A Coordinated Political Attack on Indiana's Public Schools



HB 1136 Completely dissolves entire school districts.*

• Starts with 5 urban & rural districts.

PF Indiana Coalition for Public Education

 Attacks additional districts whenever the state determines that >50% of children living in school district boundaries attend a charter school, receive a private school voucher, homeschool or attend a private school without a voucher. (Out of district transfers into the district don't count in school district enrollment. They also don't count in their sending district's enrollment.)

In those 5 districts:

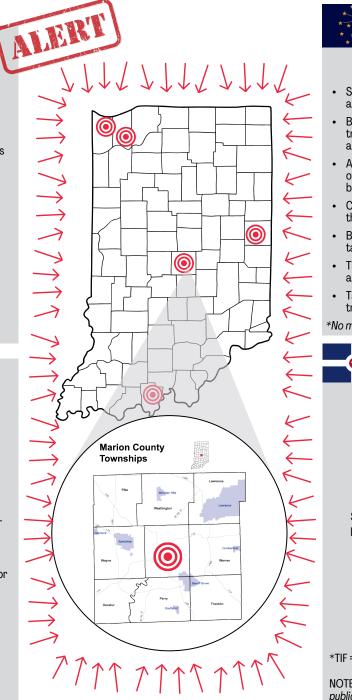
- Turns every public school into a charter school.
- In effect, forces families in those districts to send their children to charter or private schools; eliminates their right to choose their public school.
- Local residents lose their right to vote for or run for school board.
- Replaces locally elected school board members with a primarily state appointed board that may or may not include local residents.

*No matter how full or how high achieving or financially stable the schools may be.



HB 1002 <u>"Education Deregulation"</u> (as amended, but language could return)

- · Weakens requirements for Secretary of Education.
- Allows charter schools to "authorizer shop" and apply for a new authorizer without current authorizer's acknowledgment and, in some cases, bypasses SBOE hearing and approval.
- Removes requirement for charter board members to submit a Statement of Economic Interest with the charter application.
- Eases privatization by allowing districts to become entirely charterbased without requiring a non-charter public option for students to attend, potentially enabling HB 1136 or full charterization of IPS.
- Removes authorizer's responsibility to ensure charter schools comply with legal standards set by SBOE, possibly limiting liability for authorizers. There is currently a student case against a charter school that also names Trine as a defendant.
- Eliminates the requirement that foundational documents of democracy be in every school building (public, charter, and voucher accepting schools).
- Exempts charter schools (but not school corporations) from losing state tuition support for failing to conduct 180 instructional days.
- Encourages dropouts by allowing 16 and 17 year-olds to withdraw without required exit interview, parental consent, or proof of financial hardship, illness or court order, potentially impacting graduation rates and student retention.





HB 1501 <u>This bill strips public schools of their</u> <u>largest assets—buildings and buses—and provides</u> <u>transportation to charter and private schools.*</u>

- Starts with the same 5 districts as HB 1136 for 3 years, with 3 more districts allowed to "volunteer."
- By 10/31/25, an appointed board will manage all "school facilities" and transportation for public, charter, and private schools, including related debt and maintenance, among other things.
- After 3 years (starting 2029-30), the appointed board takes permanent ownership of all assets and funding for facilities and transportation, and becomes a local property taxing unit.
- Charter and private schools are not required to transfer buildings or buses to the appointed board.
- By 7/1/29, IDOE must submit a plan to expand this model statewide, including taking control of buildings and buses from ALL districts.
- The appointed board excludes district employees or board members, but allows those from charter/private schools.
- Takes away local control from communities for how their facilities and transportation would be utilized...that they paid for with their taxes.

*No matter how full or how high achieving or financially stable the schools may be.

Indianapolis City-County Council Proposal 7 (Completely New Version)

Media release:

https://www.wthr.com/article/news/education/indianapolis-citycounty-councilors-propose-public-education-fund-program/531-88b72149-aa90-4af9-8b86-e6f77621b988

Something is coming but we're not exactly sure what.



Some sort of voucher-like funding of individual students from TIF* development projects.

*TIF = Tax Increment Financing.

NOTE: TIFs already divert property tax dollars away from public school districts, public libraries and other city services, making it difficult to keep up with rising costs over time. If a % is to be paid, it should go instead directly to those public entities and their essential work with children countywide.