

Remarks To Steward Gray, Mecklenburg County and Huntersville Officials  
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LONG! HOW LONG! How Long Must We Wait!

How long must we wait before Father Time and Mother Nature take a toll on Pottstown's residents and the TLHS buildings. Both is old and in need of rejuvenation. For years, I have been in the struggle to save my old friend, neighbor and educational institution. I grew up lovingly looking at it. And every chance I got, I entered those hallowed doors hoping that something from it would fall on me. For a little colored girl during segregation, it was my beacon of hope where I could get an education in order to be of help to other Negroes who loved life and wanted a chance to be an educated productive citizen too.

The Creator of the universe has been good to both myself ... and not quite as much for the TLHS buildings ... for allowing me longevity ... where so many others have been called home to glory. I'm left as a remnant of what once was ... and the buildings as a legacy that will always be ... though neglected ... and in need of life support ... still stands as a testament to time and its importance and relevance.

So as I prepare to close my comments, ... like Custer, ... I'm going to make one last stand ... and ... declare to those present today ... YOU CAN right this wrong and Refurbish TLHS. And like Michael Jackson, ... as its protector ... "this is it" for me.

To those present today ... I ask ... NOW ... what are YOU ... WE ... going to do? Ole Torrence-Lytle High School closed 57 years ago. The buildings have been a historic landmark at the local, state and national level for over twenty years and are deserving of a new life for a new generation of yet unborn people.

There has been a lot of talk. No so much action... Other than the removal of trees that were growing out of the buildings. This wrong can be corrected. FIX IT! Now is the time to stop beating around the TLHS bush! Decide on a plan. Make up your minds to save this valuable piece of history and black people's heritage. Make a decision ... NO, NOT TO TARE IT DOWN ... but to find funds ... they are out there ... to refurbish it back, or better, to its original condition. This will show humanity and respect to the residents who live in the shadows of the school.

Attached is a plan I created in 2000 to refurbish ALL of TLHS's buildings.

## Vision for Torrence-Lytle's Classrooms

Cafeteria Building (Housing Elementary Programs)

Kitchen and Dinning Area

Could serve as a Senior Hot Lunch Site

Contains a small storage space and has a separate entrance.)

Eight (8) Classrooms (2 have bathrooms in them)

Suitable for kindergarten classes

Before or after school classes (Breakfast, lunch, snacks) K-3

Potential Great Space for a small elementary school, Grades K-3

There is space for Music, Art/Drama , Science/Computer

Library – Administrative Unit, leasing office (4 classrooms & Library)

Archives

Auditorium

Library/Computers for public use

Adult Ed Class/GED

Veterans Education/Evaluation,

AA/Drug Help

Job seeking/skills

Meeting Room

Exercise in Gym outside

Grades 4 – 5 Upper Elementary – Downstairs 4 Classrooms

Before and after school Bus Drop off

Home work assistance

Music/Art/Drama/foreign language

Math/Science/Computer

Grades 6, 7 & 8 – Middle School – Upstairs 4 Classrooms

Before and after school Bus Drop off

Home work assistance

Music/Art/Drama/foreign language

Math/Science/Computer

Grades 9-12 – High School, Entire Wing

Down stairs – Science Lab, Computer Room

Upstairs, 4 classrooms