



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, September 6, 2016**

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**Report Card Grades IPS School Board Candidates**

A diverse group of local organizations issued a report card today that grades the candidates running for four seats on the Indianapolis Public Schools Board of School Commissioners. The election is Nov. 8.

The Concerned Clergy of Indianapolis, NAACP and grassroots education group OurIPS based the report card's grades on answers provided by candidates at community forums hosted by Concerned Clergy and the NAACP. The grades also were based on answers to a survey issued to the candidates by OurIPS.

"The purpose of the report card is to provide voters with additional information for making what could be the most important decision they will make concerning the future direction of IPS," said Rev. David W. Greene, Sr., President of Concerned Clergy.

"Many of the people our organizations interact with have serious concerns about the lack of accountability the current school board demands of Superintendent Lewis Ferebee," Greene continued. "In the past year alone, not only has Dr. Ferebee shown poor leadership in the handling of the scandal involving a counselor who abused two students, he himself violated state reporting law."

Added Larry Yarrell, chair of the NAACP Education Committee, "Dr. Ferebee has proven his poor financial management for two years by using money from the district's Rainy Day Fund to cover the costs of day-to-day expenses. All the while, the current school board has turned a blind eye to the superintendent's failures."

Voters can learn more information about the candidates at [www.OurIPS.org](http://www.OurIPS.org).

Candidate grades are listed below.

**District 1**

**Christine Prince \***

Student Achievement: C

School Discipline/Safety: C

Supports Traditional Public School Model: C

Accountability: C

Recruiting/Retaining High-Quality Employees: C

Transparency/Communication with Stakeholders: C

*(Chris Prince filed for candidacy on the deadline date. Because she was undecided to run until Aug. 26, she did not attend the forums. Her grades are based on her survey response.)*



**District 1**

**Michael O'Connor (incumbent)**

Student Achievement: D  
School Discipline/Safety: D  
Supports Traditional Public School Model: F  
Accountability: F  
Recruiting/Retaining High-Quality Employees: F  
Transparency/Communication with Stakeholders: F

**District 2**

**Ramon Batts**

Student Achievement: C  
School Discipline/Safety: C  
Supports Traditional Public School Model: B  
Accountability: C  
Recruiting/Retaining High-Quality Employees: B  
Transparency/Communication with Stakeholders: A

**District 2**

**Nanci Lacy**

Student Achievement: C  
School Discipline/Safety: D  
Supports Traditional Public School Model: B  
Accountability: C  
Recruiting/Retaining High-Quality Employees: B  
Transparency/Communication with Stakeholders: C

**District 2**

**\*Vernita Moore**

Student Achievement: F  
School Discipline/Safety: F  
Supports Traditional Public School Model: D  
Accountability: F  
Recruiting/Retaining High-Quality Employees: F  
Transparency/Communication with Stakeholders: F  
*(Vernita Moore did not attend any of the forums. Her grades are based on her survey results.)*

**District 4**

**Diane Arnold (incumbent)**

Student Achievement: D  
School Discipline/Safety: D  
Supports Traditional Public School Model: F  
Accountability: F  
Recruiting/Retaining High-Quality Employees: F  
Transparency/Communication with Stakeholders: F



**District 4**

**Larry Vaughn**

Student Achievement: C  
School Discipline/Safety: D  
Supports Traditional Public School Model: B  
Accountability: B  
Recruiting/Retaining High-Quality Employees: D  
Transparency/Communication with Stakeholders: B

**At-Large**

**Elizabeth Gore**

Student Achievement: C  
School Discipline/Safety: C  
Supports Traditional Public School Model: B  
Accountability: C  
Recruiting/Retaining High-Quality Employees: B  
Transparency/Communication with Stakeholders: B

**At-Large**

**Jim Grim**

Student Achievement: C  
School Discipline/Safety: C  
Supports Traditional Public School Model: A  
Accountability: A  
Recruiting/Retaining High-Quality Employees: B  
Transparency/Communication with Stakeholders: A

**At-Large**

**Sam Odle**

Student Achievement: D  
School Discipline/Safety: D  
Supports Traditional Public School Model: F  
Accountability: F  
Recruiting/Retaining High-Quality Employees: F  
Transparency/Communication with Stakeholders: F