

Business Meeting Agenda
October 3, 2018 at 9:30 AM (ET)
Indiana University Purdue University Columbus
Columbus Learning Center, Lecture Hall, Room LC1000
4555 Central Ave, Columbus, IN 47203

Board Members Present: Dr. Jennifer McCormick (Chair), Mr. BJ Watts (Vice Chair), Dr. Byron Ernest (Secretary), Dr. Vince Bertram, Mr. Gordon Hendry, Dr. David Freitas, Dr. Maryanne McMahon, Mr. Tony Walker, Ms. Katie Mote, Dr. Steve Yager, and Mrs. Cari Whicker.

Board Members Absent: None

I. Call to Order

- a. Board members recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
- b. Opening remarks were made by Dr. Reinhold Hill, Vice Chancellor and Dean of IUPUC.

II. Approval of the Agenda

- a. Mr. Walker proposed amending the agenda by moving item 9B, Request for Proposals: Educator Licensure Assessments, from New Business to Discussion and Reports as item 10H. The agenda was approved as amended by a voice vote.

III. Approval of Minutes

- a. The minutes from August 23 and September 5 were approved by a voice vote.

IV. Statement from the Chair

- a. Dr. McCormick thanked IUPUC for hosting the Board and Clifty Creek Elementary for sharing their good work with the Board at an on-site visit. Dr. McCormick thanked the field for their kind words and support following her announcement that she would not seek re-election. Dr. McCormick read the list of schools designated as Blue Ribbon schools. She also stated that she would not seek re-election as board chair in 2019.

V. Board Member Comments and Reports

- a. Mr. Hendry extended sympathy to Zionsville schools and community on the loss of two students to violence.
- b. Dr. Yager expressed frustration with Pearson and testing problems encountered by schools that negatively impact students. He urged DOE to seek recourse.

VI. Public Comment

- a. Dr. Alva L. Sibbitt, Jr., of Cannelton City Schools spoke to his frustration with his school corporation receiving a D letter grade. He did not have enough students to retest in order to receive points for improvement in the school accountability formula. He stated he believes that the formula discriminates against small schools because of the quantity required to retest. He has filed an appeal of the grade.
 - i. Mr. Walker asked Dr. Sibbitt how the Board might best capture the elements of poverty Dr. Sibbitt described as accountability factors. Dr. Sibbitt suggested a formula that gives credit to schools that serve extremely low income students and a high percentage of special needs students.
 - ii. Dr. Bertram asked what prevented a change (decrease) in the threshold of a quantity of 40 students retesting in the accountability calculation.

1. Ms. Maggie Paino, Director of Accountability at DOE, explained that the number 40 is what was adopted by the State Board of Education as a board rule for calculation of growth. The system aggregates data from previous years if the threshold is not met in a single year. She suggested that the number is at 40 due to statistical considerations.
 2. Mr. Tim Schultz, General Counsel at SBOE, explained the process for schools wishing to appeal their letter grades. Ms. Paino later clarified that the appeal goes before an Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) for a recommendation. The turnaround time is approximately 30 days.
 3. Ms. Mote suggested that Dr. Sibbitt explore the remedy of requesting that no grade be assigned to his school corporation.
- b. Dr. Carol Werhan, a Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) educator at Purdue University, commented on her concerns with the changes made to teacher licensure and FCS courses without appropriate input from the field and others. Dr. Werhan stated that because of this, FCS teachers are underprepared and there is a negative impact on students.
 - i. Dr. Yager asked how many FCS teachers are in the pipeline. Dr. Werhan stated there are 25 in her department total. Dr. Yager asked Dr. McCormick to provide a summary of all pipeline teachers by discipline once the CTE report is complete, which she stated would be late fall.
 - c. Dr. Kay Antonelli of South Bend Community School Corporation introduced Deb Barden, the principal at Madison S.T.E.A.M. Academy. Dr. Antonelli spoke on behalf of Madison, asking that the Board consider the following when making their decision about the fate of Madison’s intervention: improved IREAD passage rate; improved ISTEP passage rates; and improved student growth scores. She stated they are using data to make decisions and improvements in curriculum, instructions, and use of best practices.

VII. Best Practices

- a. A presentation of best practices was made by Dr. Kevin Berkopes of Crossroads Education about the knowledge based economy, technology, and developing talent in the K12 environment. Presentation begins at [1:29](#).

VIII. Consent Agenda

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

IX. New Business—Action

- a. Intervention: Madison S.T.E.A.M. Academy
 - i. Mr. Ron Sandlin directed Board members to the memo outlining options available and noted that staff did not have a recommendation on the matter.
 - ii. Dr. Freitas made a motion to accept South Bend Community School Corporation’s local improvement plan with an annual review, which was an option expressed at the public meeting. The motion passed unanimously.
- b. Midwest Elite Preparatory Academy (begins at [1:49](#))
 - i. Mr. Schultz stated that a representative of Midwest contacted SBOE to cancel their Freeway accreditation contract. As outlined in the [Board memo](#), a number of violations of Indiana Code were identified during the 2017-18 school year with Midwest. Because of their violations, SBOE staff recommended that their

Freeway accreditation be revoked and that the school no longer be eligible for Choice Scholarship dollars. SBOE staff recommends that DOE be directed to work with parents to inform them that the Choice Scholarship dollars follow the student. DOE confirmed they will send certified letters to parents at the addresses on the applications in order to notify them. The school did not require collection of phone numbers or email addresses, so physical addresses are the only way to contact parents.

- ii. Staff recommendations were approved unanimously.
- c. Approval 2019 Meeting Dates
 - i. [Proposed meeting dates for 2019](#) were unanimously approved.
- d. Grade Placements: Adult High Schools
 - i. [Proposed grade placements](#) were unanimously approved.

X. Discussion and Reports

- a. Assessment
 - i. Dr. Charity Flores, Director of Assessment provided an update via telephone about the [2018 ISTEP+ results](#). She stated that a large component of the assessments were delivered online and that performance remained stable, with the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) did not note any concerns. Video begins at [2:02](#).
- b. Committee on Virtual Schools
 - i. Mr. Schultz reviewed activity of the committee to date and shared that the intention of the committee is to have one additional meeting to develop and approve the formal recommendations to bring to the Board for consideration.
 - ii. Dr. Freitas asked that the committee consider providing specific standards by which future virtual schools would be held accountable and understand the expectations from the Board. Ms. Whicker stated she believed that was the intention. Video begins at [2:07](#).
- c. Indiana Course Access Program
 - i. Dr. McCormick shared there are 90 courses available, well ahead of schedule. There are 29 students enrolled, representing 7 districts. Video begins at [2:11](#).
- d. Diploma
 - i. Dr. Ken Folks, Chief Academic Officer for DOE, offered an update on Alternate Algebra II changes. The consensus of the committee was that none of the available courses were a good alternate. DOE provided proposed standard changes; if the committee comments identify significant edits, the committee will meet again.
 - ii. The Math Working Group will meet again in October with the Committee for Higher Education (CHE) with the goal of a course approved for limited pilot in 2019-20.
 - iii. Core 40 Science Requirements: names of stakeholders are being collected to form a committee in October.
- e. Graduation Pathways
 - i. Ms. Amanda McCammon, Chief of Workforce and STEM alliances at DOE, updated the Board on DOE's implementation activities, including answering 107

questions from the field, professional development, and posting best practices used by schools on the DOE website. Video begins at [2:17](#).

- f. Social, Emotional, and Behavioral Health Plan/Social and Emotional Learning
 - i. Dr. Folks stated SEL competencies are under review and the final product will be released in January.
 - ii. Dr. Folks noted that DOE received a \$9M grant for mental health wellness and awareness. Video begins at [2:26](#).
- g. Proposed Dyslexia Rule
 - i. Mr. Schultz summarized the status of the rule-making process. No notice of intent has been posted with the state yet. Video begins at [2:31](#).
- h. Request for Proposals: Educator Licensure Assessments
 - i. Mr. Walker expressed concern that the RFP be written in a way that encourages the greatest number of vendors to respond as possible and not advantage a single entity. Dr. McCormick assured him that the Department would not unfairly advantage one respondent over another. Dr. Freitas noted there is no reference to validity and reliability in the current document and asked why the document references only national standards and not state standards. Ms. Marsha Bugalla, General Counsel for DOE, stated the RFP is still under development with the Indiana Department of Administration (IDOA) and has been reviewed by TAC leadership. Video begins at [2:35](#).

XI. Adjournment

- a. The meeting adjourned.