November 3, 2017

Higher Institute of Arts and Technology is seeking to add additional grades starting the 2018-19 school year. Per the proposal HIAT will add an additional grade per year. However HIAT is requesting to add a full day preschool and grades 7th and 8th. Please see the following details and logistics:

**Preschool**

- Funding- HIAT plans to charge families a fee for students to attend the preschool program. In addition, HIAT plans to complete such paperwork and meet requirements to receive the Child Care Development Fund voucher (CCDF) that is paid by the state of Indiana to allow those families who qualify the ability to use the voucher to cover the cost of the fee.

- Location-Classroom(s) will be located on the first floor. We will relocate two of our rooms (multi-purpose and curriculum room) to a different location in the building to accommodate such. The preschool will be near our Kindergarten.

- Staffing- This program will require 2-3 additional staff members

**7th and 8th grade**

- These grades will be an addition to our currently K-6 model. There is currently classroom space that is not being utilized that will eventually be the home of our 7th and 8th grade. Each grade will have an estimate of 20 students each. However, if enrollment is at 17 or less seventh graders and 17 or less eighth graders we will have a 7th -8th grade split classroom. This model will add 1-3 additional staff members to support the middle school model of grades 6th-8th.

**Conclusion**

- The current facility can support these changes without any major adjustments or change in daily activity

- The budget will reflect funding sources to support such request and increase a sustainable enrollment to work towards a more economical facility.

- These adjustments will not have a negative impact on the budget, however there will be favorable results if numbers are met. A goal will be established to ensure success during this process.

- This model PK-8th will provide a complete option of choice for families in the Merrillville and Gary community.

Submitted by: Erica Brownfield
Superintendent/Principal
October 24, 2017

This is to confirm that the following was recommended and voted favorably by the HIAT Board of Directors during the board meeting held on October 24, 2017.

Following Votes Approved for the following Amendments to the Proposal:

1. Add additional grades for the 2018-19 School Year
   - HIAT is seeking to add a Pre-School ages 3-4 years old
   - HIAT is seeking to add grades 7th and 8th for the 2018-19 school year
   - HIAT proposal reads that an additional grade will be added every year until grade 8

Reason for request:
   - Parent Demand
   - Our student population consist of siblings with multiple age
   - Demographic want a school of choice(option) for all students

Mrs. Sharla Johnson
HIAT Board President Signature

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Erica Brownfield, Principal