



INSPIRE ACADEMY 2019-2020

Annual Report

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INSPIRE ACADEMY

A SCHOOL OF INQUIRY

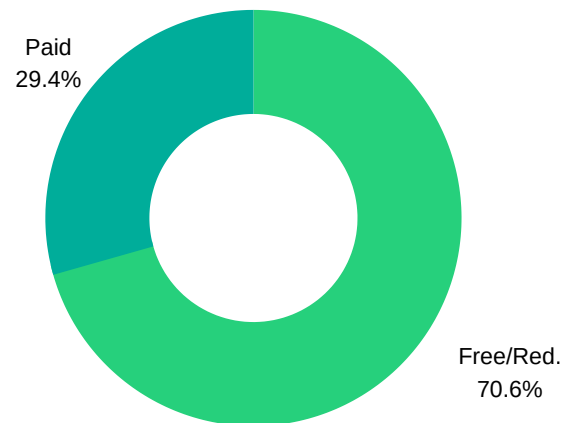
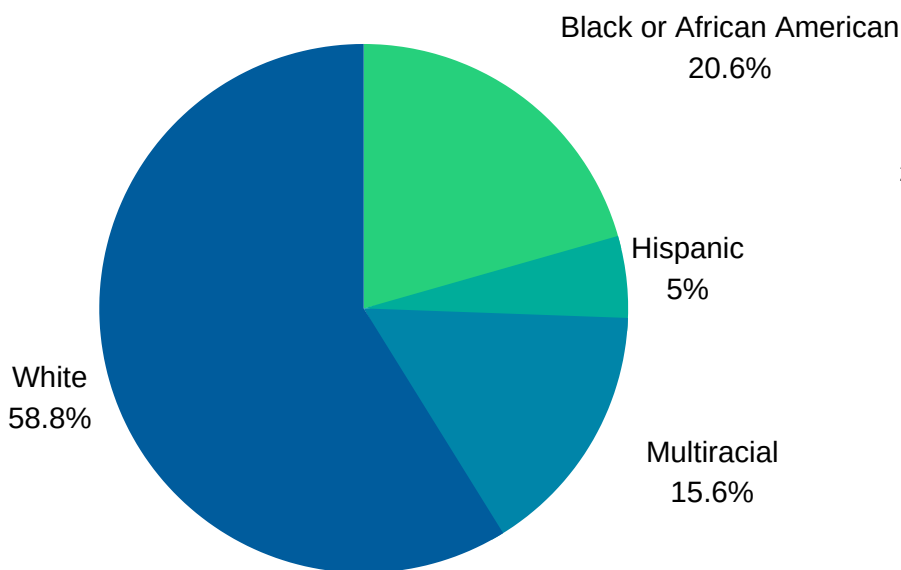
Inspire Academy believes that all children *can, will, and want* to learn, and we prepare our students to become knowing inquirers and leaders of their own learning. Inspire is open to all Indiana residents and enthusiastically serves a diverse student body, many of whom are from under-privileged backgrounds. Here is a snapshot of our student body demographics from 2019-2020.

STUDENT-STAFF DYNAMICS

180 STUDENT ENROLLMENT

20 STUDENTS PER CLASS (AVG. CLASS SIZE)

15 STUDENTS TO TEACHER RATIO (INCLUD. SPECIALS AND SPED)



MILESTONES:

Schoolwide eLearning systems throughout the spring.

Collaboration with the community to provide for families during the COVID-19 quarantine.

The most successful Giving Gala Inspire has ever seen.

DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

29% STUDENTS QUALIFIED FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION

MOBILITY

37.6% STUDENT MOBILITY FROM 2018-19 TO 2019-20

18.2% TEACHER MOBILITY FROM 2018-19 TO 2019-20

2019-2020

OUR FINANCIAL STORY

As a public charter school, Inspire Academy receives per student state funding on a par with traditional public schools. However, charter schools do not receive any funding from county real estate taxes which provide a significant source of funding for traditional public schools. A traditional school, such as our local school system, may receive an additional 20% in funding for which Inspire Academy is not eligible.

Instead, schools like Inspire Academy rely on fundraising and the generosity of supporters to meet some of the needs that are not covered by state funding or federal grants. We have been supported by many citizens of Muncie and others from across the country who believe in our vision and model of education. Their generosity has proven them to be partners with us in narrowing the resource gap that so many of our students face.

