<table>
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<th><strong>Title</strong></th>
<th>Introducing a Vocational Technical High School in an Urban American K-12 School System: Paradigm Shift Compels Change: Is anyone prepared to make a decision?</th>
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Populations

- U.S.A. -- 284,796,887 (2001)
- Michigan State -- 9,990,817 (2001)
- Genesee County -- 439,117 (2001)
- City of Flint -- 140,761 (??)
About Flint

- The approximate number of families is 58,724.
- The amount of land area in Flint is 87.631 sq. kilometers.
- The distance from Flint to Washington DC is 463 miles.
- The distance to the Michigan state capital is 50 miles.
School Districts

- Federal/national concern (with relatively small amount of financial funding)
- State funded and regulated, but locally controlled
- No federal or national standard to speak of but a state standard.
- Even the state funds the school system, the state superintendent does not control the school districts.
School District

• Govern by the local school board
  – 9 elected members
  – Qualifications: 18 year old & local resident

• The teachers' unions
  – play a big part in shaping the legislation in every state (e.g., teachers certification requirements, tenure rights etc.)
Urban Schools

• An euphemism for “social poverty”
• Poverty is the real problem
  – Poverty brings hardship, crime (violence),
  – Low self-esteem, low expectations, and ignorance.
  – President L. Johnson tried to eliminate poverty with the "Great Society"
Flint Community Schools

- 42 schools from K-12, plus adult education
- 21,000 students
- 3,500 full time employees
- Operating budget is 250M U.S. dollars
GASC Technology Center

• A Vocational Technology High School
  – Approx. 35 high schools from 21 school districts in the County

• 10 Platforms (Departments)

• Approximately 2,400 students
  – 11\textsuperscript{th} and 12\textsuperscript{th} grade students

• Heterogeneous environment
Platforms

- Business Development and Leadership
- Emerging Technology
- Environmental Sciences
- Health Science & Medicine
- Hospitality & Food Services
- Manufacturing & Engineering Sciences
- Personal Services
- Propulsion Technology
- Structural Technology
- Visual Communications
Michigan Career and Employability Skills
Advisory Boards

• Representatives of businesses
• Community leaders
• Time and Funds
  – Scholarships and equipments