



INDIANA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

MEMORANDUM

To: Members, Indiana State Board of Education
From: Ron Sandlin, Senior Director of School Performance & Transformation
Date: October 3, 2018
RE: SBOE School Improvement Intervention Decision - Madison STEAM Academy (7573)

SUMMARY: Pursuant to IC 20-31-9-4(b), the Indiana State Board of Education (“Board”) shall consider options for school improvement for Madison STEAM Academy (7573) within the South Bend Community School Corporation (7205). In considering these options, the Board must determine whether or not any of the options are likely to improve the school, and if so assign that intervention.

HISTORY: The following time line provides an overview of all Board actions pursuant to IC 20-31 for Madison STEAM Academy (7573).

September 13-16 2015	A School Quality Review was conducted by AdvancED at Madison STEAM Academy (7573) as required by IC 20-31-9-2. This review resulted in a comprehensive report that shared findings related to operational and instructional quality at the school.
January 24 2017	The SBOE conducted a public hearing at the school to consider community and stakeholder input concerning the Board’s options for school improvement.
October 4 2017	Madison STEAM Academy (7573) was placed in the lowest category of school improvement, known as ‘F’, status for the sixth consecutive year.
May 2 2018	Representatives from Madison STEAM Academy (7573) provided an update regarding ongoing improvement efforts at the school.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: IC 20-31-9-4 outlines a list of options the Board is authorized to consider for a school that receives six consecutive ‘F’ ratings.

- A. Merging the school with a nearby school that is in a higher category.
- B. Assigning a special management team to operate all or part of the school.
- C. Approving the school corporation's plan to improve the school through creation of a transformation zone.
- D. Approving the school corporation's plan to improve the school through creation of an innovation network school under IC 20-25.7-4.
- E. The department's recommendations for improving the school.
- F. Other options for school improvement expressed at the public hearing.
- G. Closing the school.

The table on page 2 of this memo provides additional detail as to the available options for Madison STEAM Academy (7573), along with an explanation of additional aspects of IC 20-31-9-4 to help define the universe of options available to the Board for this particular school.

Madison STEAM Academy (7573) - South Bend Community School Corporation (7205)

Applicable Options

<p>Special Management Team Assigning a special management team to operate all or part of the school.</p>
<p>Other Improvement Options Other options for school improvement expressed at the public hearing.</p>
<p>Closing the school.</p>
<p>School Merger Merging the school with a nearby school that is in a higher category.</p>
<p>IDOE Recommendation The department's recommendations for improving the school.</p>

Non-Applicable Options

<p>Transformation Zone (TZ) Approving the school corporation's plan to create a transformation zone.</p>	<p>○ Not Applicable – School Corp did not submit a TZ Plan</p>
<p>Innovation Network School Approving the school corporation's plan to creation of an innovation network school under <u>IC 20-25.7-4</u>.</p>	<p>○ Not Applicable – School Corp did not submit an Innovation Network Agreement.</p>

Additional Considerations

IC 20-31-9-4(b)(2) – SBOE determination that that intervention will improve the school.

The SBOE has the discretion as to whether or not to assign an intervention. Board staff has taken the position that this remains an explicit action of the Board. Therefore, this determination would also require a Board vote.

IC 20-31-9-4(c) - The SBOE may delay interventions under this section for one (1) year if the affected school demonstrates that, despite remaining in the lowest category or designation, a majority of students in the school demonstrated academic improvement during the preceding school year.

This section only applies to performance data from the 16/17 school year. There are two key pieces of the legislation that inform this determination: 1) That this section applies to a school that receives a fifth consecutive 'F' after initial placement; and, 2) the section includes the phrase, "despite remaining in the lowest category." Therefore, this action is not applicable to this school.