

Shugars, Lynn

From: Meloche, Joseph
Sent: Friday, October 18, 2019 4:45 PM
To: Goodwin Eric; Saidel, Lisa; Neary, Laurie; Elmore-Stratton, Corrien; Scarpellino, Jane; Tong, Sally; Matlack, Carol; Schultz, Ruth; Ovadia, Ben
Cc: Smith, Justin; Mahan, Farrah; Adrian, Nancy; Weathington, LaCoyya; Shugars, Lynn; Wilson, Barbara (Public Information, Malberg); Cohen, Janet; Paul H. Green
Subject: Message
Importance: High

Good Afternoon Folks –

Janet posted the weekly memo yesterday afternoon, and sent you all a reminder email, as she needed to be off today.

As an fyi, please see the email below that I sent to Mr. Steve Ravitz. There have been a number of public comment questions at board meetings regarding his offer to pay off the lunch debt. An article was posted by *The Inquirer* this afternoon, which includes quotes from Mr. Ravitz. I telephoned the ShopRite Corporate Offices today in an attempt to get in touch with Mr. Ravitz, as we have not heard from him at all. An administrative assistant, Susan Carey, asked me to email her and indicated she would get the message to Mr. Ravitz.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Regards,

Joe
Dr. Joseph Meloche
Superintendent
Cherry Hill Public Schools
(856) 429-5600
jmeloche@chclc.org
@MelocheJoe

From: Meloche, Joseph
Sent: Friday, October 18, 2019 4:40 PM
To: 'susan.carey@wakefern.com' <susan.carey@wakefern.com>
Cc: Cohen, Janet <JaCohen@chclc.org>; Wilson, Barbara (Public Information, Malberg) <bwilson@chclc.org>; Shugars, Lynn <lshugars@chclc.org>
Subject: Request For Follow Up

Good Afternoon Susan,

Thank you for taking the time to speak with me this afternoon. As per our discussion, below is an message that I would like to send to Mr. Steve Ravitz.
Thank you for your assistance!

Regards,

Joe Meloche

Good Afternoon Mr. Ravitz,

I read an article this afternoon, that was posted by Melanie Burney of *The Philadelphia Inquirer* (https://www.inquirer.com/education/school-lunch-shaming-cherry-hill-tuna-prom-20191018.html?utm_source=t.co&cid=Philly.com+Twitter&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=Philly.com+Twitter+Account), in which you are quoted discussing the outstanding meal balances in the Cherry Hill Public School District. The quotes attributed to you indicate that you made a Facebook post in September stating that you "would be happy to solve this issue" and that you "never heard from anybody" so you "gave up" and "let it go." I did not see your Facebook offer, nor do I frequent Facebook. While you and I met more than a decade ago during an event for ShopWest, at High School West, I do not believe that we have been in contact since then time. In speaking with the staff in the district's administration building, I do not believe that anyone has spoken with you or received a message from you. I would be happy to speak with you on the telephone or to meet with you in person to discuss the issue and your philanthropic intentions. The issue with which we are dealing is a relatively complex one and goes beyond arrears for breakfast and lunch. As I am sure you are aware, there are many families in Cherry Hill who are food insecure and who live day to day and paycheck to paycheck. As a school district, there are many things that we can do to assist children and to support families, approaching the challenges with compassion and responsibility. I do not believe that the reality of what is going on within the district is being reflected in the media coverage which leads to misconceptions and mischaracterizations that reflect negatively on our families. Please let me know when you would be available for us to have a conversation or to meet.

Regards,

Joe Meloche

Dr. Joseph Meloche
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