The State Board of Education retreat/meeting was held on Tuesday, June 4, and Wednesday, June 5, at the Des Moines Area Community College, Ankeny, Iowa. The following State Board members were present: Rosie Hussey, Charlie Edwards, LaMetta Wynn, Diane Crookham-Johnson, Sister Jude Fitzpatrick, Michael Knedler, Mike May, Valorie Kruse, Max Phillips, and Edgar Thornton. Director Jason Glass and Iowa Department of Education staff members Gail Sullivan, Mike Cormack, Phil Wise, Gwen Nagel, Michelle Hosp, Jeff Berger, Dianne Chadwick, Amy Williamson, Mary Delagardelle, Ryan Wise, Staci Hupp, Nicole Proesch, Byron Darnall, Dave Tilly, Jeremy Varner, Isaiah McGee, Tom Deeter, Sandra Dop, Larry Bice, Sarah Brown, Thomas Mayes, Jim Donoghue, Gary Schwartz, Bill Roederer, and Jody Crane were also in attendance. Also in attendance were: Kari Webb, Competency-based Education Task Force; Jodi Grover; and Rob Denson, Des Moines Area Community College.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION RETREAT

Welcome – Goals of the Retreat

President Rosie Hussey welcomed the group and thanked the State Board (Board) and Department of Education (Department) staff for their expertise and support.

Hussey talked about the progress the State Board has made and indicated that the Board has faced challenges, studied issues, faced difficult decisions, established goals, and developed policy. She stated that she is pleased with the Board’s development and talked about the goals of the retreat.

Legislative Update

Mike Cormack, Policy Liaison; Ryan Wise, Director of Strategic Initiatives; Phil Wise, Policy Advisor; Office of the Director; and Isaiah McGee, Policy Consultant, Bureau of School Improvement provided a legislative update.
Ryan Wise shared highlights of the teacher leadership and compensation pathways section of the education reform package. This section of the bill lays out three possible approaches that school districts can take to establish a local teacher leadership and compensation system. The approaches are: 1) the Teacher Pathway System suggested by the Governor, 2) Instructional Coach Model suggested by the Legislature, and 3) a Comparable Plan Option that doesn’t fit either approach, but meets the same overall program goals.

This section of the bill takes a four-year phased-in approach to developing the statewide teacher leadership and compensation system. It also creates a 19-member commission that will be tasked with monitoring the implementation of local teacher leadership and compensation systems as well as making recommendations to the Department on approval of the plans that local districts receive. In addition, the bill allocates $700,000 to the Department to: 1) provide technical assistance to districts in designing their local plan with a focus on districts that have fewer than 600 students, and 2) build a system of statewide teacher leadership roles.

Ryan Wise said that the Department’s high priorities are to: 1) design the application process for the planning grants for early adoption of the system, 2) establish the 19-member commission, and 3) build the team that will be responsible for developing and implementing this work.

Isaiah McGee reported on the part of the education reform bill that deals with attendance center rankings. Phil Wise indicated that the Department will present a report of the rankings to the Board by July 1, 2014.

Mike Cormack indicated that Iowa Learning Online expansion occurred and that Competency-based Education received a major push this legislative session.

**Introductory Comments – Jason Glass**

Director Jason Glass shared information about a component of the education reform bill called “Teach Iowa” which is a statewide job posting system. School districts will post open positions that they have allowing job applicants to view all education job listings statewide and to upload their own individual profiles for employers around the state to see. It is hoped that this will make the application process simpler and quicker at less cost for everyone involved.

Glass also reported on the second part of this initiative that is called “Teach Iowa Scholar Program.” The College Student Aid Commission will work with the Department to expand present efforts into a program that will seek to give incentives to high achieving students that enter the teaching field. In return for teaching in high needs areas in Iowa, award recipients would receive scholarship assistance for doing so.
Update on the Status of the State Board’s Priorities

Online Learning

Gwen Nagel, Consultant, Bureau of Standards and Curriculum, provided an update on Iowa Learning Online (ILO). She showed a PowerPoint that addressed:

- Education Reform – House File 215
- ILO’s Phase One Priorities
- Additional Updates

Reducing the Achievement Gap

Dave Tilly, Deputy Director, Division of Learning and Results; introduced Sarah Brown who will be the new bureau chief in the Bureau of Learner Strategies and Supports, effective July 1, 2013; and Michelle Hosp, Consultant, Bureau of Learner Strategies and Supports.

