Minutes
State Board of Education
January 26, 2012

The State Board of Education meeting was held on Thursday, January 26, 2012, in the Grimes State Office Building, State Board Room, Des Moines, Iowa. The following State Board members were present: Rosie Hussey, Charlie Edwards, Max Phillips, LaMetta Wynn, Eric Goranson, Brandon Bolte, Mike Knedler, Ana Lopez, and Sister Jude Fitzpatrick. Director Jason Glass and Iowa Department of Education (Department) staff members Gail Sullivan, Carol Greta, Mike Cormack, Roger Utman, Kevin Fangman, Staci Hupp, Wilma Gajdel, Mary Delegardelle, Sandra Dop, Jeff Berger, Del Hoover, Jim Donoghue, Connie Maxson, Byron Darnall, LauraBelle Sherman-Proehl, Kris Crabtree-Groff, Tom Schenk, Vladimir Bassis, David Mitchell, Julie Curry, Mary Beth Schroeder Fracek, Thomas Mayes, Phil Wise, Geri McMahon, and Jody Crane were also in attendance. Also in attendance were: Representative Greg Forristall, Representative Sharon Steckman, Representative Ron Jorgenson, and Representative Cindy Winckler; Bridget Godes, Senate Majority Party Caucus Staff-Education; Gannon Hedrick, Senate Minority Party Caucus Staff-Education; Jason Chapman, House Majority Party Caucus Staff-Education; David Epley, House Minority Party Caucus Staff-Education; Lawrence Bice, Paula Schmidt, Jo Ann Rust, and Carol Manzel, Clarke University; Sue Danielson, WHO Radio; Connie Ryan-Terrell, Des Moines Interfaith Alliance; Nancy Sebring, Melissa Spencer, Michael Vykovich, Brice Amos, and Matt Smith, Des Moines Independent Community School District.

STATE BOARD WORK SESSION

A work session was held with the following legislators: Representative Greg Forristall, Chair, House Education Committee; Representative Sharon Steckman, Ranking Member, House Education Committee; Representative Cindy Winckler, Ranking Member, House Education Budget Subcommittee; and Representative Ron Jorgensen, Vice Chair, House Education Budget Subcommittee. The purpose of the work session was to provide an update on the Board’s priorities and to continue the discussion regarding legislative support for the Board’s priorities. The Board’s priorities are:

- Competency-based Education
- Online Learning and Other Technological Advances to Support 21st Century Learning
- Reducing the Achievement Gap
STATE BOARD BUSINESS MEETING

State Board President Rosie Hussey called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. She thanked Board members that were able to attend the work session with legislators, the meeting with the Iowa State Education Association, and the upcoming meeting with the Board of Regents.

It was moved by Mike Knedler 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

Director Jason Glass reported on the legislative proposal that the Governor's Office and the Department have put forth. The House is working on the proposal in earnest and there have been three subcommittee meetings where discussions have occurred around the majority of the bill. Glass stated that there is a legislative brief available on the Department’s website.

Glass thinks there is agreement with both sides that they would like to have something happen; however, they are struggling with some policy issues. The two toughest decisions that will have to be made are around the teacher quality elements and the third grade retention program.

There was discussion regarding when data would be available on the Response to Intervention program; if it would be possible for the Board to hear a report on the universal preschool program and the difference it is making; if research looks at personality, mental health, or psychology of learning; the importance of teacher involvement and ownership; and if there has been any involvement for keeping parents in the loop and making them feel they are part of the process regarding education reform.

CONSENT AGENDA

Carol Greta, Attorney, Office of the Director, responded to a question regarding the Chapter 12 rules.

Max Phillips moved and LaMetta Wynn seconded to approve the consent agenda. The motion carried unanimously.
BOARD ACTION/DISCUSSION AGENDA

Rules: Chapter 25 - Academic Career and Employment Program; Tuition Assistance (Notice)

Roger Utman, Administrator, Division of Community Colleges, stated that the Chapter 25 rules conform to legislation that was passed last spring. Utman explained that there have been issues regarding funding for short-term training programs. The Pathways Academic Career and Employment (PACE) program is targeted to match unemployed and underemployed workers with in-demand industry areas in Iowa. It will assist private businesses and industry by providing skilled workers for a variety of positions. PACE will allow low-skilled, low-income, unemployed and underemployed adult and dislocated workers to rapidly and effectively acquire and demonstrate competency in a specified technical field. Occupations will be determined regionally, and will include but not be limited to: information technology, health care, advanced manufacturing, and transportation. These certificate programs are aligned with credit certificates, diplomas and degrees. PACE does not replace existing training.

