



Board Work Session SCHOOL SYSTEM OF CHOICE

October 11, 2012

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Agenda

- Purpose of Work Session
- Background: Indiana Legislative Agenda
- Historical: First Magnet Schools in 1979 -
Current Status of Choice Programs
- Framing the Challenges & Opportunities
- Next Steps

Purpose of Work Session

- Review the current competitive environment / Choice of Public Education in Indiana
- Define the current state of “Choice” within FWCS
- Establish a framework for moving forward to ensure that we are the school system of choice in the state

Background:

Indiana Legislative Agenda

- Parent Options:
 - Charters
 - Vouchers
 - School Scholarships



Charter School Sponsors

About 28,000 Students Statewide

- Ball State University
- Mayor of Indianapolis - Office of Education Innovation
- Indiana Charter School Board
- Grace College
- Trine University
- Individual districts
 - Evansville-Vanderburgh Community Schools
 - Lafayette School Corporation
 - Daleville Community Schools

IC 20-24-8-5 – Charter Schools

Applicable Statutes, Rules & Guidelines

- (1) IC 5-11-1-9 (required audits by the state board of accounts).
- (2) IC 20-39-1-1 (unified accounting system).
- (3) IC 20-35 (special education).
- (4) IC 20-26-5-10 (criminal history).
- (5) IC 20-26-5-6 (subject to laws requiring regulation by state agencies).
- (6) IC 20-28-10-12 (nondiscrimination for teacher marital status).
- (7) IC 20-28-10-14 (teacher freedom of association).
- (8) IC 20-28-10-17 (school counselor immunity).
- (9) For conversion charter schools only, IC 20-28-6, IC 20-28-7.5, IC 20-28-8, IC 20-28-9, and IC 20-28-10.
- (10) IC 20-33-2 (compulsory school attendance).
- (11) IC 20-33-3 (limitations on employment of children).
- (12) IC 20-33-8-19, IC 20-33-8-21, & IC 20-33-8-22 (student due process & judicial review).
- (13) IC 20-33-8-16 (firearms and deadly weapons).
- (14) IC 20-34-3 (health and safety measures).
- (15) IC 20-33-9 (reporting of student violations of law).
- (16) IC 20-30-3-2 and IC 20-30-3-4 (patriotic commemorative observances).
- (17) IC 20-31-3, IC 20-32-4, IC 20-32-5, IC 20-32-6, IC 20-32-8, or any other statute, rule, or guideline related to standardized testing (assessment programs, including remediation under the assessment programs).
- (18) IC 20-33-7 (parental access to education records).
- (19) IC 20-31 (accountability for school performance and improvement).
- (20) IC 20-30-5-19 (personal financial responsibility instruction).

Area Charter Schools

- Timothy Johnson Academy
- Imagine Master Academy
- Imagine on Broadway
- Smith Academy for Excellence
- Thurgood Marshall Leadership Academy

Eligibility Requirements for Choice Scholarship (Voucher)

- Have legal settlement in Indiana;
- Be accepted for enrollment into a participating school **that is located in Indiana;**
- Be between the ages of 5 and 22 no later than August 1 of the school year;
- Live in a household at or below the household income limits;
- **One of the following:**
 - A. Have been **enrolled in a public school (grade 1 through 12) in a school corporation that did not charge the individual transfer tuition for at least two (2) semesters immediately preceding** the application for a Choice Scholarship;
 - B. Received a Choice Scholarship in a previous school year;
 - C. **Have received an SGO scholarship** from one of the following in a previous school year
 - Educational Choice Charitable Trust
 - School Scholarship Granting Organization (SGO) of Northeast Indiana
 - Tuition Assistance Fund of Southwestern Indiana
 - Sagamore Institute

Choice Scholarship (Voucher) Amount

The scholarship is the **lesser** of three amounts:

