



INDIANA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

To: Indiana State Board of Education

From: Chad E. Ranney, Deputy General Counsel – Indiana State Board of Education

Date: September 2, 2020

Re: Latch Key Program Waiver Request – South Ripley Community School Corporation

Recommendation: Approve the Latch Key Program Waiver Request.

South Ripley Community School Corporation (“South Ripley”) is seeking approval of a school-age child care program requirement waiver for the 2020-2021 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 which 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 child care 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.

A school corporation may seek a waiver from the child care program requirement if the school corporation believes compliance with the requirement would result in “undue hardship.” IC 20-26-5-2(c) explains:

(c) A school corporation shall receive a waiver from the state board of the requirement under subsection (a) if the school corporation believes that the school corporation would experience an undue hardship due to a low number of eligible children intending to use a child care program, regardless of whether the child care program is conducted by the school corporation or under a contractual agreement. **To receive a waiver, the school corporation must include a detailed description of the school corporation’s attempt to implement a child care program including the following:**

(1) A description of the steps taken to:

(A) conduct a child care program described in subsection (a)(1); or

(B) actively solicit nonprofit organizations or for-profit organizations to implement a child care 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 child care program and documentation of the results received from parents.

In other words, to be eligible for such a waiver, the school corporation must demonstrate that it has made a good-faith effort to determine the feasibility of creating such a program as well as parent interest in utilizing a Latch Key program.

The Indiana Department of Education’s (“Department”) publicized deadline for all waiver requests is September 1 of each year.¹ South Ripley’s Latch Key program waiver request was submitted prior to the deadline.

South Ripley provided all supporting documentation required, including:

- A written description of the steps taken to determine the feasibility of a Latch Key program and/or to actively solicit other non-profit or for-profit organizations to implement the program.
- 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 and documentation of any parental survey results.
- Analysis of parent interest and projected attendance from the implementation of such a program.
- The nature of the hardship that the school corporation would experience due to a low number of eligible children intending to utilize the Latch Key program services.

The Department has deferred to the Board’s discretion for approval or rejection of South Ripley’s waiver requests for the 2020-2021 school year.

Recommendation: Because IC 20-26-5-2(c) states that a “school corporation shall receive a waiver” if it provides the information outlined in the statute, Board staff recommends granting the waiver.

¹ See <https://www.doe.in.gov/21stccle/latch-keyschool-age-child-care-program>.

INDIANA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION ACTION

The Indiana State Board of Education, at its September 2, 2020 meeting, approved South Ripley Community School Corporation's request for a waiver submitted to the Board pursuant to IC 20-26-5-2.

Chad E. Ranney
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INDIANA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

WAIVER FORM

Indiana State Board of Education
School-Age Child-Care Program Waiver
Submission Date: 8/12/2020

Deadline: September 1th (Annually)

South Ripley Community Schools 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 2020/2021 school year.

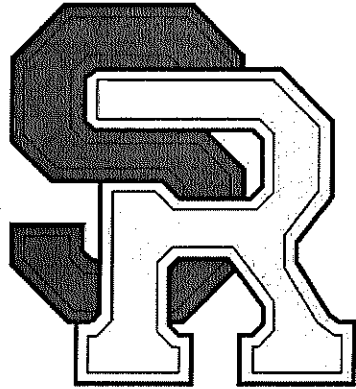
Robert D. Moorhead
(Superintendent's Signature)

Robert D. Moorhead
(Superintendent's Name Printed)

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(City) (Zip)

812-689-6282
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South Ripley Community
School Corporation

Latchkey Program Request
for Waiver for the 2020 -
2021 school year.

Indiana State Board of Education School Age Child Care Program Waiver

South Ripley Community School Corporation requests a waiver of the requirement that it make a school age child care program available to all children in K-6 as required by IC 20-26-5-1. The corporation submits the following detailed information that is required by law to support the request.

1. A description of the steps taken by the school corporation to conduct a latchkey program or solicit other not-for-profit organizations or for-profit organizations to implement the program. IC 20-26-5-1.

Discussions were held with a local preschool, Children of Hope preschool, about continuing their latchkey program. Children of Hope preschool is continuing their program, and South Ripley Community Schools is providing transportation to their location for any student who enrolls in their program.

A survey was sent to all parents of students in grades K-6 on January 24, 2020. The survey was also posted on the South Ripley Parent Facebook page.

Results of the latchkey survey:

570 distributed

555 no response

_15__ interested

- A. Evidence is provided that a request was made to all parents, in writing, concerning the latchkey program.
- B. The results of the 2020-2021 survey indicate that South Ripley Community School Corporation does not have enough interest in a latchkey program to financially support a latchkey program.

January 24, 2020

ROCKIN' RAIDER NEWS

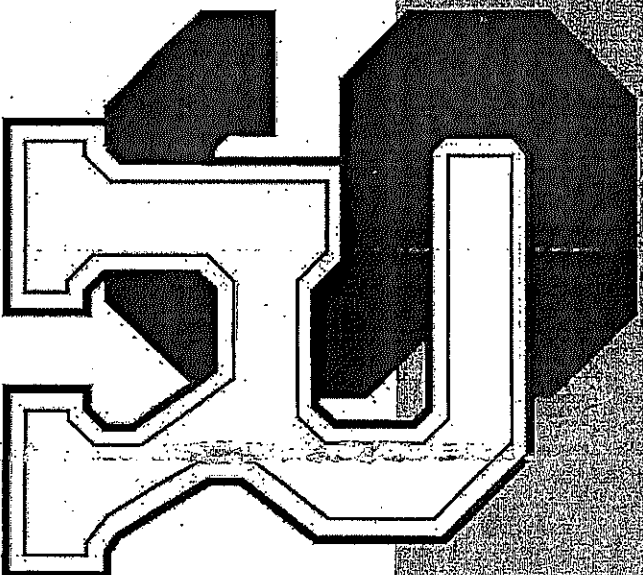
"South Ripley educates students today, to become responsible citizens of tomorrow."

Amy Linkel - Principal

Ryan Lauber - Assistant Principal



1568 South Benham Road Versailles, IN 47042 (812) 689-5383 (812) 689-6415 - fax

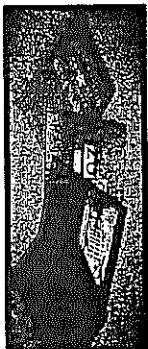




January 27
Terry Hall Parent Meeting at 6:00 PM
February 17
Presidents' Day- NO SCHOOL- POSSIBLE SNOW MAKE-UP DAY
February 26-28
SMILE Program-Preventative Care
March 2 - 5
GR. 4 Swimming at YMCA
April 13-17
SRES BOOK FAIR

PARENT INFORMATION

Our School is required to survey parents each year to see if there is a need for an after school care program for children in grades K-6. There would be a registration fee and weekly fees for such a program. Our corporation has not committed itself to provide these services at this time. Parents who would like more information are asked to contact the elementary school office by Friday, February 14, 2020.



2019-20 SRES YEARBOOKS

Forms to order your 2019 - 20 yearbooks will be sent home soon. There are several packages available ranging from \$18.00 to \$26.00. Stay tuned for order forms coming home soon!!



Did you know that SRES has its own YouTube channel? Each day we post our morning announcements, as well as other videos that pertain to SRES. Follow this link to check out our channel.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCC18Q6iNo1geqKI9rxLmNg>

