



LORAIN CITY SCHOOLS

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June 29, 2018

Titan Family,

As we look forward to the 2018-2019 school year and beyond, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on how far we have come in just one short year, and where we will ultimately need to be in the near future. Since July 2017, we have assembled a team of leaders whose focus has become preparing our teachers and scholars for an outcome of prosperity that extends well beyond their educational experiences within the district. Through their voices, and yours, our leadership team has committed to the success of each and every scholar through The Lorain Promise; and as a collective whole, it has constructed a blueprint of success which will only be achieved through The Lorain Way.

Over the span of 12 months, we have laid a foundation of support that roots itself deep within the district and branches itself throughout the community, as it reaches out to the people and organizations who are—and will continue to be—instrumental in each and every scholars' success. Unequivocally, there have been triumphs along the way. Most notably, the district has worked tirelessly to remove itself from fiscal watch for the first time since 2007. But as with many experiences in life, there have also been roadblocks along the way.

In order to fully execute The Lorain Promise, we need the community's backing in the form of a renewal levy. And as a district, we ask the school board to place the levy on the ballot during their July 2, 2018 meeting.

As CEO, I cannot force the levy on the ballot. It is only the vote of our school board who can enact the opportunity for you, the community, to stand in solidarity with our scholars through the election process. Without the board's vote, the community becomes silenced during this crucial time.

Whether or not the board chooses to vote in favor of putting the levy on the ballot is solely the collective decision of Board President Tony Dimacchia; Board Vice President Mark Ballard; and board members Bill Sturgill, Timothy Williams and Yvonne Johnson. However, our care for our scholars extends beyond politics and it would be unfair, and do an injustice to our entire community, for me not to bring this recommendation to these five members. I truly believe that in their hearts, they too see the significance of making sure our scholars—our future—maintain the support of leaders, teachers, materials, and experiences that will help them reach their goals in life.

Without the school board's action in putting the levy on the ballot, the future of our district and the progress we have made is in jeopardy. Crucial programs and services that our scholars depend on will be negatively impacted by forced budget cuts that could be avoided by passing a renewal levy. It is our hope, that through your collective voice, you the community can and will convince the board to do what is in the best interest of our scholars, as we continue to provide them the means to re-dream possible for many years to come.

With Titan Pride in our hearts,
and the best interest of scholars in our minds,

David M. Hardy, Jr.