



**STATE OF INDIANA
Department of Correction**

Indiana Government Center—South

Eric J. Holcomb
Governor

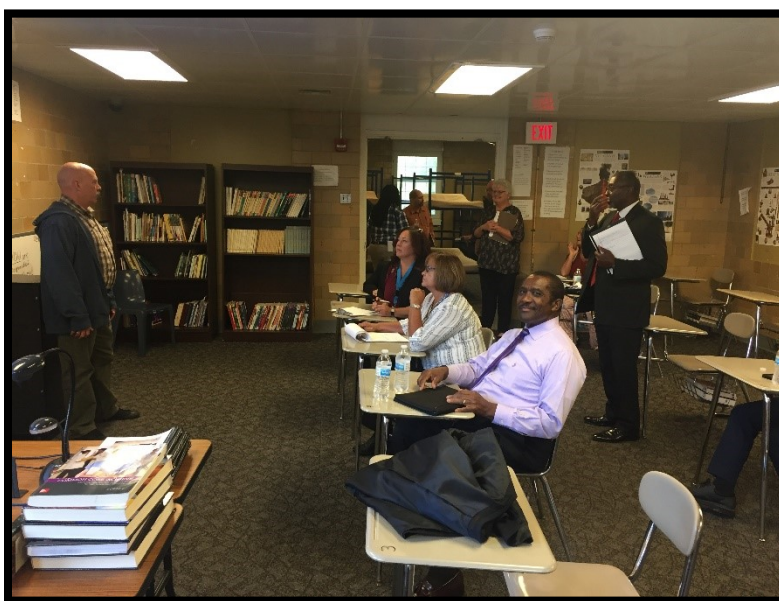
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Robert E. Carter Jr.
Commissioner

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Indiana Youth Facility to be Nationally Reaccredited



LJCF Science Teacher Michael Gunther explains the facility's solar panel project to ACA auditors Caroel Selby (Virginia), James Ball (Tennessee), and Kathryn Garrett (Arizona), and LJCF staff.

LOGANSPORT, IN – It's not easy to operate a facility for youth adjudicated to the criminal justice system. The staff at Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility (LJCF) have shown, once again, that they are true professionals at it.

Once every three years, a visiting committee from the American Correctional Association (ACA) gathers to review facility files, tour the campus, and study all aspects of the facility's operations. They also speak with both staff and youth about day-to-day operations, and even sample the food the youth eat.

This year's committee reports LJCF is compliant with 100% of mandatory standards and 98.1% of non-mandatory standards. The committee is recommending the facility for reaccreditation by the ACA Commission on Accreditation for Corrections. The next step for Warden Eric Courtney is to appear before the Commission on Accreditation for Corrections at the ACA Winter Conference in January for the final vote on reaccreditation.



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“We are proud of everyone at Logansport Juvenile,” said Chris Blessinger, Executive Director of the Division of Youth Services. “They work hard each day to provide quality services to the youth, and reaccreditation affirms their effort.”

“I am honored to work with such high-quality staff,” agreed Courtney. “Being confident in the staff’s professionalism, I was more than pleased to show the auditors our facility.”

The Indiana Department of Correction is proud to be one of only 22 states to have achieved and maintained the ACA’s Golden Eagle status. This award is only presented to Departments of Correction who have achieved ACA accreditation at 100 percent of their facilities, including Central Office and Parole. LJCF first earned accreditation in 2001.

Background

For more than 147 years, the American Correctional Association has championed the cause of corrections and correctional effectiveness. Founded in 1870 as the National Prison Association, ACA is the oldest association developed specifically for practitioners in the correctional profession. During the first organizational meeting in Cincinnati, Ohio, the assembly elected then-Ohio Governor and future President Rutherford B. Hayes as the first President of the Association. The mission of the Association is to shape the future of corrections through strong, progressive leadership that brings together various voices and forges coalitions and partnerships to promote the concepts embodied in its principles.

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