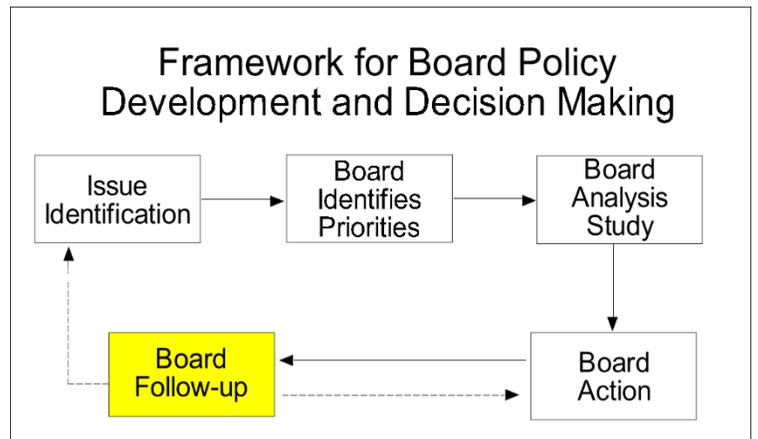


# Iowa State Board of Education

## Executive Summary

November 16, 2022



**Agenda Item:** Davenport Community School District Update

**State Board Priority:** All

**State Board Role/Authority:** Iowa Code section 256.11

**Presenter(s):** Ann Lebo  
Director

**Attachment(s):** None

**Recommendation:** It is recommended that the State Board hear and discuss this information.

**Background:** Davenport Community School District was placed on conditional accreditation at the May 2019 State Board meeting. Updates on the district's progress toward meeting all conditions of their accreditation will be provided at every board meeting until their corrective action plan is complete or the district is unaccredited.

The corrective action plan for 2020-2021 was revised and presented to State Board members and Davenport representatives on July 17, 2020. All parties agreed to the content and terms of the plan.

The State Board voted to allow Davenport to implement the corrective action plan for the 2020-21 school year with the additional condition that if the district failed to

meet any single objective in the action plan, the State Board would appoint an expert to complete the action for the district at the district's expense.

Because Davenport CSD failed to meet every objective in the action plan agreed upon between the district and the state board for their September 2020 report, the State Board imposed additional conditions under its authority to provide temporary oversight and operational authority to the director and the state board in the following respect (Iowa Code section 256.11(11)(a)): the State Board voted to appoint a superintendent and a chief financial officer to complete the action plan for the district at the district's expense.

The State Board's vote to provide temporary oversight and authority to the Director at the September 2020 meeting was for an initial term of six months, was continued at the March 2021 meeting for an additional period of eight months, and was continued again for an additional period of five months at the November 2021 meeting.

At the November 2021 meeting, the State Board voted to enact the following criteria for Davenport CSD's continued conditional accreditation with state oversight until the March 2022 meeting:

1. The Department Director maintains operational control of Davenport CSD in the following respects:

- a) TJ Schneckloth remains the appointed Superintendent and his work is directed by the Director;
- b) The administrative team at Davenport CSD is required to meet quarterly with Shane Williams and a Department team chosen by the Director for the purpose of implementation of the corrective actions;
- c) The Davenport School Business Official is required to meet monthly with Cassandra Cline;
- d) The Department will conduct implementation checks to determine if the corrective action plan is being done with fidelity.

2. Davenport CSD no longer be required to contract with Gary Sinclair as a financial advisor.
3. Davenport CSD no longer be permitted to contract with a third party to assist the district in managing their fiscal well-being. It is essential that the district demonstrate the ability to be self-sufficient in this area.
4. Davenport CSD no longer be required to contract with Mississippi Bend Area Education Agency (MBAEA) for leadership services.

At the January 2022 meeting, Davenport provided an update regarding the district's corrective action plan and how the plan keeps their momentum moving forward. Additionally, the work between the district's school board and the Iowa Association of School Boards was shared as a significant highlight in overall progress on the plan.

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.