



INDIANA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Indiana State Board of Education
Board Meeting Minutes
November 16, 2016
Indiana State House, Room 125
200 West Washington Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Board Members Present: Superintendent Glenda Ritz (Chair), Mrs. Cari Whicker (Vice Chair), Dr. Byron Ernest, Dr. David Freitas, Mr. Gordon Hendry, Dr. Lee Ann Kwiatkowski, Dr. McMahon, Mr. B.J. Watts, and Dr. Steve Yager.

Board Members Absent: Dr. Vince Bertram

I. Call to Order

- a. Superintendent Ritz called the meeting to order.
- b. The board members recited the pledge of allegiance

II. Approval of Agenda

- a. Superintendent Ritz added TAC Update underneath Discussion on the Agenda
- b. Presentation on the Governor's Work Ethics Certificate verification was moved up in the agenda
- c. The agenda was approved by voice vote.

III. Approval of Minutes

- a. The minutes from October 5, 2016 were approved by voice vote.

IV. Statement from the Chair

- a. Innovation planning grants were sent out to different school corporations in which each school will receive \$30,000. This will allow schools to begin planning what they need to in regards to infusing technology.
- b. The DOE was able to disburse the 1003(g) grant to some schools; grants up to 16 million dollars of federal money.

V. Board Member Comments and Reports

- a. Dr. McMahon thanked the board for its help during her transition. Secondly, she discusses the importance of ELL students. Some students may not ever reach ELL proficiency while in school. She also encouraged looking into a statewide database regarding ELL students.

VI. General Public Comment

- a. Dr. J.T. Coopman, Dr. Robert Taylor, Rocky Killian, Tom Hunter, Chris Himsel, John Hunter, Brad Schneider, and Steve Thalheimer all presented concerns regarding ISTEP testing. They believe the test is flawed which provides inaccurate labels on schools and students. They believe that the test scores do not accurately reflect the success of the students. They also believe that the ISTEP does not accurately depict the teaching and learnings that occur daily. Aspects of the ISTEP are constantly changing in a manner which does not give teachers enough time to properly prepare the students, they stated. They also emphasized that educating children is the most important job. An assessment system that is fair, transparent, and easy to understand is necessary for the state of Indiana.

XI. Discussion and Reports (one item taken out of order)

- a. Department of Workforce Development Presentation on the Governor’s Work Ethic Certificate
 - i. Workforce Development presented on the implementation of a statewide work ethic certificate program.
 - ii. The work ethic certificate is based on the acronym PRIDE (Persistence. Respect. Initiative. Dependability and Efficiency). Some schools are also providing technical assistance to workforce development.

VII. Best Practices – Innovations in Education – Student Successes

- a. Lisa Robinson with the [University of Indianapolis and the Woodrow Wilson MBA Fellowship in Education Leadership](#) provided a presentation regarding a unique hybrid MBA opportunity.
- b. There were also presentations from the Teachers of Tomorrow Alternative Licensure Program and Tripod Education Partners.

VIII. Consent Agenda

- a. The Consent Agenda was approved by voice vote. The items on the Consent Agenda were Approval of Common School Loans, Memorandum of Understanding Between the DOE and SBOE for the Administration of Perkins Funds, Final Rule Re-adoption Set to Expire January 1, 2017, and the Final Approval of Formative Assessment Funding.

IX. Adjudications

- a. None.

X. New Business – Action

- a. State Board of Education Policy Agenda IC 20-19-2-14(5)
 - i. Mr. Hendry put forward draft resolutions that were approved in the Strategic Planning Committee for recommendation as State Board of Education policy to be considered by the Indiana General Assembly. The resolutions included:
 - 1. [Draft Resolution Regarding Pre-K Expansion](#)
 - a. The Indiana State Board of Education expresses strong support for expanding Pre-K under the following guiding principles: 1. Maintain a clear focus on quality, 2. Ensure the state infrastructure supports and encourages a mixed delivery system, and 3. Assistance is targeted towards our most high-needs children.
 - 2. [Draft Resolution Regarding Textbook Rental Fees](#)
 - a. The Indiana State Board of Education encourages the General Assembly to explore textbook and curricular material cost programs that further limit or eliminate out-of-pocket expenses for all parents and families
 - 3. [Draft Resolution Regarding Character & Citizenship Programs](#)
 - a. The State Board expresses support for the adoption of the Governor’s Work Ethic Certificate program as part of the statewide guidelines and principles for character and citizenship.
 - ii. The resolutions all passed 8-0. Superintendent Ritz abstained.
- b. Approval of Final Rule for Continuous Improvement of Teacher Preparation Programs #15-155 passed 8-0 (Dr. Yager stepped out of the room briefly).
- c. Approval of Trine English/language arts Licensure Program Proposal passed 9-0.
- d. Approval of Huntington Career and Technical Education - Agriculture Program Proposal passed 9-0.
- e. Approval of Data Reporting Committee Final Recommendations
 - i. Approval of Membership (ME), Special Education (SE), English Learner and Immigrant (LM), Special Education for Vouchers (SV), and Membership for Vouchers (MV) Reports passed 9-0.

