

The Honorable  
Address  
Lansing, MI

Dear

On October 22, Governor Granholm started the clock on a process to issue a mid-year proration to schools. I'm calling on you to ACT NOW to fill the gap in the School Aid Fund and prevent the proration.

If you fail to do so, our district will see a \$127 per pupil proration. On top of the \$165 foundation allowance reduction this move will result in a loss of \$292 per student for a total loss of almost \$800,000. This is unacceptable!

To put it in human terms, these cuts will result in larger class sizes and fewer educational opportunities for our students. Ultimately, these cuts will hurt student achievement at a time when expectations are increasing.

To prevent an immediate crisis, I am calling on you to fulfill your promise to students and raise the \$100 million in new revenue necessary to balance the School Aid budget you've passed. Moreover, I urge you to cover any additional shortfall in the 2009-10 budget with federal stimulus dollars. Schools cannot sustain this type of mid-year proration.

This short-term fix is only part of the solution. I will be back to demand that you lead the Michigan Legislature in fixing our broken system of school funding. As you know, the projected funding cuts for the 2010-2011 school year are even more staggering. The voters in the Vicksburg Community Schools need you to act with courage and provide students with the level of education that can only come with a stable and predictable school funding source.

Education will drive Michigan's prosperity. Fund Michigan's future, and do it now.

Sincerely,