



INDIANA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

TO: Indiana State Board of Education
FROM: Alicia Kielmovitch, Senior Director of Policy and Legislation
Ben Carter, Director of Workforce and Innovation, Department of Education
Natalie (Wenzler) Heustis, Director of Workforce Education, Department of Workforce Development
RE: Approval: Alternative College and Career Planning Tools
DATE: April 2, 2019

Recommendation: Approve Xello as alternative College and Career Planning Tools.

Background: Indiana state law (IC 20-30-5-14) allows a school corporation or charter school to request the Indiana State Board of Education to approve an alternative Internet based system and curriculum standards that provide students with career and college planning resources. This system will be an alternative to the Indiana Career Explorer and to others currently approved by the State Board. Upon submission of the request, the State Board, in consultation with the department and the department of workforce development, may approve an alternative system and curriculum standards if the alternative system:

- 1) Has an aptitude assessment tool;
- 2) Contains educational course track information;
- 3) Has a tool for the preparation and development of the graduation plan prescribed in [IC 20-30-4](#), including a parent sign in component;
- 4) Allows access to education and career demand information using data prepared by the department of workforce development; and
- 5) Is aligned to interdisciplinary employability skills standards prescribed in subsection (c). (The Department of Education is currently developing these standards are currently, so this requirement is null until these standards are approved by the State Board.)

College and Career Planning Tools for consideration: Indiana Career Explorer, which is administered by the Department of Workforce Development, Naviance, and Indiana Career Information System are currently the only approved for schools and districts to use for college and career planning – with the latter two receiving approval from the SBOE in January 2019. Schools, however, utilize other career planning tools. Staff from the State Board of Education, the Department of Education, and the Department of Workforce Development collaborated to review the applications of Xello, as well as worked with the organization to ensure these tools met the legislative requirements above.

Based on our reviews of the Xello System, **staff found the tool meet the statutorily required standards enumerate above.** Upon Board approval, school corporations may use Xello in their college and career planning and advising.

Next Steps: As the State Board approves alternative College and Career Planning Tools, the Department of Education will feature the approved list of options for schools. It is important for school corporations to note that if the system is on that list, they do not need to apply for approval. Please check the approved list prior to submitting an application. If there is a system requiring approval, school corporations may apply to the Board throughout the remainder of the 2018-19 school year.