

MINUTES
Indiana State Board of Education
Business Meeting

July 16, 2025
1:00 P.M. E.D.T.

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

https://www.youtube.com/live/FoLXO9R_Fxo

Board Members Present: Dr. Katie Jenner, Chair, Ms. Katie Mote (by video), Vice Chair, Mr. William Durham Jr., Secretary, Mr. Scott Bess (by video), Ms. Erika Dilosa (by video), 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.
- II. **Approval of Agenda:** The agenda was approved by unanimous vote.
- III. **Approval of the Minutes:** The Minutes, for the June 4, 2025, meeting, were approved by unanimous vote.
 - A. June 4, 2025 - [Memo](#)
- IV. **Statement from the Chair:** Dr. Jenner discussed United States Secretary of Education Linda McMahon's visit to Purdue, congratulated Mr. Gastineau and Mr. Durham on being reappointed to the State Board of Education by Governor Braun, and congratulated Ms. Dilosa on being awarded the Governor's Achievement in Education Award at the Indiana Black Expo. Dr. Jenner also highlighted Indiana being given the Frank Newman Award by the Education Commission of the States, and provided a progress update on the new accountability rule.
- V. **Board Member Comments and Reports:** Mr. Gastineau thanked Dr. Jenner and Governor Braun for being reappointed to the State Board of Education, highlighting the great work that has been done, and highlighting work being done on the issue of mental health. Mr. Durham also thanked Dr. Jenner and Governor Braun for his reappointment to the State Board, emphasizing his interest in helping Indiana kids. Ms. Dilosa thanked Governor Braun, Dr. Jenner, the Indiana Black Expo, and the Indiana Civil Rights Commission for being recognized with the Governor's Achievement in Education Award.
- VI. **Public Comment:** None
- VII. **Consent Agenda:** The consent agenda was approved by unanimous vote.

- A. Pike County School Corporation Latchkey Waiver – [Memo](#)
- B. Common School Loan Fund amendment – [Memo](#)
- C. ParaPathways assessment #5757 adoption – [Memo](#)
- D. Praxis Middle School Social Studies #5589 adoption – [Memo](#)
- E. 2025-2026 Accessibility and Accommodations for Statewide Assessments – [Memo](#) | [Document](#)
- F. 2025-2026 WIDA Assessment Guidance – [Memo](#) | [Document](#)
- G. 2025-2026 Indiana Assessments Policy Manual – [Memo](#) | [Document](#)
- H. Teacher Preparation Program
 - i. Approval Indiana University Columbus – Division of Education – [Memo](#)
 - ii. Indiana Wesleyan University – Educator Preparation Provider – [Memo](#)
 - iii. Saint Mary’s College – Education Department – [Memo](#)
 - iv. University of Indianapolis – School of Education – [Memo](#)
 - v. Butler University – Fine Arts: Visual Arts (P-12) – [Memo](#)
 - vi. Indiana Council of Administrators of Special Education (ICASE) – [Memo](#)
 - vii. Huntington University – Early Childhood Education (P-3) – [Memo](#)
 - viii. Huntington University – Exceptional Needs: Intense Intervention (P-12) – [Memo](#)
 - ix. Indiana State University – Transition to Teaching, Early Childhood Education (P-3) – [Memo](#)
 - x. Indiana University Bloomington – Middle School Mathematics (5-9) – [Memo](#)
 - xi. Indiana Wesleyan University – Middle School Science (5-9) – [Memo](#)
 - xii. Indiana Wesleyan University – Language Arts (5-12) – [Memo](#)
 - xiii. Indiana Wesleyan University – Mathematics (5-12) – [Memo](#)
 - xiv. Road2Teach – Transition to Teaching, Special Education (P-12) – [Memo](#)
 - xv. University of Evansville – Transition to Teaching, All Grade (P-12) – [Memo](#)
- I. 1003 Flexibility Waiver Amendment – [Memo](#)
- J. April Child Find Count – [Memo](#)
- K. Formative Assessment Grants – [Memo](#)

VIII. New Business: Lynn Schemel, IDOE, Deputy Chief Academic Officer, and Anna Shults, IDOE, Chief Academic Officer, presented on the 2024-2025 ILEARN and SAT results. Ron Sandlin, IDOE, Chief Innovation Officer, discussed Indiana’s ESEA Flexibility Waiver Request.

- A. ILEARN and SAT Results – [Presentation](#)
 - i. 40.6% of Indiana students are proficient in ELA, a decrease of 0.4% from last year. 42.1% of Indiana students are proficient in math, a 1.4% increase from last year.
 - ii. Dr. Jenner noted that ELA was stagnant overall, with scores improving in earlier grade levels despite grade 7 and 8 scores struggling.
 - iii. Mr. Mapes highlighted a need to increase attention to middle schoolers who had their early education disrupted by the pandemic, especially with regard to ELA.
 - iv. Lynn Schemel highlighted the largest growth in math scores among Black and Hispanic students with a 2% increase in proficiency. Additionally, she explained the through-year assessment system and how it incorporates an active checkpoint system to evaluate student growth and provide additional support systems where needed.
 - v. Mr. Watts highlighted a commitment to focusing on instruction over assessment, something teachers in schools had “begged for, for years.”
 - vi. Dr. Jenner asked if this year’s ILEARN was informed by the through-year assessment data. Lynn Schemel identified some aspects that will be introduced next year, and some that were implemented this year, such as an increased focus on writing.

- vii. Ms. Hammel encouraged a focus on explaining the purpose of standardized testing to the students, so they feel comfortable and empowered in test-taking.
 - viii. Anna Shults highlighted the historic investment in literacy and literacy instruction, and noted that the grades struggling with ELA proficiency were the students that missed out on the literacy investment package, as the investment was focused on younger year levels.
 - ix. Lynn Schemel noted that EBRW and math scores were higher in the At College-Ready Benchmark, underscoring an urgency in maximizing all four years of high school with the various pathways in education. Mr. Watts added that many students may not go to college, so a college-readiness test may not fit their abilities.
- B. ESSA Flexibility Waiver Plan Update – [Presentation](#)
- i. Ron Sandlin explained why Indiana plans to seek a waiver for certain aspects of ESEA to advance student achievement by waiving some of the administrative burden and promoting innovation. He identified a focus of waiving requirements for SEA and LEA Block Grants and the Innovation Grant, and the timeline for the waiver request.
 - ii. Dr. Jenner emphasized the extra work needed by districts to access many different sources of funding, and how eliminating some of those requirements would free up funding for schools without overburdening administrators with additional paperwork.
 - iii. Mr. Gastineau argued in favor of cutting the red tape to school dollars.

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