



Cass Tech Historic Preservation Society
460 w. Canfield Apt. 305
Detroit, Mi. 48201

Dear Detroit Public School Board Members,

Over the last seven years, a subcommittee of the Cass Tech Alumni Association (CTAA), formerly called Providing Reinforcing Opportunities at Cass Tech (PROACT), now incorporated as a 501(c)3 organization entitled Historic Cass Tech Preservation Society (HCTPS), has been working with Detroit Public Schools (DPS) personnel to maintain, preserve, and redevelop the historic Cass Tech building at 2421 Second Avenue.

Initially, the committee worked with the then DPS facilities chief Robert Francis, to make changes to the existing building to prepare Cass Tech High School for continued use into the 21st century. Though DPS decided instead to build a new school, the committee helped convince Mr. Francis that a new Cass Tech High School should be built in the downtown area. The adjacent location north of Henry Street was suggested and accepted.

After several years of planning work, in 2007, the committee developed a Request For Proposal (RFP) for the revitalization of Historic Cass Tech along with an Existing Building Condition document prepared by Professor Constance Budurow of the University of Detroit-Mercy School of Architecture and her 2005 studio class, and circulated it to several local and national developers. Several responses of interest were received, along with requests for more details vis-a-vis terms of negotiation with the owners (DPS).

Since 2004 the HCTPS committee has conducted tours of the building with members of ArtSpace, a national historic building restoration organization, as well as several other developers, created a PowerPoint presentation and CD, and arranged for the building to be a point of interest stop on the 2008 National Brownfields conference tour. Information about the renewal project has been the subject of newspaper articles and has been presented at several Cass Tech Alumni Reunions, Annual Pancake Breakfasts, and Cass Tech alumni "Meet and Greet" affairs at the Detroit Institute of Arts.

We believe that it is in the best interest of the students, parents, alumni, and citizens of the city of Detroit to have the Historic Cass Tech building preserved, restored, and re-utilized. To that end, we ask that the building be conveyed through to the Historic Cass Tech Preservation Society for the purpose of redevelopment as a mixed-use, multi-purpose cultural resource for DPS students, the community, and the City of Detroit.

We urge you to take the necessary action to make this conveyance possible.

Cass Technically yours,

Ray Litt
Co-Director (HCTPS) and Chairman (CTAA)

Francis Grunow
Co-Director (HCTPS)