



المدرسة اللبنانية - قطر  
THE LEBANESE SCHOOL - QATAR

Dear Maura,

I remember that we met at Salina in 1977. I was teaching 1<sup>st</sup> grade and you would pull small groups for ESL instruction. From there, we both moved in the same direction to central office where we worked as a team for years. I remember the days and nights of grants writing, of Interactive Video, of organizing Reading, Cultural Diversity, ESL, Math, and other trainings. I went back to Salina and you stayed there as loyal to the program as ever. I came back to Ten Eyck and you were still there as loyal to the program as ever. I retired after 32 years of service and you were still there as loyal as ever. I left to Qatar for six and a half years and you are still there as loyal to the children as ever!

I am surprised that you are retiring at this young age! I am older than you and I am still working! As a matter of fact, for the past few years at the Lebanese School in Qatar, I have held back from offering you an assignment here for fear I get accused of betrayal to my home district!

Look what you did! Don't you know that there are still young children in Dearborn who need your care? I never have known you to be a quitter! My grandchild, Mousa, is a resident of the District, and I was counting on you to be there for him. Shame on you! Well, you did it! I forgive you! All of us forgive you! You paid your dues multiple fold!

Dearborn Public Schools have seen many outstanding educators who have given of their hearts and souls in serving the children and the community. Some of them are still working, some of them have long retired and are still living, and some, God bless their souls, are in paradise. Amongst all of them, when the criteria is kindness, Diligence, Perseverance, Resolution, and pure Unselfishness, I believe you win the highest rank.

Humble, you are! Caring, you are! Meek, you are! Generous, you are! Brave in defending the rights of children, especially language minority children, you are! Courageous in advocating effective instructional practices, you are! Altruistic, you have always been! You have at all times reminded me of Mother Teresa.

Maura, at the occasion of your retirement, and from faraway place, I congratulate you and pray that you and your family get what you deserve in life: health, happiness and long life!

Your Friend and Colleague

Wageh Saad