



Get to Know Irvington Community Schools

Irvington Community School, Inc. (ICS) is the third largest public charter school in the state (fifth largest including virtual schools), serving more than 1,000 K-12 children annually. Our schools include Irvington Community Elementary School (K-5), Irvington Community Middle School (6-8), and Irvington Preparatory Academy (9-12).

Established in 2002, ICS has educated more than 3,500 students during the past 15 years as **one of the oldest charter schools in Indiana.**

ICS Campuses: The three ICS campuses include Irvington Community Elementary School (original construction, opened in 2005; 35,820 square feet; serving 450 students), Irvington Community Middle School (former Indianapolis Public Schools building constructed in 1950; 33,360 square feet; serving 230 students), and Irvington Preparatory Academy (constructed in 1916 as the Children's Guardian Home; 85,000 square feet; serving 350 students).

ICS continues to be a **commercial and residential anchor for the East Side** of Indianapolis. Local neighborhoods are seeing a resurgence in growth, in no small part due to young families relocating to the area to enroll their children in schools with strong reputations such as ours.

We are a **stand-alone tuition-free nonprofit public charter school** founded by community members seeking a viable educational option for children living in traditional public school districts. As an independent "homegrown" charter school with no management group affiliation, ICS represents the original intent and heart of the national charter school movement.

Since our inception, **30 ICS staff members and five board members have enrolled their own children in Irvington Community Schools.**

Results

ISTEP+: In the **ISTEP+ results for 2015-2016**, ICS grades 3-8 ranked in the top 25% of the Indianapolis Mayor's Office of Education Innovation's portfolio of charter schools in both English Language Arts (ELA) and Math. What's more, ICS outperformed nine out of 11 Marion County public school districts in ELA and Math, including Warren and Lawrence Townships as well as Indianapolis Public Schools. Statewide, ICS came in higher than average in both ELA and Math.

The Irvington Way: Be Respectful, Responsible, Safe, Involved, and Focused.



IREAD-3: For the Spring 2016 IREAD-3, which assesses reading proficiency, Irvington Community Elementary School's 3rd graders outperformed all OEI schools, coming in at 90.5% passing, well above the state average of 83.3%. Following the IREAD-3 Summer Retest, ICES's total pass rate increased to 94.6%

NWEA: In grades 1-10, at least 50% of ICS students were at or above the grade level norm in Reading, Math, and Language (with the exception of 2nd grade Math at 46%) on the Fall 2016 NWEA's Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) assessments.

Graduation Rate: Irvington Preparatory Academy had an 80% graduation rate in 2016, with 49% of graduates committing to a post-secondary experience (higher education or military enlistment); typically, post-secondary commitments average 90%+. Currently, 61% of IPA's Class of 2017 have completed at least one college application, and most have received at least one acceptance letter.

Irvington Preparatory Academy (IPA), established in 2006, has graduated 436 students as of June 2016. Of note, two IPA alumni now teach at ICES.

Dual Credit and Advanced Placement (AP): At present, 70 IPA students are participating in Dual Credit courses through Indiana University and Ivy Tech Community College. In 2016, 41% of Irvington Prep students taking AP courses passed the AP exam (state average is 51%). Of note, in 2016, 68% of AP Psychology students passed the exam (13 of 19), with three students scoring "5" — the highest possible score.

Service Learning: IPA's Class of 2016 had 36% of graduates earn Service Learning distinction (20 students).

STEM and eLearning: We are increasing our STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) course offerings, reflected in our high school's new Engineering and Physics courses. Robotics clubs are popular on all ICS campuses, with the IPA team a top competitor in city, state, and national tournaments. As of the 2016-2017 school year, ICS offers 1:1 computing in grades 6-12 and at least 5:1 in our K-5 classrooms. Additionally, there are two Chromebook labs at ICES. Every ICS student who touches a keyboard receives lessons in digital citizenship. ICES offers a technology class for all of our elementary school students, which covers digital citizenship, digital literacy, and keyboarding skills. And both our elementary and middle schools offer Computer Applications with coding instruction, with plans for a similar class to be offered at IPA.

And...

