



Indiana Department of Education

Dr. Katie Jenner, Secretary of Education

To: Indiana State Board of Education
From: Office of School Accountability
Date: June 1, 2022
Subject: Accreditation Petition for International Soccer Academy of America

This memorandum provides a summary of the information provided by International Soccer Academy of America in its petition for performance-based accreditation and the final recommendation from the Indiana Department of Education (Department) regarding the accreditation of International Soccer Academy of America.

Background & Demographic Information

International Soccer Academy of America is in Mishawaka, Indiana and primarily serves students in northern Indiana. The mission of the school is to provide a challenging academic and athletic experience, and a place where the committed student athlete can excel.

In spring 2021, International Soccer Academy of America submitted an application for immediate accreditation, but the request was denied. The school did operate through the 2021-22 school year, providing in-person instruction to students with a virtual option only if needed.

International Soccer Academy of America primarily serves soccer players but does enroll students who do not play soccer. The school projects that it will enroll at least 45 students in grade 9 through grade 12 during the 2022-23 school year. Over the next five (5) years, the school intends to expand its student population and cap enrollment at 160 students.

Operations

Facilities: International Soccer Academy of America is located at 205 West Edison Road, Mishawaka, Indiana. The building is approximately 35,000 square feet and is a former YMCA facility. The facility has demonstrated compliance with applicable building codes, fire prevention codes, local zoning codes, and health and safety requirements.

Tuition: In its 2021-22 petition for accreditation, International Soccer Academy of America failed to provide a set amount for tuition and fees. In its 2022-23 petition for accreditation, International Soccer Academy of America clearly established a set amount for tuition and fees. Specifically, annual tuition and fees total \$24,900 per student, which includes academics, facility use, travel, and college tours. International Soccer Academy of America indicated that it intends to participate in the Indiana Choice Scholarship program.

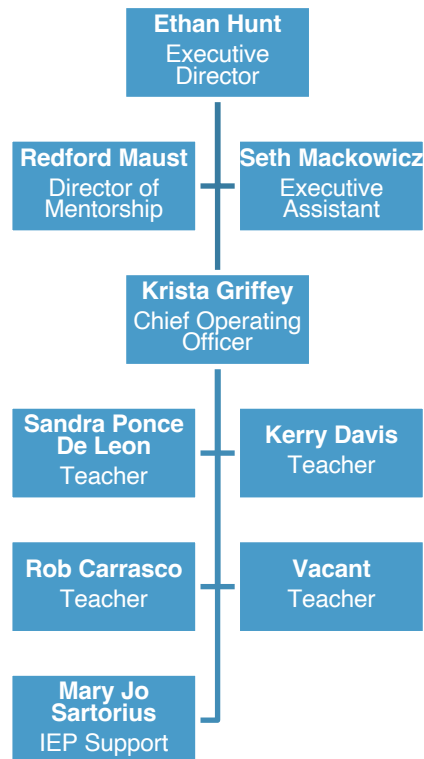
Staffing: The governing board for International Soccer Academy of America consist of nine (9) voting members and three (3) non-voting members. The board serves to help fundraise, set and monitor the budget, and work to actively participate in local community outreach and service.



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The administrative structure for International Soccer Academy of America is as follows:



Ethan Hunt serves as the Executive Director of International Soccer Academy of America. In this role, Mr. Hunt oversees the general management of the school, student and parent relations, and athletic experiences. Mr. Hunt holds a bachelor's and master's degree in Sports Management.

Krista Griffey serves as the Chief Operating Officer of International Soccer Academy of America. In this role, Ms. Griffey coordinates the school's financial and budget activities, promotes operational efficiency, and oversees school programming such as schedules, policies, and curriculum.

International Soccer Academy of America projects to increase teaching staff by at least two (2) teachers in the first five (5) years of operations.

Academic Programming

International Soccer Academy of America aims to prepare students for their post-high school lives and equip students with the tools necessary to succeed. Students are expected to complete all requirements for the Indiana Core 40 diploma. The school also partners with local companies offering exposure to careers in certain trades. Lastly, the school offers multiple business classes to teach students how to run and manage their own business.



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Coursework provided by International Soccer Academy of America aligns with the graduation requirements prescribed by Indiana's Core 40 curriculum. In its 2021-22 petition for accreditation, International Soccer Academy of America failed to sufficiently demonstrate curricular alignment with Indiana's academic standards. In its 2022-23 petition for accreditation, International Soccer Academy successfully demonstrated alignment of all courses and curriculum with Indiana's academic standards.

Each school year begins with placement tests for new students. Teacher-developed assessments are administered throughout the year to assess student progress. International Soccer Academy of America indicated its ability to administer the SAT assessment, pursuant to state requirements.

International Soccer Academy of America partners with Bethel University's REACH program, which offers dual enrollment for students who wish to earn college credits, as well as community partners and local companies. Specifically, International Soccer Academy of America collaborates with Lincoln Plumbing & Drain Cleaning; Korhorn Financial Group, Inc.; Rackley Restoration; and Lippert Components to provide training in the workforce for students.

International Soccer Academy of America also implements a mindfulness curriculum for students to focus on the mental side of their academic and athletic performance.

Department Recommendation

Each petition for nonpublic school accreditation is reviewed and scored based on an established rubric where a school may earn a score between 0.0 and 4.0. The Department recommends for approval a petition receiving a final score of 3.0 or higher. International Soccer Academy of America received a final score of 3.2 out of 4.0 possible points.

While International Soccer Academy of America submitted a petition for accreditation in spring 2021 and was denied, the Department reviewed the current petition and found that any deficiencies precluding approval of the first petition were sufficiency addressed and rectified in the current petition.

Therefore, the Department recommends that International Soccer Academy of America be afforded full state performance-based accreditation as a nonpublic school in Indiana.