

INDIANA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

June 1, 2016
9:00 AM (EDT)

Indiana University Southeast
Ogle Center Theatre
4201 Grant Line Road
New Albany, IN 47150

Board Members Present: Superintendent Glenda Ritz (Chair), Mrs. Sarah O'Brien (Vice Chair), Dr. Vince Bertram, Dr. Byron Ernest, Dr. David Freitas, Mr. Gordon Hendry, Dr. Lee Ann Kwiatkowski, Mr. Edward Melton, Mr. B.J. Watts, Ms. Cari Whicker, 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. The roll call reflected that all members were present.
- Superintendent Ritz invited Ray Wallace, chancellor of Indiana University Southeast (IUS), to offer a welcoming statement to board members, staff and meeting attendees to the campus.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- The board unanimously approved the agenda via a roll call vote.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- The board unanimously approved the minutes for May 11, 2016 via a roll call vote.

IV. STATEMENT OF THE CHAIR

- Superintendent Ritz announced that 14 Indiana students were in The National Spelling Bee including Jashun Paluru, 11, from West Lafayette, Indiana.
- She also announced that there are currently 287 four star schools in the state of Indiana.
- She then spoke of the 116 promising practices practiced by schools in Indiana. According to the superintendent, Indiana is working towards achieving 200 promising practices by Indiana's bicentennial birthday.
- She mentioned the Kick Off of the summer food program in Scott County
- She closed by thanking educators for their work during the previous school year.

V. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS AND REPORTS

- None

VI. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

- None

VII. BEST PRACTICES - Innovations in Education - Student Successes

A. Promising Practices in Higher Education and K-12 Engagement – IU Southeast

- The dean of the school of education at IUS and the executive vice chancellor for academic affairs was there to present the best practices their college possesses.

VIII. Consent Agenda

- Approval of Schools for Freeway Accreditation - The Board unanimously approved the Consent agenda by voice vote

IX. Adjudications

- None

X. NEW BUSINESS ACTION

- A.** A-F Appeal: Spirit of God Accelerated Education was voted on with a roll call vote resulting in 10-0 outcome while the superintendent abstained. The appeal was denied.
- B.** Initiate Rulemaking on PSAT/SAT Notice of Intent was voted on with a roll call vote resulting in a unanimous 11-0 outcome.
- C.** The Approval of Turnaround Funds Distribution was voted on with a roll call vote resulting in a unanimous 11-0 outcome.
- D.** Streamlining the A-F Appeal Process for Elementary Feeder Schools was voted on with a roll call vote resulting unanimous 11-0 outcome.
- E.** Trine University - Thea Bowman Leadership Academy Authorization
- Ms. Lindsay Omlor, director of charter schools for Trine University, requested for Trine University to become the new charter authorizer for Thea-Bowman leadership academy located in Gary, IN. They want to provide high quality options for students in the state of Indiana.
 - Pursuant to Indiana Code., there are three things required for Trine University's proposal to be passed; submission of proposal, presentation of deficiency report, and addressing those deficiencies.
 - The three deficiencies Ms. Omlor presents to the audience are board governance, decline in academic performance, and title 1 and title 2 compliance. Ms. Omlor explains that the school board at Thea-Bowman is self-managing the school, they are taking on responsibilities they should not be taking on. One of the ultimate goals is for the board to consist of all new members with large amounts of experience. Ms. Omlor thinks the schools deficiencies deal with capacity and not knowing how to comply.
 - Ms. Omlor explained that Phalen Leadership Academy (PLA) has a large capacity dealing with multiple grant management experiences. They will have complete oversight over the hiring process to make sure they are hiring highly qualified teacher.
 - The Indiana Department of Education thinks all issues can be resolved.
 - Mr. Melton requested that Ms. Omlor give the board an example of how Trine will maintain communication with Phalen and administration. Ms. Omlor explained that she attends every board meeting and visits her schools at least once a month to maintain communication. She also stays in constant communication with her board

- Dr. Bertram wanted to clarify that Trine had authorized schools in the past and wanted to know what was different about the new schools they were trying to authorize now. Ms. Omlor explained that oversight looks different now, the application process is completely different and now there are highly qualified candidates.
- Dr. Bertram also asked if Trine would know the difference students were performing in Gary schools compared to their new school. Ms. Omlor answered with the fact that she can track ISTEP data. She believes they are choosing the charter school for a reason not just to move schools.
- Dr. Yager asked the question of how the board will know if PLA is actually hiring qualified instructors. Ms. Omlor answered with the idea that compliance audits in the past have not been able to provide the right documents though overseeing and monitoring accountability qualified instructors will be on staff.
- Dr. Yager then asked who evaluates the instructors and what evaluation system do they use. Ms. Omlor explained that the school leaders are responsible for completing observation, they use RISE to help with that. Superintendent Ritz explained that Title 1 A and Title 2 A through the Department of Education will help provide oversight.
- Dr. Bertram asked how much time there was allowed to make all correction listed in the presentation. Ms. Omlor explained that Trine has a Three year charter agreement right now. Ms. Omlor thinks that changes will be able to be seen promptly.
- Mr. Hendry presented the question who at Trine University actually approves the issuing of a charter school? Ms. Omlor explained that Education One approves of issuing a charter school not Trine University directly.
- Mr. Hendry requested to hear from Mr. Melton who was there representing Gary prior to the board taking a vote.
- Mr. Melton explained Thea-Bowman has been present in the Gary community for 13 years and that he is ready to see the improvements Trine University will help Thea-Bowman make.
- Upon conclusion of the testimony and questions from the board a roll call vote on Thea Bowman Leadership Academy Authorization resulted in a 10-0 outcome while the superintendent recused herself from voting.

