



Kelly DiBenedetto  
Chairperson, School Board  
1200 E. 42<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46205

Indiana School for the Deaf  
School Board Meeting

August 15, 2017  
5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Alumni Building, Media Center

Minutes

**Voting Members Present:**

Kelly DiBenedetto, Chairperson  
Dr. Ray Furner  
Ann Reifel, Vice Chairperson  
Lucy Witte

**Non Voting Members Present:**

Rep. Ed Clere  
Traci Tetrick

**ISD Staff:**

Superintendent Dr. Geeslin

- I. **Call to Order:** Chairperson DiBenedetto convened the meeting at 10:30 a.m., noting that requirements for a quorum were met.
- II. **Approval of minutes:** Motion by Ms. Witte, second by Ann Reifel, Vice-Chairperson, to accept the May 16, 2015 minutes as printed. Motion passed.
- III. **Chairperson's Remarks:** Chairperson DiBenedetto reminded the board of the importance of conducting the meeting in a bilingual / bicultural format. Only one person will communicate at a time to ensure that all communities are fully informed of today's proceedings. Board members were also reminded to please raise their hands before speaking.
- IV. **Superintendent's Report:**
  - Shared opening day Power Point information with the Board members. Rep. Clere asked that the information be sent to the Board members to read through. Superintendent Geeslin will provide a pdf version to the Board.
  - A. 1. **Student Life Division** – Matthew Krueger, Student Life Director
    - Division report – no questions from the Board

The Indiana School for the Deaf is a bilingual educational environment where students belong, excel and thrive academically and socially.

2. Operations Division Report – Carl Brown, Operations Director
  - Division report – no questions from the Board
3. Financial Report – Jeremy Hawk, Chief Financial Officer
  - Division report – no questions from the Board
4. Education Report – Kim Kause, Director of Instruction
  - Division report:
    - Q. How does the current enrollment compare to last year?
    - A. It's similar to last year's numbers.
    - Q. What is the smallest/largest class size?
    - A. Elementary – smallest is 5 students, largest is 9 students; middle/high school varies due to students rotating classes, the average is 4-5 with the largest class 12-15 (physical education). The aim is 5:1 ratio.

**V. Old Business:**

- A. Action Plan update: Sections 5, 6 & 7 – presented by Ms. Kause. Will develop new Action Plan (School Improvement Plan) which will be shared with the Board next month.
  - Q. How frequent do teachers have a half day for curriculum mapping?
  - A. Usually 3 teachers (on a rotational basis) get 2 hours in a 6-week time frame.
  - Q. Are teachers evaluated based on the RISE evaluation? How are paraprofessionals Evaluated?
  - A. Teachers are evaluated on the RISE evaluations and Standards for Success walk-through protocols, paraprofessionals are evaluated based on State standards.
  - Q. How does ISD compare academically to a year ago?
  - A. ISD went from 68% to 72% growth. Per Dr. Sullivan, increasing our score 4% is very good as the assessment gets more difficult. Teachers will be able to look at individual student skills rather than overall curriculum. We will identify the specifics and strengths and where interventions are needed. Students will be grouped based on skill need which will improve our RTI.
- B. NWEA Spring results – Marie Kellam-White: Will not have full results until September.
- C. NWEA – detailed information about interpreting NWEA results – information presented by Marie Kellam-White
- D. Electronic front sign: Supt. Geeslin/Jeremy Hawk – Shared the Ind. Dept. of Administration purchasing process. Funds must be encumbered but will not be spent until bids are received and the Board approves moving forward with the purchase. Motion by Ms. Witte, second by Ms. Reifel, Vice-Chairperson to encumber funds for purchase of an electronic sign. Motion carried.

**VI. New Business:**

- A. Simpson Hall - Ms. Witte: Met with Danny Lopez, Deputy Chief of Staff with Governor Holcomb and Supt. Geeslin. Mr. Lopez requested that the Simpson Hall ad hoc committee meet again to hear options presented by Indiana Landmarks and the design team plan for the future of Simpson Hall that meets the safety and well-being of staff and students at ISD along with giving the State Fairgrounds the needed access that they require before a decision is made.

- B. Student Life furniture purchase – Motion by Ms. Witte, second by Ann Reifel, Vice Chairperson to encumber \$175,000 for purchase of needed furniture from donated funds. Motion carried.

**VII. Public comments:** None

**VIII. Board comments:**

- A. Ms. Tetrick – Would like to tour ISD facilities.
- Supt. Geeslin – will schedule a tour after the new Board members are on board.
- B. Ms. Reifel, Vice Chairperson – Would like the Board to be involved with ISD students (lunch, visit the classroom, after school activity, athletic event, etc) to see what it's like to "be in their shoes".
- Supt. Geeslin – will schedule a future dinner, before a School Board meeting, in the 1200 Club Diner.

**IX. Next meeting:** September 19, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. in the Alumni Building, Media Center

- X. Adjournment:** Motion by Ms. DiBenedetto, Chairperson, second by Ms. Witte to adjourn, Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.