From:

Vanita Tuliani <vanitatuliani@gmail.com> Monday, September 30, 2019 12:04 PM

Sent: To:

redistricting@hcpss.org; superintendent@hcpss.org; mavis_ellis@hcpss.org; kirsten_coombs@hcpss.org; vicky_cutroneo@hcpss.org; christina_delmont-

small@hcpss.org; jennifer_mallo@hcpss.org; sabina_taj@hcpss.org;

chao_wu@hcpss.org; boe@hcpss.org

Cc:

Ball, Calvin; Jones, Opel; Jung, Deb; Yungmann, David; Rigby, Christiana; Walsh,

Elizabeth; CouncilMail; katiefry.hester@senate.state.md.us;

trent.kittleman@house.state.md.us; warren.miller@house.state.md.us;

Kathleen_Hanks@hcpss.org

Subject:

Oppose Dr. Martirano's Redistricting Proposal - letter from grandparent

Attachments:

VST letter 093019.pdf

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear all -

Please see attached.

Vanita Tuliani

September 30, 2019

To: Howard County BOE, Dr. Michael J. Martirano, Superintendent, Howard County Public School System

Cc: County Council Members, HoCo County Executive, District 9 State Senator, District 9A State Delegates

Subject: Oppose Dr Martirano's Redistricting Proposal

Dear Board of Education (BOE) Members and Dr. Martirano,

As a longtime resident of Howard County Maryland (residing in Polygon 176) and a grandparent of two young children, I am writing to express my significant concerns about the impact of Dr Martirano's Attendance Area Adjustment Plan, dated August 20, 2019.

Consider these facts:

- 1. Neighborhoods in a 1-mile radius from River Hill High school will have students going to 3 different high schools!
- 2. Atholton sending 610 students out and receiving 471 students for a total turnover of 1081 students!!
- 3. Atholton and Oakland Mills High school boundaries gets split in multiple sections and separating communities.
 - River Hill is an under-capacity school (projected to be at 94% Projected Utilization for 2019/2020 school. This is at the lower end of the Target Utilization range); the proposal wants to move 478 students out and bring in 741 students in that is a net gain of 229 students. The total turnover of students will be 1229 students!! That is a rate of over 80% of the school total capacity. This is the highest turnover school in the county as proposed!!! This is extremely disruptive and unnecessary for a school.
- 4. The polygons that they propose to move from River Hill to Wilde Lake live about 1.5-3.5miles away from River Hill.
- 5. The proposal will TRIPLE the distance to about 6-9 miles away and increase commute times in the morning and for after school activities.
- 6. The overall FARM rate of River Hill will increase from less than 5% to 5%.
- 7. The Proposal mentions to move 513 students from Atholton to River Hill.
- 8. The polygons that they propose to move live farther away to River Hill than communities closer to River Hill High School. Also, the FARM rates of Atholton are less than 10%.

Here's how my grandchildren will be impacted:

- 1. My grandchildren from Polygon 176 would have to drive through River Hill High School bus and car traffic, en route to Wilde Lake High School.
- 2. Their commute would triple (as compared to River Hill High School).
- 3. Such long commute times would affect their sleep (at least 2 hours of sleep deprivation daily), family time reduced, and could lead to higher probability of accidents given that high school students would be new drivers on the road driving longer distances with increased traffic jams.

- 4. Longer commute also reduces families' engagement with the schools since they're further away and this would impact the childrens' education.
- 5. Longer transportation times would lead to higher expenses for the Board of Education with zero return on investment and higher polluting emissions. These are our tax dollars that are being wasted instead of being spent on appropriate educational resources.
- 6. Given the impact on my schedule, the family may not be able to pick up my kids in time after their extracurricular activities so those activities may have to be cut down, affecting their education and all-round development.
- 7. Our family chose to go to these local schools (like River Hill High) when we moved to our current home. We treat our local schools as part of our community, which is being torn apart. Our friendships affected (since local children will now be sent to 3 different high schools); so, the choice taken away from us and all of us are feeling these impacts. This redistricting plan is disruptive of our community.

Also:

- 1. <u>Any re-districting proposal should instead be focused on those five High Schools that are operating above Target Utilization levels (110%).</u>
- Transferring students from a school with a low FARM ratio to a school with a high FARM ratio, only results in better "averages" for the schools. <u>IT DOES NOT PROVIDE ANY INCREMENTAL</u> EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES OR OPPORTUNITES DIRECTLY TO THE STUDENTS.
- 3. Shuffling students across schools with longer commute times do not improve scores they increase stress and hardship for families.

Let us discuss some alternative scenarios including:

- 1. River Hill High School could receive students from nearby schools such as Wilde Lake, Atholton or Howard, without sending 478 students out to other schools. There should be a way to improve capacity utilization and reduce the 7,396 students being disrupted.
- 2. Postpone redistricting until 2022 (for HS13) by using additional temporary classrooms. Allow time to plan the move in a non-disruptive manner. We owe stability to our kids.
 - a. Consider this article: "Switching Schools: Reconsidering the Relationship Between School Mobility and High School Dropout" published by JHU Dept of Sociology (Joseph Gasper, Stefanie DeLuca, Angela Estacion) per the abstract—"Youth who switch schools are more likely to demonstrate a wide array of negative behavioral and educational outcomes, including dropping out of high school."
- 3. Do not redistrict at all. Consider creating a system where underperforming students would be given a choice where to attend school (within a certain radius); motivate such students to attend local schools with the capacity and capability. Add resources (teachers/specialists) and therefore improve scores by directly targeting underperforming students, adding resources and boost test scores. Title 1 schools already offer such resources for economically challenged students. We should focus on underperforming students for true education equity.

Thank you,

Vanita Tuliani (Very concerned grandparent)

From:	veertuliani@outlook.com
Sent:	Monday, September 30, 2019 10:34 AM
То:	redistricting@hcpss.org; superintendent@hcpss.org; mavis_ellis@hcpss.org; kirsten_coombs@hcpss.org; vicky_cutroneo@hcpss.org; christina_delmont-small@hcpss.org; jennifer_mallo@hcpss.org; sabina_taj@hcpss.org; chao_wu@hcpss.org; boe@hcpss.org
Cc:	Ball, Calvin; Jones, Opel; Jung, Deb; Yungmann, David; Rigby, Christiana; Walsh, Elizabeth; CouncilMail; katiefry.hester@senate.state.md.us; trent.kittleman@house.state.md.us; warren.miller@house.state.md.us; Kathleen_Hanks@hcpss.org
Subject:	STUDENT TESTIMONY: Oppose Dr. Martirano's Redistricting Proposal
Attachments:	Dear BOE Members - VRT 092519docx

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear all,

Please see attached letter.

Thanks.

September 26, 2019

To: Howard County BOE, Dr. Michael J. Martirano, Superintendent, Howard County Public School System

<u>Subject: Student Testimony (Veer Tuliani) - Oppose Dr. Martirano's Redistricting</u> Proposal

Dear Board of Education (BOE) Members and Dr. Martirano,

My name is Veer Tuliani and some call me polygon 176. I am a student in Folly Quarter Middle School, and I attend accelerated Math classes in River Hill High School.

I am SHOCKED to think you are considering moving almost 13% of the overall student population. It is a BIG DEAL!

For my polygon, River Hill High School is an under-capacity school and you are considering transferring **out** students from this school. The total turnover is slated to be 80% of the total capacity! **Why?**

I live only a few minutes (2 miles!) driving distance from River Hill and you're proposing to triple my commute to a school much further away (you know I would be driving past it each day to get to my new school, right)? I would like to have some answers to my questions:

When you deprive me of 2 additional hours every day because the new school is so far away:

- 1. What happens to my sleep?
- 2. What happens to my homework that needs to be completed but I cannot because I am exhausted?
- 3. What happens to my desire to play with my little sister, but I have no time?
- 4. What happens to my family time that I crave?
- 5. What happens to the sports that I want to do after school? I love to play tennis and cricket.
- 6. What happens to my SAT scores when there's little time left to prepare?
- 7. What happens to the times when buses run late, and my classmates and I are left stranded in the extreme weather?
- 8. What happens to extra-curricular activities that I will not be able to attend?

- 9. What happens to my friends? My local River Hill community is being split up and sent to 3 different high schools.
- 10. What happens to my parents who want to come to my school and volunteer or participate in after-school clubs and activities but cannot because it is so far away?
- 11. What happens during early dismissals or during appointments when I need to be picked up from school and my parents must take additional time off?
- 12. What happens when my sister starts elementary school next year and my parents must do a round trip of 50 minutes (school to school) and can't reach in time?
- 13. What happens when I start driving? I would be sleep deprived and yet must face the increased school traffic on the streets? Who is responsible for keeping me safe?
- 14. What happens to the mental health of students like me who are unhappy with this redistricting, but you decide to impose upon us anyway?
- 15. What happens to the extra monetary burden you take on to fund this program?
- 16. What happens to the needless amount of additional carbon emissions? Do you expect my generation to take care of that?

Here's what I know and understand:

- 1. My elementary school was Running Brook Elementary School, a high FARMs school and a Title I school. Kudos to all my excellent teachers including Mrs. Van Reenan, Mrs. Mangus, Mrs. Filler and my superb principal Mr. Todd. I was an overachiever and got a lot more resources, just like some others (who were challenged) received additional help. I even skipped third grade. I scored in the top 5 percentile in Math Olympiad. I won every single school spelling bee and participated twice at the National Spelling Bee.
- 2. River Hill High School is part of my community where I belong. I would be happy to receive friends who may be transferred here but I do NOT want to be transferred OUT of this school.
- 3. My friend community is already diverse. I have had friends who are rich and poor. White and black. Yellow and brown. Short and tall. I do not need to go to another school to experience it nor do I think there's any meaningful benefit.
- 4. As a second-generation immigrant, I have seen from my family how much disruptive change can impact and uproot lives and how much adjustment it takes. So, no disruptive change should be imposed upon anyone without a sound and valid reason. This redistricting plan does not have solid reasons as far as I can tell.
- 5. I believe we need integration and support around student abilities, not around how much money their parents make.
- 6. Shuffling students across schools with longer commute times do not make for better students they increase stress and hardship for families.

Please be thoughtful when you redistrict and do it in the least disruptive manner.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Veer Tuliani

From:

dunniganzoo@verizon.net

Sent:

Sunday, September 29, 2019 10:17 PM

To: Subject: CouncilMail CR112.docx

Attachments:

CR112.docx

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Sorry I hit send before including my information: Maura Dunnigan 4808 Woodshire Garth Ellicott City, MD 21043

I would also like to add that while I support my own representative, Liz Walsh on many issues, I was deeply disappointed to not see her as a co-sponsor on this resolution. I hope that the aspirational compass and value statement that this resolution expresses is one that is shared by ALL our officials.

Respectfully yours, Maura Dunnigan 443-956-7969

Testimony in Support of CR 112-2019

A resolution requesting the Howard County Public School System to draft, approve, and implement a lawful multi-year Integration Plan to ensure that Howard County Public Schools are integrated by socioeconomic factors.

Not everything that is faced can be changed, but nothing can be changed until it is faced. ~James Baldwin.

Good afternoon esteemed county council members. I vehemently support of CR112 and facing head on the inequities facing OUR children. My name is Maura Dunnigan, I am a D1 resident, former HCPSS teacher, mother of 5 children who are products of that system and spent 14 years teaching students about Jim Rouse's vision for better places, and better people through a community based on equity and inclusion. It is through that lens, along with analyzing the hard truths about our current achievement gaps and increasingly segregated schools that I applaud your decision to boldly and clearly state the need to address these disparities.

