

District 99 should act
in best interests of all

I was underwhelmed by the lopsided coverage of the Woodridge demonstrators in the June 10 edition of the Reporter. I'm sorry that the District 99 School Board had to spend district funds to take out an advertisement to explain its position..

Nearly 20 years ago, Downers South Principal James Freese was addressing a somewhat hostile audience about changes the school was making in class schedules. I was opposed, and was quite vocal about how I felt. During a break, Mr. Freese called me aside and said he knew the changes were not especially in the interests of our two sons.

"But I have to make decisions and set schedules that are in the interests of all Downers South students ... not just the good students, the athletes or the kids in the band," he said. "This change in scheduling will benefit far more students than it will inconvenience."

From that moment on, our family had the utmost respect for Mr. Freese's decisions and administration. We were loyal supporters and very sorry to see him retire years later. I urge the District 99 School Board to evaluate the district-owned property in Woodridge and make the same kind of decision Mr. Freese would have made. The School Board represents thousands of people in the district, not just those who march, make noise and get their pictures in the paper.

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