



# INDIANA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Indiana State Board of Education  
Business Meeting Minutes  
August 10, 2016 9:00 AM (EDT)

Indiana State House – Room 233  
200 West Washington St.  
Indianapolis, IN 46204

**Board Members Present:** Superintendent Glenda Ritz (Chair), Mrs. Sarah O'Brien (Vice Chair), Dr. Vince Bertram, Dr. Byron Ernest, Dr. David Freitas, Dr. Lee Ann Kwiatkowski, Mr. Edward Melton, Mr. B.J. Watts, Ms. Cari Whicker, and Dr. Steven Yager.

**Board Members Absent:** Mr. Gordon Hendry.

- I. CALL TO ORDER
  - Superintendent Ritz called the meeting to order. The pledge of allegiance was recited. The roll call reflected that Mr. Gordon Hendry was absent.
- II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
  - The Board unanimously approved the agenda.
- III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
  - There were amendments made to the June 1 minutes under the ESSA update on page 4, and 3 additional bullets were added with further information.
  - All Board members present approved the June 1 minutes
  - July 5 and 6 minutes were approved by all Board members present.
- IV. STATEMENT OF THE CHAIR
  - Superintendent Ritz welcomed educators and students back to school.
  - Superintendent Ritz thanked Vice Chair Sarah O'Brien for her service to the Indiana State Board of Education (Board) and appreciated her very objective way of looking at data.
  - Superintendent Ritz informed the Board that the Department of Education (Department) is sponsoring "two dollar Tuesday – teacher appreciation" at the Indiana State Fair.
  - The Board was notified that the Department had not received a response from CTB regarding legal damages.
- V. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS
  - Mr. Edward Melton updated the Board of a serious issue happening in East Chicago.

- East Chicago has made the decision to move Carrie Gosch Elementary School due to high levels of lead and arsenic in a nearby housing complex.
- They are relocating the students to a nearby school.
- The lead problem has affected a public housing complex that houses over 600 students; these residents are now receiving housing vouchers useable in anywhere in the country.
- The school district is moving the students into a building that has been closed and stripped, and now they are spending money on refurbishing the building.
- Mr. B.J. Watts acknowledged Vice Chair Sarah O'Brien and said it has been a pleasure to work with her.
- Mr. Watts informed the Board that Olympian Lilly King, who is a former Evansville student, won a gold medal.
- Dr. Yager brought up dual credit issues. Dr. Yager said he wants to know how, for example, students that take dual credit math in high school perform in 2<sup>nd</sup> year math in college. He then is interested in comparing the scores to students' scores who did not take dual credit but take first year math in college and then are in second year math in college with dual credit students
- Dr. Yager stated that he is troubled by the idea that there are certain colleges that look at high school ratings when making admission decisions.
  - Dr. Yager stated his opinion is that he thinks a valedictorian from an A rated school should have the same access to colleges as a valedictorian from an F rated school, and that he would be shocked if colleges and universities took schools grades into consideration.
  - Dr. Yager said he wanted to know specifically what colleges or universities made assertions that school wide grades are taken into consideration.

#### VI. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

- None

#### VII. Best Practices – Innovations in Education – Student Successes

#### VIII. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

- Motion carried by voice vote without dissent.

#### IX. Adjudications

- None

#### X. NEW BUSINESS - Action

##### A. Approval of Extending State Accreditation for Oakland City

- Dr. Kwiatkowski abstained from voting because she served as an adjunct professor at the school.
- Motion carried with a vote of 9-0.
- B.J. Watts requested letting guests from Oakland City speak.

- Dr. Steve DeGeorge explained that exposure to a diverse faculty was a problem in the institution and that Oakland City University is committed to diversity and to consistently improve in this area.
  - Dr. Bertram asked if there is a way for professors from other university's to contribute to diversity at Oakland City.
  - Dr. DeGeorge explained that they brought on a faculty member from another university that is diverse and the faculty member works enough hours at Oakland City to be considered a full time employee.
  - Dr. Yager thanked Dr. DeGeorge for traveling to Indianapolis for this very important meeting.
- B. Approval of Online and Paper Pencil Mode Adjustments for Spring 2016 ISTEP+ Grades 3-8
- Dr. Michelle Walker presented on mode adjustments.
  - TAC members worked closely with Pearson trying to identify the best way to display information.
  - One way to display information is to take the average of grades 4-8 to use for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade mode adjustment.
  - Dr. Bertram inquired about the capabilities of schools to provide online testing as well as the reliability and Dr. Walker answered by saying that they want to make sure that schools have the dollars they need and that system is performing flawlessly.
  - Dr. Ernest asked how we are confident that students, especially younger ones, are prepared to answer open ended items on a computer versus paper/pencil?
    - Dr. Walker responded that if a teacher is not teaching with those specific tools then their students aren't likely to be prepared to take a test opposite of what they have used to learn. However, this could be the opportunity to incorporate technology into the classroom. Not because of the test, but because this is where the classrooms of the future are headed.
  - Online and Paper Pencil Mode Adjustments for Spring 2016 ISTEP+ Grades 3-8 were approved by a 10-0 vote.
- C. Approval of ISTEP+ Grade 10 ELA, Math and Science Performance Level Descriptors (PLDs) Math ELA Science
- D. Approval of ISTEP+ Grade 10 ELA, Math and Science cut scores
- Items C & D were combined on the agenda.
  - Dr. Walker asked the Board to take action on PLDs and cut score recommendations.
  - Dr. Walker explained the Cut Score Setting meeting.
    - The meeting took place August 2-3, 2016
    - The Process was facilitated by the vendor (Pearson)

