

MINUTES

Indiana State Board of Education Business Meeting

February 1, 2023

9:00 A.M. EST

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

<https://youtu.be/CZ1B2iNE6cl>

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

Board Members Absent: Mr. Pat Mapes, Ms. Kristin Rentschler.

- I. **Call to Order**
 - A. Roll Call: A quorum is present.
 - B. Pledge of Allegiance
- II. **Election of Officers:** The reslating of current SBOE officers was approved by unanimous vote.
- III. **Approval of the Agenda:** The Agenda was approved by unanimous vote.
- IV. **Approval of the Minutes:** The Minutes for the January 11, 2023 meeting were approved by unanimous vote.
 - A. January 11, 2023 - [Memo](#)
- V. **Statement from the Chair:** Dr. Jenner congratulated the 48 school districts who were awarded the STEM Integration grant, increasing access to STEM education in Indiana. Dr. Jenner also mentioned February 1st is World Read Aloud Day, a global effort to bring people together through the shared connection of reading aloud. She encouraged Indiana parents to read to their children.
- VI. **Board Member Comments and Reports:** None
- VII. **Public Comment:** Ms. Kendra Johnson, Gary IN resident, reminded the board February is African-American History Month, remembering important people and events in the history of African diaspora. Ms. Johnson also brought attention to SB436 regarding local control for Gary Community Schools, asking for the community to be allowed to elect board members in the November 7th General Election.
- VIII. **Consent Agenda:** The Consent Agenda was approved by unanimous vote. Consent Agenda consisted of the following:
 - A. Special Education Child Count - [Memo](#)
 - B. Third-Party Recognition: American Montessori Society - [Memo](#)
- IX. **New Business**
 - A. Indiana Teacher of the Year - Tara Cocanower

- i. Ms. Cocanower thanked the board for her award and now being able to advocate on behalf of her fellow teachers. Ms. Cocanower spoke of her passions and goals as a history teacher and her mission to serve, protect and teach her “World Changers” students. Mr. Brad Yates, Superintendent of Bluffton-Harrison Metropolitan School District, and Mr. Steve Baker, Principal of Bluffton High School, spoke in support of Ms. Cocanower.
 - B. Student Pathways & Opportunities Team - IN GPS Update - Slides - Mr. Ron Sandlin, Senior Director, School Performance and Transformation, presented the IN GPS Update.
 - i. Regarding students performing better when attending the same school three years or more, Dr. Ernest asked if this would be reflected on GPS. Mr. Sandlin responded there are no concrete enhancements on the sustained enrollment piece, however, it is on IDOE’s radar.
 - ii. Dr. Jenner, Dr. Ernest and Mr. Watts all expressed appreciation for “A job well done!” to Mr. Sandlin and his team.
 - C. Student, School & Family Engagement Team – Parent Engagement Survey – Memo – Ms. Kelsey Peaper, Assistant Director of School Support, presented the Parent Engagement Survey.
 - i. Mr. Watts asked if the survey data was broken down by region or only statewide. Ms. Peaper stated the Gallup raw data can be divided by rural, suburban and urban areas.
 - ii. Mr. Bess commented on the mismatch between Key Finding #6, *Just under one-third of parents of seniors say their child is not prepared for life after high school*, and the Indiana state graduate rate of 87%. He advocated speaking with General Assembly members about this issue. Mr. Watts added when the board discusses accountability, members should consider skill-building. What is success to us? What do we want the outcome to be?
 - iii. Ms. Mote addressed the need to elevate the conversation around the value of higher education.
 - iv. Mr. Bess noted the 2% of Indiana parents who know and disapprove about subjects and topics taught, are loud and organized. From a legislative and public perception standpoint the small 2% should be noted, loudest voices are the smallest percentage of parental voices.
 - v. Regarding the 27% of Indiana parents who agree that education beyond high school is affordable to anyone who needs it, Ms. Mote expressed the importance of continued data collection of whether polled parents live in communities who offer other credentialed pathways.
 - vi. Dr. Jenner, Ms. Mote, Mr. Watts and Dr. Ernest discussed the options, access and simplification for parents of Graduation Pathways, diploma flexibility, College Core and dual credits.
 - vii. Mr. Gastineau announced Indiana University’s Advance College Project (ACP) is now free. ACP is a dual enrollment partnership between IU and select high schools. Mr. Gastineau asked how to incentivize high school teachers to become certified ACP instructors by enrolling in the required 18 hours of online classes.
 - viii. Mr. Bess complimented IDOE for caring about parents’ views, asking parents what they think and making the parent survey publicly available. He also thanked the parents for their time and efforts. Indiana’s Parent Engagement Survey is leading the nation.
- X. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote.