

# Stevenson Students Say School Isn't That Bad

## Stevenson High Isn't That Bad

**EDITOR:**  
I too am a Stevenson student, a fact of which I am proud and I am writing this letter because I disagree with the letters you have received from "a concerned parent" and "one of 2200 Stevenson students."

I am a senior and have attended Stevenson all three of my high school years. I am also upset with the reputation Stevenson has received, but I feel that the majority of students will agree with me) do not feel it is a just reputation.

I would like to know where these other writers received their facts. For one thing, Stevenson does not have the highest vandalism and crime rate of any school in Livonia. This rumor could be ended very quickly and simply if only a board official would take the time to make the facts known to the public.

I am not saying that we don't have our share of vandalism, we do, and I'm not happy about it, but we are not a school of lawbreakers, vandals and ju-

venile delinquents as everyone not acquainted with us seems to believe.

I know of no teachers who live in constant fear of being attacked. Or those I have talked with, they are very concerned with our school and the students.

As for their being too lax in discipline enforcement, most of them are not. Students cannot enter class any time they wish. If a student is caught in the hall a minute after the break without a pass he is given a referral and subsequently an hour detention.

If I enter any of my classes late I am either given an "E" for the hour or else I am not allowed to even enter until I get a pass from the office.

Our teachers do care, it's just that they are more concerned in being teachers than policemen.

Everyone is in such a hurry to condemn Stevenson and the school administration, why not give us a chance? For instance, with our modular scheduling, we haven't been on it long enough for anyone to pass a fair judgment of it.

Blaming all of Stevenson's problems on this is not the

answer to anything. The so-called "bad" students would be just as "bad" on traditional scheduling. As for students leaving school when they don't have a class, I can see nothing wrong with this.

As long as they're in school for the classes they do have, we learn as this do I know a lot of students who leave school early either on co-op or illegally, but they don't go out and roam the streets, they go to jobs--to get an extra hour or two of work in.

As for the boy with the high I.Q. and all the extra study time, he of all people should know to take advantage of this time to work on subjects he is more interested in.

I too have a fairly high I.Q. but I'm glad of our modular scheduling because I have more time to pursue the subjects I like more or need help in.

Although I may have less actual class instruction, I am learning more, not less, than I have in the past. That's the whole idea behind modular scheduling--to help a student have more time to really learn and understand that which interests him.

As for the other communities that tried modular scheduling and then dropped it as being unsatisfactory, this is untrue. Most of these communities still have a modular schedule of some sort.

To answer a question posed by "A concerned parent" as to why a boy with a police record is allowed to re-enter school to pursue the subjects I like more or need help in. I would like to ask this person what should be done with this boy?

Maybe we should just lock up all the people who have ever done anything wrong so that they can't contaminate society.

How can anyone have the right to turn away a boy seeking an education. The fact that he's in school proves that he is at least cares about something.

I guess everyone has to have a scapegoat and at the time, for the people of Livonia, it seems to be Stevenson, our modular scheduling, and our vandals.

Stevenson is not as bad as many seem to think. It's basically a good school and given time I think it will go on to become a great school. I will graduate in June, but I will leave my school, not with gladness that I'm finally leaving this "terrible" school but with a feeling of pride that I was lucky enough to be a part of it.

A CONCERNED STUDENT

past three years. There was nobody they could look up to. They are the ones who had to set all the traditions for the new school.

There was also something said about a student with a police record being re-admitted. Doesn't Bentley or Franklin have any students like this? Of course they do. You can't say they don't.

Also concerned Parent said there was only a handful of students who had to make things a little better at Stevenson. Try again Concerned Parent. Almost everybody at Stevenson, teachers and students, are trying to make it the best high school in Livonia.

Concerned Parent, has your son or daughter done his or her part in clearing up the so-called mess at Stevenson? You've probably heard of the several different groups that were formed to clean up our school? Does your son or daughter belong to any of these groups? If not, then don't just criticize Stevenson but Bentley and Franklin as well.

A PROUD STEVENSON STUDENT

or acoustics and he would have been wiser to have left his inexpert opinion to himself, as I will keep my opinion of his writing to myself.

