



# INDIANA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

## INDIANA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION EXECUTIVE SESSION

July 1, 2015  
9:00 a.m. (EDT)

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

Board Members Present: Superintendent Glenda Ritz (Chair), Dr. Vince Bertram, Dr. David Freitas (by phone), Dr. Byron Ernest, Mr. Gordon Hendry, Ms. Lee Ann Kwiatkowski, Mr. Edward Melton, Mrs. Sarah O'Brien, Mrs. Cari Whicker (by phone), Mr. B.J. Watts, and Dr. Steven Yager.  
Board Members Absent: none.

The executive session was held as authorized by state and federal statute pursuant to Indiana Code Section 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(1) and for discussion pursuant to Indiana Code Section 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(7) of records classified as confidential by state or federal statute. I, John Snethen, Interim Executive Director of the Indiana State Board of Education, do hereby certify, pursuant to Indiana Code Section 5-14-1.5-6.1(d), that no subject matter was discussed in the executive session other than the subject matter specified in the public notice.

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John Snethen  
Interim Executive Director  
Indiana State Board of Education

INDIANA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

July 1, 2015  
9:30 a.m. (EDT)

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

Board Members Present: Superintendent Glenda Ritz (Chair), Dr. Vince Bertram, Dr. David Freitas (by phone), Dr. Byron Ernest, Mr. Gordon Hendry, Ms. Lee Ann Kwiatkowski, Mr. Edward Melton, Mrs. Sarah O'Brien, Mrs. Cari Whicker (by phone), Mr. B.J. Watts, and Dr. Steven Yager.  
Board Members Absent: none.

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

- Superintendent Ritz called the meeting to order, the pledge of allegiance was recited, and roll was called. The roll reflected all members present with Dr. Freitas and Mrs. Whicker participating by phone.

**II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

- Superintendent Ritz asked the Board to approve the proposed agenda. Mrs. O'Brien asked to add an action item for approval of a resolution honoring the Munster High School Speech and Debate Team as the last item on the action agenda, prior to a presentation by the group. Dr. Ernest moved to add a discussion item concerning Title I allocations. Mr. Hendry asked the Chair for a vote on the proposed agenda amendments. The Board approved the amendments unanimously by voice vote. The Board approved the agenda by assent.

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- Superintendent Ritz received a motion and second to approve the minutes of the June 3, 2015 meeting. Mr. Hendry moved to amend the minutes from that meeting. The Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes as amended by a voice vote.

**IV. STATEMENT OF THE CHAIR**

- Superintendent Ritz informed the Board that she just returned from a summit sponsored by the Education First Foundation in Finland and Switzerland. The Superintendent spoke of the great opportunity to meet with education leaders and students from around the world and discuss with students their needs from a high school education.
- Superintendent Ritz participated in Boys State and mentioned that in addition to Munster High School, which would be honored later in the meeting, Ben Davis High School also received honors in the national speech and debate team competition.
- Finally, the Superintendent announced that over 500 Indiana schools received the 2015 President's Award for education excellence.

**V. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS AND REPORTS**

- Mr. Hendry recognized Carmel High School for its 2<sup>nd</sup> place finish in the 2015 National Economics Challenge.
- Ms. Kwiatkowski thanked the many different educators who have reached out to her to offer their perceptions on various topics and that input will help her service on the Board.
- Mr. Melton acknowledged the Center for Workforce Innovations for its work with the Ready Northwest Indiana initiative that brings together workforce development, education and business leaders to address workforce training issues. Mr. Melton also commended the work of Senator Earline Rogers (D-Gary), Senator Luke Kenley (R-Noblesville), the Department of Education and others for recent legislation and ongoing work to help the Gary Community School Corporation deal with its current fiscal challenges.
- Ms. Whicker stated that due to scheduling conflicts she would not be able to attend all of the upcoming public hearings for schools in their fifth year of receiving an "F" accountability grade. She encouraged the Department of Education in the future to possibly propose multiple dates in order to accommodate the greatest Board participation.

**VI. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT (public comments on specific agenda items are taken at the time each item is before the Board)**

- Blake Nathan, CEO/Founder, and David McGuire, Executive Director of Educate Me Foundation encouraged the Board to seek opportunities to encourage and expand the number of minority teachers in the state.
- Ashley Gibson, Government Affairs Director of Stand for Children, voiced the group's opposition to calls to pause/suspend A-F accountability and encouraged the Board to continue to provide parents with an honest accounting of how our schools are performing.

**VII. CONSENT AGENDA**

- Five items appeared on the Board's Consent Agenda.
  - INTASS/Indiana University Contract (educator evaluation support) to Support Districts and Educators
  - M.M., A.K., D.M.S., v. School District
  - Approval of Freeway Schools
  - Change in Funding Support for IPS Transformation Zone School Eliza Baker
  - Initiate Rulemaking to Establish Criteria for Earning a State Certificate of Biliteracy
- The Board moved and seconded approval of the consent agenda. The Board approved the Consent Agenda items 11-0.

**VIII. ADJUDICATIONS**

- Upon motion and second, the Board voted 11-0 to withhold the amount totaling \$2,366,012.44 in State Tuition Support for Turnaround Academies from the Gary Community School Corporation.<sup>1</sup>
- Upon motion and second, the Board voted 11-0 to withhold the amount totaling \$5,778,454.57 in State Tuition Support for Turnaround Academies from Indianapolis Public Schools.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Specific withholding amount for Gary can be found at

[http://www.in.gov/sboe/files/Brd\\_of\\_Ed\\_recommendation\\_Gary\\_July\\_2015.pdf](http://www.in.gov/sboe/files/Brd_of_Ed_recommendation_Gary_July_2015.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> Specific withholding amounts for IPS can be found at

[http://www.in.gov/sboe/files/Brd\\_of\\_Ed\\_recommendation\\_IPS\\_July\\_2015\\_updated.pdf](http://www.in.gov/sboe/files/Brd_of_Ed_recommendation_IPS_July_2015_updated.pdf)

## IX. NEW BUSINESS – ACTION

### A. SBOE Election of Vice Chair

- Superintendent Ritz asked the Board for nominations. Mrs. Whicker nominated Mrs. O’Brien, which received multiple seconds. Superintendent Ritz asked for additional nominations. There were none. Superintendent Ritz asked Mrs. O’Brien if she would accept the nomination. Mrs. O’Brien accepted. Mr. Hendry spoke in support of Mrs. O’Brien’s nomination. Board voted 11-0 to approve the election of Mrs. O’Brien as Vice Chair.

### B. SBOE election of Secretary

- Superintendent Ritz asked for nominations. Mr. Watts nominated Dr. Ernest, which received multiple seconds. Superintendent Ritz asked Dr. Ernest if he would accept nomination. Dr. Ernest accepted. Superintendent Ritz asked for additional nominations. There were none. Board voted 11-0 to approve the election of Dr. Ernest as Secretary.

### C. Approval of Remediation Testing Funding Formula for Formative Assessments<sup>3</sup>

- Upon motion and second of resolution, Superintendent Ritz voiced her opposition to the resolution, as presented. The Superintendent encouraged the Board to approve the Department’s plan to use funding allocated for formative testing in grades 3-10 and the department would use funds from another source to fund formative literacy tests in grades 1 and 2.
- Dr. Yager asked for a breakdown of funding per student. The Superintendent said funding grades 3-10 represented equaled \$17.45 per student. She continued if the program were expanded for students in grades K-10, the grant would amount to \$12.68 per student.
- Dr. Ernest voiced his support for the Superintendent’s plan. He said informal research conducted by Board Staff indicated that most schools would receive more funding if the formative grant were to be awarded for grades 3-10 rather than K-10.
- Dr. Bertram asked how this grant might impact Title I schools that use some of that funding for formative assessments. Danielle Shockey, Deputy Superintendent of

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<sup>3</sup> Memo outlining formula can be found at [http://www.in.gov/sboe/files/Formative\\_Assessment.pdf](http://www.in.gov/sboe/files/Formative_Assessment.pdf)

Public Instruction, informed the Board this grant would allow schools to use Title I dollars, previously used for assessments, on other items.

