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Erica Pilon
Niagara High School

Dear Legislator,

I am writing because I'm concerned about the money cut that is going to happen to our school. I highly dislike this and I want you to know that our school will suffer dearly for it. By taking the classes away from us, that means that we will not have the training in the area for collage classes. Others that have taken the class will get into that collage before any of us can and that is an unfair advantage because we could have had the chance to take that class, but it has been taking away from us. I am also concerned about the extra curricular activities, such as basketball, volleyball, etc. I play all those sports and it would be very unfair if that were taken from our school. This whole budget thing is way out of hand and is making the students suffer, well I will not have it. We are going to run this country someday, and be taking the classes away will leave us behind in the world and that is very unfair to us. This is our future, and we need to be prepared for what is to come, but if this budget cut goes through, then that's it for my future. You might have had theses opportunities when you were younger, and now we need they. What I want to know is why? Why are you going to cheat us out of a good education? Think about it. We are next in line and I sure do not want a group of people that have no idea what they are doing to run our country. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



Erica Pilon

Kati Anderson
108 Cardin Street
Niagara WI, 54151

April 4, 2001

Dear Legislator,

I am a fifteen-year-old freshmen and I am writing on behalf of the Niagara Public Schools. After I graduate I want to go to college but to get into college you need to meet certain requirements. At Niagara some of the classes we need to move on might not be offered to us in future years because of the school budgets cuts. Niagara might be a small school, but that doesn't mean we don't deserve a good education and a variety of classes.

At Niagara some of the teachers have to teach multiple classes and then teach study halls. Our teachers are good, but we need more of them. Also we need better supplies. Most of our books are older than we are. Our health book is at least seventeen years old. Most of the things that our health book talks about are out-dated especially medical things. Are English books are old too and they are falling apart. My sister is thirty and she used the same books as we use today.

Sports is another issue I would like to talk about. If you cut sports more students will be on the streets getting into trouble. You also might cut forensics, but many students never get a chance to talk in public until they join forensics. Forensics helps by letting students have that chance to talk in public. It helps with confidence and good speaking abilities.

I don't graduate for four years and I want to be able to go to college. Colleges look at what classes you took, but if you don't have alot of choices then it's not your fault if you didn't get to take harder classes. Many of the college prep classes are going to be cut and that would hurt our chances of getting into good schools. Also if you cut classes like shop then many of the students that are going into tech schools won't have any prep classes. Calculus isn't offered at our school anymore, but if students are going to major in math they have to take classes at Bay College and that costs more then taking classes through the school.

The budget cut is really going to affect of school now, but even more in the future. Maybe in a couple of years we won't even have a school here anymore. I would like to say that help would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



Kati Anderson

Jason Kallenbach
W8690 Kallenbach Street
Niagara, WI 54151
Niagara High School

Dear Legislator,

I am a 15-year-old freshman who is writing to you because of the budget cuts that have been done. A lot of our classes could be lost because we can no longer afford them. Some of the classes that will be cut are needed for our futures. The classes that we take determine our future lives and how we will live the rest of our lives.

I am 1 of many students who enjoys the sports that our school has to offer. It keeps us out of trouble and it makes us want to do better in school. This budget cut will take the sports program away from us.

Thanks for taking the time to read my letter. Please stop the budget cut; we need the money for the future of others and ourselves because we are the future.

Sincerely,



Jason Kallenbach

Eric Bloom
406 Filmore Ave.
Niagara, WI 54151
Niagara High School

Dear Legislator,

I am writing on behalf of the current Niagara High School students and Niagara High School students to come. Our budget is so low that we do not have any elective classes to choose from. The only classes that we have to choose from for electives are art and woods. Some of us need some of these classes for college.

Please, if you would listen to us, we need the funds to run our school. It is important to have well educated people. It is important to be proud of where you received your education.

Sincerely,
Eric Bloom
Eric Bloom

Tony De Cremer
1733 ridge st.
niagara,WI 54151

To whom it may concern,

Our school has a budget problem and some teachers are losing their jobs, our sports programs are getting cut, and some students are moving, I have three more years left of my high school education and I want to finish them in Niagara High School. My dad is moving to Escanaba, MI. this summer and I had an option to go to Escanaba High school but I would rather finish my final years here at Niagara. Please keep my school running.

sincerely,

Tony De Cremer
Tony De Cremer

Julia Westrich
201 Hill Street
Niagara, WI 54151

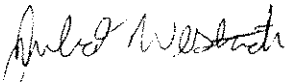
Dear Legislature,

I am a freshman at Niagara High School and am concerned with our schools future. The budget cuts here are hurting our future chances at going to a good college, and also some of us can't be fully challenged, as we should be. If the state continues with the budgets cuts, the schools could loose students and eventually not be in existing anymore.

The school's sports programs teach the students a lot about teamwork and responsibilities. If they cut sports, we aren't able to learn these important skills. Also sports are a way for the students to get to know other local schools. They are also fun and can raise money for their additional needs by the admissions that are charged.

The town of Niagara and I would greatly appreciate it if you would consider giving the Niagara Public School help in keep our future options open. Thank you for taking the time and reading this.

Sincerely,



Julia Westrich

Justin Norwood
808 Vine Street
Niagara, WI 54151

Dear Legislator:

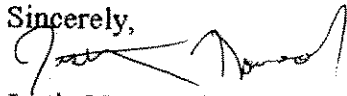
My name is Justin Norwood I am fifteen years old and

I am writing this letter because I feel that the budget cut is not for the better. There are many little schools in the Wisconsin area that are being affected. Without electives there will be no social activities. We need all of these activities to keep our kids out of trouble.

