



**INDIANA
DEPARTMENT of
EDUCATION**

Mike Braun, Governor
Katie Jenner, Secretary of Education

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Indiana Schools Selected to Lead Innovation in Facilities and Transportation

INDIANAPOLIS – Eastern Hancock Schools, Career Academy Network of Public Schools, and a coalition of schools from across Indianapolis were each selected to lead a three-year pilot opportunity designed to increase community collaboration and maximize the use of school facilities and/or transportation services.

“As the world around us changes rapidly, we must continue to evolve and improve in education, including the way we think about school facilities and transportation,” said Dr. Katie Jenner, Indiana Secretary of Education. “To best meet the needs of students in all corners of the state, the participants in this pilot represent all school types in communities large and small, urban, suburban, and rural. Through this pilot, schools will have an opportunity to try out new, innovative solutions, learn some lessons, and ultimately, create a model that others can adopt and adapt to meet their unique needs.”

Established during the 2025 legislative session through [House Enrolled Act \(HEA\) 1515](#), the School Facilities and Student Transportation Pilot programs aim to foster innovation, efficiency, and collaboration by reimagining how schools manage and deliver these critical support systems. Per statute, up to three applicants were selected to participate.

Eastern Hancock Schools (Hancock County)

Eastern Hancock Schools and the Indiana Microschool Collaborative (IMC) plan to expand the existing facilities and transportation shared-services agreements to new IMC sites and additional partner schools in east central Indiana. While maximizing resources and reducing costs, the pilots intend to expand students’ access to experiences, such as field trips and work-based learning that might otherwise be limited by geography or resources, improve transportation scheduling and route coordination, and create a hub for professional learning.

Career Academy Network of Public Schools (St. Joseph County)

The Career Academy Network of Public Schools aims to create a flexible and reliable transportation system that removes barriers to student access – both to and from school and to a range of work-based learning and extracurricular activities. By leveraging partnerships among South Bend’s public transportation system (Transpo), School City of Mishawaka, and the Boys & Girls Club of the Northern Indiana Corridor, the pilot will combine existing school transportation fleets with public transit resources to maximize efficiency, cost savings, quality, and reach.

A Coalition of Schools Across Indianapolis (Marion County)

More than 50 public and private schools in Indianapolis will form an innovative partnership to develop solutions that best support the over 21,000 students they collectively serve. This partnership will be supported by TogetherEd, which will coordinate participation amongst participating schools and help establish collaborative and flexible frameworks to more effectively address facility and transportation needs.

Selected pilots will serve as models for statewide best practices and may receive waivers from certain state requirements to support innovation.

The School Facilities and Student Transportation pilots kick off during the 2026-2027 school year and will continue through the 2028-2029 school year.

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