

INDIANA COMMISSION for HIGHER EDUCATION

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## Higher Education Commissioner Calls \$111 Million Investment a 'Bold Strategy' for Early Literacy Development in Indiana

**(INDIANAPOLIS)** – <u>Indiana Higher Education Commissioner</u> Chris Lowery extends his congratulations and support to Dr. Katie Jenner and the Indiana Department of Education upon the announcement of the largest-ever investment into early literacy development for Hoosier students.

"This bold strategy reflects the depth of the literacy challenge we face in Indiana, and Dr. Jenner and her team are approaching these issues in a way that is focused on the long-term, while providing an immersive and fundamental experience for our young Hoosiers today. I am confident this investment will be a key to Indiana's success in ensuring students are better prepared for life after high school and in addressing our college-going rate and talent needs so every Hoosier has the opportunity for economic mobility throughout their lives. The Lilly Endowment, state of Indiana and the partners named within this extraordinary action plan deserve significant praise for the innovative solutions they're putting forth to benefit Indiana's students, their families and our society," said Lowery.

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## About the Indiana Commission for Higher Education

Created in 1971, the Indiana Commission for Higher Education plans, coordinates and defines Indiana's postsecondary education system to align higher learning with the needs of students and the state. The Commission also administers Indiana's financial aid programs, including the <u>21st Century Scholars</u> early college promise scholarship, which celebrated 30 years in 2020. Learn more about the Commission's Reaching Higher in a State of Change strategic plan at <u>www.in.gov/che</u>.