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# INDIANA EDUCATION INSIGHT

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## Panel offers school nurse Rx

*Governor's Public Health Commission eyes more school nurses*

After months of public and stakeholder input and deliberation, the Governor's Public Health Commission (GPHC) releases its final report ahead of the 2023 budget session, outlining numerous public health initiatives the state could fund next year, and in the report's child and adolescent health findings the panel affirms the importance of school nurses – going as far as to recommend each school district employ one registered nurse for every 750 students.

Now the question for the General Assembly is (assuming the recommendation is palatable in January) . . . where will the funds come from? Our Hannah News Service sister newsletter, **INDIANA LEGISLATIVE INSIGHT**, speculates on this and some of the key – and controversial – framework and policy issues this week, but your favorite education newsletter will take a deep dive into the significant education-related components found in the GPHC report . . . some buried deep inside the detailed research and recommendations.

As you'll remember, Governor Eric Holcomb (R) issued an executive order creating the commission last year, tasking it with studying the challenges and successes of the state's overburdened and underfunded public health system, in addition to brainstorming ways of improving health outcomes for Hoosiers.

In the recently released 128-page report, the commission notes that "Indiana has ranked 29th in the nation since 2019 for overall child well-being," adding that "The state is ranked 36th for health, dropping from its position as 35th in 2020." "Additionally, Indiana's health ranking is last among our neighboring states: Illinois (20th), Michigan (22nd), Ohio (29th), and Kentucky (35th)," the commission continues, noting that the leading cause of death for Hoosiers 1-19 years old is accidents; the second-leading cause is suicides.

"Overall, these data point to significant opportunities to improve adolescent and child health outcomes and informed the focus of the GPHC and recommendation development process."

In the report, the commission confirms the critical role schools play in supporting public health. "Studies have demonstrated the link between health and academic success," the commission explains. "For example, health-risk behaviors are linked to poor grades, low test scores, and lower educational attainment.... Research demonstrates the potential for school health programs to reduce youth health risk behaviors and positively impact academic performance."

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The commission finds two primary vehicles are used to deliver health services in Indiana schools: school nurses and school-based health centers (SBHC), the latter of which are health clinics located in or near schools that often are a result of community, school, and health provider relationships.

While school-based health centers are, ultimately, a part of the commission's recommendations – the commission calls for support regarding the development of SBHCs – our attention has been drawn to the commission's recommendations for more school nurses, who one source dubs “the first line of defense” in schools.

In the report, the commission calls for the state to implement policies to improve the school nurse to student ratio and to support school nurse recruitment and retention by taking measures to address “low pay” and incentivize school nurse credentialing.

The commission also prescribes a benchmark of one registered nurse for every 750 students in each school district, a general standard that has been used by the National Association of School Nurses, Andrea Tanner, the past-president of the Indiana Association of School Nurses and a postdoctoral fellow at the IUPUI School of Nursing, tells us.

However, the ratio assumes a relatively healthy student population. If the student population caters to more students who have special needs, the ideal ratio becomes much lower. Before the commission's report was released, we were told a ratio as aggressive as one registered nurse per school could have been considered, but others tell us that the 1:750 ratio was likely decided upon with the intent of giving the Governor and General Assembly some wiggle room heading into the looming budget session. Instead of recommending a certain number of nurses at each school, it allows for the spirit of Home Rule to continue, one source tells us, suggesting the commission is allowing rural districts to address their challenges without adhering to restrictive state-level policies. The ratio might also afford urban schools with lower enrollments to benefit, giving them the option to, say, have one school nurse work with two small elementary schools. And though, as one individual close to the process puts it, “no one is wanting a mandate,” many in public health circles say it is important to leverage funds to bring the state's school-nurse-to-student ratio more in line with the commission's recommendation.

A field hit hard by the pandemic, nursing has become a case of too much demand and too little supply (in these pages, we've told you of various initiatives undertaken to bolster the state's school nursing ranks). School nurses are now more difficult to hire and retain, we are told, because of the comparatively lucrative salaries the private sector can offer to registered nurses. Adding to this is the collective burnout that is rife in the profession, following the last two years.

Hiring more school nurses will not be an easy task for many school districts, and some would be overjoyed by the prospect of the state taking on the burden and possibly spreading some of the sizable state surplus love their way (and be sure to read up on the details in our sister publication this week).

Realistically, we are told there will be four funding sources for hiring more school nurses in Indiana (an innumerable number of school districts fall short of meeting the ratio).

The first option will be to use Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds. The primary benefits of these funds: They are readily available and must be used relatively soon, by 2024. The drawback: They won't last for long, and school districts might be left scrambling to find the monies to continue funding the position when they run out.

The second option is for school districts to tap into their general funds to pay for school nurses. Such a move would allow the state to take a proverbial hands-off approach, but it can strap school district's budgets as they are left to compete with private health care organizations, especially as the cost of a school nurse has gone up since the onset of the pandemic (think – ballpark estimates here – \$80,000 per year in 2022 instead of \$60,000 per year in 2020).

The third option, and possibly the most likely: State funds earmarked for school nurses are doled out to school districts after legislation is passed during the 2023 budget session.

But we are told of a fourth option by Dr. Azure (Addie) Angelov, co-founder and CEO of the Paramount Health Data Project (PHDP). Dr. Angelov believes school districts can leverage federal dollars to pay for a school nurse.

Paramount Health Data Project aims to help schools leverage large data sets to “enhance and sustain existing K-12 processes of academic and health services” by correlating academic achievement data and social determinants of health data for use in the multi-tiered system of supports (MTSS) process. In other words: PHDP pulls existing de-identified health data from the school nurse's office, correlates it with the school's academic achievement scores on standardized tests, and returns it to the school to be used as part of their MTSS process.

“We believe the school nurse, or what we call the academic health partner, is critical to that MTSS team in making an informed decision about how to academically intervene with kids up to 8 weeks earlier with valid and reliable data in math and literacy,” Dr. Angelov tells us. “And after Covid, when everyone is falling behind, being able to be more strategic in your decision making is hugely important for getting kids caught up. We don't tell teachers how to teach and we don't tell nurses how to provide medical care, but we do give them valid and reliable data to guide their practice,” she adds.

PHDP is ESSA-approved through the Indiana Department of Education, and an IDOE-recommended best practice for healthy schools under Title IV. Dr. Angelov explains that by engaging school nurses as an academic partner via the MTSS process, PHDP provides schools the ability to leverage existing Title I and Title IV dollars to sustain their school nurse “without draining their general funds or asking the community for tax referendums after ESSER funds have been depleted.” But the school nurse must sit on an MTSS team and use PHDP data to meet the evidence-based requirements set forth by state and federal Title regulations. She says that Paramount Health Data Project, because of patents for its data algorithm and IDOE evidence-based approval, is the only way for schools to unlock their federal title-specific dollars for school nurses.

Another interesting wrinkle that the commission points out: Schools can’t bill Medicaid to support school nurses directly. The only available options are two Medicaid reimbursement methodologies.

“Administrative claiming allows school corporations to recover federal matching funds for state and locally funded administrative activities that school staff perform to assist students with unmet health care needs,” the commission writes.

“Schools may also receive claims reimbursement for certain services rendered by a school-based nurse (RN or LPN licensed under IC 25-23-1), or other licensed provider employed by or contracted with a school corporation,” the commission explains. HEA 1192-2022 “clarified and expanded the scope of school-based services eligible for Medicaid claims reimbursement to include an individualized education program (as defined in IC 20-18-2-9), a plan developed under Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act, 29 U.S.C. 794, a behavioral intervention plan (as defined in IC 20-20-40-1), a service plan developed under 511 IAC 7-34, and an individualized healthcare plan,” the commission reminds.

However, not all schools use Medicaid reimbursement, and we are told that the process is rather complex and time-consuming. “Additionally, some schools may have lower Medicaid enrollment, reducing incentives to implement the infrastructure necessary to seek reimbursement,” the commission notes.

But some say more school nurses are a necessity . . . regardless of the funding source.

“We have an opportunity with the dissemination of this document to tell the narrative of public health as the foundation of the State of Indiana running smoothly, being a state that works, where people want to come and bring their businesses and livelihood, and where they can thrive and contribute to their communities,” says Carolyn Runge, associate adjunct professor at the University of Indianapolis.

“I don’t think it’s too much of a stretch for the lay citizen to understand that having a school nurse and having people around that young child is absolutely a priority and a common ground starting point that we want to focus on with our resources and time,” Professor Runge continues. “Our children are worth it. Plus, they are our future. I think Hoosiers understand that.”

## IN Elementary & Secondary Ed

### *IN the Outbreak . . .*

- The World Health Organization and UNICEF report approximately 25 million children worldwide missed childhood immunizations in 2021, the largest decrease in 30 years. “The percentage of children who received three doses of the vaccine against diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis (DTP3) – a marker for immunization coverage within and across countries – fell 5 percentage points between 2019 and 2021 to 81 per cent,” the organizations announce in a joint release. “As a result, 25 million children missed out on one or more doses of DTP through routine immunization services in 2021 alone. This is 2 million more than those who missed out in 2020 and 6 million more than in 2019, highlighting the growing number of children at risk from devastating but preventable diseases.”

- In Indiana, the Indiana Department of Health finds only 58% of Hoosier children aged 19-35 months have completed the department’s 4:3:1:3:3:1:4 immunization series (4 doses of DTaP, 3 doses of IPV, 1 dose of MMR, 3 doses of Hib, 3 doses of Hep B, 1 dose of varicella and 4 doses of PCV), which include vaccines later required to enter Indiana K-12 schools, a decrease from 61% in 2021 and 70% in 2020.

- The Indiana Department of Health launches a new data dashboard at monkeypox.health.in.gov, detailing the prevalence of monkeypox cases in the state, broken down by age group, gender, ethnicity, race, and public health district.

### *IN General . . .*

- Indianapolis Public Schools officials signal they plan to release a draft of the school district’s “Rebuilding Stronger” plan sometime this month, with local outlets expecting the plan to be released in the coming days. You’ll remember that the plan could include closing or consolidating schools in the district. Many parents lamented the proposed plan and the “vague” details accompanying it during a public August 25 IPS Board of School Commissioners meeting, with some voicing concerns that the school district could plan to bring more charter schools into the district.

- IPS officials contend the plan will help underserved children of color while simultaneously cutting costs to address declining enrollment and some of its decrepit facilities.



- Foster Success, a nonprofit that provides financial, educational, and social support to foster care youth, announces the launch of a new Educational Success program designed to help high school students in foster care navigate and prepare for higher education or career options after high school. The Pathways program was unveiled Thursday, during the organization’s first-ever conference for Indiana educators.

□ “Pathways will guide high school sophomores, juniors and seniors as they explore options for after high school, and help them structure individualized plans to access and attain their goals,” Foster Success explains. To support high school students, the statewide nonprofit has developed a grade-specific curriculum that includes individual, in-person, and virtual opportunities. The curriculum incorporates state educational initiatives and 21st Century Scholarship Scholar Success Program requirements. High school students who have spent time in foster care after the age of 14 can immediately apply for the program: [fostersuccess.org/educational-success/pathways/](https://fostersuccess.org/educational-success/pathways/).

- Some schools express concern about the graduation data in the Data Exchange July certification window, which just closed, to the Indiana Department of Education . . . but IDOE reminds us that the graduation rate will be compiled from the graduate data submitted through Data Exchange for the 2021-2022 school year (July 2022 certification) and the graduate data submitted through Data Exchange for the October 2022 certification.

□ “This means any students who were not submitted as graduates by the July 2022 certification can be submitted in the 2023 school year (October 2022),” IDOE writes. “IDOE understands the critical nature of a school’s graduation rate and is offering this as an additional clarification.”

- The ADM fall count date for the 2022-2023 school year is Friday, September 16. The final date for school administrators and finance administrators to complete certification will be Wednesday, September 28.

- The budget application deadline for Title Grants has been extended until Friday, September 16, the Indiana Department of Education announces.

- The Indiana Department of Education unveils the top 10 finalists for the 2023 Indiana Teacher of the Year. The 2023 Indiana Teacher of the Year finalists are:

- **Kathleen Avery**, South Bend Community School Corporation
- **Amanda Beck**, Tippecanoe School Corporation
- **Jason Beer**, Southwest Allen County Schools
- **Tara Cocanower**, Bluffton-Harrison Metro School District
- **Joshua DeBard**, Lebanon Community School Corporation
- **Amanda Fox**, Penn-Harris-Madison School Corporation
- **Helen Hearon**, Mill Creek Community Schools
- **Kelly Hine**, Zionsville Community Schools
- **Courtney Ramos**, MSD of Wayne Township
- **Karisa Schwanekamp**, Plainfield Community School Corporation

- Several Indiana school districts are among the *Forbes* annual Top 100 ranking of America’s Best State Employers – Monroe County Community School Corporation (ranked 12th), Fort Wayne Community Schools (55th), and Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation (72nd).

- In our last issue, we told you that a recent WalletHub study found Indiana is home to the fourth most equitable school districts in the U.S., overall. The study, we also noted, listed DeKalb County Eastern Community School District as the state’s least equitable school.

□ Following the study’s release, DeKalb Community School District Superintendent **Shane Conwell** claims the study’s estimate of the school district’s per pupil spending – \$24,090, according to WalletHub – was not accurate. “Conwell sent FOX 55 a statement saying the study does not account for the fact that they also serve as the agency for the Northeast Indiana Special Education Cooperative and the Impact Vocational Institute,” WFFT-TV in Fort Wayne reports. “Their funds are being distributed to two other programs as well.”

- Merrillville Community School Corporation officials offer preschool opportunities for all Ross Township families for the first time by launching the school district’s own preschool. The school corporation has been “a delegate of the Geminus Head Start preschool program for the last three years, offering preschool classes to eligible families,” the *Times of Northwest Indiana* reports. “Classrooms are housed in three Merrillville elementary schools; follow the corporation calendar; feature developmentally appropriate furniture, curriculum and materials;



and are structured with a play-based design,” the newspaper writes. “Families who are not eligible for Head Start will spend \$4.40 per day for meals, but all books, materials and supplies are provided. Merrillville Preschool is approved to accept vouchers from On My Way Pre-K, which awards grants to 4-year-olds from low-income families so that they may have access to a high-quality pre-K program the year before they begin kindergarten.”

- The Indiana Department of Education’s Office of Student Assessment will host the ILEARN Science Blueprint Committee to create the new science assessment blueprint for the updated Indiana science standards. The committee will advise on key test design elements such as defining reporting categories, considering overall test length, and setting priority levels for assessing specific performance expectations.

- The committee will meet in-person from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 5, in Indianapolis.

- Sheridan Community School Superintendent **Dave Mundy** presents enrollment data during his “State of the Schools” address that shows current SCS enrollment is 1,066, “which represents consistency to a slight decline over the past 10 years, while projections indicate slow and steady growth over the next 10 years, with an estimated a total K-12 increase of 200 students by 2032,” the *Hamilton County Reporter* writes.

- Elkhart Community Schools and the nonprofit group “enFocus” create a partnered open WiFi map to help students access free internet connection outside of school. The map consists of more than 100 locations around the community, such as libraries and coffee shops, with free WiFi and each location’s operating hours.

## IN Elections . . .

- Fishers Town Councilor **Jocelyn Vare** (D), challenging Sen. **Kyle Walker** (R) of Indianapolis in SD 31 – expected to be the only seriously contested seat with a Republican incumbent – secures two leading public education endorsements. The American Federation of Teachers (AFT), Indiana and Dr. **Jennifer McCormick**, Indiana’s last elected state superintendent of public instruction, officially back Vare.

- Center Grove Community School Corporation School Board President **Joe Hubbard** (R) plans to challenge Greenwood Mayor **Mark Myers** (R) in Greenwood’s 2023 Republican mayoral primary.

- Two upcoming dates of interest related to school board elections:

- Thursday, September 15, by noon is the deadline for a county election board or the Lake, Porter, and Tippecanoe county board of elections and registration, to rule on the validity of a petition of nomination for a school board office or on a statement

questioning the denial of certification of a petition. This is also the deadline for ruling on the validity of a declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate for a school board office.

- Friday, September 16, by noon, is the deadline for a school board candidate to file a campaign finance report with the county election board or board of election and registration if the candidate was required by state law to open a committee (a candidate for school board is not required to open a committee by filing a statement of organization until the candidate raises or spends at least \$500).

- We recently told you that there was no plan in the works for “coordinated” school board candidate endorsements by Attorney General **Todd Rokita** (R) . . . but we’ve learned of one school board candidate in Avon whom he has formally endorsed – and who is using that backing in her campaign materials. He praises the candidate’s “student-focused” approach to education, combined with “a commitment to be responsive to parents.”

## IN Budgets & Finance . . .

- The Shelby Eastern Schools (SES) School Board takes action to borrow as much as a \$23 million in bonds for building upgrades – part of the school district’s Envision 2025 plan, which was first proposed by SES Superintendent **Todd Hitchcock** at a July board meeting and “came about as a result of significant debt falling off over the next few years,” according to the *Shelbyville News*. “The idea behind the plan is to take out more bonds now to fix the issues across all the SES campus buildings in order to keep the tax rate the same for taxpayers, rather than letting the tax rate fall and then having to raise it again later,” the newspaper explains.

- On August 24, the SES board approved a preliminary determination to issue bonds and enter into a lease agreement for the renovation and improvements of all four district schools: Waldron Elementary, Waldron Jr./Sr. High, Morristown Elementary and Morristown Jr./Sr. High. Hitchcock hopes for bids to move forward later this year. “Building upgrades include redesigning the elementary gymnasium spaces to increase seating capacity, updating the media center spaces at all four schools, replace old floor and wall coverings and purchase new classroom furniture,” the newspaper reports. “The original plan also looked at adding family restrooms to the high schools, replacing casework such as cabinets, addressing HVAC concerns, relocating athletic fields so they’re closer to restrooms/concessions, updating the central office to make it handicap accessible, updating kitchen and cafeteria spaces, upgrading locker rooms, doing security updates (including doors and windows that are failing), and addressing minor concession stand upgrades. The board is waiting to define what the highest priority projects are and to see what the market does. Both of these factors will determine how much the board actually takes out and when they decide to take the bond out.”

- The Indiana Secured School Safety Board grants 425 school corporation's requests for school safety funds during August, totaling approximately \$22.9 million, an increase over the approximate \$19 million doled out by the board last year. Applications were received from a record high number of schools this year.

□ Board members explain the increase came from funds that went untapped during the pandemic. "The vast majority of applicants sought funding for school resource officers – with 271 schools receiving \$15 million," Indiana Capital Chronicle writes. "A second tier of requests, totaling \$37,161, will cover associated costs for SRO, firearm, active shooter and ALICE training at 12 school corporations. ALICE refers to a type of school safety training that emphasizes a series of steps: Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter and Evacuate."

## *IN Contracts & Compensation . . .*

- The Oregon-Davis School Corporation raises pay for athletic contest officials, bumping their compensation by \$5 per game.

- The Monroe County Community School Corporation (MCCSC) Board of School Trustees approves a new monetary incentive program to combat the school district's ongoing bus driver shortage, offering bus drivers a beginning hourly rate of \$20.25 and full benefits. School district officials says drivers can expect an approximate \$1 per hour raise in both fall and spring. Also, MCCSC employees can receive a \$1,000 referral bonus for sending bus drivers the way of the school district.

□ Districts across the state – rural and urban – continue to find staffing bus routes problematic. Superintendent **Nikki Woodson** of M.S.D. Washington Township sent a brief video to parents Tuesday seeking to outline the issue with driver shortages, and on Wednesday, just a few hours before school was to open that morning, parents received a note from Dr. Woodson explaining that one-third of the township's bus drivers had called in saying they would be absent for work that day.

- The Muncie Community Schools Board of Trustees votes to double the school district's highest substitute pay rate from \$105 a day to \$210 a day. To qualify for the higher pay rate, substitutes must have a current Indiana K-12 teaching license, previous certified K-12 teaching experience, and a master's or doctorate degree in the field of education. Subs who don't meet the criteria can earn \$75 to \$105 depending on their education level.

- Indianapolis Public Schools, in an email sent to staff on Wednesday, reveals it is dropping a limit on the number of absences employees could have last spring to qualify for a \$1,500 retention bonus the district was set to pay Friday. You'll remember that the initial requirement allowed staff only two absences after

March 28 to qualify for the pay outs (Friday's will be the first of three rounds to be distributed through September 2023 that aim to help retain staff, and they are funded with federal Covid relief dollars). The rub: "Although staff could still take personal and vacation days, those who were out sick for more than two days were not eligible for the extra money," Chalkbeat Indiana explains. "The employee attendance requirement angered teachers throughout the district who were worried about missing out on the bonus due to a positive COVID diagnosis – which required teachers to quarantine for five days." The outlet adds that its request to IPS for comment went unanswered and that it is unclear if the requirement will be dropped for the next two scheduled payouts.

## *IN Programs & Curriculum . . .*

- The Indiana College Core expanded by 57 schools ahead of the 2022-23 school year, state education officials announce, bringing the total number of schools offering the program to 141, a 68% increase. "As we celebrate the 10th anniversary of the core, high schools and higher education providers have now come together like never before to expand access to this incredible opportunity for our students," Secretary of Education **Katie Jenner** states.

□ Approximately 10,200 students have earned one full year of college for little to no cost through the program since 2012, according to officials.

- Goshen Community Schools plans to implement an early college program at Goshen High School.

## *IN School Health & Safety . . .*

- Claypool Elementary School plays host to active shooter response training for Kosciusko County law enforcement August 27.

- South Bend's Clay High School was the site of four fights in less than one week at Clay High School. "Two of those were last week and two this Tuesday morning just minutes apart," reports WSBT-TV in South Bend. "St. Joseph County Police were called out all four times and police did tell WSBT that the fights from [September 2 and September 6] were broken up by the time police arrived -- and no arrests were made. They were called out on August 31st and September 2nd. The county police's public information officer says the altercations were handled by school staff without any police intervention. A Tuesday letter to parents from the Clay High School principal reads in part "Shortly before school started this morning, altercations involving students took place in two areas of our school. Some of those involved sustained minor injuries and are being treated accordingly," and the school was on lockdown for 10 minutes.





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□ “WSBT asked if these incidents tend to happen in the same friend group – or across various friend groups. The communications director wasn’t sure if they could say more until the investigation and disciplinary actions are completed.” Additional police officers and administrators were sent to Clay High School for the rest of the week.

- Gary firefighters extinguish a fire August 28 at Norton Elementary School, a shuttered building where the body of a slain Portage woman was found in 2019, the *Gary Post-Tribune* reports, adding that it was the second fire in two weeks at the vacant school. Police believe the August 28 fire was “incendiary,” first starting in a pile of trash. “According to a June 2021 document, Norton is one of six schools still up for sale by the district. It closed in 2006,” the newspaper writes.

## IN Shortages . . .

- As of September 8, 1,551 teaching positions remain open on the Indiana Department of Education’s School Personnel Job Board, a drastic increase from the 852 open jobs close to when the board was first launched in March. But in the weeks leading up to the school year, the total number of open teaching positions in the state have been slowly decreasing, and it continues to do so as the academic year kicks off.

□ Note that IDOE does not maintain comparable data for prior years, according to **Holly Lawson**, a spokesperson for the agency. IDOE switched from its old job bank to a new platform in March of this year, and “Lawson wrote that nearly every school corporation in the state – and many charter and nonpublic schools – are using the new job board to post positions in real time, which wasn’t possible with their previous system,” WFYI of Indianapolis writes. “That means ‘comparing postings on the new supply and demand marketplace to postings on the previous job board is like comparing apples to oranges,’ Lawson wrote in an email to the station. Moving forward, the state plans to use this new system “to glean insights into the educator pipeline, including the geographic and subject areas with the highest need for teachers,” Lawson tells the station.

□ In the meantime, we have begun tracking the number of open teaching positions in the state, using data gleaned from the IDOE School Personnel Job Board:

| Week of 2022 | Total teaching position openings | Early Child teaching openings | Elementary Teaching position openings | Middle School teaching position openings | High School teaching position openings |
|--------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| 09/05        | 1,551                            | 111                           | 391                                   | 381                                      | 489                                    |
| 09/01        | 1,572                            | 108                           | 385                                   | 392                                      | 493                                    |
| 08/25        | 1,601                            | 104                           | 391                                   | 393                                      | 503                                    |
| 08/18        | 1,662                            | 113                           | 420                                   | 394                                      | 523                                    |

|       |       |     |     |     |     |
|-------|-------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 08/11 | 1,750 | 116 | 437 | 414 | 558 |
| 08/05 | 1,888 | 118 | 446 | 440 | 604 |
| 07/28 | 2,156 | 145 | 488 | 489 | 722 |
| 07/21 | 2,305 | 147 | 518 | 510 | 783 |
| 07/14 | 2,398 | 153 | 525 | 540 | 813 |

## IN Facilities & Construction . . .

- Demolition of the former Silver Lake Elementary School in Kosciusko County began Tuesday, where the Town of Silver Lake plans to build a community center on the site.

□ We reported on the building’s closure back in 2004, as well as the controversy over the past decade related to its future . . . or lack of one.

- The East Allen County Schools (EACS) Board of School Trustees formally opposes the proposed location of the new jail planned in Allen County, which we’ve told you is near EACS schools. The county is said to be considering two other sites but won’t release details due to ongoing negotiations.

□ A statement from the trustees reads: “The East Allen County Board of School Trustees objects to the usage of the county-owned land at Paulding and Adams Center Road for a jail and strongly request of the Allen County Commissioners that another site be chosen. The East Allen County School System serves this area with Southwick Elementary, Prince Chapman Academy, Paul Harding Jr. High, and East Allen University. These schools are within viewing distance of the proposed new jail and with this correctional facility located in this proximity to students, we view this as a detriment to their development.” The trustees add that they believe there are alternate sites for the facility that would be more appropriate.

- The Metropolitan School District of Wabash County releases architectural renderings of the proposed new high school which will be on the Election Day ballot. The facility will be located near Highway 24, just north of Heartland Career Center on Division Road between 150 West and 200 West in north central Wabash.

- West Central School Corporation in Pulaski County selects Moake Park Group of Fort Wayne as the architectural design firm to update band and choir rooms on an undetermined timeline.

## IN Referenda . . .

- The Department of Local Government Finance, in “Nonrule Policy Document #2022-1: Controlled Project Amount Thresholds For Calendar Year 2023,” determines the threshold amounts for controlled projects in 2023.



□ Under IC 6-1.1-20-1.1(2)(A)(iii), the amount is \$6,106,217. Under IC 6-1.1-20-3.1(a)(2)(C)(i) and IC 6-1.1-20-3.1(a)(3)(B)(i), the amount is \$18,318,651. Under IC 6-1.1-20-3.5(a)(1)(A)(i) and IC 6-1.1-20-3.5(a)(1)(B)(i), the amount is \$18,318,651.

## IN Transition . . .

• The Oak Hill United School Board names Dr. **Sheri Hardman** as the school district’s new superintendent.

• **James Callane** resigns from his position as superintendent of Maconaquah School Corporation after he was arrested in Fulton County on charges of alleged drunk driving Saturday, following a car crash. Callane faces preliminary charges of leaving the scene of a property damage crash and operating a vehicle while intoxicated-endangerment.

□ In a social media post, the school district announces the Maconaquah School Corporation Board of School Trustees selects Director of Student Services **Kelly McPike**, as interim superintendent. “The Board of School Trustees is grateful to Dr. Callane for his many years of service to the Corporation, and wishes him and his family well,” the post states. “Ms. McPike brings 14 years of administrative leadership at Maconaquah Schools. The Board is familiar and confident with her ability to lead our Corporation.”

• As of August 30, 2022, **Tim Armstrong** resigned from all positions (school resource officer and coaching responsibilities) effective immediately and is no longer an employee of the Madison Consolidated Schools district, WIKI 95.3-FM of Madison reports. The district releases a statement explaining there “is an ongoing external investigation surrounding a personnel matter” after “receiving a report of misconduct filed on August 18, 2022.”

□ Indiana State Police Sgt. **Stephen Wheelles** tells WHAS-TV in Louisville that ISP “was looking into a matter within the school district. Wheelles says no charges have been filed against Armstrong, however investigators are looking through evidence at this time, including electronics. He says while the investigation may take some time, ISP is working to build a case to present to a prosecutor.”

• **Craig Leach** is named the new principal of Tipton High School.

• **Tiffany Benjamin** joins the Early Learning Indiana board of directors. Benjamin is CEO of the Humana Foundation, and previously served as president of the Eli Lilly and Company Foundation and senior director of social impact for Eli Lilly and Company.

## IN Charter Schools . . .

• Two charter high schools within the IPS system hope to expand to Pike Township: Purdue Polytechnic High School, which would see its third Indianapolis high school in August 2023, and Believe Schools, which hopes to open its second school, Believe: Pike Academy, in August 2024. “Both schools hope their expansion into Pike Township will help serve students of color,” the *Indianapolis Business Journal* writes. “They would become the only physical charter schools in Pike Township if approved by the Indianapolis Charter School Board. The Indiana Charter School Authority and OEI, which oversee nearly all of the charter schools in Marion County, have not previously authorized charters in Pike.”

□ Both schools propose starting with 100 students, with Purdue Polytechnic aiming for 500 students by its seventh year and Believe: Pike Academy eyeing 490 by its seventh year. “Results from the SAT, which juniors took for the first time in the 2021-22 school year as a graduation requirement, show that Purdue Polytechnic students across both of its Indianapolis campuses tested college-ready in reading and math at a rate above the IPS average,” *IBJ* adds.

□ Expect replication applications for both schools in time to meet their Friday, September 9, deadline.

• Ignite Achievement Academy has transitioned from an IPS-affiliated restart charter school to the Genius School, an independent K-6 charter school in a new location near the city’s Fairgrounds neighborhood, WFYI of Indianapolis reports. It is on probationary status due to poor performance.

• At The Oaks Academy in Indianapolis, **Shannon Williams**, executive vice president of The Mind Trust, becomes board chair . . . and graduate student **Diamond McDonald** signs on the board as its second alumni trustee.

## IN Courts & Conduct . . .

• The Office of the Attorney General Monday files an appeal with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit of the of preliminary injunction issued by Judge **Jane Magnus-Stinson** of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Indiana against enforcing the new state law requiring participants in girls’ sports to be biological girls. As you will recall, a 10-year-old transgender girl (a biological male whose birth certificate gender was changed by a court; she has been identifying as a female since age four and undergoing treatment at the Gender Health Clinic at Riley Children’s Hospital) challenged SEA 1041-2022 on Title IX and the Equal Protection Clause grounds, seeking to play on a girls’ softball team in the Indianapolis Public Schools district. *A.M. v. Indianapolis Pub. Sch.*, No. 22-2332.



