



DCN: 6259

Beavercreek City Schools

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BRAC Commission

28 July 2005

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Received

Honorable Anthony J. Principi, Chairman
2005 Defense Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 S. Clark St.
Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi:

The AFIT Program plays a very important role in the successes of our community. By now I am certain that you have read about the financial impact AFIT has on this area. I am certain that you have also read a large amount of technical language, have seen impressive charts, and have reviewed colorful graphs all showing why it is important for our area to retain the AFIT Program. All of these are extremely important and very valuable pieces of information. But that is not what I want to share with you in this note.

The reason for my writing is to tell you about the human side of AFIT. I am the superintendent of schools for the Beavercreek City School District. Our school district borders AFIT. Twenty-nine per cent of the students attending our school district have military ties and many of those families have direct ties to AFIT. These parents have been welcomed into our community by our schools. They are an integral part of our community and our neighborhoods. In return, they have responded with an outpouring of gratitude and kindness for us. They are our PTO Presidents, our little league coaches, our Cub Scout leaders, and our school volunteers. They are the heart and soul of our community.

If AFIT were taken from our community and located elsewhere, it would be like driving a stake through our heart. We would certainly lose if all you consider in this decision are the tangible repercussions, but it would be the intangibles that they provide that would hurt us the most. Thank you for taking the time to read this letter.

Sincerely,

Dennis A. Morrison
Superintendent

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