My question today is who are we as a community?

- Are we going to say the only children that matter or deserve certain educational opportunities must be able to buy into it?
- Is the diversity and equity mantra that Howard County loves to tout simply hollow PR for the next Great Places to Live rating? Or do we simply embrace diversity as long as you can afford the right house in the right school district?

I don't need to educate you all on the history of our county, the path to fight for civil rights or the overwhelming research that supports the importance of prioritizing racially and socioeconomically diverse schools. Though if you want to review the data and studies, I'm happy to forward them.

I was listening to Nikole Hannah Jones, author of the 1619 project, who suggested a simple look into our history demonstrates that only when pushed through state action, will we find equilibrium. When individuals perceive their indiv. rights trump all else, they pull out every stop to cling to the status quo to maintain these systems. Caught up During the civil rights era, if whites and those with money couldn't control the public spaces: pools, public transportation, hospitals, police/security, and schools- they privatized these systems to exclude and segregate.

Are we going to allow our public schools to become yet another pay to play space? Are public schools zero sum games where you win and I lose? Where one school is good enough for those kids, but not for MY kids? As Jim Rouse used to say this is not only irrational, it is immoral.

Thank you County Council members who sponsored and support this resolution. Thank you for reminding us of the difficult, sometimes politically unpopuar stances you as PUBLIC officials must take to remind us that the common good is not only advocating to the loudest voice, those who leverage their power and wealth or wear a matching tshirt, but the advocacy for those who need it the most.

Thurgood Marshall- "unless our children begin to learn together, then there is little hope that our people will ever learn to live together."

From: Sent: Ana Aleshin <deltana@comcast.net> Sunday, September 29, 2019 5:07 PM

To:

CouncilMail

Subject:

building and busing

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Please stop the building and trying to social engineer Howard County / busing kids from district to another. We pay the salary to government officials because we believed that you would work for the people that elected you. Politicians work for their ideals and don't listen to your constituents. We're experiments/puppets. One day more people will wake up and decide to vote you All out! Please feel free to share this with your buddies.

Sent from my iPad, Ana Aleshin

From:

Jones, Diane

Sent:

Saturday, September 28, 2019 9:45 PM

To: Cc: Sayers, Margery Walsh, Elizabeth

Subject:

Fwd: Inquiry re: CR112-2019

Hi Margery, please include this email in the public record for CR-112 if it is not already there. Thank you,

Diane

Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE Device Get Outlook for Android

From: Walsh, Elizabeth

Sent: Saturday, September 28, 7:35 PM Subject: Fwd: Inquiry re: CR112-2019

To: Jones, Diane

Cc: Fisher, Karina, Dvorak, Nicole

Liz Walsh, Council Member Howard County Council Serving District 1

3430 Court House Drive Ellicott City, MD 21043 410.313.2001

From: Kate Amara <amarakate@gmail.com> Sent: Thursday, September 5, 2019 1:41:39 PM

To: Walsh, Elizabeth <ewalsh@howardcountymd.gov>; Jones, Opel <ojones@howardcountymd.gov>; Rigby, Christiana <crigby@howardcountymd.gov>; Jung, Deb <djung@howardcountymd.gov>; Yungmann, David <dvungmann@howardcountymd.gov>

Cc: Singleton, Julia <jsingleton@howardcountymd.gov>; publicinfo@hcpss.org <publicinfo@hcpss.org>; mavis_ellis@hcpss.org <mavis_ellis@hcpss.org>; kirsten_coombs@hcpss.org <kirsten_coombs@hcpss.org>; vicky_cutroneo@hcpss.org <vicky_cutroneo@hcpss.org>; christina_delmont-small@hcpss.org <christina_delmont-small@hcpss.org>; Jennifer Mallo <jennifer_mallo@hcpss.org>; sabina_taj@hcpss.org <chao_wu@hcpss.org>; Student Board Member <student_member@hcpss.org>

Subject: Inquiry re: CR112-2019

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Howard County Council Members.

My name is Kate Amara. I am the lead political reporter at WBAL-TV in Baltimore, but not emailing in that capacity today.

I am reaching out as a resident of Maple Lawn and the parent of twin 2nd graders at Fulton Elementary School. We live in polygon 259. Our kids are not slated for reassignment under the Superintendent's redistricting plan...at least...not as of today.

I am asking every stakeholder and decision maker...to advocate for keeping Maple Lawn's three polygons—259, 1259 and 1256 – together in the same elementary school.

Right now, you're probably thinking "I have no control over that process..." because that's the basic response I've heard ...from nearly every elected leader (not including the school board) when I've asked questions about the Superintendent's redistricting plan.

But you and I both know - that the county council, county agencies and the county executive play a key role in the process -- and are largely responsible for how we got here in the first place.

And so – please answer the following questions for this howard county mom...who knows what to ask, and who to ask it of, because she happens to be a journalist:

Why is it important to take up CR112-2019 at this moment in time?

Do you believe it is ethical for the County Council to insert itself into an already explosive public debate?

Do you believe it is wise to add an additional layer to a conversation that is already complex and confusing, and one many residents fear – they will not be a part of?

And finally, why take up a bill calling on the school department to draft and implement a plan.. when the howard county council approved the landscape as it now stands (please refer to Fulton Elementary School, APFO charts starting in 2014, and CB19-2016)? Why not take up legislation requiring the school superintendent to retroactively follow county law...and call on your own body to do the same going forward?

I am eager to hear your answers to these questions...and I'll be at your legislative session tonight...in case you do it then.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Kate Amara Liberty St Fulton, MD 20759 Polygon 259

Kate Amara
WBAL-TV
amarakate@gmail.com
@kateamaraWBAL
410-499-1625 (cell)
410-338-6501 (newsroom)

From:

Christine SANTOS-NURSE < christine.santosnurse@gmail.com>

Sent:

Saturday, September 28, 2019 3:30 PM

To:

CouncilMail

Subject:

Support Council Resolution 112

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Howard County Council:

We, six adult voting residents of Howard County, strongly support Council Resolution 112, calling on the Howard County Public School System to ensure that Howard County Public Schools are integrated by socioeconomic factors and focus additional efforts and resources on addressing the achievement gaps and racial and socioeconomic disparities in Howard County schools. We want to thank Councilpeople Opel Jones, Christiana Rigby, and Deb Jung and Howard County Schools Superintendent Dr. Martirano for their courage in sponsoring this resolution.

Our reason to recently relocate and purchase a home in this county, pay the high price and taxes for an old house that needs numerous repairs, without having children who can benefit from these wonderful schools is due to Rouse's vision and values. There are far more benefits to integration that money can't buy.

Economic isolation disadvantages all students in our system. Multiple studies show that when schools are integrated test scores and achievement rise for all students. Segregation in Howard County schools is unacceptable and against Howard County values! CR 112 is a courageous statement that Howard County will lead the way in confronting, and reversing, this tragic trend. Sincerely,

Christine Santos-Nurse, Cheyenne Nurse, Shayne Nurse, Keith Montalvo, and soon arriving Scott Nurse and Leah Montalvo.

5129 W Running Brook Rd Columbia, MD 21044

From:

Chuck Carter < roadrunnersva 144@hotmail.com>

Sent:

Saturday, September 28, 2019 1:31 PM

Subject:

Improving Our Schools

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Improving Our Schools

Time to remove Common Core from the Education system

What is going on with Bussing kids around the county for an additional million dollars just to put more "under achieving kids" someplace I guess the Under-achieving ones into schools that have no problems with their students.

How many of these students are Illegal Aliens, with no shots, no papers, and no sense of discipline.

It takes just one unruly kid to disrupt an entire class of children wanting to learn,

People moved into Columbia for good schools, not schools with inner city & third world hoods and thugs disrupting the learning process.

I have heard reports that three schools have already been trashed the learning experience of their student body. Parents are outraged, and the voters are appalled at the additional dumbing down of the education system.

The Climate Hoax Fad May FINALLY Be Coming to an End

Upwards of 500 leading climate scientists have signed and delivered

a petition to the United Nations demanding an open, honest, and transparent

debate on the issue. Their forceful "European Climate Declaration"

contends that no emergency exists, and gross exaggeration has

led an end-of-days radicalization of politics.

The working scientists in climate change and closely related fields are well aware that liberal political activists have seized on the issue as a way to create hysteria, blur the facts, and garner votes. In the U.S., upstarts such as New York socialist Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez frightened uninformed people that the world would be uninhabitable in "like 12 years," unless her Green New Deal was immediately implemented. Not a single Senate Democrat voted in favor of her climate hoax legislation.

The fake news media rolled out splashy headlines as the so-called "climate kids" lectured international diplomats at the U.N. and member of the U.S. Congress. Brainwashed children such as 16-year-old Swedish climate activist Greta Thunberg have grown up in the midst of doomsday school curriculum and have been robbed of reality and hope.

"You all come to us young people for hope," she said during an emotional video that went viral. "How dare you! You have stolen my dreams and my childhood with your empty words, and yet, I'm one of the lucky ones. People are suffering. People are dying. Entire ecosystems are collapsing. We are in the beginning of a mass extinction, and all you can talk about is money and fairy tales of eternal economic growth. How dare you!"

Powerful words, indeed. That is, if they had a basis in fact rather than data manipulated by political activists masquerading as scientists.

It's difficult to break the news to a youngster that there is no Santa Claus, Easter Bunny or Tooth Fairy. But the impartial European scientific community that petitioned for equal time and a fact-based discussion didn't fit the biased media's narrative. There were few, if any, splashy headlines. "Climate science should be less political, while climate policies should be more scientific," the European Climate Declaration reportedly states. "Scientists should openly address the uncertainties and exaggerations in their predictions of global warming."

The 500 scientists do not stand alone despite false propaganda that "97 percent" of (of only 100 believers of Global Cooling were polled) climate scientists agree with end-of-world models. Non-partisan polls show that 31,000 scientists reject these apocalyptic theories, and 40 percent of say "no convincing evidence" exists

"I would like to see the public look upon global warming as just another scientific controversy and oppose any public policies until the major issues are settled, such as the cause," founder of the Science and Environmental Policy Project, S. Fred Singer said. "If mostly natural, as NIPCC concludes, then the public policies currently discussed are pointless, hugely expensive, and wasteful of resources that could better be applied to real societal problems."

The climate declaration submitted to the U.N. secretary-general reinforced the growing voices within the scientific community that current models that create the type of fear and dread showcased by youngsters such as Thunberg have no basis in facts.

"There is no statistical evidence that global warming is intensifying hurricanes, floods, droughts, and suchlike natural disasters, or making them more frequent," the scientists stated. "There is no climate emergency. Therefore, there is no cause for panic and alarm. We strongly oppose the harmful and unrealistic net-zero CO2 policy proposed for 2050."

But another little-known "inconvenient truth" these scientists boldly point out is that the current extremists' policy to save the world is damaging our global eco-systems.

"However, CO2-mitigation measures are as damaging as they are costly. For instance, wind turbines kill birds and bats, and palm-oil plantations destroy the biodiversity of the rainforests," the petitioning scientists state.

Many countries, including the U.S., are engaged in devastating acts of deforestation to create solar fields. During former President George W. Bush's administration, homeowners were encouraged to take advantage of tax incentives to install panels and go green. Those middle-of-the-road policies were basically put on steroids during the Obama years. Today, vast forests are being leveled and replaced with solar panels. And, too many farmers have given up on tilling the soil in favor of cash for land use. Extremists policies are creating the exact illness they claimed to cure.

