

Business Meeting Agenda
September 6, 2017
9:00 AM (ET)
DePauw University, Memorial Student Union Ballroom
408 S. Locust Street
Greencastle IN 46135

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

Board Members Absent: None

- I. **Call to Order**
 - a. Board members recited the Pledge of Allegiance
 - b. Dr. Mark McCoy, President of DePauw University welcomed the Board to the campus.
- II. **Approval of Agenda**
 - a. Agenda approved by voice vote.
- III. **Approval of Minutes**
 - a. The Minutes August 2 and 22, 2017 were approved by voice vote.
- IV. **Statement from the Chair**
 - a. Dr. McCormick did not have a statement.
- V. **Board Member Comments and Reports**
 - a. No Board members had any comments or reports.
- VI. **General Public Comment**
 - a. David Tijerina from Anderson Community Schools addressed the Board on Pathway concerns.
- VII. **Best Practices – Innovations in Education – Student Success**
 - a. None
- VIII. **Consent Agenda**
 - a. The Consent Agenda was approved by a voice vote.
- IX. **Adjudications**
 - a. None
- X. **New Business – Action**
 - a. Updated A-F Grade Appeal Procedures
 - i. Timothy Schultz, General Counsel for the State Board, presented a joint recommendation from staffs from the Indiana Department of Education and Indiana State Board of Education recommending procedures for the review of the 2016- 2017 accountability category placement.
 - ii. The Board voted 11-0 to approve the updated A-F grade appeal procedures.
 - iii. [Discussion starts at 8:24.](#)
 - b. Appointment of Executive Director

- i. John Snethen read the resolution recommending Matthew Voors as the new Executive Director.
- ii. Dr. Yager raised some questions regarding the practice of appointment of the Executive Director.
 1. Mr. Snethen said that the recommendation came from Governor Holcomb, but that Dr. Yager is right in that the Board has the ultimate legal authority to appoint its Executive Director.
 2. Dr. Yager asked about the history of the Executive Director
 - a. Mr. Snethen said that due to the relative short history of the Board that there isn't much precedent, but that he came as a recommendation from then Governor Pence, in 2015, to be the Executive Director.
 - b. Dr. Yager asked about Mr. Voors background with the State of Indiana.
 - c. Mr. Snethen provided Mr. Voors background.
 3. Mr. Walker said that he agrees with Dr. Yager's questions about the process, but that he personally knows Mr. Voors and has worked closely with him over a period of years during Mr. Voors time as General Counsel for the Indiana Department of Education and that he was the de facto General Counsel for the Board at the time as well.
 4. Board members expressed appreciation for Mr. Snethen's service to the Board and thanked him.
- iii. Board voted 11-0 to approve Matthew Voors as the new Executive Director of the Indiana State Board of Education.
- iv. [Discussion starts at 10:40](#)

XI. **Discussion and Reports**

- a. Assessment Update
 - i. Dr. Charity Flores, from the Indiana Department of Education Provided an Assessment update.
 - ii. ISTEP+ Reporting
 1. Embargo lifted following this meeting for public access.
 2. Released to Compass and Learning Connection.
 3. Open ended items not publicly released following rescore process until 2018.
 - a. Supports transition to ILEARN to ensure depth of item pool to release items in new platform
 - b. Supports development of breach form to ensure valid assessment opportunities to classrooms, schools or corporations with a significant issue or irregularity
 4. Dr. Freitas questioned about the validity of the breach form.
 - a. Dr. Flores assured Dr. Freitas that IDOE would be working with their partner Pearson to ensure that everything is valid.
 5. Mrs. Whicker questioned about how long teachers and students would have to wait to get final results, concerned that it could take up to a year.

- a. Dr. Flores says that they are working to make sure that there is enough information available to educators to better understand the assessment even if specific items aren't available.
 - 6. John Keller from IDOE came up to address questions regarding passing rates for Algebra 1 and the 8th Grade test and IREAD as compared to ISTEP.
 - a. Dr. Yager asked that the data that was reported be emailed to the whole board.
 - iii. IREAD-3 Final Reporting
 - 1. Dr. Freitas asked about students don't pass IREAD-3
 - a. Dr. Flores said that it is possible that students continue to matriculate who do not pass IREAD-3, but there is also a "good cause" exemptions.
 - b. Dr. Freitas asked pressed further by asking about students who aren't part of those exemptions. Dr. Flores said that should would try to supply that data for Dr. Freitas as soon as possible.
 - iv. Alternate Assessment RFP
 - 1. Under final stages of development.
 - 2. Based on ILEARN as a model to ensure a cohesive system.
 - 3. Upcoming State Board review.
 - 4. Request approval for release during November 1 meeting.
 - v. [Discussion starts at 24:42](#)
- b. Accountability
 - i. The IDOE [provided a timeline](#) for the release of the A-F grades.
 - ii. [Discussion starts at 1:03:10](#)
- c. Graduation Panel Update
 - i. Dr. Byron Ernest provided an update on the Graduation Pathways Panel.
 - 1. The panel and conversation is progressing nicely.
 - 2. Not trying to problem solve immediately, but listen to what all the possibilities are.
 - 3. We want an educated workforce, but we have some gaps right now.
 - ii. Mr. Walker asked if business leaders are suggesting pathways.
 - 1. Dr. Ernest said that they have yet to offer specifics and that's why we'd like to sit down with specific businesses. Businesses will say they need workers, and that they are looking for specific skills.
 - 2. Mr. Walker asked if we are to the point where any pathways have been suggested.
 - 3. Dr. Ernest said that we are not to that point yet.
 - iii. Dr. Freitas asked when the Dr. Ernest will be coming back to the full board with pathway recommendations and what is that end product going to look like.

1. Dr. Ernest said that the task of the panel is to bring recommendations to the board and that the recommendations will be coming to the Board in December.
- iv. Dr. McCormick wanted to remind that the intent of the panel is not to bring down the rigor.
- v. Dr. Bertram wants to make students have all the information they need to make informed decisions.
- vi. Mr. Watts said that the earlier we can introduce skills to kids, the more information they will have to make the proper choices in terms of pathways when they get to high school, because the jobs kids need to be trained for may not exist today.
- vii. [Discussion starts at 1:05:39](#)

XII. **Adjournment**

- a. The meeting was adjourned by a voice vote.