



**Glenda Ritz, NBCT**

Indiana Superintendent of Public Instruction

## **Indiana State Board of Education**

May 1, 2013

Indiana Government Center – Conference Room A  
302 West Washington  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

### **Study Session**

9:00 a.m.

Board members Glenda Ritz, Jo Blacketor, Mike Pettibone, David Shane, Tony Walker, Neil Pickett, B.J. Watts, Jim Edwards, and Dan Elsener were present. Sarah O'Brien and Cari Whicker were absent.

Superintendent Ritz began the study session by reading a letter of apology from CTB/McGraw-Hill to Supt. Ritz, apologizing for the problems taking place with ISTEP+ testing. The board members discussed the impacts on the schools and what can be done by all parties to prevent such occurrences in the future. There was also discussion about reviewing the contract with CTB/McGraw-Hill to determine if the company is contractually obligated to reimburse the department for the failures.

The next item discussed was a status update on the ESEA waiver through the US DOE. Superintendent Ritz shared with board members a document of the waiver principles that included her comments next to each one. Board members wanted assurance that recent legislation (i.e., HB 1427) would not jeopardize any federal funding that Indiana may receive because of its waiver. Superintendent Ritz assured the member that Indiana's waiver is continuously monitored by the US DOE and the state's funding is not in jeopardy. Discussion ensued about the Common Core standards and the implications of House Bill 1427 in terms of the implementation of the standards and effects on the waiver.

Final topics reviewed during the study session included Superintendent's vision for school improvement and her reading plan. Dan Elsener requested documentation about the newly created outreach coordinator positions as well as outcome metrics that will be used to measure their effectiveness, as the individuals who fill those positions will be responsible for implementing the school improvement process on behalf of the IDOE. Superintendent Ritz explained the role of the coordinators in making school improvement plans active and meaningful. During the reading plan portion of the discussion, Superintendent Ritz explained the importance of K-3 reading and the need for teachers to know the reading level and progress of each individual student throughout each school year.

The Superintendent adjourned the Study Session at approximately 10:30 a.m.

### **Regular Business Meeting**

10:45 a.m.

Board members Glenda Ritz, Jo Blacketor, Mike Pettibone, David Shane, Tony Walker, Neil Pickett, B.J. Watts, Jim Edwards, and Dan Elsener were present. Sarah O'Brien and Cari Whicker were absent.



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After the Pledge of Allegiance, upon a motion by Mike Pettibone, seconded by Jim Edwards, and a unanimous vote of the present members, the minutes from the April 3, 2013, Board meeting were approved.

Statement from the Chair: Supt. Ritz introduced Danielle Shockey, new Deputy Superintendent of Public Instruction. The Superintendent then shared with board members that the NASBE membership is in place. Next, Supt. Ritz announced that her literacy initiative, "Hoosier Family of Readers," kicks off on May 10<sup>th</sup>. She then provided board members a legislative update document prepared by her legislative team. Neil Pickett brought up the need for board members to be provided an action list based on the recently passed legislation. Supt. Ritz announced Mike Pettibone's retirement and departure from the board. Neil Pickett made a motion to recognize Mike's service. Dan Elsener provided a second.

Board Member Comments and Reports: Jo Blacketor applauds parts of 1427 that provides opportunities for parental involvement. Ms. Blacketor also requested a copy of the assistance team report of failing schools. BJ Watts offered to attend upcoming NASBE meeting on behalf of the board. Tony Walker brought up his concerns regarding the Common Core portion of the recently-passed House Bill 1427 as well as problems with the recent round of ISTEP testing.

Public General Comments: None.

Best Practices-Innovations in Education – Student Successes:

Shelbyville Central Schools Outreach for Pre-K Children and Families: Mary Harper, Asst. Superintendent and Susan Smith, teacher, gave a PowerPoint presentation of community-wide program to prepare children for kindergarten.

Discussion:

The DOE is creating a template so turnaround academies can be assessed from a common point of view for data sharing. Neil Pickett requested that the DOE come up with a list of criteria to assess the progress of Voyager at John Marshall to help determine what will be put in place next year for the school. Michelle Gough, attorney for the DOE, gave an update of the MOU with the Indianapolis Mayor's Office. A reading plan rule presentation was given by Supt. Ritz. She explained that the point of the presentation was to conceptually share some additions and changes to the rule. The Superintendent provided a copy of her PowerPoint to each board member.

Consent Agenda:

Motion made by Mike Pettibone, seconded by Tony Walker. Neil Pickett voted against because his suggestions regarding board procedures were not accommodated.



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**New Business - Action:**

Michelle Gough, attorney for DOE, was on hand to discuss changes made by the Attorney General's office regarding proposed Rules for Educator Preparation and Accountability (REPA). Board members stated their concerns regarding the types of changes being provided by the A.G.'s office as well as the timing. Tony Walker moved to approve the proposed rule as amended. Seconded by Neil Pickett. Passed 7-2 with Ms. Ritz and Mr. Pettibone voting nay.

Risa Regnier from the DOE presented information on new teacher examinations developed by Pearson and proposed cut scores for 61 content areas. There was discussion about how cut scores were determined and members would like more information. Mike Pettibone made the motion to approve the action item and David Shane seconded. The motion passed 6-3 with Jo Blacketer, Neil Pickett and David Shane voting nay.

Superintendent Ritz adjourned the meeting at 12:45 p.m

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