"Therefore, it is cruel as well as imprudent to advocate the squandering of trillions on the basis of results from such immature models," the declaration reportedly states. "We urge you to follow a climate policy based on sound science, realistic economics, and genuine concern for those harmed by costly but unnecessary attempts at mitigation."

When was the last time these kooks asked for an environmental impact statement for a volcano eruption.

From:

Leonardo McClarty < Imcclarty@howardchamber.com>

Sent:

Saturday, September 28, 2019 9:45 AM

Subject:

Baltimore Sun Article on affordable housing

Attachments:

Affordable Housing Article-9.26.19 Balt Sun.pdf

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

In case you missed this, I am sharing as information and food for thought. This is not to be taken as an agreement or disagreement with the author.

Thanks

Leonardo McClarty, CCE President/CEO, Howard County Chamber 410-730-4111; 107

Get Outlook for iOS

Study: Housing policy backfires

By Emily Hamilton

Inclusionary zoning is perhaps the most popular affordable housing program among U.S. local governments today. It requires new housing developments to include some homes that are rented or sold at below-market-rate prices to address a lack of reasonably priced homes. But while there is no question that we need more housing at price points affordable to people of all income levels, inclusionary zoning isn't working.

In fact, in a new study, I find that in the Baltimore-Washington region, the policy is making housing more expensive, not less.

Our region, like many parts of the country with strong economies and high-paying jobs, suffers from a housing shortage. The primary culprit is strict local zoning regulations that make it difficult for homebuilders to provide enough new homes in the places where people want to live. Over the past 20 years, the D.C. area (the faster-growing portion of the larger Baltimore-Washington region) has added only half as many new homes as it has residents.

Additionally, land use regulations — from bans on apartments on most of the land in every jurisdiction in the region, to requirements that new homes in some exurbs sit on multiple-acre lots — drive up the cost of the housing development that is allowed. In Arlington, where I live, multifamily housing is only permitted on 12% of residential land.

In response to high housing costs, policymakers in 22 of the region's jurisdictions have implemented inclusionary zoning. Often inclusionary zoning programs require a portion of units to be affordable to residents earning 80% of median income, about \$70,000 for households across the region. That means units that rent for about \$1,800 per month. Some programs, like Baltimore's, aim to serve residents earning as little as 30% of the median income.

By requiring homebuilders to provide subsidized homes, inclusionary zoning is essentially a tax on new housing construction, which raises the price of market-rate, non-subsidized homes. However, most jurisdictions in the region pair inclusionary zoning with "density bonuses" that allow developers to build more housing than they would otherwise be allowed to provide. These can partially or fully offset the cost of providing the subsidized units. This means inclusionary zoning both allows for more housing construction and increases the costs of development — but what's the overall effect?

According to my research, each year that a mandatory inclusionary zoning program is in place, a jurisdiction's house prices increase by about 1% beyond what they otherwise would. This local estimate is in line with most studies of inclusionary zoning, which find that the policy has led to higher prices in the places that have adopted it.

Here's what that means in practical terms: We're relying on a housing affordability "fix" that makes the problem worse for everyone who doesn't get a subsidized unit.

That might be tolerable if inclusionary zoning programs produced enough subsidized homes for the residents who qualify, but it doesn't — not even close. Montgomery County has the longest history with inclusionary zoning in the country, and it also produces the region's most below-market-rate housing units per year. Even so, fewer than 4% of Montgomery County homes are inclusionary zoning units. Baltimore policymakers have commonly waived inclusionary zoning requirements if developers can

show that the cost of providing them would make a project unfeasible. Its program has produced only 34 homes for low-income families during the nine years it's been in place.

Across the region, the subsidized units must be allocated by long wait lists or lotteries because many more people qualify than there are units available. That means when inclusionary zoning raises market-rate house prices, the burden falls hardest on people who are the least well-off.

As its name indicates, inclusionary zoning is marketed as a remedy for "exclusionary" zoning: local land use regulations that drive up home prices and keep people out. But in reality, it leaves these rules in place. The density bonuses that inclusionary zoning programs offer are only valuable because regulations prevent developers from building new homes — particularly lower-cost, environmentally and transit-friendly apartments — leaving us with shortages and high prices.

Taxing housing construction in order to get below-market-rate units makes no sense. Developers have every reason to build housing that's affordable to most residents if we do away with the apartment bans, minimum lot size requirements and aesthetic design standards that make only expensive units worth building. Local policymakers could then focus on dedicating public resources to more direct forms of aid for the low-income households who need it.

Emily Hamilton (ehamilton@mercatus.gmu.edu) is a research fellow with the Mercatus Center at George Mason University in Arlington, a former District of Columbia advisory neighborhood commissioner and the author of a new study on "Inclusionary Zoning and Housing Market Outcomes."

https://digitaledition.baltimoresun.com/html5/mobile/production/default.aspx?pubid=99644e1a-52da-4fe3-8f78-a84e4fe4d386&edid=1855bb8c-a3fc-4fb6-a3ad-b3309b0582b2

From:

Alberto Diaz <aadiaz3@gmail.com>

Sent:

Friday, September 27, 2019 3:28 PM

To:

CouncilMail

Subject:

Testimony CR112

Attachments:

AD CR112 Testimony.pdf

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Hello dear Council members,

With regards to CR112, my written testimony is attached. Thank you for your time.

Alberto Diaz Howard County Resident

CR112 Testimony

Good afternoon members of the Council,

My name is Alberto Diaz, a resident of Howard County since 2008 and I oppose CR112. I want to focus my time on the trends around this controversial "toothless" resolution and its unfortunate effects, that I consider still repairable.

It is no mystery that this last month has been filled with stress for all involved given the redistricting proposal that has emerged from the superintendent's office. The county has thrived on its strong brand as an educational hub in the state and nationally, for good reason, for many years. The county's growth has been driven by that, as have the economics that have contributed to the county's upward spiral. The proposal, for good reason, has shaken the very foundation that built the county and has broken the people's trust, a trust that took over 30 years to build, one credible layer at a time. There is no worse formula for economic development. The use of racially-charged language does little to help CR1112, particularly in a county as diverse as this one. With all due respect, it reflects very poorly on those who sponsor it, for its lack of substance and judgement as much as for its lack of tact.

The improvement to students' educational outcomes, as they emerge from the county's primary to high school experience has always rested on the Board of Education, that should be no different now. The County Council's mission has always been to oversee the county budget and ensure new regulations enhance the future of the county, by encouraging new investment that turns into tax revenues that ultimately "should" come back in one way or another to help the educational system that has for so long carried this county on its back. There is no defensible reason why the Council should mettle with, attempt to influence, or much less affect any outcome that isn't included in its mission. It's the reason laws against conflicts of interest exist. It's not the Council's mission to determine educational policy. Plain and simply isn't.

The county's educational system, and its historically favorable reputation, brings in new residents from all over the state and the country. When the County ranks in the top 3 on many national publications, the national stage takes notice, and families make decisions and financial sacrifices based on the reliability of county policy. And the county benefits by attracting the best and brightest, which ultimately helps IT.

It takes very little for hollow regulation to affect confidence in our county, especially when it gets national coverage. This trend quickly results in potential or current residents looking elsewhere for balanced living, particularly those most prepared. These are the folks who generate the most jobs, the folks who have ample options to leave first when they see reckless mishandlings by their representatives, that also result in misguided economic policy. They create or bring companies here (again, along with the many jobs) and financial wherewithal that enhances the county's future. However, when hubris takes over decision makers, whether in the private or public sectors, it marks the beginning of the end, EVERY SINGLE time. Please go back to basics and focus on financial matters and let the BoE focus on enhancing students' educational outcomes.

Some of you have represented that CR112 has no teeth, that it is meaningless. If that is the case, then why waste all these folks time here today and over the last and next month? Is work productivity loss by the so many that have been drawn into this empty process worth it? Is that a "winning" personal or community combination? Are the people that are here (and watching at home today) by definition meaningless in the process? Do you realize, that just by shaking public confidence in the democratic process, on a present value basis, you are degrading the value of the county by a good fraction of its operating budget? And it's a big number. This created instability has the potential to affect its revenues, its financial credit, its financial future. By meddling into the topic of education, the Council is defeating the main goal of its financial mission. Please ponder that.

Focus on the goals that lead to this Council fulfilling its financial mission: Incentivize, motivate, and welcome new businesses, add to the economy of the county, create new jobs. Help our tax base. That's substance. By definition, CR112 has none of that ... and IT IS WASTEFUL.

Do away with CR112 (this resolution reflects so poorly on all) and save any semblance of credibility that currently may remain within this county and its governing Council.

Thank you all your time.

From:

Beverley Meyers <kings@villageofkc.org>

Sent:

Friday, September 27, 2019 11:06 AM

To:

redistricting@hcpss.org

Cc:

CouncilMail; Ball, Calvin; michael_martirano@hcpss.org

Subject:

Testimony from Kings Contrivance Community Association regarding school

redistricting

Attachments:

Letter to Board of Education Redistricting Sept 2019.doc

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Please find attached testimony from the Kings Contrivance Village Board regarding the proposed school redistricting plans.

Please note my email has changed to Kings@VillageofKC.org

Beverley Meyers Village Manager Kings Contrivance Community Association 7251 Eden Brook Drive Columbia, MD 21046 (410) 381-9600

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/KingsContrivance

Website VillageofKC.org

Twitter: https://twitter.com/villageofkc



Kings Contrivance Community Association

Amherst House 7251 Eden Brook Drive, Columbia, Maryland 21046 (410) 381-9600 Fax (410)381-9628

kingscontrivance@columbiavillages.org

September 26, 2019

Board of Education Howard County Public School System 10910 Route 108 Ellicott City, MD 21042

Dear Board of Education Members:

The Kings Contrivance Village Board understands the challenge and the necessity of redistricting. We thank you and your staff for working diligently to address issues in our school system while incorporating input from the community.

At our regularly scheduled September 18 village board meeting, residents from our village voiced concerns over proposed redistricting. Residents from Dickinson in our village are concerned that the neighborhood children may be separated into a different elementary school where only a small group from only three streets (Blue Sea Drive, Sandrope Court, and Stonebrook Lane, polygons 16, 1014 and 1016) would be sent to a school that no one around them would be attending. This small group would not be kept with their Dickinson village neighbors or their out parcel neighbors, with whom they share a fence.

The Village Board also heard from residents of Macgill's Common who are part of the village. This neighborhood is being proposed to move at the middle and high school level from other children in our village. Again, the Board is concerned that this small pocket of children is being moved away from where the other children in the village attend. The children of the village commune together in our village center, our pools and in their early years at our tot lots. Although the map may show RT32 dividing our village, the reality is that Macgill's Common residents mix with our Dickinson and Huntington residents to the south frequently in our village center and at our pools rather than neighbors to the north, or west across RT29.

The Board is also concerned about moving children in Macgill's Common from Hammond High school that is accessible by bicycle, with bicycle lanes along Shaker Drive and is walkable, with complete sidewalks, traffic lights and crosswalks and moving them to Atholton High which entails travel with no bicycle lanes, crosswalks, traffic lights or full sidewalk

accessibility. The area crossing over RT29 at the Seneca Drive bridge has always been hazardous and has had numerous bicycle accidents. The safety of our village residents is a major concern in this area. The Board feels that the value of accessibility is very important for all high school children who may want to be involved in after school activities. It is why back in 1979 the Board successfully campaigned to include sidewalk access on both sides of the bridge across RT32 at Shaker Drive to enable easy access to the residents of Macgill's Common who wanted to walk to the village center and Hammond High School.

