Dylan Peers McCoy

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Chalkbeat Indiana **Education reporter** **Nov 2015 – current**

Award-winning coverage of K-12 education policy in Indianapolis. Led 2019 investigation that revealed statewide abuse of 'homeschooling' designation to inflate graduation rates, informing a state board's decision not to give charters to 2 troubled schools. Found families who had been affected and persuaded them to speak publicly and share education records. Analyzed state data to show students who left to home-school were concentrated in 61 of the state's 507 high schools.

Reported on Indiana's largest school system, overcoming a difficult administration to develop sources that helped me regularly break news. Used public records and data to drive groundbreaking coverage of inequities in school funding, the development of private school vouchers and the decline of a teachers union. Self-taught SQLite and Pandas to manage and analyze large data sets. Wrote newsletters that created a friendly yet authoritative rapport and regularly engaged readers. Stories republished in the Atlantic, the Indianapolis Star and local outlets.

Journal & Courier **Education reporter** **March 2015 – Oct 2015**

Covered K-12 education, youth services and poverty for a digital-first publication. Created databases of public information. Produced video. Took photos.

Freelance **Multimedia reporter** **July 2014 – March 2015**

Reported radio and print stories for local and national outlets, including PRI's Studio 360, NPR's Latino USA and the Minneapolis Star Tribune. Took photos.

American RadioWorks **Reporting fellow** **Nov 2013 – June 2014**

Wrote, produced and edited podcasts. Researched for radio documentaries on education and public policy. Fact-checked documentaries. Edited and rewrote radio text for the web.

Daily Hampshire Gazette **Reporter** **Sept 2012 – April 2013**

Covered education, politics and business for a daily newspaper on tight deadlines, writing 2 or more stories per day. Covered local school budgets, including controversial layoffs.

Heisler, Feldman, McCormick & Garrow **Paralegal** **Jan 2011 – Jan 2013**

Interviewed prospective clients to gather detailed information. Researched case law. Drafted legal documents. Administered class action settlements of up to $600,000 with 2,000 members.

EDUCATION Smith College, BA in Government, Jan 2011, Magna Cum Laude
Transom Story Workshop, 2013 – Residency in radio journalism

SKILLS Data analysis: Excel (advanced); SQLite and Pandas (intermediate). Audio editing: ProTools and Hindenburg (intermediate).

AWARDS 2nd place, education reporting, Indiana SPJ 2017 and 2018; 3rd place, minority issues, Indiana SPJ 2017; 3rd place, education reporting Indiana SPJ 2015.