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□ “Forcing female student-athletes to compete against males in women’s sports is an absolute assault on girls’ equality of opportunity and even their physical safety,” Attorney General **Todd Rokita** (R) reiterates Thursday. “Males possess certain physiological advantages that make them faster and stronger, and it’s unconscionable to ignore these scientific realities. The Left must stop sacrificing women’s well-being on the altar of transgender woke-ism.” The appellee is represented by the American Civil Liberties Union of Indiana.

□ The OAG brief specifically contends that A.M., the student challenging the law, does not have a substantial likelihood of success under Title IX, because Title IX does not protect “gender identity.” Rather, it instead prohibits both discrimination and denial of equal opportunities “on the basis of sex,” a biological characteristic determined by reproductive function. “Self-identifying as a girl ... does not negate the advantages that come from being born male,” the brief states. “That means transgender athletes born male will outperform athletes born female who have equivalent levels of dedication, training, and skill, displacing those female athletes from rosters and podiums. It would turn Title IX on its head to construe the statute to privilege gender identity, an unprotected characteristic, at the expense of sex, the protected characteristic.” To preserve equal opportunities for the male and female sexes, Title IX permits the male sex to be barred from girls’ sports, the State contends.

□ OAG also tells the court that A.M. does not have a substantial likelihood of success on the Equal Protection claim, arguing that sex-based classifications in sports are lawful, any classification affecting transgender individuals is subject only to rational-basis review, and multiple “exceedingly persuasive rationales” justify sex-separated sports.

□ Finally, OAG suggests that Judge Magnus-Stinson erred in analyzing the remaining considerations, overlooking evidence of no irreparable harm and evidence of harms to others, and the judge also “misapprehended the public interest.” OAG contends that the lower court ruling overlooks that the public suffers “irreparable injury” where laws enacted by its representatives are enjoined, “and that its injunction disadvantages the female sex.” “Upholding the decision below would throw open girls’ sports to members of the male sex with all the advantages being born male confers, depriving women of equal opportunities to compete fairly and safely in sports,” writes Solicitor General **Tom Fisher** for the State.

- Goshen Community Schools is under investigation by the U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights after an anonymous Title IX complaint was filed against the district alleging discrimination on the basis of sex related to the relative quality its baseball and softball facilities, reports WSBT-TV in South Bend.

□ U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights letters of notification to Goshen Community Schools indicate the complaint alleges GCS is “discriminating against female athletes in the corporation’s high school interscholastic program on the basis of sex,” and is “failing to provide them equal provision of locker rooms and practice and competitive facilities.”

- In Tippecanoe County, eight school buses, fencing, and a playground are damaged in a late-night joyride, the Tippecanoe County Sheriff’s Department reports. Six of the buses were driven, apparently through fencing, in nearby woods and over playground equipment. None of the buses were in use – all decommissioned or used as a backup. Tippecanoe Schools Corporation officials say keys to the buses were hidden inside them because the buses had been decommissioned, possibly allowing the vandal(s) to access them.

□ Local law enforcement has released pictures captured from video surveillance to the public in an effort to identify the multiple suspects.

- According to local news outlets, **Tyrique Radford El**, 18, is arrested by Greenwood police on a preliminary charge of murder relating to the death of **Temario Stokes Jr.**, who we told you in our last issue was shot and killed while waiting for a school bus, *State v. Radford El*, No. 41D03-2208-MR-000001. The murder allegedly grew out of an earlier dispute between the two.

- **Jaydin Young**, 19, of Muncie is arrested Friday, August 26, after he allegedly entered the grounds of South View Elementary School while armed with a rifle and multiple rounds of ammunition, *State v. Young*, No. 18C01-2208-F5-000134.

□ Young is charged in Delaware County Circuit Court 1 with Level 5 Felony intimidation and Level 6 Felony possession of a firearm on school property. According to a probable cause affidavit, Young argued with a man who refused to buy him tobacco products at a nearby shop, when Young “pulled out a gun and said this is how people get shot.” The man told Young to leave the property, which he did on foot. A school safety officer relayed to city police that a man matching Young’s description was spotted hiding in a bush by the school. Young was then apprehended.

- In *Payne-Elliott v. Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Indianapolis*, No. 22S-CP-302, the Indiana Supreme Court, in a 4-0 ruling, affirms that “Religious freedom protected by the First Amendment to the United States Constitution encompasses the right of religious institutions ‘to decide for themselves, free from state interference, matters of church government as well as those of faith and doctrine.’ ” Accordingly, the Court finds that the church-autonomy doctrine bars **Joshua Payne-Elliott’s**

claims against the Catholic Archdiocese of Indianapolis over his firing as a teacher at Cathedral High School because he was in a same-sex marriage with a teacher at Brebeuf Jesuit Preparatory School.

□ When the Archdiocese requested the Brebeuf teacher be fired, the school declined to do so. After the Archdiocese disaffiliated the school, The Vatican later returned Brebeuf to its status as a Catholic Jesuit school. Justice **Geoffrey Slaughter** explains for the Court that both schools faced the same choice: “either retain its recognition as a Catholic school by following the archdiocese’s instruction on what was required to be recognized as a Catholic school or forfeit continued recognition.... This choice reflects the archdiocese’s authority to declare which schools are Catholic.”

- The community news website LarryInFishers is first to report **Dan Henke**, the Fishers City Judge and former Fishers Town Councilor, is hired by Hamilton Southeastern Schools (HSE), free of charge, to conduct “an independent fact-finding investigation” into an incident we told you about in our last newsletter regarding a “Defund the Police?” poster in a Hamilton Southeastern High School classroom.

□ “According to HSE Schools, Superintendent **Yvonne Stokes** suggested the idea of an independent inquiry while she and other HSE administrators met with Fishers Mayor **Scott Fadness**, Fishers Police Chief **Ed Gebhart**, **Chris Owens** of the Fishers Fraternal Order of Police, Indiana State Police Superintendent **Doug Carter**, **William Owensby** of the Indiana Fraternal Order of Police and **Rick Snyder** of the Indianapolis Fraternal Order of Police,” the website reports. “Once the fact-finding is complete, Judge Henke will submit a report to Dr. Stokes and the HSE Board of Trustees.”

- **Heather Montgomery** of Terre Haute is arrested and faces a charge of Level 6 Felony intimidation in Vigo County Superior Court 6 for an alleged bomb threat made against Benjamin Franklin Elementary School in Terre Haute on Friday, September 2. *State v. Montgomery*, No. 84D06-2209-F6-003312.

□ The parent allegedly called school officials from outside a school building demanding that her children be placed on the school bus immediately or she would “blow up the school,” according to the Criminal Information filed by the Vigo County prosecutor.

- An unidentified man dies after crashing his car into a tree at Lakeside Middle School in Fort Wayne Saturday, August 27. The crash is under investigation.

- A 15-year-old male from Mesa, Arizona, was arrested this week for Level 6 Felony Interfering with an Educational Institution, and for Class 1 Misdemeanor Threatening and Intimidating, after a

threatening text message was sent to a Mt. Vernon Senior High School student in Posey County through an app that disguises the true sender. The message alleged a shooting was going to occur the following day at Mt. Vernon Senior High School. The Mt. Vernon Police Department and Indiana State Police initiated a criminal investigation, and officers were able to identify the sender, who previously attended the school and knew the student to whom he sent the message. ISP and MVP collaborated with Mesa law enforcement to locate and arrest the juvenile, who was remanded to custody in a juvenile detention center in Phoenix.

- **Christopher Gary** of Hammond admits in a plea agreement that he shot a teenage girl June 15, 2021, as she fought with him after he robbed her just outside Hammond Central High School, *State v. Gary*, No. 45G01-2108-F2-000057. If the plea agreement is accepted by Lake Criminal Court Judge **Salvador Vasquez**, Gary would continue four years in prison, with two and a half years suspended in favor of probation and would be required to get his high school diploma or GED.

□ “The sentence in Vasquez’s court would run consecutive to any sentence he receives in a Marion County, where he’s accused of carrying a handgun within 500 feet of a school,” the *Times of Northwest Indiana* notes, regarding *State v. Gary*, No. 49D21-2102-F5-005172.

- A suspected drunk driver hit a Mooresville High School student while she was crossing the street near her bus stop Tuesday morning. *State v. Simpson*, No. 55D03-2209-F5-001189. According to the Mooresville Police Department, the girl was taken to IU Health Riley Hospital for Children, and WXIN-TV FOX 59 of Indianapolis tells viewers the 15-year-old student was “in stable condition with a likely broken bone,” later that morning. The girl was the only student at the bus stop at the time of the incident, local outlets report.

- A lawsuit is filed in U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Indiana against Elkhart Community Schools regarding the death of 12-year-old North Side Middle School student Rio Allred, who we told you had alopecia and committed suicide after allegedly being bullied at school, *Ball v. Elkhart Community School District et al*, No. 3:22-cv-00730-DRL-MGG.

□ The school district is sued for wrongful death, violating Title IX, and violating the Equal Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment of the Constitution. The family’s attorney, **Thomas Blessing**, tells WNDU-TV 16 *News Now* of South Bend “that even with documented proof of verbal and physical bullying, the school did nothing, and Rio committed suicide less than two weeks later,” the station reports, adding that, “According to Blessing, the family is suing for \$4 million in compensation and hoping to encourage the school district to make serious changes so that another child won’t have to endure what Rio did.”



## IN Higher Education

### IN General . . .

- Several Indiana higher education institutions are named in the *Forbes* annual Top 100 ranking of America's Best State Employers—Indiana University (19th), The University of Notre Dame (24th), Purdue University (35th), Ivy Tech Community College (46th), and the University of Southern Indiana (62nd).

- Indiana University and Purdue University are named two of the 40 “Best of the Best LGBTQ+ Friendly Colleges and Universities” in the United States by Campus Pride, a national nonprofit organization dedicated to the establishment of safer college environments for LGBTQ+ students.

- The Indiana Department of Revenue clarifies this week that Indiana law requires taxation of forgiven loans as discharged debt, and thus unless there are other individual circumstances that would allow a taxpayer to forego paying taxes, Hoosiers will be required to pay both state and county taxes on the amount of student loans forgiven by the federal government.

