



# Indiana State Board of Education

Room 225 State House  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2798

## MINUTES

### INDIANA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

April 6, 2011

Department of Education

James Whitcomb Riley Conference Room

151 West Ohio Street

Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

The meeting of the Indiana State Board of Education convened at 9:03 a.m. Board members Dr. Tony Bennett, Jo Blacketer, Mike Pettibone, David Shane, Sara O'Brien, Daniel Elsener, Steve Gabet, James D. Edwards, and Vicki Snyder, were present. Board members Neil Pickett and Dr. Gwendolyn Griffith-Adell were not present.

#### I. **Call to Order**

Dr. Bennett led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### II. **Approval of the Minutes**

Mr. Pettibone moved for approval of the minutes. Mr. Shane seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### III. **Statement of the Chair**

Dr. Bennett discussed the Common Core State Standard Assessments. The Department of Education (DOE) will be moving forward in the days and weeks to come on the issue of the Common Core State Standards. We are now in the process of how do we move forward and what will be the costs to deliver these assessments. Associated costs to school corporations bring up the question of unfunded mandates, because they may not have either the connectivity or the hardware capacity to deliver a new assessment system.

The Common Core State Standards were developed with the goal in mind to reach college and career readiness and now we need to develop an assessment system to measure – are we getting to college and career readiness?

Dr. Bennett said between now and June the Department will begin to identify the costs associated with our current assessment system. When we are ready for the Common Core Standard Assessments, there will be some pilot components of this first, before we do a full roll out to all schools.

Dr. Bennett complimented Dr. Stacey Hughes, Assistant Superintendent; and Dr. Schauna Findlay, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, and their staff for all the hard work that has been done, preparing for the implementation of the standards – so teachers can deliver instruction based on the Common Core State Standards.

#### **IV. Spotlight on Learning**

Jeffery P. Zaring, Chief of Results and Reform, said the Spotlight on Learning focuses on Arlington Woods Elementary School. Dr. Willy Giles, Deputy Superintendent of Indianapolis Public Schools introduced Ms. Marcia Johnson, Principal; and Daniel Kriech and Tammy Laughner, teachers at Arlington Woods Elementary.

Dr. Bennett discussed a recent visit to Arlington Woods Elementary and said this was a remarkable story about how a couple of teachers have created a fabulous program.

Ms. Laughner and Mr. Kriech showed a power point presentation on Project Restore (**R**eshaping and **E**ntire **S**chool by **T**aking **O**wnership of a **R**igorous **E**ducation.)

After many hours of work, planning, thought and the creation of Project Restore, it was presented to Ms. Johnson, who shared it with the central office, obtained their approval, then shared it with the school staff.

The key components of Project Restore are curriculum, assessments, discipline, parent communication, and rewards.

Mr. Kriech said although 93 percent of their students are below the poverty level, they are certain that poverty stricken minority children can and do succeed.

Ms. Laughner discussed the reasons why Project Restore is successful at Arlington Woods Elementary:

- Real Time Weekly Data/Accountability.
- Formula for Teacher Success.

- Student Feedback/Rewards.
- Increased “Teachable Minutes”.
- Addresses both ends of Academic Spectrum Skills Overlap across Grade Levels.

Results of Project Restore were that 84 percent of the students passed ISTEP.

V. **Board Member Comments**

VI. **Adjudications and Hearings**

VII. **Public Comments**

VIII. **Discussion**

Dr. Bennett discussed the Department’s 2011 Priorities including:

- Pursue structural reform agenda embodied in the **Putting Students First** plan.
- Prioritize teacher and principal effectiveness.
- Intervene in chronically failing schools (Year 6 schools).
- Strengthen IDOE’s capacity and systems for supporting schools.
- Align education policy with fiscal policy.

Amy Horton, Policy Staff Member, discussed deregulation and plans to review rules and said the Department is about to take a look at all the regulations, to see if they should be suspended, retained, or improved. A similar process was used a few months ago where they looked at all the data collections, both formal and informal. They found that there were quite a few that were not well utilized by school districts.

During Governor Daniels’s state of state address, the comment was made that he wanted to eliminate burdens to schools that take up unnecessary time and money, without contributing to student learning.

The process will start with the Boards rules and underling statutes. High scrutiny was paid to those things dealing with output vs. input, things that do not end up with outcomes. Ms. Horton said they are also looking at the underling authority for each rule to determine what needs to be done next. Some may be statorily required while others may not and only require an administrative change.

Ms. Horton said this will be an open process and feedback will be received from the assistant superintendent’s, the public, and education associations.

The suggestion was made by Mr. Shane that Cummins Foundation people be asked to give input to this process. Also, that the Department look at not only the regulations

but all what we require of the schools that may be more habit, like a Board decision from many years ago that could be eliminated.

Dr. Bennett mentioned the waiver language in P.L. 221, which very few schools have taken advantage of.

Mr. Pettibone stated that schools are required to collect lots of data that does not in any way affect student achievement.

The Board recessed at 11 a.m. and reconvened at 11:10 a.m.

Lee Ann Kwaitkowski, Director of School Turnaround, gave an update on Turnaround School Operators. Follow up visits to 15 schools have been completed, four more have been scheduled, and they are working with the fifth school to schedule a date for a visit. A report has been created after each school visit, based on a snap shot of that day, and the reports are available upon request.

