



**Minutes
State Board of Education
March 28, 2013**

Rosie Hussey
President
Clear Lake

Charles C. Edwards, Jr.
Vice President
Des Moines

Diane Crookham-Johnson
Oskaloosa

Sister Jude Fitzpatrick
West Des Moines

Michael L. Knedler
Council Bluffs

Valorie J. Kruse
Sioux City

Mike May
Spirit Lake

Max Phillips
Woodward

LaMetta Wynn
Clinton

McKenzie Baker
Student Member
Forest City

Jason E. Glass
Director and
Executive Officer

The State Board of Education meeting was held on Thursday, March 28, 2013, in the Grimes State Office Building, State Board Room, Des Moines, Iowa. The following State Board members were present: Rosie Hussey (via telephone), Charlie Edwards, Mike May, Mike Knedler, LaMetta Wynn, McKenzie Baker, Sister Jude Fitzpatrick, Diane Crookham-Johnson, and Max Phillips. Director Jason Glass and Iowa Department of Education staff members Gail Sullivan, Mike Cormack, Byron Darnall, Larry Bice, Mary Delagardelle, Beth Happe, Jeremy Varner, Isaiah McGee, Kimberly Johnson, Melissa Schnurr, Gwen Nagel, Thomas Mayes, Nicole Proesch, Staci Hupp, Phil Wise, Ryan Wise, Marietta Rives and Jody Crane were also present. Also in attendance were: Carol Lensing (via telephone) and Dan Smith, School Administrators of Iowa; Duane Magee, Board of Educational Examiners; Mary Stegmeir, Des Moines Register; Joen Rottler Larson and Kris Kilibarda, Iowa Association for Colleges of Teacher Education (IACTE); Carole Richardson, IACTE/Simpson College; Pamela Coleman, Educational Testing Service; Melissa Peterson, Iowa School Counselor Association; Tammy Bormann, Iowa Association for the Education of Young Children; Debra Stork and Mark Ward, University of Dubuque; and Frank Hilton.

Work Session- Proposal/Next Steps for “Improving Teacher and Leader Preparation”

State Board President Rosie Hussey said that she will be participating in the State Board meeting via telephone. She thanked the board members for participating in today’s meeting and also thanked the board members that participated in the March 27, 2013, Community College Council meeting.

Hussey indicated that since she was not physically present for the board meeting, she had asked Charlie Edwards to chair the work session and business meeting.

Byron Darnall, Chief, and Larry Bice, Administrative Consultant, Bureau of Educator Quality, led the work session. Bice distributed a listing of acronyms/terms glossary and a document titled "Board of Education Options for Practitioner Preparation Program Accreditation Moving Forward."

Bice talked in-depth about the current program and what is in place now which included information on:

- Standards
- Process
- Reviewers
- Information Reviewed
- Oversight
- Cost

There was discussion about how people are chosen to serve on the review panel, and the potential benefits of having non-education people included on the panels.

Bice then presented and reviewed three possible options moving forward:

Option 1: Do nothing.

- Implications

Option 2: Adopt Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) Standards and Process Statewide.

- Implications for the Iowa State Board of Education, the Department of Education, and the Board of Educational Examiners (BOEE)
- Implications for institutions of higher education
- Current status of CAEP

Option 3: Keep Iowa Program with Modifications to Standards and Process.

Options for modifying the current standards and process include:

- Update Chapter 79
- Update the review process
- Develop a partnership with CAEP
- Work with the BOEE to update curriculum exhibits to be more aligned with the Specialized Professional Association process by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE)
- Change the current annual reporting

Bice indicated that CAEP offers three partnership options which are:

1. CAEP accreditation process, CAEP does all work. State does not accredit.
2. CAEP reviews, accredits, state decides on state accreditation.
3. State performs the review process using CAEP standards, CAEP trained state reviewers, CAEP accredits, state accredits.

There was discussion about whether CAEP has a process to follow-up if conditional accreditation is granted to an institution, how many Iowa institutions might seek CAEP

accreditation on their own, and reasons why an institution might not want to use CAEP. There was additional discussion regarding the cost implications of going with CAEP, how the board needs to carefully consider if they are willing to give the authority of oversight of these programs to another entity, what is included in the CAEP process and standards, and which one of the evaluation processes would provide the most innovative and continually evolving teacher preparation programs.

