



Education Center * P.O. Box 5381 * Cincinnati, OH 45201-5381 * Phone: 513-363-0000 * TDD: 513-363-0155

City Manager Patrick Duhaney
City of Cincinnati
801 Plum Street
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

Re: City's Proposal for Tax Abatement Agreement

Dear Patrick:

This responds to the proposal you sent me yesterday titled "Ushering in an Era of 'Balanced Development.'" While the Board of Education will not have the opportunity to discuss this proposal until its meeting on December 18, the proposal is disappointing from my review.

The city is proposing to repurpose property taxes that our taxpayers have approved for our students and schools and divert money from supporting classrooms toward the city's pet housing projects.

Already over the past decade, the city has broken its promise to pay for crossing guards and school nurses, both of which the city committed to funding in the original 1999 agreement. On December 31, the city will stop making annual \$5 million payments to CPS and proposes not to increase payments in lieu of taxes (PILOTS) from developers.

CPS's mission is educating our students, from age 3 to graduation. This proposal not only undermines the will of taxpayers, but also subverts the efforts in preparing our future workforce and supporting our families.

Respectfully,

Laura Mitchell
Superintendent.