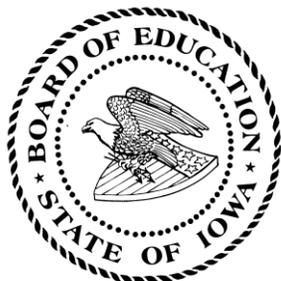


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**Minutes
State Board of Education
January 27, 2011**

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

Jason E. Glass
Director and
Executive Officer

The State Board of Education meeting was held on Thursday, January 27, 2011, in the State Board Room, Grimes State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa. The following State Board members were present: Rosie Hussey, Charlie Edwards, Max Phillips, Valorie Kruse, Ana Lopez, Mike Knedler, LaMetta Wynn, Sister Jude Fitzpatrick, and Corey Anderson. Director Jason Glass and Iowa Department of Education (Department) staff members Kevin Fangman, Gail Sullivan, Jeff Berger, Del Hoover, Carol Greta, Roger Utman, Dwight Carlson, Phil Roeder, Gwen Nagel, Jim Addy, Konni Cawiezell, Kent Farver, Matt Ludwig, Kris Crabtree-Groff, Susan Walkup, and Jody Crane were in attendance. Also in attendance were: Colleen O'Shaughnessy, KWWL-TV; Dar Danielson, Radio Iowa; Fred Bramante, New Hampshire State Board of Education; Michael Wiser, Lee Newspaper; Mike Young, Bernice Richard, Steven Weidner, and Gary Norris, Waterloo Community School District; Ricki Peters, Teesha Peters, Lena Simmons, and Jason Van Clark, Waterloo parents; Carolyn Pickrell, Pam Martin, Jobi Lawrence, William Penn University; Terri Lasswell, Jodi Grover, Gina Kuker, Jill Buchan, Latisa Smith, Jan O'Brien, Cindy Waters, Bill Duffy, David Chown, Alan Walker, and Dale Moorman Behrens, Upper Iowa University; Bridgette Wagoner, Waverly-Shell Rock Community School District; John Carver and Deron Durlinger, Van Meter Community School District; Katie Mulholland and Dirk Halupnik, Linn-Mar Community School District; Jodie Butler, Iowa State Education Association; Allan Nelson, Clayton Ridge Community School District; George Maurer, Board of Educational Examiners, and Jeff Herzberg, Prairie Lakes Area Education Agency.

STATE BOARD BUSINESS MEETING

President Rosie Hussey called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

It was moved by LaMetta Wynn and seconded by Sister Jude Fitzpatrick that the January agenda be approved. The motion carried unanimously.

COMMUNICATION

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Director's Report

Kevin Fangman, Administrator, Division of PK-12 Education, indicated that he was filling in for Director Jason Glass who was attending the Governor's Budget Address at the Capitol.

Fangman reported that Department staff has made presentations to the Senate Education Committee on preschool and will be making a presentation to the Education Appropriations Subcommittee on the Department's budget, preschool, and the Iowa Core. The Department has also been responding to requests for information as new legislation comes forward to determine the financial impact or other implications.

CONSENT AGENDA

Max Phillips moved and Mike Knedler seconded approval of the consent agenda. The vote carried unanimously.

Rules: Chapter 36 - Extracurricular Interscholastic Competition (Notice)

Carol Greta, Attorney, Office of the Director, indicated that this proposed amendment strikes a religious beliefs-based exemption to the requirement that all secondary students who desire to participate in interscholastic athletics undergo a physical examination prior to such participation. Department staff has researched the issue and determined that there is no basis for the exemption, and as a matter of student safety, the language allowing the exemption should be stricken.

Motion: Sister Jude Fitzpatrick moved and Valorie Kruse seconded approval to give public notice of its intent to amend Chapter 36.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Rules: Chapter 81 – Standards for School Business Official Programs (Notice); School Business Officials Report to the State Board of Education

Carol Greta, Attorney, Office of the Director, and Jim Addy, Administrator, Division of School Support and Information, presented on this item. Chapter 81 provides standards and procedures for the approval of training programs for individuals who seek authorization issued by the Board of Educational Examiners for employment as school business officials responsible for the financial operations of a school district.