The village board strongly believes that the success of redistricting lies in keeping neighborhoods together. Rouses vision was to have a walkable community with village children going to school together. The bike-path system in Columbia was developed with that in mind. Residents living near each other will work together to be active members of their shared school. This will lend itself to more support for the school, teachers, and the PTA.

The Kings Contrivance Village Board asks that you revisit proposed district boundaries and keep our neighborhood children together. Please pay special attention to small pockets of neighborhoods (such as the aforementioned three streets) where proposed boundaries would sever a population of students from all close neighbors. Understanding that a goal of redistricting is equalizing future populations at county schools, we have no concerns about which school our residents attend. The small number of students affected in the proposals will make little difference to the school FARM statistics of any school. However, the grouping of residents in neighborhoods together is critical to paving the way to an active school community who work together.

Again, thank you for your thorough attention to this complex task.

Warmly,

Barbara N. Seely Chair, Kings Contrivance Village Board

Cc: Howard County Council,
Calvin Ball, Howard County Executive,
Michael Martirano, Howard County School Superintendent

From:

Christi Snyder <christisnyder0@gmail.com>

Sent:

Thursday, September 26, 2019 9:40 PM

To:

CouncilMail

Subject:

CR112 Testimony

Attachments:

C.Snyder-CR112 Testimony.docx

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Please find my attached written testimony regarding CR112.

Thank you, Christi Snyder Dear Howard County Council Members,

My name is Christi Snyder, a full-time working mom, with one child attending Howard County Public Schools. I strongly support socioeconomic equity. However, I strongly **OPPOSE** CR112.

To start, all schools are racially integrated and diverse. To say they are not is doing a disservice to community members of Howard County; especially to our Asian friends and neighbors no longer considered minorities but rather 'white'. CR112 intentionally ignores the vibrancy and dynamic racial diversity which exists in our schools.

Nobody is denying that socioeconomic disparities exist in schools. The fault for that lies with the Zoning and Planning board though; not the Students of Howard County

In terms of the Zoning and Planning board – what happens when additional Developer building permits are approved, resulting in demographic changes such as socioeconomic status? Based on the clear text within CR112 which demands Howard County Public School System balance diversity and equity based on socioeconomic factors, will thousands of children be shuffled around again after a new Housing Development is approved? And again? And again?

There have been many statements made by supporters of CR112 that numerous studies report socioeconomic integration leads to improvements of achievement gaps. Conversely, there are numerous studies that reports any claimed improvements by integrating schools based solely on socioeconomic factors are INCONCLUSIVE. For your reference, I'm including a link to an article by Dr. Sarah Cordes from FutureEd, an independent think tank at Georgetown University's McCourt School of Public Policy (https://www.future-ed.org/a-reality-check-on-the-benefits-of-economic-integration/).

A County Council member cannot simply pick and choose which side they stand for and negate opposing research, then subsequently (and quickly) pass legislation because of an ideology or they feel they're on the right side of a social movement. WE MUST GET THIS RIGHT THE FIRST TIME. All children's futures hang in the balance.

CR112 does NOT consider any other factor that could lead to achievement gaps, other than racial and socioeconomic status. We will continue to be in a vicious cycle if we do not attempt to locate the root cause. Also, moving thousands of children to achieve marginal percentage movements is not solving any true underlying problems.

As examples, instead of:

- Subjecting many, many students to longer commutes
- Impacting their sleep patterns
- Tearing children from their social circles
- Negatively impacting a child's ability to participate in after-school activities
- Making it harder for parents to get to their child in an emergency
- Parents and students not being able to rely on their community for assistance

Why don't we improve and apply resources to the schools that desperately need it?

Due to CR112's overreach, I would also be remiss if I did not mention Maryland House Bill 590. While I am sure you are familiar with this bill, as a refresher, HB590 was signed into law by Governor Hogan on April 18,

2019 requiring members of the Howard County Board of Education to be elected by voters of certain Districts (with two countywide at-large members). Specific text — ONE MEMBER FROM EACH OF THE FIVE COUNCILMANIC DISTRICTS IN THE COUNTY, ELECTED BY THE VOTERS OF THAT DISTRICT. This starts in the 2020 election cycle. Based on some recent Howard County School redistricting maps shown to the public, boundaries have been redrawn that crosses District lines. This very practice of redrawing school boundaries based on the directive contained within CR112 of moving students based merely on socioeconomic and racial factors threatens many voters' ability to hold their elected members accountable when they cannot even vote for the member with jurisdiction over their child's school. Why is this acceptable? During my verbal testimony on 9/26, a few Council Members even mentioned they did not realize this unintended consequence; I appreciated that candor. While some members said I could still be able to rely on a different District BoE member because "they are a part of the entire committee", I would still not be able to VOTE for the representative of my child's school. HB590 is not a guideline or a suggestion, it is a LAW.

Despite my concerns around HB590, I want to reiterate that my main purpose of opposing CR112 is because of the children; CR112 will direct the Howard County School District to redistrict to change percentages. It will not change, nor help individual students who need it the most.

I want to leave you with this -- on 9/24 at 7:15 p.m., a white car drove by a group of peaceful protesters outside the BoE building. Protesters from EVERY ethnic group. With children present. A man in that white car screamed "Racists" from the top of his lungs. CR112 is dividing the residents of Howard County.

Some elected officials seem to care very deeply about their Legacy. For Council Members who vote YES for CR112, your legacy will be that you contributed to dividing our county; a divide that also causes children, CHILDREN you claim to support, to be called horrible names. I have to believe you are sincere in your support of the students of Howard County but if you support CR112 with your legacy in mind, instead of doing what's best for ALL children, well, that would be an absolute travesty.... AND something not easily forgotten.

Respectfully,

Christi Snyder District 5

From: Sent: Lisa Schlossnagle sabmrss@gmail.com> Thursday, September 26, 2019 9:15 PM

To:

CouncilMail

Subject:

text of spoken testimony on CR112, with supporting data

Attachments:

CR-112 Testimony - Sept 26.pdf

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Please see my attached testimony.

Best regards, Lisa Schlossnagle Good evening. My name is Lisa Schlossnagle, I live in Fulton, and I support CR-112.

My written testimony describes an array of benefits of diverse, integrated schools: things like the long-term generational outcomes, the shorter-term economic effects, and even my own personal experience as a student and parent in Howard County schools.

It goes on to ask for you to collaborate with the school system in developing an integration plan, and to change the resolution's language accordingly. I am so pleased that members of this Council and members of the Board of Education have stated publicly their desire to work with each other on this issue and even suggested developing a task force-type group to include the variety of perspectives needed to understand and address the issue. I hope you will read my testimony, because I want to speak to another facet of this resolution.

You see, I am sick to my stomach right now over the divide in our county. From the rhetoric in spoken and written testimony, to say nothing of social media, we seem to be divided very deeply. That is not your fault. CR112 did not cause these divisions. The Superintendent's proposed redistricting plan did not cause these divisions. These divisions are rooted in an "us vs. them" mindset that has been here for a very long time. One manifestation of this mindset is in the enrollment disparities of our schools.

While Howard County is quite diverse, and we have both racial and economic diversity in this county, diversity is different from integration. We have some racially integrated schools and some socioeconomically integrated schools. These are schools that have proportional representation of racial subgroups and/or students living in poverty as measured by FARMs participation.

The county averages for FARMs participation are 27% in elementary school, 26% in middle, and 22% in high school, yet 39% of our 74 schools have less than half the county

average of this marker of low-income households. Twelve of these 74 schools have two times the system average of FARMs participation.

I assure you that many of our schools are racially segregated as well. We have five elementary schools with less than or equal to 5% Asian students in a county with 22% Asian students. That is not integration. We have one elementary school with 7% white students in a system with 34% of its students identified as white. That is not integration. (These numbers come from analyzing the Superintendent's proposed redistricting plan. I have highlighted the largest racial subgroups below.)

In closing, I trust you will amend the resolution and seek many ways to collaborate with the school system on creating excellent, equitable education for our county's children. And I thank you for your service to our community.

Free and Reduced-Priced Meals Program Participation (FARMs)				
School Level	System average	# schools < half the average	# schools > twice the average	Notes
ES	27%	17 (40%)	7 (16.6%)	9 schools (21%) have <5% FARMs
MS	26%	7 (35%)	2 (10%)	4 schools (20%) have <5% FARMs
HS	22%	5 (41%)	3 (25%)	3 schools (25%) have <5% FARMs

Race/Ethnicity - Asian				
School Level	System average	# schools < half the average	# schools > twice the average	Notes
ES	22%	12 (28%)	6 (14%)	5 schools (12%) have < 5% FARMs
MS	21%	5 (25%)	1 (5%)	1 school (5%) has < 5% FARMs
HS	20%	3 (25%)	1 (8%)	0 schools at <5% FARMs; 2 at 7%

Race/Ethnicity - Black/African American				
School Level	System average	# schools < half the average	# schools > twice the average	Notes
ES	25%	13 (30%)	4 (9%)	4 schools (9%) have < 5%
MS	25%	7 (35%)	2 (10%)	1 school (5%) has < 5%
HS	24%	4 (33%)	0 (2 are close)	1 school at <5%

Race/Ethnicity - Hispanic				
School Level	System average	# schools < half the average	# schools > twice the average	Notes
ES	12%	14 (33%)	5 (12%)	0 schools have < 5%; 2 are at 7%
MS	12%	6 (30%)	1 (5%)	5 school (25%) has < 5%
HS	10%	4 (33%)	2 (16%)	4 schools at <5%

Race/Ethnicity - White				
School Level	System average	# schools < half the average	# schools > twice the average	Notes
ES	34%	5 (12%)	2 (4%)	0 schools have < 5%; 1 school at 7%
MS	36%	4 (20%)	1 (5%)	0 schools have < 5% FARMs; lowest is 13%
HS	39%	0 (2 at 20%)	0 (1 at 78%	0 schools at <5%

^{*}Figures taken from the Superintendent's proposed 2020 redistricting plan.

From:

Carla Gates <carla.g725@gmail.com>

Sent:

Thursday, September 26, 2019 8:40 PM

To:

CouncilMail

Subject:

SUPPORT for CR112-2019

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Mr. Jones, Ms. Rigby and my own representative Ms. Deb Jung;

I have not written sooner, because I simply cannot - Can. Not. Believe that in 2019 we have to fight (really fight) to desegregate our schools.

Yet, here we are. So, I must let you know that I strongly support CR112-2019.

Know also that each of you has my support. I am currently not able to testify, but I'm supporting my friends who can. If there is any way I can support you, please let me know.

In solidarity and strength;

~ To liberate our world, we must first liberate our minds.

Carla Gates / Candaca

From:

Tim & Deb Lattimer < lattimertp@gmail.com>

Sent:

Thursday, September 26, 2019 6:00 PM

To:

CouncilMail

Subject:

Support CR112-2019 - Sept. 26, 2019 Testimony of Tim Lattimer

Attachments:

2019.09.26 CR112 Testimony - Tim Lattimer-3.pdf

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

As a prior commitment will likely prevent me from appearing personally at today's hearing on CR-112, please find my testimony in support of CR-112 below and attached. Thank you, Tim Lattimer, Columbia, MD 20145

Testimony on CR 112-2019 Tim Lattimer, Columbia, MD 20145 September 26, 2019

My name is Tim Lattimer and I live in the Long Reach Village portion of Columbia.

Speaking only for myself, I strongly support Council Resolution 112-2019.

I recall that when my wife & I returned to the U.S. in 2002 after many years of living overseas, we opted to move to Columbia. We knew very little about Howard County at the time and, as we were deciding on buying our home practically across the street from Long Reach High School, we asked our realtor whether we could expect our toddlers to eventually go to Long Reach HS.