EXPENDITURES

\$1,747,290.37

EXPENDITURES IN
2019-2020

\$9,816.24

EXPENDITURES PER
STUDENT

\$38,785.03

AVERAGE TEACHER
SALARY

DONOR HONOR ROLL

FRIENDS

(CONTRIBUTIONS \$1-\$100)

Inspire Academy 4th Grade Crew
Best Buy Employee Giving Program
Jerome Zurin
Jane Rinker
Schaivon Nevings
Edmond Davis
Darla Brown
AmazonSmile Foundation
John Branies
Erik Baugues
Anitra Davis
Kelly Dezman
Ann Stegelman
Ashley Cutcher-Smith
James Heuston
Molly Wilhite
Valerie Hurwitz
Christian Badar
Mary Dollison
Cathy Hargis
John Branies
Annette Walters
Edward Wolpert
Larry Williamson
Constance Fullhart
Leo Robinson
David Willard

Dr. Ron Sloan
Michael Jessup

ADVOCATES

(CONTRIBUTIONS \$101-\$500)

Emilie Carpenter
Kelly Reyman
Ashley Harris
Dr. James Rediger
John Smith
Dr. Andrew Draper
Frances Nelson
Anita Kishel
Kim Case
Hunter Wiseley
Jay-Crew Landscape, Inc.
Thompson Group
Dr. Renae Mayes
Todd Roark
Staci Bemis
Cheryl Kneubuhler
David Jackson
Kris Simmons
Robin Rufatto
Allison Robbins
Stephen Bedi
Eberhard Starost
Jane McDowell
Praxis Consulting
Karen Gilliam
Roger Nelson

MENTORS

(CONTRIBUTIONS \$501-\$1,500)

David Wentland
Tracy Osborne
Fidelity Charitable- via Tracy Osbourne
St. Lawrence Catholic Schools
Robert Kersey
Dr. Tom Schroeder

PARTNERS

(CONTRIBUTIONS \$1,501-\$5,000)

Dr. David Draper
PayPal Giving Fund

SPONSORS

(CONTRIBUTIONS \$5,001-\$10,000)

PATRONS

(CONTRIBUTIONS over \$10,000)

The Community Foundation of
Muncie and Delaware County, Inc.

MASTERY OF KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS

STATE ASSESSMENTS

Due to the challenges faced on both the state and on local levels, caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Indiana Dept. of Education cancelled spring state assessments and decided to hold schools harmless for the 2019-2020 school year.

ACADEMIC PROFICIENCY

100% of Inspire students complete ELA and Math at their grade level each year. Students also complete courses in science, social studies, physical education, and fine arts. In 2019-2020, Inspire had 1 student enrolled in Algebra I and no students enrolled in Geometry.

100% of Inspire teachers are certified employees who teach the subject area for which the teacher is certified and holds a license.



TECHNOLOGY IN THE CLASSROOM

At Inspire Academy, we believe it is important for students to learn media literacy, typing, and master the use of modern technology to enhance learning and productivity. Students are provided with a device that is used only by them for the school year. Each quarter, students create authentic products, often using technological skills, that demonstrate their learning. We utilize standards-based, adaptive learning programs such as Achieve3000, SmartyAnts, and Apex Learning. During the 2019-20 Spring Semester we implemented a system of school-wide eLearning which employed the use of our SIS Rediker, Zoom lessons, and Google Classroom.

We also believe it is important for students to learn to think and function without technology and intentionally ensure that a portion of every day is technology free.





Inspiring Scholars Ceremony

At Inspire Academy, we hold that success, in both school and life, is contingent on developing the Habits of Scholarship: Empathy, Perseverance, Integrity, Curiosity, and Quality. At the end of the year, we recognize students who have proven themselves to be models of these Habits in a "shirting" ceremony. In SY19-20 we honored 10 students!

Attendance



Chronic absenteeism (students absent for 10% of the year or more): 40
Chronic tardiness (students with more than 10 unexcused absences): 87

Inspire Academy holds students to a high standard for attendance. We believe in using as much of our school day for instruction as possible. It is essential to creating High Quality Work.

Due to the unprecedented circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic, attendance data is greatly affected by the quarantine and emergency eLearning conditions.

School Safety

In the 2019-20 school year Inspire had 0 incidents in which a student brought in an object that could be used as a weapon; 0 instances of battery; and, 1 instance of bullying as defined under IC 20-34-6. The number of expulsions was 1 and the number of suspensions was 19 for the year.

