

To: Superintendents, Principals and school leaders

From: Maggie Paino, Director of Accountability, Indiana Department of Education

Date: January 31, 2020

Subject: Publication of 2019 Homeschool Exits Report

Public Law 159-2019 added the requirement that schools with a high percent of students leaving the cohort to attend homeschool must request the state board to allow these students to be removed from the cohort instead of being considered “dropouts” (see IC 20-26-13-10(b)). This requirement will first apply to the 2020 cohort. In preparation for such implementation, the Department has published a “Homeschool Exit Report” for the 2019 cohort including data and information on students who were removed from any public or nonpublic school to attend homeschool. This data is informational only and comes with no consequences for the 2019-2020 accountability year. Schools with 10 or more students in their 2019 graduating cohort are included in the published data file. The report includes the following data elements for each school with a graduating cohort:

- Cohort size
- # of students exiting from the cohort for any reason and not returning to another Indiana school
- # of students in cohort who graduated
- # of students exiting to homeschool
- Timing of homeschool exits
 - # of homeschool exits July 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018
 - # of homeschool exits January 1, 2019 – June 30, 2019
 - # of homeschool exits April 1, 2019 – June 30, 2019
- # of homeschool exiting students who are under credited (fewer than 10 credits at the beginning of their sophomore year, fewer than 20 credits at the beginning of their junior year, fewer than 30 credits at the beginning of their senior year)

This report is now available on the Department’s web site:

<https://www.doe.in.gov/sites/default/files/accountability/2019-homeschool-report-redacted-final.xlsx> . Questions on this report may be directed to schoolaccountability@doe.in.gov.

Please note: A high school must have the signed “Withdraw to Non-Accredited Nonpublic School” form for any student who is removed by a parent to attend homeschool after July 1, 2018. This form was adopted by the State Board of Education in May 2018. This form must be signed and dated by the parent or guardian to acknowledge that the parent understands the requirements and expectations of homeschool, and is officially withdrawing the student to attend homeschool. A student signature is acceptable if the student is at least 18 years of age at the time of withdrawal. This form may be found in the “School Accountability & Accreditation Community” at <https://moodle.doe.in.gov>, in the “Graduation Rate/Resources” folder.