



**Minutes  
State Board of Education Meeting  
August 7, 2014**

Charles C. Edwards, Jr.  
President  
Des Moines

Michael L. Knedler  
Vice President  
Council Bluffs

Brooke Axiotis  
Des Moines

Michael Bearden  
Gladbrook

Diane Crookham-Johnson  
Oskaloosa

Angela English  
Dyersville

Rosie Hussey  
Clear Lake

Mike May  
Spirit Lake

Mary Ellen Miller  
Mason City and  
Wayne County

Hannah Rens  
Student Member  
Sioux City

Brad A. Buck  
Director and  
Executive Officer

The State Board of Education meeting was held on Thursday, August 7, 2014, in the Grimes State Office Building, State Board Room, Des Moines, Iowa. The following State Board members were present: Charlie Edwards, Mike Knedler, Rosie Hussey, Mike May, Mike Bearden, Angela English, Brooke Axiotis, Mary Ellen Miller, and Hannah Rens. Iowa Department of Education staff members present were: Brad Buck, Ryan Wise, Staci Hupp, Carole Richardson, Larry Bice, Eric St Clair, Kelli Diemer, Thomas Mayes, Jeremy Varner, Kent Farver, Pradeep Kotamraju, Nicole Proesch, Jeff Berger, Mary Delagardelle, Phil Wise, Dianne Chadwick, David Tilly, and Jody Crane. Also in attendance were: Jodi Grover; Nancy Halferty; Debra Fitzgerald, CSA; Kim Meyer, Waldorf College; Esther Streed and Kris Kilibarda, Central College; Cindy Martinek, Ashford University; Susan Fischer, Regents Alternative Pathway to Iowa Licensure; Dave Epley, House Democratic Caucus; Jeneane Beck, University of Northern Iowa/Board of Regents; Marlene Sprouse and Matt Thompson, Indian Hills Community College; Susan Lagos Lavenz, University of Iowa; Denise Crawford, Iowa State University; MJ Dolan, Iowa Association of Community College Trustees; Kim Carson, Pearson; John Parker, Legislative Services Agency; and D.T. Magee, Board of Educational Examiners.

### **STATE BOARD WORK SESSION**

A work session was held that provided an orientation to Iowa's system of community colleges, the Iowa Department of Education's (Department) Division of Community Colleges, current initiatives, and the role of the State Board of Education (Board) and the Community College Council.

There was discussion regarding community outreach activities and efforts that are underway to measure progress being made at each community college.

## **STATE BOARD BUSINESS MEETING**

Charlie Edwards called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

It was moved by Mike May and seconded by Rosie Hussey that the August agenda be approved. The motion carried unanimously.

## **COMMUNICATION**

### **Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

### **Director's Report**

Department Director Brad Buck talked about highlights of the Iowa Teacher and Principal Leadership Symposium.

He also shared information about the School Administrators of Iowa Convention where the main speaking points were around rigorous academic content, aligned assessments, and high-quality teaching.

Buck recently toured the Kirkwood Community College campus.

Buck talked about the *Attendance Center Performance Ranking Report* and discussed next steps as a result of the findings.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

Rosie Hussey made a motion and Mike Bearden seconded to approve the consent agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

### **Rules: Chapter 48 – Statewide Work-Based Learning Intermediary Network (Notice)**

Phil Wise, Policy Advisor, Division of Policy and Communications; Jeremy Varner, Administrator, Division of Community Colleges; and Kelli Diemer, Consultant, Bureau of Career and Technical Education, presented the Chapter 48 rules.

In 2013, legislation was passed to establish a network of regional work-based learning intermediary networks to connect business and the education system and expand the availability of relevant work-based learning opportunities (e.g., job shadows, internships, and career fairs) to students and teachers particularly related to science, technology, engineering, or mathematics occupations, occupations related to critical infrastructure and commercial and residential construction, or the targeted industries of advanced

manufacturing, biosciences, and information technology. This new chapter of administrative rule is intended to implement the program.

Varner discussed the development of the rules, the program parameters, the grant process, the steering committee membership, funding, and reporting requirements. Ninety seven thousand dollars (\$97,000) will be or has been awarded to each of the 15 regions. Community colleges are not the only entities involved in the delivery of this program. In each region, community colleges are a partner, but in some cases there are other organizations playing lead roles.

There was discussion regarding the services to be provided by the networks, the success and challenges of the networks, and the role of the State Board.

It was determined that the Community College Council will bring periodic updates on the work-based learning intermediary networks back to the Board.

**Motion:** Mike Knedler made a motion and Rosie Hussey seconded that the State Board give public notice of its intent to adopt new Chapter 48.

**Vote:** The motion carried unanimously.

### **State Board Policy Development Priorities 2014-2015**

Charlie Edwards talked about the value of each Board member focusing on one of the priority areas. He asked Board members to let him or Department staff know if they wanted to make any changes to the priorities they are assigned to.

Ryan Wise, Deputy Director, reported on the process that will be used once the priorities are approved by the Board. Department staff will review the priorities and the master calendar will be developed. Each priority will be given thorough consideration and will have a tight scope and sequence moving forward at all of the subsequent Board meetings leading up to next year's retreat. Indicators of progress and State Board support activities will be developed for each priority.

The Board's proposed priorities are:

- Competency-based Education
- Improving Teacher and Leader Preparation
- Reducing Achievement Gaps (with a focus on Multi-Tiered System of Supports and Early Literacy)
- Assessment
- Iowa Core

There was discussion regarding how the Board's priorities impact the Department.

**Motion:** Mike May made a motion and Rosie Hussey seconded that the State Board approve the Policy Development Priorities for 2014-2015.

**Vote:** The motion carried unanimously.

## Central College Practitioner Preparation Program Accreditation

Larry Bice, Administrative Consultant, Bureau of Educator Quality, provided an overview of the current accreditation review process and explained that the process is being changed.

There was discussion about compliance with the 281 Iowa Administrative Code (IAC) chapter 79 standards, plans for follow-up visits to institutions, implications of a conditional approval, the seven-year review cycle process, whether the issues identified in accreditation reports (Central College and Waldorf College) were the same issues that were identified seven years ago, and whether the Board has the authority to withdraw an institution's accreditation.

Carole Richardson, Consultant, Bureau of Educator Quality, introduced Central College representatives Kris Kilibarda and Esther Streed. Richardson shared highlights of the institution's teacher preparation program, discussed strengths of the program, addressed each of the standard and compliance areas, and talked about evidence that has been produced that provides assurance that the compliance areas will come into attainment. The standards are: Governance and Resources, Diversity, Faculty, Assessment, Teacher Education Clinical, and Teacher Education Curriculum.

There was discussion regarding the criteria for students to be accepted into the Central Teacher Academy, the number of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) majors, how the institution prepares its students in competency-based education and the Iowa Core, the grade point average (GPA) required to be admitted into the program, and whether the institution has a way to measure students' success in the classroom.

Charlie Edwards suggested that the Board members that have teacher preparation as a priority area bring this program back to the Board next year with the evidence that progress is being made and that the plan is being implemented.

**Motion:** Mike May made a motion and Angela English seconded that the State Board approve the Central College Teacher Preparation Program through the next state accreditation cycle scheduled for the 2020-2021 academic year with the caveat that the Department will provide the Board with official follow-up by August 2015.

There was discussion regarding the rationale for this decision and the need to hold the Department accountable to ensure follow-through.

**Vote:** The motion carried unanimously.

## **Waldorf College Practitioner Preparation Program Accreditation**

Larry Bice introduced Waldorf College representative Kim Meyer. Bice shared information on Waldorf College and the accreditation review process.

Bice talked about the 281 IAC chapter 79 standards, strengths of the teacher preparation program, concerns and the plan to address the concerns. The standards are: Governance and Resources, Diversity, Faculty, Assessment, Teacher Education Clinical, and Teacher Education Curriculum.

Bice indicated Waldorf College is a for-profit institution. In 2007, the school had some financial difficulty and were bought by Mayes Education.

There was a question regarding the GPA requirement and screening process to be admitted into the program, the need to improve the use of technology, how the institution prepares its students in competency-based education and the Iowa Core, the concern about evidence that candidates can articulate best practices, and the Board's authority to set the accreditation visit cycle.

**Motion:** Mike May made a motion and Rosie Hussey seconded that the State Board approve the Waldorf College Teacher Preparation Program through the next state accreditation cycle scheduled for the 2020-2021 academic year with the caveat that the Department will provide the Board with official follow-up by August 2015.

**Vote:** The motion carried unanimously.

Charlie Edwards emphasized that the Board members that have teacher preparation as a priority area need to hold the Department accountable for the Board and ensure that this item is brought back to the Board.

## **Regents Alternative Pathway to Iowa Licensure (RAPIL) – Request for Approval of Program Changes**

Larry Bice indicated that Iowa Code chapter 256 grants authority to the Board to set standards, approve teacher intern programs and approve program changes based on those standards. 281 IAC chapter 77 contains the Standards for Teacher Intern Preparation Programs. 281 IAC rule 77.7 requires the Board to approve any changes that exceed the primary scope of the program. The RAPIL program has applied to the Board for approval of a program change that the Department has determined to exceed the primary scope of the approved program.

