

MINUTES
Indiana State Board of Education
Business Meeting

January 14, 2026
9:00 A.M. E.D.T.

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

<https://www.youtube.com/live/1iiOjFSTNFo>

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

Board Members Absent: None.

- I. **Call to Order:**
 - A. Roll Call: A quorum is present.
 - B. Pledge of Allegiance.
 - C. SBOE Office Slate
 - i. Dr. Katie Jenner as Chair
 - ii. Ms. Katie Mote as Vice Chair
 - iii. Dr. William Durham as Secretary
- II. **Approval of Agenda:** The agenda was approved by unanimous vote.
- III. **Approval of the Minutes:** The Minutes for the December 10, 2025, meeting were approved by unanimous vote.
 - A. December 10, 2025 - [Memo](#)
- IV. **Statement from the Chair:** Dr. Jenner began her statement by recognizing the Indiana Hoosiers for advancing to the college football national championship game. Dr. Jenner also recognized and introduced Paul Ketcham, the Indiana Department of Education's (IDOE) new Assistant Secretary of Education. Mr. Ketcham expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to join the team. Additionally, Dr. Jenner recognized and congratulated Kayleigh Fosnow for receiving the Milken Educator Award. Dr. Jenner also announced the highest graduation rate on record for the State of Indiana. 92% of Indiana high school seniors are graduating. Regarding the accountability rule, Dr. Jenner explained how the IDOE team would like some additional time to work though final public comments. Lastly, Dr. Jenner explained how the board will hear a presentation from Notre Dame outlining the federal Education Innovation and Research (EIR) grant.
- V. **Board Member Comments and Reports:** None.
- VI. **Public Comment:** Dr. Todd Bess, the Executive Director of the Indiana Association of School Principals (IASP), commented on the accountability rule. Dr. Bess thanked Dr. Jenner and the

IDOE team for allowing school principals to participate in the feedback process. Dr. Bess expressed support for the “n of 1” model that ensures each student is valued for what they bring to the table. Dr. Bess explained how the accountability model gives a true picture of how a student is progressing.

Dr. Jeff Butts, the Executive Director of the Indiana Association of Public School Superintendents (IAPSS), congratulated IDOE on the monumental literacy grant and expressed appreciation for the department’s diligence in making sure all voices are being heard to make the new accountability model a robust opportunity for schools. Dr. Butts appreciated the department’s hard work to consider each stakeholder and explained how the new model provides a broader and holistic view of readiness.

VII. **Consent Agenda:** The consent agenda was approved by unanimous vote.

- A. Wawasee Latch Key Waiver - [Memo](#)
- B. Flat Rock-Hawcreek School Corporation Governing Body Change - [Memo](#)
- C. Indiana’s Updated World Language Standards - [Memo](#)
- D. Summer School Course List - [Memo](#)
- E. Article 7 Conforming Updates - Initiate Rulemaking and Approval of Resolution - [Memo](#) | [Resolution](#)

VIII. **New Business:** Jacqueline Kronk, IDOE, Chief Strategy Officer (standing in for Notre Dame’s Michelle Luna), presented on the \$10 million federal Education Innovation and Research (EIR) grant received by the Indiana Department of Education in partnership with the University of Notre Dame and WestEd.

- A. Building Indiana’s Capacity for High-Impact Tutoring – [Presentation](#)
 - i. Ms. Kronk explained how IDOE is thrilled to announce a \$10 million-dollar federal grant in partnership with the University of Notre Dame and WestEd. The grant is part of a national investment to accelerate literacy achievement across the country. Indiana is one of only 10 states receiving an EIR grant this year, joining the nation’s leading states in advancing scalable, research-backed literacy practices.
 - ii. At the national level, 40% of 4th graders across the United State cannot read at a basic level yet. Indiana has emerged has a national leader in literacy improvement by rising to sixth in the nation in fourth-grade reading.
 - iii. Indiana also set an unprecedented nearly five percentage point increase in third grade literacy, the largest single-year increase since the launch of IREAD in 2013. Over 450 schools reached Indiana’s 95% reading goal, an increase of nearly 180 elementary schools in just one year.
 - iv. Indiana’s proposal supports the statewide expansion of high-impact tutoring aligned to the science of reading. Tutor-ND expands access to high-quality tutoring for students and focuses on building capacity in schools and community organizations through training grounded in how students learn best.
 - v. Ms. Kronk explained how Notre Dame will serve as the implementation and research-practice partnership hub, providing infrastructure, continuous improvement, and operational support to ensure the model reaches the students who need it most. WestEd will serve as the independent evaluator, conducting rigorous evaluation to assess impact and support scalability.
 - vi. Ms. Kronk described how this model illustrates a shared commitment to literacy across stakeholders in Indiana. The program begins in January.

- vii. Dr. Jenner explained how this grant allows IDOE to partner with community members in collaboration with the University of Notre Dame to add another layer of literacy support for Indiana students.

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