



# INDIANA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

## INDIANA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION ASSESSMENT SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

April 9, 2014

Indiana Government Center South – Auditorium  
402 West Washington Street  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Board Members Present: Superintendent Glenda Ritz (chair), Mr. Troy Albert, Ms. Andrea Neal, Ms. Sarah O'Brien, Dr. Brad Oliver, and Ms. Cari Whicker.

### **1. WELCOME AND OVERVIEW**

Superintendent Ritz announced the beginning of the subcommittee meeting and explained it would be an informal meeting.

### **2. EXPLORING ASSESSMENT PHILOSOPHY**

Members discussed concerns and vision for assessments.

### **3. CURRENT ASSESSMENT SYSTEM**

Dr. Michele Walker, Director of Student Assessment at the Indiana Department of Education, explained the current assessment system in Indiana. Ms. Walker discussed each of the current assessments in turn, and outlined the vendors for the assessments.

### **4. FUTURE ASSESSMENTS**

Dr. Walker explained the transition plan to a college and career ready assessment tied to the new standards. Dr. Oliver expressed concern about the CoreLink transition test. Dr. Walker responded that the U.S. Department of Education required something be done now regarding college and career readiness so a transition test was necessary. She also mentioned that there wasn't time for a pilot test. The Board would select an

assessment following the year of the transition test. Ms. Neal asked about using an off the shelf test such as the NWEA and save the money. Dr. Walker responded that the NWEA is not criterion referenced and the assessment must be aligned to the new standards. Dr. Oliver asked why not identify the assessment first and then use the pilot to satisfy the data. Dr. Oliver said a full scale pilot of all students could be written into the RFP. Dr. Walker was concerned about the timeline. Dr. Oliver said teachers are going to want a pilot either way so this would be the best route. Ms. O'Brien expressed concern over three tests. Dr. Walker said if the Core Link is given a pilot would not be required.

## **5. PREPARING AN RFP**

Superintendent Ritz explained that the RFI process must take place before the RFP process. Dr. Walker said the RFI is a way to understand what a company can offer. She went on to say they could then meet with the vendors. Superintendent Ritz added that once the RFP has been sent out they cannot talk to other vendors.

## **6. TIMELINE FOR PROCUREMENT**

Dr. Walker discussed some dates for planning purposes. She mentioned late July to early August to hear about proposals. Superintendent Ritz said they will need to talk to vendors for information to put in the RFP. Dr. Oliver asked about adjusting the timeline so a selection could be made in July. Dr. Walker said they these are soft timelines and that they have a meeting the day after this meeting to discuss this matter in more detail.

## **7. FUTURE SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING DATES**

Superintendent Ritz moved on to the issue of establishing dates to meet in the future. May 15 and 16 would be when they come in and meet with us, she said. Dr. Oliver recommended a meeting after the standards meeting on April 28<sup>th</sup> to finalize the RFI. The members agreed. Superintendent Ritz added that a draft of the RFI will be provided beforehand. Dr. Oliver asked not to lock into these dates yet and asked if they could move quicker in reacting to the RFIs in the event a pilot from the vendor is possible. Dr. Walker said she will know more after tomorrow's meeting.