- That could result in a tax liability of as much as \$323 for \$10,000 in forgiven loans, and an additional amount in county taxes where applicable (county rates may add as much as another \$295 on the tax tab). While paying \$600 to be freed from \$10,000 of liability (as well as ongoing interest) may seem to be a bargain, because this is a debt being forgiven rather than income, some may have to reach deep to find the cash to meet their state tax obligation.

- The Education Data Initiative (EDI) reports that some 906,500 student borrowers reside in Indiana, with a combined \$29.8 billion in debt – tabbed at around \$32,874 per borrower. An estimated 294,000 of those borrowers should see their debt completely wiped out by the August presidential executive order, according to EDI, which could mean a Fiscal Year 2023 tax windfall to the state alone of almost \$95 million – which, in turn, could fund a lot of higher education programs . . . or even scholarships.

- Writing in the *Times of Northwest Indiana*, **Dan Carden** explains that “The obligation to pay state and county income tax on earnings not subject to federal tax is relatively unusual since Indiana generally conforms its tax statutes to match federal law for simplicity, among other reasons. In this case, a paragraph tucked into page 118 of the 234-page, two-year state budget, signed into law April 29, 2021, by Republican Gov. **Eric Holcomb**, decoupled Indiana from the tax exemption for forgiven federal student loan debt included in the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) enacted by Biden March 11, 2021.” WTHR-TV's veteran investigative reporter **Bob Segall** tweets that the state did not choose to pursue those individual and entities receiving PPP loan forgiveness.

- As you might expect, the House Democratic fiscal leader, Rep. **Greg Porter** (D), has already deplored state taxation of this debt, labeling it “punitive” and promising to seek a change to the law. House Speaker **Todd Huston** (R) simply says he expects “conversations to continue” on the subject looking to the 2023 session. Recall that when the President announced his loan forgiveness plan, several members of the Indiana Republican congressional delegation denounced the initiative, and in the one competitive congressional district held by a Democrat, the Republican challenger has taunted the Democratic incumbent over staying silent on the plan. Depending upon whether this turns into an election issue of consequence and how the election turns out, there's a good chance that the status quo remains intact . . . unless a convincing case can be made that the state doesn't need the money and the quick turnaround from the August presidential edict to taxes owed in January would not be equitable.

- Meanwhile, another wrinkle has emerged: Some who paid off their remaining student debt during the moratorium that started in March 2020 could receive refunds. The *Washington Post* reports “Companies managing the Education Department's \$1.6 trillion portfolio of student loans said they are being inundated with refund requests from borrowers who made payments during the pandemic pause . . . The Education Department has offered to return money to people who continued to pay since the inception of the moratorium in March 2020, but the policy went largely unnoticed until last week.”

- In our last issue, we told you about Indiana University President **Pamela Whitten's** bonus for her first-year performance. The university's 19th president (and first female president), has impressed many, but **Ben Robinson**, an associate professor of Germanic studies at the university who also heads the American Association of University Professors at IU Bloomington, tells Indiana Public Media that he believes many faculty have lost confidence in President Whitten, who was previously president of Kennesaw State University and provost at the University of Georgia. However, IU Trustees chair **Quinn Buckner** tells the outlet the board is pleased with President Whitten's performance, saying she's “done what the trustees expected her to do.”

- Some of the highlights of President Whitten's first year include her \$30 million plan to hire more diverse faculty and staff, tension between graduate students looking to unionize and a university that has so far denied that request, the recently announced IUPUI split (of which we are told she was instrumental in making happen), her decision not to offer her opinions on *Roe v. Wade's* demise, navigating the return to in-person classes, and more. She also adds that she addressed the university's financials in her first year while speaking on WFIU's *Noon Edition* program: “We cut \$70 million in my first year here,” President Whitten said. “I'm hopeful that for the

most part no one realizes it because I decided that we weren't going to cut anything that touched a student or faculty member. It was all work that was done at the central level." She has also said she has no intentions of removing tenure for faculty, once a fear expressed by some at the university.

□ Dr. Whitten continues to state that she is focused on three priorities: supporting research and scholarship; providing benefits to the state of Indiana; and, especially, putting students at the center of the IU universe. And though many challenges likely await her before the end of her five-year contract, such as the grad student strike, which is set to resume September 25, she signals she is ready to face them, telling the *Leaders & Legends* podcast that the university aims to do its part to "elevate the life of all Hoosiers" by preparing those entering the workforce, expand research . . . and, of course, beat Purdue University whenever possible in athletics.

• Purdue University will host the eighth-annual Indiana STEM Education Conference, an in-person event on January 12, 2023, at Purdue University.

□ The theme for the 2023 conference is "Advancing STEM with Students." The conference will include keynote speaker and 2022 Indiana Teacher of the Year **Sharita Ware**, over 50 presentations on STEM curriculum,

instruction, careers, and research, and networking with STEM education sponsors.

• Sunday, September 11 is the first day under state law that a college or university must permit a student to knock on the door of each room in the living areas of student housing to conduct a poll. Before conducting the poll, the polltakers must submit certain information to the college or university. (transferred from Saturday, September 10, 2022 because the voter registration deadline is pushed a day due to the Columbus Day state holiday).

• Pending approval from the Federal Communications Commission, Franklin College announces plans to sell campus radio station WFCI-FM 89.5 to Inter Mirifica Inc., an Indianapolis-based nonprofit that the college notes which does business as Catholic Radio Indy. WFCI will reportedly continue to carry Christian programming after the sale is approved.

• Through 281 faculty searches the past year at Purdue University's West Lafayette campus, 213 new faculty members have been hired – the most ever at the campus – and 84 among the 213 new faculty members were brought to Purdue through new investments as part of Purdue's enrollment growth initiative, the Equity Task Force cluster hire program or other strategic initiatives.

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- Indiana University Chief Health Officer **Aaron Carroll** offers the following statement on behalf of the university regarding the passage of the abortion ban, SEA 1-2022 (ss): “We understand that since the recent passage of new legislation by the Indiana General Assembly, many of our students and their parents, as well as our faculty and staff, have questions. We know this is a hard and confusing time for many in our community. Indiana University has been reviewing SB1 to determine if and how our education and research missions may be affected, including how our School of Medicine’s faculty and residents may be impacted during their clinical study rotations. As we understand it right now, the legislation will have no impact on the personal support services we provide to our undergraduate and graduate students. While IU is required to comply with all state laws as a public university, we do so with an unwavering commitment to ensuring that our campus community – students, faculty, and staff – have access to a comprehensive array of personal, professional, and academic support.”

- The Indiana University School of Social Work and Center for Rural Engagement launch a number of telehealth well-being services, including free and confidential support for stress, depression, or anxiety, as well as resources for food, clothing, housing, and health care services, in several rural Indiana counties this fall with help from a grant from the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs.

- The initiative builds upon a two-month pilot program hosted at three rural libraries this summer in Bedford, Petersburg, and Sullivan and is led by School of Social Work associate professors **John Keesler** and **David Wilkerson** in addition to **Todd Burkhardt**, director of campus partnerships at the Center for Rural Engagement. Partnering with local libraries, the initiative will develop multiple social work practicum placements for second-year, graduate-level social work students from the university’s Bloomington campus. Students will complete up to 640 hours during the academic year under the supervision of a field instructor who is a licensed social worker and a field liaison.

- You should know: More than 76% of rural Indiana counties reported mental health care as a top community need, according to a 2020 briefing of community needs assessments. Across Indiana, the ratio of patients to each behavioral health provider is more than 1,200, and that patient ratio is significantly greater on average in rural communities, according to the university

- An 18-year-old IU freshman died last month after he crashed while riding an e-scooter. The accident occurred on 10th Street west of Eagleson Avenue, across from the Wells Library, according to campus police.

- Almost all Indiana University campuses saw an increase in beginner student enrollment in the fall 2022 semester, according to the university’s official enrollment census on August 29, marking the first time since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic that the university has seen growth in this student population on nearly all campuses, including increases at three of IU’s five regional campuses.

- IU also “continues to further diversify its student body, setting a record for the number of domestic students of color enrolled this year,” the university adds, as more than 30 percent of the IU student body – nearly 25,000 students – are “domestic students of color.” “This fall, we welcome a powerhouse of more than 90,000 students to Indiana University with a record number of students of color and growth in the number of international students in our IU family,” IU President **Pamela Whitten** boasts. “The vast array of experiences, knowledge, cultures, talents and skills represented in our student body is a source of pride and strength as we begin this 2022-23 academic year.”

- Overall enrollment across all IU campuses reaches 90,065, with 15,922 of these students beginning their academic career with the university in the fall 2022 semester. International student enrollment increased for the fall 2022 semester to 7,432, with 15 percent increases in the population on the university’s Bloomington and IUPUI campuses. At the Bloomington campus, the incoming class of beginner, degree-seeking students set a new record this semester with 9,736 students enrolled, a nearly 3 percent increase over the fall 2021 class of incoming students. The campus’ total enrollment is 47,005, composed of 35,660 undergraduates and 11,345 graduate and professional students, all of which are increases from the previous year.

- The Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology is starting the 2022-23 academic year with more than 2,150 students – which Rose-Human touts as a “near record for the nationally ranked undergraduate science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) college.” The class consists of 21% women, the sixth-highest in the institute’s history; 26% racially diverse students, and 18% first-generation attendees and/or Pell Grant recipients.

- Vincennes University President **Chuck Johnson** welcomed a delegation of 19 agriculture officials and experts representing Hungary to Vincennes University on September 1.

- Indiana State University releases enrollment data that shows the university is home to 2,544 new students, which includes a freshmen class of 1,535 – a seven percent increase from 2021-22.

## IN Policy . . .

- Boilermaker Alliance announces retired star National Football League quarterback **Drew Brees** as the newest member of its executive board, which is charged with operating the charitable organization that uses the name-image-likeness of Purdue University student-athletes “to help them make a difference in their communities.” Brees, one of Purdue University’s most decorated alumni-athletes, will serve as chair of the organization’s advisory board as the Boilermaker Alliance aims to expand its offerings to all 385 scholarship student-athletes at Purdue. “I believe in the mission of Boilermaker Alliance and what we are trying to accomplish in developing character and future leaders amongst our student-athletes. We will empower all 385 students to make an impact, locally and nationwide,” Brees explains. “Boilermaker Alliance will also provide all our coaches the resources needed to compete for championships. We aim to be a leader so other universities look to Purdue and model their programs after ours. This as an opportunity to develop leaders of character and do things the right way.”

