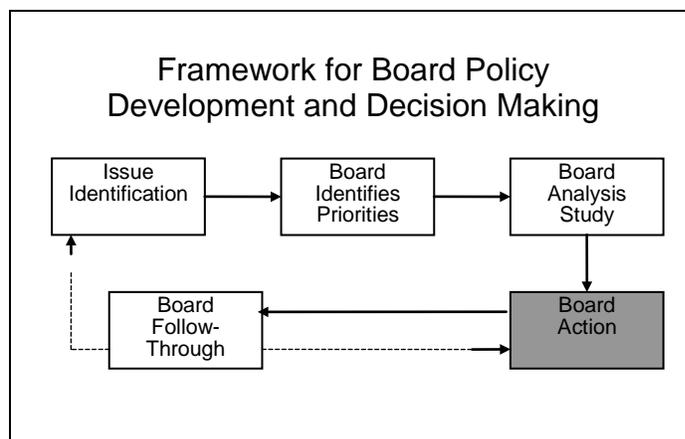


Iowa State Board of Education

Executive Summary

May 15, 2014



Agenda Item: Request for General Accreditation Status (Non-Public)

Iowa Goal: All PK-12 students will achieve at a high level.

State Board Role/ Authority: Iowa Code chapter 256.11 grants the State Board authority to adopt rules under chapter 17A and a procedure for accrediting all public and nonpublic schools in Iowa offering instruction at any or all levels from the prekindergarten level through grade twelve.

Presenter: None (consent agenda)

Attachments: None

Recommendation: It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve the request to grant general accreditation status for grades K-8 to Grand View Christian School, 2905 NE 46th Avenue, Des Moines, IA, 50317.

Background: Grandview Park Baptist School (1701 E. 33rd Street, Des Moines, IA) an accredited non-public school, grades K-8, and specially accredited school grades 9-12, will close at the end of the current school year.

A newly organized school, Grand View Christian School (GVCS), will open its doors in August of 2014. Four of the new GVCS school board members represent more than 40 years of past service to the Grandview Park Baptist School Board.

Forty of the 43 current Grandview Park Baptist School staff will transition to GVCS for the 2014-2015 school year. (Including the superintendent and K-12 principal.) Early enrollment numbers indicate more than 93 percent of the Grand View Park Baptist School students have already registered for the upcoming school year at GVCS. The GVCS Association is

committed to continuity and expansion of the current educational programming for preschool through 12th grade. The Board of Directors plans to continue state accreditation for grades K-8 and special accreditation for grades 9-12 with future plans to move to full K-12 state accreditation and a faith-based independent accreditation, holding dual accreditation at some point in the future.

Grand View Christian School has provided evidence of general accreditation requirements pursuant to Iowa Code 281—IAC 12.5(3) and 12.5(4), including the following:

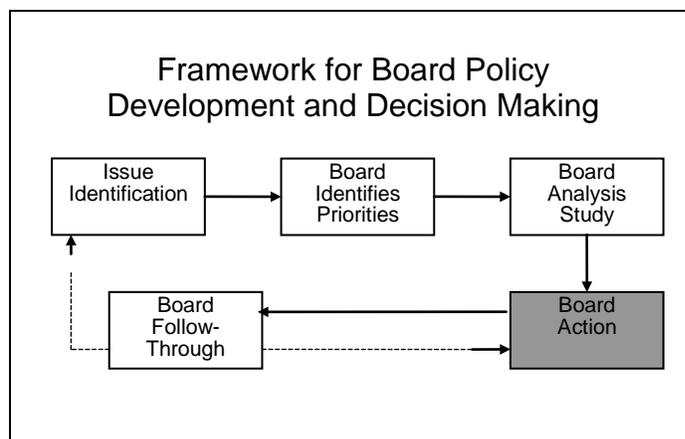
- Enrollment data by race, national origin, gender, and disability.
- Establishment of a school board/governing body.
- Receipt of Application for Accreditation (December 27, 2013).
- School calendar.
- Elementary school program (e.g., all required content areas and required content specifications were verified).
- Curriculum documents and materials verifying standards and benchmarks for the curricular areas of reading, mathematics, and science including the incorporation of multicultural/gender fair approaches, global education, and career education into the educational program.
- Professional development.
- School Improvement Advisory Committee.
- Personnel files.
- Comprehensive School Improvement Plan.
- Annual Progress Report.
- The following items are anticipated upon receipt by Grand View Christian School:
 - The school will provide a written, signed letter from the local fire marshal that the school's facilities meet required codes. (Documentation has been provided, per Grand View Christian School Board, of intended possession date of facilities and intended action to meet facility requirements. Anticipated fire inspection April 25, 2014.)
 - Required school board policies, including adoption date, will be forwarded upon June/July board action.
 - Student records (e.g., permanent and cumulative records) upon receipt from prior attendance centers.

