



INDIANA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Business Meeting Agenda
November 1, 2017
9:30 AM (ET)
Indiana Government Center South
Conference Room B
302 West Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Board Members Present: Dr. Jennifer McCormick (Chair), Mrs. Cari Whicker (Vice Chair), Dr. Vince Bertram, Mr. BJ Watts, Mr. Gordon Hendry, Dr. Maryanne McMahan (by phone), Mr. Tony Walker, Ms. Katie Mote, and Dr. Steve Yager.

Board Members Absent: Dr. Ernest (Secretary) and Dr. Freitas.

- I. **Call to Order**
 - a. Board members recited the Pledge of Allegiance
- II. **Approval of Agenda**
 - a. Agenda approved by voice vote.
- III. **Approval of Minutes**
 - a. The Minutes for November 4, were approved by voice vote.
- IV. **Statement from the Chair**
 - a. Dr. McCormick recognized the seven national blue ribbon schools that visited the State House on Monday and thanked the General Assembly for participating. The schools are Barr Reeves Elementary, College Wood Elementary, Eden Elementary, James Whitcomb Riley, Maple Elementary, White Lick, and Zionsville Pleasant View Elementary.
 - b. Dr. McCormick also congratulated Dr. Bertram for being recognized by Ball State University as a distinguished alumni.
- V. **Board Member Comments and Reports**
 - a. Dr. Yager expressed concern about the timeline of the vote to approve the Graduation Pathways Plan.
- VI. **Public Comment**
 - a. Elizabeth Walters, representing Indiana Association of School Principals, offered her thoughts and suggestions as well as her concerns about the lack of voices involved in the potential Graduation Pathways recommendations.
 - b. Jeff Butts, representing MSD Wayne Township and Indiana Association of Public School Superintendents, offered his thoughts and suggestions to the potential



INDIANA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Graduation Pathways recommendations. However he felt that the timeline was being rushed and that the deadline should be extended.

- c. Matt Kegley, representing Hamilton Southeastern High School, offered his thoughts and suggestions to the potential Graduation Pathways recommendations. Specifically he raised concerns about the potential drop in graduation rates in his school and in others around the states as well as increased costs incurred to schools.
- d. Andy Allen, representing Batesville High School, raised concerns about adding additional requirements for graduation on top of the Core 40, which he said is already a rigorous requirement for some students.
- e. Rick Davis, representing Western High School, offered his thoughts and suggestions to the potential Graduation Pathways recommendations. He raised concerns about the pathways plan.
- f. Jason Cary, representing Greenfield Central High School, offered his thoughts and suggestions to the potential Graduation Pathways recommendations. He also raised concerns about the potential drop in graduation rates.

VII. **Consent Agenda**

- a. The Consent Agenda was approved 9-0 by a voice vote.

VIII. **Adjudications**

- a. None

IX. **New Business – Action**

- a. DePauw Teacher Preparation Program
 - i. Ms. Mote had to excuse herself from the meeting due to a prior engagement.
 1. An overview of the visit of DePauw’s Teacher Education Program conducted by the State earlier this year was provided.
 2. Dr. Caroline Jetton and Jodi Menke, representatives from the program, were present for any further questions.
 - ii. The Board voted 8-0 to approve the DePauw Teacher Education Program accreditation.
- b. Changes to SBOE Special Education Rules
 - i. Timothy Schultz, General Counsel the Indiana State Board of Education, proposed amendments to the current Article VII, covering special education.
 1. The changes are mainly housekeeping matters to update the language.
 - ii. Dr. Yager asked if the schools were aware of these changes and if they had any input in the changes.
 1. Mr. Schultz answered that this is proposed language. This is a long process that will include public comment and a public hearing.



INDIANA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

- iii. The Board voted 8-0 to update the proposed language in the Special Education Rules.
- c. Process for School Quality Reviews
 - i. Ron Sandlin from Indiana State Board of Education provided an overview of the School Quality Reviews in Indiana Law.
 1. In 2015, the State legislature shortened the intervention timeline for the State Board from 6 years down to 4 years and the decision to include the assignment of an expert team went from 4 years down to 2 years.
 2. In this legislation discretion was given to the Board as to their decision to assign an expert team. The language changed from “shall” assign to “may” assign when a school has two executive F ratings.
 3. The shorter timeline causes a significant increase in the number of qualifying schools, which was a catalyst for Board staff to rethink how this process was administered.
 - ii. Mr. Sandlin then explained what changes they would make for the implementation for the School Quality Reviews.
 1. Add a pre-meeting visit, leverage State partners by engaging expert educators and leaders across the State to inform this process, and partner with expert consultants to enhance the focus of instructional quality. These partners include: Teach Plus Indiana, Marian University, Mind Trust, Indiana Principle Leadership Institute, and Indiana Association of School Principals.
 2. Dr. McCormick asked how these partners were selected.
 - a. Mr. Sandlin explained they were selected through different ways such as recommendations, staff decisions, volunteering, and local connections.
 3. Dr. McCormick asked further, how do other entities become a part of this partnership and have the opportunity to get the dollars being paid out.
 - a. Mr. Sandlin informed that these are all volunteers and the only money put towards this is lodging and a per diem for the individual that is participating.
 4. Dr. Bertram followed up by asking volunteers can get on this list and can we add language that would allow expansion of the partners.
 - a. Mr. Sandlin said that if the Board has recommendations on who to add to the list, they were open to adding as many partners as possible.