- ii. Approval of DRC Recommendation # 2: Annual School Performance Report (APR) passed 9-0.
 - iii. Approval of DRC Recommendation # 3: Streamlining Financial Reporting Requirements— Department of Local Government Finance passed 9-0.
 - iv. Approval of DRC Recommendation # 4: Streamlining Financial Reporting Requirements— Annual School Finance Report (AFR) passed 9-0.
 - v. Approval of DRC Recommendation # 5: Streamlining Data Reporting Requirements between Schools and the Department of Health passed 9-0
 - vi. Approval of DRC Recommendation # 6: Streamlining “C” Data Reporting Requirements passed 9-0.
- Mr. Hendry left the meeting
- f. Approval of Accountability Joint Recommendation Regarding Preliminary School Grades
 - i. Joint Staff Recommendation: If the Board deems it appropriate to take action, permit the Department of Education to adjust the weightings of the Performance and Multiple Measures domains in the absence of the growth domain – passed 8-0.
 - ii. Joint Recommendation: Permit the Department of Education to include students with “undetermined” scores as a result of using a calculator on non-calculator sections of the ISTEP+ as participants when calculating a schools participation rate – passed 8-0.
 - iii. Joint Recommendation: Permit the Department of Education to include students who took the alternative assessment during the 2016 school year as participants when calculating a schools participation rate – passed 8-0.
 - g. Creation of SBOE Executive Committee – The board voted to table the creation of a SBOE Executive Committee by a vote of 7-1; Dr. Ernest voted no, stating that the intent is to include the Superintendent, no matter who that was going to be. The board determined to wait until the new Superintendent was sworn in.

XI. Discussion and Reports

- a. Advanced Placement Report
 - i. No comments.
- b. Turnaround Academy update
 - i. Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation – Glenwood Leadership Academy update; Lincoln Community School update
 - 1. Lincoln attendance rates increased in 2016, enrollment was higher at the beginning of this year than at the end of last year and student suspensions are slightly lower. The school has set short and long term goals based on the scores and behaviors of changes over the past two years.
 - 2. Teacher retention rates centers around the lack of candidates at high poverty schools. The money put into different resources does not always improve teacher performance. The school partnered with the University of Southern Indiana to create a teacher placement program. The teachers hired from the program, Teach Now, have proven to have better performance than those who are not.
 - 3. Student attendance and enrollment for Glenwood has improved.
 - 4. The school provides alternatives to suspensions to have improve the student’s social and emotional health.
 - ii. Theodore Roosevelt College and Career Academy Update
 - 1. Mr. Ron Sandlin gave a report on the updates of the innovation network school that the board encouraged them to create. The State Board serves

as a support entity for the school, he said. He further stated that the board brought consultants in to better understand and assist in the process.

- c. Assessment update
 - i. Pearson update
 - 1. Schools are allowed to decide if they want to do online testing or use paper/pencil for ISTEP.
 - 2. Members ran into a few issues while attempting to run an analysis.
 - a. They were unable to define which students had a section of their test invalidated (due to the calculator issue).
 - b. There was a large percentage of items on the test that were in the non-calculator sections.
 - c. There was the issue of figuring out how to match students and provide an accurate comparison.
 - 3. After meeting with the TAC, it was concluded that a valid comparison could not be achieved.
 - 4. There is a debate on whether students should be allowed to use a calculator on certain sections of the test.
 - 5. An error in calculation occurred within third grade math which required a recalculation of grades.
 - 6. After some discussion, it was determined that the DOE will work with SBOE during the embargo to correct the calculations and send the preliminary grades.
- d. Accountability update
 - i. None
- e. ESSA update
 - i. Superintendent's ESSA accountability Advisory Committee
 - 1. The board is on track to submit everything necessary.
 - 2. The board will not take any action until 2017.
 - 3. ESSA will require the most predominate language other than English, so the test to be administered in Spanish as well.
 - ii. Panel to study alternatives to the ISTEP program test update
 - 1. The panel looked at what changes in law are necessary to streamline the assessment process.

XII. Board Options

- a. None.

XIII. Adjournment

- a. Board voted by voice vote to adjourn.