

## Lithium

Lithium was discovered from a mineral, while other common alkali metals were discovered from plant minerals. Also, the most important use for lithium is in rechargeable batteries for mobile phones, laptops, digital cameras, and electric vehicles. Lithium is also used in some non-rechargeable batteries like heart pacemakers, toys, and clocks. The first mineral lithium was in the form  $\text{LiAlSi}_4\text{O}_{10}$ , and it was discovered on the Swedish island of Utö by the Bratt. Lithium has no biological role. It is toxic in very small doses. Lithium does not occur as the metal in nature but is found combined in small amounts in nearly all igneous rocks and in the waters of many minerals.

# INSPIRE ACADEMY 2017-2018

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 2017-2018.

## STUDENT-STAFF DYNAMICS

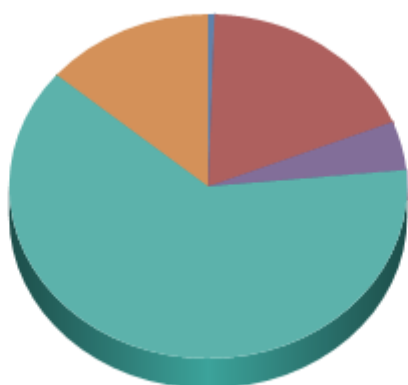
**196** STUDENT ENROLLMENT

**21** STUDENTS PER CLASS (AVG. CLASS SIZE)

**17** STUDENTS TO TEACHER RATIO

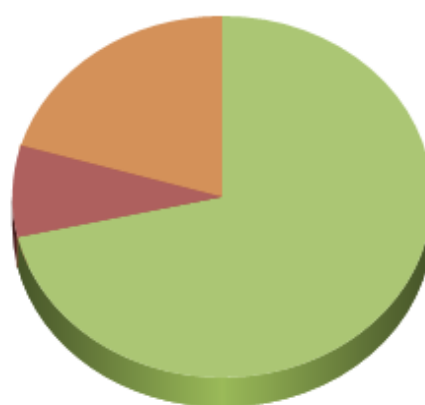
**10** STUDENTS TO STAFF RATIO

Enrollment 2017-18 by Ethnicity



American Indian   Hispanic   White   Multiracial   Black

Enrollment 2017-18 by Free/Reduced Price Meals



Free meals   Reduced price meals   Paid meals

## MILESTONES

We earned a renewal to our school's charter!

Replaced our math curriculum with new Bridges in Mathematics.

Redesigned our student discipline procedures to better support students.

## DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

**26.5%** STUDENTS QUALIFIED FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION

\*INSPIRE DOES NOT OFFER A HIGH ABILITY PROGRAM.

## MOBILITY & RETENTION

**79.9%** STUDENT RETENTION

**66.7%** TEACHER RETENTION

2017-2018

# OUR FINANCIAL STORY

As a public charter school, Inspire Academy receives per-student funding from the state on a par with traditional public school corporations. Inspire also has the same access that traditional public schools have to federal grants. However, as a charter school, Inspire receives NO funding from county real estate taxes.

County tax payments from property owners are designed to fund local government and to help pay for the education of students in the county. The county tax money that goes to traditional public schools is earmarked for capital projects, debt service, transportation and bus replacement. This money should be for the education of ALL students in the county, but charter schools receive none of this county tax money. And this is a big deal.

In 2017, on average, county tax dollars represented 22.4% of the total revenue for the seven traditional school corporations in Delaware County. If Inspire had received this 22.4% of revenue last year, that would have amounted to over \$466K or over \$2,600 per student. Since Inspire is not a traditional public school corporation and does not receive county tax revenue for debt repayment, we do not have access to the Indiana Bond Bank where most traditional public schools borrow for their short-term and long-term needs. Traditional public schools can also borrow from the Indiana Common School Fund for technology, facility improvements, and other needs. Charter schools are not allowed to borrow from the Common School Fund.

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. For example, our 75 to Thrive project is designed to generate donations to pay for our facilities.