Utman reported that the gap tuition assistance program is established to provide funding to community colleges for need-based tuition assistance to applicants with the short-term training programs. One of the sources not available to these applicants is the PELL grant so this will be of great assistance to them. Eligibility for tuition assistance is based on financial need. Applicants may be found eligible for either partial or total tuition assistance.

There was discussion regarding the funding and if this is redundant to what the community colleges are already doing.

Motion: Max Phillips moved and Sister Jude Fitzpatrick seconded to give public notice of its intent to adopt this new chapter of rules.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Rules: Chapter 63 – Funding for Instructional Programs for Children Residing in Juvenile Homes (Notice)

Jeff Berger, Deputy Director, indicated that attempts have been made to amend Chapter 63, but have not been successful in over 20 years. He explained that juvenile homes are Department of Human Services entities, but the programming for education is run by the Department through the area education agency (AEA) system. Chapter 63 governs the use of funds for the programming that the Department and the AEAs provide for juvenile homes.

Berger stated that the Department is requesting that the Chapter 63 rules be Noticed; however, there is a chance that the Board may be asked to rescind this Notice. The
Department will work with the AEA system on updating the rules. The Board will be kept informed as the process moves along.

There was discussion about whether this has any relationship to boot camps, if this will involve Code changes, and how many students will be affected.

**Motion:** Sister Jude Fitzpatrick moved and Eric Goranson seconded to give public notice of its intent to amend Chapter 63.

**Vote:** The motion carried unanimously.

**Rules: Chapter 98 - Financial Management of Categorical Funding (Adopt)**

Carol Greta, Attorney, Office of the Director, stated that the Board had Noticed the Chapter 98 rules in November and at this time is being asked to Adopt them. However, since the rules were originally Noticed and after talking to various stakeholders, it was decided that the word “transaction” needed to be defined.

There was discussion on appropriate uses of categorical funding.

**Motion:** Sister Jude Fitzpatrick moved and LaMetta Wynn seconded to amend Chapter 98.

**Vote:** The motion carried unanimously.

**Rules: Chapter 120 - Early ACCESS Integrated System of Early Intervention Services (Notice)**

LauraBelle Sherman-Proehl, Chief, Bureau of Early Childhood Services, and Thomas Mayes, Legal Consultant, Bureau of Student and Family Support Services, shared highlights of the Chapter 120 rules.

Mayes explained that the Chapter 120 rules align with federal law and allow the Department to continue to draw down federal dollars. These are updated rules to align with new federal language, but it is not a new program. Chapter 120 has been in the Iowa Administrative Code since 2002. The Early ACCESS program has been in effect since 1989.

Mayes stated that the purpose of the program aligns with discussions on getting children ready for school and success.

Mayes reported that in October 2011, the federal government gave the Department amended Part C rules. Trying to fit all of those amendments into the current Chapter 120 was unwieldy. The Board is being asked to strike the current Chapter 120 and adopt a new Chapter 120 that aligns with the federal numbering system. This will allow Iowa to speak a common language with the federal government.
Mayes explained some of the changes that are required by the federal rulemaking.

There was discussion regarding the limits on who can provide the services, how many individuals are served, and if the revised federal regulations create any new and unique challenges for the Department.

**Motion:** Max Phillips moved and Ana Lopez seconded to give public notice of its intent to amend Chapter 120.

**Vote:** The motion carried unanimously.

**Appeal Decision: In re Kiley W.**

Carol Greta, Attorney, Office of the Director, provided background information on this appeal decision. After less than two months of attendance by their daughter at the West Bend-Mallard High School, the Appellants decided to transfer their daughter to another high school. They filed a late open enrollment application, alleging pervasive harassment, on the same day that they transferred their daughter to the new school.

The local school board found that the allegations did not constitute pervasive harassment. The evidence at the hearing before the administrative law judge was found to fall short of proving pervasive harassment.

There was discussion regarding how this student’s learning would be affected and what the cost is for tuition.

**Motion:** Charlie Edwards moved and Max Phillips seconded to approve the proposed decision affirming the decision of the local board of directors of the West Bend-Mallard Community School District to deny the late-filed open enrollment application herein.

**Vote:** The motion carried unanimously.

There was a follow-up question regarding why no costs have been assigned.

**Clarke University Teacher Education Program**

Kris Crabtree-Groff, Consultant, Bureau of Accreditation and Improvement Services, announced that she would let the Clarke University Teacher Education Program report speak for itself. Lawrence Bice, Clarke University Chair and Assistant Professor of Education, was present to answer questions.