She replied, "This is Howard County, which changes its school boundaries frequently. I know that Long Reach HS is close by, but if you want a guarantee that your kids will someday go there, then you'd better find yourself another buyer's agent." Apparently, that sort of candor is rare around here.

That was our first introduction to what we came to learn was the caste system in Howard County's schools. Over the years, we grew accustomed to the scowls or worried, sympathetic looks from other parents when we told them that we thought our kids would go to Long Reach HS.

Likewise, our kids grew accustomed to similar looks from their friends and fellow soccer players from other parts of the county. But they - and we - found Long Reach HS to be the perfect place for them, as they learned to make friends with an extraordinarily diverse range of people. This has better enabled them to deal with our changing society and our globalizing world. As my daughter put it in her graduation speech last May, "At Long Reach, we not only embodied 'e pluribus unum' as a living reality, we have given it a voice."

Some of you may know me as an advocate for action on climate change and sustainable development. After decades of working on these issues, I've come to understand that it's simply not enough to say we want to protect open space, save trees, or develop clean energy. We cannot and will not solve our climate and sustainability challenges if we do not simultaneously dismantle systemic barriers to equity, inclusion, and justice. We can't deal with these problems as if they are unrelated or isolated challenges. They go together and we have to solve them, together.

Whether it's solving climate or advancing justice, equity, and inclusion, business as usual is not the solution - it's the problem. We need great resolve to break from the outmoded ways of the past and to make ours that "more perfect union" our nation's founders envisioned.

A great place to start would be to reduce the racial and socioeconomic disparities in the Howard County Public School System (HCPSS).

Of course, as a NON-BINDING Council resolution, CR-112 does not obligate the HCPSS to do anything. Decisions on the Martirano Plan or other school redistricting plans rest solely with the HCPSS Board of Education. Nonetheless, I applaud the sponsors of this resolution for their willingness to stand up for vital principles and to express clearly the Council's desire for HCPSS to use the lens of equity as a priority in any school redistricting and boundary review processes.

Some have questioned whether the Council should weigh in on HCPSS business. But, after seeing the nature and extent of much of the opposition to the Martirano Plan, it's clear to me that adopting this resolution is absolutely the right thing to do. Changing the status quo that advantages some over others and dismantling systemic barriers to equity and inclusion are not things that come easily, much less automatically. They must be done with great intention and commitment.

I urge this Council to put itself on the right side of history by adopting this resolution. I hope this Council will demonstrate its - and Howard County's - unequivocal support for equity in our public schools by approving CR-112 overwhelmingly, if not unanimously.

Thank you.

Testimony on CR 112-2019 Tim Lattimer, Columbia, MD 20145 September 26, 2019

My name is Tim Lattimer and I live in the Long Reach Village portion of Columbia.

Speaking only for myself, I strongly support Council Resolution 112-2019.

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Likewise, our kids grew accustomed to similar looks from their friends and fellow soccer players from other parts of the county. But they - and we - found Long Reach HS to be the perfect place for them, as they learned to make friends with an extraordinarily diverse range of people. This has better enabled them to deal with our changing society and our globalizing world. As my daughter put it in her graduation speech last May, "At Long Reach, we not only embodied 'e pluribus unum' as a living reality, we have given it a voice."

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equity, inclusion, and justice. We can't deal with these problems as if they are unrelated or isolated challenges. They go together and we have to solve them, together.

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I urge this Council to put itself on the right side of history by adopting this resolution. I hope this Council will demonstrate its - and Howard County's - unequivocal support for equity in our public schools by approving CR-112 overwhelmingly, if not unanimously.

Thank you.

From:

Haydee Herrera < lolalagrande 123@gmail.com>

Sent:

Thursday, September 26, 2019 5:25 PM

To: Subject: CouncilMail CR 112-2019

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Member of the Council,

I would like to let you know that I support the Council's Resolution, and join calls from community members for the Howard County Board of Education to elevate the priority of diversity of socioeconomic status as a priority in the Howard County Public School System's School Boundary Review Process.

Equity and inclusion are not just buzzwords; they are actions meant to be lived out through policy and practice, ensuring that all members of our community have access to the same opportunities and a quality education regardless of their background, race, or socioeconomic status.

Best wishes, Haydee Herrera district 1

From:	David Clifton <dmclifton@gmail.com></dmclifton@gmail.com>
Sent:	Thursday, September 26, 2019 4:31 PM
То:	CouncilMail
Subject:	Opel Jones Conduct in CR-112 Hearing

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Council,

I wish to formally express my concerns with how appalling the behavior of Councilman Jones was in the year today - Thursday - on CR-112. Jones bullied multiple people testifying for having different views from him, including a woman who testified she was verbally assaulted by an individual from his district. Using the pulpit of the Council desk to denigrate residents of the county is unacceptable and should be kept out of our council meetings.

I hope that Councilman Jones will conduct himself in a more civil manner in the future.

Thanks,

David

From:

Shavondalyn Givens <shavondalyn 1998@icloud.com>

Sent:

Thursday, September 26, 2019 3:51 PM

To:

CouncilMail

Subject:

Support for redistricting and integration plan

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

My name is Shavondalyn Givens and I support a plan for meaningful redistricting. My son attends PVMS and the number of FARMS students is nearly 40%. We must change to ensure equity of access across the county.

Shavondalyn Givens 9517 Donnan Castle Ct Laurel MD 20723

Sent from my iPhone

From:

Ashley Hopper <ashley.jolissaint.hopper@gmail.com>

Sent:

Thursday, September 26, 2019 3:27 PM

To:

CouncilMail

Cc:

Yungmann, David; Rigby, Christiana; Kittleman, Mary

Subject:

Re: Written Testimony CR-112

Attachments:

CR-112 Testimony_Ashley Jolissaint.docx

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

To Whom It May Concern,

I noticed a typo which left uncorrected may leave Council Members scratching their heads. Please see the attached slightly revised Written Testimony.

Thank you.

Best Regards, Ashley Jolissaint Polygon 1166, District 5

On Thu, Sep 26, 2019 at 2:58 PM Ashley Hopper <<u>ashley.jolissaint.hopper@gmail.com</u>> wrote: To Whom It May Concern,

Please see the attached testimony opposing CR-112 in its current draft.

Thank you for all that you do in service to our county.

Best Regards, Ashley Jolissaint Polygon 1166, District 5 Ashley Jolissaint Polygon 1166, District 5 Testimony CR-112

I want to open with commending Council Members on their noble efforts and for the opportunity to present (and submit) testimony. When voting, I ask Council Members to consider the following:

- 1. *Timing is everything.* The Council is wise to ensure that the timing of CR-112 is not perceived to be supportive of the BOE's current redistricting plan which is lacking in strategic planning, practical logistics, definitive peer-reviewed evidence, financial accountability and government transparency.
- 2. *A Master Plan.* Council Members, I submit to you that if you dislike current overcrowding in schools, then the creation of a master plan that carefully controls all aspects of housing development and school construction is key. The master plan should strategically take into account future overcrowding and school construction.

Further, if there is a perception that racial and socioeconomic segregation is a problem in Howard County, then the Council has *the best tools* to address this "problem," namely the geographic location and planning of affordable housing.

3. *Lead by Example. Set the Tone for Civility and Unity.* Council Members are elected officials with a duty to lead all members of the Howard County community. I, like so many others, understand the history of this nation... the hate that has divided cultures and races, not just black and white, but Chinese and Japanese, Native Americans, Jewish, Indian, Italian and even Irish.

CR-112's language is inflammatory and sets a divisive tone. For a large percentage of our community, this divisive language stirs emotions that many of us who have lived in the United States cannot begin to appreciate. Such community members have personal life experience in which they suffered and fought oppression in their first countries. Therefore, the justification that CR-112's language merely calls upon history is to ignore the *real effect* it is having outside these doors, in our communities and neighborhoods. Notably, CR-112's references to "slavery" and repeated references to "black" and "white" are unnecessary to support the Council's goal and actually serve to undermine the BOE's redistricting plan's lawfulness on appeal.

Further, CR-112's current language ignores the actual racial diversity within our Howard County community. For example, every skin color and nearly every religion is represented on my street. (I know that my street is not an anomaly in Howard County. Rather, it is often the norm.) Howard County is a treasure trove of colors, cultures, and religions, and boasts high education, and, not just civility, but a true community. Howard County IS an integrated community. If there are divisions

Ashley Jolissaint Polygon 1166, District 5 Testimony CR-112

in housing affordability, then Council Members should use the powers that only Council Members have to correct those errors. The Board of Education is not the agency to address such geographical issues. Instead, county Council Members should ensure the Board of Education's complete focus on providing the best possible education to all Howard County students in a safe environment and supported by their neighborhoods.

Additionally, CR-112's language ignores the efforts made by all races to end oppression in our country and abroad, those who died not only to end slavery but those who still die side by side with brothers and sisters of all colors... Closer to home though, CR-112's language ignores the many racially diverse families in our community... the blending and equality that does exist. If ever there is a community that would unite to ensure an equal education for all, Howard County is that community... unless we destroy our unity and common ground before we have an opportunity to address and correct any perceived inequalities.

Therefore, I ask you, Council Members, to **be the leaders you were elected to be. Choose civility.** Carefully and thoughtfully redraft any County Resolution which requires the Howard County Board of Education to redistrict with socioeconomic factors in mind. **Exclude divisive language** that perpetrates stigma and hate unnecessarily, regardless if the language is based in "truth" or "historical fact." Would CR-112 not be as effective were this divisive language omitted? Or, is its very purpose to create division and chaos?

4. **Howard County, the Community** – *Our Children* **Deserve the Best.** Council Members, I submit to you that this product is not your best... and it is not what the community, nor the children of Howard County deserve.

I ask that you redraft CR-112 with language that calls upon the Board of Education to create a redistricting plan that is best for ALL students, based in peer-reviewed research and unbiased research that is clearly outlined in its limitations or lack thereof. I submit that a redraft should include language that requires strategic planning, including cost estimates and practical logistics, responsible spending, and government transparency.

The children of Howard County deserve our very best, and right now, CR-112 in its current form, does not meet that very basic standard.

I will leave you with two final thoughts for your consideration: First, children **thrive** with the support of their communities, their neighbors, friends and family... Perhaps, allowing for more inclusion, more choice, and less force, would yield the greatest results as we all navigate together. Second, we have some of the most brilliant minds in Howard County, why not include them in the actual conversation for a Master Housing and School Construction Plan?

From:

Susan M. Smith <manager@villageofriverhill.org>

Sent:

Thursday, September 26, 2019 3:24 PM

To:

CouncilMail

Cc:

BOE@HCPSS.org; 'Simone Smith'; Renee DuBois; Adam White; Angela Ling; Dave Dalpe;

Harjeet Jandu; Matthew Levine; Tony Miceli

Subject:

River Hill Watershed Committee Testimony: CR 112-2019

Attachments:

WAC Input CR112-2019.pdf

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Members of the County Council,

On behalf of the River Hill Community Association's Watershed Advisory Committee, please find attached written testimony pertaining to Council Resolution 112-2019.

Thank you for your consideration of this input.

Susan M. Smith, Village Manager River Hill Community Association 6020 Daybreak Circle, Clarksville, MD 21029 410-531-1749

www.villageofriverhill.org

Like us on Facebook: https://facebook.com/RiverhillCommunityAssociation



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September 23, 2019

Howard County Council 3430 Court House Drive Ellicott City, MD 21043

RE: Council Resolution 112 - 2019

Dear Members of the County Council,

The River Hill Watershed Advisory Committee has strong reservations about the proposed Howard County Public Schools redistricting for environmental reasons.

