



Minutes
State Board of Education
November 17, 2010

Rosie Hussey
President
Clear Lake

Charles C. Edwards, Jr.
Vice President
Des Moines

Sister Jude Fitzpatrick
West Des Moines

Michael L. Knedler
Council Bluffs

Valorie J. Kruse
Sioux City

Ana Lopez
Pella

Max Phillips
Woodward

LaMetta Wynn
Clinton

Corey Anderson
Student Member
Norwalk

Kevin Fangman
Acting Director and
Executive Officer

The State Board of Education meeting was held on Wednesday, November 17, 2010, in the State Board Room, Grimes State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa. The following State Board members were present: Rosie Hussey, Max Phillips, Corey Anderson, Ana Lopez, Mike Knedler, LaMetta Wynn, Sister Jude Fitzpatrick, and Valorie Kruse. Acting Director Kevin Fangman and Iowa Department of Education (Department) staff members Gail Sullivan, Carol Greta, Del Hoover, Konni Cawiezell, Roger Utman, Tom Schenk, Jr., Phil Roeder, Judith Spitzli, Rita Martens, Jeff Berger, Gwen Nagel, Kris Crabtree-Groff, Jay Pennington, and Jody Crane were in attendance. Also in attendance were Chris Mitchell, ACT, Inc.; Jeff Peterson, The College Board; Dave Jennett, Lori Porsch, and Diane Jones, Storm Lake Community Schools; Deb Olson, Gregg Obren, and Jim McGraw, Clinton Community School District; Jane Evans, Burlington Community School District; Ann Hart, Dave Herold, Joe Griffith, and Dwight Watkins, Allamakee Community School District; Monte Munsinger, Sandy Hilding, and Dick Profit, Shenandoah Community School District; Teri Burnett, Steve Seid, Chris Feldhans, Debra Van Gorp, and Lora Wunsch, Saydel Community School District; Jan Collinson, Tim Bower, and Shane Williams, Muscatine Community School District; Jeff Corkery and Robert McCabe, Western Dubuque Community School District; Matt Wendt, Susie Meade, and Leslie Peterson, Ankeny Community School District; Doug Batcheller and Paul Gausman, Sioux City Community School District; Sarah Pinion, Sarah Schultz, Mike Murphy, and Dan Barkley, Marion Independent Community School District; Tim Cronin, Cedar Rapids Community School District; Dennis Cohoon, State Representative; Mike Young and Gary Norris, Waterloo Community School District; Patrick Hogan, *The Gazette*; Larry Noble, State Senator; Mandy Ross and Tim Taylor, Ames Community School District; Rob Dillard, Iowa Public Radio; and Patrick Clancy, Iowa Braille and Sight Saving School.

STATE BOARD BUSINESS MEETING

President Rosie Hussey called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

It was moved by Sister Jude Fitzpatrick and seconded by Mike Knedler that the November agenda be approved. The motion carried unanimously.

COMMUNICATION

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Director's Report

- ❖ Introduction of New Employee
Acting Director Kevin Fangman introduced Kris Crabtree-Groff. She replaced Arlie Willems as the practitioner preparation consultant.
- ❖ Update on Department Vacancies
Fangman indicated that the Department has 20 open positions and is in the process of obtaining approval to fill those positions.
- ❖ Safe Schools Grant
Fangman reported that the Department received a \$14 million Safe Schools Grant. These funds will allow the Department to hire a few positions within the agency and one position in each of the area education agencies (AEAs). Among other things, this grant will help gather feedback on the safety of participating school environments. Schools signed up to participate before the grant was received.
- ❖ Area Education Agency Study
Fangman stated that the AEA Study Task Force is completing its work. The report is due to the Iowa Legislature on December 15, 2010. The Task Force met five times and subgroups looked at Structure, Governance, and Finance. The Task Force membership includes representatives from AEAs, the Department, educational organizations, educators, and parents.
- ❖ Council of Chief State School Officers Consortium
Fangman reported that the Department has received approval to sign up to be part of a consortium with the Council of Chief State School Officers on educator effectiveness. Iowa will be one of 30 states in that consortium that will look at teacher and principal evaluations related to student learning and performance.

The group that works on the consortium will also be connected to the \$10 million Teacher Quality Partnership Grant.

- ❖ Transition to New Administration
Fangman reported that he has received a request for staffing and budget information from the Brandstad transition team. To date, a new education policy person has not been appointed. Once a policy person is appointed more information may be requested.

Fangman anticipates that a new Department director will be appointed between late December and early spring.

❖ Miscellaneous

Fangman stated that he has met with most of the superintendent groups. Discussion topics included adoption of the Common Core Standards, National Assessment Consortium, concern with the uncertainty of funding levels, competency-based learning, and innovation.

