Carol DeSoto

From: Sent: To: Subject: Linda McLaughlin <info@email.actionnetwork.org> Monday, May 4, 2020 8:23 PM Public Record Fully Fund CCPS!

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County Commissioner,

Dear Charles County Commissioners,

My name is Linda McLaughlin, EACC President. I am a resident of Charles County, and before I was EACC president I was a high school foreign language teacher with CCPS from 2005-2014. I moved here to Maryland from NC in 2005, and ever since that time, the Board of County Commissioners has 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 has been 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.

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. Even in the midst of this pandemic, Charles County educators have risen to meet the needs of our students. This has taken tremendous dedication and drive from our educators while they are also dealing with the needs of their own families. Even though the school buildings are closed, education has continued.

Based on current findings, we will likely face this same type of crisis again. The school system needs to be able to support combatting this need again with resources for students, educators and schools. Our students still need highly qualified educators, equitable access to technology and the internet, curriculum resources, special educators, mental health professionals, building service workers, food service workers..everything the school system

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has to offer so that they can succeed. I know that there are many needs in our community especially now, that revenues are waning, but we need to prioritize and support education so that our students are not left behind, that their hard-won progresses are not lost, and that we do not lose quality educators to surrounding counties.

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. I urge you to fully fund the Superintendent's budget request for CCPS to show that you, too, are for our students and that you continue to consider education a priority for our students, our community and our state.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Sincerely. Linda McLaughlin EACC President #EACC4OurStudents

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