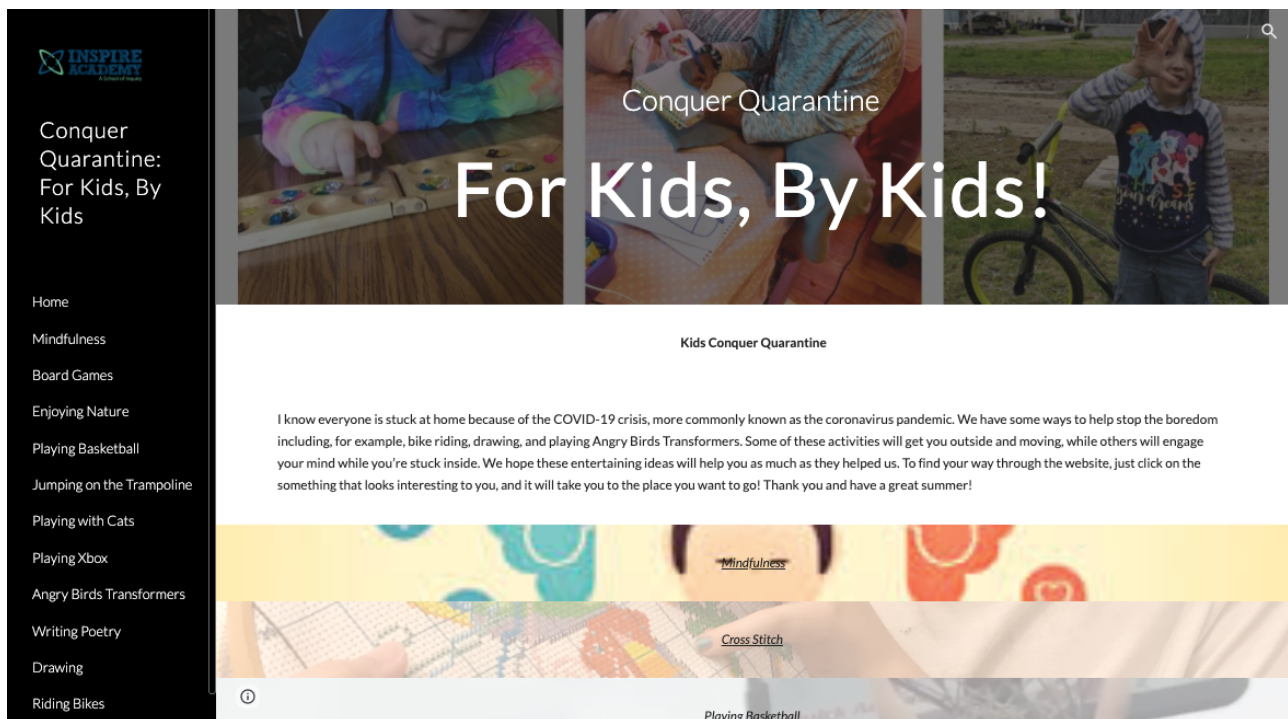
HIGH QUALITY WORK

At Inspire Academy, student work is evaluated according to three important attributes: Complexity, Authenticity, and Craftsmanship. We want to showcase what our students can do by sharing the following High-Quality projects.

This is not an exhaustive list of the High-Quality Work created during the 2019-2020 school year, but is a list of the most excellent projects.

4TH GRADE CREW

In response to the COVID-19 quarantine, the 4th grade crew collaborated digitally to create a resource website for other children. The website included written pieces by students about a variety of activities that could be enjoyed during quarantine. Students wrote each article in small groups and also collaborated on the website construction.



HIGH QUALITY WORK

1ST GRADE CREW

As a service project for their winter Expedition, the 1st grade crew knitted scarves and hats to donate. This project developed students' Perseverance and Quality as well as their math skills.



Aiden Sylla

3RD GRADE CREW

Our 3rd grade crew became experts on the adaptations of different species of frogs. Each student created a scientific drawing of the species of their choice. They also drafted, finalized, and presented an informational paragraph on their chosen frog species, including information about the frog's adaptation to its environment.



Dovie Oldfield

Northern Leopard Frogs

There are so many amazing things to know about Northern Leopard Frogs! Northern Leopard Frogs are about five to eleven centimeters long, and the weight is about twenty-nine grams. The color is greenish brown, and the frogs' spots are brown ovals. Their habitat is marshlands, brushlands, and forests. They go near the water during the breeding season so they can lay their eggs in the water. Their prey is spiders, insects, slugs, snails, and earthworms. Their predators are Bullfrogs, Green Frogs, hawks, foxes, otters, turtles, and seagulls. One interesting fact about Northern Leopard Frogs is that the female frogs are bigger than the males, and the males are smaller than the females. Northern Leopard Frogs live two to four years in the wild, and sometimes they are called Meadow Frogs because they can be found around meadows. I hope you learned something new about Northern Leopard Frogs!

