



Glenda Ritz, NBCT

Indiana Superintendent of Public Instruction

Indiana State Board of Education

August 7, 2013

Indiana Government Center South – Conference Room A
402 West Washington
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Business Meeting

9:00 a.m.

Board members Superintendent Glenda Ritz, Mr. Troy Albert, Mr. Dan Elsener, Dr. David Freitas, Ms. Andrea Neal, Dr. Brad Oliver, Mr. David Shane, Mr. BJ Watts, and Ms. Cari Whicker were present. Ms. Sarah O'Brien and Mr. Tony Walker were absent.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, upon a motion by Mr. Watts, seconded by Ms. Whicker, and on a voice vote of the present members, the minutes from the July 19, 2013 Board meeting were approved.

Statement from the Chair: Superintendent Ritz congratulated Mr. Elsener and Marian University on the opening of their new Medical School. She noted that this is the first week of school for Ms. O'Brien, who was not in attendance.

Superintendent Ritz explained the decision to not hold a study session in conjunction with the meeting, as was originally intended. She explained that the conversation regarding reading plan changes needs to be part of the larger discussion about assessments. As the standards are reviewed and revised, the assessments will likely need to be updated as well. Superintendent Ritz discussed her vision for assessments in Indiana, discussing the benefits of an adaptive test. An adaptive growth model test has a bottom of Pre-K and no ceiling, and provides two pieces of information on each student tested: 1) if the student is performing at or above grade level and 2) the actual level of a student's performance. Superintendent Ritz would like for reading data to be collected on students' performance levels. The other topic that was intended to be part of the study session was Outreach. The Assistant Superintendent for Outreach was not available on the day of the meeting, as she was previously scheduled to meet with the superintendent at Glenwood. Outreach will be presented at the September Board meeting.

Board Member Comments and Reports: Ms. Whicker and Mr. Watts attended a NASBE New Member Institute in July and offered reports from the conference. Mr. Watts stayed for the NASBE Annual Conference, which Mr. Walker attended as well. Ms. Whicker and Mr. Watts noted that the conference was a valuable resource and that the Board needs to continue to utilize the resources provided by NASBE. Mr. Watts noted that several states are wrestling with the same issues that Indiana is facing.



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Dr. Freitas thanked the Department for the quick turnaround on information due to the short time between the July and August meetings.

Public General Comments: Ms. Talia Reed, a teacher from Wakarusa, provided public comment on IREAD-3 policies. Ms. Megan Cooper, a 3rd grade teacher, spoke to the importance of accountability and using tools such as test data, which allow teachers to be better equipped to serve their students. Ms. Tamika Bennett, a concerned parent, spoke to her support for IREAD-3 testing. Ms. Candy Russell, a parent, spoke to the issues one of her children had with reading comprehension and advocated for the need for students to be reading by Grade 3.

Best Practices-Innovations in Education – Student Successes: Best Practices was deferred for the August meeting, and these presentations will resume once schools are back in session for the new school year.

Discussion: Dr. Leslie Fatum, Assistant Director for College and Career Ready Curriculum at the IDOE, presented the 2012 AP Report to the Board, noting a commitment by the IDOE to expand participation and success in AP exams. Indiana leads the nation in the number of students taking the AP exams. Federal dollars targeted low-income students and subgroups which may account for some increases in subgroups taking the tests. Board members were pleased to see that Indiana students are excelling in the AP exams.

