

October 7, 2009

Dear Livonia Public Schools Supporter,

There has never been a better time for the members of our society to stand united for the good of our children. In these challenging economic times in Michigan, it is important that we become as well informed as possible so that we may be true Advocates for Education! Two (2) of the "Objects of the PTA" are:

- To secure adequate laws for the care and protection of children and youth.
- To develop between educators and the general public such united efforts as will secure for all children and youth the highest advantages in physical, mental, social and spiritual education.

Why is advocacy important? Child advocacy is at the heart of the PTA's mission and vision. This is what makes us different from other parent organizations! Taking action provides parents and PTA leaders with the resources to become more involved with their community at home and their community across the nation. PTA strives to provide services to assist advocacy efforts and allow parents to stay knowledgeable about key issues affecting children.

As Advocacy and Legislative chair, please join me and LPS superintendent, Dr. Randy Liepa, in compiling a database of individuals who would be willing to receive legislative updates on a regular basis. If the need arises, these individuals would also be willing to contact a legislator either by email, letter or phone call about major issues (possibly 3-4 times per year). Sample letters and/or writing help will be supplied in future mailings. We are asking that each local unit attempt to secure a total of ten (10) individuals to step forward and be identified as key advocates for their unit. Time is of the essence and a request has been made that we have a members list compiled by Friday, October 16. Please share this "call to action" with your members and for those wishing to sign-up, respond back to me via email or the district's interoffice mail.

As of this writing, funding of \$218 per pupil is in jeopardy from being cut from this year's existing budget! A reduction of \$3.5 million would devastate our district in so many ways. Please consider becoming an advocate for our children! With other districts identifying their own advocates we can be a force to be reckoned with! There is power in numbers!

Thank you for your continued leadership in our schools and PTAs!

Tom Bailey
Advocacy and Legislative Chair
Livonia PTSA Council
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Yes, please sign me up to be an Advocate for Children!

Name _____ Address _____

E-mail address _____ Unit name _____

Above information will be kept confidential and not shared with any other source.