School District which he found very enjoyable. Governor Reynolds visited CAL to see their science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) programs and farm.

Mount Mercy University Educator Preparation Program Change Approval

Stephanie TeKippe, Consultant, Bureau of Community Colleges, presented the Mount Mercy University (MMU) Program Change Approval Report. MMU plans to offer a new Master of Science in Education with a Leadership and Administration Emphasis that fulfills requirements for endorsement #180: PK-12 Principal/PK-12 Special Education Supervisor.

Department educator preparation staff reviewed MMU's application for change. MMU has met all Chapter 79 standards.

There was discussion regarding feedback from MMU's previous review.

Motion: Brooke Axiotis made a motion and Brian Kane seconded that the State Board grant full approval of Mount Mercy University adding a Master of Science in Education with a Leadership Administration emphasis and endorsement #180: PK-12 Principal/PK-12 Special Education Supervisor through the next site visit scheduled during academic year 2027-2028.

Vote: The ayes were unanimous. The motion carried.

Kirkwood Community College Paraeducator Preparation Program Approval

Kelly Faga, Consultant, Bureau of Community Colleges, presented the Kirkwood Community College (KCC) Paraeducator Preparation Programs Report. KCC has submitted a request for approval of the paraeducator generalist, early childhood prekindergarten through grade 3, special needs kindergarten through grade 12, career and transitional programs and autism spectrum disorders.

Upon review of the evidence, it is determined that KCC has met each of the program standard requirements in IAC 281-80 and has submitted the appropriate curriculum exhibits to meet the Board of Educational Examiners (BoEE) requirements in IAC 282-24.

There was discussion regarding the number of paraeducator preparation programs across the state and the number of candidates expected to participate in the KCC program.

Motion: Cassandra Halls made a motion and Nathan Peterson seconded that the State Board grant approval of the Kirkwood Community College Paraeducator Programs.

Vote: The ayes were unanimous. The motion carried.

Davenport Community School District Update

At the March 2022 meeting, the State Board returned operational control and restored full accreditation to the Davenport CSD. The Board also requested that district leadership provide an update during the 2022-2023 school year.

Director Lebo introduced TJ Schneckloth, Superintendent, Davenport CSD. Schneckloth thanked the State Board for the opportunity to share information regarding their journey and introduced Linda Hayes and Karen Kline-Jerome, Davenport CSD Board, Dr. Willie Barney, Davenport CSD, and Bill Decker and Shane Williams, Mississippi Bend AEA.

Schneckloth presented a PowerPoint which outlined the Davenport CSD "Growing Excellence Plan."

There was discussion regarding the district's overall budget, solvency ratio, professional development, response from parents and students regarding changes and data points, outcomes and alignment.

Schneckloth praised the Davenport CSD Board and shared that they will be receiving the Iowa Association of School Boards Team Achievement Award.

Regents Alternative Pathway to Iowa Licensure Program Approval

Maryam Rod Szabo, Administrative Consultant, Bureau of Community Colleges, presented the Regents Alternative Pathway to Iowa Licensure (RAPIL) Program Report which provided a summary of the program review and site visit conducted during February 6-10, 2022, under 281 Iowa Administrative Code Chapter 77. The program has met all Chapter 77 standards without condition.

There was discussion regarding prior concerns being addressed and the classes included in the first year of the RAPIL program.

Motion: Mike May made a motion and Brooke Axiotis seconded that the State Board grant approval of the Regents Alternative Pathway to Iowa Licensure Program.

Vote: The ayes were unanimous. The motion carried.

Iowa Western Community College Paraeducator Program Approval

Kelly Faga presented the Iowa Western Community College (IWCC) Paraeducator Program Report. IWCC has submitted a request for approval of the generalist. Upon review of the evidence, it is determined that IWCC has met each of the program standard requirements in IAC 281-80 and has submitted the appropriate curriculum exhibits to meet the BoEE requirements in IAC 282-24.