A redistricting plan that requires busing of children who now walk to school, while perhaps serving the purpose of economic integration, ignores another problem, that of our climate crisis. We maintain that public decisions need to be seen through the lens of the climate emergency. Putting children who used to walk to school on long bus rides increases the use of fossil fuels as well as air and water pollution.

In addition, the Village of River Hill has spent more than two decades working with the Columbia Association creating a system of walking and biking paths to connect neighborhoods, community areas and schools. Redistricting students out of this network would reduce the ability of students and their parents to walk or bike to classes, athletic events and other school-related activities. It would also require parents to drive more for before- and after-school care.

Communities and governments need to encourage more walking and biking while discouraging car-centric policies. We urge you to take the climate crisis into consideration when working on any redistricting proposal.

Sincerely,

Simone Smith, Chair

River Hill Watershed Advisory Committee

Cc: Board of Education

River Hill Board of Directors Columbia Council Representative

From:

Janki Patel <jpatelny@gmail.com>

Sent:

Thursday, September 26, 2019 11:52 AM

Subject:

Disagreement for redistricting proposal- polygon 176

Attachments:

HOC statement.docx

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

>

i DSAGREE with the Howard county school redistricting proposal.

It doesn't have considerable merit and only brings hardship to the innocent children, their families, fracture communities and increase unwarranted traffic and transportation cost in the HOC

Martirano's Proposal Fails to Meet Policy 6010 Standards

Martirano's proposal suggests moving 7,396 students to relieve overcrowded schools and bring equity to Howard County. The improvements in both of these areas are negligible, in particular, when weighed with the thousands of students moved in drastic ways across the county. I urge the BOE to compare Martirano's plan against the standards of Policy 6010 to determine whether this proposal should even be considered.

As human beings we all have personal feelings regarding the redistricting process, overcrowded schools, and the inequitable distribution of housing in Howard County. As an elected Board of Education member, we implore you to leave your personal feelings out of this process. Instead, we ask that you represent the people of Howard County who elected you. Listen to our feedback on Martirano's proposal, the Feasibility Study Options, and your own suggestions in the coming months at your Board meetings. We additionally urge you to use Policy 6010 to weigh the positives and negatives for all options.

Policy 6010 Section IV.B outlines the three main areas of consideration that the BOE should work to address in the redistricting process. The first is facility utilization. Policy 6010 states: "Where reasonable, school attendance area utilization should stay within the target utilization for as long a period of time as possible through the consideration of: the efficient use of space, long range enrollment factors, minimizing capital and operating costs, and walkers and bus riders". Martirano's plan fails on all counts when looking at Policy 6010 standards related to Facility Utilization. It increases transportation costs, it moves walkers to bus riders on long commutes, and it does not bring a significant amount of school attendance areas to target utilization. The proposal reduces the number of elementary schools that exceed 110% capacity from 21 to 16 while leaving 5 elementary schools below 90%, which is unimpressive. In fact, according to the forecasts in Martirano's proposal more schools will be above target utilization within a few short years than we have currently. At the elementary school level, the plan will move 3,194 students resulting in a less than 5% reduction in schools that are over capacity in 1 year. At the middle school level, 1,351 students are proposed to move achieving a 0% change in the number of over capacity schools in 1 year. Martirano's proposal moves 7,396 students in an effort that fails to bring schools any meaningful change in target utilization! The moves in Martirano's proposal are not reasonable!

Second, Policy 6010 directs the board to consider community stability. Policy 6010 Section IV.C: Community Stability states: "Where reasonable, school attendance areas should promote a sense of community in both the geographic place (e.g., neighborhood or place in which a student lives) and the promotion of a student from each school level through the consideration of: keeping strong feeds from one school level to the next (less than a 15% feed is unacceptable), keeping contiguous communities or neighborhoods together, and minimizing the frequency with which any one student is reassigned." Martirano's plan fails on all counts when looking at Policy 6010 standards related to Community Stability. "Community", as defined by Policy 6010, is "a geographic place, specifically the neighborhood or place in which a student lives". Martirano's proposal tears apart communities all over Howard County, negatively affecting families across every socioeconomic level. We cannot allow this to happen! In addition, many of these moves significantly weaken the feeds from one school to the next, and in three years these same students and many of their peers will again be at risk of disruptive school changes during the next redistricting.

Third, Policy 6010 directs the board to consider demographic characteristics. Policy 6010 Section IV.D. Demographic Characteristics of Student Population states:"Where reasonable, school attendance areas should promote the creation of a diverse and inclusive student body at both the sending and receiving schools." Martirano's proposal fails to adequately balance FARM data across Howard County when compared to the number of students moved. There are schools where the plan moves hundreds of students and achieves less than a 5% change in students who receive FARMs. There are overcapacity schools with low FARMs numbers that have no proposed moves of polygons to adjacent underutilized schools with high FARMs numbers. There are significant island moves that require transportation past multiple closer schools with capacity, and in some cases, unreasonable routes because of geographical barriers. Some examples include a West Friendship neighborhood being sent to Bushy Park Elementary, a Swansfield community neighborhood being sent to Clarksville Elementary, a Pointers Run community neighborhood sent to Swansfield Elementary, a Fulton Elementary community neighborhood sent to Laurel Woods Elementary, a Stevens Forest Elementary community neighborhood sent to Bryant Woods, a Clarksville Middle community neighborhood sent to Harpers Choice Middle, a Harper's Choice community neighborhood sent to

Clarksville Middle, a River Hill High School community neighborhood sent to Wilde Lake High School, and pretty much all of the gerrymandered Atholton High School attendance area, which also impacts the Hammond and Oakland Mills neighborhoods.

When making moves like these, Policy 6010 IV.D specifically states that consideration should be given to "the number of students moved, taking into account the correlation between the number of students moved, the outcomes of other standards achieved in Section IV.B. (Facility Utilization) and the length of time those results are expected to be maintained." When we weigh the demographic changes in this proposal against the number of students moved, the negligible impact on facility utilization, and the short length of time these changes are expected to be maintained, Martirano's proposal fails! Only 10 out of 74 elementary, middle, and high schools see more than a 10% change in FARMs rates in Martirano's proposal. Applying an even lower criteria of 5% or greater change in FARMs rates, only 14 out of 74 schools in Howard County are affected. Negligible changes in facility utilization and negligible changes in FARMs rates at the cost of the redistricting 7,396 students does not meet the Standards for redistricting students as outlined in Policy 6010!

The bottom line is Martirano's proposal fails to meet Policy 6010 standards, and therefore the BOE should not consider the proposal during this redistricting process! The BOE must consider whether redistricting is even necessary at this time or if waiting 3 years is acceptable. If redistricting is necessary as deemed by the standards of Policy 6010, the BOE must only consider options that achieve the standards set forth in Policy 6010!"

Janki Patel Polygon -176

From:

E Kato <euk369@gmail.com>

Sent:

Wednesday, September 25, 2019 9:51 PM

To:

CouncilMail

Subject:

CB112

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear County Council,

I would like to voice my strong support for CR-112-2019. I had intended to deliver this in person but I have to work, so please accept this email instead.

I have lived in Howard County for 19 years. My children attended Talbott Springs, Lake Elkhorn Middle School, and OMHS, and I just dropped my oldest child off at college in Boston a few weeks ago. My children received a great education – dedicated teachers, good friends, and classes, clubs and teams that challenged them to grow. I feel very fortunate and I would not want them to have gone to any other schools in Howard County.

However, from the time they started Middle School, they were told over and over – directly by kids and indirectly adults– that they went to the "ghetto school." When they went to competitions, they could see that other schools had more resources than their school had. And they heard the racial slurs that kids from "good" schools cast against their classmates.

Numerous research studies have shown that concentrating poverty in certain schools increases the achievement gap, and that distributing lower income students improves outcomes for lower income students and has no adverse effects and sometimes improves outcomes for higher income students. Here is just the latest <u>study</u>. Diverse schools also foster greater appreciation for different cultures and reduce intolerance. Conversely, segregation breeds fear and selfishness, as we are seeing now in Howard County. Separate educational facilities are inherently unequal.

Therefore, for the good of all our children and in order to build a strong and vibrant community, we must take broad action to reverse the growing segregation that blighting our future. This problem has developed over many years, due to land use decisions (such as fee in lieu) that favored profits for developers over stable healthy communities, lack of commitment to seeing all children as equally worthy, and tolerance of bigotry cloaked in the guise of test score worship. I would like to thank Council members Jones, Jung, and Rigby for their leadership and foresight in introducing this resolution.

Sincerely,

Liz Kato

7335 Carved Stone

Columbia, MD 21045

From:

roberta brown <rbrownjhu@yahoo.com>

Sent:

Wednesday, September 25, 2019 9:17 PM

To:

CouncilMail

Subject:

CB 42 and CR 112

Attachments:

County Council Letter.pdf

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Howard County Council,

Please find my letter attached regarding CB42 and CR112.

Roberta Bardini

September 25, 2019

Dear Elected Members of the Howard County Council,

I urge you to vote NO on CR 112 and YES on CB 42. Your predecessors in Howard County have created a problem by caving to developer's interests. This, coupled with zoning regulations, have forced the bulk of affordable housing in Howard County in the eastern part of the county. Instead of concentrating on zoning changes in some rural portions of the county and forcing developers to pay for infrastructure such as roads and schools, you have the gall to recommend that HCPSS integrate based on socioeconomic factors. This is complete insanity. This will be a neverending cycle until the county council fixes the problems that only YOU can fix. Clean up your house before you demand that someone else clean up the problem that your predecessors created.

Sincerely,

Roberta Bardini

From:

Julie Bo Xie

bxie2005@gmail.com>

Sent:

Wednesday, September 25, 2019 8:55 PM

To:

CouncilMail

Subject:

opposition to CR 112 - County Council Resolution to integrate by social economic

status

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

My name is Bo Xie. I live in District 5, Howard county with my husband and two kids who attend county public schools. I strong oppose this bill.

Thanks,

Во

From:

Sent:

Wednesday, September 25, 2019 7:34 PM

To:

CouncilMail

Subject:

Redistricting

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear County Council,

I would like to add my comments to the many you have no doubt received about redistricting.

Although I'm all for quality education for all the children in Howard County, I don't think the current plan that I'm hearing about would accomplish this.

Wouldn't it be more effective to improve each of the schools with better administration, better teachers and better facilities.

It seems to me that moving kids all over the county, away from their communities and families, causing them to have to leave for their new schools earlier and get home later, would detract from family life, cause confusion in the schools and make it MORE difficult to educate our kids.

Please vote against this current plan proposed by the head of our school board. I truly believe it will do more overall harm to the County, while trying to do good.

Thank you, Rabbi Barry Rubin 11818 Linden Chapel Rd. Clarksville, MD 21029 410-499-4540

Barry Rubin

From:

Eun Ah Montgomery <ekm1006@hotmail.com>

Sent:

Wednesday, September 25, 2019 10:38 AM

To:

CouncilMail; Aimee Pang

Subject:

RE: Opposition to CR112-2019

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Council members:

Please vote "No" to this legislation. Redistricting every few years is disruptive to students, schools, and parents and spending money the HoCo doesn't have. I watched the BOE regular meeting on September 19, 2019, I am appalled and saddened and disheartened to hear parents, teachers of Hammond, and Talbot Elementary schools pleading for money to fix their unsafe schools and not outfitted with even the basics for their kids. This should not be going on here in Howard County schools. I do not understand how you are spending hard working tax payers money to write this legislation. Please find money and spend time to write legislation to fix the unsafe and deteriorating schools and take care of our HoCo kids. This is shameful and as a new resident to HoCo I am shocked. I was told HoCo had the best schools in Maryland and to find this out makes us think again. Please Please shut down this unnecessary legislation when you literally have falling apart schools the council and BOE need to support. I could not believe my ears or stop my tears from falling when I heard the testimonies regarding Hammond High school and Talbot Elementary school. My kids are not districted to those schools but as a parent, my heart dropped and I am so sad and disgusted. Please find money, please take care of our HoCo kids. And stop the redistricting madness. It is irresponsible and reprehensible.

