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Choice creates brighter future for education

By Melissa Bailey-Comstock

Mayor Greg Ballard's five-point education plan shows forward thinking that is direly needed in our educational system. Society and the family structure are constantly changing, and Ballard has the foresight to see and respond to the needs that make up Indy's diverse communities. He is laying the foundation for a model that can be utilized nationwide.

Creating school choice should not be seen as a threat to public education, but simply as another alternative to raising the next generation of leaders. Charter schools should be made readily available to families desiring them and a streamlined approval process will enable Indianapolis to meet those needs.

The Mind Trust is a wonderful way to bring together the innovative minds that want a brighter future in education.

Our children did not choose their station in life. They were brought into this world by us and it's our **responsibility** to make a better place for them. This may mean letting go of the status quo and venturing into unfamiliar territory to make them

competitive, no matter their socio-economic status.

Just as in corporate America, competition is good and will result in better schools for everyone. It's also important that the reforms passed by the Statehouse get implemented in IPS, which will improve performance and cut some bureaucracy that has been holding us back.