October 21, 2026

School City of East Chicago
1401 E 144th Street
East Chicago, IN 46312

Dear Stephen Bournes,

Pursuant to Indiana Code (IC) 20-28-9-28, school corporations are required to spend at least 65% of applicable state tuition support on teacher compensation each fiscal year. **This memo serves as notice that Form 9 financial information for School City of East Chicago (4670) shows less than 65% of applicable state tuition support spent on teacher compensation during fiscal year 2026. Thus, the teacher compensation requirement was not met.**

Teacher compensation included teachers as defined by IC 20-18-2-22(d), which were coded in Form 9 financial information as objects 100-299 and subcategories 30-39 or 62-66. Form 9 financial information submitted by School City of East Chicago for fiscal year 2026 reflected the following:

Fiscal Year 2026 State Tuition Support:	$30,618,548.00
Fiscal Year 2026 Teacher Compensation Expenditures:	$19,479,465.37
Fiscal Year 2026 Teacher Compensation Percentage:	63.62%

Please note expenditures coded to school id 8888 (other public school) were excluded from the calculation. Tuition Support has been adjusted to remove the amount generated by students receiving education from 3rd party virtual providers.

Pursuant to IC 20-28-9-28, School City of East Chicago must do the following:

1) Publicly acknowledge receipt of this notice from the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) at the governing body's next public meeting.
2) Enter into the governing body's official meeting minutes an acknowledgment of the notice.
3) Within 30 days after the meeting, publish this notification on the school corporation's website.

Contact IDOE's Office of School Finance with any questions.

Sincerely,

Brenda A Erbse

Brenda Erbse
Senior Department Director, Office of School Finance

cc: Lela Simmons, Maria Mercedez Taylor