

MINUTES
State Board of Education Business Meeting
January 13, 2021 at 9:00 AM EST
Indiana State Library, 315 W. Ohio St., Indianapolis, IN 46204
<https://youtu.be/KO5wdbYxhVM>

Board Members Present: Mr. B. J. Watts, 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, Dr. Katie Jenner, Mr. Pat Mapes, and Ms. Kristin Rentschler

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 Minutes**
 - A. The minutes for the December 09, 2020 meeting were approved by unanimous vote.
- IV. **Statement from the Chair:** Mr. Watts welcomed Dr. Jenner to her inaugural SBOE meeting. Mr. Watts stated Indiana children have returned to school in January and recognized the schools for their hard work and preparation.
- V. **Board Member Comments and Reports:** Dr. Jenner stated she is honored to join SBOE.
- VI. **Public Comment:** No public comments.
- VII. **Consent Agenda:** The consent agenda was approved unanimously by voice vote. Mr. Watts and Mr. Mapes recused themselves for Item B. Consent Agenda consisted of the following items:
 - A. IPS Manual High School Baseline Reset - Memo
 - B. Excessive Homeschool Exits Audit
- VIII. **New Business**
 - A. HEA 1003 Flexibility Waivers - Memo: Chad Ranney summarized for the Board Members, schools I., II., and III. requested waivers for the school year count in minutes or hours versus days. Schools II. and III. requested waivers from school corporation annual performance report. Board staff recommendation is to approve schools I., II., and III. requested waivers. One vote for the three schools. Approved 11-0.
 - I. Monroe County Community School Corporation
 - II. North Gibson School Corporation
 - III. South Gibson School Corporation
 - B. Petition for Recognition – Independent Schools Association of the Central States - Memo: Brian Murphy summarized for the Board Members, B. & C. independent schools are both seeking approval to be placed on SBOE’s recognized list of third party accrediting bodies in order for schools to seek accreditation. Board staff recommendation is to approve both B. & C. schools’ petitions. Approved 11-0.
 - C. Petition for Recognition – National Association of Private Catholic and Independent Schools - Memo: See above. Approved 11-0. Later vote to reconsider and table previous vote. Approved 11-0.

- D. Resolution Honoring Dr. Jennifer McCormick: Dr. Jenner thanked Dr. McCormick for her service and expressed best wishes for her future, as well as, voicing appreciation for Dr. McCormick and the DOE team's support during transition.

IX. **Discussion**

- A. Accountability Framework Feedback: Ron Sandlin summarized for the Board Members the six-month process to solicit feedback and generate ideas regarding the next iteration of Indiana A-F Accountability. Board Member comments follow:

1. Dr. Freitas proposed board consideration of a two-tiered accountability system to unburden proven school districts from recording full accountability system requirements e.g. schools receiving C or better for the past three years would fill Tier 1. All other schools would fill Tier 2. Dr. Freitas asked Ron to note whether future proposed elements of the A-F Accountability system drive student achievement.
2. Mr. Mapes stated accountability is not a burden and emphasized the importance of measuring literacy skills in K, 1, 2, 3. Mr. Mapes proposed an SBOE work session.
3. Mr. Miller agreed that "one size doesn't fit all," but expressed that we need to continue to collect information on how all students are performing. Mr. Miller agreed with further discussion within a work session setting.
4. Mr. Watts emphasized that what we put into accountability is what schools are going to do and the importance of driving K, 1, 2 progress monitoring. Mr. Watts believes schools should be evaluated on what they can control to make themselves better every single day. Mr. Watts suggested the proposed work session piggy-back a business meeting for members' convenience.
5. Dr. Ernest spoke of fully using technology and creating a dashboard system for information and beyond, driving the A-F Accountability system for outcomes. Dashboard is not a burden. Dr. Ernest asked Ron if there would be a point where an Alternative Accountability system would not be needed. Ron discussed the challenges.
6. Dr. Jenner emphasized the major opportunity ahead for the Board to create a trusted and transparent system for families and educators.

- X. **Board Officer Elections:** Mr. Watts nominated Dr. Jenner as Chair, Ms. Mote as Vice-Chair and Mr. Miller as Secretary. Approved 11-0.
- XI. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote.