



“YOU MUST BE THE CHANGE YOU WISH TO SEE IN THE WORLD”
GANDHI

THE COURAGE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

The MISSION of ACE

1. GRADUATING STUDENTS CAPABLE AND READY TO GET AND KEEP JOBS
2. ASSURING COMPETENCE IN THE EDUCATION BASICS FOR ALL CHILDREN
3. INCREASING PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT IN ESTABLISHING EDUCATIONAL PRIORITIES
4. MAKING OUR TAX DOLLAR\$ DO MORE
5. HOLDING SCHOOL OFFICIALS TO HIGHER STANDARDS OF PERFORMANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY
6. ELECTING QUALIFIED PEOPLE TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
7. ATTRACTING CITIZENS TO VOTE

CRITICAL ISSUES IN EDUCATION RELATING TO MADISON METROPOLITAN SCHOOL DISTRICT

1. BUDGETING PROCESS

- No strategic nor long-range planning
- Converting to new accounting system without running parallel systems
- No cost analysis nor cost-benefit analysis processes
- Same service budget planning sets up “budget-cutting” approach
- Minimal participation of front-line staff and community

NOTES

1. \$10 m over 5 years for software and hardware for business services
2. State provides 28.8% of MMSD educational costs (\$3385 per pupil); 52.7% to other districts (\$5392 per pupil statewide average)

3. Enrollment has stayed virtually the same last ten years: 24,800
4. Increases in substitute teacher budget of 55% to \$4.8 million, 03 to 04
5. 1993 a \$180 m budget to 2003/04 a \$308 m budget with revenue caps in place for the ten year period
6. The current Madison per pupil cost is \$12,500
7. Fund 80: Madison School Community Recreation (MSCR) budget has increased in five years from \$3.8m to \$8.2m
8. Teachers not in classroom, on MTI contract, at Central Administration is 91.7 FTE, including 34.9 regular teachers, 38.5 special education teachers, and 18.3 others with salaries of over \$3 m
9. Board ignores statutory requirement to establish district curriculum plans
10. Madison a high property value district at \$599 k per student; statewide average is \$378 k per student. Madison sends \$.60 to state per every dollar taxed under state equalization formula
11. 03-04 budget of \$4.2 m for 1900 students in alternative programs, \$22,600 per student

2. MINORITY & LOW INCOME STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT GAP

- (see Reading, Issue 8 and Math, Issue 13)
- Percent of students to 4-year colleges dropped from 61.6% in '97 to 45% in '03
- Additional charts available illustrating district achievement records and comparisons with other districts in the state

3. DISTRICT HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

- 54.3 FTE nurses/nurse aides, \$3 m
- 40.5 FTE social workers, \$2.5 m
- 39.0 FTE psychologists, \$3.0 m
- 8.3 FTE staff for 600 homeless children, \$825 k
- 19.7 FTE Early Childhood; 8.0 hearing specialists; 6.4 visual specialists; 75.8 speech & language specialists; 23.4 occupational therapists; 17.2 physical therapists
- Absence of coordination and collaboration with city, county and private agencies

4. READING PROGRAMS & METHODOLOGIES

- SAGE reading program, 90 minute blocks in classrooms of 15:1 teacher/pupil ratio
- Reading Recovery program: 320 pupils at \$4800 cost per pupil
- Lapham School Direct Instruction reading scores 100% at proficient/advanced levels
- Black, grade 4, 87% prof/adv, middle income; Black, grade 4, 59% prof/adv, low income White, grade 4, 94% and 76%

5. ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL)

- 1993-2003, ESL pupil population grew from 809 to 2600 and to 3000 in '04 (12%)
- 19 English Language Learners (ELL) classrooms, 37 school service centers
- 15% Hispanic pupils of total
- ELL programs take 4-6 years to gain English proficiency; double immersion takes up to 3 years

6. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS MAINTENANCE

- Five-year, \$20 million referendum money expires June '05 (04-05: \$4.85 m)
- Full-time architect paid \$75k plus benefits from referendum monies for what?
- Continue to reduce amount in regular budget for maintenance (\$28 m)
- Estimated \$28 m worth of systems in "poor" condition, talking referendum in Feb. 05

7. SPECIAL EDUCATION

- Unfunded and underfunded mandates
- 36% state and federal re-imbursement for higher per pupil costs than average cost for all students
- '93 to '03 costs increased from \$27 m to \$52 m
- 03-04, 4300 students, 17% of total
- No policy for exiting students from special education program / services

8. HUMAN RESOURCES

- 87% of budget goes to personnel salaries and benefits (37.8% benefits of salaries)
- Financial package awarded to MTI at 4.28% for 03-04 and 4.6% for 05-06
- Financial package awarded to administrators at 3.72% for 04-05 and 4.6% for 05-06
- No health care issues on the table for negotiations
- Is MTI's John Matthews still on Board of WPS? (Carrier of one of MMSD's Health plans)
- Teacher buy-outs for up to 5 months salary/benefits

9. MATH PROGRAMS & METHODOLOGIES

- \$3.5m spent for training of math teachers for a 'connected' math curriculum, for which research is not supportive and results are questionable
- Other math curricula with stronger research support and performance are dismissed
- 03-04 71% of white students completed algebra; 31% of African American students; 35% of Hispanic; and 59% of all students

10. FINANCIAL EDUCATION

- 51 % of students in WI are illiterate in personal financial matters
- District reluctant to support a coordinated curriculum and teacher training for financial education program paid for by outside sources

NOTE: Sources, references and documentation for information presented on these issues are available upon request.

OUTCOMES and BENEFITS for the COMMUNITY

- STUDENTS BETTER PREPARED FOR WORK AND CONTINUING EDUCATION
- LESS TAXES
- LESS WELFARE
- TOOLS FOR PEOPLE TO HELP THEMSELVES
- IMPROVED DISTRICT ACCOUNTABILITY
- BOARD OF EDUCATION WITH VISION, LEADERSHIP AND INITIATIVE RATHER THAN ABDICATING IT TO THE ADMINISTRATION
- VOICE OF THE "SILENT MAJORITY" IS HEARD
- LEGACY OF RESPONSIBILITY AND SERVICE FOR THE COMMUNITY
- INCREASED PROFITS AND RETURN ON INVESTMENT

YOUR PERSONAL SATISFACTION BY MAKING A DIFFERENCE

- CONTRIBUTING TO EFFECTIVE EDUCATION
- DEVELOPING ECONOMIC VIABILITY
- ENHANCING QUALITY OF LIFE IN COMMUNITY

YOU WILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE

YOU WILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE WITH AN INVESTMENT OF RESOURCES IN

- **LEADERSHIP**
- **ENERGY**
- **TALENT**
- **FINANCES**

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