And also I imagine and suspect there is other outstanding repairs and needs not being taken care of in other HoCo schools. Please I beg, take care of HoCo schools for our HoCO kids.

Concerned HoCo parent.

Thank you for your time.

Eun Ah Montgomery District 5

From:

manager@owenbrownvillage.org

Sent:

Wednesday, September 25, 2019 9:43 AM

To:

CouncilMail Ball, Calvin

Cc: Subject:

CR112 Testimony

Attachments:

Testimony for CR112.pdf

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Please see attached letter.

Thanks,

Craig Barton

Village Manager
Owen Brown Community Association, Inc.
6800 Cradlerock Way
Columbia, MD 21045
T -410-381-0202
F -410-381-0235

www.owenbrownvillage.org



OWEN BROWN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, INC 6800 Cradlerock Way, Columbia, Maryland 21045-4809 Phone 410-381-0202 Fax 410-381-0235

WEB Page: www.owenbrownvillage.org

September 24, 2019

Howard County Council 3430 Courthouse Dr. Ellicott City, MD 21043

Subject: <u>CR 112 -2019</u>

Dear Council member:

The Owen Brown Community Association endorses the effort to implement a lawful multi-year Integration Plan to ensure that Howard County Public Schools are integrated by socioeconomic factors.

We have been following the ongoing effort to develop a redistricting plan for the Howard County Public Schools. We were disappointed in the proposed plans for redistricting, which failed to properly address socioeconomic demographics.

Our county has struggled to achieve socioeconomic integration in our public schools. We request the county government acknowledge that in recent years Howard County has become increasingly segregated with respect to economic background and that the public-school system is imbalanced with respect to academic opportunities.

The school system needs a comprehensive plan that prioritizes socioeconomic integration and academic achievement while minimizing the impact on community cohesion, transportation, and smooth transitions of school populations from elementary to middle to high school. We acknowledge that the solution to our existing socioeconomic disparities and achievement gaps will not be simple or quick and cannot be fully achieved through redistricting. So, we call on all parts of our county government to be involved in this effort.

We commend the initiative shown by Council Members Mercer Rigby, Jones and Jung. The road ahead will be difficult and will require imaginative thinking and reasonable compromises. But we owe it to our current and future students to begin a determined effort to correct our course.

Sincerely,

Michael Golibersuch, Chair

Owen Brown Board of Directors

Cc: Dr. Calvin Ball, Howard County Executive

From:

mail@changemail.org

Sent:

Tuesday, September 24, 2019 10:27 PM

To:

CouncilMail

Subject:

10 more people signed "Support Howard County Council Integration in Redistricting

Resolution"

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]



New signatures

Howard County Council Members – This petition addressed to you on Change.org has new activity. See progress and respond to the campaign's supporters.



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nancy mantell

Baltimore, MD · Sep 25, 2019



Eugene Meisenhelder

Baltimore, MD · Sep 24, 2019



Rose Edwards

Ellicott City, MD · Sep 23, 2019



BEVERLY BELIN

Columbia, MD · Sep 22, 2019



Alice Pham

9650 Sandlight Court, Columbia, MD · Sep 22, 2019

View all 10 supporters

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On Change.org, decision makers like you connect directly with people around the world to resolve issues. Respond to let the people petitioning you know you're listening, say whether you agree with their call to action, or ask them for more information. <u>Learn more.</u>

This notification was sent to councilmail@howardcountymd.gov, the address listed as the decision maker contact by the petition starter. If this is incorrect, please post a response to let the petition starter know.

Change.org · 548 Market St #29993, San Francisco, CA 94104-5401, USA

Ellen Patricia Chahanovich 10143 Hobsons Choice Lane Ellicott City, Maryland 21042

Councilman Jones,

2019 SEP 30 PM 1: 50

I wish to apprise you of a scenario that strongly aligns with the content of a New York Times article: Judge Rules Terrorism Watch List Violates Constitutional Rights (Sept 4, 2019 by Charlie Savage).

This scenario owns a long standing script experienced by my son, Walter Scott Chahanovich, presently a 5th year PhD Candidate at Harvard University for Middle Eastern Studies, full scholarship.

As a result of academic scholarships, invitations to view protected manuscripts, and, requests to attend or present at international conferences "the essence of travel" has become his standard of practice. These academic opportunities have catapulted him into a database authored by the FBI / DHS where the TSA can humiliate and embarrass him in public, subject him to enhanced screening, detain him for hours, and, delay his boarding. Why is it permissible for the FBI / DHS to judge American citizens based upon their intellect and formal education, only then to profile because they travel?

I cannot quote constitutional law, nor, cite the intricacies of the Freedom of Information Act to impress your prompt interest regarding the infractions of his civil liberties. Nor, can I reason 'why' any citizen can be identified as 'a threat' without notification; is denied opportunity to contest 'gathered' slanderous opinion, and, is refused the right of 'innocent until proven guilty'. Truly, the Watchlist Protocol begs oversight for its legitimacy, and, the tools created by the FBI and Homeland Security demand immediate surveillance.

Councilman Jones, I implore your oversight and intervention. Referencing a Federal Judge, the Honorable Anthony J. Trenga of U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia (New York Times, 9.4.2019)

"The court concludes that the risk of erroneous deprivation of plaintiffs travel-related and reputational liberty interests is high and the currently existing procedural safeguards are not sufficient to address that risk...'.

Additionally, in response to a lawsuit filed by the Council on American-Islamic Relations who charged that their inclusion violated their due process rights as they were detained, harassed and never advised as to 'why' they were identified on this list, nor, were they given an opportunity to contest derogatory claims. Judge Trenga agreed that the current procedures were inadequate to protect their rights. Further commenting that a urgent need exists for determining a remedy to adequately protect a citizens constitutional rights while not unduly compromising public safety or national security.

My son's recent travel experiences from Istanbul to Washington D.C. (paid Internship at Dumbarton Oaks) are alarming. Recent travel from D.C. to Oklahoma, to visit his brother, equally horrifying. Each time he is approached in a crowd, accompanied by multiple agents to an interrogation room, and, grossly detained. Each time the outcome reveals: answers satisfactory, luggage safe; body search negative. Councilman Jones, I beg that stipulations be determined for those citizens who continually prove 'no threat' that they be awarded a flag of 'no surveillance'.

No doubt my son is counted among the declared 4,600 American citizens listed within The Terrorist Screening Database (TSDB) because the TSDB holds opaque standards and rationales for inclusion that unjustly claim American citizens as suspect to national security. Can you please intercede, or, provide direction?

Respectfully Yours,
Clen Glikenovick

4297 Buckskin Lake Drive Ellicott City, MD 21042 September 25, 2019

Howard County Council George Howard Building 3430 Court House Drive Ellicott City, MD 21043

Re: Mr. Martirano's Proposed Area Adjustment Plan

Dear Sirs:

I believe implementation of Mr Martirano's proposed redistricting plan will be disruptive to families, will not benefit students, and will waste resources.

The majority of residents, who would be affected, reject this redistricting plan.

Please do not support this proposed plan.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

John Braun



HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL AND RECEIVED 12019 SEP 30 PM 1: 53

September 23, 2019

Howard County Council 3430 Court House Drive Ellicott City, MD 21043

RE: Council Resolution 112 - 2019

Dear Members of the County Council,

The River Hill Watershed Advisory Committee has strong reservations about the proposed Howard County Public Schools redistricting for environmental reasons.

A redistricting plan that requires busing of children who now walk to school, while perhaps serving the purpose of economic integration, ignores another problem, that of our climate crisis. We maintain that public decisions need to be seen through the lens of the climate emergency. Putting children who used to walk to school on long bus rides increases the use of fossil fuels as well as air and water pollution.

In addition, the Village of River Hill has spent more than two decades working with the Columbia Association creating a system of walking and biking paths to connect neighborhoods, community areas and schools. Redistricting students out of this network would reduce the ability of students and their parents to walk or bike to classes, athletic events and other school-related activities. It would also require parents to drive more for before- and after-school care.

Communities and governments need to encourage more walking and biking while discouraging car-centric policies. We urge you to take the climate crisis into consideration when working on any redistricting proposal.

Sincerely,

Simone Smith, Chair

River Hill Watershed Advisory Committee

Cc: Board of Education

River Hill Board of Directors Columbia Council Representative

Jeri Shuster, M.D., P.A.

and Women's Center, Inc.

HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL
RECEIVED

DIJ Mr OJ

Jeri Shuster, M.D., Fellow of the American College Obstetricians and Gynecologists

Kathryn Cervi, C.R.N.P., Women's Health Care Nurse Practitioner's SEP 18 PM 1: 27

September 7, 2019

Polygon 1185 Reditudy

Dear Dr. Martirano, Howard County Board of Education, and County Executive Calvin Ball,

I am writing to you to object to your redistricting plan for my neighborhood (known to me and my neighbors as Chapel Woods, known to you as polygon 1185). Although I think it is unintentional, your plan is cruel to families and children in my neighborhood.

Your goal is to achieve an equity agenda in Howard County Schools. Therefore you have proposed redistricting that involves sending students from my neighborhood of Chapel Woods (polygon 1185) away from our neighborhood schools including Clarksville Middle School and River Hill High School. All of these schools are presently underutilized and could accommodate more students. Therefore, you could achieve your stated goal by sending additional students to join our community schools. In addition, you plan to move our Clarksville Elementary grads (where we have 26 students) to Harper's Choice while their school friends and neighbors from the past 6 years of school will be attending Clarksville Middle. Pediatric and Adolescent Medicine physicians will tell you this is UNREASONABLE and unwise. Why invite a problem that can easily be avoided?

According to your redistricting plan, a student who is beginning their junior year at River Hill HS, would spend their senior year at Wilde Lake HS. Does this seem reasonable? I think that most of us would agree that we would not want our teen to be forced into this situation.

It is UNREASONABLE to split up our Clarksville community. Why would you intentionally separate friends and families? Our neighbors in Meadow Vista (polygon 185) are not being forced to leave their current schools. They are walking distance to us. It seems like an ARBITRARY decision as to who was "selected." Therefore, I respectfully request deselection for my neighborhood.

It is UNREASONABLE to greatly upset, stress and anger a productive, happy, VOTING community. There has been an outpouring of angst among my friends and neighbors. Have students or families at Wilde Lake or Harper's Choice expressed a desire to be moved to Clarksville or River Hill? Are they expressing angst about their schools? (I suspect not, as the principal at Wilde Lake has a fabulous reputation). If they are distressed about their neighborhood schools and prefer to travel from Columbia to Clarksville, there does seem to be room to accommodate additional students here. Since there is room at the Clarksville schools, transferring Columbia students in would not require forcing students from my neighborhood to leave. Chapel Woods is close to our currently districted schools: 0.5 miles to Clarksville Elem and River Hill; 4.1 miles to Clarksville Middle.

