



**BALL STATE
UNIVERSITY**

MUNCIE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS UPDATE

STATE BUDGET COMMITTEE

DECEMBER 3, 2018

Geoffrey S. Mearns
President, Ball State University

James R. Williams
MCS Board President





**BALL STATE
UNIVERSITY**

EST. 1918

Muncie Community Schools

HEA 1315

The Systemic Challenges

The Historic Opportunity

A Community Partnership



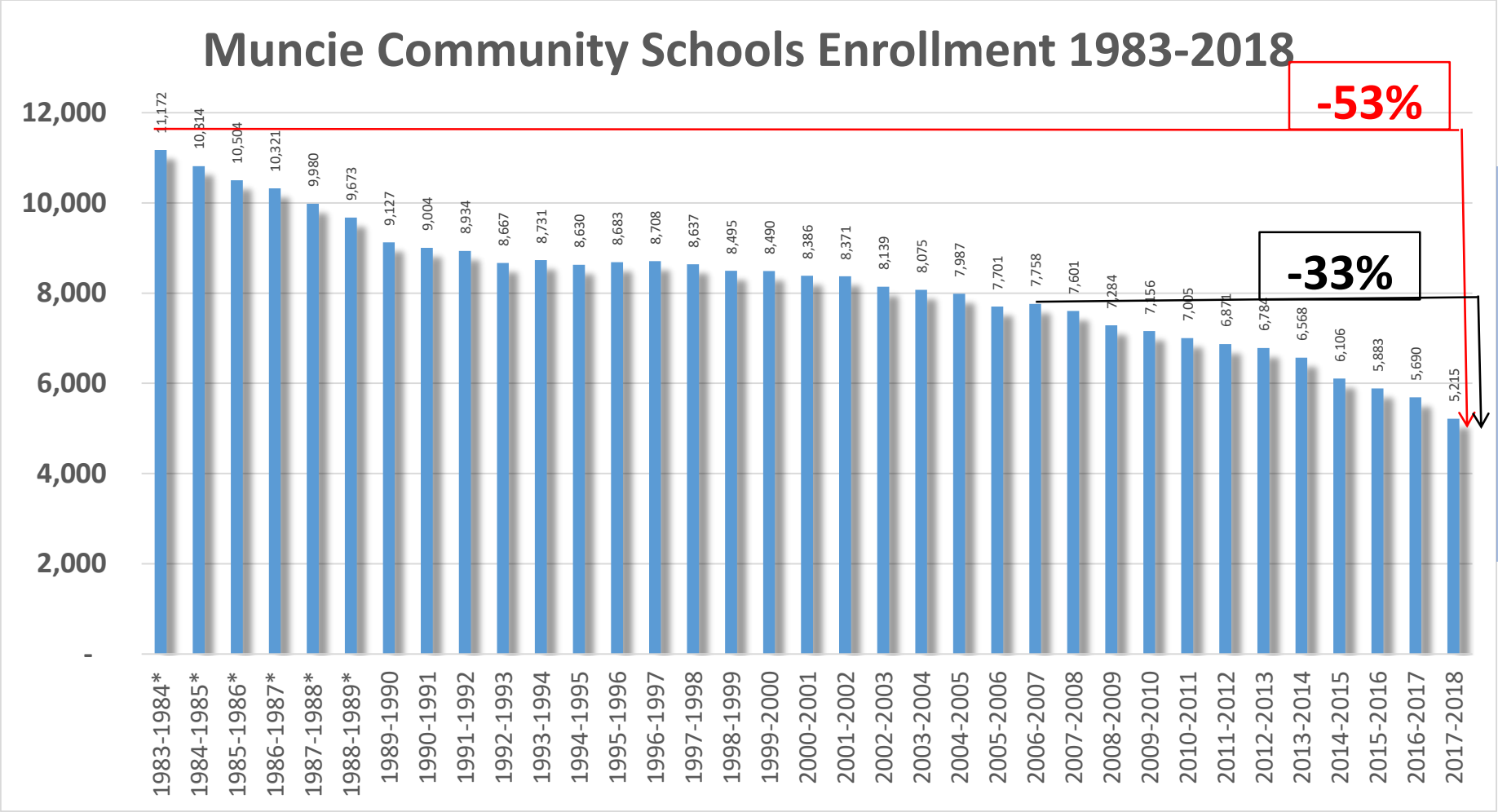
**BALL STATE
UNIVERSITY**

EST. 1918

MCS – The Systemic Challenges

- Enrollment Decline
- Operating Performance
- Academic Performance

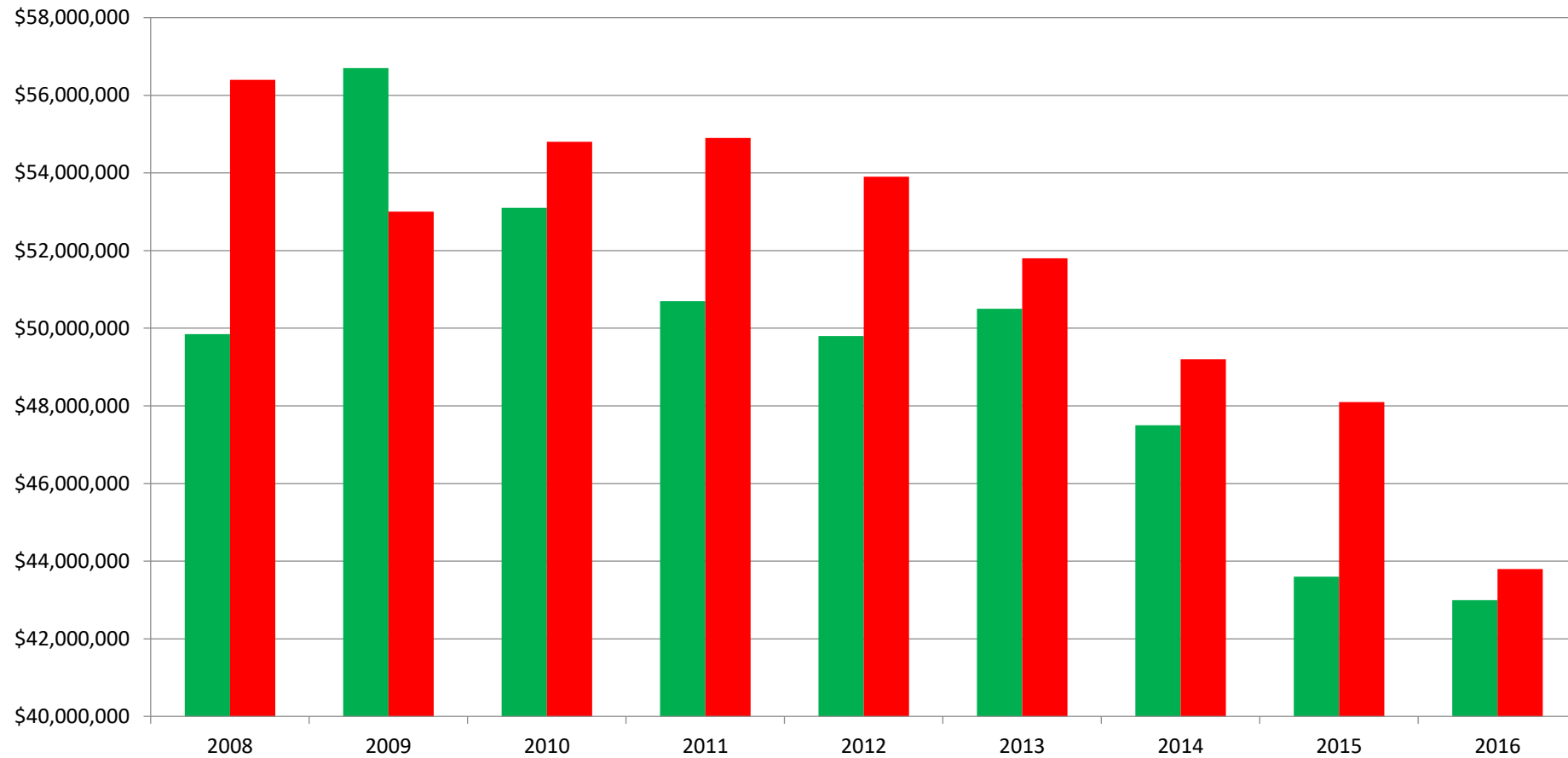
Enrollment Declines



More than 1,600 students live in the MCS district but choose to attend other schools

Operating Performance

■ Revenue ■ Expenses



Over last 11 years Expenses have exceeded Revenues by \$36M

Academic Performance

2016-17 MCS A-F School Grades

Storer Elementary School*	CLOSED	A
West View Elementary School		A
Mitchell Elementary School*	CLOSED	B
East Washington Academy		B
Grissom Elementary School		C
North View Elementary School		C
Sutton Elementary School*	CLOSED	D
Longfellow Elementary School		D
South View Elementary School		D

Northside Middle School	D
Southside Middle School	D

Muncie Central High School	B*
----------------------------	----

Muncie Community School Corporation	C
-------------------------------------	---

All Ind. School Corporations

	percentage	number
Schools with Grades of A	17%	48
Schools with Grades of B	52%	149
Schools with Grades of C	22%	63
Schools with Grades of D	2%	6
Schools with Grades of F	0.3%	1
school grades on appeal	8.0%	22



**BALL STATE
UNIVERSITY**

EST. 1918

The Historic Opportunity



**BALL STATE
UNIVERSITY**

EST. 1918

HEA 1315 — Key Provisions

- The University has the responsibility to appoint a seven-member governing board for MCS
- Five of seven MCS board members appointed by Ball State Board of Trustees based upon recommendations from the President



**BALL STATE
UNIVERSITY**

EST. 1918

HEA 1315 — Key Provisions

- Two of seven MCS board members appointed by Ball State President
 - One selected from three people nominated by the Mayor
 - One selected from three people nominated by the City Council
- All MCS board members serve staggered terms