Tilly announced that progress has been made in the area of Response to Intervention (RtI). As of the fall 2014, initial implementation of RtI will be in 10 percent of Iowa’s elementary schools.

Hosp provided an update on the Board’s priority of Reducing the Achievement Gap through the use of RtI. She reviewed a PowerPoint and reported on the accomplishments of RtI this past year. Her presentation included information on:

- Collaboration for Iowa’s Kids
- Identify Universal Screening and Progress Monitoring Tools (PreK-6) in Reading
- Build an RtI Data System for Schools and Districts
- Build Tools to Assist Schools in Determining why Reading Instruction is not Sufficient
- Identify Evidence-based Standard Treatment Protocol for Struggling Readers

An introductory video to the RtI Data System was shown.

Improving Teacher and Leader Preparation

Larry Bice, Administrative Consultant, Bureau of Educator Quality, updated the Board on four avenues of work that have begun in the area of improving teacher and leader preparation. The areas are:

1) Standards Update
2) Accreditation Process Update
3) Annual Reporting Development
4) Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation Partnership Work

Bice also updated the Board on a Council of Chief State Schools Officers grant opportunity that would help pay for this work. Bice reported that an update will be brought back to the Board in December.
Emerging Issues

Jason Glass announced the upcoming retirement of Gail Sullivan, Chief of Staff.

Glass shared his thoughts on emerging issues by speculating that the Department will be heavily focused on implementation of expanding and clarifying the Iowa Core, RtI, initiatives around educator quality, as well as education reform elements that were put in place this legislative session.

Glass said that the three legislative priorities that he has advised the Governor’s Office to focus on are:
   1) Student Assessments
   2) State Broadband Access
   3) Literacy Efforts

Glass advised the Board not to change the direction on their priorities.

Registered Nurse to Bachelor of Science in Nursing Update

Rob Denson, President, Des Moines Area Community College, distributed a handout that discussed the movement for all registered nurses to have their Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree.

Promoting Deeper Learning

Mike May, State Board Member; Mary Delagardelle, Associate Division Administrator, Division of Learning and Results; Sandra Dop, Consultant, Bureau of Standards and Curriculum; and Kari Webb, Regional STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) Director, presented information on Promoting Deeper Learning.

Dop provided an update on the work of the Competency-based Education Task Force.

Delagardelle reported on the work of the Council of Chief State School Officers Innovation Lab Network.

May talked about the Innovation Lab Network: Deeper Learning Site Visits – High Tech High and San Diego Met.

Webb talked about why education needs to transition to a deeper learning model, what deeper learning looks like, and described Spirit Lake Community School District’s experience with deeper learning. Attributes of deeper learning are:
   - Master core academic content
   - Think critically and solve complex problems
   - Work collaboratively
   - Communicate effectively
   - Learn how to learn
Assessment Redesign

Dave Tilly, Deputy Director, Division of Learning and Results; Amy Williamson, Chief, Bureau of School Improvement; Larry Bice, Administrative Consultant, Bureau of Educator Quality; and Jason Glass, Director, presented information on improving educational assessment in Iowa. A PowerPoint presentation was presented that addressed the following:

- Standards and Assessment Alignment
- Accountability System
- New Federal Expectations and Iowa’s Teacher Evaluation Process
- Using Student Data in Teacher Evaluation
- Flexibility Waiver: An Opportunity to Change the Game
- 2013 Legislative Session
- Next Steps
- State Board’s Role Over the Next Two Years

State Board Priority Setting

Jason Glass recapped the State Board’s current policy development priorities which are:

- Competency-based Education
- Online Learning and Other Technological Advances
- Reducing Achievement Gaps
- Improving Teacher and Leader Preparation

The State Board discussed several issues and topics and asked staff to develop a 2013-2014 policy development priorities document that includes the four current priorities and add “assessment” as an additional priority. The board also suggested identifying goals and indicators of progress for each priority. Hussey asked staff to work with Diane Crookham-Johnson and Charlie Edwards on this and bring a proposal back to the Board at the August meeting.