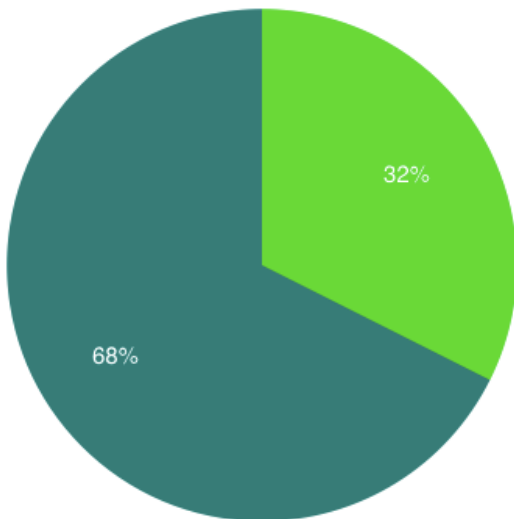


## EXPENDITURES

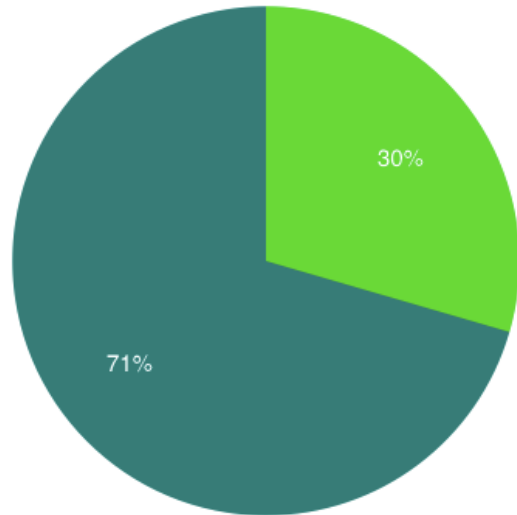
<b>\$1,952,643.73</b>	<b>EXPENDITURES IN 2017-2018</b>
<b>\$2,374.82</b>	<b>PER STUDENT FOR ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT</b>
<b>\$2,940.74</b>	<b>PER STUDENT FOR INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT</b>

# MASTERY OF KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS

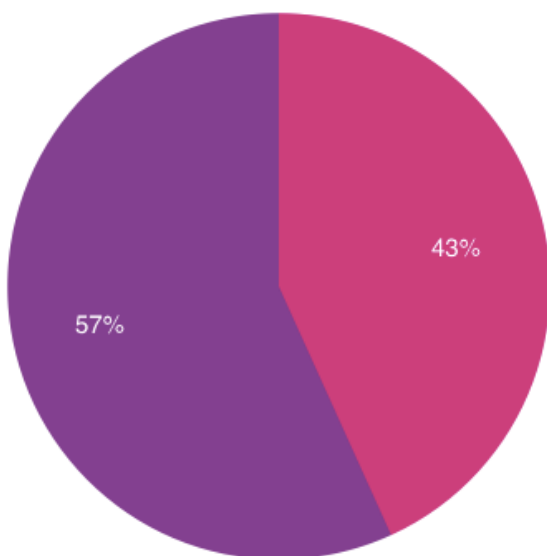
● Pass ● Did Not Pass  
**English Language Arts Proficiency on ISTEP+**



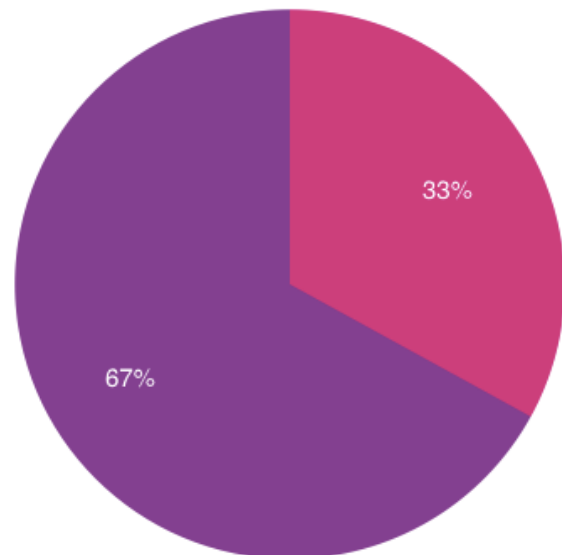
● Pass ● Did Not Pass  
**Math Proficiency on ISTEP+**



