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Statement from Dr. Tony Bennett on Independent A-F Review

“I appreciate the work of Bill Sheldrake and John Grew and the diligent way they went about researching their report. The report clearly shows that accusations of manipulation of the A-F system for a single school are false and malicious. I am pleased with this vindication, not for me, but for the work of my colleagues at the Department of Education and for the 1.1 million Indiana students who have benefitted and will continue to benefit from a clear and rigorous school accountability system.

“You will remember that when the Department of Education released school grades last year, I said the process was imperfect and could be improved greatly. Still, it is a far better measurement and accountability tool for our schools than has ever been used in our state. Giving parents, communities and teachers clear and understandable measures of school progress is vital to improving the academic achievement of our students. This should always be our goal, and I appreciate the recommendations of the Sheldrake and Grew report.

“I hope the unfounded political attacks will now stop and we can focus our attention on providing a great education to Indiana students and building on the success of the past four years.”

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