Representatives from the Iowa Association of Colleges of Teacher Education (IACTE) were in the audience and they were asked if they would like to make comments. Joen Rottler Larson, College of Education, Ashford University and President of IACTE, provided a reflection on the process. She thinks there are other options in addition to the three presented today. There is an IACTE annual meeting and spring conference on April 4, 2013, and this topic is on their agenda. She suggested that IACTE and the State Board work together. In response to a question about tracking students, Larson indicated she would add that topic to be discussed at IACTE's annual meeting.

There was continued board discussion about the need to review the CAEP standards and determine whether they incorporate the board's priorities, the cost ramifications for each of the options, and if the new options being considered would create an additional burden for the institutions. One board member suggested that it would be helpful to know if teacher preparation has been improved in institutions that are currently using CAEP. It was also suggested that Chapter 79 standards could be compared to CAEP standards to see if there are gaps. The standards should be more focused and data driven to produce a system that incorporates the board's priorities.

Looking ahead, Jason Glass suggested that IACTE develop a brief outlining recommendations that group would like the board to consider. That brief could be disseminated to the board as a point of information.

Glass said that at the May meeting, the Department will present the board with three resolutions providing the board with an opportunity to indicate which direction they would like to pursue. The options would include:

- 1) Keep Iowa's accreditation system with specific modifications.
- 2) Adopt a partnership with CAEP.
- 3) Move to CAEP completely.

Glass said if the board provides direction about which of the three paths it prefers, the Department will develop a plan for implementing the changes. Once the specifics are worked out, the rule making process can begin. This process can take up to six months and includes several opportunities for buy-in and public comment.

It was requested that the five institutions of higher education that use CAEP or Teacher Education Accreditation Council (TEAC) be asked what value they get out of that. In addition, a board member suggested that the Department make a recommendation to the board to move this forward.

STATE BOARD BUSINESS MEETING

State Board Vice President Charlie Edwards called the meeting to order at 11:15 a.m.

It was moved by Mike May and seconded by LaMetta Wynn that the March agenda be approved. The motion carried unanimously.

COMMUNICATION

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Director's Report

Education Reform

Jason Glass stated that the Senate passed their version of the education reform bill. Each chamber has now passed their own version of education reform. Glass explained the next steps involved before the bill goes to a conference committee where both sides will meet to work out some differences. The encouraging news is that there are substantially similar components that exist in both the House and Senate bills that were present in the Governor's original proposal. There are some substantial disagreements as well. The Department hopes a compromise can be reached and it is close to where the Governor's original proposal started. As early as next week, the bill could be in conference committee where it is hoped a resolution can be found quickly. Otherwise, it may end up being an end-of-session deal that wraps up into some other policy issues as well.

Iowa Learning Online

Glass said the expansion of Iowa Learning Online is present in both the House and Senate versions of the education reform bill. For the most part, this language is intact from the Governor's original proposal. There are some restrictions in the Senate bill that can be overcome through work and negotiation that the Governor's Office will engage in on behalf of the Department.

Supplemental State Aid

Glass reported that supplemental state aid (traditionally known as allowable growth) is tied up in the education reform legislation before both chambers. If the chambers do not move early next week, then the April 15 budget certification date will come and go. Effectively schools will be asked to certify budgets based on the assumption that they will receive no new money next year so there are some pressures that will be placed in a financial sense on schools at that point. The Governor has been quite clear that he is not in favor of any incremental spending increase unless there is some kind of deal. There are broader implications for education spending beyond just the April 15 date that need to be taken into consideration.

Response to Intervention

Glass announced that the state is releasing a Response to Intervention (RtI) tracking system that was purchased with federal funds. The system includes progress monitoring, diagnostic screening, the ability for practitioners to keep track of where students are scoring on diagnostic reading assessments, what interventions are being placed, and the timing of those interventions. This system is available to districts free of charge. There was a very extensive and detailed Request for Proposal process and the Department believes they've selected a very high quality provider of those assessments. The data tracking system has a very strong evidence base to support it.

Competency-based Education Task Force

Glass provided an update on the work of the Competency-based Education Task Force. He has joined that group because he hears from the board that this work is important to them and he wants to send a clear signal that it is important to the Department too. The Competency-based Education Task Force is in the process of developing guidance to the field on what competency-based education is and how it is different than the traditional delivery model. The task force will start developing some supports for districts on how to move from the traditional delivery method to a competency-based system. The task force has been charged with bringing a report back to the Legislature this fall.

Iowa Core/Common Core

Glass provided a reaffirmation on the part of the Governor's Office and the Department that there is solid support behind the work of the Iowa Core that was passed by the State Board in 2008 and merged with the Common Core in 2010. There has been some criticism across the country and in Iowa related to the Common Core with the allegation that it will destroy creativity and limit teachers' ability to customize curriculum.

