



Indiana State Board of Education
Request for Freeway School Accreditation
Board Date: August 1, 2012

School: Faith Academy

Education Director: April Morrow

Address: 7601 Whitcomb Street
Merrillville, IN 46410

Grade Span: K-5

Public/Private: Private

Current Enrollment: 28

Targeted Population: Families seeking a quality, private faith-based education.

The following executive summary has been compiled by the Office of School Accreditation for use by the Indiana State Board of Education. It includes information presented by the school during the accreditation process, potential legal standard issues, and any other information collected during the process that may impact accreditation.

Identity: Faith Academy is an educational ministry of Faith Temple of Christ church, located in Merrillville. The school began August 20, 2011 with 5 students and 2 teachers. The school is growing with a projected enrollment for the 2012-2013 school year of 28 students. Faith Academy's vision is to provide the best culturally diverse environment with academic excellence.

Curriculum: Faith Academy uses the ABeka curriculum which is an accredited comprehensive program for Kindergarten through grade 12. It is an academically challenging curriculum that features high quality instruction. The assessments are specially designed to ensure academic integrity, understanding and application. Faith Academy's curriculum has the Indiana Academic Core Standards, (now the Common Core Standards), as its academic base, ensuring that what is being taught is meeting those standards. The Indiana State Common Core Standards are infused into the ABeka curriculum to make it a more comprehensive and viable curriculum for the students.

Testing History: Faith Academy has had limited student enrollment in the past 12 months and no testing history exists. They look forward to administering ISTEP+.



Staffing: The teaching staff has several members holding Master's degrees. Many are licensed in Indiana or Illinois and several more are in teacher education programs with degrees expected in the next year.

Waiver Requests: Suspension of IC 20-30-5-0 and IC 20-30-5-11 regarding safety education, hygiene, tobacco, prescription drugs, and controlled substances. These subjects are included in Faith Academy's curriculum from a Biblical view, with accordance to the Common Core standards of the State of Indiana.

Suspension of IC 20-20-5-2, IC 20-26-12-24, IC 20-26-12-28, and 511 IAC 6.11-5-5 regarding textbooks. Faith Academy seeks a suspension of the requirement for adopting from the state list. Due to the core nature of our school, parents, teachers and the Church and School Board, often find Christian texts more appropriate for the educational processes and purposes of our school.

Issues: None

Recommendations: Full Five-Year Freeway Accreditation