Fangman indicated that the AEA Study could not have been done without the help of the North Central Regional Educational Lab and the North Central Comprehensive Center.

CONSENT AGENDA

Carol Greta, Attorney, Office of the Director, stated that she did not receive public comment on any of the rules that are being presented under the consent agenda.

Max Phillips moved and LaMetta Wynn seconded approval of the consent agenda. The vote carried unanimously.

State Board Legislative Agenda for 2011

Konni Cawiezell, Legislative and Policy Liaison, Office of the Director, asked the Board if they had any additions or changes to the proposed 2011 Legislative Advocacy Agenda. She indicated that an electronic copy of the agenda will be sent to the legislature and the Board will be given copies to distribute at the upcoming legislative reception and other meetings as needed.

Motion: Max Phillips moved and Mike Knedler seconded approval of the legislative advocacy platform for the 2011 legislative session.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Community College Efficiency Initiatives and Funding Reduction Report 2011

Roger Utman, Administrator, Division of Community Colleges and Workforce Preparation, and Tom Schenk, Jr., educational program consultant, Institutional Effectiveness and Accountability, Bureau of Community Colleges and Career and Technical Education Services, presented the *Community College Efficiency Initiatives and Funding Reduction Report 2011*.

Schenk indicated that the Iowa Legislature requested this report from both the Iowa community colleges and Board of Regents to see how both categories of institutions responded to the across-the-board cuts and funding reductions in Fiscal Years (FY) 2009 and 2010.

Each community college and Board of Regents institution was asked the following questions:

- 1) Please provide a description and details of initiatives implemented by your college that created greater efficiency within the college during FY09 and FY10.
- 2) Please provide details on methods in which the community college implemented the 10 percent across-the-board reductions in funding during FY10 (pursuant to Executive Order Number 19).

Schenk indicated that responses were compiled for each individual community college and have been included in this report.

Hussey commented that she thinks the report provides a micro look at what needs to be done across the country.

There was discussion about whether community colleges were satisfied with the outcome of the changes they implemented; and how this report will impact future funding from the legislature.

Community Colleges Fall Enrollment Report 2010

Roger Utman, Administrator, Division of Community Colleges and Workforce Preparation, and Tom Schenk, Jr., educational program consultant, Institutional Effectiveness and Accountability, Bureau of Community Colleges and Career and Technical Education Services, presented the *Community Colleges Fall Enrollment Report 2010*.

Schenk reviewed some of the following highlights:

- Enrollment continued to grow 4.8 percent to 106,597 students.
- Enrollment at three community colleges dropped, while there were substantial enrollment gains at four other colleges.
- Full-time enrollment remained larger than part-time student enrollment.
- Credit hours increased 6.1 percent since last year.
- Credit hours exceeded 1 million hours – 1,026,135 – for the first time.
- High school student enrollment grew 7.1 percent to 27,956 students.
- Enrollment is expected to decline 9.5 percent in 2011 based on current economic conditions.

Additions to the Common Core Standards

Acting Director Kevin Fangman provided the Board with context regarding the proposed additions to the Common Core Standards. We are recommending that additional content be added to the Common Core Standards to make them more consistent with the Iowa Core. If the State Board approves the proposed additions, updated information will be made available to school districts through the School Leader Update, superintendent meetings, and curriculum networks.

Rita Martens, Lead Consultant, Bureau of Teaching and Learning Services, talked about the process involved in identifying additional content to be added to the Common Core Standards for K-12 English language arts. She mentioned the alignment study that was done, working with the original writers of the Iowa Core to get their opinion of the additions, and the establishment of content leadership teams that were also asked to give feedback.

Martens presented the State Board with a document entitled *Iowa Core English Language Arts and Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects* that included the proposed additions. She walked the Board through some of the proposed additions and explained the rationale for inclusion in both the standards and notes sections.

There was discussion regarding the term “research-based” that is included throughout the document and how it may limit innovation.

Judith Spitzli, Consultant, Bureau of Teaching and Learning Services, reviewed the proposed additions to the Common Core Standards for K-12 mathematics and the rationale for inclusion.

There was discussion regarding how the proposed additions to the Iowa Core will be assessed, and whether there will be a review process looking at the content each state has added.

Fangman reported that Educational Technology Grant funds will be used to design professional development to better prepare teachers to implement the Common Core Standards.

Motion: A motion was made by Valorie Kruse and seconded by Ana Lopez to approve the additions to the Common Core Standards in K-12 English language arts and mathematics.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Update from the Technology Task Force

Gwen Wallace Nagel, Iowa Online Learning Consultant, Division of PK-12 Education, reminded the State Board that the Technology Task Force met several times in the previous year and provided the Board with a white paper at their summer 2010 retreat. As a result, the Board asked the Task Force to continue its work and come back to the Board with recommendations for providing a comprehensive system of online learning in Iowa.