Glass stated that this has been a state led effort from its inception. It is a set of high level standards that are internally benchmarked against the highest performing systems in the world that allow remarkable room for creativity, customization, and designing curriculum to meet those outcomes for students. Glass wanted to make a statement to the board that the Governor's Office and the Department stand behind the work that's being done and will continue to support it going forward.

Smarter Balanced

Glass indicated that all of the governing states of Smarter Balanced had a meeting in Arlington, Virginia. Some decisions were made about Smarter Balanced including a sustainability plan, and some cost models were approved. Smarter Balanced is being piloted in a number of school districts around Iowa and the nation. The small scale test includes more students than take the Iowa Tests of Basic Skills in the entire nation. Anecdotally, he hears that the experience is going well and that the assessment is operating as it was intended.

Glass reported that there are some serious and significant questions around the broad band access that will be needed by every school in the state to be able to deliver this. That is a serious concern not just for testing of Smarter Balanced.

In summary, solid cost models have been developed and approved, pilot testing is underway, and the project plan for full implementation for Smarter Balanced for the 2014-2015 school year is underway and on schedule.

Glass said legislative changes and an appropriation will be needed to allow the state to use Smarter Balanced as its accountability test. That language exists in the House version of the education reform bill, but does not exist in the Senate version. Depending on the results of this legislative session, the board may be asked to approve rules relating to the administration of Smarter Balanced. If it doesn't happen this legislative session, this issue will come up again during the 2014 legislative session. A decision will need to be made if Smarter Balanced is going to be Iowa's assessment system or if we are going to do something else.

Glass also mentioned that he has reached out to Smarter Balanced to have the Department be a testing site. The topic of Smarter Balanced will be discussed at a future board meeting.

Legislative Update

Mike Cormack, Policy Liaison, Office of the Director, said the second funnel date is approaching and explained the funnel process. He provided an update on the four bills the Department introduced this legislative session and indicated they are currently being studied. The bills are:

- Education Reform
- School Bus Regulations
- Hours Versus Days
- Code Correction

Cormack also reported on the following bills:

- State and School Antiharrassment and Antibullying Policies
- Whole Grade Sharing Agreement Cost Structure
- Vision Screening for School Children
- Background Checks for School Employees

Cormack directed the State Board to the Department's website where they could find a list of all of the bills that have impact on education or school districts. He stated that there are several education bills that are alive that the Department did not introduce. There's a possibility for education reform to happen, but there are several "under-the-radar" things going on that could also have an impact on Iowa school districts in a substantial way. He shared he was optimistic about the potential of this being a very positive year for education in this state.

CONSENT AGENDA

Max Phillips moved and Sister Jude Fitzpatrick seconded to approve the consent agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

BOARD ACTION/DISCUSSION AGENDA

Rules: Chapter 82 – Standards for School Administration Manager Programs (Notice)

Mike Cormack, Policy Liaison, Office of the Director, presented the Chapter 82 rules - Standards for School Administration Manager Programs (SAMs). Cormack explained the role and function of a SAM in Iowa schools. These rules were developed in response to legislation that passed last year in Senate File (SF) 2284. They are similar to rules passed last fall for school business officials in Chapter 81 of the Iowa Administrative Code.

Cormack talked about the purpose of the rules and said they are important, but not controversial. He outlined the modifications that were made to the rules as a result of input from the Board of Educational Examiners. As a result, this set of rules will provide guidelines for defining what a SAM is and what a proper program will be in this policy area. The BOEE will develop separate rules concerning individual licensure in this area. Additional input was provided by Carol Lensing and Dan Smith from School Administrators of Iowa regarding the SAMs program that already exists in this state and how they see this issue moving forward in the future.

Motion: Max Phillips made a motion and Mike Knedler seconded that the State Board give public notice of its intent to establish Chapter 82.

There was discussion regarding how the accreditation process for SAMs will be paid for since there was no appropriation, concern with the review timeline, how the original authorization occurred, the value of the SAMs program, if there is a certification for the trainers, and how often schools will be surveyed.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Iowa Early Learning Standards 2012

Melissa Schnurr, Consultant, Bureau of Educator Quality, Kimberly Johnson, Consultant, Bureau of Standards and Curriculum, and Tammy Bormann, Iowa Association for the Education of Young Children, presented information on the Iowa Early Learning Standards 2012.