Motion: Brian Kane made a motion and Nathan Peterson seconded that the State Board grant approval of the Iowa Western Community College Paraeducator Preparation Program through the next review scheduled for the 2027-2028 academic year.

Vote: The ayes were unanimous. The motion carried.

Charter Schools Program Findings and Recommendations Legislative Report

Janet Boyd, Consultant, Bureau of School Improvement, presented the Charter Schools Program Findings and Recommendations Legislative Report.

Iowa Code 256E.12(2) requires the State Board to prepare and file a comprehensive report of findings and recommendations relating to charter schools with the Legislature on December 1 of each year. As of the date of this report, two charter schools have been approved for operation under 256, but no data is available for the 2021-2022 school year, as they opened in the fall of 2022.

There was discussion regarding data collection.

Motion: Nathan Peterson made a motion and Mike May seconded that the State Board approve the submission of the Charter Schools Legislative Report to the Iowa Legislature in accordance with Iowa Code section 256E.12(2).

Vote: The ayes were unanimous. The motion carried.

Charter and Innovation Zone Schools in Iowa Legislative Report

Janet Boyd presented the Charter and Innovation Zone Schools in Iowa Legislative Report.

The Department compiles a report for the Legislature on December 1 each year. The existing charters have traditionally self-reported to the Department. This information is combined into a single report for submission to the Legislature.

There was discussion regarding validation of the data provided, self-reporting, renewal period, financial audits and verification of findings.

Motion: Mike May made a motion and Brian Kane seconded that the State Board approve submission of the Charter and Innovation Zone Schools in Iowa Legislative Report to the Iowa Legislature in accordance with Iowa Code section 256F.10.

Vote: The ayes were unanimous. The motion carried.

Charter School Monitoring Report

Kassandra Cline, Chief, Bureau of School Business Operations, and Janet Boyd provided a report regarding two charter schools approved by the State Board to begin in school year 2022-2023. Pursuant to Iowa Code 256E.2 and Iowa Administrative Code r. 281-19.13, the State Board is required to monitor the effectiveness and sustainability of each approved charter school. The report to the State Board is based on incremental reporting provided by each charter school including the following components: student enrollment, programming, student success, staffing, finance and local board meetings.

In addition to Hamburg Charter High School (Hamburg) potentially not meeting offer and teach requirements, there was discussion regarding Hamburg's student enrollment, staffing issues, student resident districts, capacity anticipated, financial projections and budgeting, AEA involvement, support provided, site visits, a follow-up plan and incremental checkpoints.

Discussion topics regarding Choice Charter School included programming and course offerings, instructional time, competency-based grading, staffing, student enrollment, student attendance, financials including the annual budget, grant funding and board meeting minutes.

2022 Annual Iowa Community Colleges Fall Enrollment Report

Jeremy Varner, Administrator, Division of Community Colleges and Workforce Preparation, presented the Iowa Community Colleges Fall Enrollment Report. The annual report provides data on fall 2022 enrollment at Iowa's community colleges, student demographics, programs, online enrollment, enrollment projections and comparisons to the national community college enrollment data.

A PowerPoint was presented which provided information regarding enrollment data at Iowa Community Colleges.

There was discussion regarding diversity and concurrent enrollment data as well as student headcount and reasons for enrollment decline.

2022 Annual Condition of Education Report

Jason Crowley, Consultant, Bureau of Information and Analysis Services, presented highlights from the 2022 Annual Condition of Education Report scheduled to be released later this month.

A PowerPoint was presented outlining student demographics, enrollment, national assessment of student progress, teacher workforce characteristics, retention of teachers and teacher retirement projections.

School Budget Review Committee Update

Kassandra Cline presented the highlights from the School Budget Review Committee (SBRC) hearing held on October 11, 2022.

There was also discussion regarding charter schools appearing before the SBRC.

It was moved by Mike May and seconded by Brian Kane to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

John Robbins
President

Ann Lebo
Director