

**MINUTES**  
**Indiana State Board of Education Business**  
**Meeting**

**February 6, 2025**  
**9:00 A.M. EST**

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

<https://www.youtube.com/live/yp7VrYRFuSY>

**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 (by video), Dr. Byron Ernest (by video), Mr. Greg Gastineau (by video), Ms. Iris Hammel, and Mr. B.J. Watts.

**Board Members Absent:** Mr. Pat Mapes and 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 January 15, 2024, meeting, were approved by unanimous vote.
  - A. January 15, 2024 - [Memo](#)
- IV. **Statement from the Chair:** Dr. Jenner acknowledged the high amount of illness in the State of Indiana and Indiana schools. Followed by Dr. Jenner welcoming the Butler student teachers in attendance. She asked the students to stand, and the audience applauded the future teachers.
- V. **Board Member Comments and Reports:** None
- VI. **Public Comment:** None
- VII. **Consent Agenda:** The Consent Agenda was approved by unanimous vote.
  - A. Third-Party Accrediting Organization Recognition
    - i. Association of Christian Schools International - [Memo](#)
    - ii. Christian Schools International - [Memo](#)
  - B. Mooresville Consolidated School Corporation Governing Body Change - [Memo](#)
  - C. Special Education Unduplicated Child Count - [Memo](#)
- VIII. **Discussion:** (The order of Discussion items was reversed.)
  - A. NAEP Scores Update - [Presentation](#) Ms. Lynn Schemel, IDOE Chief Academic Officer, presented NAEP Scores Update.
    - i. With emphasis during the last couple of years on Science of Reading in the lower grades, Kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>, Mr. Bess asked if we could expect to see a bigger jump in the 2026 NAEP scores. Both Dr. Jenner and Dr. Schemel responded, yes, to the increased future scores.

- ii. Mr. Watts reminded us to receive the good news of the Indiana NAEP scores. Educators celebrate! Everyone can “Go back to practice on Monday.”
  - iii. Since the 4<sup>th</sup> grade reading space difference is very tight, about 5-points, Ms. Mote asked if there are meaningful differences in the outcomes for students within the 5-point spread. Dr. Schemel responded, the first goal is to grow to proficiency level and beyond.
  - iv. Mr. Bess noted the adult education correlation between reading difficulties in the early grades and dropping out of high school. He teased he wouldn’t mind the dropout rate decreasing and putting Excel Centers, out of business. Where in the past Indiana invested funds in teacher training and beefing up the Science of Reading, it is time to do the same with strong math instruction.
- B. Enlistment Seal - Partnership Opportunity - [Presentation](#) Dr. Travis Haire, Ivy Tech Chancellor, Sellersburg, and Colonel Shawn Eaken, Commander of 76<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade Combat Team, Indiana National Guard, presented Enlistment Seal – Partnership Opportunity.
- i. Dr. Haire gave a brief history of Ivy Tech’s movement toward IVYT Public Service Pilot program. This program extends from the National Community College Enlisted Training Corps Demonstration Program (ETC). IVYT Public Service Pilot is not ROTC, (no boot camp). He believes it fits perfectly with the High School Diploma Enlistment & Service Seal.
  - ii. Mr. Watts asked who would teach the IVYT Public Service Pilot program. Dr. Haire responded, a National Guard or Military personnel hired as an adjunct instructor in a high school classroom or on an Ivy Tech campus. The details of Ivy Tech teaching inside high schools needs to be worked out in the future, however, Ivy Tech is ready to teach the pilot this summer on campus. Mr. Watts reminded Dr. Haire, the obstacles are usually transportation and teachers. Ivy Tech believes their 19 campuses across Indiana will be able to leverage those obstacles alongside their high school dual credit opportunities.
  - iii. Ms. Hammel spoke passionately regarding military veterans who want to teach. She asked Higher Education to look at military members’ competencies, in order to grant credits toward a bachelor’s degree. She added, there is a high suicide rate, and veterans are seeking purpose after returning to civilian life. These leaders want to give back. What better purpose than lighting up kids and helping them navigate their career paths!
  - iv. Dr. Haire agreed and envisions the future of IVY Tech’s program as a welcoming space for the exchange of ideas and reciprocal mentorships, the veteran earning his degree, describing a 20-year military career to an 18-year-old student, and the younger student providing confident computer guidance.
  - v. Dr. Jenner added, if anyone is wondering why Indiana is not adding JROTC programs inside high schools, the federal government has capped the number of JROTC programs within the nation.
  - vi. Col. Eaken shared General Muennich’s, Adjutant General, IN National Guard, support for the program with Ivy Tech and Indiana. He gave the board his military service history and agreed, mentorship matters and is needed in this space.
  - vii. Ms. Hammel added we are not always great at visualizing opportunities for kids. Yes, in traditional jobs with apprenticeships, but not for the military. Students, as young as 8<sup>th</sup> grade need to be made aware of military careers and given the information to find out what is possible.
  - viii. Col. Eaken agreed, especially for the focused path to Service Academy attendance.

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