I feel you have no right to cut funds for our schools because we deserve the same education that you got and if you are going to take that away from us than you have no right to be in the power that you are in now.

Thank you for your time

Sincerely,



Justin Norwood

Sheila Thomson
700 Jefferson Ave.
Niagara, WI 54151

Dear Legislature,

I am a freshman at Niagara High School, all of my friends and I are very concerned about the budget cuts that we are receiving. I am 15 years old and I want to go to a good college when I graduate. Things that were valuable to you when you were a student (and that may have gotten you to the legislature today) are not readily available for us. Thank you for listening to us.

Sincerely,

Sheila Thomson

Sheila Thomson

Andy Comer
700 Jefferson Ave.
Niagara High School

Dear Legislature:

I am a freshman at Niagara High School and in four years I am planning on attending a Wisconsin Public University where I wish to lengthen my years of being a student. I hope to have enough College Prep classes to be able to attend College. It is difficult for me to obtain these credits if the College Prep classes are not offered to me. Many of my fellow students feel the same about this. More importantly we wish to obtain the required classes to be able to graduate. We also wish to be able to be on some extra curricular activities. I feel being in team sports will look very good on my resume. Our future is in your hands and we are the future.

Sincerely,



Andy Comer

Eddie Sundquist
N22215 County O Rd.
Niagara High School
April 4, 2001

Dear Legislator,

I am writing this letter on behalf of the Niagara High school and their educations. Our school has had many classes cut and much more costs for the students that are enrolled in the Public schools,. These budget cuts are affecting the futures of the students. They can't get the calsses to prepare them for college. There for is inconvenient to those students that don't like to study and like to do fun stuff and have free time. I am in football myself and it's my favorite sport and if you cut that then not only me but many others will not be able to play these sports besides football including golf, basketball, volleyball, and many more fun extra-curricular activities. Also, these activities would keep the kids away from trouble.

I hope you take the time to consider what you are doing to the future generations.

sincerely,

EDDIE SUNDQUIST

Eddie Sundquist

Rebecca Mohr
1000 Harding St.
Niagara, WI 54151
Niagara High School

Dear Legislator,

I am a fifteen-year-old freshman at Niagara Public High School. I am concerned about the budget cuts that have been happening through the years. I don't believe that we need any more. A lot of our programs have been cut.

We also have no electives because they have also been cut. We are losing a lot of education by cutting classes. If we had these classes we would be more educated.

If this keeps going we might have to cut the sports we have such as football or basketball or we might not have a school to go to at all. Please keep my school running.

I have been going to this school forever and I want my little brothers to go also. We need to think of the future generations.

Sincerely,

Rebecca M. Mohr

Rebecca Mohr

Sarah Isaacson
1850 Roosevelt Road
Niagara, WI 54151
Niagara High school

Dear Legislature:

As a fifteen-year old freshman in Niagara High School, I am very concerned about my school's future because it determines my future as well. If the budget of this school is cut extensively, our chances of a better future are virtually eliminated. If our school is funded inaccurately, we will not be able to keep up academically with our surrounding schools as well. This especially concerns me because this is my first year in high school and it will affect my class very much. I am worried that eventually I might not have a high school to go to at all.

Many of our extracurricular activities, that keep the young students in Niagara High School out of trouble, may be cut. Such things as basketball, football, forensics, and track and field, the things that you will look back on and remember when you are old, will not be there. We already have poor sports equipment, and we cannot afford to have our budget cut anymore! Our extracurricular activities are not only important because they give young students a positive focus; they also make sports and drama scholarships possible for us. These scholarships may be the only things that give us the opportunity to go to College. We are the future of America and if you take away our chances of succeeding, you are taking away the chance of our Nation succeeding in the future.

Not only are our extracurricular activities in danger, but our elective classes are in trouble as well! They also offer a better future for us and are very important. It is very important to have well educated people. Without these classes, many opportunities for future employment will be eliminated.

Please try to realize our desperate need for some extra money. Try to picture yourself in our shoes. It is important to be able to be proud of where you received an education. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Sarah A. Isaacson

Sarah A. Isaacson

April 4, 2001

Melissa Romitti
825 Roosevelt Rd.
Niagara, WI 54151
Niagara High School

Dear Legislator,

I am writing to you on behalf of Niagara High School to discuss the budget of our school. I am a freshman here and if we continue to be inadequately funded our school may be shut down. Our school for many years has been under funded and we have difficulty paying for anything new. Most of the textbooks that our school has are out of date. Our school lacks many classes that every large school has which is not fair to us. Remember we are your future and if you want uneducated people roaming the earth then continue to cut our funding.

I also would like to more money for our extracurricular programs. These activities are essential and keep many kids out of trouble. Also we have had to use the same equipment for several years. If we continue to use this equipment then it could ultimately lead to someone getting injured.

Please listen to our outcry of help. We need to be funded to keep Niagara High School running. Thank You.

Sincerely,

Melissa Romitti

Melissa Romitti

Cole Teafoe
1016 Main St.
Niagara, WI 54151
Niagara High School

Dear Legislator,

I am a freshman at Niagara High School and I am writing this letter to you because there have been major budget cuts. Many of our advanced academic classes have been destroyed. I have four more years of high school left and I want to be prepared for when I go off to college or just get out into the world and get a job.

Also I do not want to go four years without something else to do during the school year besides homework. Without an extra-curricular event to hold me over I would probably be getting in more trouble more often. We are the future!!!! If we can't get a good education who is going to be our next president? I love sports and I am not the smartest person in the world and if I didn't have a school related sport to keep my grades up for my grades would probably drop dramatically. My classmates and I all feel the same way so please take this note into consideration. Thank you.

Sincerely,


Cole Teafoe

Daren Dodd
564 Adams Street
Niagara, WI 54151
Niagara High School

Dear Legislator:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Niagara Schools system. I don't think that you people should make this budget cut. If you make this cut all of our sports programs will be cut. The school will have no basketball team, no golf team, no soccer team or any other types of elective activities. There will be no drama club in case anyone wants to get into acting later on in life. No person could get to collage on a athletic scholarship. If you make this budget cut not only my generation of students will be effected but future generations to come. My children could be effected by this cut and never make it to college. The only elective programs that we would have might be art. It would be nice to have a woods class, a computer class, and many others so we might have a good future. Well thank you for listening to me please give us the funds for our school so we can have a future.

Sincerely,

Daren Dodd

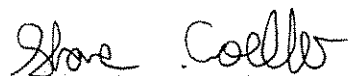
Daren Dodd

Shane Coello
W8586 Jefferson Ave.
Niagara, Wisconsin
Niagara High School

Dear Legislature,

I am a freshman at Niagara High School, so the budget cuts will affect me in the future. I feel that my education should not be hampered because of money. Even though I understand that money is a luxury, I don't feel that you should be taking money away from where we need it the most. How are we supposed to prove ourselves to the world when we graduate? How will we make it in the real world? I think that I have the right to a good education to prepare me for my passage into the real world. When I think of today's political system I get frustrated because there are nothing except problems. I think about all of the struggles my sister will face when she gets older. This deterioration of America can be stopped. People wonder why our generation is filled with so many problems. Well, maybe they aren't looking for causes in the right places.

Sincerely,



Shane Coello

April 4, 2001

Jessica Ruechel
1440 Ridge St.
Niagara High School

Dear Legislator,

Hello, my name is Jessica Ruechel. I am Currently a freshman at Niagara High School. For the past few years our school has had to make some changes due to the budget plan. Because of this budget we have had to cut some classes. These classes are important to many of the students who wish to attend a decent college. Also, because of the budget we could not afford to buy new items in the classrooms that have become worn and overused with years of use (such as books). Not only have classes been cut, but extracurricular activities. Our school can not afford to but new equipment, or pay for the away games and trips that are required in these activities. These activities are important to all of our school. They keep children and teens out of trouble.

Though I may not be affected at the worst part of the budget crisis, I have two younger brothers who might. I do not want them to go through school without the necessary classes to go to college, or without the activities that keep a student happy and healthy.

So please help our schools budget. Help us, the students, get a good education so we can make the future great.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jessica Ruechel". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name.

Jessica Ruechel

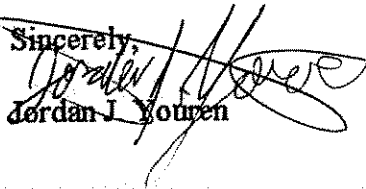
Dear Legislator

Due to the budget cuts from the last few years we have lost many sports, activities along with teachers. Many teachers have left due to the fear of losing their jobs. Our enrollment has dropped drastically. We cannot afford to hire new higher qualified teachers to better our education.

If this budget cut goes through we will have no future for our school. Many of us will have to leave and go to other schools in order to get college prep classes.

So please don't let the budget cut go through because it will hurt the future of this state along with the future of our beloved country.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jordan J. Youren", written over the printed name.

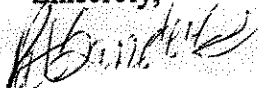
Jordan J. Youren

Patrick Sanders
1456 mill St.
Niagara WI 54151
Niagara High School

Dear Legislature:

I am writing on behalf of the concerned citizens of Niagara about the budget cut. I think that we should be getting money instead of giving it up. We don't have that much money and already we have given up wrestling and we might have to give more sports if there is a budget cut. I live for football and I am a very good football player. If this budget takes football away from my friends and I we are going to be one angry group of children. We have given to this school and it has tried its hardest to give back to us. We need this education. We need this school. Please find it in your heart to spare the budget cuts.

Sincerely,



Pat Sanders

Mike Aderman
W8602 Scott Street
Niagara High School

April 4, 2001

Dear Legislator,

The Budget that you have proposed will affect my future. I am a freshman and I will be affected by this budget. Even in our school now, we have many classes cut. I am lookin forward to having a good education to help raise my family in the future and raising myself also. I am writing on the behalf of Niagara students who want there education. Also, if there is no school there is no sports. Students want sports to keep them busy, to have fun, and to be athletic in life. I am very discouraged by this budget and I belelve that the students of Niagara High School need there education.

Things are going to have to change because if there is no school there is no future generation for these students. We need help. Save our precolius school!

Sincerely,



Mike Aderman

Lissa Gregor
1956 Ledge Street
Niagara, WI 54151

Dear Legislators:

We are the future. We are the new generation of doctors, teachers, and even legislators. In order to get the kind of education that we need, we need your help. This is not the time for us to be proud. The little school of Niagara is asking you to not pass these budget cuts. We just need you to look at each and every one of our students and realize how important this is to our families and us.

If this passes, you will not only be taking away our college prep classes, but our enjoyment of high school. First goes forensics and One Act. Then goes basketball and football. Are you willing to take the wholesome entertainment from us so that we will find the unwholesome activities just to pass the time? If this is so I will have nightmares about how my future is going to turn out.

Sincerely,

Lissa Gregor
Lissa Gregor

April 4, 20001

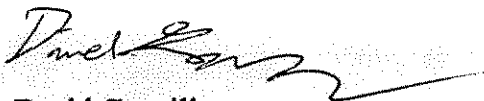
P.O. Box 167
Niagara, WI 54151

Dear people

Hi, my name is David Gunville; I am a freshman at Niagara High School. I am writing this letter because our teacher told us that our school is losing money, and we don't want it to happen. I am very upset. Our metals shop and woods shop needs better equipment, and we cannot afford it. The books are falling apart and we cannot replace them. We also need better material to read. The books are out of date.

I care about an education and don't want to worry about the school going out of money. I also care about football, and I don't want it to be cut. I hope you take and read this letter, and take my thoughts into consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'David Gunville', written in dark ink.

David Gunville

April 4, 2001

P.O. Box 167
Niagara, WI 54151

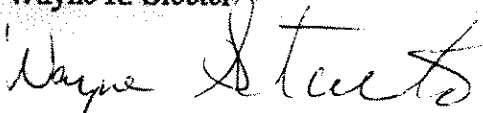
Dear Legislature,

My name is Wayne Sleeter and I am a freshman at Niagara High School. Our schools are going through some hard times as of right now. We're running low on money and some of our classes are going to be taken away. I play a lot of sports and if they get taken away from me I will be very sad. I play basketball and football and soccer and that's not even all of them. My teacher told me to write how I feel and this is how I feel. I

If we have a budget cut, it will ruin all of Wisconsin's schools. What will we do if we have one of the worst educations in the United States? I'm begging you to help Wisconsin schools and by doing that you will be helping my education and the education of many others. If you take away our sports, we will not have any fun at school at all.

Thank You.

A needing student,
Wayne R. Sleeter

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Wayne Sleeter".

Niagara High School

Holly Rysewyk
217 Birch St.
Niagara High School

Dear Legislature:

I am a 9th grade student at Niagara High School. I am writing this because if you make this change our schools will become a place that student have to go instead of want to go. You will be cutting our education short. We are the future doctors, lawyers and politicians. How would you like to have a doctor that didn't have enough knowledge to tell you what is wrong with you, or a lawyer that couldn't ever win a case because he didn't have the right classes when he was in high school.

Not only are our classes being cut so are our extra curricular things are being cut too. Forensics helps people learn to give speeches and such and we are just throwing all of these things away. We deserve to have choices in our future so don't take it away from us. We are the future and we need a good education.

Sincerely,


Holly Rysewyk

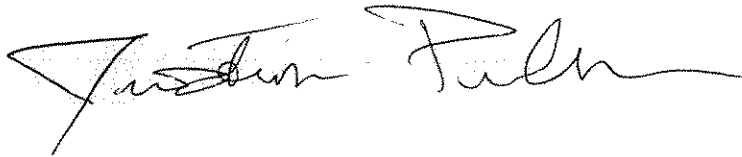
Justin Pultz
1064 Forest St.
Niagara WI 54151
Niagara High School

Dear Legislator,

I am a freshman at Niagara High School and I am very discouraged about the budget cuts. Our school is losing its flare. We are going to lose our extracurricular activities, such as football, basketball, art, and many other activities that make this great school. Many kids will not be unnoticed for their achievements in sports or arts. As a student of Niagara High School I know that this budget cut would change our school for the worst.

Thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Justin Pultz". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

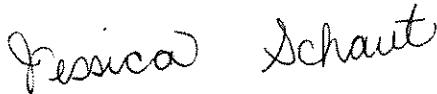
Justin Pultz

Jessica Schaut
1917 Ledge St.
Niagara, WI 54151
Niagara High School

Dear Legislature,

I am writing to you on the behalf of my future. Our school has very little money if any at all. I 'm only a sophomore and my future means everything to me, technically my life has not even started yet. Our school has already cut so many classes and after school activities. Us students come to school to learn and expand our minds, but if we keep having budget cuts there will be nothing left of our school. Thank you for reading my letter, and please consider not having anymore budget cuts.

Sincerely,



Jessica Schaut

Matt Spade
1741 Ridge St.
Niagara, WI 54151
Niagara High School

Dear Legislator,

I am a Freshman at Niagara High School. I am writing on behalf of Niagara students who enjoy extracurricular activities. We are very upset about hearing about the budget cut. Our school is losing it's money and we need more to keep our activities. This budget cut is truly affecting our school system. We are losing such activities as Drama, Forhensics, one act, football, which I love to play, and basketball. These activities are pretty much what keep pur school fun. I hope you take this into consideration. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Matt Spade". The letters are fluid and connected, with a prominent "M" and "S".

Matt Spade

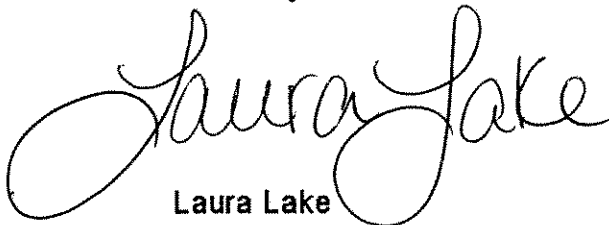
April 4, 2001

Laura Lake
1740 Ridge St
Niagara High School

Dear Legislature,

Hello, my name is Laura Lake and I am a freshman at Niagara High School. I think it is rude that you are trying to take away our sports and other extracurricular activities away from us. We deserve a good school and a better education. We students deserve more. There is no reason to take away our extracurricular activities. I also believe we need our music programs. Did you know that students in the arts and music learn more? Over one-third of the students on the honor roll are in band? I think you should get your priorities straight. Niagara doesn't deserve to lose our activities. What about the things we need to know for graduation and our graduation test. How are we supposed to take a test to graduate if we don't know everything we are supposed to be able to take the test?

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Laura Lake". The signature is fluid and elegant, with a large loop at the end of the last name.

Laura Lake

Kara Hulce
1525 Cedar St.
Niagara, WI 54151

Dear Legislator:

I am writing to you concerning the budget cuts my high school is currently going through. This is really upsetting me because there is already a lack of classes at our school. Advanced math, business classes, and foreign language, such as French and German, are not offered here. We also have a lack of teachers and many won't come to our school because of the need money.

Extracurricular activities, which are already few, will also be cut. Extracurricular activities are a big reason why many kids don't do drugs and alcohol. Take those away and I am positive that there will be a big increase in drug use.

Education is very important. We are the future. Please don't cut back on what little that we have.

Sincerely,



Kara Hulce

April 4, 2001

Jessica Baker
1008 Forest St.
Niagara, WI 54151
Niagara High School

Dear Legislator,

I am a freshman at Niagara High School. As I attend my next three years in this high school and it would be severely depressing to see my classes slowly diminish. Education is one of the most important things to use the government money on. We are the future and will be running the nation. You are taking away our opportunity to become successful.

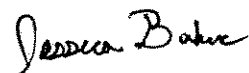
We have already lost many of our electives and sports, which we will need to succeed in college. Our books are outdated and the only foreign language we carry is Spanish. We don't have business or accounting classes.

I enjoy art class and we don't have proper class materials or enough. I play in the band and we are a small limited band and do what we can with the money we have.

They are cutting are basketball, football, one act, and forensics. I never got a chance to join the drama team or participate in a tennis team. If you cut any more we will no longer have a school.

My sister will be in high school in two years and I hope there will still be a school for us.

Sincerely,



Jessica Baker

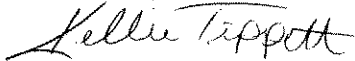
April 4, 2001

Kellie Tippett
1248 Jackson Street
Niagara High School

Dear Legislator

My name is Kellie Tippett. I'm a freshman at Niagara High School and would like to tell you about the problems we are having because of the budget cut. Some of the teachers are leaving because their jobs have been cut. Some are even paying for things with their own money. Soon there won't be any extracurricular activities for us. Sports are very important to some students because they might choose that as a career. I plan on going into art as a career. That and band could also be taken away from us. I'm very concerned about this and I hope you take this into consideration and do something to help us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kellie Tippett".

Kellie Tippett

Andrew Leatherman
904 Pierce Street
Niagara WI, 54151
Niagara High School

Dear Legislators:

Hello, my name is Andrew W. Leatherman. I am a freshman at Niagara High School. Over the past few years I have seen how the budgets have affected our school and community!! It has affected us greatly and if you cut any more just imagine what will happen to our school. What you are doing is taking away our right for an education. If you can do this to our school, then you can come to Niagara and look into our eyes and tell us that you are taking away our future! Our high school years are going to decide the rest of our lives, and what if this happened to your children's school? How would you feel?

One day I will be a doctor, and I need certain classes to become what I want to be. If you take that chance away me, I will ruin all my plans for the future, and take away my dreams. You can't do that to me! My education means everything to me, and if you take that away, you take away me life! I hope that you put into reconsideration what I have just said, and thank you for your time.

Sincerely,


Andrew W. Leatherman

Erin Gilbert
816 Roosevelt rd.
Niagara High School

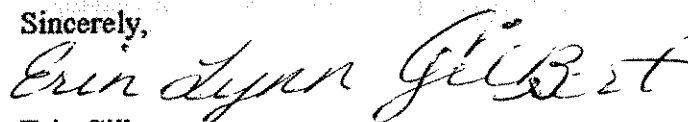
Dear Legislator,

I am writing this letter because a lot of the classes that I wanted to take were cut in the past. I am not going to have the classes I need to go to college for what I want to be. We need to know more than what we are learning. How are we all going to get into college if we don't have enough credits? We need more classes that will give us more credits. There is barely anything that we can take we need more classes offered to us.

The books that we have are almost falling apart. We need new books. Some of the student's names are still in the book from like 9-10 years ago. We need more new stuff in the school for better learning.

We are the next teachers, doctors, lawyers etc... We need to learn more and we need more classes offered to us. How are the students in this school supposed to go to college? I believe that the children in the Niagara district should be able to have a lot more classes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Erin Lynn Gilbert". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Erin Gilbert

Ashley Bigalke
N21090 County O,
Niagara WI, 54151
Niagara High School

Dear Legislators:

The schooling that we get today, will prepare us for the future. The money budget is a big factor in the classes and teachings that we receive. There is no reason why we should not be able to have classes and activities that make high school such a good experience.

The money budget will cut the One Act and Forensics activities and then move on to our sports, such as basketball and football. This is a problem that needs to be carefully evaluated and reconsidered because it affects all the students and their families. Because of the cut of classes we may not be able to get all the credits and class requirements that we need for going on to collage.

This is a very big deal and will hurt our education and future experiences. Our school needs help we are counting on your help, to let us have the great education and teachings that we need.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ashley Bigalke". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Ashley Bigalke

700 Jefferson

Niagara, WI. 54151

Niagara High School

Dear Legislator:

My name is Ben Kallenbach I am a freshman at Niagara High School. I am writing to you about the budget cut proposal. If you make these cuts you will take away our education as well as our extracurricular activities. We are the people that will be running this country in a couple of years and I think that we at least deserve a chance to succeed and you are trying to take that chance away from us. If we do not have extracurricular activities you will see more and more kids getting involved with drugs and other illegal activities. Without the proper education we will not be able to get the jobs that will help us succeed after school and all this could be avoided just by not making these budget cuts.

Sincerely,

Ben Kallenbach
Ben Kallenbach

1001 Bruning Street
Niagara, WI 54151

Dear Legislature,

My name is Hollie Vandenberg and I am a freshman at Niagara High School. I am very concerned with the future of our school. The budget is affecting many of the classes and extracurricular activities.

If these budget cuts keep attacking the public schools in Wisconsin, we will not have any important classes. The important ones like the college classes, math classes, we don't have enough computer classes of the people who want to go into the field of computers. The extracurricular activities here were really great, but the budget is very low and we don't have enough money to pay the coaches. All of the activities like basketball, football, cheerleading, volleyball, and track will be cut if this budget isn't thought about very carefully.

I am most concerned about the future of the Forensics and the One Act events. These events are very important because they teach students to speak well in front of the public. One student has gone to the speech on national television because of her wonderful speaking ability.

I hope you take careful consideration in the public schools of Wisconsin. These classes and extracurricular activities are a big part in the learning for the students.

Concerned Student,

Hollie Vandenberg

Hollie Vandenberg

Matt Spade
1741 Ridge St.
Niagara, WI 54151
Niagara High School

Dear Legislator,

I am a Freshman at Niagara High School. I am writing on behalf of Niagara students who enjoy extracurricular activities. We are very upset about hearing about the budget cut. Our school is losing it's money and we need more to keep our activities. This budget cut is truly affecting our school system. We are losing such activities as Drama, Forhensics, one act, football, which I love to play, and basketball. These activities are pretty much what keep pur school fun. I hope you take this into consideration. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Matt Spade

Angela Allen
1309 Garfield Ave.
Niagara WI 54151

Dear Legislator,

Hello my name is Angela Allen. I am currently a freshman whom attends Niagara High School. I am writing to inform you of my opinion on this budget cut you are proposing.

Being a small school we already suffer form a great lack of money. We already have had to sacrifice many courses and activities that I feel are accentual for high school students. Such as the Gifted and Talented program. In the fourth grade I was recognized as being gifted in Reading and English, I was put into a gifted reading program for the rest of my elementary career. As I entered middle school our GT. advisor was cut from the budget and I was put back into the regular reading program. There I would sit completely board having of already learned all of the criteria that we are going over. I believe that it is sad that in the ninth grade I am covering material that I had read in the fifth grade. I am not the only student who was affected by the GT. program being cut. There are many other students in my school who are also suffering from the consequences of the loss of this program. Some of the students who used to be in this program are now slacking off in certain subjects because they are not being challenged to the fullest potential.

The gifted students are not the only people suffering from budget cuts. Every student is suffering. Collage prep courses are being taken away left and right. How do you expect us to do well after high school if you don't offer us the classes we need. Our classes are not the only things being damaged. Most of our books are in such poor condition that in some cases the book covers, that we are required to have on at all times, are the only things keeping our books together.

Before you vote on the budget cut please remember these two things. You are affecting the lives of every student who attends public school in the state of Wisconsin. And remember that we are the future of this country. And ask yourself if when you look back at the choice you made fifteen or twenty years from now if it was a good or bad choice. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely Yours,

Angela Allen
Angela Allen

Ben Kelly
808 Roosevelt Rd.
Niagara WI 54151

Dear Mr. Legislature,

I am a freshman at Niagara High School, So After this year of school I still have three more years and the budget cuts will affect me. I do play sports at Niagara and that will really suck if we lose all of them just from the budget cuts. And if they do become worse our education will be affected also. Then most of the students that want to go to college may not be able to go because there high school careers may of not met certain requirements. Then what are we supposed to do for jobs, our whole lives may be affected.

I thank you for tanking this time to here what I have to say. And I hope you realize how serious these budget cuts really are. It may really affect lots of schools, and I ask you to please be considerate in your decision, because your decision may affect, and probably will, affect our future.

Sincerely,
Ben Kelly

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ben Kelly". The signature is written in black ink and includes a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

N22920 Michelle St.
Niagara, WI 54151

April 4, 2001

Dear Legislature:

Hi! My name is Laura Kilgus and I am a freshman at Niagara High Schools. I am very concerned about how much my school has been changing. The budget cuts every year keep getting larger and larger. Now, my school has a variety of classes to offer and if we do not get enough money to pay the teachers those classes will not be part of the school anymore. If we only have a limited amount of classes we will not be able to learn as much as we could have and we might not be properly prepared for college.

