



Indiana Department of Education

Dr. Katie Jenner, Secretary of Education

To: Indiana State Board of Education
From: Office of School Accountability
Date: May 22, 2024
Subject: Accreditation Petition for Flat-Out Learning

This memorandum provides a summary of the information provided by the school in its petition for performance-based accreditation and the final recommendation from the Indiana Department of Education (Department) regarding the accreditation of Flat-Out Learning (FOL).

Background & Demographic Information

Flat-Out Learning will be a new virtual school for the 24-25 school year. Their administrative office is in South Bend, Indiana. They plan to serve students in seventh and eighth grade.

Flat-Out Learning's mission is that FOL "provides both on-grade-level, standards-based instruction and individualized instruction on each student's instructional level, so students are able to move forward and close learning gaps". Their vision statement is "every learner will be successful – no matter what challenges they face."

FOL plans to enroll 30-40 students in their first year of accreditation. They anticipate enrolling up to 50 students within the next five years. The school plans to possibly expand to serve fifth and sixth grade as well.

Operations

Facilities: FOL's administrative office is located at 55652 Blue Jay Dr., South Bend, IN.

Tuition: Annual tuition for FOL totals \$6,300 per student. FOL indicated that it intends to participate in the Indiana Choice Scholarship program.

Staffing: Founder of FOL, Dr. Amanda Davis holds an Indiana superintendent's license, a building level administrator license, and is currently licensed to teach English/language arts in grades 5-12 and reading. She is in the process of adding licenses through testing for middle school math, science, social studies, and physical education.

Dr. Davis is the sole employee at Flat-Out Learning. She will be performing administrative and teaching roles. There is a possibility that an additional teacher will be added within the first five years, allowing FOL to serve more students.

Academic Programming

The curriculum at Flat-Out Learning is based on the Indiana Academic Standards. Students will receive instruction in language arts, mathematics, social studies, and science. They will also have



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physical education, health, civics, college and careers, and technology. Students at FOL will also have lessons in social-emotional learning. The core classes of language arts, math, science and social studies will provide on-grade-level instruction and activities to promote growth on each student's instructional level.

Instruction will be based on Universal Design for Learning (UDL) principles to make learning accessible to all students. This approach includes a focus on student choice, relevance, goal setting, variety of activities, quality feedback, self-assessment, multiple representations, explicit vocabulary instruction, decoding, multiple media approaches, activating prior knowledge, highlighting relationships, multiple means of demonstrating proficiency, utilizing accessibility tools, and scaffolded instruction. By utilizing UDL principles and strategies, learning is approachable to all students regardless of the student's current level, disability, or language acquisition stage. FOL plans to administer the applicable required Indiana state assessments.

Department Recommendation

Flat-Out Learning has plans for steady reasonable growth for the future. Based on the submitted petition and accompanying materials, Flat-Out Learning has a fair understanding of the requirements of being an Indiana performance-based accredited school. Therefore, the Department recommends granting Flat-Out Learning provisional state performance-based accreditation as a non-public school in Indiana.