

MEMORANDUM

TO: Indiana State Board of Education
FROM: Office of School Accountability, Indiana Department of Education
RE: Placement of 2016-17 A-F Accountability Grades for Gary Community School Corporation
DATE: February 7, 2018

Action Regarding School Accountability

Pursuant to IC 20-31-8-4(a) and (b), the Indiana State Board of Education (Board) shall place each school in a category or designation of school performance once annually based on the Indiana Department of Education's (Department) findings from the assessment of performance and academic growth so long as each school had the opportunity to review, add to, or supplement the data, and to correct any errors in the data; and the Board's staff had an opportunity to review and analyze corporation, school, and student level data.

Each school was provided the opportunity to review, add to, or supplement its data used to calculate A-F grades through the Department's A-F audit process. Additionally, the Department provided corporation, school, and student level data to the Board staff to review and analyze.

The Department conducted additional review of the data for Gary Community School Corporation. The Department completed this review in January 2018, which focused mainly on Frankie W McCullough Academy for Girls (McCullough). McCullough is a school within the Gary Community School Corporation that serves students in kindergarten through 8th grade. Pursuant to 511 IAC 6.2-10-3, the accountability determination for a school with grades 3 through 8 shall be based on the performance and growth domains. The performance and growth domains are based on the results of eligible students at the school. (see 511 IAC 6.2-10-4 and 5) 511 IAC 6.2-10-1(15) defines an eligible student as a student who is enrolled for at least 162 days during the school year being assessed, and who is tested on the statewide assessment and receives a valid test result on the statewide assessment.

Due to evidence of testing irregularities retrieved from the Department's review, all test results of students in grades 3 through 8 at McCullough were invalidated for the 2016-17 school year. As such, no eligible students were available for the Department to calculate a score for either the performance or growth domain. Therefore, no determination of a letter grade could be made by the Department pursuant to 511 IAC 6.2-10, which ultimately resulted in the designation of a "null" for McCullough's 2016-17 accountability determination.

The Department recommends the Board place the schools within the Gary Community School Corporation in the A-F categories based on the Department's findings for the 2017 school year, as outlined in the table below. The recommendation regarding McCullough's letter grade is based on the Department's findings regarding testing irregularities during the 2017 administration of the ISTEP+ assessment at the school.

School Name	16/17 Grade	16/17 Points
Benjamin Banneker Achievement Center	B	80.1
Beveridge Elementary School	F	38.8
Dr. Bernard C Watson Academy for Boys	F	30.4
Frankie W McCullough Academy for Girls	NULL	NULL
Jefferson Elementary School	F	33.4
Bailly Preparatory Academy	F	41.6
New Tech Innovative Institute	F	48.0
Jacques Marquette Elementary School	D	62.2
Glen Park Academy for Excellence in Learning	F	51.3
West Side Leadership Academy	B	88.5
William A Wirt/Emerson VPA	B	80.2
Daniel Hale Williams Elementary School	F	42.2

Action Regarding Corporation Accountability

Pursuant to 511 IAC 6.2-10-8, the Board shall assign each school corporation an overall performance and growth category. The Department recommends the Board assign Gary Community School Corporation an A-F category based on the Department’s findings for the 2017 school year.

School Corporation	16/17 Grade	16/17 Points
Gary Community School Corporation	D	60.3