- Participants considered the Performance Level Descriptors (PLDs) for Did Not Pass, Pass, and Pass+.
  - Participants studied “Ordered Item Booklets”.
    - Items and score points arranged from least to most difficult based on student performance statistics from the assessments.
  - Each participant set 3 rounds of bookmarks.
  - Discussion occurred before and after each round.
  - Panelists reviewed impact data after Rounds 2 and 3.
  - After finalizing cut score recommendations, panelists reviewed PLDs and suggested any necessary revisions.
- There was a formal TAC meeting with Department at end of process that:
  - reviewed cut score setting process
  - analyzed teacher recommendations and results
  - confirmed the quality of the cut score setting process
  - provided feedback and technical advice to the Department regarding cut score recommendations
- Dr. Walker outlined the PLDs.
  - PLDs describe the specific knowledge, skills and abilities that a student at a given performance level should be able to demonstrate.
    - PLDs represent Indiana’s performance levels:
      - Pass+
      - Pass
      - Did not Pass
    - PLDs for ISTEP+ Grade 10 assessment include:
      - English/Language Arts
      - Mathematics
      - Science
    - Once approved by the Board, the PLDs are shared with educators and the public via the Department assessment page.
- Cynthia Roach, Senior Director of Accountability and Assessment for the Board, and Dr. Walker, then proceeded to explain how the cut scores are determined with absolute fidelity.
- Ms. Roach and Dr. Walker then proceeded to review the data listed in the [presentation provided by the IDOE](#).

- ISTEP+ Grade 10 ELA, Math and Science Performance Level Descriptors (PLDs) Math ELA Science were approved by a 10-0 vote.
  - ISTEP+ Grade 10 ELA, Math and Science cut scores were approved by a 10-0 vote.
- E. Election of a New Vice-Chairman
- Superintendent Ritz opened the floor to nominations for a new Vice Chair.
  - Cari Whicker was nominated by Dr. Yager.
  - Mrs. Whicker accepted the nomination.
  - Mrs. Whicker was elected as the new Vice Chair of the Board by a vote of 10-0.
- F. Approval to begin the process of authorizing a disaster loan for the School City of East Chicago
- Motion was made to add this item to the agenda. Approved by voice vote.
  - The Board authorized a disaster loan for the School City of East Chicago by a vote of 10-0.
- XI. Discussion and Reports
- A. 2014-2015 Staff Evaluation Report
- Caitlin Beatson, Coordinator from the Office of Educator Effectiveness discussed the [report handed out to the Board](#).
    - IC 20-28-11.5-9 requires all charter schools and school corporations to submit summative evaluation ratings for all certificated educators.
    - IC 20-28-11.5-9 added school retention rates reporting requirement.
    - The Department added additional reporting field to further explain educators not evaluated.
    - Corporations under an unexpired contract do not report data
      - 2013-2014, 39 corporations
      - 2014-2015, 13 corporations
    - All current and historic data will be housed on COMPASS
  - All [results can be found online](#).
- B. Assessment Update
- Dr. Walker provided a Formative Assessment update as well as and ISTAR and ISTEP+ update.
  - The update included the implementation for 2016-2017 for the Formative Assessment, the ISTAR test design on TAC recommendations as well as an ISTEP+ update.
    - ISTEP+ Spring 2016 results
      - Updated reporting timelines
      - Standard setting (cut score setting) for ISTEP+ Grade 10 ELA, Math, and Science
      - Online and paper/pencil mode adjustment recommendations

- Pearson Update
- TAC Update
  - The Pearson and TAC update were rolled in together.
  - Ms. Roach provided background into what went into scoring between last year's results done by CTB and this year's results done by Pearson.
  - It was determined that one item was left off of scoring by Pearson that CTB had included in their scoring the previous year. This had caused scores to be adjusted down.
  - The TAC recommended that scores accurately reflect what the student had achieved on the test.
  - Superintendent Ritz said that rescores will continue to take place.
  - Superintendent Ritz said that preliminary scores still have a chance to change because of mode adjustments and rescores.
  - Dr. Walker said that parents would be contacted by letter and by phone.
  - Rob Kirkpatrick, who is responsible for psychometrics and test development at Pearson, addressed the Board.
  - Mr. Kirkpatrick said that Pearson is completely responsible for the scoring error.
  - He said that this error is unacceptable and that checks have been put in place to make sure this error does not happen again.

#### C. Accountability Update

#### XII. Board Operations

- None

#### XIII. Adjournment

- Upon receiving a motion and a second, the Board voted 10-0 to adjourn the meeting.