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Memo

To: Parents & Community Members of Bay-Arenac ISD

Date: June 7, 2011

Subject: **School Aid Budget Reduction for the 2011-2012 School Year**

As Superintendents of Bay-Arenac ISD school districts, we are presenting this “white paper” to our school community and students’ families.

As you are aware, Michigan has faced difficult economic times over the past four years. We have seen families lose their homes due to foreclosures, parents’ loss of jobs and student enrollment decline. As educators we understand the stress this creates for the families and children we serve.

Our legislative leaders in Lansing have approved major cuts to your student funding for the upcoming school year. Your student funding will see a loss in revenue of \$370.00 per student next year. This is the single largest loss in revenue in over a decade to our public schools.

Further, legislators in Lansing have approved a transfer of K-12 funds to our Michigan colleges and universities. This, too, is the first time in our state’s recent history that schools have seen funding transfer from K-12 to colleges and universities.

The State of Michigan spends over four times the cost of one student’s education to incarcerate one single person in prison. As Superintendents we believe in a safe community, but we also support a strong education system that meets the needs of your children.

Now, as local leaders of your school districts, we are faced with the realization of making difficult decisions over the next few weeks that may impact our local school districts in order to balance the budgets. The 2011-2012 school year will look very different from our current year.

We trust that this information will provide you with a greater understanding why it is necessary to make program and service reductions for the upcoming school year.

Sincerely,

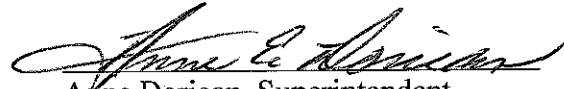


Michael R. Dewey, Superintendent
Bay-Arenac Intermediate School District



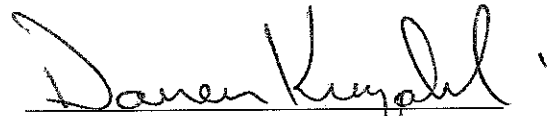
Shawn Bishop, Superintendent
Bangor Township Schools

Michael Dodge, Superintendent
Standish-Sterling Community
School District

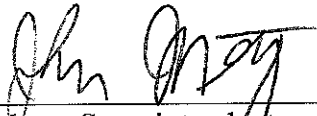


Anne Doriean, Superintendent
AuGres-Sims School District

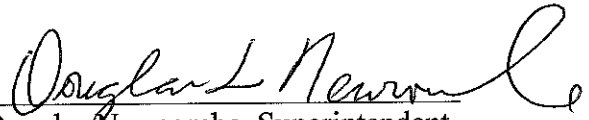
William Grusecki, Superintendent
Arenac Eastern School District



Darren Kroczaleski, Superintendent
Pinconning Area Schools



John Mertz, Superintendent
Essexville-Hampton Public Schools



Douglas Newcombe, Superintendent
Bay City Public Schools



Ryan Donlan, Superintendent
Bay-Arenac Community High School