**BALL STATE
UNIVERSITY**

EST. 1918

HEA 1315 — Key Provisions

- DUAB terminated MCS's designation as a "distressed" political subdivision
- DUAB is authorized to provide financial support to MCS in an amount up to \$1,000,000 over a two-year period
- \$12 million interest-free loan for MCS from the Common School Fund



BALL STATE
UNIVERSITY

EST. 1918

Reporting Timeline

- **By June 30, 2020** — provide a comprehensive plan for the long-term fiscal viability and academic innovation of MCS (including goals, metrics, and benchmarks for evaluating the plan) to DUAB, the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, and the Commissioner for Higher Education
- **Beginning on or before October 30, 2021** — provide annual progress reports to DUAB, the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, and the Commissioner for Higher Education



**BALL STATE
UNIVERSITY**

EST. 1918

Local Philanthropic Investments

Three-Year Transition Period

FOUNDATIONS

- Ball Brothers Foundation \$1 million
- Community Foundation \$200,000
- George & Frances Ball Foundation \$1 million
- Harry & Janet Kitselman Fund \$50,000
- Shafer Foundation \$100,000

BANKS

- First Merchants Bank \$250,000
- Mutual Bank \$250,000
- Old National Bank \$300,000

\$3,150,000



**BALL STATE
UNIVERSITY**

EST. 1918

Academic Collaborations

- Professional Development Liaisons in each MCS school
- All BSU colleges will be engaged as appropriate to their missions
 - Immersive Learning Classes



**BALL STATE
UNIVERSITY**

EST. 1918

Teacher & Staff Support

- \$50,000 supplies fund to support teachers
- BSU scholarship for MCS employees
 - Equal to 50 percent tuition discount up to six credit hours per year
- BSU preferred pricing for MCS employees
 - athletics and entertainment events
 - use of recreation facilities



**BALL STATE
UNIVERSITY**

EST. 1918

Appointing Authority

- Principal Objective: To assemble a school board that consists of people with complementary skills and experiences reflecting the diverse perspectives of the Muncie community.



**BALL STATE
UNIVERSITY**

EST. 1918

Applicant Pool

- 94 applications received
 - educators
 - business/commerce
 - BSU faculty and staff
 - clergy
 - healthcare
 - government officials
 - retirees



**BALL STATE
UNIVERSITY**

EST. 1918

Public Forum





**BALL STATE
UNIVERSITY**

EST. 1918

A New Day

On July 1, 2018, 7 Member MCS Board took office





**BALL STATE
UNIVERSITY**

EST. 1918

A Great Start





**BALL STATE
UNIVERSITY**

EST. 1918

A Great Start

- Enrollment has stabilized, resulting in some larger class sizes and the need to hire 8 more elementary school teachers.
- Enrollment for 2018-19 is currently at 5,066 students, a drop of only 48 students from the 2017 count day, and approximately equal to student count in February 2018
 - MCS internal budget projected decrease of 200 students; state projected a loss of 450 students



**BALL STATE
UNIVERSITY**

EST. 1918

Governance

- Board Retreat
- Continuing Education for Governing Board
 - Orientation completed
 - Educational sessions (school finance, transportation, school safety, mental health services and school nurses)
- Board determined to hold two meetings per month and is scheduled to meet at each school building with corresponding presentations from building principals and faculty



**BALL STATE
UNIVERSITY**

EST. 1918

Operations

- New chief financial officer appointed on 11/13/18
- DUAB approved Common School Fund loan on 11/15/18; State Board of Finance approved on 11/24/18
- Goal is to interview executive leadership candidates in the spring of 2019; MCS faculty and staff and BSU will be involved in the interview process



**BALL STATE
UNIVERSITY**

EST. 1918

Academic Innovation

Assessment

- Audits underway (curriculum, instructional, technology)
- SWOT analysis sessions
- Board level dashboards for academic and financial indicators being formed



**BALL STATE
UNIVERSITY**

EST. 1918

Academic Innovation

Stabilization and Strengthening

- Informed by assessments, focus will be on immediate interventions and stabilization strategies over next 18 months
- High-quality pre-K programming is now available on-site at four elementary schools
- Discussions underway to strengthen career technical education



**BALL STATE
UNIVERSITY**

EST. 1918

Academic Innovation

- Joint Academic Innovation Council to be appointed by BSU
- Summit to be held September 27, 2019—the day will focus on innovation strategies and will be a day of professional development for all MCS faculty
 - Formation of an expert panel to follow summit
- Academic Innovation Plan submitted to State Superintendent, ICHE, DUAB by June 30, 2020
- First progress report due October 31, 2021



**BALL STATE
UNIVERSITY**

EST. 1918

Community Engagement Council

- Working groups underway
- Community support inventory underway



**BALL STATE
UNIVERSITY**

EST. 1918

- Renewed sense of hope
- Improved morale
- Visible excitement
- Broad support

A New Day





**BALL STATE
UNIVERSITY**