



**Press Release**  
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## **Indiana Charter School Board Approves New Applications**

The Indiana Charter School Board (ICSB) approved applications for three new charter school organizers at its fall meeting on Monday, October 15. The schools will be up and running for the 2013-2014 school year.

“All approved organizers took part in a rigorous evaluation process to ensure the quality of their applications,” ICSB Executive Director Claire Fiddian-Green said. “We believe they are committed and prepared to open schools that will ensure positive academic outcomes for students.”

Better Blended Learning for Indiana was approved to open Nexus Academy of Indianapolis, which will offer a college preparatory, blended learning school model serving Grades 9 to 12. The Better Blended board will contract with Connections Education to operate the school.

Goodwill Education Initiatives, Inc. (GEI) was approved to open a total of six new Excel Centers over the next five years. GEI currently operates four Excel Centers in Indianapolis and one Excel Center in Anderson. The first two of the new Excel Centers are planned for Kokomo and Lafayette. The Excel Center model provides individuals who have dropped out of high school with the opportunity to earn diplomas.

Responsive Education Solutions, Inc. was approved to open one Premier High School in Indianapolis. Premier High School will serve students who have dropped out or who are at risk of dropping out of high school.

All charter school applicants submitted a letter of intent followed by an application detailing academic, operating and financial plans. Proposals then underwent a thorough analysis that included external and internal reviews. Public hearings were held around the state to allow members of the community to share their perspectives on each proposed school.

Approved schools are held accountable across a comprehensive set of academic, financial and compliance indicators. Like traditional public schools and all other public charter schools, all ICSB-approved schools must administer state assessments and are graded on an A through F scale.

The ICSB meeting was open to the public and also streamed live on the internet. An archived copy of the recording is available [here](#).