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Media Contact: Jennifer Rendant, Director of Mission & Education Marketing Communications
Cell: 630-550-0847
jennifer.rendant@goodwillindy.org

Indianapolis High School Provides Free Child Care, Transportation and Individualized Support to Teenagers

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. – Students at Indianapolis Metropolitan High School were treated to a warm welcome on their first day of school. Teachers, coaches and staff lined the halls to greet students with smiles and a large round of applause as they made their way to the first class of the day.

“Whether you’re a new or returning student, the first day of school can come with so much anxiety,” said Christina Lear, Principal of Indianapolis Met. “We want to make sure our students know that we are here to support them from day one.”

As a best-fit high school, students attending Indianapolis Met often face circumstances that could present a barrier to education, such as homelessness, criminal records, teen pregnancy and more. Owned and operated by Goodwill of Central and Southern Indiana, Indianapolis Met is able to provide additional support to students in need through free child care, transportation assistance, small class sizes and college and career readiness pathways.

For students like Brigette Casimiro, 17, Indianapolis Met’s free, on-site child care allowed her to transition from an online high school, where she struggled to maintain her focus and her grades, back into a classroom setting.

“I’d never left my son in a child care setting before, and I was really nervous,” Brigette said. “I love that it is inside my school so that I can check-in on him whenever I need. I know that he is safe and being well taken care of.”

Indianapolis Met also offers students opportunities to thrive outside of the classroom, including sports, clubs, internships, and social activities such as prom. Family empowerment coaches are also assigned to each student and their families helping to set goals, keep them accountable and navigate any barriers outside of school.

“The staff and teachers are all just really invested and are here to help you stay on track,” Brigette added. “I don’t feel like I have to work through anything by myself. They’re very supportive.”

Indianapolis Met is still enrolling for the 2019-20 school year. For more information or to enroll, please visit <https://indianapolismet.org>