



IPS Community Coalition Recommendations for Improved Innovation Network Processes

For more information or a meeting, contact:
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IPSCC Recommended Criteria for Innovation School Applicants:

All innovation partners and applicants:

- Have a progressive discipline policy approved by the IPS School Board or agree to adopt current IPS discipline policy.
- Must agree to provide adequate transportation to students living within the IPS district.
- Must agree to adopt all IPS enrollment lottery priorities, procedures, and deadlines.
- Must have or agree to have at least 75% of board be local to the IPS district.
- Must have or agree to have at least 2 parents from the school on the board.
- All proposed curriculum and educational models must be evidence based with successful outcomes in schools that are high poverty, high minority, and in urban area.
- School must either have or commit to creating and supporting a parent group that is separate from the school such as a PTA or PTO.
- Provide Trauma Informed Care, Implicit Bias, Cultural Competency, Racial Equity, and Restorative Justice trainings to all staff prior to the start of the school year and yearly after opening.

Charter Innovation and Innovation Conversion:

- State grade of B (based on both growth and proficiency) or higher for the last 3 years.
- Federal grade of B or higher for the last 3 years or since creation.
- Maximum suspension rate of 10% for each grade level in the last 3 years or since creation.
- Principal must have been at the school for at least 2 full years prior to submitting application.
- Teacher turnover must be below 20% each year for the past 2 years.

Innovation Restart Schools and New Innovation Schools:

- Applying principal must have at least 3 years of experience as a principal. Experience in a high minority, high poverty, and or urban school setting strongly preferred.

IPSCC Recommendations for Innovation Application and Approval Process

Equitable Timeline & Communication

- IPS will create and update accordingly an innovation section of the IPS District website dedicated to information regarding procedures, policies, applications, innovation partners, and annual assessments for innovation applicants and schools.
- Applications due at least 18 months prior to school year school will start as innovation.
- There must be at least 6 months of community meetings with a minimum of 8 meetings before innovation application can be approved by the IPS board.
- At least 90 days prior to 1st board presentation, all applications must be available in full for review on the IPS website.
- All schools that will become innovation, including restart, must be identified, and board approved, at least 60 days prior to the opening date of first enrollment lottery period for magnet school applications for the following school year.
- Students at current IPS schools that will be going to innovation (Restart or Conversion) must be given top priority in the enrollment lottery.

Community & Parent Engagement

- IPS will create a single questionnaire, used for all schools, for families regarding becoming an IPS innovation school. The questionnaire should be non-biased and differentiated based on type of innovation school. At least 90% of students must be individually represented in positive responses.
- Parent and community meetings must cover a predetermined set of topics and issues. There must be an opportunity at each meeting for questions of both school leadership and IPS district employees.
- During public comment at IPS School Board meetings where innovation applications, proposals, or innovation schools are on the agenda, each speaker will be allowed at least 5 minutes, with board interaction (board able to ask questions and clarify), on each innovation school discussed.
- Public must be allowed to observe interviews and meetings with applicants and any organization involved with innovation school applications where IPS representatives are present. Notice of these interviews and meetings will be posted on the IPS website at least 30 days in advance.
- Public must be allowed to ask questions of all innovation applicants during at least 2 interviews or meetings, these must occur at least 30 days prior to board presentation.
- There must be at least 1 IPS board member at each innovation school community/ Parent meeting, application interview, application meeting, IPS School Board presentation, etc. Or they must be live streamed and immediately available on the IPS website or social media. Example Facebook live.
- School staff or IPS district employees, not a 3rd party group or organization, will lead all public and parent meetings. If either is leading, representatives from the other must be present.

School Teachers and Staff:

- IPS will create a single questionnaire for teachers and staff, for each type of innovation school, regarding becoming an IPS innovation school that will be used for all schools (Charter, conversion, restart) The questionnaire should be non-biased. At least 80% of classroom teachers must agree to go to innovation. Completed questionnaires will be collected anonymously so that building leadership and IPS employees cannot identify respondent.
- IPS and union representation will hold individual meetings, with teachers and staff to answer questions, and assess willingness to stay at school should innovation be approved.
- Union representatives will be given access to teachers and staff to hold a secret ballot vote on organizing to become a collective bargaining unit.