Dear Dr. Glasspool and members of the Plum School Board,

I am writing this letter once again as a tax payer, resident and concerned parent. I ask that this letter be added to the official transcript of the hearing for building a new Regency Park Elementary School.

Thanks to those of you who have supported Regency Park Elementary with your past votes. I sincerely appreciate your support. I implore you to consider the future of our children and the fate of this neighborhood. Children are not a line item to be deleted when you come up short!

After years upon years of discussion on Regency Park’s future, our school community finally had a decision. First in October it was to renovate and then in March it was decided that rebuilding would be the best course of action to ensure that our community had a safe school with 2 runs. Not only does our neighborhood deserve to keep our school and our children deserve what you promised to them but ALL OF PLUM needs this building to ensure room for growth. As it stands now the board is dealing with the ramifications of building the new Holiday Park too small! This necessitated the whole redistricting process which I question the fairness and prudency of this process considering that many Regency families are still assigned to Pivik.

It has been stated that school board members are considering building onto Center Elementary: this plan is unacceptable as the grounds and common areas of Center Elementary are simply too small to accommodate all of the current Regency students not to mention future students. Bussing our kids to the other side of Plum to the old Holiday Park or to Center will result in additional transportation costs that will need to be budgeted for each and every year whereas keeping Regency Park as a community school filled with mostly car-riders and walkers, will save these costs in the long run. Let’s not be shortsighted and make even more mistakes!

I urge you to keep your promise to the parents, Regency teachers and more importantly to the children of Regency Park Elementary and move forward with the building of the new school! How do we do this you may ask…Step 1. Borrow the proper amount of money (knowing what your debt obligations are at this point) that should have been borrowed last year to rebuild Regency Park Elementary as a 2 (or 3) run school AND 2. Keep these funds earmarked for Regency AND 3. MOVE FORWARD with the Act 34 and plans that have already been set in motion 4. Raise taxes next year (as they should’ve been raised this year) to ensure that the monies are there for this project.

I have been talking with my neighbors and they too are worried about what they are seeing and hearing about the Plum School District! Please do not further stagnate our district…keep Plum competitive and earn back the public’s trust! Do not alienate families that will turn to cyber/charter schools and parochial schooling which will further hurt our district. As you have heard time and time again, Regency Park Elementary is a special place due to the close-knit community…it is integral to the Regency Park neighborhood.

My young children have been making signs and attending school board meetings for months because this matters…and they are the ones that we fight for! The CHILDREN are the reason that we should all be working together to ensure that they can attend school in their community and have reasonable class sizes, the best teachers and a safe school building. As elected officials, YOU have been entrusted with this responsibility by the taxpayers who demand that you do what is right!

Respectfully,

Leigh-Anne Weiss

425 Vale Ave.

Plum, PA 15239