

Carol DeSoto

From: Veronica Golden <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Tuesday, May 5, 2020 10:26 AM
To: Public Record
Subject: Fully Fund CCPS!

[External Content Warning] This message is from an external sender. Please exercise caution when opening attachments and hover over any links before clicking.

County Commissioner,

Dear Commissioner President Collins and esteemed Board Members,

I would like to thank you for all the steps taken to help keep the citizens of Charles County safe and healthy during this scary and unprecedented time. I pray that you are all well and very much appreciate the updated information that is continually shared through Facebook and other outlets.

As a teacher, I have never been more down in my whole career than I have been there last 50 something days. I am hearing from parents, students, and fellow educators. There is worry and fear about loss of income, helping to keep their child on grade level, how to connect to students...I could go on and on, but I will not.

I want to talk about the ways our teachers and administrators have risen to the challenge to make sure our kids get what they need. Not even worrying about the academics, just making sure they are ok emotionally and have access to basic life sustaining needs. Charles county educators are putting in countless hours making phone calls, participating in car parades, sending emails, learning to teach online, and helping at the meal distribution sites. It is amazing, it is awe inspiring, it is what educators do.

As educators, we are also getting a more in-depth look at what it is our students still need. They still need reliable internet connection on the western side of the county along with computers and other devices to access the academic content online. Our students still need access to basic supplies like pencils, crayons, and paper to complete the paper packets that the Board of Education has been providing. Our students still need the emotional and mental support of our school counselors and psychologists. Our students still need to hear from their teachers that they are loved and that they matter. Our students still need to participate in those specialized areas that make them feel normal like music, art, PE, theatre, band, and

orchestra. Our students still need highly qualified educators who are passionate about their careers and are compassionate about their students. Our students will still need healthy clean schools when they come back.

I am asking you to please fully fund the budget request Dr. Hill has asked for, we do not know what is going to happen in 3, 6, or 12 months from now, but we do need to prepare. Fully funding the Charles County Public schools is the best way to making sure that our students get what they still need.

Thank you,
Veronica Golden
Gale-Bailey Art Teacher.

Veronica Golden
auntroni83@gmail.com
3172 Eutaw Forest Drive
Waldorf, Maryland 20603