



Emmerich Manual High School and Emma Donnan Elementary School Raise Letter Grades

Highest grades achieved since state takeover

INDIANAPOLIS, In (Oct. 4, 2017) – Emmerich Manual High School and Emma Donnan Elementary School students have proven that when given the right tools for success, they can achieve what many called impossible. Emmerich Manual High School, which was taken over by the State of Indiana and assigned to Charter Schools USA (CSUSA), under the guidance of Noble Education Initiative (NEI) improved their achievement by two letter grades and has been awarded a “C”, only two points from a “B”, in school accountability in 2017.

“Student achievement has always been our primary focus at Emmerich Manual High School,” said Eric Lewis, superintendent and senior vice president of Midwest operations and innovation for CSUSA. “We are proud of this milestone in school improvement and the hard work of our students and staff. We look forward to many years serving the greater Indianapolis area as a high-performing comprehensive high school.”

Emmerich Manual High School offers multiple career pathways in welding, health professions, education professions, business and a pilot program for construction trades. The JROTC program just celebrated 100 years of operation and continues to provide leadership and character development as a thriving and award-winning program at Manual. Manual is a well-rounded high school with performing and fine arts programming, competitive sports programming that is battling for

championships (2017 All City Basketball runners up), and academic programming that provides students with dual credit and college scholarship opportunities.

Emma Donna Elementary School serving grades K-6 is Indianapolis' first Innovation Network School, a public/private partnership with the City of Indianapolis and CSUSA. In only its second year of operation, Emma Donnan Elementary achieved an Indiana school accountability grade of an "A".

According to Principal Michael Dunagan, all the pieces were there and his team of professionals along with the support of NEI were able to put it all together for success.

"I have always had confidence in our educational model and the potential of our students and staff at Emma Donnan," he said. "I am so proud of the growth and achievement of our students. The guidance of NEI has been invaluable to us and we are now seeing the results."

The school will hold an assembly to celebrate their success as they set even higher achievement goals for this school year. The innovative practices in which students are engaged, allow for personalized learning, individualized growth and achievement goals, and community engagement in a dynamic blended learning environment. Students rotate through their day with multiple modes of learning with small groups, computer and tablet-based learning with targeted software usage, and electives that include music and art.

Noble Education Initiative (NEI) is a not-for-profit education support provider that delivers a wide range of services from leadership development to whole school district operations. Customers include individual school leaders, school administration and school districts. Its expert team provides leadership and curriculum development, data analysis and classroom management best practices, strategic planning, auditing and evaluation, grant management, education oversight, Career Technical Education program development and Eight-Step Process implementation for school improvement. NEI partnered with CSUSA in 2016 to help turn around schools managed by CSUSA.

Charter Schools USA (CSUSA) is one of the largest and most respected educational management organizations in the United States. The first to achieve corporation system-wide accreditation through AdvancED. CSUSA currently manages 84 schools in eight states and was awarded management of three schools in Indianapolis after the state took them over after chronically failing for seven years.



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