From Financial Strain to Financial Gain: Restructuring a Debt-Ridden School

BUSINESS DATA MANAGEMENT-CAPSTONE PROJECT



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Declaration Statement

I am working on a Project titled "From Financial Strain to Financial Gain:

Restructuring a Debt-Ridden School". I extend my appreciation to [MAGADH

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL], for providing the necessary resources that enabled me to

conduct my project.

I hereby assert that the data presented and assessed in this project report is genuine and

precise to the utmost extent of my knowledge and capabilities. The data has been gathered

from primary sources and carefully analyzed to assure its reliability.

Additionally, I affirm that all procedures employed for the purpose of data collection and

analysis have been duly explained in this report. The outcomes and inferences derived from

the data are an accurate depiction of the findings acquired through thorough analytical

procedures.

I am dedicated to adhering to the principles of academic honesty and integrity, and I am

receptive to any additional examination or validation of the data contained in this project

report.

I understand that the execution of this project is intended for individual completion and is

not to be undertaken collectively. I thus affirm that I am not engaged in any form of

collaboration with other individuals, and that all the work undertaken has been solely

conducted by me. In the event that plagiarism is detected in the report at any stage of the

project's completion, I am fully aware and prepared to accept disciplinary measures

imposed by the relevant authority.

I understand that all recommendations made in this project report are within the context of

the academic project taken up towards course fulfillment in the BS Degree Program offered

by IIT Madras. The institution does not endorse any of the claims or comments.

Signature of Candidate: (Digital Signature)

Name: Kaif Fazal

Date: 2nd November,2024

Executive Summary

Magadh International School, located in Phulwari Shareef, Patna, Bihar, is a primary school (Nursery to 5th Standard) that operates under the CBSE curriculum with Urdu as a primary subject.

Despite its dedication to affordable education, the school faces significant challenges, primarily a substantial debt burden that has led to financial losses. This issue hampers the institution's ability to grow and capitalize on new business opportunities, limiting its reach and impact in the local educational sector.

Through this project, I aim to apply concepts from the *Business Data Management* course to help Magadh International School navigate its financial challenges. By collecting relevant financial and operational data, I will analyze the root causes of its debt and losses using data visualization and analytical tools such as Microsoft Excel. The goal is to uncover actionable insights that can guide strategies for debt reduction, efficient resource allocation, and ultimately, sustainable growth.

Organization Background

History: Magadh International School was founded in April 2024 by Abdul Khalid, a former tutor with a vision to provide quality education for children from low income backgrounds. Driven by the goal to create an affordable institution that could help low income students compete academically, the school was established in Phulwari Shareef, Patna.

Organization Background: Magadh International School

- Founding: Established in April 2024 by Abdul Khalid
- Location: Situated in Phulwari Shareef, Patna, Bihar.
- Curriculum: Follows the CBSE curriculum, with Urdu as a primary subject.
- **Initial Grades**: Opened with classes from Nursery to 3rd Standard; expanded to include 4th and 5th Standard shortly after.

Mission and Vision

- **Mission**: Provide high-quality, affordable education, empowering low income students to compete academically.
- **Motto**: "Let's Create Good Citizens," focusing on building responsible individuals.

Organizational Structure

- Leadership: Led by Director Abdul Khalid and Principal Shama Perween.
- **Staff**: Comprises 15 employees, including qualified teachers and support staff, fostering a nurturing and supportive educational environment.

Problem Statement

From my interactions with the director of the school and general observations over time, I found that Magadh International School has managed to build strong relationships with students and parents, and has maintained a steady enrollment. However there are certain challenges the school faces.

- The School is highly in debt
- The Student enrolled is very less

Hence problem statement can be comprised of the following

- To reduce the school's debt burden by exploring sustainable income-generating initiatives and cost efficiencies.
- To assess potential business expansion opportunities that align with the school's mission of providing quality, affordable education.

These issues highlight areas where improvements in financial management and resource optimization are essential to the school's sustainable growth.

Background of the Problem

After discussions with the director of Magadh International School and careful observation, it is clear that several financial and operational challenges are affecting the institution's stability and growth. The school was established with significant financial

borrowing from various sources to cover initial setup costs, such as furnishings, staff hiring, and resources. This debt now requires regular repayments, putting pressure on the school's finances, especially as revenue generation has been lower than expected.

One of the primary factors contributing to financial strain is the rented building, which incurs a fixed monthly cost. Coupled with ongoing maintenance expenses, these overheads limit the school's ability to allocate funds toward growth initiatives or debt reduction. Additionally, the revenue generated from current enrollments does not meet expectations, primarily because of limited student intake.

This combination of debt, overheads, and enrollment challenges forms the core issues impacting the school's financial health and growth potential.

Problem Solving Approach

To address the challenges faced by Magadh International School, a strategic, data-driven problem-solving approach can be implemented, focusing on both short-term stabilization and long-term growth. This approach combines financial restructuring, operational adjustments, efforts to improve enrollment, build reputation, and achieve financial stability.

Financial Restructuring and Cost Management

- 1. Debt Management
- 2. **Expense Optimization**: Conduct a thorough audit of expenses to identify and eliminate non-essential costs

Revenue Generation through Enrollment Improvement

Intended data:

Financial Data

- Debt Obligations and Repayment Schedule
 - o Current debt amounts, interest rates, and repayment schedules.
- Monthly Expenses

 Detailed records of fixed and variable costs (rent, maintenance, utilities, staff salaries).

Revenue and Cash Flow

o Sources of revenue (tuition fees, grants, donations) and cash flow trends.

2. Enrollment Data

• Student Enrollment Trends

o Year-over-year data on enrollments, dropouts, and transfers.

• Demographics of Enrolled Students

o Age, grade level, and backgrounds of current students.

• Feedback from Prospective and Current Parents

o Insights on parents' perceptions, satisfaction levels, and enrollment reasons.

3. Market and Competitive Data

• Competitor Analysis

 Insights on local schools, including tuition rates, programs, and community perception.

Tools for analysis:

To analyze data Microsoft Excel will be the primary tool, utilizing Pivot Tables for efficient data summarization and functions like VLOOKUP, COUNTIF, and logical operators for detailed analysis. Data visualization will include pie charts, bar graphs, stacked histograms, scatter plots to identify trends and relationships. Additionally, tools like Microsoft Power BI or Google Sheets may be considered for advanced visualization and collaboration.

Expected Timeline

• Discussion with the owner: 25th Oct – 27th Oct

• Collect relevant data: 26th Oct – 12th Nov

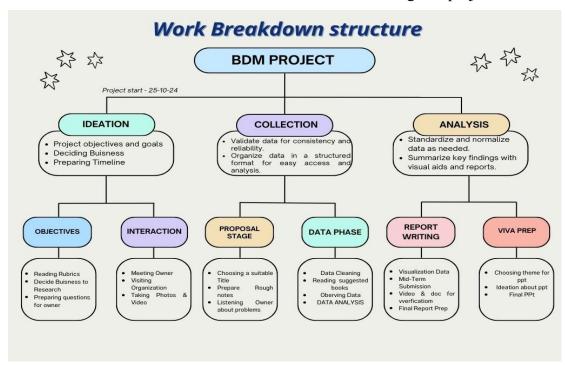
• Data Cleansing: 13th Nov – 16th Nov

- Data Analyzing: 16^{th} Nov -27^{th} Nov
- Complete the Analysis on how to solve the problem and upload my final project : 15thDec

Here is the Gantt chart to present my expected timeline:



Below is the Work Breakdown Structure flow chart for the given project-



Expected Outcome

The expected outcomes from the data analysis for Magadh International School include several key improvements:

- Enhanced Enrollment Strategies: By understanding trends in student demographics and preferences, the school can tailor marketing strategies to attract more students and increase enrollment rates
- 2. **Improved Financial Management**: Analyzing revenue sources and expenses will provide insights into financial health, allowing the school to optimize budget allocations, reduce overhead costs, and manage debt more effectively.