Rosie Hussey adjourned the meeting for the day at 5:00 p.m.
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION BUSINESS MEETING

Rosie Hussey called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

It was moved by Charlie Edwards and seconded by Valorie Kruse that the June agenda be approved. The motion carried unanimously.

Chapter 82 – Standards for School Administration Manager Programs (Adopt)

Mike Cormack, Policy Liaison, Office of the Director, explained that the Chapter 82 rules - Standards for School Administration Manager Programs is a new section of rules. These rules provide standardized training requirements for School Administration Managers (SAMS) programs. This would bring uniformity in what is required for training and certification of this new category of assistants to the local school leadership team. The Board of Educational Examiners will do separate rules relating to individual licensing.

Cormack reviewed the rules process and requested that the Board adopt the Chapter 82 rules. They were brought forward from the 2012 session, Senate File 2284 and are similar to rules that were put forward previously on school business officials.

Motion: Max Phillips made a motion and Valorie Kruse seconded that the State Board adopt a new Chapter 82.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Chapter 41 – Special Education (Adopt)

Mike Cormack, Policy Liaison, Office of the Director, reviewed the rules process for the Chapter 41 rules – Special Education.

Thomas Mayes, Attorney, Bureau of School Improvement, indicated that this is an attempt to align with federal rulemaking. In February 2013, the United States Department of Education amended its special education regulations related to access to Medicaid to pay for special education services. This amended federal regulation requires one-time consent and written notification for schools to access Medicaid or other public insurance benefits and annual notification thereafter. The proposed amendments to Chapter 41 make changes required to conform to this federal rulemaking.

Motion: Mike May made a motion and Charlie Edwards seconded that the State Board adopt the changes to Chapter 41.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

The State Board of Education business meeting adjourned at 8:35 a.m.
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION RETREAT (continued)

School Finance

Jeff Berger, Deputy Director, Division of School Finance and Support Services, presented an overview of school finance in Iowa and showed a PowerPoint that included information on:

- Finance Formula Goals
- Spending Authority Basics
- Unspent Authorized Budget Report
- Foundation Level
- School District Revenue Sources
- Discretionary Programs/Local Taxes
- State Fiscal Year 2013 Appropriations
- State Fiscal Year 2000 Appropriations
- Fiscal Year 2013 Balances

Independent Accreditation of Private Schools

Isaiah McGee, Policy Consultant, Bureau of School Improvement, provided an update on the State Board’s responsibility in regard to independent accreditation of private schools. He reviewed Division 10 and Division 12 of House File 215 which contains provisions dealing with home schooling.

McGee also reviewed Division 11 of House File 215 which requires the State Board to approve a list of six accrediting regional or national nonprofit nongovernmental agencies recognized as reliable authorities concerning the quality of education offered by a school.

The Rulemaking Process – Upcoming Rules

Jeremy Varner, Administrator, Division of Community Colleges, reviewed highlights of pending legislation that will impact community colleges. Because of this legislation, there will be many new and modified administrative rules that will be promulgated over the next year. Workforce training, adult literacy programs and intermediary networks were some of the many new or expanded responsibilities given to the Iowa Community College system in the recently concluded legislative session. Those changes will take place next fall in the 2013-14 school year.

Mike Cormack, Policy Liaison, Office of the Director, reviewed the rulemaking process. He talked about what prompts administrative rules and two ways to file rules (emergency and standard process).

The standard rulemaking process takes approximately 110 days and consists of the following stages: Notice of Intended Action by the State Board of Education, Public Hearing, Governor’s Office Review, Legislative Services Agency Review, Notice of Intended Action by the Administrative Rules Review Committee (ARRC), Adoption by the State Board of Education and Publication, and final adoption by the Administrative Rules Committee. Cormack also shared that it was a major year for community colleges with strong bipartisan support of the measures that Varner shared with the Board.
State Board Meeting Dates for 2014

Gail Sullivan, Chief of Staff, Office of the Director, asked the Board to review the proposed meeting dates for 2014 and asked if there were any conflicts.

Closing Remarks

Rosie Hussey provided closing remarks. She referenced comments expressed in the last Board survey and indicated that work has begun on developing a new survey.

Hussey thanked Jason Glass for his service and commitment to the students in the state as Director of the Iowa Department of Education.

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Rosie Hussey
President