WHO CAN APPLY?
Any family in Indiana can apply to Burris, but space is limited. Because Burris is a family school, the admissions process gives priority to applicants who have a sibling already attending Burris. When a general lottery position is available, siblings have first priority.

Burris Laboratory School also reserves a limited number of openings for students who qualify as high-ability. Doing so upholds a long-term commitment to serve high-ability students and to facilitate related research. Students applying for admission through the high-ability lottery will participate in on-site testing to determine their qualification.

Burris accepts new students each year for kindergarten. Transfer students in grades 1-11 are accepted as space becomes available. As with kindergarten, priority is given to students with siblings already attending Burris.

THE LOTTERY SYSTEM
The admissions process combines prioritized registration for siblings and high-ability students with a lottery system. This is necessary because demand for admission exceeds available space. The principal (or a designee) conducts the lottery. Applicant names are drawn randomly from a pool and publicly announced. Attendance at the lottery drawings is not required. The lottery also generates a wait list to fill openings that may occur after the lottery.

There are three types of lotteries.
1. General—This is for applicants without priority status.
2. Sibling—This happens when more Burris siblings want to register than there are available openings.
3. High-ability—This happens when more high-ability students apply than there are available openings.

Burris Laboratory School
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Ball State University
Muncie, IN 47306
765-285-1131
burrislab.bsu.edu
Burris Laboratory School is a public, K-12 school of approximately 670 students. Enrollment is open to all Indiana residents. Established in 1929, the school is named after Dr. Benjamin Burris, who, as Ball State University’s third president, set a goal of building a laboratory school for teacher training.

MISSION
Burris Laboratory School fosters a culture of respect and trust where every student is challenged to pursue excellence by engaging in a well-rounded, technologically enhanced, rigorous curriculum in a safe and secure environment. As a model school, engaged in best-practice research and the preparation of highly effective educators, we collaborate with community partners to prepare students for success in an ever-changing world.

VISION
We aspire to be a world-class community of scholars focused on developing responsible global citizens.

WHAT MAKES BURRIS A LABORATORY SCHOOL?
1. Laboratory schools train teachers.
   a. Pre-service teachers from Ball State log more than 19,000 hours of engaged teaching each year. With so many pre-service teachers, Burris students have more opportunities to interact with educators and mentors.
   b. Burris classrooms are also open to observation by Ball State University students. The school records approximately 1,000 observation sessions annually.
2. Laboratory schools engage in research.
   a. In recent years, Burris has partnered with Ball State’s Neuropsychology Lab to map the brains of student-athletes and study how concussions affect them.
   b. With the Ball State School of Kinesiology, Burris is helping to determine whether hand-grip strength correlates to academic achievement. Students spend time in gym class on the school’s climbing wall and perform other exercises to increase strength. Researchers are monitoring strength gains and academic performance.

NATIONAL AND STATE AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS
- Indiana Department of Education “A” School
- Washington Post – American’s Most Challenging High Schools recipient
- U.S. News and World Report Silver Medal School
- United States Department of Education National Green Ribbon School
- Indiana Blue Ribbon School
- Let’s Move National School Award Recipient
- Indiana Department of Education AP Participation Award

ADDRESSING EACH STUDENT’S NEEDS
Education at Burris Laboratory School is based on a full-inclusion model. Students from across the learning spectrum are taught in the same classrooms. While the setting remains the same, each student receives individual attention based on that student’s strengths and challenges. This approach to meeting the needs of all students is called differentiated instruction.

CREATING PROBLEM SOLVERS
Burris students learn with an emphasis on design thinking. Design thinking involves collaboration and hands-on problem solving. Students identify challenges, gather information, generate potential solutions, refine ideas, and test solutions.

INNOVATION LAB
With the support of the Ball Brothers Foundation, Burris has remodeled and equipped a space to house an Innovation Lab that will support design thinking projects and related initiatives such as Project Lead The Way.

A HIGH-TECH EDUCATION
Technology is a tool that allows us to provide a well-rounded learning experience. Each K-12 student is issued an iPad for educational use. With iPads, students can use digital textbooks and research information using current and up-to-date resources. Filters and institutional device management software keep students safer while they are using their iPads online.

FOCUSING ON FINE ARTS
At Burris, Fine Arts is not an afterthought. General music and visual arts start in kindergarten, and opportunities expand as students advance from grade to grade. Burris’ strings program starts in first grade with beginning violin and begins in fourth grade. By high school, students can choose from an array of course offerings including visual art, band, choir, orchestra, and theater.

ENCOURAGING CURIOSITY WITH CLUBS
A Burris education doesn’t end when the bell rings. After-school enrichment opportunities abound for students to pursue their own interests and mingle with peers in clubs and other programs. In recent years, Burris has had a STEAM Club (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics), Robotics Club, Chess Club, Fitness Club, and more.

EXCELLENCE IN COMPETITION
Students represent our school well in many ways, both academically and athletically. Burris offers a wide array of athletic opportunities beginning in 4th grade. Our teams consistently perform at a high level, including many conference championships each year. Academic competitions offer students a fun way to pursue intellectual interests.