



NEWS RELEASE

LOCAL REALTORS URGE GOVERNOR TO TAKE ACTION ON CHESTER UPLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT FINANCIAL CRISIS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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Contact: Jamie Ridge 610-981-9000

MALVERN, PA – The 10,000 member Suburban REALTORS Alliance has written to Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Corbett urging him to work with state legislators, school district administrators and other concerned parties to immediately explore short and long-term solutions to the financial crisis in the Chester Upland School District.

Following is the entire contents of the letter:

Dear Governor Corbett;

We are writing to urge you and your administration to work together with legislators, school district administrators and concerned parents in the Chester Upland School District to immediately explore short and long-term solutions to the current financial crisis in the district.

As an alliance of nearly 10,000 REALTORS in southeastern Pennsylvania, including the counties of Delaware, Chester, Montgomery and Bucks, we are extremely concerned about the negative impact already being felt in our region due to the uncertainty resulting from the Chester Upland School District financial situation. We are hearing from members whose clients are very reluctant to buy a home in the Chester Upland School District, or even neighboring school districts, because of the uncertainty surrounding the financial crisis.

The southeast region of Delaware County has been hit harder than most areas in Pennsylvania due to the current economic recession, which has shuttered businesses and eroded the commercial tax base, decreased property values, and left municipalities and school districts in a very dire economic situation. Continued uncertainty will further impact home values, property tax revenues and the local economy if not addressed very quickly and decisively by the state.

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Regardless of who is to blame for the current budget crisis in the school district, the 3600 students in the district deserve better. Their parents, who pay property taxes with the expectation that a quality education will be available for their children, deserve better. A policy of allowing funding to run out in the district, leaving more than 3600 students without schools to attend, is simply unacceptable.

Sincerely,

Anthony Stipa
Chairman

Jamie Ridge
President/CEO

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The Suburban REALTORS® Alliance promotes private property rights and protects the local legislative interests of nearly 10,000 Realtors in Bucks, Chester, Delaware and Montgomery Counties. The Alliance is owned by the Bucks County, Montgomery County, and Suburban West REALTOR Associations.