

70TH ANNUAL ISBA/IAPSS FALL CONFERENCE



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ISBA/IAPSS Fall Conference

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REMEMBERING NANCY MCNABB



Nancy E. McNabb

January 30, 1943 – August 27, 2019

Mrs. McNabb served on the DeKalb Central school board for 24 years, including many years as its president, and became president of the Indiana School Boards Association from 1992-93. She was honored as the outstanding school board member in Indiana in 1996 and as the first Indiana Young Mother of the Year.

Guidance and Resources on a Comprehensive Positive School Discipline Plan

by Julie M. Slavens, ISBA Staff Attorney (jslavens@isba-ind.org)

The 2018 Indiana General Assembly passed a law (HEA 1421) requiring the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) to provide school corporations with a model plan and resources to help school corporations develop their evidence-based plan for improving student behavior and discipline in their school corporation. The Act amended IC 20-26-5-32. The model plan and resources were to be developed by the IDOE and provided to school corporations prior to the 2019-2020 school year. The statute requires the model plan to reduce out-of-school suspensions and disproportionality in discipline and expulsions, and limit referrals to law enforcement and arrests on school property to cases where it is necessary to protect the health and safety of students and/or employees.

IDOE released its model plan in late spring 2019. The plan includes a template for a policy and provides information on procedures school boards and administrators should consider in addressing their positive student discipline plans, which include policies, procedures, and practices of the school corporation. This plan serves as a comprehensive tool for school employees to use to provide a safe, respectful, and trauma-responsive environment for all students, so it includes not only policy, but also other rules, procedures, and practices of the school corporation pertaining to student behavior and discipline.

The IDOE encourages school corporations to appoint a positive discipline coordinator and establish a school climate and equitable discipline committee. The IDOE resource explains the role and duties the school positive discipline coordinator may have and provides information on the role and make-up of the committee. Involvement of all segments of the school community is encouraged such as parents, students, community members, administrators, and local agencies to be a part of the committee. The main purpose of the committee and the coordinator is to review the positive student discipline plan and provide input on its components. The plan itself and its components are the responsibility of the local school board and school administrators.

The purpose of the IDOE model plan is to provide guidance and resources for use by a local school corporation to develop, review, and if necessary, update the policies, rules, procedures, and practices relating to student behavior and discipline and create a positive and safe learning environment for students. The model plan and resources document may be found at

https://www.doe.in.gov/sites/default/files/news/research-based-equitable-school-discipline-model-policy-2019-april-12.pdf?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=

IDOE has also developed a comprehensive resource guide for the development or review of a positive behavior system. It may be found at

https://www.doe.in.gov/sites/default/files/news/comprehensive-positive-school-discipline-resource-guide-april-5.pdf?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=