Nagel reported that the Task Force revisited the four belief statements that were included in the white paper and looked at the need for a PK-20 system of online learning for Iowa. Nagel talked about the initiatives that are currently directed toward

the support of online learning. The Task Force agreed that in order for online learning to expand and flourish, the following will need to be addressed:

- Development of a PK-20 long-term vision and incremental plan for online learning.
- Establishment of an administrative structure for online learning.
- Determination of whether or not the current Technology Task Force will continue in an advisory role.
- Access to a one-stop site for teacher and student online resources and opportunities.
- Statewide broadband access to the desktop at school and in home or mobile device.
- Determination of structure, i.e., a clearinghouse versus a virtual school organization.
- Development of a process and structure for assuring teacher and content quality.
- Development of a cost model for scaling up and sustainability.
- Measures of success.
- Development of a model or models for schools sharing teachers and resources.
- Consideration of the special needs of 1 to 1 schools.
- Plans for pre-service and professional development.
- Consideration of Iowa-only teacher certification issues.
- Consideration of removing the school as a gatekeeper.
- Consideration of online learning that is competency-based versus based on seat-time.

Max Phillips asked the Department to look at the Florida online learning model to see what it would take to replicate it in Iowa from a policy, finance, and administrative standpoint.

There was discussion about the need for a Learning Management System, scaling up the Moodle server, and looking at both the Florida model and a clearinghouse model for online learning.

It was decided that Gwen Nagel would research what would be needed to implement a Florida model and a clearinghouse model in Iowa, and would report back to the State Board at their January 27 meeting.

Board Reports

Valorie Kruse attended a Wallace Foundation meeting. She talked about an activity where the group looked at education in 2015 and was asked to write the job description for the new Department director. In addition, the Wallace Foundation has been awarded additional funds.

Sister Jude Fitzpatrick attended the Coordinating Council for Post High School Education where she heard a presentation about a collaborative program on biometrics. The group continues to struggle with its purpose. She also attended the Teacher of the Year luncheon.

LaMetta Wynn attended the Community College Council meeting over the ICN. She is involved with various groups with the Clinton public school system. One group is the governance committee where they have been talking about fees for participating in sports and other activities. She also reported that the Clinton Community School District will be presented with a Breaking Barriers award at today's State Board meeting.

Rosie Hussey thanked Max Phillips and Qwest for sponsoring the Iowa Teacher of the Year luncheon. Hussey spoke to the Mason City teachers and administrators and talked about the Iowa Core. She encouraged other Board members to do so if they get the opportunity. She reported that Brian Gentry resigned from serving on the State Board because of work commitments.

Mike Knedler thanked the Department and State Board for the opportunity to attend the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) Annual Convention in Utah. He learned that many other states are dealing with the same concerns as Iowa. At the Convention, NASBE shared reports and recommendations from two study groups. The titles of the reports are: *No Time to Wait: Creating Contemporary School Structures for Students of Today and Tomorrow* and *Next Generation Learning: Transforming the Role of Educators Today for the Students of Tomorrow*.

Ana Lopez attended the NASBE Annual Convention and appreciated the opportunity to do so. She also met with Laurie Phelan, President and CEO, iJAG (Iowa Jobs for America's Graduates), and plans to serve on the iJAG Board.

Max Phillips reported that there is a considerable amount of alignment around competency-based education and virtual learning as two critical education topics in the state. He thinks there will be momentum to bring these topics forward to the new administration. In January, the Iowa Business Council will release an announcement on these issues. The Greater Des Moines Business Education Alliance is also beginning to focus on those topics as well.

Corey Anderson attended a meeting on adding additional content to the Common Core Standards. He also plans to attend a NASBE and United States Department of Education webinar that is bringing all of the student State Board of Education members together across the nation.

Breaking Barriers to Learning and Teaching Awards

Rosie Hussey stated that for nearly ten years, it has been the State Board's pleasure to honor school districts with the Breaking Barriers to Learning and Teaching Award. This award recognizes districts that are taking major steps towards closing the academic achievement gap.

Sister Jude Fitzpatrick presented the awards to the following recipients: Allamakee, Ames, Ankeny, Burlington, Cedar Rapids, Clinton, Marion, Muscatine, Saydel, Shenandoah, Sioux City, Storm Lake, Waterloo, and Western Dubuque.

Hussey recognized Senator Larry Noble and Representative Dennis Cohoon who attended the award ceremony.

Release of *The Annual Condition of Education Report*

Acting Director Kevin Fangman reviewed *The Annual Condition of Education Report*. This report includes a tremendous amount of information about Iowa's education system from prekindergarten through high school, including information about enrollments, programs, student performance, staff, and finance. Background and demographic information is also included. This document serves as a resource for educators, legislators, and citizens seeking information about Iowa's education system.