Schnurr reported that the Iowa Early Learning Standards (IELS) were first developed in 2006 in response to federal requirements. They were developed with input from a broad group of leaders representing Iowa's early care and education system. In 2012,

more than 50 early childhood stakeholders again met to design the IELS revision. The IELS describe what young children should know and be able to do throughout their first five years prior to entering a formal school setting.

The IELS are referenced in Iowa Administrative Code Chapter 16 – Statewide Voluntary Preschool Programs. School districts providing Statewide Voluntary Preschool Programs must demonstrate how curriculum, assessment, staff development, and instructional strategies are aligned with the IELS.

Iowa Early Learning Standards 2012 revisions include the addition of a new area for social studies, an updated research base for each developmental/content area, new language representing dual language learners and cultural diversity, and an alignment of the IELS to the K-12 Iowa Core for English Language Arts and Mathematics.

Schnurr and Johnson reviewed and discussed two documents. The first document was developed by Early Childhood Iowa and the second document was developed by the Department. The documents addressed the following:

- What are the Iowa Early Learning Standards
- Why are the Iowa Early Learning Standards Important
- Who can use the Iowa Early Learning Standards
- What is the history of the Iowa Early Learning Standards
- Who is Early Childhood Iowa
- Iowa Early Learning Standards 2012 Revision
- Alignment work – Iowa Early Learning Standards and Iowa Core kindergarten standards

Johnson also reviewed and discussed documents titled *Alignment to the Iowa Core* and *IELS Alignment with Iowa Core English Language Arts: Foundation Skills*.

There was discussion regarding the need to capture the idea of communication, language and literacy beyond English in the standards; the need to foster progress in a child's native language so they are able to be fully fluent in multiple languages; and how effective and helpful the preschool program is in Iowa.

Grant Wood AEA Paraeducator Preparation Program Approval

Marietta Rives, Consultant, Bureau of Educator Quality, indicated that Grant Wood AEA has had the paraeducator preparation program since its inception. As the program standards were brought before Grant Wood AEA, they made significant changes to their program. They have focused on the Generalist Level I certification program to ensure quality before adding other programs.

A recommendation for improvement was for the agency to have the program advisory committee assess the data that is collected for the purpose of program improvement. Grant Wood AEA was very receptive to the recommendation and there were no other concerns about their programming. Rives recommended that the State Board approve Grant Wood AEA's Generalist Level I paraeducator preparation program.

Motion: Sister Jude Fitzpatrick made a motion and Diane Crookham-Johnson seconded that the State Board approve the paraeducator preparation programs submitted by Grant Wood Area Education Agency. The next review will be during the 2018-2019 school year.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously

AEA 267 Paraeducator Preparation Program Approval

Marietta Rives, Consultant, Bureau of Educator Quality, reported that AEA 267 came before the State Board a year ago with their entire program. Because of areas that needed improvement, the Department recommended a one-year approval with the intention the agency was going to revise all of the Level II Areas of Concentration. At this time, the agency has decided to not offer multiple Areas of Concentration because they wanted to ensure that they had one quality program in place.

Rives said the Early Childhood Pre K-Grade 3 program standards and competencies have been reviewed and she recommended approval.

Motion: Mike Knedler made a motion and LaMetta Wynn seconded that the State Board approve the paraeducator preparation programs submitted by AEA 267. The next review will be during the 2017-2018 school year.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

There was extensive discussion regarding the need to review the paraeducator program standards to see if they need to be enhanced. It was explained that there is no criteria for the organization that is going to offer the programs and no criteria for the individual that is going to monitor and administer the programs.

Jason Glass said that revamping the process would be the same as the discussion around teacher preparation. Once the board reaches conceptual agreement on what changes need to be made then the rulemaking process begins and the Department changes its practice to line up with the rules.

The State Board requested information on the number of paraprofessionals that are working in Iowa classrooms.

Recognition of Current Student State Board Member

Comments were shared and a gift was presented to student State Board Member McKenzie Baker for her service to the State Board.

University of Dubuque Teacher Preparation Program Approval

Larry Bice, Administrative Consultant, Bureau of Educator Quality, presented the University of Dubuque's Teacher Preparation Program summary report and team report. He explained the purpose for both reports and the format of the final report emphasizing that the team report contains both an initial recommendation and a final recommendation.

