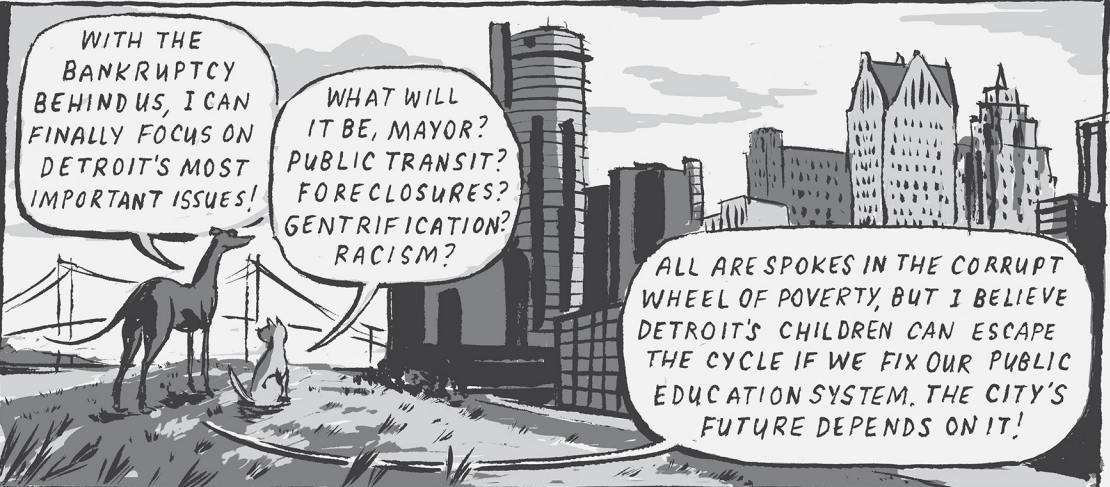


PINGREE DETROIT'S BEST FRIEND

by MIKE
BURDICK



WITH THE BANKRUPTCY BEHIND US, I CAN FINALLY FOCUS ON DETROIT'S MOST IMPORTANT ISSUES!

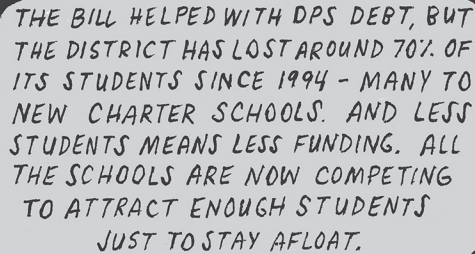
WHAT WILL IT BE, MAYOR? PUBLIC TRANSIT? FORECLOSURES? GENTRIFICATION? RACISM?

ALL ARE SPOKES IN THE CORRUPT WHEEL OF POVERTY, BUT I BELIEVE DETROIT'S CHILDREN CAN ESCAPE THE CYCLE IF WE FIX OUR PUBLIC EDUCATION SYSTEM. THE CITY'S FUTURE DEPENDS ON IT!

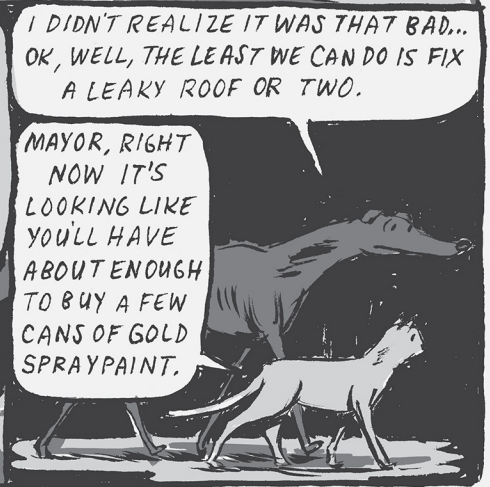


LET'S START BY HIRING THE BEST, MOST PASSIONATE TEACHERS AND OFFERING COMPETITIVE SALARIES!

WELL, THE STATE JUST PASSED A BILL THAT NO LONGER REQUIRES DETROIT PUBLIC SCHOOLS' TEACHERS TO BE CERTIFIED...



THE BILL HELPED WITH DPS DEBT, BUT THE DISTRICT HAS LOST AROUND 70% OF ITS STUDENTS SINCE 1994 - MANY TO NEW CHARTER SCHOOLS. AND LESS STUDENTS MEANS LESS FUNDING. ALL THE SCHOOLS ARE NOW COMPETING TO ATTRACT ENOUGH STUDENTS JUST TO STAY AFLOAT.



I DIDN'T REALIZE IT WAS THAT BAD... OK, WELL, THE LEAST WE CAN DO IS FIX A LEAKY ROOF OR TWO.

MAYOR, RIGHT NOW IT'S LOOKING LIKE YOU'LL HAVE ABOUT ENOUGH TO BUY A FEW CANS OF GOLD SPRAYPAINT.