
FISCAL UPDATE Article

Fiscal Services Division

December 3, 2024



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Des Moines, Iowa 50319

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STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING — NOVEMBER 2024

Meeting. The Iowa State Board of Education met on Wednesday, November 13, 2024, in the State Board Room at the Grimes State Office Building in Des Moines. Materials related to the meeting are available on the [Department of Education \(DE's\) website](#).

Director's Report. Director McKenzie Snow provided the following updates on DE news and activities since the last meeting:

- The DE was awarded a multi-year competitive grant from the United States Department of Education totaling over \$24.0 million to support evidence-based literacy practices and interventions across the State.
- In accordance with [House File 2545](#) (Iowa Education Standards Review Act), the DE is holding meetings to review the State's high school graduation requirements, core curriculum, core content standards, and educational standards.
- Science standards are currently under review as part of the DE's newly established five-year cycle review of standards. Earlier this year, the State Board of Education adopted new mathematics and literacy standards. As part of the cyclical process, reviews will also be completed in future years for social studies and 21st-century skills.
- The DE is providing technical assistance to school leaders to support the implementation of [Senate File 2435](#) (FY 2025 Education Appropriations Act) related to chronic absenteeism.
- [The Credentials for Child Care Careers Grant program](#) has opened an additional round of funding. Grants to school districts provide opportunities for high school students to earn a nationally recognized Child Development Associate credential. Applications for the grants will be accepted through December 4, 2024.
- Nominations are now being accepted until December 1, 2024, for the 2024-2025 [Golden Owl Award](#). This award recognizes Iowa's top agriculture educator of the year.

Administrative Rules. The Board approved the Notice of Intended Action on rules related to IAC Chapter 12, General Accreditation Standards, and IAC Chapter 31, Private Instruction and Dual Enrollment. Changes to Chapter 12 are related to [Senate File 496](#) (Education, Parental Rights, and School Transparency Act). Public comments are currently being received and reviewed.

Charter School Update and Charter School Legislative Report. Quest Forward Cedar Rapids and Quest Forward Des Moines both requested charter school amendment changes that were approved by the Board. Scholarship Prep voluntarily terminated its charter school contract, citing the need to focus on California locations and not being able to establish facilities. The Board also heard a summary of the Iowa Charter School Legislative Report that is due to the General Assembly by December 1, 2024.

ACHIEVE Update. ACHIEVE is the name of the system that is used within the State for the development of Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) and Individualized Family Service Plans (IFSPs). IEPs are used to support students from ages 3 to 21. IFSPs are used to support students from birth to age three. The system provides a voluntary family portal that will permit families to access their child's special education files. Iowa is the first state in the nation to provide this type of access.

Every Student Succeeds Act Designations and School Improvement Supports. The DE recently released updated [Iowa School Performance Profiles](#) and Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) designations. ESSA designations for schools include comprehensive, targeted, and met cut score. Schools designated with the comprehensive status score in the lowest 5.0% of Title I schools on the index score for all students and/or have a graduation rate below 66.0%. Schools designated as targeted are identified due to subgroup performance, with the identified subgroup performing lower than the lowest 5.0% of Title I schools on the index score. A school maintains its comprehensive or targeted designation for three years to enable a period of ongoing support for the school. Identified schools that reach the end of their three-year support cycle and do not meet exit criteria receive an extended comprehensive or extended target status.

The DE staff provided a report on the support that is provided to schools that receive a comprehensive school or targeted school designation. Sixteen schools recently moved out of the comprehensive school designation with support from the DE, area education agencies, and school leadership and staff.

Annual Report on Citations and Corrections. The Board was presented with the [Annual Report on Citations and Corrections](#) that is required in Iowa Code section [256.11](#). DE staff answered questions regarding the process and the support provided by the Department to resolve issues.

Next Meeting. The next Iowa State Board of Education meeting will have a limited agenda to discuss administrative rules and is scheduled for Thursday, December 5, 2024, with a Zoom-only format.

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