

Dear IPS Board of School Commissioners,

As parents and community members who care about IPS kids, we are incredibly grateful for the leadership of the IPS board and its openness to working with parents [on resolution #8020](#).

We greatly appreciate the effort to draft this resolution. Specifically, we want to shoutout the support and hard work of President Anjee Moore. We also want to acknowledge the time spent by all commissioners who met with parents over the last few months, including Commissioners Allen, Hampton, Arnold, Pritchard, Carey, and Venita Moore.

It's with hopeful hearts and our deepest gratitude that we request some small changes to the resolution so that it aligns with the request parents made in February. It is extremely important to us that data, showing evidence of supporting dramatically better outcomes for Black and Brown students is driving the decisions surrounding which schools to grow.

The requested changes below are narrowly focused on the section of the resolution dealing with Innovation Network Schools. The overwhelming majority of the resolution is language we as parents support. But we believe it is important to be more detailed about the goals of the plan the administration would deliver in August.

We suggest the following modifications to bullet #2 on page 2 accomplish this:

2) And further directs the administration to provide a public update and a plan on the growth cultivation of Innovation Network Schools partners and the application process by August 2024, specifically addressing how IPS will scale schools – including independent, non-profit public charter schools—with a demonstrated track record of success for Black and Brown students, as evidenced by their inclusion in the Marion County Performance Data review given to the Board in October 2023 will be engaged;

With white students getting results in IPS that are nearly seven times better than Black students, and more than four times greater than Latino students, we believe it's important that the resolution be as clear as possible in calling for a vision to scale schools that show evidence of closing the opportunity gap. This vision would also align with the current IPS board goals that spell out detailed benchmarks for Black and Brown student achievement.

We are appreciative for the work put into the current resolution and are grateful to commissioners for working to respond to the request made in February when more than 1,000 petition signatures were delivered to board members. We humbly request these few changes to ensure the resolution better aligns with community feedback and is clearer about the goals tied to closing the opportunity gap for our children of color.

Sincerely,