



Dear Governor,

My family chose to live in Sterling Heights for a number of reasons, but the most important was being in Utica Community Schools. We believe an outstanding education is the foundation for a lifetime of success. What is particularly disturbing is the inadequate action taken by you, as the Governor, and your fellow public servants to properly fund public education.

For many years now our district, Utica Community Schools, has been making hard choices and cuts due to a lack of adequate funding from the state. I feel these cuts are negatively impacting my children by limiting their access to new program and advanced learning classes.

As the second largest school district in Michigan, I do not understand why UCS is not receiving funding support as other districts. The high standards that have been in place at UCS - and originally attracted us to live here - are now in jeopardy. The district has indicated that future cuts will have to be made. This is unacceptable as a parent, taxpayer, and resident.

Please tell me how UCS can continue providing the high levels of education rigor and options I expect for my, and my neighbor's, children over the past ten years, when the state has increased UCS' foundation allowance by only \$60 per pupil, or an average of \$6 per pupil per year? Think about that for a moment - \$6 per student per year! That's a slow walk to shutting down doors of opportunity for our kids.

I certainly appreciate your time in reviewing my concerns. As parent in Utica Community Schools, I will not accept continued cuts and a further compromised district. New public school funding legislation is required now. Please be a part of the solution.

Thank you for your support on this issue,

Schwarzkoﬀ Elementary Volunteer Group

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