

EDUCATION

TEACHERS' STRIKE
LETTERS FROM CITIZENS

1974

WILLIAM DONALD SCHAEFER, Mayor
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR • CITY OF BALTIMORE
230 City Hall, Baltimore, Maryland 21202, (301) 396-3100



March 4, 1974

Dear Concerned Citizen:

Thank you for taking the time to write to me to express your views and concerns regarding the current illegal teacher strike. I sincerely hope that by the time you receive this letter, teachers and students alike will have returned to their respective schools.

It is to my deep regret that the educational program of our 182,000 public school students has been interrupted by the strike, particularly because the State law specifically forbids a strike by teachers and the courts have declared this act illegal. At present, the City government is doing everything within its power to bring the strike to an end. Negotiations with the Public School Teacher's Association are continuing following the rejection by the teachers of a contract offer which would have increased teachers' salaries by an average of approximately \$1200 per teacher for the next 18 months and improved fringe benefits.

We are concerned that the teachers receive equitable treatment, and we are, therefore, attempting to satisfy their economic and non-economic demands as well as we can. Due to the financial constraints limiting the City budget, the City is unable to meet the PSTA demand for an 11% raise. In order for the City to grant any salary increases, the City must realize a sizeable increase in revenue. To this end, we have proposed a twelve-point plan for financial assistance to the Governor, and to the City delegation in Annapolis, which, if enacted, would enable the City to finance the offer made to the teachers without an intolerable tax increase. Otherwise, it will be necessary to increase the tax rate tremendously, although it is already twice the rate of most surrounding counties. While I would like to award the teachers all the monies which they demand and deserve, such is not possible.

Thank you very much for expressing your feelings in this matter. You may rest assured that Baltimore will continue to hold the education of its future leaders as a top priority.

Sincerely,

William Donald Schaefer
Mayor

February 28, 1974

Honorable William Donald Schaefer
Mayor of Baltimore
City Hall
100 Holliday Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Dear Mayor Schaefer:

I support teachers and quality education.

As a Baltimore taxpayer, I urge you to use City funds
~~NOW~~ to solve the immediate problems facing our system of education.

I will support your efforts to gain more aid for our
schools in the future.

Please, Mr. Mayor, solve this problem NOW.

I hope you will remember me in your next elective term.
I'll remember you.

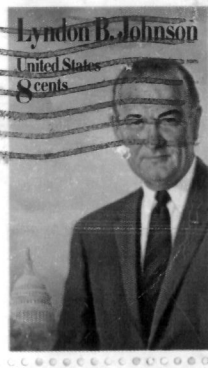
Sincerely yours,

Heber M. Gross
Virginia E. Gross
Signature

5438 Jouguit Ave
Address

Baltimore, Md. 21215
City Zip Code

Herbert M. Gross
5438 Jonquil Ave
Baltimore, Md. 21215



Honorable William Donald Schafer
Mayor of Baltimore
City Hall -
100 Holiday Street
Baltimore, Md. 21202

February 14, 1974

Honorable William Donald Schaefer
Mayor of Baltimore
City Hall
100 Holliday Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Dear Mayor Schaefer:

Do you know that:

- time lost as a result of the schools being kept open with practically no students in attendance cannot be made up because you are keeping the schools open
- no learning is taking place
- our tax money is being wasted
- we are wasting valuable heating oil and electricity by heating empty schools
- the "Right to Read" program is failing because few students are in school
- seniors are in danger of not graduating

For these reasons, Mr. Mayor, I urge you to close the schools immediately. This sham cannot be allowed to continue.

