



Indiana Department of Education

Dr. Katie Jenner, Secretary of Education

September 17, 2026

To: Indiana State Ethics Commission

From: Indiana Department of Education

RE: IDOE filing of travel ethics waiver

FILED

SEP 17 2026

INDIANA STATE
ETHICS COMMISSION

- A. IDOE employees: Anna Shults, Chief Academic Officer, IDOE
- B. Nature and value of the gift: All travel costs for one IDOE employee, including travel to and from the airport, airfare, and hotel accommodation for one night. Travel occurred September 2-3, 2026, Approximate value of the travel: \$750.
- C. The donor of the gift: College Board, non-profit organization for the College Entrance Exam Board, headquartered in New York City. IDOE currently has a contractual relationship with College Board as College Board provides the SAT, the college entrance standardized exam, that Indiana students partake in.
- D. Statement on public interest: College Board brought together a team of academic officers from across the country for an initial one time, in person, meeting to focus solely on teacher recruitment and upskilling the current workforce. This meeting was the start of a coalition and the only in-person meeting IDOE is currently aware of. Apart from being involved in this groundbreaking work surrounding teacher recruitment, it was important for IDOE to be present to learn from other states who are experiencing the same challenges and then to discuss problem solving solutions as well, was invaluable. The group size of this coalition was small, only about 15 members, which allowed for close personalized experience. College Board invited Indiana to this coalition as a leader in this work and had the department speak on progress since the May SBOE meeting where it was announced that a cybersecurity pathway as an opportunity for other states to model our work. To allow College Board to pay for this travel on this one time basis was a huge public interest saving to the state and for teachers across Indiana.

Nicola Szarenski
Nicola Szarenski, IDOE Ethics Officer

9/17/2026
Date