Bice explained the change RAPIL was seeking and provided background on internship programs. He discussed the process used for approving these programs. During the application review process, the Department looks at compliance with the standards and

equity with the existing program only for the changes submitted. The Department did not examine the existing RAPIL program.

Bice talked about the issues that were found with the standards. The issues were in the areas of governance, use of the Iowa Teaching Standards, the mentoring and induction requirement, management of clinical placement, faculty, and candidate support. Based on these findings, Bice recommended that the Board not approve the program changes.

Susan Fischer, RAPIL Program Coordinator, indicated that this is the same quality program that is currently available, but is being offered to an additional audience that is in need of licensure. This program would help those individuals who are teaching in international schools who now must meet their new accreditation standards to become licensed. It is the same program; however, accommodations need to be made when offering online programs overseas.

Fischer provided responses to each of the issues that were found stating that RAPIL has met the standards and indicated that they would be willing to provide additional information.

There was discussion about whether all three of the Regents universities that comprise RAPIL agree with the proposal, whether there are similar programs in other states, the scrutiny to bring people into the program, and the length of the internship program.

After discussion, the Board determined to table this item until additional information and evidence can be provided.

**Motion:** Mike May made a motion and Mary Ellen Miller seconded that the State Board table this item until the Department comes back with a recommendation.

**Vote:** The motion carried unanimously.

### **Indian Hills Community College (Comprehensive Report) Accreditation Report**

Jeremy Varner provided an overview of the community college accreditation process. The process was overhauled two years ago. It assures that community colleges are offering quality services consistent with state standards. The process has been streamlined and is more focused and efficient. It dovetails with the Higher Learning Commission accreditation process. The schedules have been decoupled. The accreditation process is on a ten-year cycle with a comprehensive evaluation on the tenth year and an interim evaluation on the fifth year.

Varner also talked about the components of the comprehensive and interim reports and indicated that moving forward three reports will be presented to the Board annually.

Varner indicated that the majority of the community colleges had issues with their nondiscrimination statements. Guidance will be issued to help colleges understand the expectations and a model statement will be provided.

Kent Farver, Chief, Bureau of Community College Education, talked about the value of the accreditation process. Nine out of the fifteen community colleges have been visited with the new accreditation process. The comprehensive report provides more information than the interim report.

Farver reported on the strengths, best practices that will be shared with other community colleges, and opportunities for improvement at Indian Hills Community College. The Department will follow-up within the next year to ensure that the needed changes are being made.

Indian Hills Community College representatives provided comments stating that the process is very enlightening and they are pleased to be involved.

Since community college accreditation reports are presented to the Community College Council prior to being presented to the Board, Charlie Edwards requested that the Board members that serve on that council inform the Board of any issues with community college accreditation reports.

Mike Knedler reported that the Community College Council was pleased with all of the accreditation reports - Indian Hills Community College, Iowa Lakes Community College, Iowa Valley Community College District, Northeast Iowa Community College, and Southwestern Community College.

**Motion:** Mike Knedler made a motion and Mary Ellen Miller seconded that the State Board grant continued accreditation for the Indian Hills Community College. A state comprehensive accreditation evaluation will be conducted in fiscal year 2018.

There was discussion regarding how the college uses student evaluations in determining the quality of the faculty.

**Vote:** The motion carried unanimously.

### **Iowa Lakes Community College (Interim Report) Accreditation Report**

Kent Farver highlighted the best practices at Iowa Lakes Community College. These best practices will be shared with the other community colleges.

**Motion:** Rosie Hussey made a motion and Mike May seconded that the State Board grant continued accreditation for Iowa Lakes Community College. A state comprehensive accreditation evaluation will be conducted in fiscal year 2019.

**Vote:** The motion carried unanimously.

### **Iowa Valley Community College District (Interim Report) Accreditation Report**

Kent Farver highlighted the best practices at the Iowa Valley Community College District. These best practices will be shared with the other community colleges.

**Motion:** Mike Knedler made a motion and Brooke Axiotis seconded that the State Board grant continued accreditation for Iowa Valley Community College District. A state comprehensive accreditation evaluation will be conducted in fiscal year 2019.

**Vote:** The motion carried unanimously.

### **Northeast Iowa Community College (Interim Report) Accreditation Report**

Kent Farver highlighted the best practices at the Northeast Iowa Community College. These best practices will be shared with the other community colleges.

**Motion:** Angela English made a motion and Mike May seconded that the State Board grant continued accreditation for Northeast Iowa Community College. A state comprehensive accreditation evaluation will be conducted in fiscal year 2019.

**Vote:** The motion carried unanimously.

### **Southwestern Community College (Interim Report) Accreditation Report**

Kent Farver highlighted the best practices at the Southwestern Community College. These best practices will be shared with the other community colleges.

