
STATE OF INDIANA

DISTRESSED UNIT APPEAL BOARD



INDIANA GOVERNMENT CENTER NORTH
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INDIANAPOLIS IN 46204
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Distressed Unit Appeal Board Meeting Memorandum

Thursday, June 29, 2023

Call to Order: A meeting of the Distressed Unit Appeals Board (“DUAB” or “Board”) was June 29, 2023, at 1:30 p.m. EST at the Indiana Government Center South Building, Conference Rooms 4 and 5, 302 W. Washington Street, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204. Members of the Board attending the meeting in person include Chairman Justin McAdam, Tracy Brown, Paul Joyce, Rebecca Kubacki, Dan Shackle, and Representative Jeff Thompson. Senators Brown and Melton attended remotely. Peter Miller, Executive Director, was also in attendance.

Chairman McAdam called the meeting to order and recognized compliance with the Open Door Law.

Chairman McAdam introduced agenda item **3 – Approval of Minutes.**

Ms. Kubacki made a motion the minutes be approved as presented. Mr. Joyce seconded the motion. The motion passed (4-0). Mr. Shackle did not vote, as he was not a member of the board at that time.

Chairman McAdam introduced agenda item **4 – Public Comment.**

- Dr. Michaela Spangenburg expressed concern about poor academics, a lack of swimming pool access, graduation rates, expenditure data, and a lack of transition to local control.
- Dr. Augusta Ware-DeNeal expressed concern about poor academics and a lack of students attending college.
- Ms. Natalie Ammons expressed frustration with a lack of progress and GCSC’s stained history.
- Mr. Robert Buggs expressed concerns about advisory board compensation and missing funds.
- Ms. Tracy Coleman expressed concerns about academic performance, a lack of data-driven decisions, a lack of resources, a lack of swimming pool access, a lack of libraries, and requested an audit.
- Ms. Nicki Byrd expressed concern about poor academics and lack of community involvement in schools.
- Mr. Robert Coleman requested GCSC’s debts be forgiven, an audit be performed, and vacant buildings be torn down.
- Mrs. Lovetta Tindal expressed want for the community to play an active role in GCSC, expressed concern over academics, and requested teacher training.
- Ms. Kristy Sass shared her work in after school literacy tutoring.

Chairman McAdam introduced agenda item **5 – Gary Community School Corporation (“GCSC”) Academic Update.**

Ms. Mavis Nelson introduced Ms. Kerchell Hobsen and Dr. Esther Goodes. The group presented updates on graduation rates and calculations, dual credit, and future priorities. Chairman McAdam, Ms. Kubacki, and Sen. Melton asked clarifying questions.

Chairman McAdam introduced agenda item **6 – GCSC Operations Update.**

Dr. Michael Raisor presented updates on bus and custodial vendors, facilities updates, trainings, and enrollment. Chairman McAdam asked clarifying questions.

Chairman McAdam introduced agenda item **7 – GCSC Financial Update.**

Dr. Raisor announced that they are seeking a CFO and presented the update. Mr. Joyce made a motion the 1065 Claims Docket be approved as presented. Ms. Kubacki seconded the motion. The motion passed (5-0).

Chairman McAdam introduced agenda item **8 – Authorizations by the DUAB Executive Director.**

Mr. Miller presented the contracts:

- *Safe Environmental Corp* – Asbestos Removal
- *BCI Burke / Snider Recreation* – Outdoor Physical Fitness Equipment
- *Equitable Education Solutions* – STEM Certification Facilitation
- *Great Lakes Electrical Maintenance* – Digital Marquees Electrical Feed

Chairman McAdam introduced agenda item **9 – Consideration of Revision to ESSER Plan for GCSC.**

Mr. Miller provided background information. Chairman McAdam asked clarifying questions. Mr. Joyce made a motion the reversion be approved as submitted. Ms. Kubacki seconded the motion. The motion passed (5-0).

Chairman McAdam introduced agenda item **10 – Consideration of GCSC Contractual Obligations.**

Dr. Goodes presented the contracts:

- *1st Makerspace* – WSLA Makerspace
- *1st Makerspace* – Elementary Makerspaces

Chairman McAdam, Sen. Melton, and Ms. Brown asked clarifying questions. Ms. Kubacki made a motion to approve the contracts as presented. Mr. Shackle seconded the motion. The motion passed (5-0).

Chairman McAdam introduced agenda item **11 – Excessive Education Fund Transfer List for CY 2022.**

Mr. Miller provided background information and recognized the school districts that provided documentation:

- *Alexandria Community School Corporation* – 18.74% Transfer / 3.74% Over
- *Anderson Community School Corporation* – 18.07% Transfer / 3.07% Over

- *Concord Community Schools* – 15.01% Transfer / 0.01% Over
- *Wabash City Schools* – 16.44% Transfer / 1.44% Over

Chairman McAdam asked if there was any new business to come before the Board. Sen. Melton and Mr. Joyce addressed the community.

Chairman McAdam adjourned the meeting.