Dr. Jennifer McCormick
Superintendent of Public Instruction

Working Together for Student Success

TO:	**Superintendents, School Business Officials, Data Reporting Personnel**
FROM:	Dr. John Keller, Chief Technology Officer
RE:	Please Review Data: Reporting Socio-Economic Status (SES) on Pupil Enrollment
DATE:	October 23, 2020

Colleagues:

With the clean-up of Pupil Enrollment (PE) Data collection set to wrap up on October 30 (next Friday), the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) is reminding schools to **look carefully at the percentages reported for Free & Reduced Lunch (F/R) eligibility (Socio Economic Status)**. As stated in Pupil Enrollment reporting guidance available to school data teams, "Eligibility Status must be updated for THE CURRENT SCHOOL YEAR by the end of the PE Update/Cleanup phase. All Real Time and Enrollment Mobility records should reflect the NEW STATUS for the current School Year."

IDOE realizes that many, if not all students, may be eating free lunches in your school and that determining student eligibility may have been challenging this year. At a minimum, please make sure any student who meets eligibility requirements as indicated through Direct Certification is flagged as such in your student information system and reflected in your counts for Pupil Enrollment. Free and Reduced Lunch percentage rates influence funding for many other programs including distribution of curricular materials funds, E-rate discounts, Title I funding, and eligibility for Common School Loans, and in the calculation of the complexity index for school funding. Please note that a school's F/R lunch rate must be tied to actual eligibility and is not the same as the percentage of students eating free meals.

School data personnel have received the first snapshot of the Pupil Enrollment (PE) Data at the end of the day on October 22. These percentages are based on your current Real Time and Enrollment Mobility reporting. We are seeing Direct Certification numbers increase and would expect that many schools will experience increases in their percentages of F/R lunch eligible students. Please address any questions to: https://help.doe.in.gov/.