- 1) Tuition and fees;
- 2) \$4,500 for grades 1-8; or,
- 3) An amount based off the per-student state funding for the student's school corporation of residence, determined as follows:
 - **90%** of funding formula amount if the family income falls within 100% of Reduced Lunch eligibility (\$40,820 for a family of four)
 - **50%** of formula amount if family income is above 100% but under 150% of Reduced Lunch eligibility (approx. \$62,021 for a family of four)

Voucher Statistics

2011-12

- The largest percentage of private/parochial schools in state is within FWCS boundaries (9,090 of 75,700)
- The largest number of vouchers provided in any one district were in FWCS boundaries (392)
- Promotion of vouchers will result in more losses to FWCS – if 500 more, revenue loss is \$3 million

Vouchers 2011-12

	Private School Located in these Boundaries	Number of Vouchers	Private Enrollment in District	% of Private Enrollment in District	% of State Vouchers	% of Private Enrollment in State
1	Fort Wayne Community Schools	392	9,090	4%	12%	12%
2	South Bend Community Sch Corp	373	3,831	10%	11%	5%
3	Indianapolis Public Schools	356	6,743	5%	11%	9%
4	Anderson Community School Corp	139	465	30%	4%	1%
5	Gary Community School Corp	128	212	60%	4%	0%
6	Evansville Vanderburgh Sch Corp	113	5,180	2%	3%	7%
7	School City of Hammond	110	1,070	10%	3%	1%
8	Michigan City Area Schools	99	724	14%	3%	1%
9	East Allen County Schools	90	1,170	8%	3%	2%
10	School City of East Chicago	78	436	18%	2%	1%
		1,878	28,921	6%	56%	38%
172	Other Districts with Vouchers (average 9 per district)	1,504	46,809	3%	44%	62%
110	Other Districts with No Vouchers				0%	0%
292	Total State	3,382	75,730	4%	100%	100%
	Source of enrollment data:					

Max allowed 7,500 for 2011-12,
15,000 for 2012-13
(almost 20% of private enrollment)

Household Income Limits for Choice Scholarships (Vouchers) 2012-2013

Number of Persons in Household	Annual Household Income Limit for a "90%" Choice Scholarship	Annual Household Income Limit for a "50%" Choice Scholarship
1	\$20,665	\$30,997
2	\$27,991	\$41,986
3	\$35,317	\$52,975
4	\$42,643	\$63,964
5	\$49,969	\$74,953
6	\$57,295	\$85,942
7	\$64,621	\$96,931
8	\$71,947	\$107,920

School Scholarship Tax Credit Program (not Voucher)

- **Funding comes from private, charitable donations to qualified scholarship granting organizations (SGOs).** Donors (individuals or corporations) will be eligible to take advantage of a 50% credit against their state tax liability for contributions made to an SGO. No limits on the size of qualifying contribution to an SGO, the entire tax credit program has a limit of \$5 million in credits per state fiscal. This permits up to \$10 million in donations and scholarships.
- An SGO is eligible for certification if it is exempt from federal income taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and is organized at least in part to grant school scholarships. An SGO cannot limit the scholarships it provides under the program to children attending a particular school. Parents apply for scholarships from a certified SGO, which may establish certain requirements for the scholarships they provide. A student is eligible to apply for the program if the student is a member of a household with an annual income of not more than two hundred percent (200%) of the amount required to qualify for the federal free or reduced price lunch program. **To qualify for an initial scholarship, eligible students must have been enrolled in a public school the prior year or must be entering Kindergarten.**
- A participating school is a public or nonpublic school to which an eligible student is required to pay tuition or transfer tuition to attend and which voluntarily agrees to enroll the student. Participating schools must be accredited by the Indiana State Board of Education or a state, national or regional accreditation organization and **must administer the ISTEP+ or another nationally-recognized norm-referenced test.**

Current Status of FWCS Choice Programs

Magnet Schools:	Magnet Programs:
Bunche (Montessori)	Brentwood (Latin)
Young (Arts)	Franke Park (NASA Explorer)
Croninger (Communications)	Lindley (Spanish Immersion)
Irwin (Math & Science)	
Weisser Park (Arts)	
Towles (Montessori)	
Memorial Park (Arts)	

