

CITIZENS FOR KETTERING CITY SCHOOLS

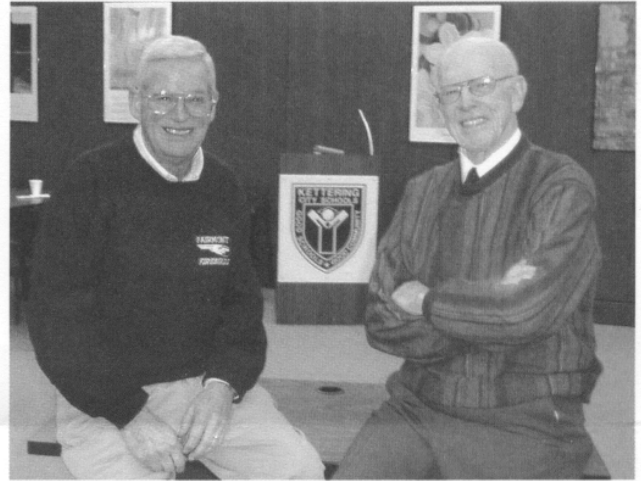
KETTERING, OHIO 45429

April 5, 2010

Dear Friends:

Together we have nearly 75 years of experience helping manage the evolution of Kettering City Schools on their path of excellence. Through good times and difficult times, our schools have been powerful forces for stability and progress in our great community.

Today that stability is threatened by circumstances beyond the control of our schools. We are turning to you because, ultimately, the levy vote you cast on Issue 3 will be the strongest possible statement about Kettering's future and quality of life.



Here are some facts that we urge you to consider as the voting on Issue 3 nears.

- Those who want to tell you that the schools haven't "cut enough" and tightened their belts are absolutely wrong. **FACT: The schools have cut \$7.6 million, including 57 positions, over the past four years.** Administrative pay has been frozen, and textbooks and other purchases have been delayed.
- The reason why Ohio schools must turn to their citizens for levies every few years is primarily because Ohio, unlike other states, does not allow for inflation-driven increases in tax revenues. In other words, as costs rise, districts like Kettering must seek levy support or slash programs.
- State aid to Kettering schools has been cut, and the schools anticipate additional cuts next year. This comes on top of unfunded state mandates that, while they achieve good aims, are a heavy burden on the schools.

In some communities, senior citizens are not always considered to be supporters of the schools. Not so in Kettering. **Here, in our community, we seniors have always been great supporters of our schools.** We feel this is the case because we all understand that "**Good Schools • Good Community**" is a way of life in Kettering, and a tradition worth protecting.

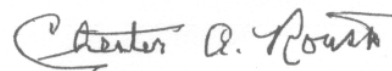
And we know our seniors support our students, as well, because of the great response we get when we put out notices about our "**Seniors are Special**" Cards, which provide our seniors with free admission to all athletic and performing arts events across the district.

As you consider Issue 3, please bear in mind that the investment you make in good schools is an investment in people. Like all districts, Kettering is a "people business," and hiring and retaining quality teachers is a hallmark of Kettering. Our residents continually show very strong support for our teachers and the exceptional jobs they do.

When you go to the polls on May 4th, we urge you to **vote YES on Issue 3**, because our quality schools here in Kettering are a **Great Tradition** and a **Great Investment!**

Sincerely,


Jim Trent


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