Innovation Network Schools operate with the authority to make decisions about all aspects of their school—both academic and operational. They are held accountable by the school district for achieving high academic goals and strong student achievement. The purpose of Innovation Network Schools is to allow our district, and schools within our district, greater flexibility to make decisions based on the specific needs of a school’s student body. In IPS, there are four pathways a school may take to become an innovation school:

**Types of Innovation:**

- **Innovation: New**
  - Schools that have not previously existed and are launching as innovation schools.

- **Innovation: Restart**
  - Existing IPS schools that have been consistently underperforming according to student outcomes. The district makes the decision that the school will be restarted with an external partner.

- **Innovation: Conversion**
  - Existing IPS schools that have a strong historical school performance or school leadership team that demonstrates both the organizational capacity and desire to transition to an innovation school.

- **Innovation: Charter**
  - New or existing schools who hold a charter and desire to partner with the district in a more formal way. Generally, they also utilize district services like transportation, food service, or facilities, etc.

**Innovation Schools:**

- Avondale Meadows Middle School
- Cold Spring Academy
- Edison School of the Arts
- Emma Donnan Elementary School
- Enlace Academy
- George Fisher School 93
- Global Prep Academy @ Riverside 44
- Herron Riverside High School
- Ignite Achievement Academy @ Elder Diggs 42
- Kindezi Academy @ Joyce Kilmer 69
- KIPP Indy College Prep Middle School
- KIPP Indy Unite Elementary School
- Matchbook Learning at Wendell Phillips School 63
- Herron High School
- Phalen Leadership Academy @ Francis Scott Key 103
- Purdue Polytechnic High School
- SUPER School 19
- Thomas Gregg Elementary School
- Thrival Academy Indy
- URBAN ACT Academy at Washington Irving School 14

**Innovation schools may...**

- determine staff compensation
- create new staff positions, job descriptions and hiring criteria
- establish optional before/after school programs run by volunteers, staff or partners
- choose/design curricular content to meet state standards
- opt in or out of IPS academic services
- opt in or out of IPS non-academic services
- determine instructional and pedagogical practices
- set start and stop times of school day
- determine number of school days/year
- establish an operating calendar different than district
- establish an operating calendar different than district
- receive Title I, IDEA & other grants directly from state/federal government *

**Innovation schools must...**

- abide by all local, state and federal labor laws
- receive funds according to district student-based budgeting model *
- receive funds according to enrollment with district as “pass through” entity, if charter
- Form a non-profit organization and establish a board to oversee the local operations of the school

*dependent on in/out of IPS LEA

LEA: Local Education Agency (the legal title of the school corporation)

Non-LEA: A school that is its own legal school corporation

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