

## MINUTES

### Indiana State Board of Education Business Meeting

September 11, 2024

9:00 A.M. EDT

#### Auditorium

Indiana Government Center South

302 W. Washington Street

Indianapolis, IN, 46204

<https://youtube.com/live/LxuLe5O3d88?feature=share>

**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, Mr. Greg Gastineau, Ms. Iris Hammel (by video), 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 the Agenda:** Mr. Watts made a motion to move the original agenda placement of Public Comment below Discussion. The agenda, including Mr. Watt's motion of revision, was approved by unanimous vote. (The minutes reflect the approved agenda.)
- III. **Approval of the Minutes:** The Minutes, for the August 14, 2024, meeting, were approved by unanimous vote.
  - A. August 14, 2024 - [Memo](#)
- IV. **Statement from the Chair:** Dr. Jenner began her statement with a remembrance of September 11, 2001, and acknowledgement of the bravery displayed that day on behalf of our country. Also, IDOE announced the top three finalists for the Indiana Teacher of the Year award; Chet Dixon of Mooresville Consolidated School District, Ellie Minogue of Tippecanoe School Corporation, and Graciela Miranda of the Metropolitan School District of Pike Township. There are over 65,000 teachers in Indiana. Finally, Dr. Jenner commented on the successful, sold out, 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Education in Excellence Gala. She thanked Dr. Rebecca Estes and her team for organizing the evening celebration, as well as, the many supporters who helped shine a light on Indiana education.
- V. **Board Member Comments and Reports:** Dr. Ernest applauded teachers who helped guide their students through 9/11 and other traumatic events. This is a true example of the complexity of a teacher's role in the classroom.

VI. **Consent Agenda:** Mr. Gastineau and Mr. Mapes recused themselves from Item B. The Consent Agenda was approved by unanimous vote.

A. Common School Loan Amendment - [Memo](#)

B. HSE Charter Authorizer Registration - [Letter](#)

VII. **Discussion:**

A. School Attendance Dashboard - [Presentation](#) Dr. John Keller, IDOE Chief Information Officer, presented School Attendance Dashboard.

i. Mr. Watts asked if the presentation numbers reflected both, excused and unexcused absences. Dr. Keller responded, yes, chronic absenteeism, not habitual truancy numbers. While habitual truancy numbers are outlined in Indiana law, chronic absenteeism is defined nationally. Furthermore, Mr. Watts later inquired of Dr. Keller if data can be pulled for chronically absent first and second grade students and their IREAD performances. Dr. Keller stated they are in the early stages of analysis but are dissecting the data to show if a chronically absent child was chronically absent the prior year, and then examine the earlier year and so on. If not, this is a new event for the child with no previous chronic absenteeism.

ii. Mr. Durham questioned if IDOE knows the “why” behind the high absenteeism rate. Knowing the “why” allows us to produce solutions. Dr. Keller responded, no, not at a state level. This attendance data holds up a mirror for schools. The varied reasons for “why” will come from the schools’ interpretations of the data at the local level.

iii. Mr. Mapes thanked Dr. Keller for the attendance data. Schools can utilize this data to show parents the correlation between academic achievement and attendance. Kids need to be in school to build the skills necessary to be successful.

iv. Mr. Bess also thanked Dr. Keller and IDOE for the attendance data. Sometimes schools are frustrated with providing mandated data, however now we can turn that around and show the schools, data matters. Years of data have been analyzed and schools are now given a tool to use, showing student trajectory, and making a difference in the life of a student.

B. ASSET and I-SEAL - [Presentation](#) Dr. Rebecca Estes, IDOE Assistant Secretary for Educator Talent, Dr. Nancy Holsapple, IDOE Director of Special Education, and Mr. Joe Kwisz, Indiana Council of Administrators of Special Education (ICASE) President and Council of Administrators of Special Education (CASE [National]) President-elect for presented ASSET and I-SEAL.

i. Ms. Dilosa gave kudos to ASSET and I-SEAL. She continued, Special Education does not have the luxury of grabbing an emergency permit to ensure Special Education children’s needs are supported. Both programs are life savers.

VIII. **Public Comment:** Mr. Philip Gordon, SBOE/IDOE General Counsel, spoke regarding Open Door Law governance and the public comment policy adopted by SBOE.

A. Many presented public comments to the SBOE. The majority of comments were regarding the proposed new high school diploma requirements.

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