

BOARD OF EDUCATION 24685 Kelly Road Eastpointe, MI 48021

October 17, 2024

Dear Eastpointe Community Members and Staff,

As President and Vice-President of the Board, we would like to address rumored concerns regarding several lawsuits that have been filed against the Eastpointe Community Schools and its Superintendent.

These lawsuits have been filed by former employees. Three of the employees resigned from the organization, two of whom left on good terms. Another employee was non-renewed based on unsatisfactory performance. A particular attorney contacted these employees, in some cases two to three years after they left the District, to bring these lawsuits.

In each case in which unfavorable action was taken against an employee, the Administration consulted with legal counsel to ensure that the action being taken was appropriate. Furthermore, in each such case, prior to the Administration taking action with respect to such employees, the Board was informed of the employees' issues and the action that was going to be taken to address such issues.

These lawsuits allege that the actions taken that were unfavorable to such employees were motivated by reasons other than the employees' behavior or performance. The majority of this Board, the District's legal counsel, and the District's central office administrators who have themselves investigated the issues relating to such employees, or been advised of the same, can firmly attest that such allegations in these lawsuits are not true: **The only reasons for any unfavorable action taken with respect to such employees were based strictly upon their behavior or performance.**

For this reason, we stand firmly behind the actions taken by our Administration in holding our staff accountable in the best interests of the education of our children. We are also confident that the legal process will ultimately result in the dismissal of such lawsuits on terms favorable to the District.

In closing, we ask our staff, parents, and community members to continue in their support of our students and families undistracted and unconcerned by these lawsuit filings, which in the current legal environment, we know and understand are simply the cost of holding public employees accountable for their actions. We thank you all for your service and support in working together to provide our children with the best educational opportunities we possibly can.

Yours truly,

Jon Gruenberg, President Dr. Chineva Early, Vice President Eastpointe Community Schools Board of Education