Crabtree-Groff talked about highlights of the report.

There was discussion about whether Clarke University does anything with English as a Second Language.
Bice stated that Clarke University welcomes several of the reforms that are coming out of the Governor’s office, the Department of Education, and the Legislature because they are currently doing many of them.

**Motion:** Mike Knedler moved and Ana Lopez seconded to issue continuing approval to Clarke University Teacher Education Program through the next state visit cycle scheduled for the 2018-2019 academic year.

**Vote:** The motion carried unanimously.

**Update on No Child Left Behind Waiver Process**

Kevin Fangman, Deputy Director, provided context on the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) waiver process. Twenty-seven Department staff members have been working on the waiver. Staff has been gathering feedback from stakeholder groups and nine regional meetings will be held (one in each AEA) over the next two weeks. Invitees include educators, board members, parents, community members, students, and administrators. Fangman stated that by the close of business on Monday, January 30, a video will be posted on the Department’s website on each waiver principle as well as a feedback survey.

Glass commended Fangman and staff for their work on this endeavor and he provided a framework of the political context behind the NCLB waiver. He also shared the overall impression of Iowa from a national review team.

Glass reported on the relationships between the NCLB waiver process and the Governor’s education bill. They relate to changes to the assessment system, adding a growth measure, updating and improving the Iowa Core and the evaluation components.

Connie Maxson, Chief, Bureau of Teaching and Learning Services, stated that the three principles of the waiver are:

1. College- and Career-Ready Expectations for All Students
2. State-Developed Differentiated Recognition, Accountability, and Support
3. Supporting Effective Instruction and Leadership

Maxson talked extensively about the first principle: College- and Career-Ready Expectations for All Students. She reviewed the emphasis, requirements, and Iowa’s Plan.

There was discussion regarding the definition for college and career readiness.

Mary Delagardelle, Consultant, Bureau of Teaching and Learning Services, talked about the accountability piece of the second principle: State-Developed Differentiated Recognition, Accountability, and Support. She reviewed the requirements which include:

- Iowa’s Current Accountability System
- Proposed Accountability Overview
There was discussion about whether a review has been done of the other 11 states’ waivers to see if Iowa’s waiver has similar components; if students will be given the same credit as schools for showing growth, but not yet being proficient; if trends are being seen of different types of schools fitting into different places, and how the amount of work involved with the waiver compares to the current No Child Left Behind.

Delagardelle distributed a worksheet for Board members to complete. The exercise determines the achievement score, other academic indicators, performance index, closing gap score, and the performance category. The Board shared feedback on the exercise.

Wilma Gajdel, Administrative Consultant, Bureau of Teaching and Learning Services, shared information about the systems support piece of the second principle: State-Developed Differentiated Recognition, Accountability, and Support.

There was discussion about whether the political push back will now be at the state level rather than at the federal level, if there has been discussion of redesigning the current process for highest achievement districts, what the term “studio school” means, caution/concern with labeling schools and teachers, and if there will be any money connected for teachers that are placed in low performing schools.

Kevin Fangman stated that the Department is looking at this process as a comprehensive system for the state.

Byron Darnall, Special Assistant to the Director, Office of the Director, reported on the third principle: Supporting Effective Instruction and Leadership.

There was discussion regarding how this principle relates to the Wallace Foundation work, if skill building is part of the evaluation process, if there will be a uniform evaluation system statewide, if it’s been discussed how evaluations are going to improve instruction, if the plan dovetails with the teacher preparation programs, and if annual evaluations are realistic.

**Update on Activities Related to Competency-based Education**

Kevin Fangman, Deputy Director, and Sandra Dop, Consultant, Bureau of Teaching and Learning Services, provided an update on efforts relating to competency-based education.

A Competency-Based Education: A Research to Action Forum was held on December 8, 2011. Board members that attended the forum shared their comments. Fangman
indicated that the event filled up within two days. Seventy-three districts were represented. Attendees included administrators, parents, educators, administrative teams, higher education, legislators, legislative staff, State Board members, business and industry members, AEA staff members, and Department staff members.

Fangman stated that feedback sheets have been received and the Department will be reviewing them. Overall, the event was well received and the follow-up next steps need to be determined at the broader level on how to support the districts that have submitted a waiver.

Fangman shared additional information which included:

- The Department has received 29 waiver applications for 2012-13.
- Videos from the forum have been received and are being previewed.
  - Dop explained that the “Ning” (which is a social network for professionals) will continue to be a way to communicate information on the forum.
- There will be a follow-up meeting with the Community Colleges and the Board of Regents.
- Efforts are evolving in school districts.

