

MINUTES
State Board of Education Business Meeting
February 3, 2021 at 9:00 AM EST
Indiana State Library, 315 W. Ohio St., History Room 211
Indianapolis, IN 46204
<https://youtu.be/HANVJhFqnk4>

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

Board Members Absent: None.

- 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**
 - A. The minutes for the January 13, 2021 meeting were approved by unanimous vote.
- IV. Statement from the Chair:** Dr. Jenner gave a "shout out" to educators for their day-to-day hard work, especially during the pandemic.
- V. Board Member Comments and Reports:** None.
- VI. Public Comment:** Mr. Steve Baker, Principal of Bluffton High School, thanked the Board for reevaluating and maintaining Economics as a Quantitative Reasoning course. Per Dr. Jenner's request, Mr. Baker proudly reported Bluffton High School has been in session since August 10, 2020, without any missed days due to Covid-19 and three snow days (485 students in-person, 15 remote-learning, 5 quarantined).
- VII. Consent Agenda:** The consent agenda was approved unanimously by voice vote. Ms. Dilosa recused herself from Item E. Consent agenda consisted of the following items:
 - A. Updated Grade 6 Social Studies Standards - [Memo](#)
 - B. 2021-22 Assessment Windows - [Memo](#)
 - C. Economics and Quantitative Reasoning - [Memo](#)
 - D. Teacher Preparation Program: CK Educational Consulting Associates - [Memo](#)
 - E. A-F Appeal: Gary Middle College West - [Memo](#)
 - F. Special Education Child Count - [Memo](#)
- VIII. New Business**
 - A. HEA 1003 Flexibility Waiver: Lewis Cass - [Memo](#) : Approved 11-0.
- IX. Discussion**
 - A. Indiana Youth Institute (IYI) - [Presentation](#) : Alicia Kielmovitch presented "State of the Child". Board Members' comments follow:
 1. Dr. Ernest inquired as to the root causes of Indiana's Early Learning Education enrollment rating of fourth out of five neighboring states. Ms. Kielmovitch noted Indiana's Early Learning quality and prohibitive cost.
 2. Dr. Freitas noted the reported 2/3 of Indiana's fourth grade students not

reading at proficiency and 2/3 of eighth grade students not proficient in math. He stated reading and math proficiency impact students' future success. Dr. Freitas urged the board to move forward with a call to action. He invited Chair Jenner to start a discussion after the end of Ms. Kielmovitch's presentation.

3. Dr. Ernest asked if IYI had discussed moving reading assessment earlier to second grade. Ms. Kielmovitch stated they have not discussed, nor seen research. IYI advocates implementing a PreK thru third grade alignment approach, prevention rather than intervention.
4. Mr. Mapes questioned the meaning of "Examine the Complexity Index". Ms. Kielmovitch answered IYI would like to be part of economic studies on how to define and fund Indiana low-income students. Mr. Mapes noted that funding for students in poverty has gone down over the past five or six years and wondered how student performance had changed over that same period.
5. At the end of the IYI presentation, Chair Jenner asked the board to pause to digest the robust data presented and consider the solutions presented.
6. Ms. Dilosa thanked Ms. Kielmovitch for her presentation and referenced the A-F Accountability discussion during the January 2021 board meeting. While comments were made to adjust A-F Accountability and lighten up on higher achieving schools, Ms. Dilosa argued the data presented today shows higher achieving schools already have an advantage and data points out the opposite direction should be taken. Lower achieving schools with disadvantaged and impoverished students, special needs and students of color should receive A-F Accountability considerations.
7. Mr. Pete Miller commented Early Literacy is not part of our Indiana accountability system. As a whole Indiana does not excel in teaching reading, which is a fundamental cornerstone to education. Rather than working as mainly a regulatory body, Mr. Miller suggested the state be a clearing house for reading best practices and collaborate with local districts to accomplish a mutual goal.
8. Dr. Ernest asked how we align IREAD-3 to the ILEARN/ELA's reading segment in order for the data to tell a true reading proficiency story. Dr. Jenner stated each measurement is unique and suggested Drs. Flores and Keller (IDOE) present to the board on IREAD-3 and ILEARN/ELA.
9. Ms. Dilosa, "Do our neighboring states require PreK and Kindergarten?" Ms. Kielmovitch stated most neighboring states require Kindergarten, however, she would need to check the research and respond to Ms. Dilosa at a later date. Chair Jenner mentioned consideration of potential PreK expansion is part of Governor Holcomb's agenda.

X. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote.