

*I am Sarah Burch, 30370 Pine St., Charlotte Hall, MD 20622. I am President of AFSCME Local 2981, Charles County Board of Education. AFSCME membership is made up of all Support Personnel including IAs, Food and Nutrition, secretaries, bus drivers, maintenance (including plumbers, HVC, Painters), building service and more. These are the lowest paid employees at Charles County Board of Education. The importance of fully funding the budget means we can approve the negotiated raises, offer state of the arts programs, do all the maintenance, and build new schools. All students need after the students enter the doors of our clean buildings, have breakfast & are checked into school for the day and instructional assistants will have daily school plans ready to start learning. Our school system cannot operate without support personnel! Keeping and increasing our employee's workforce will happen if Charles County Board of Education has the budget to be competitive.*

*People that like to cook, clean, fix things, build, paint, and repair are productive employees and would probably prefer to go home after work rather than to a second job.*

*Will one person have the power by standing up here with 27 years of experience to change Charles County Commissioners' idea of not fully funding the budget?*

*YES, I BELIEVE I CAN,*