

School Reorganization Commission collection L591

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Rare Books and Manuscripts
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Table of Contents

<u>Summary Information</u>	3
<u>Historical Note</u>	4
<u>Scope and Contents</u>	4
<u>Arrangement</u>	5
<u>Administrative Information</u>	5
<u>Collection Inventory</u>	7
<u>Series 1: Administrative documents, 1956-1967</u>	7
<u>Series 2: County documents, 1957-1967</u>	9

Summary Information

Repository	Rare Books and Manuscripts
Title	School Reorganization Commission collection
Date	1955-1967
Extent	12.5 Cubic feet 28 manuscript boxes
Language	English

Preferred Citation

School Reorganization Commission collection, Rare Books and Manuscripts, Indiana State Library

Historical Note

The School Consolidation Act of 1959 created the State Commission for the Reorganization of School Corporations. The law's purpose was to improve education by providing more equalized education opportunities for publicly enrolled students in grades 1 through 12 in the school corporations of Indiana. The State Commission for the Reorganization of School Corporations was charged to establish minimum standards to be followed by individual county committees for school reorganization, to conduct statewide hearings, to approve or reject county school reorganization plans developed by the county committees, and to develop county plans in the event that the county committee failed to act. Two standards which were regularly applied were:

1. No proposed school corporation shall have less than 1,000 resident pupils in average daily attendance in grades 1 through 12.
2. No proposed school corporation shall have less than \$5,000 adjusted evaluation per resident student.

The state commission, directed by J.B. Kohlmeyer of Purdue University, also gave approval of proposed school construction projects.

The School Consolidation Act of 1959 reduced the number of school corporations in Indiana from 966 to 402 and reduced the number of corporations with less than 1,000 resident pupils in grades 1 through 12 from 801 to 156.

Scope and Contents

This collection includes the records of the State Commission for the Reorganization of School Corporations from 1956-1967 regarding the consolidation of school corporations around the state of Indiana.

The first series includes announcements, data sheets, maps, notes, agendas, and minutes of commission meetings. Hearing schedules, progress reports, maps, studies, lawsuits, legislative materials, and a variety of supplemental material, including rulings of the Indiana Supreme County relative to the Reorganization Act; Attorney General's opinions, advisories, guides, forms, rating sheets, checklists, sample tables, booklets, bulletins, newsletters, and a book.

The second series documents the activities of the county school reorganization committees. They contain preliminary, revised, partial, and comprehensive county school reorganization plans, each of which typically includes a report of the present school situation (before reorganization), the need for reorganization, special conditions (e.g., highways, natural geographical barriers), alternate reorganization

plans considered, the selected organization or reorganization plan, data supporting the selected plan, and often the county committee meeting minutes.

Typically, county plans contain curricular outlines, maps of proposed district boundaries, transportation to be provided, statements of assessed evaluation for the school district, statements of all sources of revenue, statements of per pupil expenditures, inventories of facilities, feasibility studies, demographic projects of population, school surveys, class size or teach-pupil ratios, the reports of advisory committees, and personnel considerations (e.g., selection of trustees, teacher training).

Materials accompanying the plans are original and copies of correspondence and reports sent to the state commission by private citizens. Accompanying materials also include legal briefs (e.g., motion to remand and return), reports of hearings, minority reports of the committees, minutes of the state commission within the county, newspaper clippings, and occasional newsletters. The League of Women Voters of Indiana and PTA (Parent Teacher Association) groups were sources of much supportive material.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged in the following series:

Series 1: Administrative documents, 1956-1967

Series 2: County documents, 1957-1967

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Rare Books and Manuscripts

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

Legal title, copyright, and literary rights reside with Rare Books and Manuscripts, Indiana State Library, Indianapolis, IN. All requests to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted to Rare Books and Manuscripts.

Custodial History

This collection was received by Rare Books and Manuscripts as a donation.

Accruals

No further additions are expected.

Processing Information

Collection processing completed in 2000 by Philip N. Williams and on 2014/06/01 by Bethany Fiechter. EAD finding aid created 2014/06/10 by Bethany Fiechter.

