

Schools shouldn't settle for less than they're owed

I along with many other Bedford Township residents have been disappointed and outraged by the attitude and conduct of Bedford Township Board members over the past several months concerning the nonpayment of the Buckeye Cable franchise fees to Bedford Public Schools.

According to a recent newspaper article, the Township Board has finally admitted that there was an agreement to pay the \$20,000 each year to Bedford Public Schools. Even though they have admitted this fact, they are trying to offer Bedford Public Schools less than what the contract dictates just to go away. As a taxpayer and a Buckeye Cable subscriber, I would like to recommend that the Bedford School Board not accept any payments that are less than what is called for in the contract; if I understand it correctly, that would be \$20,000 per year for the past four years and \$20,000 per year until 2011. The point that the Bedford Township Board is missing is that this is "our money — the Buckeye Cable subscribers" they are talking about.

Letters are welcome

Letters on matters of public interest are welcome. Full name, address and telephone number are required.

Letters may be sent to Bedford Now, 9130 Lewis Ave., Temperance, MI 48182, or e-mailed to officemanager@bedfordnow.com.

During the past four years Bedford Township has collected over \$600,000 in franchise fees from Buckeye Cable subscribers. The big question is "What is Bedford Township doing with these funds?" Are these funds being used for the proposed Bedford Township Hall? If so, that is not right! All Bedford Township residents should pay for the cost of a new township hall, not just the Buckeye Cable subscribers.

In fairness to Buckeye Cable subscribers, I think that it is time to ask the Bedford Township Board to stop collecting the franchise fee altogether.

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