

Measurable investment and improvement in vocational-technical, compensatory, and continuing education are weights that count, weights that are essential to a balanced educational system.

Finally, as a collective action group, the Maryland Congress of Parents and Teachers can add a significant and substantial weight to the scale, the weight of responsible influence. Your support of new educational patterns, priorities and programs is imperative. State and local governments, like individual households, must survive on balanced budgets, rely on limited resources. We cannot afford to invest in everything, everywhere. Reality curtails our appetites. The fiscal reform program, which produced tremendous dollar investment in our school system, also produced public fury and protest. If we are to continue to maintain, expand and innovate, you — individually and collectively — will have to assist your elected officials. You can be our finest ambassadors. Our pace of progress depends upon you. Until educators, community leaders and civic interest groups can create a *genuine understanding and acceptance of all the new directions in education*, students will remain unfulfilled, parents frustrated and politicians hesitant to act.

We cannot afford to temporize or be timid, to postpone or procrastinate. Education is our surest instrument to guarantee individual fulfillment. Education is our ultimate instrument to assure social and economic progress. Education is the only inheritance we can bestow upon our children that no adversity, excepting death itself, can destroy. Our future as individuals, as a State, and as a nation is totally dependent upon our educational system. Our progress as a people will be no swifter than our progress in education, for the human mind is our fundamental resource.

As we view the present precarious balance upon which our future as a nation, as a civilization dedicated to freedom and justice, rests, it becomes dramatically apparent that — above all — education is the weight that counts.

NEWS CONFERENCE

November 8, 1967

OPENING STATEMENT BY THE GOVERNOR

I would like to extend my personal congratulations to Mayor-elect D'Alesandro on the decisive victory that was his last night and to assure him publicly of the support of the State administration. We con-