Underlying this building are the hopes for the future education of many young people, the merits of a dedicated community in carrying out the plans of 14 years ago, and yes, the "rich people of Clarenceville" because richness is not measured by the individual's money, but by togetherness in accomplishment. In the name of Louis E. Schmidt all this is dedicated and more -- not just a building, not just one man.

For what it is worth let me say that the Schmidt Auditorium is a work of art, an asset to Livonia, Farmington and Redford Townships, portions of which comprise the Clarenceville School District.

For the information of those who just recently heard of Clarenceville, I would like to say that long before Livonia ever became a city and we were a farm land, the activities of the surrounding people centered around Grand River, Middle-

belt and Eight Mile Roads. Schools and churches were needed and there was born Clarenceville. I referred to "difficult years" in the second paragraph. Yes it must have been difficult then as it is now to hold together a community that is physically separated into two county, two township and one city forms of government. However education knows no boundaries!

Due to the vision of our dedicated leadership, we have uncrowded classrooms in our Senior High School, Junior High School and four Elementary Schools, complete all educational facilities. I am proud to live in the Clarenceville School District.

inspiring. The story made it clear he does not claim musical expertise and only reported the reactions of the musicians to the acoustics.

**Story Gets Praise**

**EDITOR:**  
Congratulations on one of the best written stories to appear in yours or any newspaper. "Crane Severs Gas Line, Workers Cheat Death" deserves a reward above my ability to express my thanks for a well written report.

Please identify the author and enter the article in any and all contests for reporting

and the Observer will walk off with all the prizes.

Thank you, I felt as if I were there.

R.E. CAMRON  
Livonia  
(Editor's Note: The story was covered and written by Dwight Jarral, of the Livonia Observer staff.)

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### Gunningham's DRUG STORES

### Clarenceville Takes Pride In Auditorium

This is a letter that must be written to express the feelings of the people of Clarenceville. Don Hoenschell in the March 13 copy of the Observer reported on the recent performance of the Michigan State University Orchestra in the Louis E. Schmidt Auditorium. Or it was supposed to be a report. The "tributes" paid to the efforts of the taxpayers of this district in the article was opinionated and by one not qualified to express an opinion of this sort.

Reference in this manner to a work of architectural beauty, dedicated to a man who served for 18 difficult years in the building of a school system second to none, who is now serving the State as Representative of the people, is distinctively "shoddy".

To have the first remarks by the Observer in reference to the Auditorium as "shoddy" or "horrible" would perhaps be attributable to the quality of the reporting fed by this newspaper, but I sincerely hope this is not the case. Mr. Hoenschell is not expert on seating

### Is Stevenson Alone?

**EDITOR:**  
The Concerned Parent who doesn't approve of the way things are run at Stevenson High School. Why just rap Stevenson? Why not say some grubby things about Livonia's other two high schools, Bentley and Franklin?

Sure we have trouble at our high school but so does Bentley and Franklin. Those two aren't the best high schools in the world. I think they are worse off than Stevenson. The only reason why everything is said about our school is because it is brand new.

This year Stevenson will hold its first commencement exercises. This means a lot for the Seniors who haven't had much of anything for the

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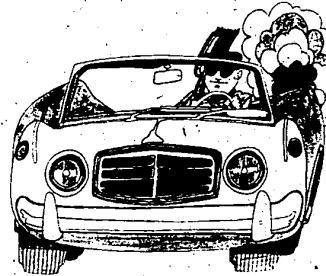
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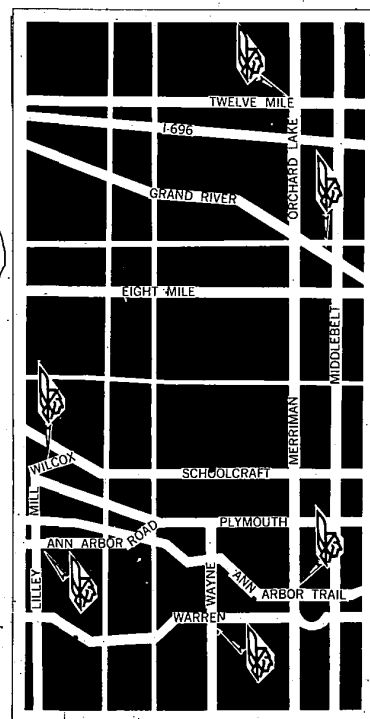
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