

OBJECTING PETITION IN OPPOSITION TO

1. The 2008 Muncie Community School Corporation Budget without effectively acting upon the following objections:

A. The ongoing and increased costs in the 2008 Muncie Community Schools Budget associated with the staffing, operation and maintenance of redundant, similar or same grade-level schools with minimal enrollment offering opportunity for consolidation. (see Objecting Petition Supporting Addendum 1A)

B. The line item as well overall increases in the 2008 Muncie Community Schools Budget despite continued declining enrollment. (see Objecting Petition Supporting Addendum 1B)

C. The total amount of the 2008 Muncie Community Schools Budget relevant to the overall cost per student and the overall Muncie Community School's student academic achievement/progress. (see Objecting Petition Supporting Addendum 1C)

D. The total amount of the 2008 Muncie Community Schools Budget relevant to the teacher to student ratio and the increased costs associated with the same. (see Objecting Petition Supporting Addendum 1D)

E. The reluctance and/or refusal of the Muncie Community School Corporation to immediately cease and desist from entering into and executing contracts for the unnecessary and non-critical Capital Improvements of any all buildings. (see Objecting Petition Supporting Addendum 1E)

F. The refusal of the Muncie Community School Corporation to use excess and unobligated funds in various accounts such as (but not limited to) the General Fund, the Capital Projects Fund, the Bus Replacement Fund as well as the Multi-Project Fund financed by a \$55,000,000.00 bond to be directly applied and thereby reduce the 2008 Muncie Community Schools Budget's other operating expenses such as salaries, benefits, building operations and utilities. (see Objecting Petition Supporting Addendum 1F)

Real Property Owner

One Property Owner or Registered Voter Per Number

_____ Name _____ Address of Real Property or Registered Voter _____

1. Signature: _____ Printed Address: _____

Printed: _____

Date Signed: _____ Township: _____

2. Signature: _____ Printed Address: _____

Printed: _____

Date Signed: _____ Township: _____

3. Signature: _____ Printed Address: _____

Printed: _____

Date Signed: _____ Township: _____

4. Signature: _____ Printed Address: _____

Printed: _____

Date Signed: _____ Township: _____

5. Signature: _____ Printed Address: _____

Printed: _____

Date Signed: _____ Township: _____

Muncie Community School Corporation 2008 Budget Objecting Petition Supporting Addendum

1A: Several schools of the Muncie Community School Corporation, across all grade levels, could and should be consolidated. Decreasing enrollments do not substantiate the need for the ongoing staffing, maintenance and operational costs of the number of schools the Muncie Community School Corporation currently maintains. The ongoing refusal of the Muncie Community School Corporation to reduce overall operational costs with the consolidation of certain schools is a neglect of fiscal responsibility and a waste of valuable tax dollars. Therefore, in lieu of The Muncie Community Schools unwillingness to operate as reasonably efficient as possible, the aggregate 2008 Muncie Community School Corporation Budget should be reduced a minimum of 25%.

1B: While the enrollment of the Muncie Community School Corporation continues to decline at a minimum rate of 2% per year, the budget line item costs and overall budget levels continue to increase at a far greater rate. Currently, the total Muncie Community School Corporation's 2008 published budget has a projected cost of nearly \$10,500.00 per student. While the Muncie Community School Corporation's 2007 published budget had a projected cost of \$10,300.00 per student, the actual cost per student including all funds according to the Indiana Department of Education was in fact in excess of \$12,000.00 per student. The Muncie Community School Corporation's 2008 budget should be amended to reflect, to an including all non-budgeted expenditures, a total cost (expenditure) not to exceed the statewide average of approximately \$10,000.00 per student.

1C: In spite of the current 2008 Muncie Community School Corporation budget as well as preceding years' budgets that have historically been in the top percentile of costs per student, the Muncie Community School Corporation continues to have failing grades in the areas of graduating students, ISTEP, SAT and other academic measuring tools. In the area of graduating percentages alone, the current Muncie Community School Corporation graduating rate is 68.3%. This is more than 8% below the statewide average. Therefore, in an industry where the end product is graduating students and the Muncie Community School Corporation has failed in its capacity to meet a satisfactory quota, at minimum the state average, of said product, the cost of production must be reduced by the percentage at which it fails, that being 8% of the overall operating budget.

1D: The teacher to student ratio for the Muncie Community School Corporation is 14.8 students per teacher, whereas the State of Indiana average is 17.5 students per teacher. The Muncie Community School Corporation needs to reduce their ratio to conform to the State average. This will result in the reduction of teaching staff by approximately 77 teachers and nearly \$4,000,000.00 in salaries and benefits.

1E: The Muncie Community School Corporation continues on a path of irresponsible and unwarranted Capital Improvements. No specific Capital Improvement can be tied directly to increases in student attendance, performance and/or academic achievement. Quite the contrary as the Muncie Community Schools' pupils' academic achievements continue to increasingly lag behind the Indiana statewide average year after year. The current schedule of Capital Building Improvements being conducted and under contract with and through the Multi-Project effort needs to be ceased immediately. Any and all current contracts that have been physically started should be brought to completion without any additional expense. The contracts that have been entered into but yet to be started need to be canceled immediately. Any and all revenues remaining need to be either immediately returned to the bonding agent of said Multi-Project fund/account or applied directly to and offset other Budget expenses.

1F: The Muncie Community School Corporation inherently budgets monies for which there is no documentable use and/or the amount is in excess of what is ultimately spent. These monies are often subject to indiscriminant use for such things as neutralizing Pension Bonds (an elective expense) as was the case against the Capital Project account. The Bus Replacement account is another typical example of an unwarranted account. The Muncie Community School Corporation contracts with M&M Bus Company for the services of bus transportation and that cost is born by the Transportation account. Although, the Muncie Community School Corporation currently maintains a very small fleet of buses and vans, they serve no economically justifiable cause. They should be liquidated and the \$200,000.00 Bus Replacement amount be used to offset other Budget expenses. In the Capital Projects Fund, the \$2,875,000.00 in the Building Acquisition, Construction and Improvements account is totally unnecessary given the Multi-Project effort of over \$50,000,000.00 of Capital Improvements to the Muncie Community School Corporation's infrastructure this year alone. It should be liquidated and used to offset other Budget expenses. In the Multi-Project account, there remains nearly \$3,000,000.00 of unobligated "contingency" and "general conditions" monies. Those monies should be either immediately returned to the bonding agent of said Multi-Project fund/account or applied directly to the Budget to offset other expenses.