



INDIANA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Business Meeting Agenda

July 12, 2017

9:30 AM (ET)

Indiana Government Center South, Auditorium

302 West Washington St.

Indianapolis, IN 46204

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, Dr. David Freitas, Dr. Maryanne McMahon, 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

II. Approval of Agenda

- a. Consent Agenda item I was removed from the Consent Agenda due to a need for further analysis. New Business Item D was removed from New Business because the party in question was not present; the vote regarding Item D from the June meeting will stand as is.
- b. The Agenda was approved by a voice vote.

III. Approval of Minutes

- a. The Minutes from May 10, 2017, and June 7, 2017, were approved.

IV. Statement from the Chair

- a. Dr. McCormick welcomed new Board members Tony Walker and Katie Mote.
- b. Dr. McCormick recognized Wayne Township for winning a Digital Content and Curriculum Achievement Award.
- c. Dr. McCormick recognized eight teachers eligible to receive the nationally-recognized Excellence in Math and Teaching Award.
- d. Dr. McCormick recognized 73 schools for AP Honors for the State. Dr. McCormick also recognized 114 schools where at least 60% of seniors filed their FAFSA on time.

V. **Board Member Comments and Reports**

- a. Dr. Yager commended Central Christian Academy, Turning Point School, Lutheran South Unity School, and Trinity Lutheran School for receiving a Choice Scholarship Waiver. Dr. Yager also requested ISTEP score data from these schools in order to provide guidance to other schools on how to improve their performance.

VI. **General Public Comment**

- a. Steve Baker, Principal at Bluffton High School, spoke regarding the federal graduation rate formula in ESSA.
- b. Carole Craig, a member of the ESSA student support workgroup, spoke regarding the accountability model in ESSA.
- c. Erma Lardyell, National Coalition for Parent Involvement in Education, spoke about achievement gaps.

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. Indiana State University Teacher Preparation Program
 - i. Scott Bogan, Indiana DOE Educator Preparation Specialist, recommended that the Board approve the Program.
 - ii. Dr. Freitas expressed his support for the Program and asked Dr. Jack Maynard, Indiana State University, how the MBA program is different from the traditional licensure program. Dr. Maynard stated that MBA professors and education professors worked together to provide an innovative approach to cultivate school new administrators. Dr. Maynard also said that this Program provides three years of executive coaching after graduation. Dr. Freitas urged Dr. Maynard to conduct a study to determine if this Program is a better way to educate future principals. Dr. Freitas also asked whether it is likely for students to be hired by the schools they work in. Dr. Maynard said that schools agree when nominating students that they intend to hire the students after completing the Program.
 - iii. Dr. Bertram asked Dr. Maynard how the content in this Program will differ from simply taking MBA courses and education courses. Dr. Maynard said that all of the MBA courses will be taught with an emphasis on education. Dr. Bertram asked how this Program will affect these

students' futures. Dr. Maynard stated that he has talked to district leaders and that the courses taught in this Program address the pitfalls in school administration today.

iv. Dr. McMahon expressed her support for the Program.

v. Dr. McCormick expressed her support for the Program.

vi. The Board voted 11-0 to approve the Program.

vii. [Discussion began at 41:34 in Part 1 of 2.](#)

b. Shepard Community Academy Petition for Freeway Accreditation

i. Alicia Kielmovitch, Director of Public Policy for the Board, informed the Board on new Freeway Accreditation legislation.

ii. Andrew Green, Chief Program Office, explained Shepard Community Academy's academic achievement goals.

iii. Mr. Hendry expressed his support for Shepard Community Academy and commended their work in the community. Mr. Hendry also asked if the school accepts On My Way students. Mr. Green said the school does.

iv. Dr. Yager congratulated the school for its success and asked if it accepts vouchers. Mr. Green said the school does accept vouchers. Dr. Yager asked why the school chose Freeway. Mr. Green said Freeway provides the school with an option to direct funds where they see fit to serve their unique needs.

v. The Board approved Shepard Community Academy's Petition for Freeway Accreditation by a vote of 11-0.

vi. [Discussion began at 57:11 in Part 1 of 2.](#)

c. Kinwell Academy Petition for Freeway Accreditation

i. Roger Younce, Campus Administrator at The Crossings, discussed the role of Kinwell Academy in helping at-risk students.

ii. Terry Mundy, Kinwell Academy Board Member, discussed the Board's goals to help at-risk students.

iii. Dr. McCormick asked Mr. Younce if any students could be excluded from coming to the school. Mr. Younce stated that only students who do not have a legitimate reason for attending the school, such as attending to be with friends, are excluded from attending.

iv. Keith Burke, principal at Marion High School, discussed the importance of Kinwell in serving at-risk students.

v. Dr. Yager asked where the 25% of non-Marion students who attend Kinwell come from. Mr. Younce stated that most of the non-Marion students come from County schools. Dr. Yager also asked why Kinwell is asking for Freeway Accreditation. Mr. Younce stated that Freeway Accreditation is important for creating a curriculum that fits Kinwell's unique needs.

vi. Dr. Bertram ask who funds Kinwell. Mr. Younce stated that a private group funds Kinwell. Dr. Bertram stated that the school should attempt to share facilities so that they can focus their attention on students.

vii. Dr. McCormick stated that the Board understands the struggles schools like Kinwell face and that these schools will force the Board to take a good look at the diploma issue.

