



state senator
**ART
HAYWOOD**
PROGRESS REPORT

Summer 2015

Serving the 4th District in Mount Airy, Germantown, Chestnut Hill, West Oak Lane, Cheltenham, Springfield, Jenkintown, Rockledge and Abington

A LETTER FROM ART....

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Dear Neighbor,

It has been challenging and rewarding to begin my service to you as your state senator this year. Accountability is at the heart of public service, and I have been making strides on issues of community concern since before I took the oath of office in January. I promised to provide leadership on a specific set of challenges — what I call the “3 R’s”:

- Raising support for public education
- Raising the wage
- Reducing gun violence

Although accomplishing these goals will require long-term efforts, my office and I have already begun reaching milestones towards our vision in just the first few months.

Inside each of my bi-annual Progress Reports, you’ll find a “report card” on the 3 R’s, in addition to updates on my responsiveness to evolving areas of concern to the community. Please stay updated between progress reports by signing up for my **Participation is Power E-news** on my website: www.senatorhaywood.com.

Thank you.
Dare to Care,


Art Haywood

Senator - 4th Senatorial District

REPORT CARD on the 3 R'S

WHAT I SAID:	WHAT WE'VE DONE:
Raising support for Public Education: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I will fight to increase state funding to 50 percent of the total cost of basic education and support a fair funding formula. • I will increase communication and collaboration between education stakeholders and community leaders in the private, public and nonprofit sector. • I will support mentoring and tutoring initiatives. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposed 8 percent shale severance tax with Senator Vincent Hughes to provide more than \$1 billion to public education • Outreach, including education roundtables and creation of community task force, to increase communication between parents and government • Engaged with citizen groups developing fair funding formulas • Promoting Boy Scouts as a mentoring model in the district • Starting a Reading Revolution to create pipeline to opportunity and break pipeline to prison starting with summer literacy program
Raising the Wage: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I will be an advocate for raising the minimum wage so we can decrease poverty and improve our economy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-sponsored legislation to raise wage to \$10.10 per hour • Held a press conference with Congressman Boyle at the Abington Inter-faith Food Cupboard to spread the message that low wages promote hunger • Strengthening citizens' voices in Harrisburg to raise the wage with PA Raise the Wage Coalition advocacy calls and visits
Reducing Gun Violence: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I will fight for restrictions on gun access to get weapons out of the hands of criminals. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduced one-gun-a-month legislation • Introduced legislation expanding list of criminal convictions disqualifying an individual from gun ownership • Attended a Brady Campaign Rally in front of the Firing Line gun shop in Philadelphia to ask them to stop bad apple gun sales and request an investigation of the Firing Line by Governor Wolf • Held Gun Violence Awareness Day press conference with Moms Demand Action



Participation is Power Citizen Engagement Workshop during Raise the Wage Kick-off in February



Gun Violence Awareness Day press conference this June with Sen. Shirley Kitchen, Rep. Steve Santarsiero, Moms Demand Action and Ceasefire PA

Join the Reading Revolution

Many children across the 4th Senate District fall behind on reading as early as the 3rd grade. The U.S. Department of Education recommends simple strategies for creating strong readers:

1. Invite a child to read with you every day.

When reading a book where the print is large, point word by word as you read. This will help the child learn that reading goes from left to right and understand that the word he or she says is the word he or she sees.

2. Read a child's favorite book over and over again.

Read many stories with rhyming words and lines that repeat. Invite the child to join in on these parts. Point, word by word, as he or she reads along with you.

3. Discuss new words.

For example: "This big house is called a palace. Who do you think lives in a palace?" Stop and ask about the pictures and about what is happening in the story.

Read from a variety of children's books, including fairy tales, song books, poems, and information books.



Dual Enrollment Opens Doors at Martin Luther King High School

Did you know that Arcadia University now offers dual enrollment to students at Martin Luther King High School? Leaders from the schools met and agreed to establish dual enrollment after I discussed the idea with both institutions earlier this year. Arcadia is contributing to the vitality of our community by opening the doors of opportunity to Martin Luther King High School students through college classes and study abroad programs.