Beth Happe, School Improvement Consultant, Department of Education, visited the school facility on April 2, 2014. Department school improvement consultants conducted a document review on April 25, 2014, and verified the aforementioned.

Iowa State Board of Education

Executive Summary

May 15, 2014



Agenda Item: Request for Specially Accredited Status (Provisionally)

Iowa Goal: All PK-12 students will achieve at a high level.

State Board Role/ Authority: Iowa Code section 256.11(13) authorizes the State Board of Education to grant Specially Accredited status to private high schools or combined junior-senior high schools operated for the express purpose of preparing students for college.

Presenter: None (consent agenda)

Attachments: None

Recommendation: It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve the request to grant Specially Accredited status, grades 9-12, to Grand View Christian School, 2905 NE 46th Avenue, Des Moines, IA, 50317. Grand View Christian School will open effective the 2014-2015 school year. It is requested that this status be granted “provisionally” until four-year cohort graduation data is established.

Background: Grandview Park Baptist School (1701 E. 33rd Street, Des Moines, IA) an accredited non-public school, grades K-8, and specially accredited school grades 9-12, will close at the end of the current school year.

A newly organized school, Grand View Christian School (GVCS), will open its doors in August of 2014. Four of the new GVCS school board members represent more than 40 years of past service to the Grandview Park Baptist School

Board. Forty of the 43 current Grandview Park Baptist School staff will transition to GVCS for the 2014-2015 school year. (Including the superintendent and K-12 principal.) Early enrollment numbers indicate more than 93 percent of the Grand View Park Baptist School students have already registered for the upcoming school year at GVCS. The GVCS Association is committed to continuity and expansion of the current educational programming for preschool through 12th grade. The Board of Directors plans to continue state accreditation for grades K-8 and special accreditation for grades 9-12 with future plans to move to full K-12 state accreditation and a faith-based independent accreditation, holding dual accreditation at some point in the future.

Grand View Christian School has provided evidence of Specially Accredited requirements pursuant to Iowa Code section 256.11(13), including the following:

- Graduate Reporting (commencing with Class of 2015).
- Courses Comprising the School's Program: Grand View Christian School meets and/or exceeds the number of courses and content areas required, including the following: English/Language Arts (7 units), Mathematics (6 units), Social Studies (5 units), Science (6.5 units), Foreign Language (4 units), Physical Education (1 unit), Health (1 unit), Fine Arts (7 units) and multiple electives.
- The school will provide a written, signed letter from the local fire marshal that the school's facilities meet required codes. (Documentation has been provided, by the Grand View Christian School Board, of intended possession date of facilities and intended action to meet facility requirements. Anticipated fire inspection April 25, 2014.)
- The school administrators and school board president have provided a written assurance that all requirements for Specially Accredited schools are in place.

Beth Happe, School Improvement Consultant, Department of Education, visited the school facility on April 2, 2014. Department school improvement consultants conducted a document review on April 25, 2014, and verified the aforementioned.