**MEMORANDUM**

To: Indiana School Superintendents and Principals

From: Dr. Jennifer Jensen, Director of Teaching and Learning
Robin LeClaire, Chief of Academics

Date: May 22, 2020

Re: Senate Enrolled Act (SEA) 295 - Indiana Career Explorer Program (2 of 2)

**Background:**

Senate Enrolled Act 295 (2020) requires the Department of Workforce Development (DWD) to implement a new Indiana Career Explorer (ICE) program and to establish the program's requirements. This legislation also expands the teaching of career exploration and preparation models to all students in grades nine through twelve.

**Guidance:**

SEA 295 updates existing statute (IC 20-30-5-14), clarifying that the ICE program and standards can be a software based system that is approved by DWD, not solely an Internet based system. This law also requires DWD begin the process of procuring an ICE program for implementation in July 2021. The new program must provide access to education and career demand information data and education and career assessment tools. These tools must include: 1) an aptitude and career assessment, and 2) be aligned with interdisciplinary employability skills previously adopted by the Indiana State Board of Education. Indiana's current ICE program will remain in effect through June 2021, and no action needs to be taken by schools at this time.

Additionally, this law extends the teaching of career exploration and preparation to students in grades nine through twelve. Previously, career exploration models were required in grades nine and ten, and career preparation models were required in grades eleven and twelve. With this new legislation, both models should be covered in grades nine through twelve. Schools should consider how they will implement this new requirement.

If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Jennifer Jensen by phone at (317) 232-6673 or through email at jjensen@doe.in.gov.

This bill was authored by Senator Jeff Raatz, and the full bill text can be found here. Information regarding how to contact your legislators can be found here.