Deputy Superintendent, M. Danielle Shockey, presented an update on the Lead Partners, their interventions and the status of their contracts. The IDOE paid for the Lead Partner contracts for the 2011-2012 school year using the Title 1 School Improvement Grant 1003g administrative funds. During the 2012-2013 school year, the IDOE continued to pay for the Lead Partners through Title 1 School Improvement Grant 1003g administrative funds, and the funds were supplemented by each school utilizing their own 1003g funds. Schools utilizing 1003g funds are subject to on-site monitoring during the school year. The contracts for the Lead Partners expire on 8/30/13 and 9/1/13. Ms. Shockey presented a PowerPoint that explained the goals that were outlined in the contracts for each lead partner. Feedback from the schools' leadership and the Lead Partners' monthly reports was presented for each partnership as well. For the upcoming school year, IPS has contracted with TNTP to provide evaluation training to all administrators in IPS schools, including Broad Ripple and George Washington. The services to be provided under IPS' contract are similar in nature to those that have been provided to Broad Ripple and George Washington. IPS has also already entered into a contract with Voyager to continue Lead Partner work for the 2013-2014 school year and plans to fund the contract through 1003a grant funds. IPS has also established an agreement with Scholastic to continue Lead Partner work for the next school year at Broad Ripple High School. Amplify has been working with George Washington, which received a "C" letter grade for the 2011-2012 school year. George Washington also has 75 community partners who are providing support to the school. Ms. Shockey then provided the Board with the recommendations for the Lead Partners, as contracts neared the end of their term. The IDOE recommended that the Board discontinue the use of TNTP as a Lead Partner, as IPS has secured a contract with TNTP to provide the same services to all schools in the corporation. The IDOE recommended that the Board continue to intervene at John Marshall and Broad Ripple and continue using the previously assigned Lead Partners. However, the IDOE does not recommend the renewal of contracts, as the contracts have been secured by IPS directly. In order to enforce a strong level of accountability and to ensure reporting requirements, the IDOE recommends entering into an



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MOU with each Lead Partner. For intervention at George Washington, the IDOE recommended that the Board discontinue intervention and the non-renewal of the contract with Amplify, due to the growth shown by George Washington. Board members discussed the recommendations of the IDOE. Board members wanted to ensure that if the IDOE's recommendations were taken, that the Board would retain their oversight and accountability of the Lead Partners in the schools in which they chose to intervene. The Board decided that the relationship with TNTP should continue. Board members discussed the situation at George Washington with Amplify, raising questions about the lack of measurable data and evidence provided at the meeting to demonstrate whether or not Amplify was a good partner for the school. The Board expressed the need for more data as evidence in order to change existing relationships. Ms. Yvonne Rambo from IPS spoke to the board to the services at George Washington and the multitude of community partners who have contributed to the growth at George Washington. The Board asked for more data and evidence on the schools, to see the effects that the interventions have had at these schools. The Board also asked for more information on next steps with George Washington, if Amplify is not continued as the Lead Partner. The logistics of the RFP process and the MOU process were discussed in regards to the timing of the processes to ensure that there is not a lapse in services to the schools. Superintendent Ritz indicated the RFP process has begun in anticipation of other potential Lead Partners being needed for new interventions. The Board suggested that the IDOE work with Amplify to figure out a solution and a plan for going forward and bring the suggestion to the next Board meeting.

The new Social Studies Standards that are being sent to the Education Roundtable were presented by Mr. Bruce Blomberg, a Social Studies Specialist for the IDOE. He provided an update on the standards review process for Social Studies, including the organization of groups of teachers, organizations to work together on the review of the standards. The changes made from the 2007 standards included the addition of course descriptions and standards descriptions, re-wording of standards for clarity, and a change in the examples contained within the standards. Mr. Blomberg will provide the Board members with a side-by-side document comparing the proposed changes and the 2007 standards, so that Board members can clearly understand the changes, when the proposed standards are brought to the Board for action later this fall. Additionally, Board members requested the standards presented be compared to the national standards, since the national standards have been revised since the IDOE last updated its Social Studies standards in 2007. Board members also requested information related to the make-up of the committee membership, geographic representation and qualifications. Mr. Blomberg indicated he would address both requests for the Board.

Ms. Kirstie Andersen, staff attorney for DOE, provided the Board members with information regarding the rules that are up for re-adoption or expiration this year. Rules need to be re-adopted or allowed to expire every 7 years. Rules are not amended during the re-adoption process, but are readopted so as to not lapse.

