



INDIANA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

To: Indiana State Board of Education

From: Jeremy Owens, Staff Attorney

Date: June 16, 2023

RE: Latch Key Program Waiver – Greensburg Community Schools

Recommendation: Approve the Latch Key Program Waiver Request

Greensburg Community Schools (“Greensburg”) is seeking a waiver from the latch key program requirement for the 2023-2024 school year. Approval by the Indiana State Board of Education (“Board”) is required for Latch Key Program Waivers under IC 20-26-5-2.

School-age child care programs, commonly known as Latch Key Programs, are programs that provide care and education for children of working parents. This program is designed to be a link between the home and the school. Certified, qualified and experienced child care providers supervise, teach and interact with children to ensure that they are cared for, supervised, exposed to many learning activities, allowed to complete homework and share enjoyment in a relaxed and carefully designed developmentally appropriate environment.

Pursuant to IC 20-26-5-2(c), a school corporation may seek a waiver from the child care program requirement if the school corporation believes compliance with the requirement would result in “undue hardship.” To receive a waiver, the school corporation must include a detailed description of the school corporation’s attempt to implement a child care program, including the following:

- (1) A description of the steps taken to:
 - (A) conduct a child care program described in subsection (a)(1); or
 - (B) actively solicit nonprofit organizations or for-profit organizations to implement a child care program as provided in subsection (a)(2)
- (2) Evidence that a request in writing was made to each parent to contact the school corporation to indicate the parent’s willingness to use a child care program and documentation of the results received from parents.

Greensburg has provided the required documentation. As such, Greensburg’s request for a Latch Key Program Waiver should be approved.



Indiana Department of Education

Dr. Katie Jenner, Secretary of Education

WAIVER FORM


Indiana State Board of Education
School-Age Child-Care Program Waiver
Submission Date: June 12, 2023

Deadline: September 1st (Annually)

Greensburg Community Schools requests a waiver of the requirement that it make a school-age child-care program available to all children in Kindergarten through Grade Six as required by IC 20-26-5-2, because the school corporation would experience an undue hardship due to the low number of eligible children intending to use the child care program. In support of this request, the school corporation submits the following detailed description of its attempt to implement a child care/latchkey program:

1. A description of the steps taken by the school corporation to conduct a latch-key program or to actively solicit other nonprofit organizations or for-profit organizations to implement the program as described in IC 20-26-5-2(a). [IC 20-26-5-2(c)(1)]
2. Evidence that a request in writing was made to all parents to contact the school corporation to indicate their willingness to utilize the latch-key program. Attach a copy of the survey along with documentation of the results received from parents in this regard. [IC 20-26-5-2(c)(2)]
3. The nature of the hardship that the school corporation would experience due to a low number of eligible children intending to utilize the services of the latch-key program, as described in item 2 of this request, regardless of whether the latch-key program is conducted by the school or under a contractual agreement. [IC 20-26-5-2(c)]

The school corporation believes that the hardship described in item 3 of this request constitutes an undue hardship, and requests that the Indiana State Board of Education grant a waiver of the requirements of IC 20-26-5-2 for the 2023-2024 school year.


(Superintendent's Signature)

Thomas Hunter
(Superintendent's Name Printed)

1312 W. Westridge Parkway
(Address)

Greensburg 47240
(City) (Zip)

812-663-4774
(Area Code) (Telephone number)

GREENSBURG COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION

LATCH KEY PROGRAM

REQUEST FOR WAIVER

2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR

INDIANA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL AGE CHILD CARE PROGRAM WAIVER

Greensburg Community School Corporation requests a waiver of the requirement that it make a school age child care program available to all children in K-6 as required by IC 20-26-5-2. The corporation submits the following detailed information that is required by law to support the request:

1. A description of the steps taken by the school corporation to conduct a latch key program or solicit other not-for-profit organizations or for-profit organizations to implement the program. IC 20-26-5-2(a)
 - a. Decatur County Carousel Day Care (bus transportation provided by GCS)
 - b. Decatur County YMCA (bus transportation provided by GCS)

There was no interest on the part of either of these current providers to have a program located in the elementary school. Both have facilities that currently provide school age childcare and do not want to engage in programs not housed in their facilities. The YMCA Currently offers an after-school program through a Federal Grant for elementary age children at Greensburg Elementary School (3:00 pm to 6:00 pm daily).

