

December 17, 2009

To:

State Representative Deborah Kennedy
State Senator Bruce Patterson
State Representative Andy Dillon
State Senator Michael Bishop

On behalf of the students of Grosse Ile, I am writing to urge you to restore our 20j funds and to at least partially restore our original foundation grant which has been slashed by executive pro-rations.

On Tuesday night, because of the mid-year funding crisis, the Grosse Ile Township Schools BOE directed the superintendent to issue pink slips to 27 teachers, 23 paraprofessionals, and 3 secretaries. These layoff notices come on top of cutting \$1.2 million from the 2009-2010 budget which included laying off 7 teachers, 2 administrators, 2 custodians, combining sports teams, and severely limiting general education transportation.

Our board's actions, while absolutely necessary, will hurt teaching and learning, will hurt valuable employees, and will begin to erode the fabric of one of the best school districts in the state.

You have a tough job; we have a tough job. Without lecturing you, it is during tough times that leaders' priorities really come into focus. I am asking you to make the future of the students of the State of Michigan your top priority. Please, we are literally begging for your help; our kids' futures depend upon it.

Thank you,

Gregory Goyert
Grosse Ile Township Schools BOE Trustee