- Under Boilermaker Alliance, Purdue student-athletes will work on behalf of charitable organizations to amplify the charities’ reach. “Efforts will include special appearances, signing autographs, posting on social media, managing camps and clinics, mentoring and appearing at charity events,” the organization states. “In the non-exclusive agreements, Boilermaker Alliance will compensate student-athletes under the new name-image-likeness rules through donations received. The organization intends to raise \$6 million annually to support this mission.” Boilermaker Alliance began partnering with athletes earlier this year.

- In addition, Boilermaker Alliance discloses the other members of its newly formed advisory board – **Akin Ayodele, Ropheal Davis, Jim Everett, Nick Hardwick, Robbie Hummel, Matt Light, Cuonzo Martin, Shaun Phillips, Pete Quinn, Bobby Riddell, and Adam Schenk** – most of whom should be familiar to Boilermaker fans.

- The University of Southern Indiana waives undergraduate application fees through September 30 as part of the statewide College GO! campaign.

- Student-athletes at Indiana University Bloomington will get an assist from IU Maurer School of Law students under a new Name, Image and Likeness Initiative through the school’s Center for Intellectual Property Research.

- “Our goal is to serve students who are negotiating NIL deals that might involve significant rights of the student but aren’t likely to generate enough revenue to justify hiring expensive specialized legal counsel,” explains **Mark Janis**, Maurer School of Law professor and director of the Center for Intellectual

Property Research. “While the sports pages are full of stories about six-figure deals for star college football and basketball players around the country, we think that’s the exception. We aim to help student-athletes locally who have some great NIL opportunities but don’t always get extensive media attention.”

- The university adds that the program is believed to be the first initiative of its kind in the country, allowing student-athletes to get needed legal representation, and law students, working under the guidance of both full-time and adjunct faculty at the law school to have the opportunity to develop and hone important skills while working with peers.

- The Name, Image and Likeness Initiative will be available to more than 700 student-athletes at IU, the university announces, with assistance provided on a “first-come, first-served basis.” The program is also open to other IU students who have name, image and likeness opportunities. “As the NIL Initiative becomes established, the center expects to expand its name, image and likeness services beyond the Bloomington campus, as it has already done for its general intellectual property law services,” the university writes.

- **Arika Herron** with the *Indianapolis Star* tweets that “Interim Chancellor **Andy Klein** says that IU got more than 400 nominations for people to participate in the working groups for the IUPUI realignment/split.”

- The University of Notre Dame’s Division of Undergraduate Enrollment announces it will remain test-optional through the 2024 application year. The university is currently test-optional for the class of students entering in fall 2023, and the announcement will continue that practice for current high school juniors. Also, transfer applicants will not be required to submit standardized test scores as part of their application for undergraduate admission.

- “The test-optional practice allows students to choose whether to submit a standardized test score to be included in the evaluation of their application,” the university explains, adding that one-third of the students admitted to the Class of 2026 did not submit a test score with their application.

- Purdue University plans a return to requiring SAT or ACT testing in 2024.

## IN Academic Programs & Degrees . . .

- Purdue University will offer a new, fully online Master of Science degree in Applied Geospatial Analytics “To meet growing global demand for food production driven by a rising population, farmers and other agriculturalists” who are turning to data science “to drive the next agricultural revolution,” the university announces.



- The University of Evansville launches a four-year Bachelor of Science in Construction Management degree through UE’s School of Engineering and Computer Science. Applications are currently open for the fall 2023 semester. **Hyunsoung Park**, Ph.D., assistant professor of civil engineering, will lead the program.

- UE’s construction management program will place heavy emphasis on technical and managerial skills. Students will learn design and planning concepts as well as construction methods, equipment, and codes. As safety is a major factor in construction, an upper-level course will focus on safety management methodology and OSHA compliance. Students will participate in hands-on learning in several classes, but internships with local businesses will provide real-world, immersive experiences. During their final year, students will also complete a yearlong capstone project under the supervision of a faculty member or industry partner.

- “The construction management program was created to meet the industry demands for construction managers at the local and national levels,” shares **Suresh Immanuel**, Ph.D., PE, associate dean in the School of Engineering and Computer Science. Immanuel also serves as a professor of civil engineering and will teach courses for the construction management program. He continues: “Due to technological advancements in construction processes and buildings, project management has become more complex which demands specialized personnel for successful completion. The curriculum designed for this program will touch each point of the process, from project planning to full completion.”

- Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College reintroduces the P-12, Mild Intervention, Special Education undergraduate program. Hoping to alleviate the teacher shortage, the college is also offering add-on programs for currently licensed teachers as well as transition to teach and alternate programs for people with bachelor’s degrees who want to become special ed teachers. Offered both online and on-campus, the program can be completed in one year.

- “We know that there are people and current teachers who want to become paraprofessionals but need to remain employed. Our program allows them to do that, so I think that really sets us apart from other institutions,” shares **Robin Thoma**, interim chair for the Department of Education and assistant professor at SMWC.

- The bachelor’s degree in mechanical engineering at Grace College earns accreditation from the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology.

- Indiana Wesleyan University-National & Global launches two hybrid bachelor’s degrees based at the Kokomo Thriving Center in Kokomo. The new Bachelor of Science in Addictions Counseling or a Bachelor of Science in Human Services with a specialization in life coaching, both offer flexible learning formats for students to complete within two years of entering the programs. Kokomo Thriving Center hybrid programs meet in-person, one time per class, with the remaining coursework occurring online.

- IWU-National & Global also unveils a fully online, Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) degree with a major in Educational Leadership. The degree boasts no on-site residency or travel requirements for program completion and students can complete their doctorate in just more than three years. Enrollees will learn to apply various leadership models in educational environments and conduct high-quality research within their chosen fields. Dissertation milestones are built into the coursework with students using research methods and completing projects that apply to their dissertation topics.

- To meet the growing demand for statistical analysts, The Department of Statistics at Purdue University is offering a new online Master of Science in Applied Statistics degree. The 33 credit-hour program can be completed in 24 to 30 months, according to the university, and all courses are offered fully online, so students can enroll from anywhere in the world and complete courses at a flexible pace.

## *IN Fundraising, Gifts & Grants . . .*

- The National Science Foundation awards Ball State University’s College of Sciences and Humanities a grant expected to help increase retention and graduation rates for low-income students with strengths in Chemistry and Biology.

- Totaling \$750,000 over five years, the grant will provide scholarships to 16 undergraduate students, recruited in two cohorts of eight, who show financial need. These students will be supported financially for up to four years and will work out of Ball State’s new Foundational Sciences Building.

- Ball State shares that the grant project, titled “Pathways to STEM Degrees through Integrated Academic Support, Career Enhancement, and Personal Development (I-ASCEND),” will also enable the university to build programming based on high-impact practices (HIPs) targeting students’ academic preparation and career enhancement, such as a first-year seminar; undergraduate research; faculty/peer mentoring; living-learning communities; internships/co-op experiences; and interactive industry seminars hosted by top Indiana employers. Workshops and activities to promote mental health, self-awareness, and social integration will also be incorporated into the programming to address Ball State students’ needs.

- Indiana State University creates an endowed scholarship to honor the memory of Jennifer Piker, a student at ISU who earned her degree over nine years as a part-time student while working full time and graduating with honors. Her husband, **David Piker**, and their son, Matthew, have established the scholarship in her memory. The Jennifer J. Piker Endowed Technology Scholarship will benefit part-time students in the ISU College of Technology who are pursuing a bachelor's degree while employed.

- Indiana State University's Massage Therapy Program receives a gift of \$280,000 toward scholarships from **Erik Dalton**, an affiliate faculty member at the Department of Applied Medicine and Rehabilitation. Dalton's gift is part of a multi-year pledge to support his existing endowment, the Erik Dalton Myoskeletal Massage Therapy Endowed Scholarship.

- In 2012, ISU became the first major university in the U.S. to offer Dalton's Advanced Myoskeletal Massage Therapy program in its Massage Therapy Minor.

- Ball State University is awarded a grant from the U.S. Department of Education, totaling more than \$1.3 million over three years for its Civic Renewal through Education for Agency (CREATE) project. In cooperation with **Muncie Community Schools** (MCS), Ball State will develop the project "as an innovative approach to instruction, student

learning, and professional development in civics that will integrate American history, geography, government, and media literacy," the university announces. As you know, a new Indiana law that requires every middle school student in the state to take a civics course by 2023. The new law requires students in grades 6-8 to take a semester-long civics course, but the law does not provide detailed guidance about course content and objectives or about how to prepare educators to design and teach such a course.

- Once implemented, BSU officials say the CREATE project will have developed the following components:

- A Civic Learning Repository, with a set of resources pertaining to civics, American history, geography, government, and media literacy.

- "An extensive set of professional development opportunities for civics, history, and social studies teachers and administrators offered during the school year to enhance and multiply the resources and skills teachers bring to MCS' civics and civics-related courses." One major focus of this will be parent, family, and community engagement.

- A summer Civic Learning Academy for MCS teachers and selected students. "This 14-day program will immerse at least 10 teachers annually in civics and history curriculum. The



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Academy will also immerse at least 30 students annually in the same curriculum simultaneously with teachers, providing teachers an opportunity to see students co-direct their own civic learning and preparing students to model such agentic learning in their classrooms.”

→ An emphasis on teacher-initiated, student-designed civics and history projects and field trips.

→ An annual Civic Learning Symposium for teachers, students, project personnel, national experts, and other interested stakeholders.

□ Dr. **Anand Marri**, dean of Ball State University’s Teachers College, and Dr. **David Roof**, associate professor of Educational Studies, will serve as co-principal investigators for the project. The team from Ball State will also include Dr. **Jill Bradley-Levine**, associate professor of Educational Studies; Dr. **Jerrell C. Cassady**, professor of Psychology-Educational Psychology; **Kate Elliott**, lecturer of Journalism; and Dr. **Michael Ndemanu**, associate professor of Multicultural Education.

• Supporters of DePauw University donated \$36.5 million in fiscal year 2022 and post the highest alum giving rate since 2016, university officials announce. You’ll remember that the university’s Day of Giving last fall generated nearly \$400,000 in support from 1,918 donors, the highest one-day total in DePauw’s history.