- Mrs. O'Brien raised a concern about the Department's requirement that formative assessments be adaptive in nature. She stated that she wanted to provide schools the greatest flexibility possible. Superintendent Ritz invited Dr. Michele Walker, Director of Student Assessment, to speak to the adaptive requirement. Dr. Walker said adaptive testing can include multiple forms and help guide learning for students who are above and below grade level.
- Ms. Kwiatkowski raised a concern that requiring an adaptive test would be unfair to schools that currently use non-adaptive formative testing. She recommended removing the requirement for adaptive testing to allow the greatest amount of local control in determining which type of testing works best for individual schools and students.
- Mrs. Whicker stated she wanted to give local schools the most flexibility in determining which formative assessment works best for their students. She also asked if flexibility is possible to allow schools to use funding that currently offer testing in kindergarten.
- Mrs. O'Brien stated that she agreed with the direction of the discussion toward providing local schools flexibility, but the resolution, as presented, does not appear to provide that flexibility in terms of adaptive and non-adaptive assessments.
- Mrs. O'Brien invited Cynthia Roach, Senior Director of Assessment and Accountability with the State Board, to discuss adaptive assessment requirement. Ms. Roach mentioned that while adaptive assessments can be paper/pencil based, they are much longer tests to administer than online adaptive assessments. She also encouraged the Board to look beyond just reading in these tests and include the full scope of language arts testing and mathematics testing in early grades.
- Dr. Bertram questioned why a program initially funded on the basis of grades 3-10 would be expanded to K-10, which would diffuse the limited funding. He proposed using funding remaining after 3-10 grants are awarded to fund K-2 assessments.
- Dr. Ernest asked how this funding would impact charters and other schools who may purchase formative assessment through an authorizer or other consortium. Ms. Shockey informed the Board the Indiana Department of Administration (IDO) offered to help the Department of Education to negotiate a state rate for schools to utilize. She also encouraged charter schools to directly purchase formative assessments through this grant and have their authorizer provide another service, rather than assessments, to their schools.

- Superintendent Ritz asked for a motion to approve the amended resolution to provide funding for formative assessments in grades 3-10, with any remaining funding to be directed toward K-2 assessments. Testing would be open to English Language Arts and Math and would include but not be limited to adaptive assessments. The Department of Education will provide the State Board a spreadsheet detailing maximum funding per school, and selected vendor, for pre-distribution approval.
- Mr. Hendry asked that the Board vote to approve the amendments prior to voting on the final resolution. The motion to amend was made and seconded. The Board voted to amend the resolution 11-0.
- Upon motion and second, the Board approved the amended resolution 11-0.

The Board took a ten minute recess.

*D. Initiation of Rulemaking to Amend Teacher Licensure Exam Cut Score Effective Date<sup>4</sup>*

- Risa Regnier, Assistant Superintendent for School Support, informed the Board the cut score rulemaking process is designed to fulfill a Board request that would shorten the length of time between setting of cut scores and the effective date. Upon motion and second, the Board approved the resolution to initiate rulemaking 10-0 (Dr. Freitas did not vote).

*E. Testing Windows for 2015-16 and 2016-17<sup>5</sup>*

- Dr. Michele Walker provided information about the various assessments and proposed testing window dates for the 2015-16 and 2016-17 academic years.
- Ms. Kwiatkowski expressed concern about schools managing multiple testing windows for students in grade 10 retaking the test. Dr. Walker encouraged the Board to take a close look at the Grade 10 windows.

