

SHOW YOUR SUPPORT BY SIGNING

Parents, Teachers and Staff,

Here is some information for you to look over. Our Harris PTA has joined in the In Support drive to show our support for our Indiana Teachers and Staff. Please join you voice with the Indiana PTA's 27'000 voices as we continue to advocate for public education and speack to legislators on behalf of every Indiana student. All you need to do in sign below and we will add your vice to ours. You do not need to be a PTA member to sign. Please return this top form to Harris School by Friday March 25, 2011. Thank you for your time and support.

**Harris PTA President
Lorah L. Weesner**

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THE HISTORY OF THE CITY OF BOSTON

BY SAMUEL JOHNSON

The history of the city of Boston is a subject of great interest and importance. It is a city of great antiquity, and has been the seat of government for many years. The city was founded in 1630, and has since that time been a center of commerce and industry. It has a rich and varied history, and its people have played a prominent part in the history of the United States. The city is situated on a peninsula, and is surrounded by water on three sides. It is a beautiful city, and its harbor is one of the finest in the world. The city is a great center of education, and has many of the best schools in the country. It is also a great center of culture, and has many of the best libraries and museums in the world. The city is a great center of industry, and has many of the best factories and mills in the world. It is a city of great beauty and interest, and its history is a subject of great importance.

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**New charter schools could be launched by mayors, private colleges, teachers, parents,
a state charter board and stand-alone "turnaround academies"**

Bill #	Sponsor/Organizer	Statewide Impact
HB 1002	Allows <u>mayors</u> of 2 nd class cities (populations between 35,000 & 600,000) to sponsor charter schools	Based on the 2010 census, 22 cities have populations in excess of 35,000: Fort Wayne, Evansville, South Bend, Hammond, Bloomington, Gary, Carmel, Muncie, Lafayette, Terre Haute, Anderson, Noblesville, Elkhart, Greenwood, Mishawaka, Lawrence, Kokomo, Jeffersonville, Columbus, Portage, Richmond, New Albany
HB 1002	Creates a new statewide sponsor, the <u>Indiana Charter School Board</u>	<u>No geographic limitations</u> on chartering authority
HB 1002	Allows a <u>nonproprietary private college or university</u> approved by the State Board of Education to sponsor	There are approximately 30 nonproprietary private colleges and universities in Indiana that could become eligible to sponsor charter schools.
HB 1002	Allows <u>the governing body</u> to vote to convert an existing school to a charter school.	Applies to <u>any</u> school; however, the governing body may not serve as the sponsor if the school has been in the two lowest categories under PL 221 for four consecutive years
HB 1002	Allows <u>teachers</u> to convert an existing public school to a charter school if 51% of the teachers sign a petition and the school is in either of the two highest categories under PL 221 for two consecutive years.	There are 530 schools that have been in either of the two highest categories for two consecutive years, including 7 IPS schools. A school converted in this manner may be sponsored by the governing body, a mayor, a public or private university, or the state charter school board.
HB 1002	Allows <u>parents</u> to convert an existing public school to a charter school if 51% of the parents sign a petition	Applies to <u>any</u> school. A school converted in this manner may be sponsored by the governing body, a mayor, a public or private university, or the state charter school board.
HB 1479	Allows a <u>turnaround academy</u> that has achieved its goals and is released by the State Board to apply to a sponsor to become a charter school.	There are 212 schools in 136 school districts that could become turnaround academies in 2011-12 if performance does not improve to a "C" or better.
SB 496	Allows <u>parents</u> to convert an existing public school to a charter school if the school has been in the lowest category for at least six consecutive years and if 51% of the parents sign a petition.	There are 20 schools in Year 5, including 6 IPS schools (Broad Ripple, Manual, Emma Donnan, Howe, George Washington, Northwest). A school converted in this manner may be sponsored by the governing body, a mayor, a public or private university, or the state charter school board.

School districts would be required to sell or lease unused buildings to charter schools for \$1

Bill #	Application	Requirement
HB 1002	Applies to an unused school building; ie, a building in which less than 10% of the square footage is used throughout the school year for direct student instruction and for which no offer to purchase has been executed.	School corporations must grant charter schools access to any school building that has been unused for two consecutive years, unless the school corporation has a plan to reuse the building within a 12-month period. The building (or portion of the building) must either be leased for \$1 per year for a period of 10 years (with a 10 year extension), or sold to the charter school at a price negotiated with the school district. Applies to conversion charter schools initiated by the parent trigger.
HB 1479	Applies to "turnaround academy schools" that are operated by a special management team	The school district must lease the building and its contents to the special management team for \$1 per year; however, long-term contracts for equipment/computers remain the responsibility of the school corporation, which may remove the equipment from the building or sublease it to the special management team. The turnaround academy may also purchase the school by assuming the existing debt or for \$1 if no debt.
SB 446	Applies to school buildings that are on IDOE's list of closed, unused, or unoccupied school buildings, or are not used in whole or part for classroom instruction at the time a charter school seeks to lease the building	<p>A school district must lease an unused school building to a charter school for \$1 per year for as long as the charter school wishes, or sell the building to the charter school for \$1 per year. During the term of a lease, the charter school is responsible for direct expenses related to the building, including utilities, insurance, maintenance, repairs, and remodeling. The school corporation is responsible for any debt incurred for or liens that attached to the building before the start of the lease.</p> <p>The first time a school building appears on IDOE's list, the school district may prevent a sale or lease for two years by indicating that the district may reclaim the building for classroom instruction. At the end of the two year period, the school district has an additional year to reclaim the school.</p> <p>If a charter school either fails to begin instruction by two years after acquiring the school, or vacates the school, the school is placed back on DOE's list and made available for use by other charter schools.</p> <p>If a school building appears on IDOE's list for at 4 years, the school corporation may sell or otherwise dispose of the school building.</p>
SB 496	Applies to a school building that the governing body has decided to sell	The school district must sell the building to another educational institution if the educational institution is the highest bidder.

Traditional public schools lose both state and local funding under reform package

Bill #	Application	Fund(s) affected
HB 1002	Applies to school districts that have students with legal settlement who attend charter schools.	<p>Transportation funding: Requires a pro rata share of the transportation levy to be distributed to charter schools based on the number of 1-8 students and students with disabilities in grades 9-12. Provides an exception if the school corporation agrees to provide free transportation to a student with legal settlement who attends a charter school in the same county.</p> <p>Public schools are already struggling to fund transportation with dwindling property tax dollars. LSA projects that public schools will lose <u>\$179 million</u> in property tax funding to the tax caps in 2011. The previous budget included \$90 million in funding to help offset these losses; however, the House GOP version deletes this funding.</p>
HB 1479	<p>Applies to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools that have been in either of the lowest two categories for six consecutive years, or Schools that have been in either of the lowest two categories for five consecutive years, if 51% of the parents petition the State Board <p>Provides that the school becomes a turnaround academy and may be taken over by the state unless it is closed or merged with another school.</p> <p>211 Indiana schools have been in the lowest two categories for five consecutive years.</p> <p>41 Indiana schools have been in the lowest two categories for four consecutive years.</p>	<p>State & federal funding: Students in turnaround academies are counted in the district's ADM. The State Board will determine the amount of state tuition support and federal funding necessary to fund the intervention, and will withhold that amount from distributions of state and federal funds to the school district. The maximum amount that may be withheld is the total aggregate per pupil funding for the affected students.</p> <p>Transportation & capital projects funding: Turnaround academies would receive a per capita share of transportation and CPF levies. This could create unintended consequences because neither fund is levied on a per capita basis. CPF levies are based on a capital projects plan, and transportation levies are based on an arcane formula that includes miles travelled.</p> <p>If the State Board appoints a special management team for a turnaround academy: (1) the TSO is not bound by teacher employment contracts or the collective bargaining agreement; (2) the school district may not charge above its costs for any services provided to the turnaround academy.</p> <p>When a turnaround academy achieves its goals and is released from the TSO, it becomes an independent school with a board initially appointed by local elected officials and the State Board of Education. This stand-alone school may join an existing school, merge with another school, apply to become a charter school, enter into a contract with a management team or operate the school.</p>

Traditional public schools lose both state and local funding under reform package (cont.)

Bill #		
HB 1003	<p>Provides a private school voucher in the amount of 90% of the state tuition support of the home school corporation for a student who is eligible for free and reduced lunch and a voucher in the amount of 50% for a student whose family has an income up to 200% of the amount required to qualify for free and reduced lunch.</p> <p>Caps the amount at \$4,500 for students enrolled in grades 1-8.</p>	<p>There are currently 283 accredited nonpublic schools in Indiana, including 33 schools in Allen County, 22 in Lake County, 51 in Marion County, and 21 in St. Joseph County. 98% of the accredited nonpublic schools are affiliated with a church or religion.</p> <p>There are currently 20,000 available seats in Indiana nonpublic schools that could be filled with vouchers, according to the Indiana Association of Nonpublic Schools. If all of these seats were filled at the \$4,500 cap, a total of <u>\$90 million</u> in taxpayer funding would shift to nonpublic schools next year.</p>
HB 1002	<p>Deletes the requirement that at least 75% of the students in a virtual charter school must have been included in the ADM count for the previous school year.</p>	
SB 497	<p>Provides a \$3,500 scholarship to a student who graduates from a publicly funded high school at the end of 11th grade. Students must have legal settlement in Indiana and attended a public high school for the past two semesters in order to be eligible.</p>	