Harrisburg Highlights



My swearing-in ceremony in the Capitol in January

For the 2015-2016 Session, I was appointed to the following committees:

- Aging & Youth, *Democratic Chair*
- Communications & Technology
- Consumer Protection & Professional Licensure
- Finance
- Judiciary
- Public Health & Welfare
- Urban Affairs & Housing



Attending a Pennsylvania Department of Aging budget hearing in March as Democratic Chair of the Senate Committee on Aging and Youth

We need a comprehensive budget to fund our schools, provide a secure retirement to the elderly, support our businesses and make homeownership affordable. Governor Wolf has offered a bold plan that will accomplish this, and I am working hard to gain support for his proposal among my fellow legislators. In Harrisburg, I am advocating to raise the minimum wage, enact a shale severance tax to fund schools, and commit to responsible state pension payments for retirement in dignity.

Responsiveness: Leading by Listening



Independent prosecutor press conference with Sen. Vincent Hughes, Kati Sipp of Working Families PA and Rep. Dwight Evans

Your concerns matter to me — and my office has been listening and responding.

When thousands of community members took to the street to express their loss of faith in our justice system after the Michael Brown and Eric Garner cases, I introduced legislation (SB400) to require an investigation by an independent prosecutor when police use deadly force in Pennsylvania. We are building support for this effort among groups such as Working Families PA, the NAACP of PA and law enforcement leaders like Chief Thomas Nestel of SEPTA.

After holding education roundtables in Philadelphia and Montgomery counties, I learned from residents that our community has many untapped resources that can help our children succeed. I used your feedback to begin developing a literacy volunteer program for elementary school children and dual enrollment for high school students at Arcadia University. Please contact my office if you would like to volunteer as a tutor or assist in the Reading Revolution.

Advocacy in Action

My staff has served many residents since opening our district office in December and additional mobile offices since April. We are excited to announce the opening of a new district office on Germantown Avenue in July.

■ Since December, staff have assisted with rent rebates, health insurance concerns, voter registration and many other issues. When our office learned that constituents needed tax assistance, we held four free tax events throughout the district to meet that need. Serving the community is about caring for our neighbors, and we can all get involved.

Here's an example of how my staff is helping our neighbors – and how you can do the same:

Barry Prather and his wife, Linda, have five adult children with developmental disabilities. Barry and Linda wanted their children to have the opportunity to live

independently in the community, but they were told that no funding was available for service-enriched supported housing. Barry came to my office to discuss this challenge with a staff member, Ms. Jackson. As a result of the family's persistence and determination, Ms. Jackson obtained funds from the county assistance office for all five of the Prather children. The family is overjoyed that their kids now have the resources to live independently in the community.

This story shows us the incredible impact that dedication and persistence can have when we advocate on behalf of our neighbors and ourselves.

■ I invite you to be an advocate in our district by joining the Reading Revolution. You can donate books, volunteer your time and visit your local school to find out what resources are needed. You have more power than you realize.



Speaking with neighbors at a budget townhall meeting in Abington in March

ART

IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD



▲ This February, I encouraged Northwest Raider alum Nasir Bonner and his family after he received a scholarship to Marist College at the Lonnie Young Recreation Center.



▲ In January, I joined a number of my fellow Philadelphia legislators to support Governor Wolf's decision to stop allowing drilling licenses on state land.



▲ Thank you for being part of great discussions at my budget townhalls in Abington (pictured), Germantown and Chestnut Hill.



In April, I joined the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence, Ceasefire PA, Mothers in Charge, Heeding God's Call and many other advocates to ask Governor Wolf to investigate the Firing Line gun dealer in Philadelphia. At least 64 guns recovered at crimes have been traced back to the Firing Line.



SPRING CLEAN-UP in WEST OAK LANE AND ROSLYN



I was pleased to join neighbors and community leaders, including Rep. Dwight Evans and Abington Township Commissioner Lori Schreiber, in spring clean-ups in West Oak Lane and Roslyn.



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STAY TUNED: NEW DISTRICT OFFICE IN PHILADELPHIA

I am glad to announce the opening of a new district office at 7104-7106 Germantown Avenue this July. The new office, situated at the intersection of Mt. Pleasant Avenue and Germantown Avenue, will allow my staff to better meet the needs of neighbors in the 4th district.

For updates on our GRAND OPENING this summer, subscribe to my Participation is Power E-News at www.SenatorHaywood.com