MINUTES
Indiana State Board of Education
Business Meeting

May 7, 2025
9:00 A.M. EDT

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

https://youtube.com/live/z5w4YeLSvWU?feature=share

Board Members Present: Dr. Katie Jenner, Chair, Ms. Katie Mote, Vice-Chair, Mr. William Durham Jr., Secretary, Mr. Scott Bess, Ms. Erika Dilosa (by video), Dr. Byron Ernest, Mr. Greg Gastineau (by video), Mr. Pat Mapes, Ms. Kristin Rentschler (by video), and Mr. B.J. Watts.

Board Members Absent: Ms. Iris Hammel

I. **Call to Order:**
   A. Roll Call: A quorum is present.
   B. Pledge of Allegiance

II. **Approval of the Agenda:** The agenda was approved by unanimous vote.

III. **Approval of the Minutes:** The Minutes, for the April 2, 2025, meeting, were approved by unanimous vote.
   A. April 2, 2025 - Memo

IV. **Statement from the Chair:** Dr. Jenner congratulated and welcomed McCutcheon High School "Maverick Robotics" to the board meeting. Followed by, Dr. Jenner addressing Governor Braun's April 2, 2025, announcement in the Indiana State Library regarding High School diploma partnerships. All Indiana State Board of Education members were in attendance for the event. Dr. Jenner shared she began to travel around the state visiting schools and meeting with partners after the Indiana General Assembly's 2025 Session ended. She has visited Evansville, Rockport, Lawrence Township in Indianapolis and Bartholomew Schools in Columbus. While *Statement from the Chair* and *Board Member Comments and Reports* intertwined during the board meeting, Dr. Jenner closed by celebrating Indiana's teachers, "the heart of our classrooms", during Teacher Appreciation Week.

V. **Board Member Comments and Reports:** Dr. Ernest complimented Dr. Jenner on her speech during the RAZ-32 event at Reid Health in Richmond Indiana, April 15th and 16th. Secondly, Dr. Ernest showcased the Wabash Valley Welding students who visited the Indiana Statehouse and met with Dr. Jenner in her office, April 30th. The students brought along a 600-pound welding project! The stunning creation is a basketball hoop supported by a cornstalk with a cardinal perched on the rim. A (Parke County) covered bridge and farm silos accent the base. Nucor sponsored the welding project. Vincennes University's partnership facilitated the welding program, which five schools attended. Alongside the students visiting inside the Secretary's office, proud teachers and family members also joined Dr. Jenner and Dr. Ernest. Finally, Dr. Ernest introduced to the board a National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) article featuring Indiana's new high school diploma.

Ms. Rentschler shared a Columbia City High School event held in April. The Indiana Army and Air National Guard partnered with the high school to display the benefits of the Indiana National Guard and how the high schools' CTE programs flow into different aspects of the Indiana Guard. Students who attended the event left with new ideas of how their pathways might be designed. Ms. Rentschler thanked General Muennich and his team for the successful partnership. She plans on joining them for future discussions to utilize the April event as a model for other high schools to host the Indiana National Guard.

Ms. Mote commented on the existing challenge of funding, due to the end of free summer courses at Ivy Tech for high school students, freshman through seniors. Since completing college core is necessary to earn the Honors Plus Seal, Ms. Mote offered the discussion of stopgap measures for funding. Dr. Jenner stated Crossing the Finish Line is still available for high school juniors and seniors.

VI. **Public Comment:** Dr. Michaela Spangenburg, Gary Education Coalition, spoke regarding the impact of increased politization of education in Indiana.

VII. **Consent Agenda:** The Consent Agenda was approved by unanimous vote. Mr. Watts recused himself from Item F.

A. 1003 Flexibility Waivers - Memo
B. Western School Corporation Latch Key Waiver -Memo
C. ADM Count Days for the 2025-2026 School Year - Memo
D. Non-public School Accreditations
    i. Bible Baptist School - Memo
    ii. Emmanuel Christian School - Memo
    iii. Faith Community Christian School - Memo
    iv. School Alive - Memo
E. Teacher Preparation Programs: Accreditation
    i. Calumet College of Saint Joseph - Memo
    ii. Christel House Indianapolis - Memo
    iii. Earlham College - Memo
    iv. Franklin College - Memo
    v. SPEDACTS - Memo
F. Common School Loan Fund Applications - (Memo) (Policy Update)
G. Common School Loan Transfer - (Memo) (Request letter)
H. Adoption of Final Rule – Test Fees (LSA Document 25-143) – (Memo) (Final Rule)

VIII. **Discussion:**

A. McCutcheon High School "Maverick Robotics" World Championship -Presentation
Maverick Robotics students presented.
    i. Dr. Jenner asked, "Do you know the task at hand when you're designing the robot?" At the kick-off event we receive a three-minute video and a game manual with rules and directives.
    ii. Mr. Mapes asked, "When was your first competition at Kokomo?" The second week of March. We have ten weeks to build the robot.
    iii. Dr. Jenner inquired about improvements after the Kokomo event losses. Improvements were made during the one week between Kokomo and Lafayette events.
    iv. Ms. Mote asked if the added climbing apparatus was the winning differentiator. The climber changed scores of 100 - 150 points to the 200 and 300 range.
    v. Dr. Ernest commented, "When I listen to you, I am not worried about the future…"
    vi. Mr. Mapes invited businesses and parents to mentor and offer guidance to students and schools for student-driven robotics competitions.

IX. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote.