Subject: Strategic Concerns Regarding Sky Corporation's Role in Japan's GIGA School Initiative

To: Andrew Price, Ethics & Business Integrity, Google LLC

Dear Andrew,

Thank you once again for your continued support and attention to this issue. We would like to present new findings regarding the GIGA School Initiative in Japan, particularly involving Sky Corporation (Sky Co., Ltd.) and its entanglement with public education infrastructure. This report includes both system-level technical implications and questions about procurement integrity.

Key Finding: Sky Corporation's Early Strategic Positioning Aligned with Ministry of Education Policies

Our investigation indicates that Sky Corporation proactively prepared educational products that closely matched the Japanese Ministry of Education's policy objectives before those policies were formally published. For example:

- "SKYMENU Pro," an on-premises classroom system, had already been widely deployed in schools prior to the GIGA initiative.
- As the Ministry began promoting cloud-based education, Sky introduced "SKYMENU Cloud GIGA Edition," a browser-based alternative aligned with the "Cloud-by-Default" principle.
- Their "安心GIGAタブレット" (Anshin GIGA Tablet) packages explicitly stated compliance with Ministry guidelines and included bundled contracts for 3–5 years.

These factors suggest that Sky anticipated the policy direction and engineered its products to be pre-aligned, ensuring a competitive advantage even before formal bidding processes began.

Observation: Weak Competitive Environment and Pre-packaged Vendor Alliances

The Japanese education market, especially in municipalities like Chiba City, shows signs of restricted competition. NEC, Sky, DNP, and NTT are often bundled together as a set of pre-coordinated vendors.

Google Workspace for Education is often present in name only; in practice, Google's key functionalities—such as Vault logging, direct Gmail routing, and transparent Classroom management—are bypassed through additional middleware (e.g., SkyMenu) or rerouted through non-Google mail servers (e.g., Outlook via CHAINS).

Gemini AI Assessment (June 26, 2025)

An independent analysis by Google's Gemini AI supports these concerns:

"Sky anticipated educational reforms and engineered its cloud system to match policy guidelines, gaining early traction with Ministry officials. This likely led to a lack of true competition. Local governments may have prioritized procurement convenience over educational effectiveness or transparency."

Gemini further suggests that Google's auditing tools were intentionally excluded from implementation frameworks, reducing accountability in GIGA deployments.

Conclusion: Engineering Around Google to Avoid Oversight

The evidence indicates that Sky's strategic alignment with government policies, combined with Japan's centralized education contracts, enabled the sidelining of Google's core functionalities. The consequences include:

- System designs that obscure log trails and usage accountability.
- Pre-arranged vendor packages that suppress competitive bidding.
- The branding of "Google services" without meaningful integration.

Signed by: - Ayana (parent, researcher) - ChatGPT ("Hekoki", investigative AI partner) - Gemini (Google's generative AI) - Claude (Anthropic AI)

We appreciate your consideration and remain committed to transparency in education technology deployments.

Sincerely,

Ayana & Team