
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, November 16, 2023

Call to Order: A meeting of the Distressed Unit Appeals Board (“DUAB” or “Board”) was November 16, 2023, at 1:30 p.m. EST at the Indiana Government Center South Building, Conference Room 18, 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. Jeff Thompson, and Senator Rodney Pol. 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.**

Ms. Brown made a motion the minutes be approved as presented. Mr. Joyce seconded the motion. The motion passed (5-0).

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

- Mrs. Lovetta Tindal expressed concerns around academic performance and transparency.
- Ms. Tracy Coleman expressed concern around the proposed district reconfiguration and would like common school fund loan payments suspended.
- Ms. Angela Lockett expressed concern around the proposed combining of the middle and high schools.

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

Dr. Mike Raisor presented updates on community engagement regarding potential district reconfiguration. Chairman Johnston clarified when the Board might see preliminary spending data. Dr. Raisor presented the collective bargaining agreement. Mr. Holt clarified the use of “manager” in the agreement and the terms of the stipend. Mr. Joyce noted that individuals should be made aware of the requirement to pay back funds if they leave. Chairman Johnston asked about the utilization of ESSER funds. Mr. Holt, Mr. Joyce and Chairman Johnston encouraged clarification around the stipend’s terms and funds. Ms. Brown asked if this is a permissible use of ESSER funds. Mr. Shackle made a motion that the Board grant contingent approval for the agreement with a delegation to Mr. Miller from the Board to ensure that the items mentioned by the board are addressed after the fact. Sen. Pol confirmed what next steps would be if this is not a permissible use of ESSER funds. Mr. Holt seconded the motion. The motion passed (5-0).

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

Mr. Daniel Dalton presented updates on fund reconciliation. Mr. Joyce asked clarifying questions. Mr. Miller presented ESSER III plan revisions and the Board agreed to vote on them after contract considerations are presented. Mr. Miller presented the 1065 docket. Mr. Joyce made a motion the claims be approved as presented. Ms. Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed (5-0).

Chairman Johnston introduced agenda item 7 – **Authorizations by the DUAB Executive Director**. Mr. Miller provided the update.

- DAWGS (Door and Window Guard Systems) – Roosevelt Security

Chairman Johnston introduced agenda item 8 – **Consideration of GCSC Contractual Obligation**. Ms. Mavis Snelson presented the contract.

- Littera Education, Inc. – Virtual Tutoring

Chairman Johnston clarified how services will be monitored. Ms. Brown made a motion the contract be approved as presented. Mr. Holt seconded the motion. The motion passed (5-0).

Ms. Brown made a motion that the ESSER III revisions be approved as presented. Mr. Shackle seconded the motion. The motion passed (5-0).

Chairman Johnston asked if there was any new business to come before the Board. Sen. Pol asked clarifying questions on ESSER funds and facilities updates.

Chairman Johnston adjourned the meeting.