Bice described the accreditation visit process and stated that initially the University of Dubuque met five of the six standards contained in the final report. He explained that the initial recommendations are made as soon as the site visit is completed and the report is compiled. The institution was given the report and had an opportunity to respond to the recommendation stating what they intended to do to meet the standard. As a result, the school accomplished the required work and met all six standards. The standards are: 1) Governance and Resources; 2) Diversity; 3) Faculty; 4) Assessment; 5) Clinical; and 6) Curriculum.

Bice introduced University of Dubuque Teacher Education Department Head, Debra Stork, and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. Mark Ward. Stork and Ward shared highlights and strengths of their program.

There was discussion about what effect there has been with the university suspending the promotion and tenure system, what the university is doing to prepare their students to lead the way in terms of the State Board's priorities, what the process is for the board to assess what the university has done to address recommendations contained in the report over a seven year period, if the university has a system for tracking their students, and what the average debt load is of the university's students.

Stork and Ward shared their perspective of the current process.

Motion: Max Phillips made a motion and Diane Crookham-Johnson seconded that the State Board approve the University of Dubuque Teacher Preparation Program through the next state visit cycle scheduled for the 2019-2020 academic year.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

There was an additional question regarding the process for selecting site team members and if that process would go away if the State Board elects to go with CAEP.

Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Annual Budget Approval for Area Education Agencies

Jeff Berger, Deputy Director, reviewed information on AEA budgets that detailed proposed resources by major source, proposed expenditures by function category and a three-year comparison.

Berger talked in-depth about the three-year comparison document which reflects beginning and ending fund balances. He said that during a two-year time period, AEAs received two \$20 million reductions due to legislative cuts.

Berger stated that it is frustrating to have this kind of reduction placed on the AEAs because they have no ability to recoup the funding. Local districts have taxing authority whereas AEAs do not. The fund balance is still adequate; however, AEAs are doing more with less.

There was discussion about whether AEAs receive any direction on how funds should be distributed between educational services, special education services, and media services; if the State Board can do anything to address the funding situation; and if the reduced expenditures are because of AEA reorganization.

Motion: Sister Jude Fitzpatrick made a motion and LaMetta Wynn seconded that the State Board approve the AEA budgets for fiscal year 2013-2014.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

There was additional discussion regarding the need to work on alignment of resources and delivery systems.

It was requested that school finance be placed on a future State Board meeting agenda.

Exira – Update on Accreditation Status and Plan of Action

Jeff Berger, Deputy Director, provided an update on the accreditation status and plan of action for the Exira Community School District (Exira). Because of ongoing financial difficulties and the inability of the district to correct the issue, the School Budget Review Committee recommended to the State Board in March 2012 that the board direct the Department to conduct a Phase II visit to Exira. At that time, Exira was in their sixth consecutive year of having a negative balance.

Berger explained that a Phase II accreditation visit includes reviewing finances, programs, Americans with Disabilities Act access, equity policies, and basic compliance issues. As a result of the Phase II visit, a report was developed that contained 40 noncompliance issues. It took the district two months to provide the Department with a plan to remedy the situation.

Currently, the district is in the midst of trying to work through the noncompliance issues. This fall, the Department will revisit the district to see if the issues have been corrected.

In addition, Exira has set a consolidation vote with the Elkhorn-Kimballton Community School District for June 2013. If that vote is successful, all of this becomes a moot point because part of the process of consolidating reconciles all of the noncompliance issues. If the district fails to consolidate, the State Board will be asked what direction they want

to take because Exira, as a district, is not going to have the ability to pull out of the resource debt spiral.

Vice President Charlie Edwards needed to leave the meeting at 1:45 p.m. Rosie Hussey asked the State Board for unanimous consent to appoint Max Phillips to serve as chairman pro tem for the remainder of the meeting. Hearing no objections, Hussey appointed Max Phillips as chairman pro tem.

Update on Online Learning

Gwen Nagel, Consultant, Bureau of Standards and Curriculum, provided an update on online learning and virtual academies. Nagel shared information about the passage of SF 2284 which:

- Codified Iowa Learning Online (ILO) and charged them with providing distance education to high school students statewide.
- Allowed ILO to serve in an “offer and teach” capacity, when school districts cannot find a teacher.
- Charged the Department with developing criteria for school districts to use when choosing providers of online learning.
- Failed to provide the requested positions or additional funding to support these activities.

SF 2284 also approved the establishment of two virtual academy pilots at the CAM and Clayton Ridge school districts. The Department was charged with reviewing the programs and Nagel shared the findings and recommendations that were contained in a report that was submitted to the Legislature.