Ms. Shockey presented the timeline on the studies outlined in the Remediation Guidance that was adopted at the July Board meeting. Ms. Shockey noted that the Accuplacer results had been received the previous week and an RtI meeting was scheduled for the following week. August and September items on the timeline are already underway and are on track per Ms. Shockey's report. The Board expressed concern regarding the two-year time delay and if the topic should come before the Education Roundtable at its September 2013 meeting.



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Superintendent Ritz shared that the Accuplacer pilots are continuing and the IDOE is looking at additional remediation in math.

Superintendent Ritz gave a statement on A-F accountability, discussing what happened in 2011-12, what the plan is for 2012-13 and then next steps for 2013-14. Noting that while external reviews of the school accountability program are underway, it would be premature for the IDOE to comment on internal reviews of the A-F accountability system. She stated that once the external reviews are complete, the IDOE and the State Board will need to work together to determine what will happen for the calculations of the 2012-2013 A-F accountability scores for schools. In discussing the plans for going forward, Superintendent Ritz noted that she would be meeting with Speaker Bosma and Senator Long to better determine the IDOE's scope of responsibilities, and would provide an update to the Board within a week's time of that meeting. She noted that the new accountability system needs to be fair and transparent, but that a new system cannot be addressed until the investigation is complete.

Ms. Cathy Fuentes, a concerned parent, offered public comment on the high stakes attached to testing. Ms. Phyllis Bush, a teacher, offered public comment regarding concerns on the A-F scores assigned to schools and the affects the scores have on a community.

The next agenda item discussed was the Standards Review timeline that Superintendent Ritz provided to the Board. The timeline included a plan to appoint committees to review the standards by mid-September.

The last discussion item was the ISTEP update. The goal of the IDOE is to release student scores to parents and schools by the end of August. Ms. Ellen Hailey, President of CTB/McGraw Hill, spoke to the Board to explain the issues that occurred during the spring testing window, and offered apologies and also assurances for future testing windows.

Mr. Jason Sipe, a teacher at Indiana Connections Academy, offered public comment and spoke on the concerns of not having ISTEP data for students as the school year begins.

Consent Agenda: The consent agenda was approved on a voice vote. The consent agenda included Transfer Tuition Petition Resolution, Common School Fund Loan requests, Governing Body Plan changes, and Freeway School Accreditation applications.

New Business - Action: The first action item brought to the Board was approval of the Teacher Licensure Tests and Cut Scores. Ms. Risa Regnier, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services, presented the 61 tests and the 59 cut scores. A motion to approve the recommended tests and cut scores was made by Dr. Freitas, and was seconded by Ms. Whicker. The motion carried on a 9-0 vote. Additionally, Superintendent Ritz asked for a conversation to be arranged between Mr. Shane and Pearson representatives.

Ms. Becky Bowman, Director of Special Education, presented to the Board the emergency rule and approval to initiate rulemaking for SEA 464, Educational Funding for Students in Residential Care Facilities. The rule addresses how the funding flow would work between the secured residential care facility that is caring for a



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student and providing education, and the school corporation. Two of the stakeholders who worked on the language offered their support for the emergency rule language: Ms. Heather Willey, who spoke on behalf of residential care provider Universal Health Services, and Ms. Joan McCormack, who spoke on behalf of the Indiana Council of Administrators of Special Education (ICASE). The motion to approve the language in the emergency rule and to initiate rulemaking was made by Mr. Albert, and was seconded by Dr. Oliver. The motion carried on a 9-0 vote.

Ms. Becky Bowman presented the emergency rule language for the rules needed under HEA1003, relating to Choice Scholarships for special education students and the services provided to those students. She noted that while there was not agreement amongst the stakeholders, there was productive discussion. The language that was presented was an attempt to find a common ground between the desires of the choice schools and the requirements that public schools are to comply with for students with special needs. The rule included a compliance process, as is used in the public schools, as a procedural safeguard for parents. Ms. Bowman noted that there is a disagreement in the interpretation of the language in the law, in regards to the choice school having a choice in serving the needs of a choice scholarship student, or if the services can remain with the public school. Board members suggested that Ms. Bowman reconvene her stakeholder group and work to come to a consensus and bring a new rule to the September Board meeting. It was suggested that the emergency rules could be less restrictive and that the final rules can be tightened up going forward, if needed. Public testimony in opposition of the proposed rules was offered by Mr. Glenn Tebbe from the Indiana Catholic Conference, Mr. John Elcesser from the Indiana Non-public Education Association, Ms. Gina Fleming the Superintendent of Catholic Schools for the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, Ms. Leslie Hiner from the Friedman Foundation for Educational Choice, and Representative Behning who serves as Chairman of the House Education Committee. Ms. Joan McCormack from ICASE offered support of the proposed rules. Dr. Oliver asked the Board to move action on the emergency rule to the September meeting, so as to give the stakeholder group more time to come together, and the motion was seconded by Dr. Freitas. The motion to table the rules until the September meeting carried on a vote of 9-0.

Ms. Kirstie Andersen presented to the Board a list of rules that needed to be initiated to begin the rulemaking process, as the rulemaking that is prescribed in legislation has to be initiated in a short time period. The rulemaking that was initiated does not include any specific rule language, but rather ensures that the process is started.

- The motion to initiate rulemaking for School Accountability, as prescribed in HEA1427 was made by Mr. Watts and was seconded by Ms. Whicker. The motion carried 9-0.
- The motion to initiate rulemaking for Education Service Center Re-alignment, as prescribed in HEA1427 was made by Dr. Oliver, and seconded by Ms. Whicker. The motion carried 9-0.
- The motion to initiate rulemaking for College and Career Ready Standards, as prescribed in HEA1427 was made by Mr. Watts and seconded by Mr. Shane. The motion carried 9-0.
- The motion to initiate rulemaking for Teacher Preparation Programs, as prescribed in SEA409 was made by Mr. Watts and was seconded by Ms. Whicker. The motion carried 9-0.
- The motion to initiate rulemaking for the Indiana Works Councils, as prescribed in SEA465 was made by Mr. Watts, and was seconded by Dr. Oliver. The motion carried 9-0.



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- The motion to initiate rulemaking for the Performance Qualified Schools, as prescribed in SEA189 was made by Dr. Freitas, and was seconded by Ms. Whicker. The motion carried 9-0.

The draft proposal for the electronic participation in meetings policy was presented by Ms. Corley, and the Board asked for this item to be moved to a discussion item at the next meeting. No action was taken on this item.

The final action item was action on the Lead Partner contracts. Board members wanted to ensure that the Board would retain oversight over the Lead Partner intervention process. After discussion and clarification amongst the Board members, a motion was made for the renewals. Superintendent Ritz made a motion to reaffirm ongoing intervention with Lead Partners, in specific approving the renewal of TNTP as a Lead Partner with George Washington through a MOU, approving Voyager for renewal as a Lead Partner with John Marshall through a MOU, and approving renewal of Scholastic as a Lead Partner through a MOU. Dr. Oliver seconded the motion. Board members asked the Department to work with them on the drafts, and to ensure that the MOUs need to be at least as prescriptive and explicit as the original contracts were, so that the Board can ensure its oversight in the coming year and retain the same end goals with the Lead Partners. The motion on the renewals carried 9-0. In discussing Amplify, Board members asked the IDOE to come back in September with a plan for going forward, including school performance data and evidence. No action was taken on Amplify.

Board Operations: The next meeting is scheduled for September 4th at 9:00 am. There was discussion of the 2014 meeting dates, and it was agreeable to the Board members to continue with meeting on the first Wednesday of the month for 2014. The DOE will work with the dates and send a list of 2014 meeting dates on the location has been secured. Superintendent Ritz also suggested the Board hold an orientation session in conjunction with the September Board meeting. It was suggested to hold the orientation with the October meeting, so that strategic planning could also be discussed at that time.