

Carol DeSoto

From: Gayle Kraus <gkraus@ccboe.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 5, 2020 6:25 PM
To: Public Record
Subject: Fully Fund CCPS!

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County Commissioner,

To whom this may concern,

The Board of County Commissioners has historically provided solid funding for the students and employees of the Charles County Public School system, and I'm appreciative that my commitment to a quality education for every child is echoed by our elected officials. As an educator, having the resources I need to effectively do my job ensures that every student in our community can be a success. I am an art teacher and I submit my students' artworks religiously to artify Charles County. When I tell my student's their work has been chosen, you should only see their face with the excitement and honor they have. If you cut budgets then visual art classes will not be funded and I will not be able to allow my students to shine in their community, their state, nation, nor even internationally with all of the extra art opportunities I give my students. Cutting budgets will not allow students to learn to think outside the box, be creative, problem solve, interact with others constructively. Art is not just coloring inside the lines. It is so much more. I teach all of the 'core' contents in my class as ART IS APART OF EVERYONE'S LIFE! My favorite quote is "You can not have eARTh without ART".

To continue that vision together, I ask that you fully fund the Superintendent's budget request for the upcoming fiscal year. Now, more than ever, we've seen the impact that public education has on our community, and we need to make sure that every resource is at our disposal to maximize the education and services we provide to the students and residents of Charles County.

I know that the current times are challenging for many, but I also know that the longer-term vision of what Charles County is, and can be, is important in moving through – and beyond –

the current crisis. We start to fulfill a positive vision, together, when we put resources where they are most needed. Fully fund CCPS to show that you, too, are for our students.

#EACC4OurStudents

Sincerely an Art Educator of Charles County for 14 years,

Gayle Kraus

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