

Editorial

Is there a word for this behavior?

The [Clarion Ledger](#) reported recently that

Six days after news hit that Ole Miss Chancellor Dan Jones' contract would not be renewed, the state College Board asked a public relations and messaging firm for help...

When the College Board felt it couldn't withstand the criticism for its decision, it blubbered for help.

So, on March 26, it hired Widmeyer Communications, a national firm with offices in Washington and New York that specializes in higher education communications and crisis management... According to documents The Clarion-Ledger obtained, the contract totaled \$15,000, below the \$250,000 threshold that would have required the College Board to vote on the matter.

That is, it's spending \$235,000 of taxpayers' money to help the College Board cope with criticism by trying to manage citizens' views about the College Board.

The circumstances of the past six weeks have certainly been outside the norm for our office," Glenn Boyce, appointed higher education commissioner last month [said]... I think more than anything what was fair to assume was we were concerned about our messaging and making sure we had proper information out to the public," Boyce said.

"Concerned about proper information out to the public"? Proper? Why not truthful or accurate information? Bureaucrats don't seem to think that way, though. They think about spending your money to manage your views. They assume you are stupid and prove that they are spendthrifts.

\$235,000 of taxpayers' money to do the job Mr. Boyce and his College Board colleagues should do themselves, that is, provide honest service in the performance of their duties.

So, is there a word for this behavior? Yeah. STUPID.