



March, 2009

Dear Friends;

Last year I accepted the invitation to chair the campaign for a mill levy override and bond for the St. Vrain Valley School District. This effort was a labor of love to advance educational opportunities and to position our community for long term success.

When I accepted, I realized that I had committed myself to many late night meetings and working weekends. And with key economic indicators falling, I also knew that in spite of an enormous community effort, initiatives 3A and 3B could easily be defeated.

But inaction due to the gloomy economic outlook was just not acceptable given the certainty of long-term negative consequences such as repeated teacher layoffs, more leaking school roofs, outdated technology, lost instructional programs, and just knowing that a key asset to individuals and our communities would effectively be in a state of decline.

With years of public service and economic development experience, I understand the devastating effects of declining schools. In short, without strong schools our communities' ability to thrive would become uncertain at best and completely imperiled at worst.

Thanks to voters, volunteers and an incredible campaign committee, 3A and 3B passed in all nine district municipalities. Area chambers, economic development associations, city councils, service clubs, senior groups, and parent-teacher organizations strongly assisted. The unexpected outcome won statewide media coverage.

Now, as other districts are laying off teachers and slashing budgets, in St. Vrain lost teacher positions are being restored and plans for building renovations, technology upgrades, and a new high school in Frederick are moving ahead. With your valued support, our schools have the resources to prepare students for success, enhance economic development, and strengthen community well-being.

We are living in difficult times, no doubt, but these times will pass. Meanwhile, St. Vrain is preparing students and the community for new opportunities in health, education, technology, innovation, the arts, and service to our state and nation.

Thank you for supporting the St. Vrain Valley School District, our students, and the communities we all cherish.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julia", written in a cursive style.

Julia Pirnack