Greta pointed out that present school business officials will be grandfathered in. The Board of Educational Examiners (BOEE) rules (Iowa Administrative Code 282-22.3) are the rules by which the BOEE will use to certify business officials. Those rules are for persons hired in that capacity on and after July 1, 2012. The State Board is being asked to notice the rules by which they will approve the programs for school business official preparation. Addy added that individuals that have gone through the program will be authorized by 2014.

There was discussion about certification expectations for individuals that will be grandfathered in, what the impact will be on small districts that may not have access to persons with the required qualifications and if there is an alternative approach, the rigor of the program and how well suited the institutions are to teach and instruct these programs, reasons behind the ten percent attrition rate, and how compliance will be measured to hold schools accountable to ensure the positions are filled by a certified individual.

Addy recognized Denise Ragias and Joyce Thomsen for their work with the advisory committee.

Motion: Max Phillips moved and Ana Lopez seconded approval to give public notice of its intent to amend Chapter 81.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Legislative Update

Jeff Berger, Chief, and Konni Cawiezell, Legislative and Policy Liaison, Office of Internal Administrative Services, provided a legislative and budget update. Berger stated that there is a strong interest in trying to get away from the use of one time money in the budget and curtail spending to get back to sustainable revenue.

Berger reported on House File (HF) 45, which is the deappropriations bill. This bill removes the funding for the Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program and also eliminates the entire Iowa Code chapter 256C. The Governor's proposal will create a voucher preschool program. House File 45 also removes the funding (\$1.9 million) for the Iowa Core. The Department has scheduled times with both the House and Senate committees to discuss this issue.

He reminded the Board that the Legislature needs to hear from them about what policy issues are important.

Konni Cawiezell indicated that HF 35 states the State Board shall not adopt federal standards or regulations relating to the core curriculum unless specifically authorized by statute. This is in direct relation to the adoption of the Common Core into the Iowa Core.

Charlie Edwards asked where the Department is in filling the vacancies that were a result of the State Employees Retirement Incentive Program (SERIP). Berger indicated that the Department lost approximately 20 percent of its staff on the SERIP effort and has received approval to hire back 60 percent. The Department is 70 percent federally funded. On the onset, the Department was told to hold some federal positions. Berger explained his concern and how indirect funding works. He also explained the process for filling the positions.

Cawiezell indicated that unfunded mandates are being imposed on districts and the Department is trying to support districts by telling legislators that this is not the time to put additional unfunded mandates on districts especially when zero percent allowable growth is being proposed.

There was additional discussion about HF 45 and the research that was done saying that prekindergarten isn't effective, the proposed zero percent allowable growth and if more districts will be reorganizing, the potential number of teachers that could be laid off, if the Legislature is open to ideas of reorganization/restructuring and using other ways to more efficiently deliver service, and future plans for a summit to talk about technology and innovation.

Appeal Decision: Waterloo Dress Code

Carol Greta, Administrative Law Judge, introduced the parties (Mr. and Mrs. Peters as the parents who filed the appeal; Steve Weidner as attorney for the Waterloo School District, which was also represented at this meeting by Superintendent Gary Norris, Board President Mike Young, and Board Vice President Bernice Richard) and explained that oral argument has been granted to the parties. All of the briefs filed by the parties have previously been made available to State Board members. Mr. Weidner argued on behalf of the District, followed by Mrs. Peters, followed by a short rebuttal by Mr. Weidner.

The Decision does not make any judgment about whether a standardized uniform dress code is wise or unwise; merely that it goes beyond authority given to public schools in Iowa Code section 279.58, which states in part that the "board of directors of a school district may adopt, for the district or for an individual school within the district, a dress code policy that prohibits students from wearing gang-related or other specific apparel if the board determines that the policy is necessary for the health, safety, or positive educational environment of students and staff in the school environment or for the appropriate discipline and operation of the school." The Decision overturns the policy adopted by the Waterloo board, concluding that it is up to the Iowa Legislature whether to expand the authority in section 279.58 to give local public school boards authority to impose dress codes that give students a range of acceptable clothing that students must wear.

Motion: Max Phillips moved and Charlie Edwards seconded the proposed decision reversing the decision of the local board of directors of the Waterloo Community School District to adopt a district-wide standardized dress code.

