MINUTES

State Board of Education Business Meeting

September 01, 2021 at 9:00 AM EDT

Conference Room B, Indiana Government Center South

302 W. Washington Street, Indianapolis IN 46204

https://youtu.be/CtXX87EGAQ0

Board Members Present: Dr. Katie Jenner, Chair, Ms. Katie Mote, Vice-Chair (by phone), Ms. Erika Dilosa, Mr. William Durham, Jr., Dr. Byron Ernest, Dr. David Freitas (by phone), Mr. Greg Gastineau, Ms. Kristin Rentschler (by phone) and Mr. B. J. Watts (by phone).

Board Members Absent: (Mr. Peter Miller is no longer a member of the board.)

I. Call to Order

    a.   Roll Call: A quorum is present.

    b.   Pledge of Allegiance

    c.   Election of Secretary: The board nominated and approved by unanimous vote Mr. William Durham as board secretary.

II. Approval of the Agenda: The agenda was approved by unanimous vote.

III. Approval of the Minutes: The minutes for the August 11, 2021 meeting were approved by unanimous vote.

    a.   August 11, 2021 - Minutes

IV. Statement from the Chair: Dr. Jenner stated a DOE team is working with the IN General Assembly to address school leaders' concerns regarding the unintended financial penalties due to the 85% attendance rule which may result from students being quarantined. Dr. Jenner also discussed DOE's partnership with the College Football Playoff Foundation. Educators are the Foundation's charitable cause and their philanthropic efforts aid the elevation of the profession.

V. Board Member Comments and Reports: None.

VI. Public Comment: Adam Jones, founder of SkyBound Education, addressed the board. DOE selected SkyBound to lead a strategic planning consortium to help students recover from the pandemic and maximize federal Covid-19 relief dollars. Six school districts will participate throughout the 2022-2023 school year, Culver Community Schools, North Central Parke Community School Corporation, South Central Community School Corporation, South Spencer County School Corporation, Southwestern Jefferson County Consolidated School Corporation and Yorktown Community Schools. While the consortium is in the early stages, the schools have met with SkyBound and have laid a solid foundation for ongoing strategies. Asana software will organize, track and manage their work, as well as provide a dashboard for the consortium.

Steve Baker, principal of Bluffton High School, thanked the board for being a part of the Performance Dashboard, along with other principals statewide. Mr. Baker supports the transparency, K-12 accountability and

investment in future opportunities for students, and connection of schools to communities the Performance Dashboard provides. As a rural high school of 475 students, Mr. Baker proudly stated Bluffton High School's 98% graduation rate, one dropout during the past fifteen years, 0% general diplomas administered and 21 dual credit courses offered.

VII. Consent Agenda: The consent agenda was approved by roll call vote, 10-0. Consent agenda consisted of the following items:

    a. RFP Evaluation Team Criteria - Memo
    b. School Technology Advance Amendment - Memo
    c. Formative Assessment Grant Formula - Memo
    d. NASBE Delegate - Memo

VIII. New Business

    a. HEA 1003 Waivers
        i. North Harrison - Memo Mr. Ranney presented. North Harrison Community Schools requested a waiver from 180 instructional days requirements in order to count school days by minutes and hours for the 2021-2022 school year. SBOE staff recommended approval of the waiver. Approved 10-0 by roll call vote.
    b. Resolution Honoring Pete Miller - Memo Mr. Ranney read the resolution. Dr. Ernest expressed his appreciation for Mr. Miller and commended Mr. Miller for "doing the right things for students" during his career in the State Senate and on the SBOE board. Dr. Jenner echoed Dr. Ernest's sentiments, commenting Mr. Miller was a thought leader who pushed the board to think differently. The resolution was approved by unanimous vote.

IX. Discussion

    a. Profile of an Indiana Graduate - Memo

    Mr. Callahan and Mr. Sandlin presented the linked slides. Mr. Callahan spoke to the vision of the dashboard…Community, school leaders, teachers and students finding a change from compliance to aspirational; a seamless K-12 experience and multiple pathways to prosperity; increasing the six years after high school graduation data of only 25-33% of students in receipt of college credentials. Mr. Sandlin stressed the work ahead is only as effective as the work becomes operational, turning the aspirational vision into a reality. The first step is defining the vision by five characteristics. Mr. Sandlin will bring the input gathered on these characteristics over the next month to the October board meeting. This strategy will also capture and highlight the current opportunity gaps that exist in the Indiana school systems. Various board members voiced the following questions and concerns.

        i. Mr. Mapes began his comments noting what happened to children during the Pandemic, when children are not in front of educators, "not much gets done". K-12 educators are responsible for preparing students for post-secondary education, but this does not ensure post-secondary success. Mr. Mapes introduced the hurdle of college tuition and how debt contributed to college dropouts. Mr. Mapes asked Mr. Sandlin to explain the required measurements put forth by HEA 1514. Mr. Sandlin listed 1) Academic performance as measured by student proficiency growth in ELA and math 2) Graduation rate 3) College credits earned while in high school 4) When possible, state, national and international comparisons

for selected indicators. Mr. Mapes concluded the Indiana General Assembly needs to revise the high school graduation course requirements to obtain a diploma.

ii. Dr. Jenner agreed the board can't control what happens to K-12 students after graduation, but can measure more than academic mastery in Indiana and transparently look at where our students are after graduation.

iii. Dr. Ernest asked Mr. Sandlin if "success" had been defined. After Dr. Jenner asked Dr. Ernest what success meant to him, Dr. Ernest responded, students being able to do what they want to do. He used the analogy of rock band members, every path matters.

iv. Mr. Mapes added to keep in mind the literacy training and the amount of flexibility needed to educate the Afghan students entering the Indiana school system in a shorter time frame (the example of a sixteen-year-old Afghan refugee was given). Ms. Mote approved of the emphasis on transportable, enduring skills in the current economy. Mr. Gastineau agreed the board should be mindful of duties they add to educators' "plates" after the weight of additional burdens placed on them by the pandemic.

v. After sharing a teacher's testimonial, Dr. Jenner stated her belief teachers are already teaching communication and collaboration skills that can be acknowledged and measured. Mr. Mapes interjected the skill measurements should be broken down into smaller segments e.g. K-2, 3-5, 6-8. 9-12 (3-8 too wide).

vi. Dr. Jenner cautioned, the question should be asked, "What indicators are reflective of the opportunities we want to see for all kids?". Dr. Ernest hopes whichever indicators are chosen, all will be able to have trajectories showing if a school is working their way up or plateauing. Ms. Dilosa is optimistic about the Performance Dashboard and seeing the whole student beyond test scores.

vii. Mr. Durham asked how we measure success after high school graduation and beyond, 2 years, 5 years, 7 years out? Dr. Jenner stated Mr. Keller is utilizing Indiana's software, Management Performance Hub (MPH) software to gather information from other state agencies to partially answer Mr. Durham's question.

viii. Mr. Gastineau closed with positive thoughts. After eighteen months of the pandemic his students want to learn, are craving the social structure of school and excited to be back. There is a positive energy in his school. Furthermore, Mr. Gastineau is amazed at what the kids can do and excited about what the future holds for the state, administers, teachers and students!

X. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote.