

Brian Massie, 8196 Rainbow Drive, Concord Township...I am a taxpayer that is assessed property taxes to fund the Auburn Career Center.

I have been made aware of the 12-year dispute between Auburn Career Center and the Career and Technical Association. (CATA)

The facts as I know them are that there was a dispute over the school paying for a “planning period” for teachers 12 years ago. The original amount in dispute was approximately \$144,000. The dispute was taken to Common Pleas Court; It was elevated to Appellate Court and remanded back to Common Pleas; Then it was again elevated to the Appellate Court which agreed with the teachers; Finally, it was further elevated to the Supreme Court which found no error in the Appellate Court decision.

All final court decisions have been in favor of the teachers – even the payment of the STRS benefits that are in constant dispute.

Auburn, per their press release, has set aside \$1,486,045.78 to fulfill what they believe is their obligation to the teachers. However, Auburn refuses to pay the required STRS obligation. That obligation has ballooned to approximately \$427,000 and will continue to grow.

When we consider the legal fees paid by Auburn to date on the case, we have sent a public records request for the updated

amount, but we have learned that the amount is more than \$800,000.

As I see it, for an initial \$144,000 dispute, Auburn Career Center's management has spent, or will spend \$2.7 million of the taxpayers' money.

In my opinion, this suit should never have been brought. I also find it quite alarming that all Auburn Board members are appointed by the school districts and not elected by the people.

(I have been told that Mr. Hach, the newest member, represents all 7 Lake County School Boards because he was elected to the ESC Board.)

If Board members are not elected by the people, to whom do we bring our complaints for redress of our grievances, as our first amendment right in the U.S. Constitution permits. We realize this arrangement must be addressed by our legislators. No taxing authority should collect property taxes without the taxpayers having the ability to address any problems with their elected representatives.

In reading the vast number of documents I failed to see any mention of what is in the best interests of the taxpayers that are paying property taxes to fund Auburn Career Center. Are we expected to just to pay the bills, and remain silent? That will not happen.

I would like to leave the Board and Administration with the definition of nonfeasance, misfeasance and malfeasance.

Nonfeasance is the failure to act where action is required—willfully or in neglect. Nonfeasance is similar to omission. Misfeasance is the willful inappropriate action or intentional incorrect action or advice. Malfeasance is the willful and intentional action that injures a party.

It appears to this taxpayer that Auburn was guilty of nonfeasance at the beginning of the dispute with the teachers. Based on what information I have received; it appears that The Board and Administration moved into the area of Misfeasance when they brought multiple lawsuits and lost each time.

The Board and the Administration have moved to Malfeasance because they overtly continue to ignore and subvert the court rulings furthering unnecessary costs, harming the 43 employees of Auburn Career Center and further burdening the taxpayers of Lake County. You are wasting our money that is collected via property taxes.

The Board's non-performance is injuring a lot of people. It is time you stop with your continued stall and delay tactics.

If there is any pertinent information that may have had an influence on the actions taken by the Board and administration of the Auburn Career Center, please provide it to the taxpayers. This would include, but not limited to, documentation to

support Auburn's decision, or a meeting with the Board to have them present the information.

We are committed to informing all Lake County residents of the Auburn's untenable position on this matter, and will proceed with any means to protect the taxpayers of Lake County. We ask that the entire Board to hold the Administration accountable for their actions. Depending on the findings, this may include Board members resigning their positions on the Board immediately.