There was discussion regarding the vendors for the virtual academies, how students are funded that participate in the virtual academies, what the vision is for how many students will be educated this way in the future, how virtual academies deal with special education students, the need for employing qualified instructors, and the rules and statutes that govern virtual academies.

If this year’s legislative session provides the requested support of \$4,500,000 over a three-year period for the expansion of ILO, it would enable the Department to expand the program more rapidly. ILO would be able to provide high school students with access to a full online curriculum, including electives, and Career and Technical Education offerings. With permission, students would have access to ILO courses while maintaining enrollment within their local school district.

Iowa Community Colleges Joint Enrollment Report 2012

Jeremy Varner, Administrator, Division of Community Colleges, presented the Iowa Community Colleges Joint Enrollment Report 2012. This report was developed using the Community College Management Information System data and provides information on high school students who are enrolled in community colleges.

In Iowa, high school students enroll in community college credit courses in a variety of ways including through Postsecondary Enrollment Options courses, college courses offered through a contract between a local school district and a community college, and enrollment in college credit courses independently as tuition-paying students. Each of these cases refers to regular community college courses even if delivered in a high school setting. The instructors act as community college adjuncts, they have to meet the same state standards, they have to be taught with the same course syllabi, and they need to be of comparable length. This sets Iowa apart from some states that don't have those expectations for those opportunities provided in high school settings.

Varnier reviewed a PowerPoint that included information on the following:

- Joint Enrollment
- Total Enrollment
- Total Credit Hours
- Student Demographics
- Student Grade Level
- Offering Arrangement
- Percentage of High School Students Enrolled by District
- Participation by District Size
- Courses Taken

There was discussion regarding the slower growth rate that is being seen in community college joint enrollment, options for delivery of instruction, oversight, and the impressive number of Iowa high school students that are taking community college courses.

In addition, Varnier reported that in 2008 the Senior Year Plus Act was passed setting expectations for all parties involved with the delivery and taking of community college programs. In 2009, the community colleges recognized the Legislature's interest in doing something about the quality issue and agreed to obtain National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnership accreditation.

Board Reports

Mike May attended an event at the Spencer Community School District where his son-in-law was named the 2013 Iowa Elementary Principal of the Year. He plans to be part of a study tour titled "Exploring Innovative Schools and Policy Supports that Prepare College and Career Ready Students" in San Diego, California.

LaMetta Wynn attended the Community College Council meeting. She also attended an event at the University of Northern Iowa (UNI) recognizing a \$15 million donation from Richard Jacobson to UNI's College of Education.

Diane Crookham-Johnson, along with Sister Jude Fitzpatrick, screened over 40 applications for the student State Board member position. She also emphasized how there are a lot of good teachers, administrators, and students working hard. She encouraged board members to attend a talent day at their local school if they get the opportunity.

Sister Jude Fitzpatrick commented that over half of the students that applied for the student State Board member position would have made outstanding board members. She also visited Monroe School in the Des Moines School District where there is a very diverse mix of students consisting of 85 percent free and reduced lunch and 50 percent English Language Learners (ELL) that come from families of approximately 25 different languages. A significant commitment was made toward professional development at that school where every single faculty member has become ELL licensed.

McKenzie Baker reported that the Learning Council recently released a brief and they will be meeting with the Governor to discuss it. She plans to participate in a Twitter Town Hall meeting where hundreds of educators have an interactive conversation weekly. She thanked the board members and said she enjoyed her time serving on the board.

Mike Knedler attended a meeting in Council Bluffs where Governor Branstad was talking about education reform. He also attended the Community College Council meeting. He commented how there are amazing and committed people in Iowa working in the educational system.

Rosie Hussey thanked board members for taking on leadership roles, attending various meetings, assisting with the student State Board member selection process, and for everything they do on behalf of the board and students of Iowa. She also thanked Department staff for their efforts.

Hussey reported that work has begun to plan the retreat. In addition, she met with Representative Sharon Steckman who serves as the Ranking Member on the House Education Committee and Senator Amanda Ragan trying to put forth the board's legislative agenda. She has also been talking to Mary Jane Cobb about having her or the Iowa State Education Association's president attend a future board meeting.

Max Phillips has a meeting scheduled with Mark Jacobs, former Chief Executive Officer of Reliant Energy in Houston, Texas. Jacobs recently moved back to Iowa and has an interest in education.

Sister Jude Fitzpatrick made a motion and Mike Knedler seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Max Phillips adjourned the meeting at 2:40 p.m.

Max Phillips
Chairman Pro Tem

Jason E. Glass
Director