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<sup>4</sup> Resolution to begin rulemaking can be found at [http://www.in.gov/sboe/files/Memo\\_-\\_Rulemaking\\_to\\_Modify\\_Cut\\_Score\\_Waiting\\_Period.pdf](http://www.in.gov/sboe/files/Memo_-_Rulemaking_to_Modify_Cut_Score_Waiting_Period.pdf)

<sup>5</sup> Memo on proposed testing dates can be found at [http://www.in.gov/sboe/files/State\\_Board\\_Memo\\_Proposed\\_Testing\\_Dates\\_2015-16-2016-17.pdf](http://www.in.gov/sboe/files/State_Board_Memo_Proposed_Testing_Dates_2015-16-2016-17.pdf)

- Mrs. Whicker expressed concern about having different testing windows for paper/pencil and online administration of the ISTEP+ test. Dr. Walker responded that expanding the paper/pencil window to the same as online during Part II of the ISTEP+ test could delay getting scores returned.
- Ms. Kwiatkowski expressed concern about the End of Course Assessment (ECA) retake window at the beginning of the school year, which could take students away from class to retake this test. Dr. Walker said the Department is open to working with the Board on those windows.
- The Board, by consent, combined the paper/pencil and online windows for Part II of the ISTEP+ test and made approval of the ECA summer retake window for the 2016-17 academic year tentative and will seek input on that window from the field.
- The motion was made and seconded to approve the amended testing windows.
- Dr. Bertram expressed concern that schools are becoming centers for testing. Testing windows encompass 29 weeks of the school year. He encouraged a streamlining of the process while maintaining our commitment to testing and accountability. Superintendent Ritz expressed hope the federal government will provide flexibility during reauthorization of the No Child Left Behind Act.
- The Board approved the amended testing windows 10-0 (Dr. Freitas did not vote).

Mrs. O'Brien asked Superintendent Ritz to modify the agenda to move up the resolution and presentation honoring Munster High School Speech and Debate Team. Superintendent Ritz and the Board agreed by consent.

*H. Resolution Recognizing Munster High School Speech and Debate Team (taken out of order)*

- Mrs. O'Brien introduced resolution honoring Munster High School Speech and Debate Team.
- Upon motion and second, the Board voted unanimously by voice vote.

**X. BEST PRACTICES – INNOVATIONS IN EDUCATION – STUDENT SUCCESSES**

- The Board received a presentation by the Munster High School Speech and Debate Team.

**IX. NEW BUSINESS – ACTION (Resumed)**

*F. Dual Language Immersion Pilot Program*



- Cathy Blitzer, Director of Global Learning and World Languages for the Department of Education, presented the Department's proposal for the Dual Language Immersion Pilot program and greeted the Board in five different languages.
- Ms. Blitzer thanked Rep. Bob Behning (R-Indianapolis) and other lawmakers that backed this program in the Indiana General Assembly and provided a quick review of current immersion programs in the state.
- Ms. Blitzer highlighted work taking place in Utah and how the Department of Education used Utah as a guide for its recommendation of a maximum pilot grant of \$100,000.
- Dr. Yager moved to approve the resolution for the creation of the program. Ms. Kwiatkowski seconded the motion.
- Dr. Ernest said that following a discussion with Rep. Bob Behning, he moved to amend the resolution to lower the maximum grant per school to \$25,000. Dr. Ernest mentioned the desire to provide funding to a greater number of schools and questioned the sustainability of the program with \$100,000 grants.
- Ms. Blitzer responded that schools with existing world languages infrastructure may not need the full grant amount; however starting a program from the beginning would require at least \$100,000 for qualified teachers, professional development and other programmatic needs.
- Mrs. O'Brien seconded the motion by Dr. Ernest to amend the resolution.
- Dr. Bertram asked about the cost of a dual immersion program. Ms. Blitzer pointed to a program in New Jersey that cost between \$33,000 without personnel to \$122,000 with personnel in the first year of operation. She went on to comment that \$25,000 will not put a qualified teacher in the classroom. Dr. Bertram concluded his comments by noting the importance of properly funding programs for success.
- Mrs. O'Brien commented that many successful programs partner with other countries that help provide teachers in the targeted language and asked if those partnerships are in place in Indiana. Ms. Blitzer noted that China and Taiwan partner to teach Mandarin Chinese, but the school must provide room and board and professional development of that guest teacher. Programs designed to teach Spanish, German and French often require schools to pay guest teachers competitive salaries with their other teachers.
- Dr. Yager commented that he appreciated that the Department's application for this grant addresses many of his concerns about professional development and sustainability. He went on to comment that if this program is reduced to a maximum of \$25,000, he would not have applied during his time as Superintendent.

