



# Indiana State Board of Education

Room 225 State House  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2798

## **INDIANA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

June 6, 2012

Department of Education

James Whitcomb Riley Conference Room

151 West Ohio Street

Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

9:00 a.m.

Board members Dr. Tony Bennett, James D. Edwards, Tony Walker, Neil Pickett, Jo Blacketor, Sarah O'Brien, Mike Pettibone, David Shane, Cari Whicker, and Daniel Elsener were present. Vicki Snyder was absent.

Jo Blacketor moved to approve the minutes from the May 2, 2012, Board meeting; James Edwards seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Dr. Bennett made a brief statement and introduced Cari Whicker as the recently appointed Board member from the third Congressional District.

Mike Pettibone reported on a recent visit to schools in China and Taiwan. Tim Long, Superintendent of Jay School Corporation, Tom Jerles, Principal of Redkey Elementary School, and Jessie Mangus, teacher at Jay County High School also participated in the trip and provided information and insight on their experiences.

The Board conducted two administrative proceedings to determine the amount of federal Part B special education funds necessary to fund the operation of the turnaround academies.

The Turnaround School Operators made presentations on the proposed deliverables for the operation of their respective schools beginning with the 2012-2013 school year, focusing on: the school's vision and mission, innovations, learning environment and school culture, curriculum and instruction, student assessment, use of data, school governance and management structure, leadership structure and staffing plan, job-embedded professional development, student support, family and community involvement, and goals and leading indicators.

John Hage, President and CEO of Charter Schools USA ("CSUSA"), and Sherry Hage, Vice President of Education for CSUSA presented the proposed deliverables for Emma Donnan Middle School, Manual High School, and Howe High School. Nakeisha Williams, assistant principal at Emma Donnan provided information on the plans for improving achievement and culture at the school. Byron Ernest, principal at Manual High School, described the "academies" approach that is planned for Manual. Agnes Aleobua, principal at Howe High School, described three priorities for the school: (1) expanding Howe from grades 7 through 12 to grades 4 through 12; (2) creating strong culture centered on academic excellence; and (3) establishing a freshman academy. Subsequent to the presentation, Board members asked questions and engaged in a discussion with Mr. Hage. The Board, by consensus, determined that CSUSA's request for grade expansion should be deferred until next year. The plan for deliverables, minus the grade expansion, will be included as part of the Department's contract for the operation of the turnaround academies.

Todd McIntire, Senior VP of Operations for EdisonLearning, Vanessa Ronketto, Senior VP of Educational Services, and Terrance Little, Principal at the new Roosevelt College and Career Academy, provided information on Edison's turnaround plan. Mr. McIntire noted at the outset that Edison was seeking sought a limited grade expansion to add 6<sup>th</sup> grade to the existing grade structure at Roosevelt – both for academic reasons and in response to Gary's plan to reopen a middle school in an effort to draw middle school students from Roosevelt. Among Edison's priorities are providing a better learning environment with appropriate supports, focusing on a strong curriculum that is aligned, mapped, and consistent across grade levels, improving blended learning options, increasing use of technology, and reenergizing the community in order to forge strong partnerships. The school facility itself is an issue, both in

the long and short term. An architectural study commissioned by Edison revealed \$8.5 million of deferred building work needed to bring the facility up to minimum standards. Department staff is working with Edison on potential funding options to assist. Gary will need to address the immediate building safety and compliance issues. Subsequent to the presentation, Board members asked questions and engaged in a discussion with Mr. McIntire and his staff.

Marcus Robinson, Chancellor and CEO of EdPower, described the plan for Arlington Community High School, noting that there is no school more abandoned than Arlington. As part of its plan, middle and high school programs will be separated in terms of physical environment, instructional times, and uniforms. Instruction will be data driven, with additional instructional time for struggling students. Increased school and student safety measures are critical and will be implemented to provide students with an environment more conducive to learning. New principal Jimmy Meadows is working to obtain current and accurate student data; EdPower has discovered that data is often incomplete, inaccurate, or underreported. Subsequent to the presentation, Board members asked questions and engaged in a discussion with Mr. Robinson.

Jim Larson provided an update on the Lead Partner activities. At the next Board meeting, Lead Partners will present more in-depth information regarding their experiences in the past year. Mr. Larson also reported on the logistics of the Board's public hearing, to be conducted pursuant to IC 20-31-9-4, June 11, 2012, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at John Marshall Community High School. The hearing format and process will be the same as last year.

The Spotlight on Learning was deferred until the next Board meeting.

The Board, in its consent agenda and by unanimous vote, approved: (1) the petitions for freeway accreditation for: Gambold Preparatory, North Star Montessori, The Prep School, Todd Academy, and Turning Point School, and (2) the change to the governing body plans for South Dearborn, Madison Grant United, and Goshen.

Becky Bowman requested Board approval of the final rule on APC expenditures (LSA #11-771). There were no public comments regarding the proposed rule. Neil Pickett moved to

approve the final rule; James Edwards seconded the motion. The vote to approve was unanimous.

Becky Bowman requested Board approval to initiate rulemaking to modify 511 IAC 6.2-3.1 (Reading Plan rule) to comply with recent statutory changes. Neil Pickett moved to approve, and Jo Blacketor seconded the motion. The vote to approve was seven in favor and two opposed.

Theresa Meredith provided written public comment.

Dr. Bennett advised that, in light of the Board's consensus not to amend any current school interventions, the proposed meeting in late June was not needed. As the late June meeting was to be in lieu of the July meeting, Mike Pettibone moved to cancel the July meeting. Neil Pickett seconded the motion, and the vote to cancel the July meeting was unanimous.

Jo Blacketor moved to adjourn the meeting; Sarah O'Brien seconded the motion. By unanimous vote the meeting adjourned at approximately 3:00 p.m.