



**Education Reform Toolkit:
Letters to the Editor #3**

Dear Editor:

Regarding your recent editorial on the mass teacher firings in Eden Park, I agree that teachers are vitally important to creating an educational system that prepares our city and state for the challenges of the 21st century. But just as an orchestra consists of many instruments, so too a school system consists of many stakeholders, each of whom must play “on key” in order for the music to be of the highest fidelity.

Businesses, the school board, our civic organizations, and citizens, along with superintendents, principals and other school leaders, must work alongside teachers to provide the supports and innovations that enable them to help our young people become full participants in American life.

As the parent of four children who have been in this school system, I am fully supportive of efforts to thoroughly evaluate our teachers and even to fire those who are not performing well. But I hope that we can all think twice before assuming that firing all the teachers will solve the problems of our educational system. It takes an orchestra to educate a generation.

Sincerely,

Maria Christopher
38 Glenhurst Avenue

(199 words)