

Dolinski enjoyed the experience

Midland Daily News on 7/3/04

To the editor:

After nearly 18 years, it's time for me to step down from the Board of Education of the Midland Public Schools. I've genuinely enjoyed my service to the community and take a measure of justifiable pride in our outstanding schools.

As I indicated in my farewell remarks last Monday, Midland has excellent schools because we are a community that truly cares about them. I would urge everyone to continue with that commitment so that we can maintain and continuously improve our schools for our youth and for those children yet unborn. MPS is an incredibly valuable asset for our community. It is an institution for growth and upward mobility that deserves our wholehearted investment of work, wealth and wisdom. I know I can count on all of our citizens to continue their undiminished support.

Many of you may know that I will now be advancing education through The Legacy Center for Student Success. TLC is examining factors outside of the classroom that impede student learning and we are developing and delivering interventions to overcome these barriers. Our first effort, in a partnership between MPS and Dr. Steven Kocks of the Andersen Eye Institute, will work to correct certain eye control and coordination issues thereby improving students' reading ability. Going forward we plan to initiate and fund research into other critical out-of-school factors that impede learning and then implement interventions to overcome them. I hope Midland will support this initiative and endorse the programs of our Center.

I am deeply grateful to all the good people of the Midland Public Schools district for allowing me to serve them on the Board of Education. I have tried to continue the tradition of excellence that I inherited when I was first elected in 1979. While we have issues to resolve, most notably funding shortfalls, it's through the active involvement of all stakeholders that we are fortunate to have the fine schools that we do. Continue to cherish them, nurture them and support them; they are a precious and priceless community asset that deserves your thoughtful care.

RICHARD DOLINSKI

Midland