Vote: The vote was 7 to 0 with Mike Knedler abstaining.

Appeal Decision: Cedar Falls Student Suspension

Carol Greta, Administrative Law Judge, presented the Proposed Decision in a disciplinary case appealed by a parent whose son was suspended from school for one semester by the Cedar Falls Community School District school board. The parent asked that the State Board discuss this case in closed session. Accordingly, Mike Knedler moved and Sister Jude Fitzpatrick seconded that the Board hold a closed session pursuant to Iowa Code section 21.5(1)(f) "to discuss the decision to be rendered in a contested case conducted according to the provisions of chapter 17A." Motion passed unanimously. The Board entered the closed session at 11:00 a.m.

At 11:12 a.m., the Board came out of closed session, back into open meeting. Whereupon, Max Phillips moved and Mike Knedler seconded that the Board uphold the decision of the board of directors of the Cedar Falls Community School District to suspend student Ian Michael G. for the first semester of the 2010-2011 school year. Motion passed unanimously.

Upper Iowa University Practitioner Preparation Program

Kris Crabtree-Groff, Practitioner Preparation Consultant, Bureau of Accreditation and Improvement Services, indicated that she is new to the Department and this is her first time presenting to the Board. She explained that the timeline in bringing this accreditation report and the report to follow (William Penn University) is not a reflection on the institutions. Both programs were reviewed by her predecessor; therefore, she's been learning the review process.

Crabtree-Groff shared highlights and provided an overview. She indicated that Upper Iowa University's Fayette campus is seen as a model for what is happening in the state and what could continue to happen in the state as they grow and expand to meet the unique needs of adult learners. They have branched into two different satellites. The University should be commended for what it has done to ensure equity and quality control of all three sites. Crabtree-Groff assured the State Board that Upper Iowa University has done what is necessary to oversee all three branches of the program.

Crabtree-Groff provided logistical information. The preliminary review of the institution was conducted on January 26, 2010, and a site visit occurred April 11-15, 2010. Crabtree-Groff reviewed the standards: Governance and Resources, Diversity, Faculty, Assessment, Teacher Preparation Clinical, and Teacher Preparation Curriculum, as well as the general comments, strengths, concerns/recommendations, and the University's response to each standard.

Crabtree-Groff recommended to the State Board that the practitioner preparation program at Upper Iowa University be granted continuing approval until their next approval cycle which is scheduled for the 2016-2017 academic year.

There was discussion regarding the history behind the teacher preparation institution review cycle going from a five-year to a seven-year cycle. Max Phillips indicated that he was not comfortable voting for a seven-year accreditation. Because of Phillips' concern, there was additional discussion on how Upper Iowa University is preparing teachers in the areas of competency-based education and virtual learning. Admittance requirements were also discussed.

Crabtree-Groff explained the process used to review the practitioner preparation program reports that are submitted annually to the Department.

Motion: It was moved by Sister Jude Fitzpatrick and seconded by LaMetta Wynn to approve Upper Iowa University's practitioner preparation program through the next state visit cycle scheduled for the 2016-2017 academic year.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

William Penn University Practitioner Preparation Program

Kris Crabtree-Groff, Practitioner Preparation Consultant, Bureau of Accreditation and Improvement Services, stated that the William Penn University practitioner preparation program was granted conditional approval by the State Board on May 13, 2010. William Penn was directed to strengthen institutional support in the areas of faculty and technology. The Department has been working with William Penn to address the issues.

Crabtree-Groff reported on what the University has done to meet the Board's concerns. The University has provided substantial evidence that shows what they are doing and how it impacts their students and programs. She assured the Board that the quality is apparent with what is happening across the University's different sites and delivery formats.

Crabtree-Groff indicated that the Department will continue to review how William Penn grows and what they do with their strategic planning as they expand statewide, nationally, and internationally.

Crabtree-Groff provided logistical information and explained the review timeline. The preliminary review was conducted on November 6, 2008; the site visit was January 25-29, 2009; and the State Board granted conditional approval on May 13, 2010. The University submitted all of the required materials seeking full approval in the fall of 2010. In addition, letters of support and commitment for this program were received from the University President and Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Crabtree-Groff indicated that the Governance and Resources, Diversity, Faculty, Assessment, Clinical, and Curriculum standards were part of the preliminary review and site review.