XI. DISCUSSION AND REPORTS

ESSA UPDATE

- A. ESSA Update - Congressman Todd Rokita was there to present on updates dealing with the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). He explained that ESSA will give states the authority to determine success.
 - Superintendent Ritz introduced Congressman Todd Rokita to address the Board. Congressman Todd Rokita made some opening remarks about work to improve education in Indiana, and important information about ESSA. Dr.

Bertram asks what safe guards will be put in place for further restrictions and make sure states have the flexibility important to ESSA. Congressman Rokita mentioned that the safe guard put in place in the law is that the law was written to be very specific.

- Dr. Bertram asked about timelines for ESSA. Congressman Rokita said reauthorization is every 4 years for ESSA.
- Dr. Bertram expressed his concern for under reporting of children in poverty and concern for the cost of dual credit classes.
- Mr. Hendry asked for clarification regarding school lunches. Congressman Rokita explained that there is 1 billion dollars of savings nationally for school lunches and the impact the state of Indiana has can be found on the USDA website.
- Mr. Hendry asked what the \$1 billion dollars was currently being invested in. Congressman Rokita said the money is being used to increase breakfast programs at schools which has not been revaluated since the 1980s. The money is also being invested in summer meal programs making meals more accessible.
- Mr. Hendry asked if Congressman Rokita has had communication from officials at big cooperation schools with high poverty rates. Congressman Rokita explains that there is constant communication with big cooperation schools. Indianapolis Public Schools has offered free lunch and breakfast to all students in the past. Congressman Rokita explained that they would adjust the threshold to align with 60% eligibility before all students get free lunch.

B. Assessment Update

- Dr. Michele Walker presented an assessment update to all those present.
- The update included statistics for IREAD-3 and ISTEP+
- Summer testing windows for IREAD-3 online are May 31- July 22
- Summer testing windows for IREAD-3 paper-and-pencil are June 6- July 22
- Schools are required to submit results by July 29.
- DOE is expected to give their results back by August 15.
- The student report will become available on August 24.

a. Pearson Update

- Rich Young from Pearson was there to help Dr. Michele Walker present the proposed timeline for release of data.
- They are working towards providing information as soon as possible including getting the parent invitation codes out so they can access all scores and potentially schedule a rescore.
- Local school systems will decide how to distribute access codes to parents whether that is online or through the mail.
- Dr. Kwiatkowski expressed her concern that principals and teachers will not be able to provide guidance to parents when the access codes are sent out. The July 22 date of closing would mean that parents would not have available assistance.

- Dr. Bertram also expressed his concern that teachers/administrators will not be able to request a rescore for a student because a parent has to give approval and be aware. If parents do not have any concern for their child's education this becomes a problem in the guidelines that are in place right now.
- Vice-Chair Sarah O'Brien requested a legal opinion on pushing back the timing for a rescore and what the law will allow.
- Dr. Byron Ernest suggested Friday, August 12.
- State Board staff said they would provide the legal opinion by the end of the week.
- Mr. B.J. Watts suggested having a window of June 13 to August 12.
- Superintendent Ritz suggested releasing all of the data on June 30, including access codes. Access codes are originally supposed to be available on June 13.
- Superintendent Ritz suggested moving the August 3 Business Meeting to August 10 to review Grade 10 cut scores.

b. TAC Update

- Rich from Pearson provided an update on IREAD-3 summer administration. 11,651 students were registered. This was a primarily online administration. About 1,000 or so are able to use paper as an accommodation based on the student/school's needs. Online scores will be available starting June 15.
- Rich said they are already starting on the 2017 ISTEP assessment.
- Cynthia Roach from the State Board said that the TAC will be meeting Thursday, June 2 and Friday, June 3. On Thursday they are meeting with Questar and on Friday they are meeting with Pearson.

C. Accountability Update

- 728 educators, superintendents, and principals watched the webinar on how to read the new report card, how to understand the accountability model and growth to proficiency chart.

D. Strategic Planning Committee Update

- Mr. Gordon Hendry said that they had a brief meeting after the full State Board of Education meeting on May 11. They received a quarterly update from INTASS and that the full presentation on the update is on the State Board's website and referred those who are interested to that.
- Had two additional districts for district recognition by INTASS and that will be coming up at the next board meeting.

XII. BOARD OPERATIONS

- **NONE**

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

- Upon receiving a motion and a second, the board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.