

Support human rights for
young people
Support Chuck Ream for the
School Board - June 12

My name is Chuck Ream. I would like the support of the Human Rights Party for my candidacy in the June 12 Board of Education elections. I believe that the education platform of HRP is basically very sound and I will accept the direction of the Party mass meetings.

I would like to see the HRP campaign focus on these specific items:

- 1) The property tax must end as the basic means of financing education. We should support and circulate the two (2) petitions of the Michigan Education Association calling for 1) an end to use of the property tax for school financing, 2) allowing local governments to levy graduated income taxes for school financing.
- 2) The 20,000 public school students of Ann Arbor are human beings--entitled to full rights of speech, press, and assembly. Publicize the "Free Press Policy" (which denies free press) and the current Scarlett Junior High grievance involving the Ann Arbor Sun. Expose the faults of the current grievance procedure.
- 3) Support the attempts of students to build an Ann Arbor-wide Student Union by publicizing and trying to stop administrative harassment of organizing attempts. Support the class action suit of the Tappan Student Union against administrators Miller and Peterson.
- 4) Remove racism, sexism and classism from the education of Ann Arbor young people. The Board must delegate decisionmaking powers to student/teacher/community committees in each of these areas. Committees must investigate and document instances of racism, sexism and classism within our schools. The Board must then make the removal of these instances its most immediate priority. Complete programs of Black, Women's and Class studies must be offered in both elementary and secondary schools.
- 5) Child care worker training programs must be established in the high schools -- including a functioning day care center in each school. This would provide:
 - a) good day care for students, teachers and the community at a low cost (because of volunteer labor)
 - b) useful job training for high school students in an area that will be expanding in the future, rather than shrinking
 - c) trained, sensitive child care workers for children in the future.

6) Students in each school must be able to elect an "ombudsman" -- whose job would include protecting constitutional rights, keeping an eye on the grievance procedure, and counseling.

On a long term basis, I would like to become involved in a coalition that will make the basic structural changes that are necessary before education will really begin to serve the needs in young people's lives.

1) Compulsory education and grading must be ended. Compulsory education is a violation of the constitutional prohibition against involuntary servitude. There is currently a movement of opinion within the Michigan State Board of Education to abolish compulsory education.

2) Ann Arbor schools should be controlled by the community of people immediately involved with them. The Human Rights Party program calls for individual schools to be run "by a school board of students, parents and staff (one third for each segment) democratically elected by their peers."

3) The basic purpose of education must be changed. Young people must not be force fed curricula -- treated as a receptacle for what adults wish to deposit. The whole purpose of education must change until it centers on solving problems which young people feel are real to them. These problems must be generated mainly by the young. If young people are allowed to mold their "education" so that they are encouraged to follow their own perceptions about what they need to know, it is at least conceivable that we all can ~~change~~ change human civilization fast enough so it will remain viable.

I would like to get elected on the basis of this program. For those who are interested in my "qualifications," I will mention some.

Currently, I am teaching kindergarten in a public elementary school. I have a Bachelors degree Magna Cum Laude from Western Michigan University and a Masters degree in Education -- as well as my teaching certificate -- from the University of Michigan. I have participated in various educational research projects and published articles relating to youth and education in the journal of the counseling profession and in alternative education media. I love young people and would like to see them become free and sensitive people who are prepared as well as possible for what the future holds for their lives.

We Must Put Voices for Human
Rights on the Board of Education

we can do it if we can bring in the absentee ballots
and organize somewhat like we did for the last election