-I believe that the pathways will not be voted on to become law and take effect until July. We have juniors in the same boat and with not receiving ISTEP results until mid-June we will not allow ours to walk at graduation.

-Unfortunately, he will not qualify for a waiver. One of the criteria includes taking the test not passed at least once each school year, including the senior year. So the earliest he could qualify for a waiver would be after the first semester of the senior year.

Another option you could look at would be the graduation pathways. The only missing piece is the approved guidance for the employability skills component, which should be approved by the state board in July. However, you could look at box 3 (postsecondary readiness competency) to see if he might qualify for that and also start looking at what we know about box 2. If he meets the graduation pathways option, he could graduate early.

Let me know if you have questions.

Amanda Culhan

-The gentleman I spoke with said we could graduate them with a COC and then bring them in for the summer test which will count as their senior year istep. If they don’t pass we do the waiver or pathway at that time.

-We are going through this right now. We got approval from our board to offer the Pathways diploma to our 3-year grads if they met the criteria. Specifically we have had to define the learning projects and what that looks like for each type of project. Our Asst. Super has been in touch with the DOE to clarify some of our questions. It’s been a rather involved process.

-I do not allow my students to graduate in three years if they have not passed ECA. I didn't think that was even an option for those students.

-We have several students in the same boat. Talking with the DOE, they are allowed to test in the summer window July 23-Aug 17. This window will count towards the senior year. We are just reporting their graduation date as of when they take the test. I do not think that they will be able to qualify for the Mitch Daniels early graduation scholarship as they need to have everything completed by July 1.

-We are moving forward with the pathways model for our 3-year grads and consider it an either/or situation. We will not ask them to take the ISTEP test in July or December if they successfully complete the pathways model since we will have already certified them as graduates. We're meeting with them this week to help them select their "Box #2" and to make sure they have opportunities to check Box #3, as well. Good luck to all of you out there in the same boat!

-Criteria for both the evidence-based and work readiness waivers for the Graduation Exam include taking the “graduation examination in each subject area in which the student did not achieve a passing score at least one time every school year after the school year in which the student first takes the graduation examination”. We have always interpreted this to include the student’s senior year. I was made aware today that one of our offices here had received a different interpretation of this criteria, in that the summer re-test, following the student’s junior year could count. I have asked our legal office here to review this and to let me know if the summer re-test, following the junior year, would meet this criteria. Once I receive that, I will share that will all of you.

As was mentioned, the [graduation pathways](http://www.in.gov/sboe/files/Grad%20Pathways%20-%20Draft%20Pathway%20Recommendations%20-%20final.pdf) may be another option to consider. Legislation passed in March, which does allow students to opt-in to the graduation pathways. The only catch is that we don’t yet have final guidance approved by the State Board, which is scheduled to be presented for approval in July. While you should have all of the information you would need now for boxes 1 (diploma requirements met) and 3 (postsecondary-ready competencies), the guidance will include more details regarding box 2 (employability skills). So until that guidance is approved that piece is a little unclear. State Board staff does have a draft of this (attached) if you’re interested in seeing what they might be looking at for this requirement. **Please note that this is still in draft form and may change**. If you have additional questions, please contact Alicia Kielmovitch at akielmovitch@sboe.in.gov.

Finally, 2018 legislation also included a new waiver option for **seniors** who don’t meet the **postsecondary-ready competency** component (box 3) for the graduation pathways. This waiver option is effective July 1, 2018. The waivers document has been updated to reflect the addition of this waiver option, which you can find [here](https://www.doe.in.gov/sites/default/files/student-assistance/ways-meet-gqe-or-grad-pathways-req-2018-19-final.pdf).

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