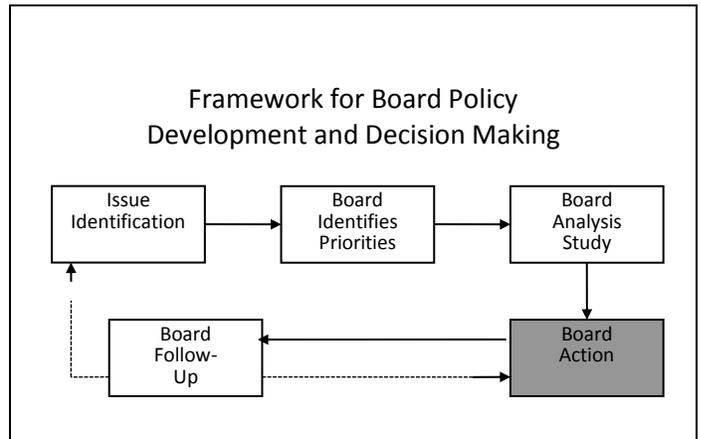


Iowa State Board Of Education

Executive Summary

September 15, 2016



Agenda Item: Green Hills Area Education Agency Paraeducator Preparation Program Approval

Iowa Goals: Goal 1: All children will enter school ready to learn.
Goal 2: All PK -12 students will achieve at a high level.

State Board Role/Authority: Iowa Administrative Code section 281—80 grants authority to the State Board of Education to set standards and procedures for the approval of programs for individuals who seek a paraeducator certification issued by the Board of Educational Examiners.

Presenter: Marietta Rives, Consultant
Bureau of Educator Quality

Attachments: 1

Recommendation: It is recommended that the State Board approve the paraeducator preparation program submitted by Green Hills Area Education Agency. This program approval will be for five years, May 2021.

Background: Legislation originally passed in 1998 and revised in 2000 created a voluntary paraeducator certification. The legislation was prompted by the need to have well-trained paraeducators providing assistance to students and teachers.

Program Recommended for Approval
September 15, 2016

Green Hills Area Education Agency Paraeducator Program to include:
Generalist, Level 1

Iowa's voluntary paraeducator certification program is one way for paraeducators to meet the requirements set forth in No Child Left Behind. An additional benefit of this program is that certification will establish realistic opportunities for upward mobility through a career ladder pathway for paraeducators.

The institution named above has submitted a request for approval or re-approval of programs to certify paraeducators in each of the listed content areas. Although the paraeducator certification program is voluntary, there are benefits to having paraeducators certified.

1. All learners will be better served and the quality of education and related services will improve with the availability of a better-prepared paraeducator workforce.
2. Paraeducators have mastered skills that are required to support and supplement teacher/provider programs.

The program has been reviewed. In reviewing the program, it was important to look for three major components:

1. Verification that each of the standards included in Iowa Administrative Code Chapter 80 have been met.
2. Verification that all standards and competencies of Chapter 22, Board of Educational Examiners administrative rules were included.
3. Verification that criteria to evaluate performance of the standards were present and appropriate.

Strengths of the program:

- A strong curriculum taught by experienced instructors.
- Excellent communication with districts intended to meet district needs.

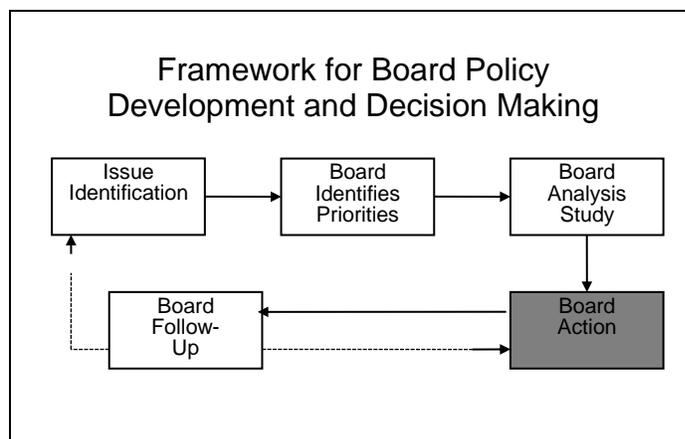
Recommendation:

Based upon the review of Generalist, Level 1 program components submitted for consideration, the Green Hills Area Education Agency paraeducator program is recommended for approval. This approved status will continue through May 2021.

Iowa State Board of Education

Executive Summary

September 15, 2016



Agenda Item: Mississippi Bend Area Education Agency Paraeducator Preparation Program Approval

Iowa Goals: Goal 1: All children will enter school ready to learn.
Goal 2: All PK -12 students will achieve at a high level.

State Board Role/Authority: Iowa Administrative Code section 281—80 grants authority to the State Board of Education to set standards and procedures for the approval of programs for individuals who seek a paraeducator certification issued by the Board of Educational Examiners.

Presenter: Marietta Rives, Consultant
Bureau of Educator Quality

Attachments: 1

Recommendation: It is recommended that the State Board approve the paraeducator preparation program submitted by Mississippi Bend Area Education Agency. This program approval status will extend through July 2021.

Background: Legislation originally passed in 1998 and revised in 2000 created a voluntary paraeducator certification. The legislation was prompted by the need to have well-trained paraeducators providing assistance to students and teachers.

**Program Recommended for Approval
September 15, 2016**

Mississippi Bend Area Education Agency Paraeducator Program to include:

Generalist, Level 1
Special Needs
Early Childhood
Library, Media Specialist

Iowa's voluntary paraeducator certification program is one way for paraeducators to meet the requirements set forth in No Child Left Behind. An additional benefit of this program is that certification will establish realistic opportunities for upward mobility through a career ladder pathway for paraeducators.

The institution named above has submitted a request for approval or re-approval of programs to certify paraeducators in each of the listed content areas. Although the paraeducator certification program is voluntary, there are benefits to having paraeducators certified.

1. All learners will be better served and the quality of education and related services will improve with the availability of a better-prepared paraeducator workforce.
2. Paraeducators have mastered skills that are required to support and supplement teacher/provider programs.

The program has been reviewed. In reviewing the program, it was important to look for three major components:

1. Verification that each of the standards included in Iowa Administrative Code Chapter 80 have been met.
2. Verification that all standards and competencies of Chapter 22, Board of Educational Examiners administrative rules were included.
3. Verification that criteria to evaluate performance of the standards were present and appropriate.

Strengths of the program:

- A significant amount of data are collected and analyzed to inform decisions about program development.
- Mississippi Bend Area Education Agency goes the extra mile to meet the needs of their local districts in regard to para certification coursework.

Recommendation:

Based upon the review of Generalist, Level 1; Special Needs; Early Childhood; and Library, Media Specialist program components submitted for consideration, Mississippi Bend Area Education Agency's paraeducator program is recommended for approval. The approved status will remain until the next review scheduled for July 2021.