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# STATE OF INDIANA

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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

**Tuesday, October 25, 2022**

Call to Order: A meeting of the Distressed Unit Appeals Board (“DUAB” or “Board”) was held October 25, 2022, at 11:00 a.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 Justin McAdam, Wes Bennett, Tracy Brown, Paul Joyce, Rebecca Kubacki, and Representative Vernon Smith. Senator Liz Brown participated virtually. 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 the Minutes.**

Mr. Bennett made a motion that the September 29, 2022, minutes be passed as presented. Ms. Kubacki seconded the motion. The motion passed (5-0).

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

- Dr. Michaela Spangenburg expressed concerns over the continued relationship with MGT.
- Mrs. Lovetta Tindal expressed concerns over curriculum and field trips as well as the continued relationship with MGT.
- Ms. Tracy Coleman expressed concerns over the continued state takeover and academics.
- Mr. Colin McCullough expressed the need for continuity in leadership and a concern MGT’s decision making.
- Ms. Kendra Johnson expressed concern over the idea that balancing the budget and saving money is more important the children.

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

Dr. Paige McNulty provided updates on marching band achievement, trunk or treat, bleacher removal, regularly scheduled parent nights, and teacher negotiations. Ms. Kubacki asked about staffing levels and Chairman McAdam asked about staff stability. Ms. Kubacki asked about exit interviews and Rep. Smith stated that an exit interview is not helpful for those who left involuntarily. Mr. Bennett asked for an update on Roosevelt and Rep. Smith asked for details on the bid process. Chairman McAdam asked for information on the properties that have been sold. Mr. Joyce asked clarifying questions about the process.

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

Mr. Rajeev Bajaj, Ms. Kim Bradley, and Mr. Andre Wright provided updates. Chairman McAdam asked how they are working to improve attendance. Mr. Joyce asked how GCSC compares to the state average. Ms. Kubacki asked follow-up questions. Chairman McAdam asked questions about testing. Rep. Smith asked questions about student achievement. Mr. Joyce asked how they teach students the value of learning. Ms. Kubacki stated the importance of parents being involved.

Chairman McAdam introduced agenda item **8 – Consideration of 2023 GCSC Budget.**

Ms. Nicole Wolverton presented the budget. Rep. Smith asked follow-up questions. Mr. Joyce asked about public feedback. Mr. Bennett made a motion the budget be approved as presented. Mr. Joyce seconded the motion. The motion passed (5-0).

Chairman McAdam introduced agenda item **9 – Contract Authorization by the DUAB Executive Director.**

Mr. Miller presented the contracts.

- a) *Space Age Marketing* – Indoor signage
- b) *Kidstuff* – Outdoor benches and tables
- c) *Tarkett* – WSLA small auditorium flooring
- d) *Collaborative Classroom* – SEL curriculum

Chairman McAdam introduced agenda item **10 – Consideration of MGT Contract Benchmarks.**

Chairman McAdam and Mr. Miller provided background information on the benchmarks. Mr. Miller introduced the benchmarks he recommends be approved:

1. Engagement Item C - Standing committees
2. Engagement Item F - Public seminars
3. Operations Item A - 1:1 technology
4. Operations Item B - Connectivity
5. Fiscal Item A - Balanced budget
6. Fiscal Item B - Substantial conformance with VDRP

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

Chairman McAdam introduced agenda item **11 – Consideration of MGT Contract (2022-24)**

Chairman McAdam provided background information on the contract. Rep. Smith asked clarifying questions. Mr. Bennett confirmed that Mr. Wright will be assigned to this project. Mr. Kubacki made a motion the contract be approved as presented. Mr. Bennett seconded the motion. The motion passed (5-0).

Rep. Smith shared notes and concerns from a community member.

Chairman McAdam adjourned the meeting.