Crabtree-Groff reviewed a synopsis that outlined the concerns and how those concerns were met. Information included:

- Background and teaching assignment of a new hire.
- Distance program data on faculty-to-student ratio, teaching assistants, tutors, courses, times, and methods of delivery.
- Comparison between faculty load of on-campus and distance programs including adjunct instructor qualifications, assignments, and experience with the program.
- Disaggregated data comparing on-campus and distance learning program graduates.
- Professional development opportunities for distance program instructors.
- Director of Assessment position and release time for a faculty member to coordinate assessment until the position is filled.
- Data comparing on-campus and distance program student teacher performance and feedback.

Crabtree-Groff recommended to the State Board that the practitioner preparation program at William Penn University be granted continuing approval until their next approval cycle which is scheduled for the 2015-2016 academic year.

Motion: It was moved by Charlie Edwards and seconded by Max Phillips to approve William Penn University's practitioner preparation program through next state visit cycle scheduled for the 2015-2016 academic year.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

The State Board discussed the need to revamp the practitioner preparation program review process. Director Jason Glass indicated that the issue of teacher quality isn't an issue, it is the issue. If we're not supporting and improving the quality of the classroom educator then everything else we do is bound to fail. This issue is part of a larger human capital discussion. Glass stated that the Governor has been talking about holding an education summit and that he is pushing for the human capital system for education to be part of the discussions. Glass referenced a study done in Tennessee that looked at the value added growth of all the teacher preparation programs in that state.

The Board requested the topic of teacher preparation be placed on a future agenda.

Comments from Director Glass

Director Jason Glass stated that he's been in his new position for nine days and that he is honored to be able to work with the State Board on improving Iowa's schools. His agenda is around improvement and innovation. He comes from a human capital perspective on how to improve education and hopes to put a lot of emphasis in that area.

Glass shared what he's been hearing from the field which includes excitement about the future and concern about the budget situation.

2010 Condition of Iowa Community Colleges

Roger Utman, Administrator, Division of Community Colleges and Workforce Preparation, and Kent Farver, CPA and Education Program Consultant, Bureau of Community College Services, presented highlights of the 2010 Condition of Iowa Community Colleges.

Farver reviewed a PowerPoint and highlighted the following:

- Breakdown of Funding
- Adjusted Tuition/Fees & State General Aid (SGA)
- Adjusted State General Aid
- Percent of Revenue from SGA
- Adjusted SGA per Full-Time Equivalent Enrollment (FTEE)
- Funding per FTEE by Source
- Change in Revenue by Source
- Change in Expenditures by Source
- Percent of Expenditures by Function
- Adjusted Fund 1 Revenue and Expenditure

There was discussion about what percentage of community college funding is spent on salaries and benefits, how the data is used to make decisions about community colleges, and pending legislation.

Roger Utman shared highlights from the report on enrollment and demographics; credit hours taken; transfer courses; online courses; joint enrollment; credentials, awards and student success; and a special supplement on high school graduates in community colleges.

Online Learning

Kevin Fangman, Administrator, and Gwen Nagel, Iowa Learning Online Consultant, Division of PK-12 Education, presented information on online learning. Fangman reminded the Board that when online learning was previously presented to the Board, the charge was to come back and share additional information.

Nagel described the research she conducted to see what it would take to replicate the Florida online learning model in Iowa. Specifically, she had conversations with the Florida virtual school, Iowa's online learning team, Iowa stakeholders; and representatives from North Carolina, who recently put a model in place. She also described the benefits online learning has to offer students and teachers in Iowa.

Nagel referenced a report titled *Keeping Pace* that describes other states' efforts with online learning. She provided details from the report and highlighted what she learned through her research.