School Calendar: ICS moved to a **balanced calendar** for the 2016-2017 school year, with classes in session for 185 days.

Board: ICS is overseen by an all-volunteer **Board of Governors**.





Authorizer: The Indianapolis Mayor's Office of Education Innovation (OEI) holds the ICS charter. We received a seven-year renewal from OEI in January 2016. Our charter's focus is on Art, Music, and Physical Education.

Student Population: Our student population reflects greater Irvington, which is the primary service area, with more than 80% of students living within 5 square miles of our schools. Notably, students hail from 33 ZIP Codes throughout central Indiana. ICS services a diverse socioeconomic and racial student population, with approximately 70% Caucasian and 30% minority students (predominantly African-American, multiracial, and Hispanic students).

National School Lunch Program (Free and Reduced) Participation: 62% of all ICS students qualified for the federal lunch program during the 2016-2017 school year.

Community Partnerships: ICS works closely with Community Health Network (which provides ICS with school nurses, a social worker, life skills instructors, and an athletic trainer), the Ransburg YMCA (Before and After Care services at ICES and After Care at ICMS; the YMCA also provides two full-time physical education teachers at ICES), Playworks (ICES), the Domestic Violence Network (ICMS and IPA), and Reach for Youth Teen Court (ICMS and IPA).

Funding: ICS exists on considerably less funding than that of our sister traditional public schools, receiving just above \$6,000 per student annually through the Indiana Department of Education's Basic Grant (\$5,088.00) and Complexity Grant (\$1,002.60). As an Indiana public charter school, ICS does not receive facilities funding – which traditional public schools do at a rate of approximately \$2,000 per student. (However, for the past two years, charters received a \$500 per student grant from the Indiana Department of Education to help offset facilities expenses, and are hoping for that amount, minimally, to be approved in the current state legislative session.) Traditional public schools can request voter referenda for operating funds and/or capital projects; charters cannot.

Budget: The ICS 2016-2017 budget is \$9.5 million.



Debt: The corporation carries \$9.6 million in facilities debt.

Student Retention: K-12 student retention from 2015-2016 to the current school year was 90%.

Staff Retention: ICS staff retention was 85% from the 2015-2016 school year to the current school year.

Behavior Management Program: ICS integrates Positive Behavior Supports in leading young people to make better decisions in self-managing their behavior. Students challenged by behavioral issues receive intensive coaching from four deans with nearly three decades of collective student behavior management/coaching experience.



Behavior Referrals: For the 2015-2016 school year, 85 percent of referrals came from students who have been enrolled at ICS for four years or less. This means, the longer students are with Irvington Community Schools, the better citizens they become.

Attendance: ICS maintains a minimum 95% student attendance rate annually. We also conduct home visits involving our School Resource Officer and a Dean of Students to check on students who have been absent without notification for two days or more.

School Resource Officer: ICS established the state's first charter SRO program in 2011. ICS has also received four consecutive Indiana Department of Homeland Security "Secured School Safety Grants" since the grant's inception.

Students with IEPs: 17% of ICS students have Individualized Education Plans.

English Language Learners: For the 2016-2017 school year, ICS reported approximately 5% of the student population as Language Minority (LM) students, the vast majority of whom have Spanish as their native language.

Homeless Students: At present, 13 ICS students are considered homeless and serviced by ICS per McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act requirements.

21st Century Scholars Program: ICS now has 108 students in grades 7-12 participating in the program.

Athletics: Although our focus is on academic performance, ICS maintains an engaging athletic program to teach the essential lessons of competition and sportsmanship. Indiana High School Athletic Association-sanctioned sports include soccer (coed), volleyball (girls), basketball (boys and girls), baseball (boys), and softball (girls). ICMS and ICES also offer a number of team sports. The student body and student-athletes are known as *The Ravens*.

Irvington Community Schools' Mission is to...

Provide a small, **safe** learning community where **respectful** behaviors are modeled and expected.

Offer a college-prep, career-readiness curriculum that **focuses** on developing a strong work ethic and creative thinking.

Prepare all students for post-secondary success.

Develop **responsible** citizens through **involvement** in service learning and community engagement for the betterment of local and global communities.

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