

From: Roughton Jr, Bert (CNI - AJC)
Sent: Thursday, July 21, 2011 1:21 PM
To: 'jimking@mindspring.com'
Cc: Lorenz, Donna (CNI - AJC); Gay, Charles (CNI - AJC); Mcintosh, Shawn (CNI - AJC)
Subject: Your kind note

Dear Mr. King:

I want you express my sincere gratitude for the very kind expression of appreciation by the Buckhead Council of Neighborhoods.

Our reporters work very hard to cover this story against very considerable odds. I'm proud of their work and honored that so many of our readers have responded to it. We concluded long ago that this was a very important story that goes to the heart of something very basic in our society: Children deserve an educational system that is worthy of them. Children come to class to learn, and they arrive with little more than trust in the adults around them. Our reporting shows that this trust was broken. It's not a pretty truth, but it is an important truth to tell.

Thanks for placing our work on the level of the Pulitzers. Unfortunately, the folks who determine who merits the Pulitzer have already seen our work on APS and concluded, wrongly in my estimation, that other newspapers produced better work last year.

However, commendations such as yours mean much more to us than the opinion of some elite panel of journalists. We live in this city with you and the people like the ones in your organization who devote their time to improve their communities.

Your acknowledgement means far more to us.

Regards,

Bert Roughton Jr.
Managing Editor
The Atlanta Journal-Constitution
AJC.com
223 Perimeter Center Parkway
Atlanta, Ga. 30346-1301
404-526-5681