The extracurricular activities will also be depleted because we do not have enough money to pay full time coaches and advisors. Take One Act and Forensics for example. I have participated in both of these activities and it was a very interesting and it taught me a lot about performing in front of people. Also, I have a new appreciation for these activities because of all the hard work that is put into it. Take all of the sports as another example. Sports are an important part in schooling. I play soccer and basketball and right now I am running track. I enjoy sports and I think they teach teamwork and responsibility.

Right now my school has so much to offer. The learning experiences here are great and I would like to see them continue to affect more and more people. Without the money to run them, these wonderful learning experiences will not be experienced by the youth here in Niagara.

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter. I hope you consider what I have written. Please save my school.

Sincerely,


Laura Kilgus

Becca VanPembrook
700 Jefferson
Niagara, WI 54151

Dear Legislature,

I am a freshman at Niagara High school. I have four more years of school left and I would like to enjoy it with all our curricular activities. Our school is all about our sports and all the other activities. I am fifteen years old and love to play basketball and volleyball. It is something that we can do besides homework. Our sports that we have here let us show other people what skills we have. It makes our school interesting. Also, I hear that some of our classes might be cut. That's just like saying your not going to college because some colleges require certain classes.

We are very concerned about the budget cut s that we are receiving. We deserve more than what we are getting. Our school is small but we deserve more. We deserve the best because we try to be the best. We have hard working students here and the underclassmen should get the same education as offered in the past.

Thank you for taking the time to read my concerns. Please think about what you are taking away from us. This is a very serious situation and it will affect all the schools surrounding us.

Sincerely,

Becca VanPembrook

Dear Legislator

I am a freshman in Niagara and am going to be greatly affected by your budget cut which as well is affecting the life and future of others. So I am going to make this short and to the point. Our school cannot survive or even meet the needs of the students that attend and will soon attend this small urban school so we beg of you to give us a higher budget

Sincerely

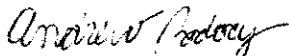
Chad Schultz

Andrew Jodocy
W8640 Becky Lane
Niagara, WI 54151
Niagara High School

Dear legislation of the state of Wisconsin:

I am a small, insignificant voice among the hundreds of thousands that you were elected to represent. Nonetheless, I am important, and if you think different, then you have changed into the crooked penny-pinching money slandering politicians that we all fear. However, I do not think you have changed, and I think you know very well that we are important and need your help. I am a pupil of Niagara High School, a small school struggling with your unfeasible budget. Remember, the voice of the little guy is more important than you think, and we are the little guy. I beseech you, change your penny pinching ways or our school will go under. Although we are small, we have many intelligent students that learn here and we need experience in several classes to prepare ourselves for college. So once again I implore: Please do not dismantle our classes and disrupt the lives of the students here. You know that education is the most important thing that you can give us, because what is your world today will be mine tomorrow.

Sincerely,



Andrew Jodocy

April 5, 2001

Dear Committee Members,

My name is Debbie Jodocy and I live in Niagara, Wisconsin. I am here not only as a support staff member for the Niagara School District, but as a very concerned parent.

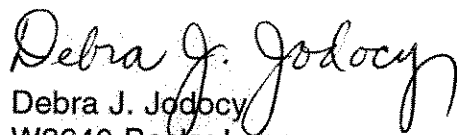
I started as a Title I Aide in 1995. We had a very successful program. A few years ago, I was laid off from that position due to budget cuts. Now the Title I teacher is managing the whole program by herself. Many of the incentive programs in Title I have been eliminated. There is not enough time in the day for one person to handle this program.

When we moved here ten years ago, (from Michigan) we chose to live in Niagara for the fine quality of education that our children would be receiving. Now I am very concerned that my children, who will be furthering their education, will not receive the quality education that they need to go on to college and succeed. Some of the college prep courses have been eliminated, and other courses are in jeopardy. If this continues, I feel as a parent, that we would have to remove our children from this school. We live on the Michigan border and it would not be difficult to move.

We, as parents, do not want to leave this community, but feel we would not have a choice in the matter if we lose any more staff and classes at our school.

Every child deserves a great education and we will do what ever we can that is best for our children.

Thank you,



Debra J. Jodocy
W8640 Becky Lane
Niagara, Wisconsin 54151
(715) 251-4683

04/04/2001

The Wisconsin State Joint Finance Committee

Dear Committee Member;

My name is Thomas J. Bugni, I'm the district Library Media Specialist for Niagara Public Schools. In recent years our staff has agonized as we've fought the decline of overall quality and availability of programs that have been observed and praised as outstanding in the past. The common ingredient for our decline has been the revenue cap imposed on Wisconsin education in recent years.

Each program, staff position, and decrease in spending for vital supplies and services has profound and costly effects on the entire system that parents, students, staff and community has worked so hard to provide. Niagara has lost in many ways as our curriculum offerings dwindle and our students lose elective class options. The ripple effect caused by students forced to take two or three study halls manifests itself in boredom and damage to furniture and library materials that I have to deal with regularly. With the increase of wear and tear, whether intentional or not, comes escalating maintenance cost that is also affected by the cap on revenues.