The Turnaround School Operators' oral presentations have been completed. Ms. Kwaitkowski and her team are now conducting site visits to high schools that the managers are overseeing. Four site visits have been concluded and the last school site visit has been scheduled for next week.

An internal committee will meet and talk about the strengths and weaknesses of each school being managed by the TSO. A decision will then be made as to which TSO the DOE wants to enter into contracts with. Discussions have been held regarding entering into "short term contracts."

Community hearings still need to be held at the schools, however, community meetings have been held in several areas. The community meetings consist of community leaders but are not an open forum. Board members suggested the community public hearings be scheduled as soon as possible.

Ms. Kwaitkowski said because of the timeline involved, the first year for the TSO will be a transition year, due to the release of assessment results. The TSO that are chosen will each be offered a five year contract, renewable each year. Originally the school turnaround list consisted of 20 schools. That number is down to 18, (of which seven schools are located in Indianapolis.)

Dr. Bennett gave an update on legislation and discussed the following House and Senate bills:

- HB 1002, charter legislation.
- HB 1003, voucher bill.

- SB 575, collective bargaining reform bill.
- SB 1, teacher quality bill.
- HB 1479, turnaround school academy bill.
- HEA 1340, adult education - moved to Workforce Development and Career and Technical Education moves to DOE.

Amy Marsh, Advance Placement (AP) Coordinator, discussed the state report on the Advanced Placement Program, and the Department's goal to have 25 percent of Indiana graduates credentialed with some college credential before they leave high school.

Ms. Marsh said Indiana had the highest growth in AP participation in the nation with 26.6 percent growth in test takers, 29.3 percent growth in exams given, and 13.5 percent growth in qualified exams. Indiana also had the second highest growth in the number of graduates earning AP credit in the nation. However, more gains need to be made in ethnic groups such as African American and Asian groups. An additional concern is the STEM exams, in which a high percentage of exams scored showed a 1/no college credit.

Mr. Pettibone said several colleges were asked their opinion about AP courses, and most said they accepted students with dual credit courses rather than AP courses.

Ms. Marsh said 11 work shops were held this past winter, around the AP Potential Tool, a free tool for schools that administer the AP, which correlates those PSAT Scores to student's potential on specific AP exams. The most tested subjects in AP exams are US History, English Literature, and Calculus AB. Workshops will be held around the state this summer where schools will bring teams of teachers who deal with light content areas together, to look at how they can stair step the rigor to get to that AP course.

Ms. March said HEA 1135 is an additional motivator for students that requires all public colleges and universities in the state to accept for credit, scores of 3 or higher on AP exams.

Dr. Schauna Findlay, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, discussed a Common Core State Standards road map timeline and implementation from school year 2010-2011 through 2014-2015.

Dr. Findlay said Indiana has students going on to college but only 29 percent are graduating. Our six year college completion rate is just over 50 percent. Of the students who are going to four year institutions, one in four is starting with remedial courses when they get there. Students who are going into two year institutions, half of them are starting off with remedial course work. At Ivy Tech, about 70 percent start

with remedial course work. The goal of the Common Core State Standards is to insure that our students are prepared to go onto college and complete degrees once they get there, without having to go through remedial course work.

A curriculum council was convened which includes teachers, district level coordinators, coaches, literacy and mathematic folks. A transition road map was created, showing what is the standards and curriculum line work that needs to take place and what do we need to do in training our teachers in what content is new. What practices and assessments do we need to change, in terms of our formulative work, so we know where our students are. Also, what is going to happen to our assessments such as IREAD and ISTEP.

Dr. Findlay said for next year, with the standards and curriculum, we are looking at Indiana Academic Standards and the Common Core State Standards for English, Language Arts, and Math in Grades 1-10. Professional development will be provided for teachers to become familiar with structure and content of the Common Core State Standards, literacy, and math.

Mr. Zaring said an information item was provided to Board members from the Office of Management and Budget regarding the student instructional expenditure report for the 2009-2010 school year. The report shows the ratio of student instructional expenditures and noninstructional expenditures and that 58 percent is going to student instruction (up from 2008-2009). The report also shows that corporations are increasing their dollars to instruction.

**IX. Consent Agenda Items**

**X. Action**

A. Mr. Zaring presented a request for approval of Common School Fund technology and construction loans.

Mrs. Blacketor moved for approval. Ms. Snyder seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Pettibone and Mr. Shane were not present during this vote.

B. Mr. Zaring presented a request for approval of rulemaking process for ISTEP+ test security and procedures related to test security.

Ms. Snyder moved for approval. Mr. Gabet seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- C. Zach Foughty, Math Consultant, presented a request for approval of rulemaking process for changes in the mathematics graduation requirement and changes in mathematics courses.

Mrs. O'Brien moved for approval. Ms. Snyder seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- D. Mr. Zaring presented a request for approval of rulemaking process to repeal 511 IAC II (Adult Education).

Ms. Snyder moved for approval. Mrs. Blacketor seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**XI. Board Operations**

Mr. Gabet moved for adjournment. Mr. Elsener seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 12:35 p.m.