

**PRESS RELEASE** For immediate release

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## Junior Achievement and Indianapolis Public Schools Prepare Graduating Seniors for Postsecondary Success

City wide effort to prepare IPS seniors for employment took place on April 27 at a Junior Achievement 4E Fair

**[Indianapolis, IN – April 29, 2022]** On April 27, seniors at Indianapolis Public Schools (IPS) engaged with local business professionals, representing more than 50 companies in central Indiana, at the Junior Achievement (JA) 4E Fair to learn about the various career opportunities, available entry level positions and employment pathways after they graduate this Spring.

The JA 4E Fair took place on Wednesday, April 27, during Indy Hire Youth Week, at Broad Ripple High School. The student event, supported by EmployIndy and Project Indy, was designed to provide all IPS graduating seniors, who have identified "Employment" as their post-secondary plan, with a pathway to success. The fair is the culmination of weeks of school-based curriculum, provided by Junior Achievement and taught by IPS staff, arming students with the knowledge, skills and confidence needed to be successful in today's world. Students developed a resume, perfected their elevator pitch and practiced critical soft skills.

"JA is committed to providing equitable opportunities for all young people to own their future success," states Jennifer Burk, President and CEO of JA of Central Indiana. "We are proud to partner with IPS, EmployIndy, Project Indy and the business community to build students' employability skills, connect them with business and industry professionals, and support them in their journey toward future success and self-sufficiency."

As a part of the pre-event JA curriculum, students researched companies attending the 4E Fair and identified those of greatest interest. Students were actively seeking entry level careers, apprenticeships and job opportunities, and onsite interviews were conducted to place students into a career path immediately following high school graduation. In addition to meeting employers, students had the opportunity to attend an Entrepreneurship Panel led by local business owners in order to gain valuable insight on how to apply entrepreneurial thinking to any situation, and considerations for successfully starting and managing a company.

Approximately 250 seniors from IPS high schools, including Arsenal Tech, Crispus Attucks, George Washington, Shortridge, Herron, Riverside, Hope Academy and Simon Youth Academy, attended the fair.



## See below for a full list of participating companies:

3M, Allegion, Allied Universal Security Services, Amazon, American Health Network, American Senior Communities, Atterbury Job Corps/INDYpendence Job Corps, Carter Express, Citizens Energy Group, Crew Carwash, Custom Concrete, Early Learning Indiana, Ed Martin Automotive Group, Eli Lilly and Company, EmployIndy, Exploradoor Inc., Express Employment Professionals, Fastenal, FedEx Express, FedEx Ground, Heritage Environmental Services, IBEW 481, ICCA Built To Succeed, Indiana Apartment Association, Indianapolis Airport Authority, Indy Parks, IndyHumane Animal Shelter, IU Health, IUPUI Office of Community Engagement, Latinas Welding Guild Inc., LIFT Academy, Little Scholars Childcare, LiUNA Local 120, Lou Malnati's Pizzeria, Major Tool & Machine, Milestone Contractors, O'Brien Toyota, Patachou, Inc., Pepper Construction, Printing Partners, Inc., Project Azul, RCI, Securitas Security Services, Shepherd Community, Inc., Staff Management, Stoops Freightliner, Talent Bound, The Heritage Group, The National Bank of Indianapolis, Transportation Security Administration, YMCA

## See below for photos from the event:







For more information on the 4E Fair or other JA programs,

visit www.juniorachievement.org/web/ja-indy.

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## About Junior Achievement of Central Indiana

Junior Achievement of Central Indiana, in partnership with the business and education communities, empowers young people to own their future success. JA educates and inspires students in PreK through high school in the areas of career exploration, employability/life skills, financial literacy and entrepreneurship through hands-on, experiential learning opportunities. For more information on how to get involved or volunteer, please visit www.jaindy.org.