As a librarian, I'm affected by rapidly increasing demands to upgrade technology and feel the frustration of inadequate funding to provide software and hardware upgrades, online services and supplies we are mandated to provide, but cannot afford. It appears that forcing increasing costs without increased funding is systematically dismantling us.

My full time library position is under scrutiny for a possible 3/8ths time reduction that may mean locking the LMC during the periods I'm not available in order to reduce materials loss and increased damage exposure. We've recently undertaken the implementation of the Accelerated Reader Program, 6 through 8th grade. The response has been excellent, but proposed cuts will dampen the enthusiasm quickly.

I am proud to be part of a staff of professionals who come to work early and stay late to provide our students with the best we can give them, but we cannot do it alone. Please consider removing the revenue caps and give Wisconsin Education the support it deserves.

Sincerely;



Thomas J. Bugni
Library Media Specialist
Niagara Public Schools

My name is Becky Kilgus and I live at N22920 Michelle Street in Niagara, Wisconsin, 54151. I am a second-year music teacher from South Carolina. I teach elementary and middle school vocal and general music. When we moved to Niagara, I was disappointed to find that though we did have Middle and High School bands, there was no choral program, though there had been one at Niagara School in the past. Therefore, this past year, I volunteered my time four class periods each week to help develop a high school choral program. Eight students regularly attended and five students learned the music on their own to perform in the Christmas Concert. When it was time for high school students to choose their 2001-2002 classes, our high school principal included Chorus as an elective so that we could get an idea of how many high school students would be interested in the class. Twenty-eight students signed up. Because of the current financial climate in Niagara Public School, we may not be able to reinstate Chorus as a part of our curriculum.

Many students are strongly inclined toward fine arts. For some, it will be an essential avenue for feeling competent and establishing self-worth. For many, it will enhance intellectual aptitude, broaden their perspective, and maximize their lifetime enjoyment and participation in our school.

It is important to emphasize that this is not an esoteric course offering, but a basic choral curriculum which should be available at all high schools. Without your help, our students will not have a chance to participate in this important elective.

Thank you for taking time to read this letter and for your response to our needs in Niagara.

Becky Kilgus

Dear Wisconsin Joint Finance Committee,

We're the ~~the~~ middle school chorus protest against not having a right to have electives that we want. We have already had ~~so~~ many things taken away from us. Things such as a Spanish class, Pre-Algebra, FACE program, Drama Class, Full-Time Custodian, Business Education Program, Summer Custodian, Summer Secretary, ^{one} bus driver, 25% Music Teacher, 50% Elementary Counselor, and so many more. The list ~~is~~ just keeps on going. We are losing so much. We have a brand new school and it already looks run~~ned~~ down. We have carpets that need replacing, tiles too, some lunch tables are falling apart, we also have a lot of books that are really old and torn. We have to put up with this the rest of our school education. The longer it takes for replacing, the worst it will get. We don't want our younger siblings to have to put up with this. So as you can see, we need more funding for our school to run. Thank you for considering our proposal.

We are also losing teachers and coaches

We are also losing students

Sincerely,

Kayla Lindberg

Dear Wisconsin Joint Finance Committee,
We strongly believe that us
Students at Niagara School should
have the opportunity to have
a chorus class.

It gives us the chance
to participate in a extracurriculum
class where we get together and
have fun with our fellow
students. We all learn social
skills, how to work together, and
give great performances to our
town.

I myself and many other
students have been a part
of this school for a very
long time, we all do not
like to see everything to be
taken away from us like
this.

We work hard all day,
we need something fun,
and relaxing.

We have already gotten
so many things taken away
from us, and we do not

need anything more gone.

So many People may think that Chorus is just fun, and we do not need that class anymore. I understand, But I do not think it is fair to take this from us. We love this class so much. I personally would be hurt if we got this taken from us.

We have gotten, Sports, Spanish, teachers have lost their jobs, and many more things taken away from us. And it's just not fair anymore.

I was hoping to graduate in this school, but the way things are going so far is making things look bad.

So as conclusion we need chorus. No if and or but about it. We need chorus to learn, laugh, and love.

Sincerely, Aimee Schneider

Dear Wisconsin Joint Finance Committee,

We, the middle school chorus, would love to have a chorus class for one of our electives in high school. Since we don't ^{have much} to choose from we would appreciate having a chorus class. This class would give us something to do and will improve our performance, working, and social skills. Since we don't really like band, we would love to have a class for ^{like} us that will provide us with our daily dose of music. ^{says, we} Everyone needs music in our school studies, but some of us aren't talented enough or don't like band. A chorus class would allow us to have music in ^{our} school years, and will be fun. As I sit here writing this letter, I see my teacher and fellow class mates learning choreography for our Spring Concert. This class is a fun class that is also relaxing and educational. It helps us get through our day. We have a great teacher that is helpful, fun, and a mentor to us. The only ^{is} problem we don't have enough money to put chorus into the curriculum. We thoroughly enjoy this class and want it in the curriculum. Are school is having hard enough ^{money} problems, but why should we keep getting less and less. We are important, too. Please help us. We would love ^{to have} our chorus class and more money for our school. Education is important. Everyone says that, but why is our education getting taken away. So help us. Please give us money. ->

Thank you for reading this letter. It is all up to you now. Our lives are in your hands. Thank You!

Our Concerned Class,

Kim Nyggord (writer)

Ashley Boesen

Keturah Torres

Alesia Tath

Gemma Gunnick

Eid Sparapain

Brittney Woodward

Shannon Brewt