

Diana Oropallo

From: Wyrosdick, Tim <WyrosdickT@santarosa.k12.fl.us>
Sent: Tuesday, May 16, 2017 2:51 PM
To: Broxson.doug@flsenate.gov; White, Frank; jayer.williamson@myfloridahouse.gov; Clay.ingram@myfloridahouse.gov
Cc: Joy Frank
Subject: I'm asking for your support for PUBLIC education

This legislative session will be looked at as a defining moment in the history of Florida public education. As is no surprise to you, I will be encouraging Governor Scott to veto the budget and HB 7069. Superintendents, school boards and teachers will stand across the state this afternoon to ask for this veto. I have many reasons for doing so and I have fully vetted those reasons to each of you during the past two months. But I narrow my focus to two very important critiques.

First, it is clear the financial effort by members of the legislature indicate a value you place in public education. You will argue “this is the greatest education budget ever.” The fact you have to justify the budget indicates you know it is the largest ONLY because we have more students. SRC is rewarded with more money ONLY because we have growth. Let’s start with the basics. The Base Student Allocation was REDUCED by \$27. You can’t say the students of SRC benefited from a REDUCTION. Please don’t insult the individuals who work in our schools with this nonsense. They will not accept it. We do not feel valued by your actions.

HB 7069 demonstrates what has been suggested for years but I did not want to believe. Education in Florida is being segregated again. Not by race, creed, color or sex...but by POVERTY. For this reason alone, please consider again what you are doing. HB 7069 restricts public schools and advantages Charter Schools creating yet another inequity that is intentional, or so it appears.

I close with an observation of comments I can only characterize as “Pelosi -like” when she said of Obama care, “we must first pass it before we can read and understand it.” I have heard from more than one of you, “let’s just pass this and then fix it in September.” I am sorry, I do not have any confidence this would happen. BUT my response is FIX IT NOW! I have shared with each of you I can disagree with your body of work and still respect you. You are “good people”...but so are 3000 people who serve your children and grandchildren. Who will you stand with over the next few days?

Your past support of these issues indicates you have a vision inconsistent with what we do in Santa Rosa County. Moving forward I would like to understand your vision and will be calling on you to visit with me to my schools to share with them your vision. I will be in touch soon to begin scheduling these visits.

Thanking you in advance,

Tim

Timothy S. Wyrosdick
Superintendent of Schools
Santa Rosa School District
850/983-5010

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Our Students Will Be Productive, Successful Contributors to Society