

MINUTES

Indiana State Board of Education Business Meeting

October 02, 2024

9:00 A.M. EDT

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

<https://youtube.com/live/vf0PeMpnHkg>

Board Members Present: Dr. Katie Jenner, Chair, Ms. Katie Mote, Vice-Chair, Mr. William Durham Jr., Secretary, Mr. Scott Bess, Ms. Erika Dilosa (by video), Dr. Byron Ernest, Mr. Greg Gastineau, Ms. Iris Hammel, 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:** Dr. Ernest made a motion to move the original agenda placement of Public Comment below Discussion. The agenda, including Dr. Ernest's motion of revision, was approved by unanimous vote. (The minutes reflect the approved agenda.)
- III. **Approval of the Minutes:** The Minutes, for the September 11, 2024, meeting, were approved by unanimous vote.
 - A. September 11, 2024 - [Memo](#)
- IV. **Statement from the Chair:** Dr. Jenner began her statement by congratulating and listing the sixteen 2024 National Blue Ribbon Schools. She then announced that at an earlier Statehouse ceremony, she and Governor Holcomb recognized educators from nearly 300 elementary schools where at least 95% of students demonstrated reading proficiency in 2024. At an additional Statehouse event, the Early Childhood Education Registered Teacher Apprenticeship Program, giving students the opportunity to jumpstart their future as early childhood educators, was showcased. 65 students from seven high schools are participating in the state's new program. Also, the Indiana Department of Education announced that Graciela Miranda, a teacher at Pike High School in Indianapolis, was named the 2025 Indiana Teacher of the Year. And, October 2nd is National Custodian Day. One Indiana school custodian, Mr. Richards, won the America's Got Talent competition! And finally, honoring Indiana education leadership, Governor Holcomb named October 6, – October 12, 2024, Indiana Principals Week.
- V. **Board Member Comments and Reports:** Mr. Bess highlighted the Education Week (EdWeek) article

on the subject of Chesterton High School's internship program.

VI. **Consent Agenda:** Ms. Dilosa recused herself from Item A. The Consent Agenda was approved by unanimous vote.

- A. Lake Central Community School Corporation Governing Body Change - [Memo](#)
- B. Common School Fund Loan Applications - [Memo](#)

VII. **Discussion:**

A. Educator Talent and Recognition Updates - [Presentation](#) Dr. Rebecca Estes, IDOE Assistant Secretary for Educator Talent, presented Educator Talent and Recognition Updates. Alongside, Dr. Estes, were Ms. Kathy Nimmer, SEEDS Co-Director (Supporting Educators Entering District Service), Dr. BeAnn Younker, SEEDS Co-Director, and Ms. Kimberly Bowers, SEEDS.

- i. Dr. Ernest commended Ms. Kathy Nimmer's work, adding they met in 2015. Dr. Ernest made reference to Linkin Park's song, The Emptiness Machine. As Ms. Nimmer is raising the teaching profession to the level we seek, he feels some of the song's verses reflect his thoughts on the role of a teacher. Dr. Ernest ended his comments with, "Put teachers first, so we can put students first."

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.