Series 1: Administrative documents, 1956-1967

Collection Inventory

Series 1: Administrative documents, 1956-1967		
	Box	Folder
Correspondence, 1959-1967	1	1
Legislature, 1961-1967	1	2
Attorney General documents, 1959-1965	1	3
Adams-Marion County school district maps, 1959	1	4
Marshall-Whitely County school district maps, 1959	1	5
Millie Pilot's handbook and school district map drafts, 1959 (folder 1 of 2)	1	6
Millie Pilot's handbook and school district map drafts, 1959 (folder 2 of 2)	1	7
Feasibility studies, 1963-1965	2	1
Forms, guides and memos, 1959-1965 (folder 1 of 2)	2	2
Forms, guides and memos, 1959-1965 (folder 2 of 2)	2	3
Allen-Knox County reorganization lawsuits, 1961-1965	2	4

Series 1: Administrative documents, 1956-1967

LaPorte-Madison County reorganization lawsuits, 1964-1965 (folder 1 of 2)	2	5
LaPorte-Madison County reorganization lawsuits, 1964-1965 (folder 2 of 2)	2	6
Monroe-Union County reorganization lawsuits, 1960-1965	2	7
Suggested minimal standards procedure manual, 1959 September	3	1
Meeting minutes, 1959-1960	3	2
Meeting minutes, 1961-1962	3	3
Meeting minutes, 1963	3	4
Meeting minutes, 1964-1965	3	5
Policies, 1959-1962	3	6
Progress reports, 1960-1967	3	7
Consolidation articles, 1956-1964	4	1
Henry and Lake County newspaper clippings, 1959-1965 (folder 1 of 2)	4	2
Henry and Lake County newspaper clippings, 1959-1965 (folder 2 of 2)	4	3

Series 2: County documents, 1957-1967

Directories, 1957-1967	4	4
Reorganization ephemera, 1959-1963	4	5
Reorganization studies, 1955-1957 (folder 1 of 3)	4	6
Reorganization studies, 1955-1957 (folder 2 of 3)	4	7
Reorganization studies, 1955-1957 (folder 3 of 3)	5	1
Reorganization laws, 1959-1965 (folder 1 of 2)	5	2
Reorganization laws, 1959-1965 (folder 2 of 2)	5	3
Reorganization in other states documents, 1957-1963	5	4
Indiana State Teachers Association (ISTA) procedure manuals, 1962	5	5
Series 2: County documents, 1957-1967		
	Box	Folder
Adams County documents, 1961-1962	5	6
Allen County documents, 1958-1960 (folder 1 of 6)	5	7
Allen County documents, 1958-1960 (folder 2 of 6)	6	1

Series 2: County documents, 1957-1967

Allen County documents, 1958-1960 (folder 3 of 6)	6	2
Allen County documents, 1958-1960 (folder 4 of 6)	6	3
Allen County documents, 1958-1960 (folder 5 of 6)	6	4
Allen County documents, 1958-1960 (folder 6 of 6)	6	5
	Box	Object
Bartholomew County comprehensive plan, 1961 August	7	1
	Box	Folder
Bartholomew County documents, 1962-1964	7	1
Benton County documents, 1961-1964	7	2
Blackford County documents, 1961-1964	7	3
Boone County documents, 1961 (folder 1 of 2)	8	1
Boone County documents, 1962-1964 (folder 2 of 2)	8	2
Brown County documents, 1960-1961	8	3
Carroll County documents, 1961-1964	8	4
Cass County documents, 1959-1961 (folder 1 of 2)	8	5

Series 2: County documents, 1957-1967

Cass County documents, 1962-1963 (folder 2 of 2)	9	1
Clarke County documents, 1960-1961	9	2
Clay County documents, 1961-1965	9	3
Clinton County documents, 1963	9	4
Crawford County documents, 1960-1964	9	5
Daviess County documents, 1962-1964	9	6
Dearborn County documents, 1961-1962 (folder 1 of 2)	10	1
Dearborn County documents, 1964-1965 (folder 2 of 2)	10	2
Decatur County documents, 1961-1962	10	3
DeKalb County documents, 1961-1964	10	4
Delaware County documents, 1960-1964	10	5
Dubois County documents, 1961-1964	11	1
Elkhart County documents, 1961-1964 (folder 1 of 2)	11	2
Elkhart County documents, 1961-1964 (folder 2 of 2)	11	3

Series 2: County documents, 1957-1967

Fayette County documents, 1961-1964	11	4
Fountain County documents, 1960-1961	11	5
Floyd County documents, 1960	11	6
Franklin County documents, 1961-1967	12	1
Fulton County documents, 1959-1961/08/28 (folder 1 of 2)	12	2
Fulton County documents, 1961/09/01-1964 (folder 2 of 2)	12	3
Gibson County documents, 1961-1964	12	4
Grant County documents, 1960-1964	13	1
Greene County documents, 1963	13	2
Hamilton County documents, 1961-1964	13	3
Hancock County documents, 1962-1964 (folder 1 of 2)	13	4
Hancock County documents, 1962-1964 (folder 2 of 2)	14	1
Harrison County documents, 1961-1964	14	2
Hendricks County documents, 1961-1965	14	3

