

Indiana Department of Education

2020 Legislative Priorities



Student Learning

- Allow for homeless students serviced by McKinney-Vento to access 21st Century Scholar dollars
- Create a more inclusive K-12 environment for students
- Support measures that address the public health epidemic of vaping in student populations
- Increase operational accountability and programmatic quality for virtual schools

School Improvement

- Support hold harmless and urge both SBOE emergency rulemaking for accountability and a pause in the intervention timeline in response to ILEARN
- Support a transparent, single accountability system for Hoosier families
- Advocate for charter school quality by holding authorizers accountable for academic and fiscal responsibilities
- Create more options for child abuse prevention education
- Require all Choice scholarship and charter schools to have at least one school safety specialist; establish a school safety plan; develop a written emergency preparedness plan; and establish a safe school committee
- Align appropriate terminology of Multi-Tiered Systems of Support from prior Response to Intervention model
- Allow teachers serving special education inter-locals or stand-alone career technical education centers to receive Teacher Appreciation Grant dollars
- Make 15 PGP point career awareness requirement optional for teachers
- Require educator preparation programs to prepare new practitioners in state-recognized computer science programs and project-based learning approaches
- Expand Indiana's reciprocity statutes to create more opportunities for out-of-state license holders

Operational Effectiveness

- Consolidate the number of data collection dates, including count dates, for charter schools, traditional corporations, and accredited non-public schools to October 1
- Require new public, charter, and Choice schools to report data via a student information system to IDOE using the Ed-Fi data standards
- Repeal requirement that school buses affix black reflective tape to their bumpers
- Require authorizers of closed charter schools to: 1) be responsible for any overpayment due for tuition support; and/or 2) be responsible for unpaid Common School Loans
- Prohibit an operator of a charter school that closes to operate a new charter school for a period of five years
- Amend IC 20-24-7-9 to require charter school operators and authorizers to be bonded in the event the charter school closes
- Amend IC 20-24-7-4 to require charter school authorizers to retain half of the administration fee in escrow to cover the costs associated with the school closure
- Require charter school governing body to seek approval from the authorizer before entering into a Common School Loan agreement, with the authorizer required to co-sign the Common School Loan