

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, July 22, 2026

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The IPEC Board Confirms Mayor Joe Hogsett's Recommendation for Executive Director

Dr. Karega Rausch will serve as Executive Director of IPEC

INDIANAPOLIS — Mayor Joe Hogsett and the Indianapolis Public Education Corporation (IPEC) Board today announced the confirmation of Dr. Karega Rausch as the organization's first Executive Director. This decision marks a pivotal step forward for IPEC, the newly-created municipal corporation charged with coordinating facilities, transportation, and a common performance framework across both Indianapolis Public Schools (IPS) and public charter schools within the IPS boundaries.

“This leadership decision brings exactly the combination of local commitment, national expertise, and operational discipline that this moment demands,” **said Indianapolis Mayor Joe Hogsett**. “I have full confidence that, under his leadership, IPEC will strengthen collaboration across the public education sector, delivering real, lasting results for our students, families, and city.”

In his capacity as Executive Director, Karega will uphold a strong commitment to ensuring high-quality education for students and their families and to advancing a more coordinated, efficient, and equitable public education system for every public school student, no matter which school they attend.

“After a thorough and competitive process, the IPEC board is confident in the leadership this appointment will bring,” **said David Harris, IPEC Board Chair**. “Karega’s decades of experience spanning all types of public schools, nonprofit, higher-education leadership, and public service position him to help bring our community together around a unified vision for public education. We look forward to the work ahead.”

“I have spent my career fighting for the belief that every child deserves access to an excellent education, no matter its governance model,” **said Dr. Karega Rausch**. “I appreciate the Mayor’s trust in me and I am ready to bring everything I have learned locally and nationally to the important work IPEC will lead.”

Dr. Karega Rausch, an Indianapolis native, brings more than two decades of education leadership across the public school, charter, nonprofit, higher education, and government sectors. He currently serves as President and CEO of the National Association of Charter School Authorizers

(NACSA), where he has created best in class resources and approaches to accelerate charter school quality across the country. While leading NACSA, he grew operating revenue by more than 20%, raised over \$25 million supporting strategic initiatives, and delivered consistent balanced budgets and clean audits. Previously, he led education initiatives for the City of Indianapolis under Mayors Bart Peterson and Greg Ballard. Upon leaving city government, he led a multi-sector coalition of community organizations in IPS that led to IPS allocating district resources for pre-school for the first time. He holds a Ph.D. in Educational Psychology from Indiana University Bloomington and a B.A. from DePauw University.

This selection caps a rigorous, months-long search process. A total of 36 candidates applied for the Executive Director role. An IPEC taskforce narrowed that field to six finalists, who were identified following a comprehensive search and review of applicants conducted by the Executive Director/Staffing working group of the IPEC. Mayor Joe Hogsett then interviewed each of the six finalists. Consistent with Indiana statute, the Mayor made his recommendation for Executive Director to the IPEC Board for consideration and approval. The Board today approved the Mayor's recommendation.

About the Indianapolis Public Education Corporation

The Indianapolis Public Education Corporation (IPEC) is a municipal corporation led by a mayor-appointed board established in 2026 to establish a unified student transportation, school property, and school performance system within IPS boundaries to maximize the efficient use of taxpayer resources, respecting decisions of individual public schools, and creating the best conditions for student learning and success that serves every student and family in Indianapolis, regardless of the public school they attend.

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