• We told you in our last issue of Lilly Endowment Inc.’s plan to award millions in grants to many Indiana higher education institutes through its Indiana Youth Programs on Campus initiative. Lilly Endowment launched the initiative in part to respond to the significant decrease in the number of Hoosiers pursuing higher education degrees. We also told you that in 2015, 65% of Indiana high school graduates were going straight to college, and the college-going rate has dropped steadily since. In 2020, only 53% of Hoosiers were attending college the year after high school. Goals of the initiative listed on its website include increasing the number of students who attend Indiana colleges and obtain postsecondary degrees and credentials.

□ Vincennes University receives a \$1 million grant from Lilly Endowment Inc. through its Indiana Youth Programs on Campus initiative. The grant will help the university broaden its series of Pre-College Programs for K-12 students. And with the new grant, Vincennes will expand its Pre-College Programs “to help more students see themselves as college-level and college-deserving students,” officials say. “This funding will enable VU to expand multi-day summer programs such as the Summer STEM Academy, Techmester, and Jobs for America’s Graduates (JAG) programs, as well as short-term camps throughout the year for students in 7th-12th grades,

hosted on VU campuses throughout the state,” the university explains . . . Indiana Tech also receives a \$1 million grant from Lilly Endowment Inc. through its Indiana Youth Programs on Campus initiative. Indiana Tech’s proposal, titled Industry 5.0 Talent Pathway through Indiana Tech STEAM Academy, will expand its existing camp offerings for K-12 students, create new summer camps, and develop a variety of after school programs . . . Saint Mary’s College President **Katie Conboy** announces that Lilly Endowment Inc. awards the college a \$1 million grant to enhance and expand on-campus educational summer programs for girls. This grant will modernize the College’s existing programs and introduce numerous new programs in the next three years. Recruitment for the enriched summer programming will focus heavily on girls who could be the first in their families to attend college . . . Taylor University officials say a \$500,000 grant from Lilly Endowment Inc. will be instrumental in the creation of a planned entrepreneurial program for Indiana high school students called IMPACT, which they say will “engage Indiana high school students in high-quality on-campus enrichment to help them develop entrepreneurial skills that equip them to impact their local community for the better while also envisioning a future for themselves in college.” A highlight of the effort will be an annual summer camp to be based in Taylor’s Horne Academic Center. Construction of the facility is slated to begin “soon,” according to the university . . . the University of Saint Francis receives a grant of \$862,346 from Lilly Endowment Inc. that will help USF launch its Discovery Academy to produce “robust, academic-focused” summer camps, the university announces. The USF Discovery Academy will consist of a series of discipline-focused camps that foster the academic interests of students. All camps will offer hands-on activities and exposure to the career options available in the discipline. Additionally, the USF Discovery Academy will also offer a leadership workshop that will support a peer-mentor program and teach students to become leaders within their schools and communities . . . DePauw University receives a grant of \$1 million from Lilly Endowment Inc. that will fund summer camp experiences for up to 1,000 rising 10th-12th graders each summer for three years, beginning next summer, according to the university. The university is partnering with the Center for Leadership Development; DREAM Alive Inc.; Elevate Indianapolis; and Starfish Initiative to create the camp, which will give campers “a flavor of the residential liberal arts experience and demonstrate DePauw’s multidisciplinary approach to critical inquiry, team . . . Indiana State University (ISU) receives an \$800,000 grant from Lilly Endowment Inc. that will help ISU expand its summer camp offerings focused on science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics (STEAM) to elementary, middle, and high school youth and increase their access to summer programs . . . Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College is awarded \$702,775 from Lilly Endowment Inc., which college officials say will enable SMWC to launch Challenging Ambitions and Maximizing Potential (C.A.M.P.),

a five-day, residential optional learning experience for high schoolers, at The Woods in June 2023 and establish a new Office of Pre-College Outreach . . . the University of Indianapolis collects a grant of \$688,938 from Lilly Endowment Inc. that will help the university launch a week-long residential summer camp with the aim of “expanding already existing educational programming for Hoosier youth who might not yet realize the benefits of higher education or don’t see a place for themselves within higher education,” the university explains.

- A \$1 million gift from the Sol and Arlene Bronstein Foundation to the University of Southern Indiana will establish an endowment and will support various initiatives in two areas: dementia care and advance care planning education. “A recent report from the Alzheimer’s Association shows there are currently only 66 geriatricians in Indiana – fewer than one per county – and the state will also need a 37% increase in home health aides by 2028 to meet demand,” Inside INdiana Business reports. “Boosted by the recent gift, USI says it’s uniquely positioned to not only swell the ranks of healthcare workers in the specialty, but also give Hoosiers a stronger voice in how they want to grow old.”

## *IN Facilities & Construction . . .*

- The University of Southern Indiana begins an estimated \$12 million renovation of its Recreation, Fitness and Wellness Center (RFWC) including a 31,000-square-foot expansion, 10,000 square-feet of renovated space and a renewed focus on student wellness that will consolidate office space for several departments across campus into one building.

- Work on the project, funded through a 2019 legislative appropriation, is expected to be completed in early 2024. In addition to the university’s current recreation and fitness facilities, the project will include renovated and added wellness-centric space for six departments, including Counseling and Psychological Services; Public Safety; Religious Life; the Student Wellness Office (currently housed in the RFWC); the University Health Center; and University Strategic Communication.

- The University of Southern Indiana Board of Trustees review and approve the university’s 2023-25 Capital Improvement Budget Request to be presented to the Indiana Commission for Higher Education, the State Budget Committee, and later to the fiscal committees of the Indiana General Assembly during the 2023 Legislative Session. The University is seeking \$83 million for the renovation and rehabilitation of capital projects including Academic Renovation Phase I – inclusive of Phase IV of the Health Professions Center and renovation of the Byron C. Wright Administration Building. The university explains that renovations will include updates to classrooms, student study spaces, technology infrastructure, teaching labs, and expanded simulation training.

- Taylor University breaks ground on its newest academic building – the Horne Academic Center, which will house Taylor’s growing Film and Media program. The new facility will also have dedicated space to support Taylor’s educational offerings in entrepreneurship. The estimated 45,000-square-foot facility, with an approximate cost of \$25 million – all privately raised dollars – will begin construction this fall with occupancy expected August 1, 2024.

## *IN Research and Innovation . . .*

- Thanks to a grant from the National Science Foundation, researchers from Purdue University, Indiana University, and the University of Notre Dame will develop quantum technologies at the newly announced Center for Quantum Technologies. Purdue will serve as the “lead site” of the center, with IUPUI contributing in some capacity, according to a joint release, but how exactly remains unclear.

- At Purdue, faculty from a variety of departments will participate, including Physics and Astronomy, Chemistry, Computer Science, Materials Engineering, and the Elmore Family School of Electrical and Computer Engineering. The center will also be supported by the Purdue Quantum Science and Engineering Institute.

- The new Center for Quantum Technologies (CQT) – funded for an initial five years through the NSF’s Industry-University Cooperative Research Centers (IUCRC) program – will team with member organizations from a variety of industries, including computing, defense, chemical, pharmaceutical, manufacturing and materials, the universities explain. At the center, CQT researchers plan to develop “industry-friendly” quantum devices, systems, and algorithms with enhanced functionality and performance. Committed industry and government partners include Accenture, the Air Force Research Laboratory, BASF, Cummins, D-Wave, Eli Lilly, Entanglement Inc., General Atomics, Hewlett Packard Enterprise, IBM Quantum, Intel, Northrup Grumman, NSWCC Crane, Quantum Computing Inc., Qrypt, and SkyWater Technology.

- Additionally, the center will train future quantum scientists and engineers to “fill the need for a robust quantum workforce,” the universities pledge. “Students engaged with the center will take on many of the responsibilities of principal investigators, including drafting proposals, presenting research updates to members and planning meetings and workshops,” they write.

- In 2021, Purdue Research Foundation received 169 patents, placing it first in both the state of Indiana and the Big Ten, and, again, sixth internationally, Purdue University reports, citing a report from the Intellectual Property Owners Association and the National Academy of Inventors, titled “Top 100 Worldwide Universities Granted U.S. Utility Patents 2021.” The 2021 ranking mirrors Purdue’s sixth place national ranking in 2020, when the foundation received 175 utility patents.



□ The only universities ranked higher than Purdue are the University of California system; Massachusetts Institute of Technology; the University of Texas system; King Abdulaziz University in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia; and Stanford University.

- Purdue University, Indiana University and the University of Notre Dame join the Midwest Center of Excellence for Vector-Borne Diseases, a \$10 million center led by the University of Wisconsin-Madison that is funded for five years by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

□ The first round of funding for the center in 2017 established a collaboration between universities and public health agencies in Wisconsin, Illinois, Iowa, Michigan and Minnesota. Together they work to better control mosquitoes and ticks – vectors that spread pathogens. “The academic partners, which will work closely with the Indiana Department of Health, all have industry connections and expertise in vector-control product development,” the universities explain in a joint release. “This includes designing, testing and evaluating new insecticides, sprays and devices to control mosquitoes and ticks.”

□ All three Indiana universities are expected to conduct a series of user-acceptance studies for products designed to control ticks and mosquitoes. University officials also note the project also will provide opportunities for early career scientists.

## *IN Transition . . .*

- The American College of Education board of trustees names longtime education executive **Geordie Hyland**, 46, as the new president and CEO of the Indianapolis-based online college. Hyland, who brings to bear more than 20 years of experience with businesses in the K-12 and higher education markets, will take office on October 4. He succeeds Dr. **Shawntel Landry**, who completes a 13-year tenure with ACE in which she grew the current student population to over 8,000.

□ Most recently, Toronto native Hyland served as an executive vice president of Ultimate Medical Academy (UMA), where he oversaw its online education division and clinical campus as well as its continuing medical education division and workforce development initiatives. UMA boasts more than 10,000 online and 30,000 continuing education students nationwide. Prior to his role at UMA, Hyland served as a vice president of private school academic services at K12 Inc. (now called Stride Inc.) in Virginia. Before K12, he worked at Blackboard in Washington, D.C. where he started a development education business unit.

□ Hyland is a graduate of Harvard University, where he received a bachelor’s degree in English and American literature as well as an MBA from Harvard Business School. He also earned a master’s degree in industrial relations and personnel management from The London School of Economics and Political Science.

