



INDIANA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

TO: Booker T. Washington Alternative School
FROM: Timothy Schultz, Hearing Officer, Indiana State Board of Education
RE: Appeal by Booker T. Washington Alternative High School of its 2015-16 Letter Grade
DATE: March 8, 2017

Finding: Booker T. Washington Alternative High School's appeal of its 2015-16 category placement of an "F" grade should be granted.

I. Facts

Booker T. Washington Alternative High School ("Washington"), part of the Vigo County School Corporation, received a letter grade of "F" for the 2015-16 school year. Washington appealed the "F" grade due to concerns regarding the accountability model's application to the population of students it serves.

II. Argument and Analysis

Washington contends that the accountability model does not accurately reflect their student population. Washington is a school that is designed to serve non-traditional students, many of whom are parents that require individualized support. Due to the unique nature of Washington's student population, the vast majority of students at Washington were not eligible to be included in the school's performance calculation, leaving the multiple measures as the only domain to calculate the school's grade. Because multiple measures was the only domain available to calculate the school's grade, it is not possible to get an accurate picture of the school.

For the foregoing reasons, Washington's "F" grade should be changed to null, and the appeal should be granted.