

Coalition for the Future
of Detroit Schoolchildren

May 9, 2016

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Statement by Frank Venegas on Detroit Public Schools

DETROIT – The Ideal Group, Inc. located in Southwest Detroit released the following statement from Frank Venegas, Jr. CEO:

“I fully support the Detroit Public School Reform Package that was passed by the Michigan State Senate and is supported by the Michigan Governor and the Mayor of Detroit as well as the Business Leaders of Michigan. This Senate Bill is consistent with the recommendations of the Coalition for the Future of Detroit Schoolchildren. This coalition consisted of a broad cross-section of business and community leaders.”

“It is time that we unite and come together to support this bi-partisan effort and provide the talent and resources required for a strong and sustainable Detroit school system. The continued economic growth and development for the State of Michigan and Detroit’s require well-educated youth to fill our coming talent needs,” said Frank Venegas, Jr. Ideal Group’s chief executive officer. “The education and mentorship of our youth is very high on our agenda.”

The Ideal Group, Inc. is headquartered in Southwest Detroit with an additional location in Howell, Michigan and offices in Florida and Arizona. The Ideal Group consists of six companies with approximately 500 employees and sales approaching \$300 million. Included in The Ideal Group are: Ideal Contracting, Ideal Shield, Ideal Setech, Ideal Setech Share-the-Spare, Ideal MRO Surplus Now, Ideal Utility Services and Ideal’s newest company, Ideal Steel. For more information on Ideal, visit www.weareideal.com.

The Coalition for the Future of Detroit Schoolchildren formed on December 11, 2014 as an independent, diverse cross-section of Detroit leaders who came together to make recommendations to improve the city’s education system. Its first report, The Choice Is Ours, focused on how the state could help. Most of our recommendations were enacted. Now, the Coalition is focused on actions Detroiters can take locally to strengthen the city’s schools.

The Coalition’s leadership teams are made up of approximately 150 community members. The Coalition is led by six co-chairs: Tonya Allen, Skillman Foundation president & CEO; Rev. Wendell Anthony, Fellowship Chapel and president of the Detroit branch of the NAACP; David Hecker, president of AFT Michigan/AFL-CIO; John Rakolta Jr., CEO of Walbridge; Mark Reuss, executive vice president, global product development, purchasing and supply chain of General Motors; and Angela Reyes, executive director of Detroit Hispanic Development Corporation.

The Coalition's 2017 report, Our School, Our Moment, is available at www.DetroitEducationCoalition.org.

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Media contact: Natalie Fotias at nfotias@skillman.org or 313-393-1179