Amanda Frierson

4TH GRADE CREW

Using the anchor text, *Love That Dog* by Sharon Creech, students applied different techniques to write a series of personal poems, inspired by the protagonist's journey toward self-expression. Students also wrote a biographical paragraph to accompany their poetry.

Me
By Zach.D.Fallis

I will tell you all about
me.

What I want to be,
Who I wanna see.

I wanna sit at my house
With Bruce Lee.

I will tell you all about
me.

I will go to Kentucky
And sip some tea.
Dont gotta worry about
Killing fleas.

I will tell you all about
me.
Even how I pay fees.
But not where I put my
keys.

I will tell how fast my
best friend flees

HIGH QUALITY WORK

5TH GRADE CREW

As part of their Expedition: Biodiversity in the Rainforest, 5th graders composed professional emails to corporations, requesting that they consider their impact on the unique habitat of the rainforest as well as on its resources.

Dear Burger King,

Hello, my name is Elyzabeth. I am a student Inspire Academy. I live in Muncie, Indiana. We are learning about the rainforest in my class. Do you know how your company hurts the rainforest and how your company is hurting the indigenous people, plants, and animals that live in the rainforest? Your company cut down trees by getting beef from Cargill. Cargill is not good because it gets their cattle from deforestation companies in the Amazon in South America.

Deforestation is when people cut down trees. But why? If we have no trees we have no oxygen. Trees produce oxygen. If you cut them all down you will have no breathable air. The rainforest is known as "the lungs of the earth" because it creates so much needed oxygen. That means you won't just kill animals and plants you will kill yourself and everyone near you.

Did you know that the deforestation of the rainforest is hurting other people? Some of the people your company is hurting is the indigenous people. They need our help. They need shelter and food because some companies like Cargill cut down the trees. One way your company can help the indigenous people is by boycotting Cargill.

There are also plants and animals that live in the rainforest. But when lumber companies are cutting down the rainforest there are many plants and animals becoming extinct. Edward O. Wilson estimates that we lose 137 plants and animals every single day. Please consider the effects that deforestation has on the rainforest.

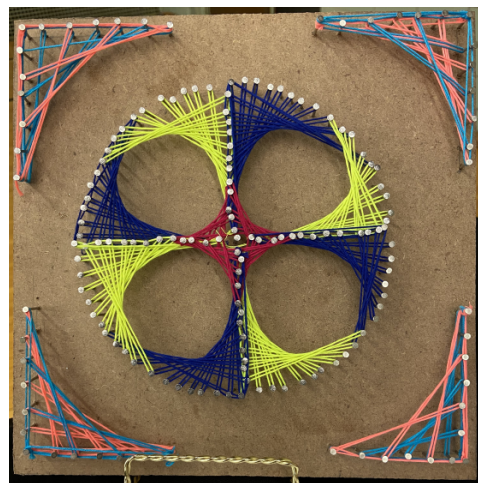
Your company can stop what you are doing by switching cattle companies. One of the other companies you can use instead of Cargill is Tyson Foods. If you chose Tyson Foods you would not have to worry about the rainforest deforestation. Your company can save the rainforest by using less energy. Your company can also use less paper, plant your own trees, educate others, buy what indigenous people make, and support your local farming communities. One last thing you can do is not drink tea that's produced in South America.

Will you change your cattle companies? If your company does please let me know. Thank you for all your time!

Elyzabeth Baugues

MIDDLE SCHOOL CREW

For one of their Math Expeditions, students experimented with parabolic curves through linear string art. This student, whose work is displayed on the right, also collaborated with another student to create mirror images that aligned on all four sides.



Eren Ivy



NEW PROJECT TO SUPPORT!

Repaving Our Parking Lot - Goal: \$69,000

UPDATE ON CURRENT PROJECTS

Roofing Project is Underway!

Rubber Surfacing, New Equipment, and a Wheelchair-Accessible Swing is Installed in Our Inclusive Playground!

THANK YOU!

We appreciate all the support we received from our generous donors and local foundations that made these projects possible.

WANT TO SUPPORT INSPIRE?

Donate through Paypal on our website:

www.inspiremuncie.org

Or, mail donations to

2801 E. 16th Street

Muncie, IN 47302

Let everyone know about what you've done for us with our special #InspireMuncie hashtag!



**INSPIRE
ACADEMY**

A School of Inquiry