

DETROIT NATIVE SUN

Enlightening the Community

Telford Telescope: “I’m running!”

By Dr. John Telford
SUN COLUMNIST



When I was Superintendent,
I wasn't independent --
So I'll run to be a member
Of the school board in November!

Me being the DPSCD Poet-in-Residence, I felt I should put a poem in this column. Longtime schools activist Helen Moore has been emailing

the missive below to her contacts in support of my candidacy. I ask that if you, my readers, also support my goal and strategy to achieve LITERACY for all DPSCD students as expressed in Helen's missive, that you then urge your friends and neighbors to get out the vote for me (and to get out the vote against the racist Trump):

"Vote for John Telford for the Detroit school board. on Nov. 3. His platform is LITERACY--a human right. In 2012, our good elected DPS board asked Dr. Telford to serve as superintendent when there was no money to pay him under state-imposed emergency financial management, so he served well and selflessly for a contract of one dollar until PA 436 kicked in and enabled the emergency financial manager to become emergency manager with the power to DISempower the board and fire Dr. Telford--which he immediately did. In March of 2020, Dr. Telford invested thousands with the late Rep. Isaac Robinson to manage his board campaign. When Isaac tragically passed away in March after contracting the corona virus, John couldn't recover that money, so he's running a shoe-string-budget race on email, Facebook, and his WCHB AM1340 radio show airing Mondays at 6:30 p.m. and Saturdays at 9:30 a.m. Forward this email to ten of your friends, urge them to vote for John Telford, and ask them to forward it to ten of THEIR friends with the same urgent message, because John is up against well-financed incumbents Iris Taylor, Sonya Mays, and Misha Stallworth for only three open seats--and there are eleven other candidates in the race." [Note: The incumbents voted to re-open schools unsafely during the pandemic, and student test scores--which had plummeted during the state takeover--rose by a statistically insignificant .003 % but have nonetheless remained among the worst in the country during their tenure. Current board candidates and former DPS board members Ida Short, LaMar Lemmons, and Elena Herrada were among the six board

members who named me DPS superintendent in 2012, and they agree with my views on how to deal with the

virus and how to restore student literacy. Candidate and state legislator Sherry Gay-Dagnogo, who served pro bono as my deputy superintendent in 2012, also supports my views. I am unaware of the relevant stances of candidates Michael Clement, Bessie Harris, Sza Sza Hubbard, Terrance Lemmons, Chao Sorrell, and Vgay Virupanavar. - JT]

Ms. Moore's missive supporting me continues - "A longtime civil-rights activist and a world-ranked sprinter at WSU, John was born, raised, and publicly educated in Detroit. He has authored six Detroit-oriented books and has written--with WCCCD professor Sunanda Corrado--a treatise of 1,800 words on how the schools should cope with the virus, including a preface expressing opposition to re-opening them with no vaccine. He is on the executive board of the 14th Congressional District Democrats, is a lifetime member of the National Action Network (NAN), and is a dues-paying DFT member again (he began his career as a DPS teacher and coach). He asserts that in boxing, the attack begins with and works via the JAB. He calls LITERACY the essential JAB of education, he calls teaching kids to build houses for the homeless the LEFT HOOK, and he calls teaching them to raise food-crops for the indigent the OVERHAND RIGHT. John and that good board of 2012 had hoped to institute QWK2LRN / 2 Sigma--the research-based, field-proven program which would have brought DPS 3rd-graders' test scores back to the state midpoint where they had been before the takeover, and then beyond--but the emergency financial manager thwarted it. Now John intends to get the program adopted in DPSCD."

I pray that all of you will vote AGAINST the neo-Nazi criminal Trump, and I respectfully request that you vote FOR me--but by all means be sure to VOTE on November 3!!

