Stop Destroying Public Schools, Stop Destroying the Children

Here is the record for Robert Bobb, the first emergency financial manager for the Detroit Public Schools:

- Bobb increased his own salary \$81,000 pushing it up to \$425,000 a year.
- He contracted out school bus service and additional custodial service to private companies, which cut service, running up profit for themselves.
- He handed out very profitable contracts to developers who threw up new, shoddy schools.
- He hired "consultants" and paid big bucks to publishing houses for books that were already out of date.
- In two years' time, he increased the Detroit schools deficit by 50%!
- He closed neighborhood schools, cut back money for supplies and textbooks, and increased class size, making it impossible for teachers to teach.

Here is the record for Roy Roberts, the next emergency financial manager, a former GM exec, with no experience in the schools:

- Roberts immediately had the schools buy him a \$40,000 Chevy Tahoe.
- He reduced the budget deficit for 2012-13 by issuing bonds worth 200 million dollars, which will cost the schools over 500 million to repay!
- He closed nearly a dozen schools, moved 15 more into a second-class district, contracted for 200 unlicensed, inexperienced, low-paid TFAs to replace teachers.
- He terminated the employment of all 4100 teachers in the district. Two weeks before the start of school, and no one knew where or what or if they would teach. The 2100 who were assigned had no time to prepare for new classes.
- He imposed a new contract on union teachers and other employees, with a 10% wage cut, plus increased medical costs.
- He nearly doubled the authorized class sizes up to 60 in the high schools.

These scam artists drive parents to take their children out of the schools – and then dare to blame the teachers for this growing disaster.

What is being done to Detroit children today, will be done to every worker's child tomorrow.

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