- END 68 HOURS OF HUNGER -

LETTER TO THE ORCSD COMMUNITY FROM MARIA BARTH MARCH 2014

The irony of unintended consequences of government mandates: Another failure to implement school lunch

We invite you to join us Tuesday March 18th at 6:00pm to help find a solution to the problem of hunger in our Oyster River District.

Hunger exists for children currently attending our school district today. We in the community need to find a long-term solution to ensure that this need is met year after year and these children can be fed. We have partnered with the End 68 Hours of Hunger program to provide food for children over the weekend and feed them in the 68 hours between their Friday lunch and Monday morning breakfast at school.

We are inviting local business and community leaders to a dinner to brainstorm solutions for long-term funding and to form a steering committee for our End 68 Hours of Hunger program. We immediately thought of you and want to make sure you are included!

The current program started in January 2014 and is already servicing children in our district every week. The need is great and the funding is limited. We currently do not have enough money in the account to provide food to these children for the rest of the school year. The End 68 Hours of Hunger program is designed to be completely funded through fundraising, donations, and goodwill. While the district maintains the funds in an account, it cannot be a budget item for the district.

For more information on the End 68 Hours of Hunger program, please visit their website at <www.end68hoursofhunger.org>

School staff, nurses, guidance councilor, would run the program; we the community would fund it.

So, please consider joining us on Tuesday March 18th, at 6:00pm at Oyster River High School, for a community dinner provided by the ORCSD Food Service program to start a discussion about funding this End 68 Hours of Hunger program. If you cannot attend, please feel free to send a designee or send a donation with the names of other community leaders that might also be interested. In order for us to not drain our current funds on the cost of this dinner, we respectfully request a \$5 donation that will cover the cost of the dinner; any more will go to help funding the program.

Please RSVP to Wynne at wynnegm@comcast.net as soon as possible. We look forward to seeing you on Tuesday March 18th at ORHS at 6:00pm.

Together we can help feed the hungry children in our community. Thank you in advance for your time and consideration on this matter, it is greatly appreciated.

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FOR QUESTIONS CALL: Maria Barth, 659-0380 Krista Butts, 659-8974 Sharon Meeker, 659-5441 Wynne Graves-Moody, 659-9872