● Above Average Growth ● Below Average Growth  
**English Language Arts Growth on ISTEP+**



● Above Average Growth ● Below Average Growth  
**Mathematics Growth on ISTEP+**



Based on ISTEP+ scores, the State has designated Inspire as a "D" school. The state recognizes shortcomings in the current testing system, and as a result, is implementing a new state test this spring, called ILEARN.

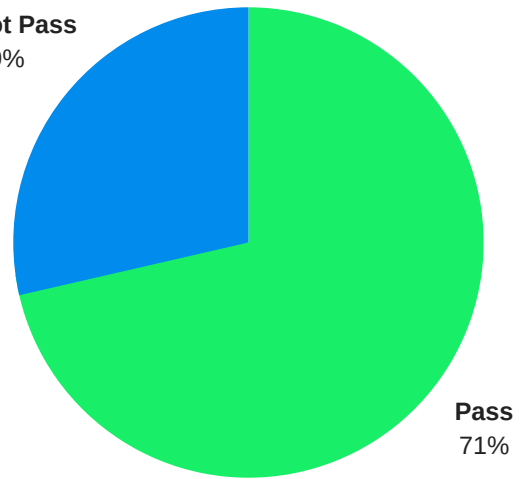




## IREAD-3 ACHIEVEMENT



Did Not Pass  
29%



By the end of the school year, 71.4% of 3rd grade students were reading at 3rd grade level.

## HIGH QUALITY EDUCATION

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 2017-2018, Inspire had one student enrolled in Algebra I.

90.9% of Inspire teachers were certified employees who taught the subject area for which they were certified and held a license.

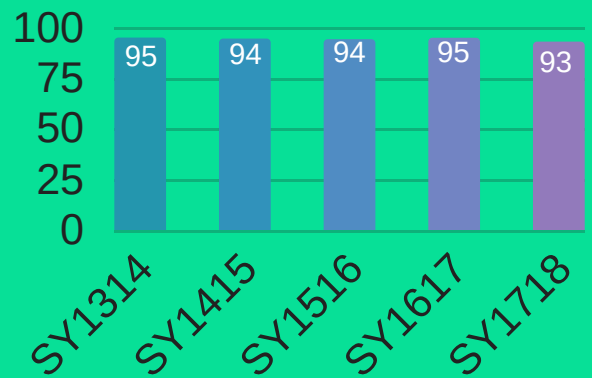
## TECHNOLOGY IN THE CLASSROOM

In 2017-2018, Inspire Academy was able to transition its middle school to a 1:1 environment, each student having his or her own Chromebook each day with which to complete projects and engage in online curriculum. Additionally, Inspire Academy maintained a 2:1 device to student ratio in elementary through the use of mobile computer labs, such that each class has a 1:1 environment 50% of the time. At Inspire, we believe it is important for students to learn media literacy, typing, and master the use of modern technology to enhance learning and productivity. We also believe it is important for students to learn to think and function without technology, and we intentionally ensure that a portion of every day is technology free at the elementary level.





Attendance Rates for the past 5 years:



Chronic absenteeism (students absent for 10% of the year or more, excused absences included): 63

Chronic truancy (students with more than 10 unexcused absences): 51

## Inspiring Students 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 SY17-18 we honored 33 students!

## School Safety

In the 2017-18 school year Inspire had 2 incidents in which a student brought in an object that could be used as a weapon; 1 instance of battery; and, 1 instance of bullying as defined under IC 20-34-6. These occurrences resulted in disciplinary action.

In 17-18, 2 students were expelled (50% White, 50% Black or African American; 50% female, 50% male; 100% FRL; 50% SPED.) 20 students received out of school suspension (55% White, 35% Multiracial, 5% Black or African American, 5% Hispanic; 25% female, 75% male; 95% FRL; 80% SPED.) 5 students received in school suspension (40% White, 40% Black or African American, 20% Hispanic; 40% female, 60% male; 100% FRL; 40% SPED.)





