
STATE OF INDIANA

DISTRESSED UNIT APPEAL BOARD



INDIANA GOVERNMENT CENTER NORTH
100 N. SENATE AVENUE, ROOM 1058
INDIANAPOLIS IN 46204
(317) 234-2273

Distressed Unit Appeal Board Meeting Memorandum

Thursday, March 14, 2024

Call to Order: A meeting of the Distressed Unit Appeals Board (“DUAB” or “Board”) was March 14, 2024, at 1:30 p.m. EDT 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 Cris Johnston, Tracy Brown, David Holt, Paul Joyce, Daniel Shackle, Rep. Vernon Smith, and Rep. Jeff Thompson. Peter Miller, Executive Director, was also in attendance.

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

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

Mr. Shackle made a motion the minutes for the February 14, 2024, public meeting be approved as presented. Ms. Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed (5-0).

Ms. Brown made a motion the minutes for the February 26, 2024, executive session be approved as presented. Mr. Holt seconded the motion. The motion passed (5-0).

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

- Dr. Michaela Spangenburg expressed concerns around closing schools, enrollment decline, financial instability, the superintendent hiring process, and a lack of local control.
- Mrs. Lovetta Tindal expressed concerns around DEI training, teacher-to-student ratios, school board members, community involvement, special education, and pool access.
- Ms. Tracy Coleman expressed concerns around food services and attendance.

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

Ms. Mavis Snelson presented the update. Rep. Smith and Chairman Johnston asked clarifying questions.

Chairman Johnston introduced agenda item **6 – GCSC Financial Update.**

Dr. Mike Raisor presented the update. Rep. Smith, Mr. Holt, Mr. Joyce, and Chairman Johnston asked clarifying questions.

Chairman Johnston introduced agenda item **7 – GCSC Facilities Update.**

Mr. Miller presented the contract. Mr. Joyce asked a clarifying question. Mr. Joyce asked clarifying questions. Chairman Johnston, Dr. Raisor, and Mr. Miller responded. Rep. Smith asked clarifying questions and expressed concern about the timeline for hiring a superintendent.

Chairman Johnston introduced agenda item **8 – Review of 1065/School Improvement Fund Claims Docket.**

Mr. Miller presented the transactions. Ms. Brown made a motion the claims be approved as submitted. Mr. Shackle seconded the motion. The motion passed (5-0).

Chairman Johnston introduced agenda item **9 – Authorizations by the DUAB Executive Director.**

Mr. Miller presented the contracts:

- *Softchoice* - Microsoft software
- *Tri-Electronics* - Security systems

Mr. Holt asked a clarifying question.

Chairman Johnston introduced agenda item **10 – Consideration of GCSC Contractual Obligation**

Mr. Miller presented the contract:

- *SodexoMagic* - Food Service

Mr. Holt asked a clarifying question. Rep. Smith complimented Dr. Raisor and noted Sodexo works well with the community. Mr. Shackle made a motion the contract extension be approved as presented. Ms. Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed (5-0).

Chairman Johnston asked if there was any new business to come before the Board and seeing none adjourned the meeting.