
FISCAL UPDATE Article

Fiscal Services Division

August 7, 2020



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Des Moines, Iowa 50319

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STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION — AUGUST 2020

Meeting. The State Board of Education met on August 5, 2020, using video conferencing. Prior to the Board business meeting, a work session was held discussing the Department of Education (DE) plan for providing professional learning and support regarding equity to Iowa educators. The business meeting opened with public comment about [Senate File 2360](#) (Classroom Environment and Therapeutic Classroom Act), [Senate File 2310](#) (Iowa Learning Online Act), and the [proposed changes](#) to the seclusion and restraint administrative rules.

Director's Report. Director Ann Lebo provided an update to the Board on the DE response to COVID-19 and the resources provided on the [COVID-19 Guidance and Information page](#). Director Lebo also spoke about additional resources being provided to schools through the [e-Learning Central](#) platform being developed, the use of [Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief \(ESSER\) funds](#) for reimbursement to school districts that use other learning platforms, the use of [Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund \(GEER\) funds](#) for broadband connectivity, personal protective equipment (PPE) being supplied through the Iowa Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, and previously distributed funding through the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act ([H.R. 748](#)).

In addition, the DE has been awarded a \$17.7 million [Rethink K-12 Education Models Grant](#) that will support the e-Learning Central platform. Director Lebo highlighted the professional development being provided to teachers to assist in providing education in an online environment. The Board discussed the guidance provided for SF 2310 and the work to provide a sustainable statewide online learning platform.

Notice of Proposed Rule Changes. The Board approved notice to be given for proposed rule changes in the following areas:

- General Accreditation Standards
- Funding for Children Residing in State Institutions or Mental Health Institutions
- Special Education
- Standards for Practitioner and Administrator Preparation Programs
- Teacher and Administrator Quality Programs
- Corporal Punishment Ban; Restraint; Physical Confinement and Detention — often referred to as Seclusion and Restraint

Davenport Community School District. Davenport Community School District was placed on conditional accreditation in May 2019. An update was provided on the district's continued progress toward meeting all conditions of its accreditation and the work being done to develop and implement a Crisis Response and Violence Prevention Plan and expansion of Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) across the district.

The Board approved the Corrective Action Plan as presented, including the caveat that if the district fails to meet any single objective in the Action Plan, the Board will appoint an expert to complete the action for the district at the district's expense.

Next Meeting. The next meeting of the State Board of Education is scheduled for Thursday, September 17, 2020.

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