

Edwards,Michelle

From: Donna Fullhart <donnafullhart@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2020 10:12 PM
To: Edwards,Michelle
Subject: *Ext!* City Council Meeting 6-2020

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- Helpdesk

I'm writing with concern for the plans for the tax surplus. I'm a strong proponent of the Care not Cages line of thinking.

I want to appeal to the city council to consider real school counselors. Not guidance counselors tasked with arranging schedules and not the 2 half days a week thing. A real, full time counselor in every high school and middle school. There from 1 hour before the first bell til 1 hour after the last bell. Being a true resource and support to the kids. Someone who can troubleshoot when a child is going through a hard time and help kids before things hit their melting points.

Imagine the burden it would lift from the teachers and administrators. Imagine how much more productive the classrooms could be.

Create a partnership with Harsha and Hamilton to open a door for emergency admissions and connect with The Children's Bureau since their funding is specifically for keeping kids out of CPS.

In the first two years have someone tasked with grant writing to keep the funding going.

This would ease the burden on families, increase attendance and test scores, reduce the number of kids going into the system and stem the flow of the classroom to prison pipeline.

I'd also love to see a teen day center for homeless youth. The counselors could trade off days they'd be there. It could be a safe place for them to connect and find resources and stay away from predators.

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