

**State of Indiana
Commission for Higher Education**

Minutes of Meeting

Friday, August 22, 2025

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Commission for Higher Education met for a special session starting at 1:00 p.m. ET at the Indiana Commission for Higher Education, 101 W. Ohio Street, 7th Floor Conference Room, Indianapolis, IN 46204.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS AND DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

Members Present: Mike Alley, Dennis Bland, Kathy Cabello, Ted Castronova, Jud Fisher, Samantha Fleischaker, Larry Garatoni, Bill Hanna, Nancy Jordan, Molly Kitchell, Kent Kramer, Pepper Mulherin, and Dan Peterson

Members Absent:

CHAIR'S REPORT

Hello, everyone. Thank you all so much for coming today to this specially called meeting.

We called this meeting to vote on Dr. Katie Jenner serving as the next Commissioner for Higher Education, which would be effective on October 11.

After taking office, Governor Braun established the education vertical to create a unified, student-centered vision across the full spectrum of education, from kindergarten through college.

As Commissioner Lowery began his transition plans, this decision became the logical next step to ensure the best interest of Hoosier students and the agency remained top of mind.

Dr. Jenner's qualifications precede her. Her service with the State of Indiana began as Governor Holcomb's Senior Education Advisor before being selected as Indiana's first appointed Secretary of Education.

Dr. Jenner was reappointed by Governor Braun in an expanded role overseeing the full spectrum of education within the education vertical.

Prior to working for the state, Dr. Jenner served as VP of K-12 Initiatives and Statewide Partnerships at Ivy Tech as well as the many years spent serving as a teacher and in district leadership.

She has dedicated her career to blurring the lines between K-12, higher education, and the workforce. As Commissioner, she will provide continuity, clarity, and consistency to the agency to maximize outcomes for Indiana students, employers, and our state.

Dr. Jenner will continue to serve as the leader of the education vertical and head of the Indiana Department of Education. Commission staff will be retained, and any structural changes to the Commission will require legislative action and Commission input.

Until his departure on October 10, Commissioner Lowery will work closely with Dr. Jenner, myself, and other Commission members, as well as Commission staff to ensure a seamless transition for agency operations.

II. VOTE FOR THE NEXT COMMISSIONER FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

R-25-5.1 RESOLVED: The Commission for Higher Education hereby approves Dr. Katie Jenner as the next Commissioner of the Indiana Commission for Higher Education. (Motion – Garatoni, second – Bland, unanimously approved)

III. OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

There was none.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:25 P.M. ET.

Dan Peterson, Chair

Kent Kramer, Secretary