# 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 2017-2018 school year, but is a list of the most excellent projects.

## KINDERGARTEN CREW

As the final product for their 4th Expedition, Contributing to the Community: Enjoying and Appreciating Trees, the Kindergarten Crew used their learning to create greeting cards. The cards featured a high-quality drawing of a leaf and a statement about the importance of trees, modeled after the anchor text *A Tree is Nice* by Janice May Udry. These greeting cards were given to community members.



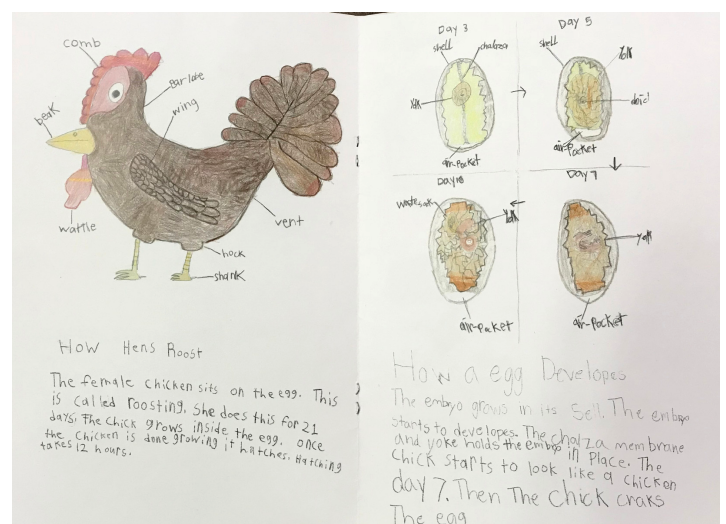
Trees are nice because....

Birds can make nests on them.

-Ezra

## 1ST GRADE CREW

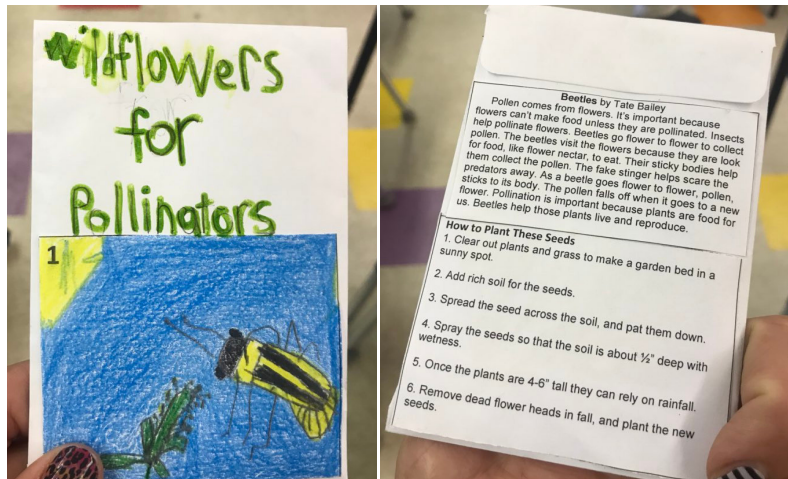
For their 3rd Expedition, Growing as Researchers Bird's Amazing Bodies, 1st Grade became experts on chickens. They used their firsthand experience caring for eggs and chicks as well as research from anchor texts to create an instructional book about chickens. The book included scientific drawings and information about topics such as chicken life cycles and anatomy.



# HIGH QUALITY WORK

## 2ND GRADE CREW

The 2nd Grade Crew created wildflower seed packets as the final product for their 4th Expedition, Providing for Pollinators. During the course of their expedition, 2nd graders collaborated with the middle school to learn about non-invasive species and flowers that help pollinators. Each seed packet includes a high-quality drawing of pollinators and instructions for wildflower care.