Recommendations from the Board of Regents Study on Residential Services at the Iowa Braille and Sight Saving School

Patrick Clancy, Superintendent, Iowa Braille and Sight Saving School, distributed a one-page handout that summarized the *Legislative Study Committee Report on Residential Services on the Campus of the Iowa Braille and Sight Saving School*. The 2010 Iowa Legislature directed the Board of Regents to study the residential component of the Statewide System for Vision Services. Specifically, they were directed to examine possible changes and make recommendations regarding the current structure for providing residential services on the campus of the Iowa Braille and Sight Saving School and to make recommendations regarding appropriate facilities and facility utilization.

Clancy reviewed the background, membership on the study committee, and process used in making the recommendations. Clancy reviewed each of the following recommendations and indicated that they are intended to complement each other and be implemented as whole.

Recommendation 1: The Iowa Legislature shall continue to appropriate fiscal resources at or above the current level.

Recommendation 2: The Statewide System for Vision Services shall provide educational services as near to each student's home as possible.

Recommendation 3: The Statewide System for Vision Services shall strengthen the availability of intense services in each region of the state through the reallocation of residential costs using three mechanisms:

1. Employment of additional Teachers of the Visually Impaired, Orientation, Mobility Specialists and Special Education Consultants and others as appropriate.

2. Development and implementation of “Magnet” opportunities in partnership with other providers for the provision of regional intensive expanded core curriculum short-term programs.
3. Build capacity, expand visibility, and increase understanding of the Statewide System for Vision Services.

Recommendation 4: The Statewide System for Vision Services shall develop and implement a process for determining and meeting the long-term residential needs of students who are blind or visually impaired.

Recommendation 5: The Statewide System for Vision Services shall partner with other providers for the provision of long-term residential services for students with additional needs.

Recommendation 6: The Board of Regents shall continue to operate the Vinton campus for the following operations:

1. Direct Services. A facility will be needed for short-term programs for students, e.g., weekend, weeklong, summer in this region of the state and some statewide student short-term services. The site will serve as the center for services such as consultation, assistive technology and low vision.
2. Administrative Services. The Vinton site will be used as the center for administrative services with the Statewide System for Vision Services. The site will continue to operate in partnership with AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps programs with lease revenue to be used to offset a substantial portion of the costs to operate the facility. This is the beginning of the third year of a five-year contract with AmeriCorps and facility utilization should be examined with the end of the five-year contract period.

Recommendation 7: The Board of Regents shall recommend to the legislature changing the name of the Statewide System for Vision Services and Iowa Braille and Sight Saving School to Iowa Educational Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired.

Clancy indicated that the plan was presented to the Board of Regents and they acted favorably and are supportive of the plan’s direction. The plan has been submitted to the legislative council, but has yet to be acted upon at the legislative level. Regardless of the legislative approval process, there are things in the plan that need to occur so those are being advanced regardless of the outcome of the legislative approval process. Some recommendations cannot advance until the legislature has taken action.

Community College Faculty Instructional Load/Overload Issue and 2010 Legislation

Roger Utman, Administrator, Division of Community Colleges and Workforce Preparation, indicated that as part of the 2010 State Government Reorganization Bill, the Department of Education was directed to convene a working group to include members of the community college accreditation advisory committee and the

community college faculty advisory committee to study the community college faculty instructional load/overload issue. A subcommittee was formed with membership from each committee as well as a representative that deals with online instruction.

Utman reviewed the goals of the subcommittee and topics that were discussed at the first meeting. The number one topic discussed was quality of instruction. A recommendation on amending the Iowa Code was developed by the subcommittee and was forwarded to the full committee and a variety of individuals for input. The recommendation went to the full committee and was approved with an affirmative vote of 20 to 5.

The recommendation reads:

Standards developed shall include a provision that the full-time teaching load of an instructor in arts and sciences courses shall be 15 credit hours per semester or equivalent and the maximum academic workload shall be 16 credit hours per semester or equivalent. An instructor may also have an additional teaching assignment, provided the instructor and the administration mutually consent to this additional assignment and that the total teaching load does not exceed 22 credit hours per semester or the equivalent.

Utman mentioned that each community college Quality Faculty Plan Committee had responded to the request for input on the recommendation and that the responses from each college were included in the report. Two community colleges have indicated they will more than likely not allow their faculty to go up the 22 hours. Utman explained that the 22 hours being recommended is the maximum and will also include online instruction.

Rosie Hussey adjourned the meeting at 3:45 p.m.

Rosie Hussey
President

Kevin Fangman
Acting Director