



INDIANA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

To: Indiana State Board of Education
From: Philip Gordon, General Counsel
Date: June 9, 2025
RE: **Latch Key Program Waiver – Pike County School Corporation**

Recommendation: Approve the Latch Key Program Waiver Request

Pike County School Corporation (“Pike County”) is seeking a waiver from the latch key program requirement for the 2025-2026 school year. Approval by the Indiana State Board of Education (“Board”) is required for Latch Key Program Waivers under IC 20-26-5-2.

School-age child care programs, commonly known as Latch Key Programs, are programs that provide care and education for children of working parents. This program is designed to be a link between the home and the school. Certified, qualified and experienced childcare providers supervise, teach and interact with children to ensure that they are cared for, supervised, exposed to many learning activities, allowed to complete homework and share enjoyment in a relaxed and carefully designed developmentally appropriate environment.

Pursuant to IC 20-26-5-2(c), a school corporation may seek a waiver from the childcare program requirement if the school corporation believes compliance with the requirement would result in “undue hardship.” To receive a waiver, the school corporation must include a detailed description of the school corporation’s attempt to implement a childcare program, including the following:

- (1) A description of the steps taken to:
 - (A) conduct a childcare program described in subsection (a)(1); or
 - (B) actively solicit nonprofit organizations or for-profit organizations to implement a childcare program as provided in subsection (a)(2)
- (2) Evidence that a request in writing was made to each parent to contact the school corporation to indicate the parent’s willingness to use a childcare program and documentation of the results received from parents.

Pike County has provided the required documentation. As such, Pike County’s request for a Latch Key Program Waiver should be approved.



Indiana Department of Education

Dr. Katie Jenner, Secretary of Education

WAIVER FORM

Indiana State Board of Education
School-Age Child-Care Program Waiver
Submission Date: 7/9/25

Deadline: September 1st (Annually)

Pike County School Corporation requests a waiver of the requirement that it make a school-age child- care program available to all children in Kindergarten through Grade Six as required by IC 20-26-5-2, because the school corporation would experience an undue hardship due to the low number of eligible children intending to use the child care program. In support of this request, the school corporation submits the following detailed description of its attempt to implement a child care/latchkey program:

1. A description of the steps taken by the school corporation to conduct a latch-key program or to actively solicit other nonprofit organizations or for-profit organizations to implement the program as described in IC 20-26-5-2(a). [IC 20-26-5- 2(c)(1)]
2. Evidence that a request in writing was made to all parents to contact the school corporation to indicate their willingness to utilize the latch-key program. Attach a copy of the survey along with documentation of the results received from parents in this regard. [IC 20-26-5-2(c)(2)]
3. The nature of the hardship that the school corporation would experience due to a low number of eligible children intending to utilize the services of the latch-key program, as described in item 2 of this request, regardless of whether the latch-key program is conducted by the school or under a contractual agreement. [IC 20-26-5-2(c)]

The school corporation believes that the hardship described in item 3 of this request constitutes an undue hardship, and requests that the Indiana State Board of Education grant a waiver of the requirements of IC 20-26-5-2 for the 2025-2026 school year.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dana Deffendoll".

(Superintendent's Signature)

Dana Deffendoll, Assistant Superintendent
(Superintendent's Name Printed)

211 S 12th Street
(Address)

Petersburg 47567
(City) (Zip)

(812) 354-8731
(Area Code) (Telephone number)



PIKE COUNTY SCHOOL CORPORATION

211 S 2th Street, Petersburg, Indiana 47567

pcsc.k12.in.us

Phone: 812-354-8731

Fax: 812-354-8733

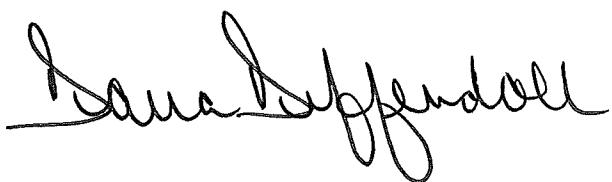
INDIANA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION SCHOOL-AGE CHILD-CARE PROGRAM WAIVER

