

**The sky is falling, the sky is falling,
Cried out the head chickens in charge
We are going to have cut many programs for kids
And your class sizes we are going to enlarge**

**We cannot possibly give adequate pay
And we expect you to do more work
We are going to cap your health benefits
Back to the old days they said with a smirk**

**For we are going broke
At a break neck pace
Even though our reserves
Have grown into outer space**

**And it does not matter
That the state has certified our budget as good
We want to take from you
And the children in your hood**

**We have to cap benefits
Cuz we've made poor decisions
We must take from you
Due to our myopic tunnel vision**

**We cannot see or figure
Any other way out
Even though we've been advised
Beyond a shadow of a doubt**

**By all stakeholders
Who, by the way, all agree
That you need to close
And repurpose immediately**

**I know that this is a tough decision
But it's what you've been elected to do
If you had acted earlier on this sage advise
You would not be as deep in this financial snafu**

**You were not put on the board by the public who voted
To take from children and teachers this way
You need to think of other ways instead
To meet the district's financial needs and stop the decay**

**But this takes vision, cooperation, and courage
Qualities this board seems to be lacking
It is difficult to have any confidence in a group
That gives children and teachers such a shellacking**

**By cutting so many programs
That the children and teachers need
And taking away EL aides
Hampers everyone's ability to succeed**

**We used to have a GATE program
Which I believe should be part of the deal
We used to have nurses and librarians
And many years ago many of us used to feel**

**That the children and the teachers, and all who worked here
Actually mattered in Evergreen's educational sphere**

**But that feeling was fleeting
And it makes me sad to say
That the lighthouse district I knew
Is simply rotting away**

**So work together
For the common good
Work together
To protect what you should**

**You should protect the needs and the rights
Of your children and teachers
And stop treating us
Like inferior creatures**

**And how do you expect
To get our district back to the top
When all of these things
You are going to chop**

**From the people who the district
Should value the most
Children, teachers and aides
Who give their utmost**

**To create a place
Where success flows like water
For all of Evergreen's
Sons and daughters**

**So reexamine your values
Your decision making process
Or what will happen next year
Will be anybody's guess**

**For children will learn better
From teachers who are treated well
If you are not naïve and imprudent
This should be clear as a bell**

**And remember that your job
Should be to protect and uphold the rights
Of all your students and employees
And bring us all back into the light**

By Jeff Beckley/O. B. Whaley