February 17, 1992

Dr. Barbara Grohe
Superintendent
Iowa City Community School District
509 S. Dubuque Street
Iowa City, Iowa 52240

RE: Dustin and Casey George A/K/A Chris and Ryan Ruddell

Dear Dr. Grohe:

We are sure you are aware from the press accounts over the last few days that two children were enrolled in the Iowa City Community School District under false names for nearly two years after a warrant was issued for their abductor. Chris Ruddell, properly known as Dustin George, enrolled in Longfellow Elementary School on August 28, 1989 and Ryan Ruddell, properly known as Casey George, enrolled in Longfellow Elementary School on August 27, 1990.

We are enclosing a copy of various press releases and supporting affidavits which we have released to the public. Our primary purpose has been to demand a review of all practices, programs and personnel in our community which have in any way contributed to the hiding of any abducted children in our midst.

Dr. Grieves has been very helpful and responsive to our inquiries. He shares our shock that this sort of thing could occur.

Obviously we are also concerned that there may be other children similarly situated. Not only is it necessary to review what happened in this case, but we think a general policy and practice review is warranted so that children in any similar circumstances can be early and readily identified for appropriate remedial action. We realize that this represents some complicated practical and political issues, but we believe the problem must be addressed.

We look forward to working with the Iowa City Community School District as we explore these issues and remedies.
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We became involved in this case because Barbara Larpenter, who originally was an anonymous informant, has been identified and threatened. After considering all of her options, we believe that she is best protected by bringing the matter into public review. We asked that the Domestic Violence Project Board of Directors offer her personal protection through public review. So far it seems they are choosing to ignore the serious issues we have raised. Because of our view that this matter should remain in public concern, we are releasing a copy of this letter to the public for consideration as well. In doing so we want to point out that we know of no wrong doing by the school district or its personnel. We are merely seeking a review of procedures and practices that would stop this from ever occurring again.

We look forward to working with you

Very truly yours,

Daniel L. Bray

Lori L. Klockau

DLB/lj  
enclosures  
lb/george.4

For release to press and media