- The Board voted against the amendment lowering the amount of the grant 4-7. (Dr. Bertram, Mr. Hendry, Ms. Kwiatkowski, Mr. Melton, Mr. Watts, Dr. Yager, and Superintendent Ritz – voting no).
  - Mr. Hendry thanked Ms. Blitzer for her dedication and career promoting global languages and learning for our students.
  - Dr. Bertram called this program a significant opportunity for Indiana and he is hopeful that once this program is in place, Indiana will look to expand it to more students.
  - Mrs. Whicker expressed support for this program and hopes it will be viewed as successful by lawmakers since it won't touch as many children as lawmakers hoped.
  - The Board voted to approve the resolution as proposed by the Department 11-0.
- G. Creation of Standing Discussion Item for Assessment and A-F Accountability*
- Dr. Freitas made the motion for creation of the standing discussion item. Mrs. O'Brien seconded the motion. The Board approved the motion 11-0.

## **XI. DISCUSSION AND REPORTS**

### *A. Core 40 Subcommittee Update*

- Debi Ketron, representing Indiana Association of Home Educators. While home educators are not required to use Indiana diploma standards, many often do. She commented she believes the needs of business are being placed ahead of the needs of children. She questioned if adoption of new Core 40 diploma requirements with an emphasis on STEM education will devalue a home school diploma. The group opposes diploma changes and wonders if this is part of a plan to put children into government approved systems with a goal of depriving them the opportunity to home school a child.

The Board recessed for lunch. Mrs. Whicker left the meeting via phone.

### *A. Core 40 Subcommittee Update (Continued)*

- Superintendent Ritz introduced Jenny Thomas to inform the Board on the process. The public comment period closed on June 30, 2015 and received 6,000 comments. The Department is reviewing the comments and will continue to provide updates to the Board.

- Ms. Thomas discussed the plan to sequence courses that help lead students to their desired result for being workforce or college and career ready, while maintaining electives so students can pursue individual interests.
- Ms. Kwiatkowski asked Ms. Thomas about the Math 10 course. Ms. Thomas said that class is still being developed but will be focused on helping students who struggle and often have to repeat Algebra I to help them prepare for the math component of the ISTEP+ test.
- Mrs. O'Brien asked about the inclusion of world languages in the new diploma requirements. Superintendent Ritz responded that while not required for the College and Career Ready Diploma, students seeking to enter college would be encouraged to complete 4 credits in the same language and 6 credits would be required for the Honors Diploma.
- Dr. Bertram asked how these requirements would impact students who elect to take Algebra or Geometry prior to 9<sup>th</sup> grade. Ms. Thomas said that would still be permitted, but students would be required to take four years of math in high school. Dr. Bertram wanted to make sure these new requirements would still encourage students to take math prior to 9<sup>th</sup> grade and not encourage them to delay it.
- Dr. Bertram also asked about the financial literacy requirement. He wondered if it would be better to leverage other partners to provide this information rather than require it to be taught in a more traditional classroom setting.
- Dr. Bertram inquired about what world languages are being taught in school. He voiced his concern that schools are teaching languages based on what teachers can teach rather than languages that best prepare the student for success in the world.
- Dr. Yager inquired about the personal finance class and methods of delivery. Superintendent Ritz mentioned course standards must first be set and the Department must take into consideration having qualified teachers to teach the class.
- Mr. Hendry commented on the importance of computer skills in today's economy and asked how that would be addressed in new requirements. Ms. Thomas said computer science is being addressed in the new science standards currently being developed that will be presented to the Board later for approval.
- Mr. Melton inquired about the composition of the committee making these recommendations. Ms. Thomas responded the committee includes representatives from the Department of Education, Commission for Higher Education, Department of Workforce Development, Ivy Tech, Vincennes University, CTE directors,

counselors, high school educators, and members from business, industry and the community.

- John O’Neal representing the Indiana State Teachers Association signed up to speak to the Board on this issue. He mentioned the ISTA is concerned about the new requirements reducing the opportunity of students to take elective courses. He said ISTA supports a student’s ability to take electives and receive a rounded education.

*B. Compensation Models*<sup>6</sup>

- Sarah Pies, Educator Effectiveness Specialist with the Department of Education, presented to the Board a report on compensation models during the 2014-15 school year. The update included an overview of the components reviewed by the Department.
- Dr. Yager asked whether the requirement that no more than 33% of a compensation model be based on experience and education was intended to mean that 33.33% would be considered over 33%. Ms. Pies agreed and informed the Board they have had similar discussions with IEERB concerning that issue.

*C. School Quality Review Report for Year 4 School*<sup>7</sup>

- Report was presented to the Board with no questions or discussion.

*E. 2014-15 School Accountability Options*<sup>8</sup>

- Superintendent Ritz referred Board Members to information previously provided to them and called the Board’s attention to the Department’s recommended option #5 to pause/suspend accountability. The Superintendent reminded the Board that upcoming A-F accountability grades will be calculated on the current model. The

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<sup>6</sup> Memo on compensation models can be found at

[http://www.in.gov/sboe/files/Compensation\\_Model\\_Review\\_SBOE\\_Report\\_14-15\\_\(2\).pdf](http://www.in.gov/sboe/files/Compensation_Model_Review_SBOE_Report_14-15_(2).pdf)

<sup>7</sup> School Quality Review Report can be found at [http://www.in.gov/sboe/files/SQR\\_Joyce\\_Kilmer\\_IPS\\_69.pdf](http://www.in.gov/sboe/files/SQR_Joyce_Kilmer_IPS_69.pdf)

<sup>8</sup> Department Presentation on Accountability Options can be found at

[http://www.in.gov/sboe/files/School\\_Accountability\\_Options.pdf](http://www.in.gov/sboe/files/School_Accountability_Options.pdf)

new model, recently approved by the Board, will not go into effect until next year. She mentioned that she probably would not be considering a pause/suspension of accountability if the new model were currently in place due to way the new model includes growth in the scoring.

- Mrs. O'Brien questioned why the Department was discussing this issue prior to receiving data on student performance and asked, given a new ISTEP+ test next year, whether this would become a two-year pause/suspension of accountability. Superintendent Ritz answered that she was not seeking a decision but starting a conversation. Ms. Shockey added that Indiana will not have a new test next year, just a new vendor. The content of the test will remain the same.
- Mr. Hendry recalled that many believed Indiana's pre-Common Core standards were more difficult than Common Core, so the transition to the new College and Career Ready standards should not be that drastic. Ms. Shockey commented that Indiana shifted early to Common Core but changed late to College and Career Ready standards and that Indiana never tested on Common Core. Dr. Walker added that Indiana's pre-Common Core standards were high, but the cut scores set to assess performance in those standards were not as high. Mr. Hendry concluded by saying he was open to the discussion but had concerns about preventing good schools from a drop in their accountability grade but continuing to hold non-performing schools accountable.
- Ms. Kwiatkowski noted that many teachers worked very hard and were very proud of how their students were prepared for the assessment. She worries the Department's plan sends the message that we don't have faith in our teachers to get our students to where they need to be.
- Ms. Shockey mentioned a change that requires some special education students to take ISTEP for the first time might also lower scores. She also pointed out experiences in Kentucky and New York which both reported lower scores. Kentucky prepared its citizens with information prior to lower scores being released. New York did not, prompting newspaper headlines questioning the performance of its schools.
- Mr. Melton appreciated the information and asked about a timeline for when data will arrive. Dr. Walker said she would address that later in her presentation.
- Dr. Bertram mentioned this issue is very important for the future of the state and its growth and encouraged everyone to continue the dialogue and recognize the importance of this topic.
- Mr. Watts invited James Betley, State Board Interim General Counsel, to speak. Mr. Betley said a legal review of applicable statute and rules suggest the State Board may

not hold the authority to enact the Department's recommendation and he recommended the Board make wish to seek a legal opinion from the Attorney General. Dr. Yager suggested the Board take the step of seeking an Attorney General's opinion. Mr. Watts asked whether that opinion should be limited to the Department's option #5 or address all of the proposed options. Upon motion and second, the Board voted unanimously, by voice vote, for the Board Staff to seek an Attorney General's opinion on the legality of the chart of options presented by the Department.

