
STATE OF INDIANA

DISTRESSED UNIT APPEAL BOARD



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Distressed Unit Appeal Board Meeting Memorandum

June 27, 2018

Call to Order: A meeting of the Distressed Unit Appeals Board (DUAB or Board) was held on June 27, 2018, at 6:00 p.m. CDT at the West Side Leadership Academy, Auditorium, Gary, Indiana. Members of the Board attending the meeting in-person include Micah Vincent, Wes Bennett, Paul Joyce, Tracy Brown and Representative Vernon Smith. Courtney Schaafsma, Executive Director, was also in attendance.

Chairman Vincent called the meeting to order and recognized compliance with the Open Door Law. Chairman Vincent presented the minutes for the June 4, 2018 meeting. Mr. Bennett moved to approve the minutes, and Mr. Joyce seconded. The Board voted 4-0 to approve the minutes.

Representatives from Gary Community School Corporation (“GCSC”), including both staff and members of the emergency management team, provided presentations on the current status of GCSC and plans for the 2018-2019 school year. In addition, these presenters answered questions from the Board. The presenters included:

- Dr. Peggy Hinckley, Emergency Manager
- Mr. Eric Parish, Finance Lead on Emergency Management Team
- Mr. Leonard Moody, GCSC Chief Financial Officer
- Ms. Nakia Douglas, Deputy Superintendent on Emergency Management Team
- Ms. Iliana El-Khalani, GCSC Special Education Director
- Detective Simon Lillie, GCSC Security
- Ms. Melisha Henderson, GCSC Human Resources Director
- Mr. Ron Gordon, GCSC Operations Director
- Dr. Tanya Housing, GCSC Principal at Gary Middle School

In addition to an update on the establishment of Gary Middle School, Dr. Housing also provided an update on the creation of a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics) lab at the middle school. Ms. Schaafsma presented to the Board Resolution 2018-2, Resolution Providing A Grant to Gary Community School Corporation Pursuant to Indiana Code 6-1.1-20.3-6.8(f). The grant would be used to assist in the furnishing and equipping of the STEAM lab. After further discussion with Dr. Housing, Mr. Bennett made a motion that DUAB approve an amended resolution approving the grant in an amount of \$142,000 (the original resolution provided for \$122,000). Ms. Brown seconded the motion. The Board voted 4-0 to approve the grant for GCSC.

New business: Mayor Karen Freeman-Wilson provided comments to the Board regarding the ongoing working relationship between the City of Gary and GCSC, including sharing concerns of the City in regard to the security and maintenance of GCSC's vacant buildings.

Adjournment: Chairman Vincent adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m.