Sincerely yours,

Adrian Lopez
Name

900 N. Steeles
Address

Baltimore
City

51217
zip code

OFFICE
OF THE
MAYOR

FEB 20 3 36 PM '74

February 14, 1974

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Mayor of Baltimore
City Hall
100 Holliday Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

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Sincerely yours,

Janeta Jackson Mitchell
Name

1239 Grand Hill Avenue
Address

Baltimore, Md. 21217
City zip code

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Sincerely yours,

Sidney Mulholland
Name
500 W. University Pkwy
Address
Baltimore Maryland
City zip code
21210

JAN 29 1974

Telefax

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PMS-MAYOR WILLIAM DONALD SCHAEFER

CITY HALL

BALTIMORE MD

HAVE BEEN TEACHING SCHOOL 25 YEARS FIND IT APALLING TO STRIKE
BUT SEE NO OTHER ALTERNATIVE

CHARLOTTE B. HOSIER/SCHOOL 242

charlotte B. hosier/school 242

northwood

5201 loch raven blvd

21239

C
O
P
Y

WILLIAM DONALD SCHAEFER, Mayor
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR • CITY OF BALTIMORE
230 City Hall, Baltimore, Maryland 21202, (301) 396-3100



February 13, 1974

Mrs. Charlotte B. Hosier
Northwood Elementary School
5201 Loch Raven Boulevard
Baltimore, Maryland 21239

Dear Mrs. Hosier:

I am writing to thank you for taking the time to express to me your feelings on the current teachers' strike. I sincerely regret the fact that you saw no alternative method of resolution other than the strike; I am sure that it was a difficult decision to make after such a long commitment to education. Obviously, you understand the financial dilemma in which our city finds itself. I am hopeful that continuing intensive negotiations will bring this strike to an early settlement.

In your many years of teaching, you must have aided greatly in the successful education of thousands of Baltimore City students. Because of the dedication and sensitivity evidenced through twenty-five years of teaching, I know you share my concern for the real victims of this dispute--the children--whose education is being sacrificed in this strike. Not only myself personally, but the entire city of Baltimore, owes you a great debt for your immense contributions of time and effort on our behalf. I hope that, upon resolution of the strike, you will continue to enjoy a long and rewarding teaching career.

Sincerely,

Mayor

WDS:QRL:AS:jlc

OFFICE
OF THE
MAYOR

FEB 14 10 50 AM '74

February 1974

Mayor William Donald Schaeffer
City Hall
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Dear Mayor Schaeffer,

If you are truly concerned about Baltimore, then think first of its children. My child, along with thousands of others, is being deprived of valuable instruction days because you and Dr. Patterson want to keep the school doors open in order to punish the striking teachers.

The teachers are losing their pay, and the children are losing their education! Close the schools! No proper instruction is going on. Let's deal fairly and honestly with the teachers so that the children can get back to their lessons.

I and thousands of other voters are watching to see how you deal with Baltimore's most precious commodity - its children.

Yours truly,

Regina Harris
3657 Skipton Rd
21211

OFFICE
OF THE
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February 1974

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City Hall
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

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Lynne Greenwell
3626 Beech Ave.
21211

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City Hall
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Baltimore, Maryland 21202

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For these reasons, Mr. Mayor, I urge you to close the schools immediately. This sham cannot be allowed to continue.

Sincerely yours,

Mr. Henry B. Conway
Name

1650 Delaware Ct
Address

Balto MD 21217
City zip code

OFFICE
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City Hall
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Sincerely yours,

Richard O. Lacey

Name

1632 Division St

Address

21217

City

zip code



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Mayor of Baltimore
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Baltimore, Md 21202

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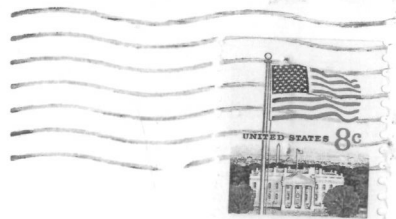
For these reasons, Mr. Mayor, I urge you to close the schools immediately. This sham cannot be allowed to continue.

Sincerely yours,

Mr. Alvin Pearson
Name

1831 Madison Ave
Address

Baltimore MD 17
City zip code



Mayor William A. Schaeffer
City Hall
Baltimore, Md 21202

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Sincerely yours,

Alfred B Wallace
Name
3137 Whitcomb Lane
Address
Baltimore MD 21215
City zip code