



INDIANA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

To: State Board of Education
From: Timothy Schultz, General Counsel, State Board of Education
Date: September 4, 2019
RE: Freeway Contract Amendment for World Changers School of the Arts (D917)

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: World Changers School of the Arts (“WCSA”) request to amend the Freeway School Contract should be granted.

I. Introduction

WCSA, a Freeway-Accredited nonpublic school in Indianapolis, IN that serves grades 6-8, is requesting an amendment to its Freeway School Contract (“contract”) to postpone its initial year of operations from the 2019-20 school year to the 2020-21 school year. Per the request, the 2020-21 school year would be WCSA’s first year of operation for purposes of its Freeway contract.

II. Basis for Agency Review

Pursuant to IC 20-26-15-1 *et seq.*, school corporations or individual schools may seek Freeway Accreditation by petitioning the Indiana State Board of Education (“Board”). The petition submitted by the school corporation or school must agree to abide by the legal requirements set forth in IC 20-26-15. If the Board votes to approve the Freeway Petition, the parties must enter into a Freeway Contract. Per IC 20-26-15-9, the governing body of a Freeway School and the Board “acting jointly” may amend a contract:

- (1) to comply with any law enacted subsequent to the formation of the contract;
- (2) to alter the educational benefits to a level that is not below the minimum educational benefits listed in section 7 of this chapter; or
- (3) for a purpose jointly agreed to by the parties.

III. WCSA’s Request to Amend the Freeway Contract

In the immediate matter, WCSA has requested that the Board approve an amendment to its Contract to postpone its first year of operation for one year. WCSA has affirmed that it will not operate during the 2019-20 school year, and therefore will not be entitled to any state for federal funding until beginning operations for the 2020-21 school year.

IV. Conclusion

As there is no basis for a Freeway School to operate against the intent of the school representatives, WCSA’s request to amend the Freeway School contract to postpone operations for one year should be granted.