- Bethel University plans to formally inaugurate **Barbara Bellefeuille** as its eighth president on Saturday, September 10,

- The Purdue University Police Department welcomes a new police chief – **Lesley Wiete**, a 1998 Purdue graduate who has been with the department since 1999. The former deputy chief transitioned into the role September 1. She replaces **John Cox**, who retired this summer and expects to become the Benton County sheriff next year, according to WLFI-TV of Lafayette.

- The Indiana University School of Medicine names **David Rosmarin** chair of the department of dermatology, effective in January. He currently is vice chair for research and education at Tufts Medical Center in Boston.

- Ivy Tech Community College promotes **Chad Bolser** to chancellor of its Richmond campus. He most recently was vice president of strategic operations for the school’s southern campuses.

□ This is a homecoming for Bolser, who had also spent more than 16 years with Richmond Community Schools before serving as Ivy Tech’s Richmond Campus president (August 104 – July 2017) and then chancellor (July 2017 – July 2019).

- The NCAA names **Mario Morris** senior vice president of administration and chief financial officer, effective this month. He is currently executive deputy athletics director at the University of Notre Dame.

- Ivy Tech Community College selects **Amber Williams** as its next vice president of Diversity, Equity, and Belonging, a role in which Williams “will lead the College in implementing initiatives that promote and advance diversity, equity and belonging and ensure these efforts support the College’s values and strategic goals,” the college explains. Williams will also work in collaboration with Ivy Tech’s procurement office to “establish pathways for minority-, women- and veteran-owned businesses that want to do business with the College,” officials note.

□ Williams began her career at Ivy Tech Kokomo in 2010 as an assistant professor of Psychology, and in 2020, she became the College’s executive director of Diversity, Equity, and Belonging, and has served as interim VP of Diversity, Equity, and Belonging.

- The Trine University Board of Trustees elect **Mark Music**, president and CEO of Ruoff Mortgage, to its membership. He also serves as a governing board member for the Northeast Indiana Regional Partnership and a member of the Board of Directors for the Indiana Chamber of Commerce. The decision was made after the August 22 death of university trustee R. Wyatt Weaver, Jr. Dr. Weaver had served as a member of the Trine University Board of Trustees since 2004.

- **George Ridgway**, an alumnus who has served on the Vincennes University Board of Trustees since October 2013, will end his term on October 2.
- Dr. Melvin Younts, a noted South Carolina attorney, investor, philanthropist and Anderson University lifetime trustee, died August 27, at the age of 93.
- Dr. **Michael Dixon** is named dean of the School of Graduate Studies at the University of Southern Indiana. The newly created School of Graduate Studies replaces the former Graduate Studies at USI. Prior to his appointment as Director of Graduate Studies, Dixon served as director of the Classical Studies Program within the USI College of Liberal Arts.
- **John Farless** is promoted to chief communications officer at the University of Southern Indiana. Farless has served as director of University Strategic Communication since November 2012.
- **Juan Manuel Santos**, who served as president of Colombia from 2010 to 2018, is named a distinguished policy fellow in the Keough School of Global Affairs at the University of Notre Dame. Santos will teach in the Keough School's Master of Global Affairs and undergraduate programs, and will deliver the 29th annual Hesburgh Lecture in Ethics and Public Policy on September 13.

- Dr. **Kent Games** accepts the position of acting dean of the College of Graduate and Professional Studies at Indiana State University. Games has been serving as the Faculty Fellow for the CGPS since January. He succeeds Dr. **Denise Collins**, who stepped down as dean of the CGPS to resume her faculty role in the Bayh College of Education.
- **Charlie Ricker** is promoted to director of alumni relations within the Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology Office of Institutional Advancement. He most recently has served in the position in an interim role and has helped alumni, families, and friends within the Office of Alumni Relations since 2018.
- Award-winning fashion designer and University of Notre Dame alumnus **Thom Browne** will join the Notre Dame Institute for Advanced Study as an artist-in-residence during the 2022-23 academic year.
- Holy Cross College welcomes **Ann Bingham** to campus in the role of assistant professor and academic director of the Education Program.
- The University of Saint Francis Athletic Department hires of **Kelsey Passaglia** as the inaugural associate athletic director/senior women's administrator.



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- Ball State University’s nationally lauded Director of Athletics **Beth Goetz** will leave BSU after four years on September 23 to join the University of Iowa in the Big Ten Conference as deputy director and chief operating officer. Ball State was expected to announce an interim AD on September 9.

## IN Courts & Conduct . . .

- A Purdue University chapter, Lambda Phi Epsilon, is put on “cease and desist” status following an anonymous leak of information reportedly related to the fraternity’s alleged hazing practices.

□ Among the details, according to the *Purdue Exponent*: “A 17-page anonymously-submitted report that includes access to the Purdue chapter’s official Google Drive along with 214 documents and screenshots from fraternity group chats” that purportedly seeks to provide evidence for “extensive claims about the fraternity’s alleged hazing practices, alcohol violations, ‘numerous’ reported cases of sexual and domestic assault, the brothers’ attempts to cover up those reports, mocking and retaliating against alleged victims and ongoing underground functions last year despite being on organizational probation.” Purdue spokesperson **Tim Doty** tells the student-run newspaper that Purdue officials and the Lambda Phi Epsilon international headquarters are investigating the chapter.

- The Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity at Indiana University Bloomington is issued a cease-and-desist notice after allegedly “endangering others and committing alcohol violations. The university states the fraternity’s organization activities were suspended, effective September 2.

- Senior Judge **Matthew Kennelly** of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois rules that the class-action lawsuit filed in Illinois federal court this January that accuses the University of Notre Dame and 16 other prestigious universities of conspiring to limit financial aid given to students and favoring wealthy applicants can move forward. *Carbone v. Brown Univ.*, No. 1:22-cv-00125. The other universities named in the suit are Brown University, California Institute of Technology, the University of Chicago, Columbia University, Cornell University, Dartmouth College, Duke University, Emory University, Georgetown University, The Johns Hopkins University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Northwestern University, the University of Pennsylvania, Rice University, Vanderbilt University, and Yale University.

□ We alerted you to the suit in January, citing the *Wall Street Journal*, who, in its exclusive report at the time, reported that the universities are accused of having “engaged in price fixing and unfairly limited aid by using a shared methodology to calculate applicants’ financial need.” “Schools are allowed

under federal law to collaborate on their formulas, but only if they don’t consider applicants’ financial need in admissions decisions. The suit alleges these schools do weigh candidates’ ability to pay in certain circumstances, and therefore shouldn’t be eligible for the antitrust exemption,” the newspaper wrote.

- A motion for summary judgement is filed with the U.S. District Court of the Southern District of Indiana Evansville Division by the University of Evansville in *Doe v. The University of Evansville*, No. 3:21-cv-00065-RLY-MPB. The plaintiff asserts “a claim for deliberate indifference under Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 (“Title IX”) (Count I) and two claims for negligence under Indiana law (Counts II and III),” the court explains. “By Order of this Court, Counts II and III may only be considered negligent supervision and/or negligent retention claims.” Jane Doe claims she was sexually assaulted by university basketball coach **Walter McCarty** and that the university’s alleged “deliberate indifference” to prior incidents of sexual harassment perpetrated by McCarty led to her assault.

## IN Workforce Development

### IN General . . .

- Congressman **André Carson** (D) and Ivy Tech Community College host a job and resource fair at the Ivy Tech Culinary and Conference Center in Indianapolis August 30. Job seekers were able to meet 70 local employers at the event.

- A partnership with Purdue Global will offer educational opportunities to Stewart Memorial Community Hospital (Lake City, Iowa) staff and their family members with tuition reduction. Stewart Memorial Community Hospital staff and immediate family members (spouse, domestic partner, children, siblings and parents) will receive 20% tuition reduction for undergraduate programs, 14% reduction for graduate programs, and 10% reduction for doctoral programs.

□ Purdue Global enjoys similar partnerships with Continuum Pediatric Nursing Services, York (Nebraska) General, Columbus (Nebraska) Community Hospital, UnityPoint Health - Cedar Rapids, the Wellness Council of Arizona, Quality Living, Inc. and Kearney Regional Medical Center.

- The Indiana chapter of Jobs for America’s Graduates, which is administered by the Indiana Department of Workforce Development, reveals that this year’s graduating class earned more than \$24,300,000 in scholarship money. Recipients include students from 48 Hoosier counties.

## *IN Job Training & Education . . .*

- The Fort Wayne Community Schools Career Academy opens the district’s new Barr Street Bistro, a student-run restaurant open to the public inside the Career Academy cafeteria. The Bistro is open Tuesday through Thursday from 11:15 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.

- Trine University’s Trine Center for Technical Training (TCTT) and the Garrett-Keyser-Butler Community School District enter into an agreement that will allow Garrett High School students to earn advanced industry training through the TCTT. **Corey Schoon**, director of Garrett-Keyser-Butler’s Career Development Program, dubs the agreement “a great opportunity to prepare our students for the next generation of manufacturing and industry.”

- **Jason Blume**, executive director of Trine innovation 1, which includes the TCTT, said the university and Garrett-Keyser-Butler began exploring opportunities to work together after being connected through Northeast Indiana Works. Supported by a 3E Grant from IDOE and a grant from the Don Wood Foundation, the new partnership will allow Garrett High School students who take the school’s Introduction to Manufacturing course – currently, 61 ninth-grade students are enrolled in the course – to earn Smart Automation Certification Alliance (SACA) C-101 certification. According to SACA, the certification prepares individuals to succeed in modern production environments that use Industry 4.0 controls, automation and processes. **Jacob Bradshaw**, program lead for the TCTT, will train Garrett High School teachers so they can earn certification. Bradshaw and other TCTT staff will administer exams for SACA Silver and Gold certification at the high school. Through the partnership, Garrett students will have the option to complete an apprenticeship during their junior or senior year and to apply the credentials toward other industry certification programs or toward academic programs at Trine University.

## *IN Postsecondary Training . . .*

- Indiana State University announces a partnership with GEODIS, a world leader in transport and logistics, for space at “Made @ Plainfield,” a facility that brings higher education and industry together for teaching, workforce training, and research.

- The purpose of the partnership and specifically of space “Made @ Plainfield” is to create new opportunities for post-secondary education and, for people currently in the workforce, enhanced skills and credentialing. ISU calls the space the Logistics 4.0 Innovation Hub and anticipates it will allow for teaching students about artificial intelligence, machine learning, and the management of logistics companies. It is expected that early next year, there will be a mini prototype of a warehouse using robotics ready for student tours, research, and teaching.



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