



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

School: Hammond Baptist Schools

Education Director: Dr. Jack Schaap, Superintendent

Address: 134 W. Joliet Street
Scherverville, Indiana 46375

Grade Span: K-12

Public/Private: Private

Current Enrollment: 900

Targeted Population: Families seeking a quality 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: The school is a ministry of the First Baptist Church of Hammond Indiana and is governed by a school board which consists of the deacon board of the First Baptist Church with direct pastoral oversight. It is our desire at HBS to reach a diverse population with quality education that has a Christian emphasis. We have open doors to people of diverse socio-economics, race, and of various educational abilities. The students we currently have enrolled are primarily from the Lake County area, but we have students from several local counties.

While students are not required to attend the First Baptist Church of Hammond, students are required to attend a church of like faith. We do stress to parents that our school is a Christian School and that the students will be taught Christian principles throughout the day in both academic and Bible classes. In the 2011/2012 school year we had 13 different churches represented by our student body.

Curriculum: By providing Hammond Baptist Students a balanced sequence of academically rigorous high school courses in the core subjects of English/language arts, mathematics, science and history; physical education/health and wellness; and electives



including languages, and fine arts, Hammond Baptist will comply with the Common Core Standards adopted by the State of Indiana. Hammond Baptist will also offer a core 40 with academic honors diploma.

Testing History: Hammond Baptist Schools have not administered ISTEP+ or End of Course Assessments in the past. With approval, that will begin during the 2012-2013 academic year. The school has previously monitored student performance through Iowa Test of Skills. When students in the 3rd grade and above begin ISTEP+ testing, The Iowa Test of Basic Skills will continue to be administered to students in kindergarten through second grade.

Staffing: As described in section X, a high percentage of our teachers have graduated with an undergraduate degree in education with most of them teaching in the teaching fields for which they studied, however a high percentage of them graduated from a non-accredited college. Teachers at the school have many years of experience in the classroom. The average teaching experience at the school is slightly above 14 years.

Waiver Requests:

- IC 20-30-5-8; Safety Education: We teach basic safety instruction into our curriculum and teach a semester of Health and Safety in high school.
- IC 20-30-5-9; Hygiene and Sanitary Science: This topic will be taught at HBS but not necessarily in the manner prescribed in the statute.
- IC 20-30-5-11; Instruction regarding alcoholic beverages, tobacco, prescription drugs and controlled substances: These topics will be taught at HBS but not necessarily in a way as prescribed in the statute.
- IC 20-26-12; Waiver of Adoption Requirements: We are asking for the statutes and rules regarding state adoption textbooks to be suspended for our school.
- Waiver of Teacher Licensing Requirements

Issues: None

Recommendations: Full Five-Year Freeway Accreditation