There was discussion regarding Ankeny’s efforts to implement a standards-based grading system and how it is encouraging that competency-based education appears to be an area of agreement among several groups as a model of education that should be studied further and implemented.

**Celebrating Progress: North High School, Des Moines**

Rosie Hussey welcomed representatives from North High School. Kevin Fangman, Deputy Director, stated that in 2009 North High School was identified as one of Iowa’s persistently lowest achieving schools. Since then, their achievement results on the Iowa Assessment from the 2010-2011 school year have shown significant gains in reading and math proficiency.

Nancy Sebring, Des Moines Independent Community School District Superintendent, stated that the administrative team at that school was replaced. Sebring introduced Matt Smith, North School Principal, Mike Vykovitch, North High School Vice Principal, and Brice Amos, High School Education Executive Director.

The team from North High School shared changes and improvements made at the school during the past 18 months that led to achievement gains, how they will build on the success, and what challenges remain.

There was discussion regarding higher education’s ability to prepare leaders to work in schools under the current preparation model, if the problem with the achievement gap was related to race or sex, if there are barriers at the state level that need to be removed, what role parents play, and if there are any schools duplicating this same approach.
Iowa Mentoring and Induction Program

Mary Beth Schroeder Fracek, Administrative Consultant, Bureau of Teaching and Learning, stated that she’s been with the Iowa Mentoring and Induction Program since its inception in 2001 and that she administers the program for all of Iowa’s school districts and AEAs.

Fracek provided background on the program, explained the funding, talked about the annual Mentoring and Induction institute, and the role of the Mentoring and Induction Steering Committee. She described the Journey to Excellence Iowa Training Model for Mentoring and Induction that was developed in partnership with the Iowa State Education Association.

Fracek indicated that financial support for the program, beyond the state allocation to districts and AEAs, is provided through the Teacher Quality Partnership grant. The proposed legislation (Education Reform Bill) will also strengthen the mentoring program.

The Annual Condition of Iowa’s Community Colleges Report 2011

Roger Utman, Administrator, Division of Community Colleges, and Thomas Schenk, Jr., Consultant, Bureau of Adult, Career, and Community College Education, presented highlights of The Annual Condition of Iowa’s Community Colleges: 2011. As part of the introduction, Utman distributed a copy of Iowa’s Community Colleges Financial Data Fiscal Year 2011. Also as part of the introduction, Utman announced that this would be the last presentation by Tom Schenk to the Board since he had accepted a position as a data analyst for the School of Medicine at Northwestern University. Before turning the presentation over to Schenk, Utman indicated that each year a special supplement is included in the Condition of Community Colleges report. This year the supplement is on Developmental Education.

Schenk reviewed a PowerPoint and highlighted the following:

- Fiscal Year Enrollment
- Race & Ethnicity
- Gender
- Program Type
- CTE (Career and Technical Education) Programs
- Joint Enrollment
- Online Enrollment
- Noncredit Enrollment
- Student Awards
- Student Wages
- Developmental Education
- Course Prefix
- Developmental Courses
- Enrollment by Age
- Enrollment by Gender
- Enrollment by Race
- High School Class of 2009
Board Reports

Rosie Hussey announced that the July State Board meeting date has been moved to July 31.

Hussey has been participating on the Smarter Balanced webinars and has requested that the Director of the Smarter Balance meet with the State Board.

Hussey asked Board members to share their reactions regarding the meeting format used in meeting with legislators.

Hussey thanked Board members for attending the meetings with the educational organizations and stated that future meetings will be planned. Additionally, Board members provided feedback regarding these meetings and the Board’s priorities were discussed.

Hussey mentioned that she asked Mike Cormack, Policy Liaison, Office of the Director, to provide the Board with weekly legislative updates.

Eric Goranson had no report.

Brandon Bolte plans to apply for the Learning Council. In addition, he is a Presidential Scholar candidate.

Sister Jude Fitzpatrick met with Peter Ansingh, West Des Moines Community School District Superintendent.

LaMetta Wynn participated on the Community College Council ICN. She also read to a third grade class.

Ana Lopez has been invited by the National Association of State Boards of Education to serve on their Governmental Affairs Committee.

Mike Knedler participated on the Community College Council ICN. He also attended Competency-based Education: A Research to Action Forum on December 8.

Charlie Edwards reported that he will participate on the Iowa Public Television Board.

Rosie Hussey adjourned the meeting at 3:15 p.m.

Rosie Hussey
President

Jason E. Glass
Director