

MINUTES

Indiana State Board of Education Business Meeting

December 05, 2023

9:00 A.M. EST

Auditorium

Indiana Government Center South

302 W. Washington Street

Indianapolis, IN, 46204

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AS60luPTYB4>

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

Board Members Absent: Ms. Kristin Rentschler

- 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 November 08, 2023, meeting were approved by unanimous vote.
 - A. November 8, 2023 - [Memo](#)
- IV. **Statement from the Chair:** Dr. Jenner introduced SBOE's new Executive Director, David Buyze. Mr. Buyze will be appointed during the January SBOE Board meeting. Dr. Jenner also thanked the previous SBOE Executive Director, Brian Murphy for his service. Next, Dr. Jenner recognized the Milken Educator Award winners, Kendra Randle, executive principal at Emma Donnan Elementary and Middle School in Indianapolis, and Josh Dingledein, English/language arts teacher at Plymouth High School. Each winner received a \$25,000.00 prize. On Veterans Day, IDOE announced 102 Purple Star schools. Continuing, Dr. Jenner highlighted the news of IDOE recently winning two national awards for the Indiana Learning Lab and Indiana GPS. Also, 72 recipients of the 2023-2024 Science of Reading grant were awarded across the state.
- V. **Board Member Comments and Reports:** Ms. Hammel spoke to her gratitude of Mr. Brian Murphy shepherding her into SBOE and making her feel comfortable in the process. Ms. Dilosa continued the tributes to Mr. Murphy, by thanking him for accepting all her text messages and calls, no matter the time of day. Furthermore, Ms. Dilosa complimented his mindset toward children. Mr. Watts added he is excited for Mr. Murphy's next steps, and he will miss working with him.
- VI. **Public Comment:** Mr. Chris Lagoni, Indiana Small and Rural Schools Association, Executive Director, shared conference data with the board, bringing awareness to improve outcomes,

experiences, and equity for rural students. Mr. Lagoni thanked Dr. Jenner and IDOE for their work on attendance, truancy, and literacy.

VII. **Consent Agenda:** Ms. Hammel recused herself from Item A.c. Ms. Hammel and Mr. Watts recused themselves from Item C. Ms. Mote recused herself from Item D. The Consent Agenda was approved by unanimous vote.

- A. Teacher Preparation Programs: Accreditation
 - a. Ball State University: Middle School Education - [Memo](#)
 - b. Grace College: Transition to Teaching - [Memo](#)
 - c. Holy Cross: College of Education Accreditation Extension - [Memo](#)
 - d. Teachers of Tomorrow: College of Education Accreditation Extension - [Memo](#)
- B. Latch Key Waiver: Western School Corporation - [Memo](#)
- C. Homeschool Exits - [Memo](#)
- D. DWD Career and Technical Education Funding - [Memo](#) | [Summary](#)
- E. Career Awareness Course Standards - [Memo](#)
- F. Adoption of Final Rule - Article 7 Rules (LSA Document #23-504) - [Memo](#)

VIII. **Discussion:**

- A. Grade 3 Reading Data - [Presentation](#) Ms. Karrienne Polk-Meek, Director of the Literacy Center, IDOE, and Mr. David Buyze, Director of Policy and Special Programs, IDOE, presented Grade 3 Reading Data.
 - a. Mr. Durham asked, from the lens of a parent, based on the over 96% of students who did not pass IREAD and were promoted to the 4th grade, was there a parental voice in the decision? Dr. Jenner responded, almost always, educators will share and discuss with parents and family. However, we now have additional data points which, at the time, were not available to share with parents.
 - b. Ms. Dilosa stressed the importance of educators sharing all data with parents going forward.
 - c. Ms. Hammel believes this is a societal/holistic issue and asked if IDOE has adult illiteracy data in the State of Indiana. Dr. Jenner responded, adult data lies within the Department of Workforce Development and the Department of Corrections, which IDOE is able to pull.
 - d. Indiana shows 89.1% passing IREAD, Dr. Ernest asked, "...Can those kids read?". Dr. Ernest added, Indiana has a 35% National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) score. He questioned, if the 89.1% passing IREAD can read, why does Indiana have a gap in subset data. Dr. Jenner responded IDOE will ask their researchers if they can respond to the question. Dr. Jenner added, IREAD-3 is assessing foundational reading skills and is aligned to the Science of Reading.
 - e. Mr. Bess stated in his experience with Adult High School education, the common theme was very poor reading skills. Teachers spent a large amount of time teaching adults how to read for content. With the first dip in 2017-2018 and the Covid years, there will be challenges preparing for drops in graduation rates and college acceptance rates in five to fifteen years. Dr. Jenner agreed. Indiana is not clear how many students cannot read in grades 4-12. Dr. Jenner spoke of three conversations, 1) Proactive actions, K-3rd grade, 2) Actions for 8,9, and 10th grade students who cannot read, and 3) Actions for chronic absenteeism. Mr. Bess continued with the hope of seeing positive results due

to the Science of Reading and 2nd grade testing of IREAD-3 programs in subsequent years.

- f. Mr. Mapes inquired of the deadline for school corporations to opt in for IREAD-3 at Grade 2. Ms. Polk-Meek stated a February deadline.
- g. Mr. Bess petitioned for information on elementary teacher candidates trained in the Science of Reading. Dr. Jenner agreed there is currently a gap in this information. According to the National Council on Teacher Quality (NCTQ) Marian University is the only Indiana A+ institution of Higher Learning currently.
- h. Mr. Mapes stated, since 2010 the Science of Reading has been in the education preparation program requirements, up-to-date by 2013, and ten years later we are again asking for change to help the students of Indiana in basic literacy skills.
- i. Dr. Ernest asked the status of procedures for alternative certification program options. Dr. Jenner answered, IDOE is actively moving on that issue.
- j. Ms. Hammel questioned if IDOE has knowledge of tenured faculty “not buying in” to the Science of Reading program. If Dr. Jenner has been made aware, she makes a call.
- k. Mr. Watts requested a clarification of IDOE’s investment to teachers by stating, “at no cost to teachers”, rather than, “at no cost”. Appealing to the Board, Mr. Watts asked members to maintain high expectations for Indiana students.

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