Mr. Hendry left the meeting.

*F. Charter School Grant and Loan Program*

- John Snethen, Interim Executive Director of the State Board, provided update to members on development of Charter School Grant and Loan Programs mandated by Indiana General Assembly. Mr. Snethen told members that Board Staff hopes to bring forward final program details for approval in August. Mr. Snethen also told the Board in the preparation of these programs Board Staff will seek assurances from charter schools that they don't plan to close during the upcoming school year, have them certify they plan to only use the funding for those purposes defined by law and be subject to financial audit as deemed appropriate by State Board.
- For the Charter School Loan Program, the Board may also want to develop a formula for determining amounts that can be loaned. Board Staff is currently reviewing loan programs available to traditional public schools as a guide in the development of this program.
- Dr. Bertram asked Mr. Snethen to define capital projects. Snethen responded he envisioned the permissible uses being defined similar to what a traditional public school could fund with property tax revenue.
- Mr. Snethen told Board Members that staff conducted an informal survey of charter schools. 29 of 72 schools responded. 68% said they would seek a loan under the program. Very few said they would use the loan proceeds for new construction or consolidation of other loans.

*G. Assessment Update/J. Accountability Update on the Process for Cut Score Setting*

- Scott Smith, Assessment Coordinator for Brownsburg Community Schools, signed up to speak. Began his remarks about A-F accountability and predicted that Carmel Schools would fall from an A to a D under the current model with predicted score

drop. He encouraged the Board to address the problem. Mr. Smith continued his remarks about the formative assessment grant. He found the Acuity Predictive Test to be very beneficial to his district. He urged the Board to keep the flexibility in the grant program and the leverage of the Department to make sure they can use the test they find to be most beneficial to their students.

- Dr. Walker requested to cover agenda topic J “Accountability Update on the Process of Cut Score Setting” in this section of her presentation. Superintendent Ritz agreed.
- Dr. Walker provided a detailed update to the Board on the process to develop new assessments and set cut scores for the 2014-15 assessments. She also invited the Board to join the assessment committee process.
- Mrs. O’Brien asked about how the reported sale of the CTB assessment unit might impact the timeline for setting cut scores. Dr. Walker responded this proposed sale would not impact the timeline since the reported sale is to Data Recognition Corporation (DRC), a CTB partner already working the state, and this is the last year of the ISTEP+ contract with CTB.
- Dr. Walker continued her presentation discussing ways the Department is cutting items based on the recommendations of the state’s independent testing experts to become more efficient and reduce test times. They will also use matrix sampling to develop new items using a smaller pool of students.
- Dr. Walker informed the Board that due to the change from CTB to Pearson for administration of the IRead-3 and that Indiana has no pool of items to build the new test, the Spring 16 IRead-3 test would be an operational field test that includes a handful of extra items. Dr. Walker told the Board she would detail how much time the ISTEP+ would be reduced and how much time would be added to the IRead-3 at the next meeting.

#### H. Strategic Plan Update Implementation

- Superintendent Ritz distributed the Department’s update on Board’s strategic plan. Ashley Cowger, Chief of Staff to the State Board, stated that Mr. Hendry would like this update to be made during the next Strategic Planning Committee meeting and bring it back again to the full Board in August.

#### I. DOE/SBOE Data Sharing Procedure

- A staff attorney for the Department informed the Board that a change in statute designated the Board a State Educational Authority for the purposes of the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). The Department said it has always treated

the State Board as such. The Department and State Board are currently working out procedures for sharing data.

K. *Title I Allocation*

- Dr. Ernest expressed concerns raised to him by schools about a projected decrease in Title I funding. Teresa Brown, Assistant Superintendent of School Improvement, responded that Title I allocations are determined by the U.S. Department of Education by census information and there was an overall decrease in funding.

**XII. BOARD OPERATIONS**

- Board operations not discussed.

**XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

- Upon motion and a second, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn by voice vote.