




Myth vs. Reality

District 207 Budget Cuts

as told by Zippy, the Board's Communication Lackey

Myth	Reality
<p># 1 The District is in an extreme financial crisis.</p> 	<p>According to Mayan prognosticators, the world will end December 21, 2012 after 5126 years of bliss. In order to prepare for this eventuality, the Board needs to stockpile all financial reserves in order to brace for this rain day—the reign of fire day.</p> <p>When all other districts are destroyed, 207 can boast going out on top with an \$85 million cash reserve. Since there'll be no major expenditures after 2012, it is assumed that this fund will never be touched at best and there will no MTA around to whine about it.</p> <p>The reserve fund will become the new Mayan deity that will rule all over the world, much like the Board of Education has been preparing for and that the people of 207 do not seem to understand. The reserves are the end that justifies the means.</p>
<p># 2 Cuts will have little impact on the quality of education for students.</p> 	<p>Since the world will go through a cataclysmic convulsion in a few years, high-tech solutions to academics and business will not be needed. Money can be saved with the implementation of availa-tech such as sticks, stones, rocks, etc. to prepare students for the day-to-day realities of a hunting & gathering lifestyle. Say good-bye to Google-Docs and hello to hafting, hearths, and hunting! What a revolutionary change to technology!</p>
<p># 3 This is the teachers' fault.</p> 	<p>It simply is. It was their fault that they should get cost-of-living raises. It was their fault that they wanted a 5 year contract. They were the ones who wanted the new football turf. They hired all of the new teachers. It was their fault the CPI dropped to .01% and then let it rise to 2.7%. It's their fault they chose a profession where there are caps on salaries. It's their fault that they don't realize that anyone can teach. It's their fault the casino is being built. It's their fault that there is no industry in Park Ridge. It's their fault that kids have 24/7 penalties. It's their fault the Bears, Cubs, & Sox did not make the play-offs, It's their fault that there's global warming is ---due to pedagogical hot air, not CO₂.</p>

4 Cutting 1/6 of the teaching staff is the only option.



For a slash-and-burn leadership, it is the **only** option. By cutting down 1/6 of the staff and burning their careers, it will provide ample fertilizer for the next few years. Long term agricultural planning for a larger population is not our problem, because if you cut labor, you cut expenses, period. There is no other way.

5 The Board is doing everything possible to find new revenues to alleviate the problem.



"Please, sir, I want some more."

Here summarizes the top 11 ideas the Board has discussed to raise new revenues for the District.

- 11) Plant coins outside, water them, and see if money trees grow.
- 10) 1000 chances a week on Lotto Megamillions. After 30 weeks it might be worth the visit of Tony Wagner.
- 9) Lease Hawkettes, Orchesis, Jazz Ensemble, etc. to local folks for birthdays, graduations, bar mitzvahs, etc.
- 8) 207 bake Sale to all contiguous districts. Tell district moms to get their toll house recipes ready.
- 7) Garage sale: start with 8 large hardly been used flat screen TV's.
- 6) Cut all athletic & extra-curricular programs. Get legal exemption for Dickensian Work Houses for our proud, energetic Hawks. (gruel is cheap)
- 5) Sell parcels of new turf to Hawk Booster parents & others who want a piece of both Hawk & 207 history.
- 4) Car Wash--- every Saturday until 2034.
- 3) Rent out facilities to the district schools. (A bit of a circular solution).
- 2) Start a 207 Ponzi scheme, Move into other Districts quickly.
- 1) Wait until the State of Illinois generously funds the district with educational grants, discretionary funds, educational improvement studies, etc.

6 The reserve is to be used as a rainy day fund.



Well, it depends what you mean by a rainy day. In Chicago, the average precipitation per year is about 36". This is not the rainy day of which we speak. We're talking a rainy day in Cherrapunji, India. There the average rainfall per year is about 450" of rain. Our paltry precip total has yet to even approach 10% of that amount. We have yet to experience a drizzle.

Remember, the purpose of the fund is to fund the fund. With the fund funded, we will be able to fund our programs and continue to enjoy the benefits of the fund. Without a fund to fund, there will be no fund nor fun in this fundless district. The foundation of the District is the fabulous fund which is quite profound.

7 The fund is in a structural deficit mode.



I am the fund! Do my bidding lest I wither away
& die and bring you all with me!"

Niccolo Machiavelli wrote, "Without the fund, the prince cannot exert total control over his realm and will be subject to the whims of peasants and day laborers. As a result, in order for the prince to rule wisely, the fund must be maintained at all costs and used parsimoniously to bestow favors upon an unhappy people, but more importantly to the courtiers whose flattery and court behavior will be of great necessity to the prince's sense of well-being. The fund is mightier than the sword, and the pen, and the peasant, and the education that is meant to be granted as a favor to the people by the most conscientious prince."

That is some fine Renaissance philosophy for today. No deficit for us, structural or otherwise!

8 The members of the School Board have the best interests of the community at heart.



Let
her
speak!

Who said that? I want to know
who said that! Who was the
stupidhead who said that???

No one feels the needs of the district more deeply than the Board. Buckets of tears were shed as hapless teachers were continuously hacked from next year's budget. Loud wailing and gnashing of teeth were to be heard as extra-curriculars were cut from our effusive Board members. Tearing of hair was noted as capital outlays were slashed (see picture to the left). Mr. Leys was overheard to be sobbing on the phone as he tele-conferenced his call from his treadmill. Copious weeping was heard throughout the halls of Maine South as the Board took up the grim job of the structural deficit by wielding Frankish axes here and there. The sorrow could barely be heard above the sound of the hacking axes, so don't tell us that we feel don't your pain, we do. Besides several members developed blisters from the axe-handles.