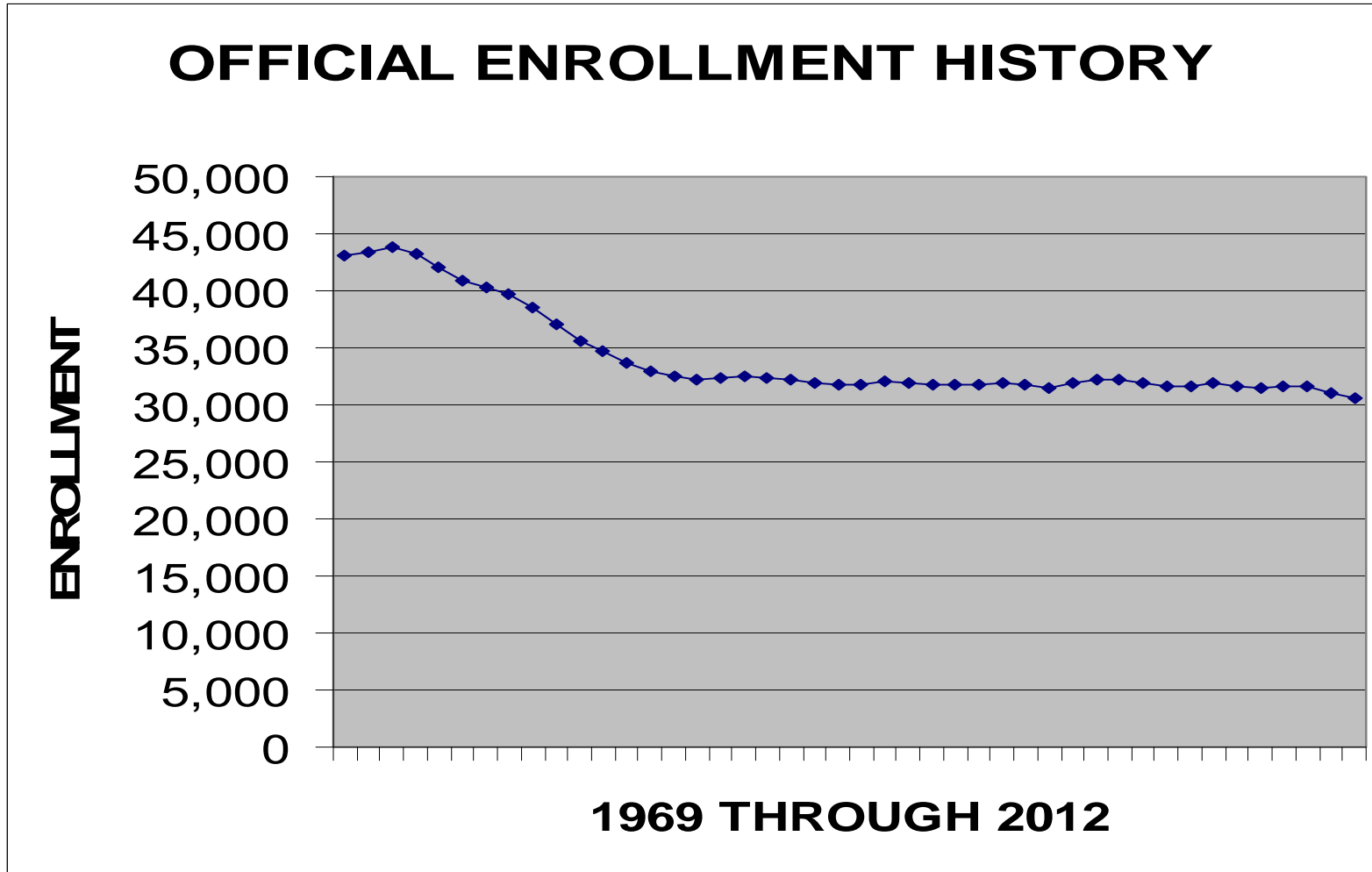
Current Status of FWCS Choice Programs

Programs of Study:	
North Side	Global Studies/World Languages
Northrop	Project Lead the Way: Engineering
Snider	Project Lead the Way: Biomedical Sciences
South Side	International Baccalaureate
Wayne	New Tech Academy and Business

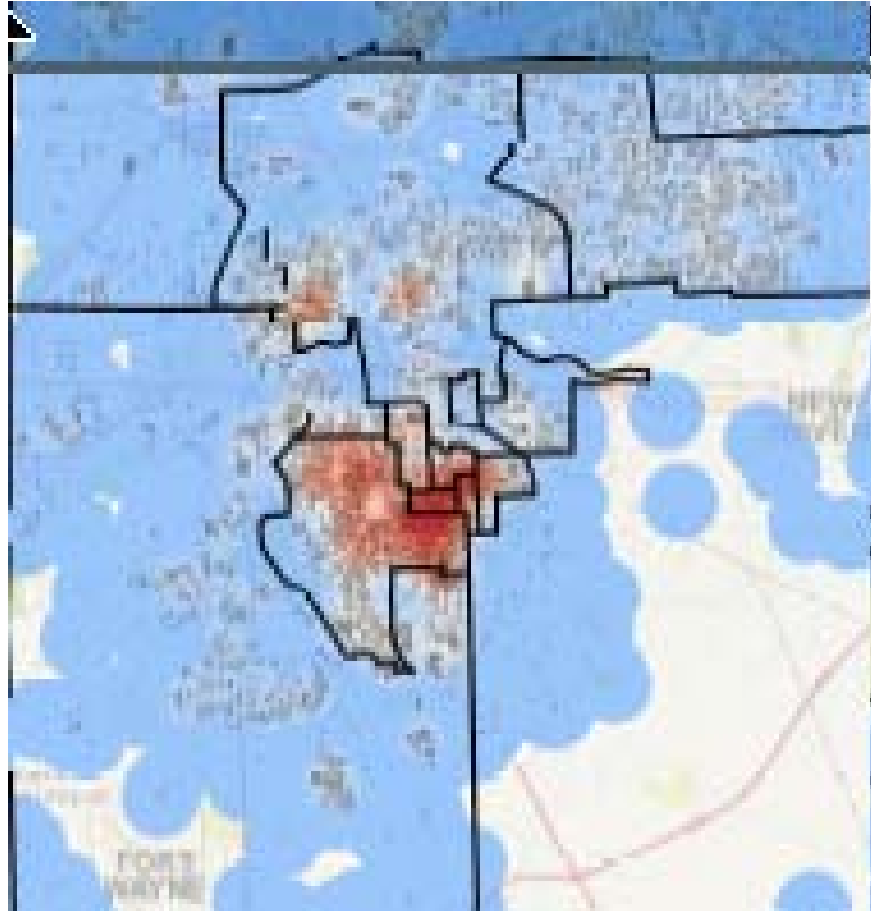
Framing the Challenges & Opportunities

- FWCS Demographics:
 - Enrollment Trends
 - Locations of FWCS sites, charters, parochial & private schools (handout)
 - Current Student Population Density (handout)
 - School Age Population Change (handout)
 - Total Population Change (handout)

Enrollment Trends

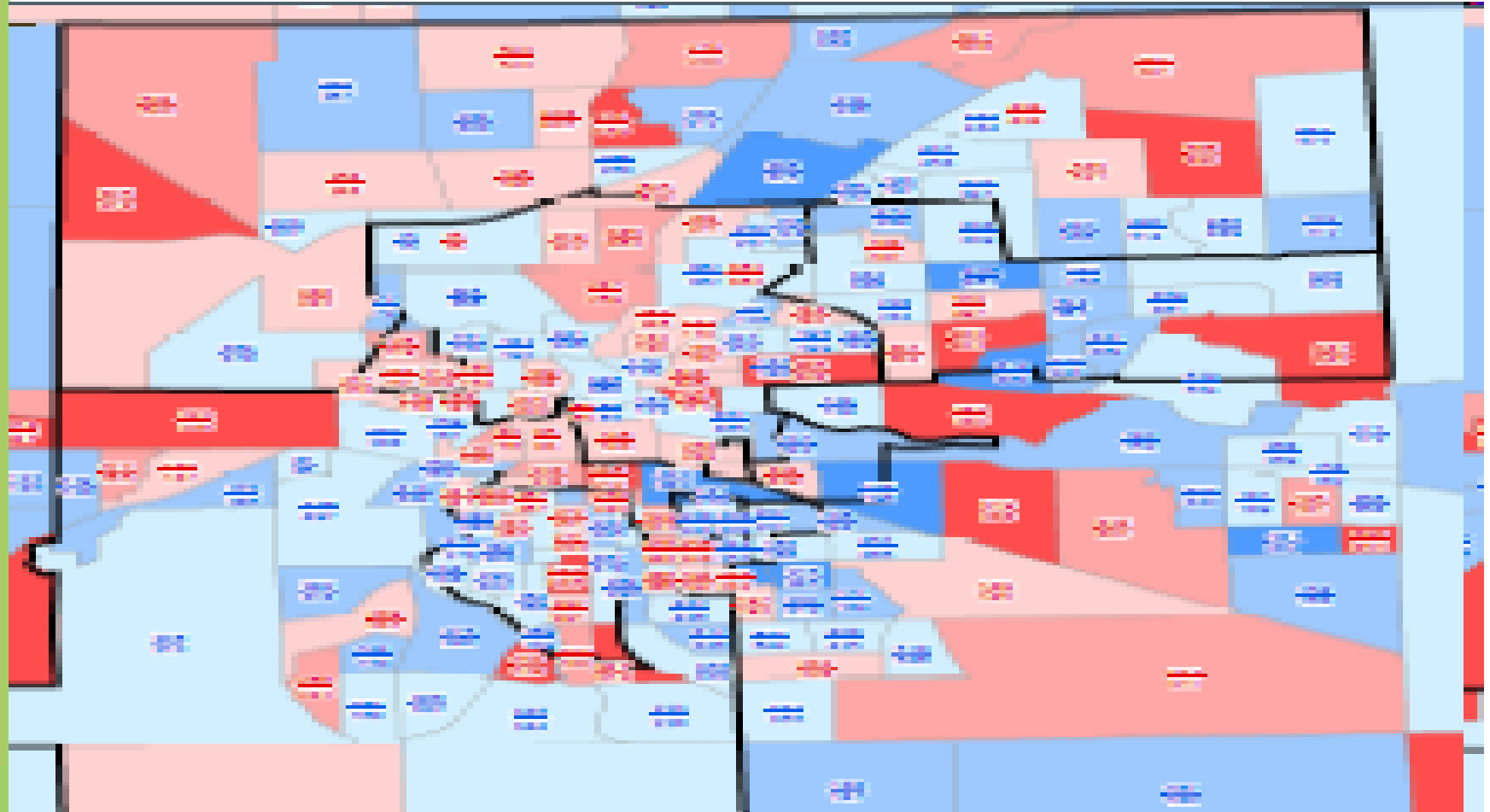


Current Student Population Density

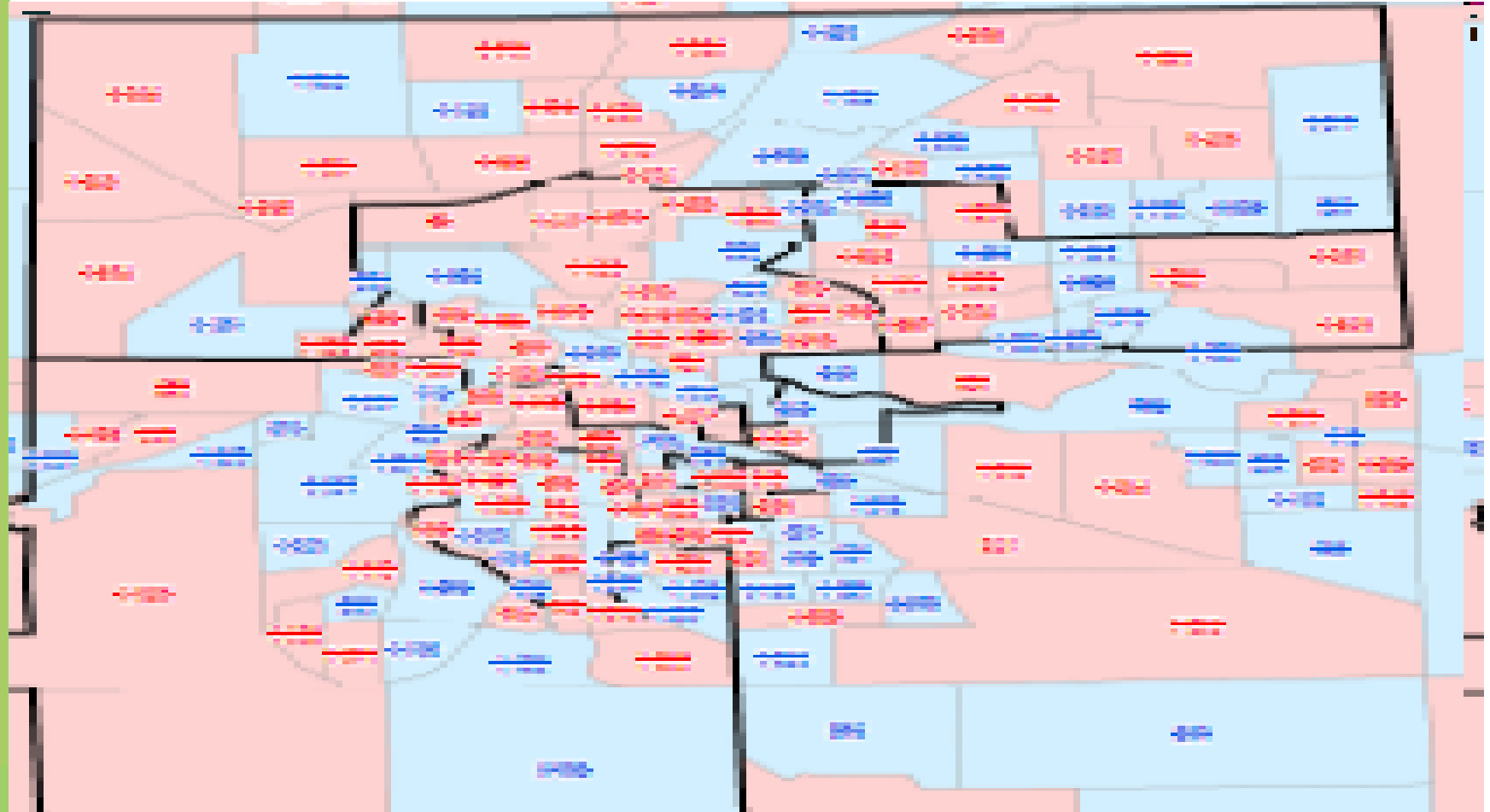


FORT WAYNE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

School Age Population Change



Total Population Change



Next Steps

- Determine the direction for action by Board:
 - Topics
 - Scope
- Develop PMOC Projects:
 - Internal Processes / Programs
 - External Partnerships
 - Legislative Agenda – Board led

Next Steps

Internal Processes/Programs

- What does the Board want to do?
 - Topics
 - Scope
- Parent / Community Input
 - K12 Insight Survey
- Prioritize school programs/offerings in the targeted areas:
 1. Bunche
 2. Harrison Hill
 3. Towles
 4. South Side
 5. Wayne

Next Steps

External Partnerships

- Government
- Businesses
- Community Social Service agencies

Next Steps

Legislative Agenda

- Voucher cap
- Charter regulation