Nagel reviewed a PowerPoint that outlined what it would take for Iowa to have a virtual school. Information included:

- Preliminary Determinations and Activities
- Project Funding and Staffing
- Develop Policies
- Select Administrative Systems – Vendor or Open Source
- Determine Curriculum/Course Needs and Offerings
- Plan for Teachers
- Plan for Students
- Plan for Quality Assurance
- Sample of Staffing for an Online School
 - Executive Director
 - Office Manager
 - Instruction and Learning Officer
 - Technology and Design Officer
 - Student Services Officer
 - Program Evaluation Officer
 - Marketing/Communications Officers
- Recommendations
 - 1) The Department of Education will coordinate a PK-20 portal for Iowa's online educational opportunities.
 - 2) The Department of Education will expand the capacity of Iowa Learning Online to meet the demand of Iowa school districts and students.
 - 3) The Department of Education will provide both supplementary and full-time online opportunities for Iowa school districts and students.
 - 4) The Department of Education will collaborate with Department of Education agency staff in other states to assist with planning and implementation.

There was discussion regarding the timeframe, required policy changes, if the virtual school should be a competitive school, teacher licensing/contracting, if a Request for Proposal should be implemented, how the standards of quality are measured, the need for an efficient financial assessment, funding, and next steps.

Competency-Based Education

President Hussey asked members of the Competency-based Education Design Team to introduce themselves. Kevin Fangman, Administrator, Division of PK-12 Education, provided the context behind this session. He indicated that one of the policy development priorities identified by the State Board of Education is “Competency-based Education.” A competency or performance-based system of education is designed to ensure that students master a set of specific competencies or skills. Students are provided with personalized learning opportunities, anytime/anywhere learning experiences, and opportunities for team-based and project-based tasks. This approach requires developing multiple measures to assess student achievement and allowing students to demonstrate learning through performance and application to real-world tasks.

Fred Bramante, senior member of the New Hampshire State Board of Education and a national consultant in the area of school redesign, presented. Bramante has been instrumental in bringing competency-based education to New Hampshire. He discussed what competency-based education is, what’s going on around the country with examples of what other states are doing, and described the path that New Hampshire has taken.

There was discussion regarding how New Hampshire received buy-in from parents, how higher education fits in, how to get educators on the same page; funding, and what it would take to enact competency-based education.

Bramante showed a video from a summit that took place in New Hampshire that brought representatives together from higher education and K-12.

Board Reports

Jason Glass shared highlights from Governor Branstad’s budget speech. He addressed PK-12 funding, early childhood education, and the Department’s funding. The Governor is proposing a flat budget for two years. He explained the ramifications of this proposal if a district isn’t able to meet with their teacher’s association and negotiate a pay freeze.

Glass indicated that the Governor is recommending a reduction in funding for early childhood education and that there will be disruption to some families in the state because of the changes. He explained that the state will have universal preschool; however, it will not be free.

Glass reported that the Department has been cut between 27-30 percent the last two years. Further cuts to the Department will result in sending back millions of dollars in federal money. Of particular concern are the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

funds. Glass has made the Governor aware of this situation and the Governor said that it was never his intent for this to occur.

LaMetta Wynn attended Governor Branstad's inauguration and toured the Governor's mansion and state capitol.

Ana Lopez plans to attend an Iowa Jobs for America's Graduates meeting in February.

Max Phillips stated that there have been a lot of discussions about four-year-old preschool. The Iowa Business Council recently testified in front of the Senate on this topic. The Educational Excellence Roundtable is continuing to meet. Director Glass should be receiving an invitation to be part of that group.

Mike Knedler attended a National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) Teacher Preparation, Evaluation, Continuation, and Compensation Study Group meeting. Sixteen states were represented. The study group is focusing on developing recommendations for states to use in developing 21st century teachers. The group will meet again in March and June and will have a set of recommendations to present at the NASBE annual meeting in October.

Corey Anderson reported that last November he met with other State Board student members via a NASBE sponsored webinar. The group had an opportunity to speak to Arne Duncan about the Common Core, No Child Left Behind, and learned about the future of the national education system.

He also indicated that some states have a junior and senior student representative on their State Boards. With this structure, the senior is able to mentor the junior.

Sister Jude Fitzpatrick indicated that the Coordinating Council for Postsecondary Education was postponed because of weather. She attended the service and dedication the night before the Governor's inauguration.

Valorie Kruse stated that the Wallace Foundation will be meeting February 8.

Rosie Hussey has been working with Jason Glass and Kevin Fangman, and trying to make arrangements for Governor Branstad to meet with the State Board.

Rosie Hussey adjourned the meeting at 4:45 p.m.

Rosie Hussey
President

Jason E. Glass
Director