

# Nonpublic School Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

## Oct. 10, 2023

Members Present: Patty Lansink, Josh Bowar (virtually), Brian L'Heureux (virtually),

Donna Bishop, Natasha Havercamp

Others in Attendance: Kim Buryanek, Eric St Clair, Rachel Bosovich, Jay Pennington, Susan Shelby

Agenda Item	Person	Notes
1. Welcome and Review Agenda	Patty Lansink	Reviewed the agenda. No additions were made at this time.

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<p>2. IWD and Teach Iowa for nonpublic schools</p>	<p>Eric St. Clair</p>	<p>The Iowa Department of Education (“Department”) transitioned from TeachIowa to Iowa Workforce Development (IWD) Workforce over the past summer. Committee members expressed frustration that job postings had been lost during the transition.</p> <p>Eric St. Clair stated that legislation changed and TeachIowa services were shifted from the Iowa Department of Education to Iowa Workforce Development. The Department will communicate the committee members concerns to IWD. Eric St. Clair is also open to coordinating meetings to discuss nonpublic schools’ suggestions regarding workforce with IWD.</p>

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3 . Future of Nonpublic School Advisory Committee	Eric St Clair	Eric St. Clair stated that there was a recommendation for a merger of committees involving this committee, community colleges, and several others. This was done by an independent commission. The specifics are still to be determined, as these recommendations would require legislative action to implement. If a bill is released, there will be legislative rule to respond to and govern decision-making. Until then, status quo for now.

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4. School Safety Grants	Eric St. Clair	<p>Concerns over School Safety Grants were expressed by committee members. They stated they were hearing discomfort from schools over time spent on the paperwork vs. the value of what they would receive (up to \$50,000 per building).</p> <p>Eric St. Clair stated this is an ongoing project between the Department of Public Safety, Homeland Security and the Iowa Department of Education. Though it is largely handled through Homeland Security, he is happy to facilitate conversations between agencies and districts over any concerns. If schools are looking to withdraw from the process, Eric asked that that information is shared with him so he can help to get questions answered.</p> <p>The Digital Mapping Project was discussed. Eric St. Clair provided that the feedback given on this project so far is that it has been easy to use. They are currently still completing comprehensive data gathering and research. Teams have been on over 600 site visits out of roughly 1,200. Once this data gathering and research is complete, they will move on to the verification stage. Following that, they will have a beta version of the app to provide to districts.</p> <p>Committee members expressed there was frustration from non-public schools over the activation fee for the radios provided for schools by the Department of Public Safety and Homeland Security. They stated schools were not told about the activation fee and many schools did not have the funds to activate the radios. They also stated they were told the fee was not reimbursable from the \$50,000 public safety grant.</p> <p>Eric St. Clair stated schools were notified about an installation fee prior, but will work with agencies to ensure that this is stated more clearly in the future.</p>

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5. Student Information Systems Recommendations	Jay Pennington	<p>Jay Pennington, chief of the Bureau of Information and Analysis, spoke to the group about the work the bureau does regarding data and reports</p> <p>Jay Pennington stated 39% of non-pubs currently provide data for enrollment. Those 39% have a Student Information System. He asked members in attendance to share if they used a student information system and if so, which. The committee responded they used FACTS (through the spreadsheet and for CASA), JMC, Infinite Campus, and PowerSchool as student information systems.</p> <p>Jay Pennington also stated that, pending approval, the department will be sending out an email regarding updates on reporting to State Reporting Individuals for each district/school. The committee requested that it be sent to all non-public administrators as well. A request was made from the committee for clarifying knowledge for why this extra enrollment and student information was useful. Jay Pennington explained the language and requests came only from the existing statute.</p>
6. LMS/Canvas for nonpublic schools	Kim Buryanek	<p>Questions were asked by the committee why Canvas was allowed to be used by public schools for an additional year while private schools did not have access.</p> <p>Dr. Buryanek explained the Department initially put out a request for proposal (RFP) for a management system and Canvas was selected. The RFP. Through a no-cost extension of a grant, the Department was able to reimburse public schools for an additional year, but are not able to reimburse non-public schools.</p>

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7. EANS II Timeline	Susan Shelby	<p>Susan Shelby discussed that the timeline for EANS II applications was moved up. The deadline for schools to submit their EANS II application is <b>November 15th, 2023</b>.</p> <p>Schools have been very responsive to the new deadline and using their final funds. They have also been encouraged to reach out to their third-party providers to ensure they have a correct estimate for how much they will need to provide service through the end of the school year. Susan Shelby has also encouraged schools to schedule time with her to brainstorm ways to spend remaining funds. Her calendar has also been opened up for technical assistance.</p> <p>The deadline to complete services is <b>May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023</b>. Vendors then have two weeks to submit so they can be reimbursed by the AEAs. Unspent funds are reallocated back to the Governor's office to be spent under the GEER Program.</p> <p>The committee then asked specifics about the amount of unspent funds from EANS 1 and it's uses. Susan Shelby stated the unspent funds (\$2.2 million) were sent back to the Governor's office. Dr. Buryanek clarified that a MOA was created to use the unspent funds on a Professional Learning Opportunity and an EVAAS contract related to Iowa student learning loss related to the pandemic. The committee asked why nonpublic schools were not included in the EVAAS report. Dr. Buryanek clarified that data from non-public schools were not included in EVAAS report because the lack of data available overall for nonpublic schools would provide inconclusive results.</p> <p>Interest was expressed by non-public representatives in ensuring remaining funds under GEER be used for non-public school uses; (i.e. use for professional development; getting paraeducators certified to become teachers, and certification for special education and counseling).</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Next Meeting</li> </ul>		The next meetings will be held: Dec 12, 2023, Feb 13, 2024, May 14, 2024.