

**Vote
Timothy Jenkins
DC School Board
President
No. 2 on the ballot
November 7, 2006**

continued from page 1

With turf wars, unresponsive bureaucracies and competitive budgets among the relevant city agencies of DCPS, Youth Services, Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities, Child and Family Services, as well as law enforcement; there is no comprehensive or comprehensible program of coordinated care or record keeping, as originally contemplated under IDEA. Therefore mounting costs are not accurately known, properly projected, mitigated, or budgeted, resulting in a constant pattern of "robbing Peter to pay Paul" to keep the chaotic system afloat, with zero accountability. These ongoing agency confusions and mutual recriminations were documented by the DC Inspector General in a report just issued July 18 accusing both the school system and CFS Child and Family Services of inconsistent accounting for foster children receiving special education with each blaming the other. Meanwhile the majority on the school board continues to whistle its way through this graveyard expecting the matter to take care of itself.



Timothy Jenkins listens to frustrated parents at Sharpe Health School attempt to communicate Special Ed needs to DC officials & contractors.

Throughout there has been no assumption of policy leadership on the Board of Education, but a pattern and practice of ducking and hiding, in hopes that the bogeyman of special education will someday go away. In other jurisdictions, innovative, cost-cutting, wraparound services among city agencies have been creatively devised which work. And I have become a candidate for School Board President to stop these Special Education abuses and excuses by adopting a new approach.

DC's quadrupled special education budget crisis is a wholly self-inflicted wound, born

of social indifference to children with special needs, widespread professional incompetence, and poor job training. It is devoid of any sound educational mission and required policy oversight. Hence the taxpayers are left with the bill and the general DCPS student left with vandalized programs and services as a result of unending last minute budget shifts. Enough is enough! The pigeons have now come home to roost. The School Board needs a new leadership that cares.

So called "Special Education" is at the core regular education that wants for adequate teacher training and/or academic flexibility for non-routine solutions within the system. Alternatively it has come to be a vehicle whereby sophisticated parents "game the system" to get their children's private school fees paid by the city, or poor kids are driven to despair until they drop out or off the deep end into substance abuse or incarceration.

In all of this DCPS has historically been a compliant codefendant, spendthrift of public funds and seemingly disinterested in positive outcomes. This has to be changed politically before it is too late. The City Council, the Mayor and the State Office of Education are already seeking to take over the schools because of the apparent inability of the Board of Education to govern such critical areas of its responsibilities. ##

**JENKINS
LAUNCHES
CHILDREN'S
CRUSADE**



for INTEGRITY 1st !

**Saturday, October 14, 2006
12 noon to 2:00 PM
Charles Young Elementary School
824 26th St NE**

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of the
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