

# Magic demands board member resign post

DETROIT (AP) — Magic Johnson has asked for the resignation of the school board member who described the NBA star as "a big, dumb black kid" during his school years in Lansing, Mich.

William Carter made the statement during a Sept. 12 board meeting. He said he deeply regretted them, but added they were taken out of context and he will not resign.

Johnson said Wednesday he and his family have been hurt by Carter's remarks.

"Not only were his comments hurtful to myself and my family, but especially to the children of Lansing, Michigan, if not everywhere," Johnson said in a statement released by the Lakers.

"I feel it is inappropriate and dangerous for a man with his ideas and feelings to be in such a powerful and influential public position," Johnson said. "Should Mr. Carter choose not to resign, I would ask that the Lansing school board seek a recall election against him immediately."

School board president Nancy Erickson reprimanded Carter in a letter Tuesday. She declined comment Wednesday on whether the board would ask for Carter's resignation. She said a decision could be made following a board meeting on Thursday.

The district cannot initiate a recall effort because state law prohibits the use of public funds for such purposes, Erickson said.

Carter, 66, said he was not

## Angry at being called 'a big, dumb black kid'

surprised by Johnson's reaction.

"If I was in Magic's shoes I guess I would say the same thing," he said Wednesday. "This is an embarrassment for his family. I've tried to apologize to everybody that I can conceivably think of."

"It was a dumb thing to do, a poor choice of words."

Carter's comments came as he argued for spending more money on athletic programs for sixth-, seventh- and eighth-graders.

Carter said he was trying to make the point that athletics

help keep a lot of kids in school and interested in it, but "I tried to make my point in a disgustingly offensive way."


"I was trying to explain that Earvin Johnson was a total success picture, a product of Lansing schools, and of elementary, junior high and high school

athletics," he said.

Johnson attended high school in Lansing, and led nearby Michigan State to a national championship in 1979.

School board member Adell Flourry Jr. said Carter should resign, as did the Lansing branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

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