Dr. Telford's autobiography 'A Life on the RUN - Seeking & Safeguarding Social Justice,' his poetry book 'The POETIC PRANCINGS of mad John,' his biography of legendary DPS coach Will Robinson, and his other Detroit-oriented books are available at amazon.com, Barnes & Noble, and other local stores, or by contacting him for signed copies at (313) 460-8272, DrJohnTelfordEdD@aol.com, or 8900 E. Jefferson, Detroit 48214. His website is www.AlifeontheRUN.com.

AG Nessel, SOS Benson urge voters not to commit felony by casting multiple ballots

LANSING - Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel and Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson are reminding voters to be smart in the November general election - and to avoid committing a felony by casting two ballots, as recently suggested by President Donald Trump.

Voter fraud is typically prosecuted as a felony in the state of Michigan, and bipartisan legislation was introduced in the state Legislature this summer that would codify it as a felony offense.

Attorney General Nessel and Secretary Benson recorded a video to remind voters that casting two ballots is illegal.

"Some of you may have heard that President Trump suggested voters test our election system by voting twice - both absentee and then again in person," Nessel said in the video. "But let me make this perfectly clear: voting twice is illegal, no matter who tells you to do it. The president's idea is a great idea only for people who are looking to go to jail."

Governor Whitmer signs order reopening gyms and Pools, permitting organized sports with strict safety

LANSING, Mich. -- Governor Gretchen Whitmer signed Executive Order 2020-176 reopening Michigan's gyms and pools in those regions where they remain closed and allowing for organized sports practices and competitions to resume in those regions where they remain restricted, subject to strict protections meant to limit spread of the virus. Gyms and pools may begin to reopen on Wednesday, September 9. The governor also signed Executive Order 2020-175 outlining strict workplace safety measures gyms and pools must follow to protect people from the spread of COVID-19.

"Throughout this pandemic, we have followed the best science and data available to make decisions that will keep Michiganders safe, and our hard work is paying off. Today we are announcing the reopening of gyms and pools with strict safety measures in place to protect patrons and their families," said Governor Whitmer. "I urge everyone who plans to hit the gym after these orders go into effect to take these precautions seriously and do everything in their power to protect themselves and their families. Be smart, and stay safe."

"Individuals can now choose whether or not to play organized sports, and if they do choose to play, this order requires strict safety measures to reduce risk," said Chief Medical Executive and MDHHS Chief Deputy for Health Dr. Joneigh Khaldun. "However, we know of 30 reported

Trump on Wednesday suggested that people should send in absentee voter ballots then vote in person at the polls as a way of testing the security of the elections system. However, that is illegal.

"There's also no reason at all for voters to test Michigan's election system, because it has been tested by three successful elections already this year, and in every single one of them it has proven that it is absolutely safe and secure," Benson said in the video. "We have protections in place to ensure election officials track and verify every ballot they send and receive and in every instance we ensure that each person gets only one vote."

Those who vote twice can be found in violation of both state and federal law. At the state level, someone who intentionally votes twice can face penalties of four years in prison and a \$2,000 fine, while penalties at the federal level include five years imprisonment and up to a \$10,000 fine.

outbreaks involving athletic teams and facilities in August. Based on current data, contact sports create a high risk of COVID-19 transmission and MDHHS strongly recommends against participating in them at this time. We are not out of the woods yet. COVID-19 is still a very real threat to our families."

"On behalf of the Michigan Fitness Club Association, we appreciate Governor Whitmer's announcement regarding the re-opening of gyms and fitness centers," said Alyssa Tushman, Vice Chair of the Michigan Fitness Club Association. "The health and safety of our members, staff, and the public in general is our top priority. We are well-prepared to ensure a safe, clean environment and we are excited to offer Michiganders the opportunity to resume their exercise routines. We look forward to working with Governor Whitmer and her administration to help build a healthy Michigan."

Under Executive Order 2020-175, all gyms and pools that reopen must enforce strict safety measures. Gyms must require wearing of masks at all times, including times of exercise, configure workout stations or implement protocols to enable six feet of distance between individuals during exercise sessions, reduce class sizes to enable at least six feet of separation between individuals, provide equipment-cleaning products throughout the gym, and more.

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