Series 2: County documents, 1957-1967

Henry County documents, 1961-1962	14	4
Howard County documents, 1961-1964	15	1
Huntington County documents, 1960-1964	15	2
Jackson County documents, 1961-1965	15	3
Jasper County documents, 1961-1964	15	4
Jay County documents, 1961-1964 (folder 1 of 2)	16	1
Jay County documents, 1961-1964 (folder 2 of 2)	16	2
Jefferson County documents, 1960-1964	16	3
Jennings County documents, 1961 (folder 1 of 2)	16	4
Jennings County documents, 1962 (folder 2 of 2)	16	5
Johnson County documents, 1960-1961	16	6
Knox County documents, 1960-1961 (folder 1 of 2)	17	1
Knox County documents, 1961 (folder 2 of 2)	17	2
Kosciusko County documents, 1961-1964	17	3

Series 2: County documents, 1957-1967

LaGrange County documents, 1960 (folder 1 of 2)	17	4
LaGrange County documents, 1961-1965 (folder 2 of 2)	18	1
Lake County documents, 1957-1961 (folder 1 of 4)	18	2
Lake County documents, 1961-1962 (folder 2 of 4)	18	3
Lake County documents, 1963-1965 (folder 3 of 4)	19	1
Lake County documents, 1965-1966 (folder 4 of 4)	19	2
LaPorte County documents, 1960-1961 (folder 1 of 2)	19	3
LaPorte County documents, 1963-1964 (folder 2 of 2)	19	4
Lawrence County documents, 1960-1964	19	5
Madison County documents, 1960-1963 (folder 1 of 2)	20	1
Madison County documents, 1964 (folder 2 of 2)	20	2
Marion County documents, 1958-1965	20	3
Marshall County documents, 1961 (folder 1 of 2)	20	4
Marshall County documents, 1962-1964 (folder 2 of 2)	20	5

Series 2: County documents, 1957-1967

Martin County documents, 1960-1965	21	1
Miami County documents, 1960-1961	21	2
Monroe County documents, 1960-1965	21	3
Morgan County documents, 1961-1964	21	4
Newton County documents, 1960-1965	22	1
Noble County documents, 1960-1964	22	2
Ohio County documents, 1961-1964	22	3
Orange County documents, 1961-1964	22	4
Owen County documents, 1961-1964	22	5
Parke County documents, 1960-1965	22	6
Perry County documents, 1960-1964	23	1
Pike County documents, 1958-1964	23	2
Porter County documents, 1960-1965	23	3
Posey County documents, 1961	23	4

Series 2: County documents, 1957-1967

Pulaski County documents, 1961-1965	23	5
Putnam County documents, 1959-1964	23	6
Randolph County documents, 1961-1963	23	7
Ripley County documents, 1962-1964	24	1
Rush County documents, 1961-1964	24	2
St. Joseph County documents, 1959-1963	24	3
Scott County documents, 1960-1964	24	4
Shelby County documents, 1961-1965	24	5
Spencer County documents, 1961-1964	25	1
Starke County documents, 1959-1965	25	2
Steuben County documents, 1961-1964	25	3
Sullivan County documents, 1961-1964	25	4
Switzerland County documents, 1961	25	5
Tipton County documents, 1961-1964	25	6

Series 2: County documents, 1957-1967

Tippecanoe County documents, 1959-1961 (folder 1 of 2)	26	1
Tippecanoe County documents, 1959-1961 (folder 2 of 2)	26	2
Union County documents, 1960	26	3
Vermillion County documents, 1960	26	4
Vigo County documents, 1960-1961 (folder 1 of 2)	26	5
Vigo County documents, 1960-1961 (folder 2 of 2)	26	6
Wabash County documents, 1960-1961	27	1
Warren County documents, 1960-1964	27	2
Warrick County documents, 1960-1963	27	3
Washington County documents, 1960-1964	27	4
Wayne County documents, 1959-1964	27	5
Wells County documents, 1959-1961	27	6
White County documents, 1961-1964	28	1
Whitely County documents, 1959-1962 (folder 1 of 3)	28	2

Series 2: County documents, 1957-1967

Whitely County documents, 1959-1962 (folder 2 of 3)	28	3
Whitely County documents, 1963-1964 (folder 3 of 3)	28	4