2. A survey was sent to each parent, with a return date of May 22, 2023, concerning interest in the latch key program.

Results of the survey: 2022-2023 School Year for 2023-2024 School Year
1082 surveys were sent home to parents (K-6)
21 surveys were returned expressing interest (total students)

There were a total of 1082 surveys distributed; the elementary school distributed 944 and the middle school distributed 138.

- A. Evidence is provided that a request was made to all parents, in writing, concerning the latch key program (copy enclosed).
- B. The results of the 2022-2023 survey indicate that the parents of the Greensburg Community School Corporation are not interested in the latch key program. The results of the survey (21/1082) indicated there was no need for the latch key program to be further pursued.
 - 0/138 returned the survey from Sixth Grade indicating a desire to participate.
 - 21/944 returned the survey from K-5 Grades indicating a desire to participate

Financial Information

Estimated Daily Attendance: 21 students

Caretaker: 1 for every 10 students

3 caretakers x \$16.00 per hour x 3 hrs/day x 5 days/wk = \$720.00/wk

Supplies: \$135.00/ wk

Food: \$1.25 x 21 x 5 = \$131.25/ wk

Total weekly cost to Greensburg Schools: \$986.25

Total cost per student for Greensburg Schools: \$46.96 / wk (\$1,690.71 / yr)

Total Cost of the program per year to Greensburg Community Schools: **\$35,505.00**

Caretakers: $3 \times 16 \times 3 \times 5 \times 36 = \$25,920.00$

Supplies: $\$135.00 \times 36 = \$4,860.00$

Food: $\$131.25 \times 36 = \$4,725.00$

Total cost to parents: \$20.00 / wk (\$20 x 36 wks x 21 students)

Total income from parents: **\$ 15,120.00.**

Loss to Greensburg Community Schools: \$35,505.00 - \$15,120.00 = \$ 20,385.00

Greensburg Community Schools requests a waiver based on:

1. An undue financial hardship would be placed on the school corporation.
2. Lack of participants in the program (only **21/1082** eligible students)
3. An undue hardship because the parents showed little interest in the program

Request for Waiver:

The Greensburg Community School Corporation requests the Indiana State Board of Education grant a waiver of the requirement of IC 20-26-5-2 for 2023-2024 school year.

Thomas Hunter, Superintendent
Greensburg Community School Corporation

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM SURVEY
"LATCH-KEY"

May 8, 2023

Dear Parent of Elementary Age Students:

The 1991 State Legislature passed a law that requires local school corporations to offer an after school "latch-key" program. This program would provide child care services (babysitting) from the time the school day ends to 6:00 P.M. Participating children would be required to be enrolled 5 days a week. There would be a fee charged for the program. The number of students enrolled would determine the fee. We can not project the fee at the current time. The program must pay for itself and we need to know the number of participants before assigning a cost.

If you are interested in taking part in this program, please complete the survey at the bottom of this letter and return the form to your building principal. This program is for students in grades K-6 and would be housed at Greensburg Elementary School.

Thank you for allowing me to explain this proposed service to you.

Tom Hunter
Superintendent

Latch-Key Survey

Parent's Name: _____

Parent's Address: _____

Parent's Telephone Number: _____

Number of elementary age children in the family: _____

Grade levels of elementary age children: K ___ 1 ___ 2 ___ 3 ___ 4 ___ 5 ___ 6 ___

Yes, we would be interested in having our child/children enrolled in the Latch-Key Program.

Signed: _____

Please return by May 22, 2023 to your child's school.

The following are the results from the Latch Key Survey: 2022-2023

Grade	# of Surveys Sent	# of Surveys Returned
K	174	7
1 st	157	5
2 nd	154	4
3 rd	173	4
4 th	143	1
5 th	143	0
6 th	138	0

GES Totals 944

GJHS Totals 138

Corporation Totals 1082