

April 18, 1973

We the parents of residents of Polk State School and Hospital,
Polk, Pennsylvania wish to express our concern and complete disapproval
in the dismissal of Dr. James H. McClelland, our Superintendent by your
Secretary of Welfare - Helen Wohlgenuth.

We are refuting Mrs. Wohlgenuth's statements that Dr. McClelland
permitted: (1) Cruel, degrading and inhumane conditions (2) Severe and
chronic deficiencies with respect to proper training and orientation of
professional and non-professional staff on the appropriate care of the
mentally retarded residents at Polk.

Mrs. Wohlgenuth, through her actions displayed a complete lack of
knowledge in the proper health, education and welfare of the 2,831 residents
at Polk State School and Hospital.

We also believe a public apology should be made by Mrs. Wohlgenuth to
Dr. McClelland.

NAME OF RESIDENT	BUILDING	(Estelle) PARENT (Marvin)	ADDRESS
Marvin K. M. [REDACTED]	Northside 8	Knicker and Fackler Kelly	21 Clymer Road Pittsboro Pa 1570

Dear Mrs Wohlgenuth.

My husband and I went to Polk State
school today to get our son for his Easter
Vacation. We witnessed a protest at the
school that is just unbelievable.

So many sad people were in tears.
All because they feel they have lost
a dear kind friend.
and that is what Mr. McClelland
our

has been.

My one and only child was sent to
Pock through the kindness of Governor
Leader 15 years ago. he had been beaten
at one of your other state schools, and he
will carry the marks until death.

Have you ever been through a nightmare
like this? I will never get over it.

However Mr McCalland put my son
in the Hospital with Tetanus shots and he
has always gone out of his way to be
kind in so many ways.

How can you in just a little time
tell of all the good they do at that fine
old school.

I feel if more were done in Harrisburg
to give the school the help they need
so badly plus the funds to improve
you would have done a better job.

Why not have your overpaid underwork
legislators lend there help and money for
a very good cause.

Come now Mrs Stohlgemuth put the
blame where it belongs.

Sincerely,

Mrs Estelle H. [REDACTED]

an angry parent from
Pock State School.