



INDIANA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

To: Indiana State Board of Education
From: Chad E. Ranney, General Counsel – Indiana State Board of Education
Date: December 15, 2021
RE: **Motion to Rescind SBOE Action with Respect to “Good Cause” and Approve Findings of Excessive Homeschool Exit Audit**

Recommendation: (1) Approve the Motion to Rescind, as outlined in this memo; and (2) Approve the Motion to Adopt the revised parameters necessary for demonstrating “good cause,” as outlined in this memo, and adopt the IDOE audit findings consistent with the revised parameters.

On July 14, 2021, the Indiana State Board of Education (“Board”) adopted a process for implementing IC 20-26-13-10(b) that defined the parameters necessary for demonstrating “good cause” for purposes of determining whether a student that was removed from the 2021 graduation cohort should actually be removed or whether they should be returned to that cohort and classified as a “dropout” for reporting purposes only.¹ Under the Board approved process, a school successfully demonstrates “good cause” if:

1. The high school provides Board-adopted “withdrawal to non-accredited nonpublic school” form required under IC 20-33-2-28.6, signed and dated by the parent and explicitly indicating the pursuance of homeschool; and
2. The high school provides documentation demonstrating that the student was “on track” to graduate at the time the student was mobilized to home school.²

The Indiana Department of Education (“Department”) conducted the audits required under IC 20-26-13-10(b) pursuant to the approved definition of “on track” from the July 14, 2021, memo. The findings from this audit are included in the table provided on page 2 of this memo. Based on the Board’s approved definition of “on-track”, 1,107 students that were originally removed from the 2021 graduation cohort would be returned to the cohort and classified as “dropouts.”

Should the Board wish to revisit (1) its approved parameters for “good cause” for the 2020-2021 cohort it may do so via a Motion to Rescind its July 14th action. After the Board’s actions have been rescinded, a motion to adopt new “good cause” parameters and the Department’s audit findings consistent with those parameters is required.

Step 1: Motion to Rescind Board’s July 14th action with respect to the definition of “good cause” and excessive homeschool exits audit review standards.

Step 2: Motion to Adopt the following parameters necessary for demonstrating “good cause” for purposes of determining whether a student that was removed from the 2021 graduation cohort should actually be removed or whether they should be returned to that cohort and classified as a “dropout” and approve the Department’s audit findings pursuant to the revised parameters.

1. The high school provides the Board-adopted “withdrawal to non-accredited nonpublic school” form required under IC 20-33-2-28.6, signed and dated by the parent and explicitly indicating the pursuance of homeschool.

As a result of this action, 493 students that were originally removed from the 2021 graduation cohort would be returned to the cohort and classified as “dropouts.”

¹ See July 14, 2021 Memo – [Process for IC 20-26-13-10\(b\)](#).

² “On track” is further defined in the July 14, 2021 Memo – [Process for IC 20-26-13-10\(b\)](#).



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Summary of Department's Audit Findings: The following tables outline the audit findings associated with the original approved definition of "on track" from the July 14, 2021 memo and the findings should the Board choose to rescind their July 14 action and adopt the revised definition of "on-track" as is outlined in the memo.

July 14 "on-track" parameters		Revised "on-track" parameters
1,554	Number of Students audited	1,554
447	Total Number of Sufficient Findings	1,061
1,107	Total Number of Insufficient Findings (add back to cohort)	493
493	Total Number of Insufficient Documentation	493
614	Not on Track as of exit	-