## 3RD GRADE CREW

For their 2nd Expedition, Adaptions and the Wide World of Frogs, 3rd Grade Crew presented their research-based narratives of frogs to a community audience. Their portfolios included drafts of a scientific drawing and an informative paragraph as well as their finished products.



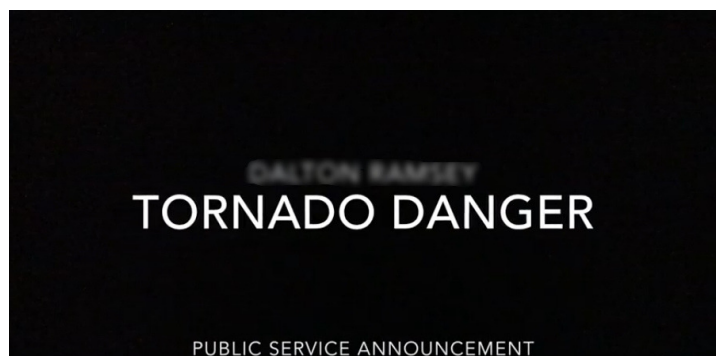
## 4TH GRADE CREW

As a final product for their 1st Expedition, Poetry, Poets, and Becoming Writers, 4th Grade Crew presented a Poet's Performance. Their performance included a presentation of an informative essay about a poet of their choice. It also included a reading of their original poem, modeled after the work of the poet they studied.



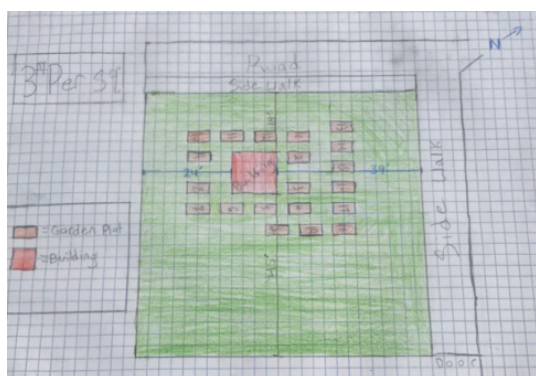


# HIGH QUALITY WORK



## 5TH GRADE CREW

5th Grade Crew created video PSAs on natural disasters and how to prepare for them as the final product for their 4th Expedition, The Impact of Natural Disasters. Each student chose a natural disaster to research, wrote their PSA, and created the video for it. The PSAs were then presented to a community audience at our Celebration of Learning in June.



## MIDDLE SCHOOL CREW

The Middle School Crew collaborated on a few, connected projects as part of their spring Expeditions.

### *Wetlands Restoration*

Middle school became leaders in the wetlands restoration project which will turn the wetlands in the back of the school into an outdoor classroom. The students studied invasive and non-invasive species and created plans for restoring the native habitat of the wetlands.

### *The Community Garden*

Students designed the layout of the garden, utilizing math skills. They collaborated with 2nd grade to choose plants that could provide for pollinators as well as supplement food for the community, which has been identified as a food desert.

### *Better World Day*

As a culmination of these projects, Middle School Crew invited the community to tour the special places being developed at Inspire Academy which will be open to all. Middle school students presented the planning involved in the projects and showcased their learning.





## WISHLIST

75 TO THRIVE!

WE ARE LOOKING FOR 75 PEOPLE TO COMMIT \$1,000 PER YEAR IN 2018, 2019, AND 2020. WE HAVE THREE \$75,000 BUILDING PAYMENTS DUE, ONE EACH YEAR STARTING IN 2019. PLEASE CONSIDER BEING ONE OF OUR 75 CHAMPIONS!

- PROJECTORS FOR PRE-K CLASSROOM, ASSEMBLY ROOM, AND CAFETERIA (\$1200)

- EBEAM INTERACTIVE WHITEBOARD FOR PRE-K CLASSROOM (\$700)

- Check out our Wishlist on Smile.Amazon for smaller items needed for daily instruction!

- Simply click on Accounts and Lists, then Find a List or Registry, and search for "Inspire Academy."

## Want to support Inspire?

Donate through Paypal on our website: [www.inspiremuncie.org](http://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