



Indiana Department of Education

Dr. Katie Jenner, Secretary of Education

To: Indiana State Board of Education
From: Office of School Accountability
Date: April 24, 2024
Subject: Accreditation Petition for Acton Academy at Fall Creek

This memorandum provides a summary of the information provided by the school in its petition for performance-based accreditation and the final recommendation from the Indiana Department of Education (Department) regarding the accreditation of Acton Academy at Fall Creek (AAFC).

Background & Demographic Information

Acton Academy at Fall Creek currently operates in Pendleton, Indiana and currently serves students in pre-kindergarten through grade five. AAFC plans to expand to include grades six to eight in their first year of state accreditation and to expand to grade 12 in the next three years. The school is not-for-profit and operates strictly in-person. AAFC has been in operation for four years. They are accredited through International Association of Learner Driven Schools

AAFC's mission statement is "At Acton Academy, we believe that every child is a genius that has unique gifts and talents to offer the world. We hope to inspire each child to find their calling so that they can change the world. For many people, the calling will require academic success, so we keep in step with Indiana State Standards in the curriculum we offer to our learners."

AAFC's current enrollment is 50 students. They anticipate their enrollment to grow to be between 65-100 student in the next three to five years.

Operations

Facilities: AAFC operates in a 6,000 square foot building located at 210 East Water Street, Pendleton, Indiana. The building has had all required inspections, with no findings of noncompliance.

Tuition: Annual tuition and student fees for AAFC total \$8,250 per student. AAFC indicated that it intends to participate in the Indiana Choice Scholarship program.

Staffing: Lyndie Metz is the Head of School at AAFC. She has a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and a master's degree in leadership and supervision. Ms. Metz has experience as a classroom teacher and Interventionist and educational consultant.

The school currently has two teachers and plans to hire two more within the next five years. One teacher currently teaches a group of students who learn at their own pace in grades Kindergarten through grade four, and the other teacher teaches a group of students who are in grades five through eight.



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The School Board is comprised of a President, Secretary and Treasurer, two founding members, one community member, one Acton Parent and one Acton Volunteer.

Academic Programming

When planning and implementing instruction, AAFC uses the Indiana Academic Standards. The curriculum for Math and Reading is self-paced and aligns with Indiana in scope and sequence. For Writing, Science and Social Studies, students work on collaborative projects and discussion. They participate in Socratic conversations, followed by daily challenges that allow them to demonstrate their understanding of these subjects. The school also offers music, art, and physical education.

Students are assessed using formative assessments at their own pace. AAFC has given assurance that they understand which students and grades take each state assessment and that they will administer these required state assessments when applicable.

Department Recommendation

Acton Academy at Fall Creek has been in operation for the last four school years, with their enrollment growing at a reasonable pace. In addition, Acton Academy at Fall Creek has plans for steady reasonable growth for the future. Based on the submitted petition and accompanying materials, Acton Academy at Fall Creek has a fair understanding of the requirements of being an Indiana performance-based accredited school. Therefore, the Department recommends granting Acton Academy at Fall Creek provisional state performance-based accreditation as a nonpublic school in Indiana.