**Motion:** Mary Ellen Miller made a motion and Rosie Hussey seconded that the State Board grant continued accreditation for Southwestern Community College. A state comprehensive accreditation evaluation will be conducted in fiscal year 2018.

**Vote:** The motion carried unanimously.

### **Update on Work to Continuously Improve Educator Preparation in Iowa**

Larry Bice talked about changes that have been made to the 281 IAC chapter 79 standards. The standards changes have been drafted, provided to the Board for review, and vetted nationally. The standards are: Governance and Resources, Diversity, Faculty, Assessment, and Clinical. The final draft of the standards will be presented to the Board for notice in September 2014.

Bice shared information about the annual reporting requirements which have been rewritten, vetted nationally, and piloted.

The Board worked through a draft of a document titled *Report on the State of Educator Preparation in Iowa* and provided feedback for improvement. Items included in this report

were determined by input from the annual reporting update team, the Board's input and by examining similar reports in other states. Once finalized, this report will be distributed to the Board, educator preparation stakeholders, and consumers.

### **Assessment – Current Context, State Board Responsibilities, New Information**

David Tilly, Deputy Director, shared information on the work surrounding education assessment in Iowa. He provided a general overview of the work of the Assessment Task Force. Specifically, he addressed the membership, the meeting schedule, the process used in making recommendations, and the charge of the task force.

Tilly also described the process used in selecting a vendor and indicated that two testing programs have been invited to attend the next meeting of the Assessment Task Force. (Iowa Assessments and Smarter Balanced)

Tilly talked about next steps. The Assessment Task Force recommendations are due to the Legislature in January 2015. It is anticipated that the recommendations will be brought to the Board at the November meeting.

There was discussion regarding the cost, evaluation of the results, whether the assessment will be unique to Iowa, Iowa's relationship with Iowa Assessments and Smarter Balanced, the process for submitting the Assessment Task Force's recommendations, the length of the vendor's contract, and the Board's recommendations to the Legislature.

### **Interim Progress Report on the Work of the Secondary Career and Technical Education Task Force**

Jeremy Varner introduced Pradeep Kotamraju, Chief, Bureau of Career and Technical Education. Varner and Kotamraju provided an update on Secondary Career and Technical Education (CTE) reform.

The Secondary CTE Task Force was established as part of House File 604 to make recommendations that reduce skill shortages, enhance economic growth, and ensures that all students have access to high quality, globally competitive career and technical education programs. The legislation directed the Department to establish a Secondary CTE Task Force to review and make recommendations on secondary CTE programs. This review is to consider measures to ensure consistency in CTE program quality statewide.

The legislation directs the task force to review provisions of the Iowa Code and related provisions of the Iowa Administrative Code relating to vocational CTE. The task force shall consider measures to ensure rigorous standards, consistency in program quality statewide, alignment with postsecondary programs leading to middle-skill occupations with family-sustaining wages, curricula that align workforce skills with industry-recognized standards where such standards exist, responsiveness to labor market needs, robust

business and industry participation, including participation on advisory committees, and efficient statewide delivery of programming.

The task force shall also review the definition of “career academy” and review and recommend core components of career academies and regional centers.

The task force and associated work teams have achieved tentative consensus around the type of activities that needs focusing: (a) articulate/sequence high school CTE courses within a defined career cluster to postsecondary programming with dual credit options; (b) integrate academic/technical curricula within a whole school reform effort; (c) build a career guidance system that is aligned to further education and workforce development, focusing on careers viable in the future; and (d) provide work-based learning as spectrum of curricular experiences, including pre-apprenticeship/apprenticeship options.

The task force’s recommendation will be submitted to the Legislature in 2016.

### **Board Reports**

Mary Ellen Miller attended the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) New Member Institute in Arlington, Virginia. She distributed a packet of materials from the institute.

Rosie Hussey participated on a conference call with other Board members and Department staff regarding the Board’s priority of Improving Teacher Leader Preparation.

Mike Knedler distributed a packet of materials that contained information from an Iowa Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development Conference and a Next Generation Science Standards Conference that he attended.

Brooke Axiotis attended the NASBE New Member Institute in Arlington, Virginia.

Mike May had no report.

Mike Bearden attended the NASBE New Member Institute in Arlington, Virginia.

Hannah Rens attended an International Space Settlement Competition at the Kennedy Space Center.

Angela English had no report.

Charlie Edwards attended the Iowa Teacher and Principal Leadership Symposium.

Charlie Edwards adjourned the meeting at 3:45 p.m.

  
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Charles C. Edwards, Jr.  
President

  
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Brad A. Buck  
Director