- viii. Dr. Yager asked if Kinwell accepts vouchers. Mr. Younce said that Kinwell does accept vouchers.
 - ix. Ms. Mote asked Mr. Younce to explain the career training aspects of Kinwell. Mr. Younce said that many students are participating in internships with local businesses to help prepare students for the workforce.
 - x. Dr. Bertram asked Mr. Younce if local businesses require a diploma. Mr. Younce said yes. Dr. Bertram asked if local businesses accept the general diploma. Mr. Younce said local businesses do accept the general diploma.
 - xi. Ms. Mote asked if students receive a certificate showcasing their skills. Mr. Younce said that many students do receive skill certificates.
 - xii. Dr. Yager asked if Kinwell students participate in ISTEP. Mr. Younce said that Kinwell students do participate in ISTEP and other standardized tests and have done fairly well.
 - xiii. [Discussion began at 1:05:43 in Part 1 of 2.](#)
 - xiv. The Board approved Kinwell Academy's Petition for Freeway Accreditation by a vote of 11-0.
- d. Graduation Pathways Panel
- i. Dr. Yager asked why only one member of the Graduation Pathways Panel is a school teacher. Brian Murphy, Chief of Staff to the Board, stated that the Board decided to select nine members and to invite all concerned entities to submit input at meetings. Dr. Yager stated that school counselors should have been included in the Panel and asked why the panel only contains nine people. Mr. Murphy stated that the Board drew line at governmental and quasi-governmental personnel as Panel members. Mr. Yager said that the Panel is too small to be giving recommendations to the Board and that there should be other classroom educators represented on the Panel. Mr. Murphy said that all entities are welcome to present interests to the Panel. Dr. Yager said that this may not be feasible for entities outside Indianapolis.
 - ii. Dr. Freitas said that this Panel does not set policy and can only provide recommendations to the Board as a whole and that all entities can come to Panel meetings to influence the Panel's recommendation. Mr. Murphy said that the Panel meetings will be live-streamed and that minutes will be taken during all meetings. Dr. Freitas commended the Board for appointing its own advisory board.
 - iii. Dr. Bertram agrees that the Panel should be appointed by the Board but that the Panel should not have four Board members on it.
 - iv. Dr. McMahan agrees that the Panel should have more school practitioners on it to bring more credibility to the Panel.
 - v. [Discussion began at 1:22:33 in Part 1 of 2.](#)
 - vi. The Board approved the Graduation Pathways Panel by a vote of 7-4 (Dr. McCormick, Dr. Yager, Dr. Bertram, and Dr. McMahan voted no).

XI. Discussion and Reports

a. Assessment Update

- i. Dr. Charity Flores, DOE Director of Assessment, reported the following:
 1. DOE has delivered ISTEP results to schools and has opened the process for parents to request a test rescore.
 2. Beginning July 31st, DOE will deliver aggregated reports to schools. All reports are on schedule and will be resolved and posted by August 16th.
 3. Ms. Whicker asked what percentage of parents have requested a rescore. Dr. Flores said she can request a report from Pearson but that she has not received a summary report yet.
- ii. Dr. Flores presented the DOE's plan to deliver the online assessment portion of ISTEP and ILEARN. Specifically, Dr. Flores said that school corporations should have two-thirds of their students use an online format for Part 1 of ISTEP next year. Dr. Freitas asked what the obstacles to using an online format are and if the funds directed to schools for technology have been earmarked for schools that have inefficient amount of technology, mainly computers. Dr. Flores said that communicating some misconceptions about online testing is important and that not all Indiana schools are ready to implement an online test yet but should be in the next few years. Dr. McCormick said that not all schools are required to submit a technology plan but that the schools that have submitted plans have shown success. Dr. Freitas asked if all students will have technology access when we implement ILEARN. Dr. Flores said that school corporations need to provide DOE with information regarding which two-thirds of students will be using the adaptive test. Ms. Whicker said that there is a major difference between the adaptive test and typing an essay on the computer, and that requiring students to type an essay may not be feasible and would simply test whether students can type, not if they can write. Dr. Flores said that we will not be able to exclude computer essay writing if we want to stay aligned to academic standards.
- iii. [Discussion began at 0:00 of Part 2 of 2.](#)

b. Technical Advisory Committee Update

- i. Cynthia Roach, Director of Assessment for the Board, reported that the TAC will be discussing IREAD and ISTEP assessment results at their upcoming meeting on July 27th and 28th.
- ii. The TAC plans on having a final report by August.
- iii. Dr. Freitas asked if there is a noticeable difference in results for students who take the test online vs. paper-and-pencil and if the Board and DOE will have to adapt future tests. Ms. Roach said that all of the adaptations

take place after results are presented to TAC members and before they are released to schools.

iv. [Discussion began at 16:00 of Part 2 of 2.](#)

c. Certificate of Completion Presentation

- i. Dr. Pamela Wright, Director of Special Education, presented information regarding the Certificate of Completion and diploma tracks for special education students.
- ii. Dr. Yager asked if this program will meet ESSA's requirements for special education students in the diploma requirement. Dr. Wright said yes. Dr. Yager asked if any students who cannot finish high school do not receive Certificates of Completion. Dr. Wright said that all special education students are eligible for a Certificate of Completion.
- iii. Dr. Bertram expressed his support for the Certificate of Completion to help ensure that special education students have a better chance of employment. Dr. Bertram asked how students receiving a Certificate of Completion affect graduation rate. Dr. Wright said that these students do not count towards the graduation rate, but remain in the cohort and the denominator.
- iv. Dr. Yager asked if school teachers were involved in crafting the Certificate of Completion. Dr. McCormick said that ICASE was involved.
- v. Ms. Mote asked if future employment has been a focal point of the working groups. Dr. Wright said that future employment has played a major role in crafting the Certificate of Completion.
- vi. Dr. Yager asked if Department of Workforce Development (DWD) has altered its workforce requirements to accept students receiving a Certificate of Completion. Dr. Wright said she is not sure if DWD has altered its requirements but that many corporations are looking at ways to hire these students.
- vii. [Discussion began at 19:22 of Part 2 of 2.](#)

XII. Adjournment

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