Pike County School Corporation requests a waiver of the requirement that it make a school-age childcare program available to all children in K-6, as required by IC 20-26-5-2. The corporation submits the following detailed information to support this request:

1. *A description of the steps taken by the school corporation to conduct a latch key program or solicit other not-for-profit organizations or for-profit organizations to implement the program, as described in IC 20-26-5-2(a). [IC 20-26-5-2(c)(1)]*
 - a. PCSC Conducted Program:
 - i. PCSC sought parent input, via survey, regarding the feasibility of a Latchkey Program for the 2025-2026 school year. The survey was distributed in May 2025, with little interest shown by parents. Of the 2,042 surveys sent, only 26 responses were returned, including a total of 37 possible attendees.
 - ii. Based upon these results, we then calculated an average hourly cost for a teacher to operate the program while maintaining a 1:10 teacher:student ratio.
 - iii. Possible revenue totals were also generated, using the fees that parents indicated they would be willing and able to pay for their child to attend PCSC's Latchkey program.
 - iv. Lastly, the potential revenue was compared with the cost of staffing the program. A significant loss was predicted within all 3 of the scenarios that were generated to determine financial feasibility.
 - v. Conclusion: There was not enough interest or financial support to operate a Latchkey program.
 - b. Other Organization Conducted Program:
 - i. There are no organizations within the district that are interested in hosting a program. To ensure all possibilities have been explored, we've even sought partnerships outside of our county lines. During the 2022-2023 school year, an organization within a neighboring county, Daviess County YMCA, agreed to host an afterschool program in Petersburg Elementary School, which was open to all K-6 students in our district. Unfortunately, DCYMYCA was forced to end the program in December 2022, due to lack of enrollment.

2. *Evidence that a request in writing was made to all parents to contact the school corporation to indicate their willingness to utilize the latch-key program. Attach a copy of the survey along with documentation of the results received from parents in this regard. [IC 20-26-5-2(c)(2)]*
 - a. Survey: A survey was sent on May 15, 2025 to all parents of K-6 students, to measure potential participation in a latchkey program for the 2025-2026 school year. Thrillshare, our communication platform, tracks data that confirms this was successfully sent to 2,042 parents of students within Winslow Elementary, Petersburg Elementary, and Pike Central Middle School.
 - b. Survey Results: Of the 2,042 parents who received the survey, only 26 of these responded to indicate any interest in a latchkey program. Based on these responses, our maximum possible participation would be 37 students out of the 864 students within grades K-6.
3. *The nature of the hardship that the school corporation would experience due to a low number of eligible children intending to utilize the services of the latch-key program, as described in item 2 of this request, regardless of whether the latch-key program is conducted by the school or under a contractual agreement. [IC 20-26-5-2(c)]*
 - a. Staffing Costs: To accurately estimate program costs, an average hourly rate was calculated, based on the hourly rates of all Elementary and Middle School teachers. This rate, plus the related FICA and TRF expenses, resulted in an anticipated average expense of \$58.65 per hour, per teacher.
 - b. Program Cost Estimate: Three scenarios are included, to cover a variety of options and ensure no feasible option is overlooked. The scenarios are based on the fee parents indicated they would be willing to pay for the childcare. The highest fee resulted in the lowest losses, but each scenario still returned a loss for the corporation. If we also considered the cost of any food, supplies, utilities, or miscellaneous expenses, these losses would continue to rise.

The attached evidence, as detailed above, has led to the conclusion that the parents of Pike County School Corporation students are not interested in the latchkey program and/or have no need for the program. Pursuing the program with this lack of participation would not be economically feasible and would create an undue financial hardship for the corporation. Therefore, we respectfully request the Indiana State Board of Education grant a waiver of the requirement of IC 20-26-5-2 for the 2025-2026 school year.



Dana Deffendoll,
Assistant Superintendent
Pike County School Corporation

2025 PCSC Latch Key Interest Survey

2a.

If you are interested in a latch key program for your K-6 student, please complete this survey by MAY 30, 2025. The results of this survey will help us determine the interest and feasibility of a latch key program for next school year.

Details:

- A latchkey program would provide child care services from the time school ends until 6:00 pm, 5 days per week.
- A fee **would** be charged, since the program must pay for itself. We do not know the amount of that fee at this time, since it would be based upon the number of students enrolled.
- Transportation will **not** be provided from the program to each student's home in the afternoon. The program may be held at any of our 3 school locations.

Only one survey is needed per household and all individual responses will be kept confidential.

Thank you!

ddeffendoll@pcsc.k12.in.us Switch account



 Not shared

* Indicates required question

Parent's Name *

Your answer

Address *

Your answer



Phone Number *

Your answer

Email *

Your answer

Number of children in each grade level that would participate in a latch key program.

	1	2	3	4	5 or more
Kindergarten	<input type="checkbox"/>				
First Grade	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Second Grade	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Third Grade	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Fourth Grade	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Fifth Grade	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Sixth Grade	<input type="checkbox"/>				



What is the maximum amount per child that you would be willing and able to pay * for child care?

- \$30/week
- \$40/week
- \$50/week
- \$60/week
- \$70/week
- \$80/week

Which school does your eligible K-6 child attend? (select all that apply) *

- Winslow Elementary
- Petersburg Elementary
- Pike Central Middle School

Submit

Clear form

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Google Forms



2025 SURVEY RESULTS

Timestamp	Number of children in each grade level that would participate in a latch key program. [First Kindergarten]	Number of children in each grade level that would participate in a latch key program. [Second Grade]	Number of children in each grade level that would participate in a latch key program. [Third Grade]	Number of children in each grade level that would participate in a latch key program. [Fourth Grade]	Number of children in each grade level that would participate in a latch key program. [Fifth Grade]	Number of children in each grade level that would participate in a latch key program. [Sixth Grade]	What is the maximum amount per child that you would be willing and able to pay for child care?	Which school does your eligible K-6 child attend? (select all that apply)
5/15/2025 14:52:46	1	1	1	1	1	1	\$30/week	Petersburg Elementary
5/15/2025 14:53:26	1	1	2	1	1	1	\$30/week	Winslow Elementary
5/15/2025 14:53:57	1	1	1	1	1	1	\$30/week	Petersburg Elementary
5/15/2025 14:56:39	1	1	2	1	1	1	\$30/week	Winslow Elementary
5/15/2025 14:57:21								
5/15/2025 14:59:19							\$70/week	Petersburg Elementary
5/15/2025 14:59:59							\$70/week	Petersburg Elementary
5/15/2025 15:16:24							\$40/week	Petersburg Elementary
5/15/2025 15:24:47							\$80/week	Petersburg Elementary
5/15/2025 15:28:32							\$80/week	Petersburg Elementary
5/15/2025 16:04:13	1	1	1	1	1	1	\$80/week	Petersburg Elementary
5/15/2025 16:41:36								
5/15/2025 16:42:10							\$30/week	Petersburg Elementary
5/15/2025 17:09:44							\$60/week	Petersburg Elementary
5/15/2025 18:15:52							\$30/week	Petersburg Elementary
5/15/2025 18:44:57	1	2	1	1	1	1	\$50/week	Petersburg Elementary
5/15/2025 20:57:03							\$30/week	Petersburg Elementary
5/15/2025 20:59:24							\$70/week	Petersburg Elementary
5/16/2025 7:35:19							\$30/week	Petersburg Elementary
5/16/2025 8:41:39							\$50/week	Winslow Elementary
5/16/2025 15:35:45	1	1	1	1	1	1	\$80/week	Petersburg Elementary
5/19/2025 8:32:10	1	1	1	1	1	1	\$30/week	Winslow Elementary
5/20/2025 11:38:24							\$30/week	Petersburg Elementary
5/22/2025 23:49:30							\$50/week	Petersburg Elementary
5/25/2025 9:13:51							\$30/week	Petersburg Elementary

Staffing Costs

3a.

Avg. Hourly Pay	FICA/hour (7.65%)	TRF/hour (9.5%)	TOTAL Hourly Cost
\$50.06	\$3.83	\$4.76	\$58.65
Teachers included for average hourly rate (Elementary & MS_Gen.Ed & Special Ed)	Hourly rates of these teachers	Teachers included for average hourly rate (Elementary & MS_Gen.Ed & Special Ed)	Hourly rates of these teachers
	\$37.36		\$48.90
	\$37.36		\$48.90
	\$37.36		\$49.81
	\$38.95		\$49.81
	\$38.95		\$49.81
	\$38.95		\$50.71
	\$38.95		\$50.71
	\$38.95		\$51.62
	\$38.95		\$51.62
	\$39.85		\$51.62
	\$39.85		\$51.62
	\$39.85		\$51.62
	\$40.76		\$52.53
	\$40.76		\$52.53
	\$40.76		\$52.53
	\$41.66		\$53.43
	\$42.57		\$53.43
	\$42.57		\$56.15
	\$43.47		\$56.15
	\$43.47		\$57.05
	\$44.38		\$58.86
	\$44.38		\$58.86
	\$44.38		\$58.86
	\$44.38		\$58.86
	\$45.28		\$60.67
	\$45.28		\$61.58
	\$45.28		\$61.58
	\$45.28		\$62.48
	\$45.28		\$62.48
	\$46.19		\$62.48
	\$46.19		\$62.48
	\$46.19		\$63.39
	\$46.19		\$63.39
	\$46.68		\$63.39
	\$47.09		\$63.39
	\$47.09		\$72.80
	\$48.00		\$72.80
	\$48.00		\$72.80
	\$48.90		
	\$48.90	AVERAGE:	\$50.06

LATCH KEY PROGRAM COST ESTIMATES - 2025			
SCENARIO #1 - LOWEST FEE & ALL INTERESTED STUDENTS			
# of Teachers Needed (1:10 ratio)		4	
Hourly Cost (Avg.)		\$58.65	
	Total Hourly Cost	\$234.60	
	# Hours per week (2.5/day)	12.5	
		Total Cost Per Week	\$2,932.50
# K-6 Students (survey responses)	37		
Weekly Income per student	\$30.00		
		Total Weekly Income	\$1,110.00
		Weekly Loss	-\$1,822.50
		Total Annual Loss (36 school weeks)	-\$65,610.00
SCENARIO #2 - \$40 FEE & STUDENTS WILLING TO PAY THIS FEE			
# of Teachers Needed (1:10 ratio)		2	
Hourly Cost (Avg.)	\$58.65		
	Total Hourly Cost	\$117.30	
	# Hours per week (2.5/day)	12.5	
		Total Cost Per Week	\$1,466.25
# K-6 Students (survey responses)	14		
Weekly Income per student	\$40.00		
		Total Weekly Income	\$560.00
		Weekly Loss	-\$906.25
		Total Annual Loss (36 school weeks)	-\$32,625.00
SCENARIO #3 - \$60 FEE & STUDENTS WILLING TO PAY THIS FEE			
# of Teachers Needed (1:10 ratio)		1	
Hourly Cost (Avg.)	\$58.65		
	Total Hourly Cost	\$58.65	
	# Hours per week (2.5/day)	12.5	
		Total Cost Per Week	\$733.13
# K-6 Students (survey responses)	9		
Weekly Income per student	\$60.00		
		Total Weekly Income	\$540.00
		Weekly Loss	-\$193.13
		Total Annual Loss (36 school weeks)	-\$6,952.50