INDIANA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

- b. Mr. Sandlin also advised that this plan is only for one year.
5. Mr. Walker asked if this would restrict the Indiana Department of Education from doing school quality reviews.
 - a. Mr. Sandlin said that the Department has flexibility to support through other federal law considerations.
6. Dr. Bertram asked if it would be possible to have two different groups providing assistance to the school on the same issue.
 - a. Mr. Sandlin said this was possible, but the minimum of what the Department is required to do under federal law on an annual basis falls far short of the substance of a school quality review.
 - b. Dr. Kwiatkowski offered a clarification of the information. She informed that in the past the Board was required to conduct school quality reviews for schools receiving an F for two years in a row, but they now have the option to decide if they want to do so. She also said these reviews are very different and more comprehensive than the federal reviews given by the Department.
7. Mr. Sandlin informed that the timeline has already begun and they will be conducting the school visits from December to early January and will conclude in mid-April.
8. Mr. Sandlin then provided the criteria necessary for the school quality reviews.
 - a. All year four schools will receive a review, Gary School Community Corporation will be excluded from this process in hopes of not over assessing the schools and due to the fact that it is unlikely that the Board will take unilateral action.
9. Dr. McCormick said that she believed that if the Board has the capacity, they need to assist.
 - a. Dr. McCormick then had to excuse herself from the meeting and Mrs. Whicker began acting as the Chair.
10. Mr. Walker informed that he did not believe it was under the Board's authority to intervene in Gary and that there were already too many people intervening there, so this should be left to the Department under the advisory of the Distressed Unit Appeals Board.
11. Mr. Walker moved that, upon consent of the Distressed Unit of Appeals Board, the Indiana Department of Education conduct



INDIANA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

school quality reviews for the eligible Gary School Corporation Schools.

- a. Mr. Watts seconded that motion.
- b. The Board voted 7-0 to approve the motion.

12. Mr. Hendry made a motion to approve the recommendation drafted by Staff as amended by prior action on the Gary Schools motion.

- a. The Board voted 7-0 to approve the recommended School Quality Review proposal.

13. Mr. Watts then moved to make an amendment to this motion to state that it would include all schools in the list that request a school quality review, but that are not currently on the list.

- a. The Board voted 7-0 to approve the amendment.

14. Mr. Bertram also moved to make an amendment to the motion to change the language regarding the partnerships to state, includes, but not limited to the partnerships already created.

- a. The Board voted 7-0 to approve the amendment.

iii. Discussion starts at [2:09:49](#)

d. Alternate Assessment Evaluation Team

i. Dr. Flores requested the approval for the alternate assessment evaluation team.

1. She requested approval to proceed with the committee that was recommended to review the alternate assessment RFP proposals and also for the release of that RFP publicly working through the IDOA process.

ii. The Board voted 7-0 to approve the request for the alternate assessment committee.

iii. Discussion starts at [3:23:13](#)

X. **Best Practices – Innovations in Education – Student Success**

a. Stemnasium Learning Academy

i. Tariq Al-Nasir informed the Board about his program, Stemnasium Learning Academy, which provides students with an opportunity to learn about STEM at an early age without the confusion of STEM language.

ii. Mr. Walker asked for feedback as to how this has been worked into the curriculum and what original work the students are doing as a part of that.

1. Mr. Al-Nasir said that the program is offered after school, on Saturdays, and by traveling, but is also now fully integrated into the regular school day

2. Mr. Al-Nasir also said that the students are learning to write code for a school app that is being developed and building their own drones.



INDIANA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

iii. Discussion starts at [3:24:19](#)

XI. **Discussion and Reports**

a. Assessment Update

- i. Dr. Charity Flores provided an Assessment Update.
- ii. State has begun pre-test workshops for the winter re-test
 1. Using analyzed data from the spring administration, they are focusing on minimizing the undetermined and applying those lessons learned

iii. Discussion starts at [3:48:01](#)

XII. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned by a voice vote.