

MINUTES
Indiana State Board of Education
Business Meeting

June 4, 2025
9:00 A.M. EDT

Conference Room B
Indiana Government Center South
302 W. Washington Street
Indianapolis, IN, 46204

<https://youtube.com/live/d3OXrAuws8g?feature=share>

Board Members Present: Dr. Katie Jenner, Chair, Mr. William Durham Jr., Secretary, Mr. Scott Bess, Ms. Erika Dilosa (by video), Dr. Byron Ernest, Mr. Greg Gastineau, Ms. Iris Hammel, Mr. Pat Mapes, Ms. Kristin Rentschler, and Mr. B.J. Watts.

Board Members Absent: Ms. Katie Mote, Vice-Chair

- I. **Call to Order:**
 - A. Roll Call: A quorum is present.
 - B. Pledge of Allegiance
- II. **Approval of the Agenda:** The agenda was approved by unanimous vote.
- III. **Approval of the Minutes:** The Minutes, for the May 7, 2025, meeting, were approved by unanimous vote.
 - A. May 7, 2025 - [Memo](#)
- IV. **Statement from the Chair:** Dr. Jenner commented on her school visits to northern Indiana (Elkhart, Saint Joseph, Porter and Lake Counties). She celebrated the school successes, e.g. apprenticeships, literacy, competency-based mastery learning, adult learning.
- V. **Board Member Comments and Reports:** Dr. Ernest gave a “shout-out” to all the schools’ work-based learning (WBL) programs. He recently experienced, firsthand, Indiana Pork and Indiana Farm Bureau’s agriculture WBL pilot programs within the eight counties surrounding Indianapolis. Dr. Ernest stressed the hard work that goes in to establishing and maintaining these programs.
- VI. **Public Comment:** Mr. Adam Allen, Indiana Association of School Principals (IASP), President-elect, and Batesville High School, Principal, spoke on the importance of schools, professional associations, state departments of education, school boards and state legislatures working together for a common goal. He defined the feedback process as 1) received, 2) given, 3) valued (most important), 4) evaluated, and 5) where aligned, incorporated. Mr. Allen encouraged stakeholders to provide feedback and be involved in this collaboration of school accountability in Indiana. Accountability always matters and is welcomed. Mr. Allen is hopeful and looking forward to engaging further in this process.

Dr. Bret Bailey, Indiana Association of School Principals (IASP), Vice President, and Hamilton Heights Middle School, Principal, stated A-F middle school grade configurations look very different corporation to corporation. He thanked IDOE for taking on an A-F model that accounts for structural variations and believes the work is critical. Dr. Bailey wishes to mirror the high school approach. In the initial draft, he appreciates the student centered data, and the additional success factors of growth, attendance, iLearn scores for social studies and science, and high school credits earned in

middle school. He also encouraged administrators and educators to provide feedback and appreciates widening the definition of success for students.

VII. Consent Agenda: The Consent Agenda was approved by unanimous vote.

- A. Greensburg Community Schools Latch Key Waiver - [Memo](#)
- B. Non-Public School Accreditation Petitions
 - i. The Mustard Seed Christian Distinguished Scholars - [Memo](#)
 - ii. Northside Christian School - [Memo](#)
 - iii. Rise Academy of Lifelong Learners - [Memo](#)
 - iv. Trinity Academy at Greenlawn - [Memo](#)
 - v. Victory Christian Academy - [Memo](#)
- C. 1003 Flexibility Waiver - [Memo](#)

VIII. New Business: Mr. Philip Gordon, SBOE/IDOE General Counsel, launched Item A by explaining to Board Members the vote initiates the accountability rulemaking process and approves the resolution. New Business, Item A, was approved by unanimous vote.

- A. Initiate Rulemaking – School Accountability -[Memo](#), [Memo](#). Jacqueline Kronk, IDOE, Chief Strategy Officer and Ron Sandlin, IDOE, Chief Innovation Officer, presented.
 - i. Mr. Bess commented on the first student example Mr. Sandlin offered, giving credit to students who are approaching proficiency. He believes this a better solution for the accountability issue because the bar stays high, rather than lowering assessment test cut scores as some other states have done.
 - ii. Dr. Jenner opened discussion on SAT use by higher education, employers and the military. Ms. Hammel asked if previous comments have been made regarding tying the SAT with the different diploma seals, e.g. SAT would be required for the enrollment seal. Mr. Sandlin stated the diploma seals are the ultimate end goal for our graduates and future drafts of the accountability model will give maximum points for students who graduate with a seal, relative to their traditional academic mastery (SAT proficiency is a segment of academic mastery). Academic mastery and skill development meeting at the individual student level is the intended relationship.
 - iii. Mr. Mapes asked if the implementation date is the 2026-2027 school year. Dr. Jenner explained that the statute does not allow another year to hold schools harmless on letter grades. A-F letter grades will be issued in Fall 2026 for the 2025-2026 school year and this year's school data will be used.
 - iv. After complimenting Mr. Sandlin, Dr. Ernest expressed his gladness that we have moved away from end-of-course testing as a graduation requirement and now accountability is truly student driven and showing the student's complete story. Same as the High School Diploma Rule, he asked if we are building in the intertwined concepts of flexibility (allows for the scope of change) and nimbleness (ensures the ability to execute those changes). Dr. Jenner responded the attorneys will work with the Board.
 - v. Mr. Watts stated his appreciation for Ron's team and complimented the rough accountability draft.
 - vi. Ms. Hammel commented on how academic high achievers receive accolades, and higher education views current high school transcripts through the same lens of high achievement. Will students be made aware of their individual point rankings and how the points tie directly to their school? Will the new accountability system (acknowledging kids' strengths) change report cards? Academics matter, but we are missing the bigger story because of what higher education values. Dr Jenner agreed knowledge of student's point ranking, and recognition outside of academics, can be talked through.
 - vii. Mr. Bess noted diploma, accountability, and funding need to align. Also, Indiana has a growing percentage in the category of English Language Learners. Acknowledging student progress of acquiring English language proficiency goals is a big deal. Well done!

IX. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote.