



**Indiana State Board of Education**  
**Request for Freeway School Accreditation**  
**Board Date: June 6, 2012**

School: Turning Point School [C699]  
Education Director: Tanya Harris  
Address: 4501 North Post Road  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46226  
Grade Span: K-6  
Public/Private: Private  
Current Enrollment: 128

Targeted Population: Families seeking a private, faith-based education setting for their children.

*The following executive summary has been compiled by the Office of School Accreditation for use by the Indiana State Board of Education. It includes information presented by the school during the accreditation process, potential legal standard issues, and any other information collected during the process that may impact accreditation.*

Identity: Turning Point Schools (TPS) is a private, non-denominational, Christian school for pre-school through the sixth grade. TPS was established in 1999 as a pre-school and commenced with the elementary classes in 2008. TP Schools offers childcare and is a registered ministry with the State of Indiana. Current enrollment is 212 students, 128 of which are elementary students. TPS is currently located on one campus at 4501 N. Post Road in Indianapolis. 70 % of students qualify for free lunch. 20% qualify for reduced fee lunches. The entire student population is African-American, Hispanic or biracial.

The school shares the facility with Turning Point Family Worship Center and TM Youth Programs. TP Schools' program emphasizes building a strong educational program. We strive to establish a solid foundation for our youth to build upon and achieve academic excellence for the rest of their life. Our goal is simple: Educate our youth and strengthen the hand of our families.

Curriculum: In preparation for the 2011-2012 school year, TPS staff began aligning its curriculum with the Indiana standards. After receiving training from a Curriculum Development Specialist, the teachers matched the ABeka curriculum to the Standards and mapped out standards which were to be addressed each week.



Since TPS is already a Standards driven school, in 2012 and subsequent years, we will align with the Common Core Standards in place of the State Standards, but our approach to alignment will remain the same.

Testing History: TPS has not taken the ISTEP+, but is actively preparing teachers and students to take the test in the 2012-2013 school year. In addition, TP Schools will be taking and reporting NWEA test scores for the 2011-2012. Our class averages are reflected in Appendix D.

As the charts in Appendix D convey, when comparing the average growth of our students to the norm group's growth over the same amount of time, we typically outpace the growth of the norm. Though many of our students were below average when coming to TP Schools, they are overall poised to close the learning gap.

Staffing: TPS greatly values its teaching staff and the service which it provides. Of our seven elementary teachers, two have teaching licenses, three are actively pursuing teaching degrees (and emergency licenses) and one has a CDA. The last one has an associate degree, but she will be replaced with a degreed teacher next year.

The Administrator of TPS is known nationally for her work with thousands of young people. She has managed TPS since its inception when it had only 30 students and managed to see the growth of the school in a recession.

Waiver Requests: The school seeks permission to waive state adopted textbooks and allow flexibility in utilizing the best curricular materials in keeping with the faith values of the school.

Issues: Staffing

Recommendations: Full Five-Year Freeway Accreditation

Rationale: The school is committed to hiring subsequent teachers who are fully licensed in Indiana. The current staffing is typical of Freeway accredited schools.