

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Students deserve better than status quo

One of the problems in Bedford is the status quo is defended as better than anything else.

The status quo at the school system is over the last three years an average of 115 students, or 2.5 percent of total enrollment, leave the system each year.

If this continues, the system loses 10 percent of its enrollment every four years. The yearly income loss from this is \$805,000. Not all schools lose students. St. John's in Toledo and St. Mary Catholic Central in Monroe have stable enrollment and income.

Both St. John's and SMCC have gone to electronic textbooks. Electronic textbooks integrate both audio and video to

the text. It is common sense that if you can hear and see the subject, in addition to reading it, you will learn more than reading only. SMCC also has random drug testing of students and staff. If Bedford's priority is students' education, why don't they go to electronic textbooks? Why deny adding hearing and seeing to reading about the subject?

Does Bedford's status quo of traditional textbooks, declining enrollment and income improve the quality of life in the township?

Jon Whitman, Monroe

Opening prayer at meetings is what we need

My husband and I recently read an article concerning opening prayer at Bedford Town-

ship Board meetings. Some members said they did not want to do that, as they might offend nonbelievers or people of other faiths.

I, for one, would appreciate them saying an opening prayer. I think that is what is wrong with our country and our society today. We have gotten rid of prayer and Bible reading in schools. We are taking God out of everything. We just seem to be going further downhill.

Let me just share this quote from Dr. Billy Graham, a respected Christian pastor and leader: "Our society strives to avoid any possibility of offending anyone — except God." I so agree with you, Dr. Graham.

**Lynda Urbaniak,
Temperance**