As seniors, the reality is that many River Hill HS students drive to school. These inexperienced (also likely sleep deprived under your proposed redistricting plan) drivers currently travel from our neighborhood 0.5 miles on Route 108 to get to school. If they move to Wilde Lake, they will be on multiple roads, drive through multiple intersections and be placed at increased risk of being involved in a motor vehicle accident. This is an UNREASONABLE problem that you will have created as well as a potentially dangerous situation. I think that we have all seen what it's like to drive behind some of these kids, and would agree that less time during the morning rush hour is better.

I respectfully request that you reconsider your current proposal and that you allow Chapel Woods students to remain in their local schools.

Sincerely,

Jeri^lShuster MD

Cc:

redistricting@hcpss.org

Kathleen Hanks@hcpss.org

vicky cutroneo@hcpss.org

christina delmont-small@hcpss.org

jennifer mallo@hcpss.org

sabina taj@hcpss.org

chao-wu@hcpss.org

student_member@hcpss.org

ojones@howardcountymd.gov

diung@howardcountymd.gov

dyungmann@howardcountymd.gov

ewalsh@howardcountymd.gov

crigby@howardcountymd.gov

September 7, 2019

Jeri Shuster, M.D., Fellow of the American College Obstetricians and Gynecologists

Kathryn Cervi, C.R.N.P., Women's Health Care Nurse Practitioner

Dear Christiana Mercer Rigby, Dr. Opel Jones and Deh

I am writing to respond to the statements that you were credited for in the Howard County Council Aug 13, 2019 news release. These statements were offered as justification for splitting up my community, particularly my neighborhood of Chapel Woods (polygon 1185), where you plan to exchange our Clarksville Middle School students for Harpers Choice Middle School students and swap our River Hill High School Students for Wilde Lake High School Students.

You are proposing a social science experiment with our children in order to achieve an equity agenda. You indicate that you believe that socioeconomic and racial segregation cause an achievement gap and reduce graduation rates for low income students and students of color. This is a correlation rather than scientifically proven cause and effect. It also fails to take into account many other potential reasons why we are seeing disparity in achievement and graduation in our Howard County Schools.

To test your hypothesis, you need to alter only one variable at a time rather than two or more, and your statement is unreasonable because it is unscientific and your plan is not designed logically. In an effort to achieve our goal of equity, you would need to consider a different plan than the one you have proposed. For example, you might move students from Harpers Choice Middle into Clarksville Middle or move students from Wilde Lake High School into River Hill High School. If you move students in both directions, you will be unable to determine what caused the improvement in education or why the redistricting plan did not achieve the desired improvement in graduation and achievement. I don't believe that you are trying to lower the performance of high achieving students by moving them to lower achieving schools. So if you are trying to improve the education of students from low achieving schools, it seems much more reasonable to move these students into high achieving schools if you believe that the cause of failure to graduate can be solved by increasing integration at high performing schools.

You also have two variables when you lump together socioeconomics and racial segregation. Your plan does not look at the effect of moving low income Caucasian vs low income students of color. Is the disparity caused by income or by race or by neither?

You have also linked together the variables of graduation and achievement. Has a "D" student who graduates achieved as much as a "B" student who drops out of high school? These are extreme examples and most of us would agree that graduation and achievement correlate, but graduation from high school alone is not proof of achievement.

There are a lot of other factors that may explain why kids are underachieving rather than attributing this problem to the geographic location of the school. Perhaps the cause of poor achievement in low socioeconomic schools is caused by the fagthat that student body is frequently in a state of flux, moving from home to home. I know many teacher this as a problem. They tell me that their

classroom student composition changes by the month. Transferring a student from one school to another is not likely to improve education if they continue being transient. They will always be moving into a class that is already in progress and will have missed the groundwork necessary to understand the current lesson. This would be the case no matter what school they are attending.

Educators have told me that they have noticed a higher incidence of absenteeism among apartment dwelling students compared with other students. They point out incidents of apartment households where parents bring their children to school late or take them out of class early. If a student misses class, their academic achievement is likely to be lower than that of a student who attends class. Switching schools will not impact graduation rate or academic achievement if the student does not attend school. Do you have data about class attendance at our underachieving compared with our most successful schools and how this correlates with achievement and graduation?

Have you considered health factors that could be having significant impact on achievement in some schools? Medical conditions such as fetal drug or alcohol exposure, exposure to maternal smoking in utero can all impact on ability to learn, and these factors may or may not vary from one community to another.

Studies have shown that student achievement correlates with level of parental education. Can this disparity be overcome by exchanging students from one high school to another? Where is your data?

Perhaps the reduced graduation rate has to do with advancing students before they are proficient in basic reading and math skills? This would not be helped by changing schools, but it is a serious problem that does need to be corrected.

Have you considered how the effect of busing will impact on our students' sleep? It is likely that the increased transportation time necessary to bus students will result in less than the medically recommended hours of sleep for all students affected by your proposed redistricting. According to the Consensus Statement of the American Academy of Sleep Medicine, "less than the recommended hours of sleep is associated with attention, behavior, learning and memory problems and increases the risk of accidents, injuries, hypertension, obesity, diabetes, and depression, increased risk of self-harm and suicide attempts." (I am including the consensus statement for you). By contrast, sleeping the recommended number of hours improves health and learning. Don't we all want the best possible education for our kids? Why implement a policy that is likely to cause harm?

Your goals are laudable, but the logic on which you base these goals needs some realistic, organized planning. It also needs community support. At this time you have set us up for a truly cruel situation for some of our kids. A rising River Hill High School Junior this fall will spend their senior year at Wilde Lake? Is this reasonable? Is it kind? Is this what Howard County desires for its voting citizenry and their children?

Sincerely yours,

Jeri Shuster MD

J Clin Sleep Med. 2016 Jun 15; 12(6): 785-786.

Published online 2016 Jun 15. doi: 10.5664/jcsm.5866

PMCID: PMC4877308

PMID: 27250809

Recommended Amount of Sleep for Pediatric Populations: A Consensus Statement of the American Academy of Sleep Medicine

Shalini Paruthi, MD,^{1,*} Lee J. Brooks, MD,^{2,3} Carolyn D'Ambrosio, MD,⁴ Wendy A. Hall, PhD, RN,⁵ Suresh Kotagal, MD,⁶ Robin M. Lloyd, MD,⁶ Beth A. Malow, MD, MS,⁷ Kiran Maski, MD,⁸ Cynthia Nichols, PhD,⁸ Stuart F. Quan, MD,¹⁰ Carol L. Rosen, MD,¹¹ Matthew M. Troester, DO,¹² and Merrill S. Wise, MD¹³

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Abstract

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CONSENSUS RECOMMENDATIONS

- Infants* 4 months to 12 months should sleep 12 to 16 hours per 24 hours (including naps) on a regular basis to promote optimal health.
- Children 1 to 2 years of age should sleep 11 to 14 hours per 24 hours (including naps) on a regular basis to promote optimal health.
- Children 3 to 5 years of age should sleep 10 to 13 hours per 24 hours (including naps) on a regular basis to promote optimal health.
- Children 6 to 12 years of age should sleep 9 to 12 hours per 24 hours on a regular basis to promote optimal health.
- Teenagers 13 to 18 years of age should sleep 8 to 10 hours per 24 hours on a regular basis to promote optimal health.
 - Sleeping the number of recommended hours on a regular basis is associated with better health outcomes including: improved attention, behavior, learning, memory, emotional regulation, quality of life, and mental and physical health.
 - Regularly sleeping fewer than the number of recommended hours is associated with attention, behavior, and learning problems. Insufficient sleep also increases the risk of accidents, injuries, hypertension, obesity, diabetes, and depression.

Insufficient sleep in teenagers is associated with increased risk of self-harm, suicidal thoughts, and suicide attempts.

- Regularly sleeping more than the recommended hours may be associated with adverse health outcomes such as hypertension, diabetes, obesity, and mental health problems.
- Parents who are concerned that their child is sleeping too little or too much should consult their healthcare provider for evaluation of a possible sleep disorder.

*Recommendations for infants younger than 4 months are not included due to the wide range of normal variation in duration and patterns of sleep, and insufficient evidence for associations with health outcomes.

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BACKGROUND AND METHODOLOGY

Healthy sleep requires adequate duration, appropriate timing, good quality, regularity, and the absence of sleep disturbances or disorders. Sleep duration is a frequently investigated sleep measure in relation to health. A panel of 13 experts in sleep medicine and research used a modified RAND Appropriateness Method to develop recommendations regarding the sleep duration range that promotes optimal health in children aged 0–18 years. The expert panel reviewed published scientific evidence addressing the relationship between sleep duration and health using a broad set of National Library of Medicine Medical Subject Headings (MeSH) terms and no date restrictions, which resulted in a total of 864 scientific articles. The process was further guided by the Oxford grading system. The panel focused on seven health categories with the best available evidence in relation to sleep duration: general health, cardiovascular health, metabolic health, mental health, immunologic function, developmental health, and human performance. Consistent with the RAND Appropriateness Method, multiple rounds of evidence review, discussion, and voting were conducted to arrive at the final recommendations. The process to develop these recommendations was conducted over a 10-month period and concluded with a meeting held February 19–21, 2016 in Chicago, Illinois.

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DISCUSSION AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Current evidence supports the general recommendations for obtaining an adequate number of hours of sleep per 24 hours on a regular basis to promote optimal health among children aged 4 months to 18 years. Individual variability in sleep need is influenced by genetic, behavioral, medical, and environmental factors. A clearer understanding of the precise biological mechanisms underlying sleep need requires further scientific investigation. These recommendations create a foundation to raise awareness and improve understanding of sleep effects on health. The recommendations provide a basis for:

• Educating children, teenagers, families, school professionals, healthcare providers/trainees, and the general public on the importance of adequate sleep duration for health.

- Encouraging parents and caregivers to help children obtain adequate sleep duration.
- Initiating discussions of social, educational, and economic benefits of adequate sleep duration, thereby informing public policy.
- Promoting research on the role of sleep duration in health and well-being. Research that directly examines the effects of sleep duration on health may lead to revisions of these recommendations in the future.

These recommendations have been endorsed by the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Sleep Research Society and the American Association of Sleep Technologists.

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DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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REFERENCES

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- 2. OCEBM Levels of Evidence Working Group. The Oxford 2011 Levels of Evidence. [cited March 9 2016]. Available from: http://www.cebm.net/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/CEBM-Levels-of-Evidence-2.1.pdf.

HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL RECEIVED

To: Whom This May Concern

The vision of Rouse for the new town of Columbia was to work play, learn and worship together. Rouse did that by selecting people to live in his town. There were apartments for all incomes and especially one designed for the very low income (Cooperstone) in Stevens Forest (Oakland Mills Village) and Townhouses in Swansfield (Harper's Choice Village) The Middle Class (especially the Black middle Class) was very strong and dominant the school system and area. Little or no crime and Columbia schools were the best in the county, state and nation.

What happen over time was that upper, middle- and moderate-income people/families stop renting apartments in Columbia and more urbanized low income with subsidized housing section 8 vouchers overwhelmed the apartments and therefore overwhelmed the schools.

Within the Black Community is an urbanized sub culture that is dysfunctional and became the dominant group when housed together. This is what happened to sections of Columbia. This caused a big change in demographics. Crime increase. Police substations were placed in 2 village centers. Some closed. Some remodeled in hopes to change the demographics. Schools in those area (even with the resources) still had low scores. These low scores had nothing to do with the teachers but the home environment. It was to do with dysfunctionality in the family and the home environment which does not stress education as other cultures do. That is why Asians , Browns and even Africans score higher than Blacks. (Collectively)

Now the Council thinks mixing Farm children with other income levels will change the test scores and graduation rates. Removing Farm students and transferring to other schools will even out the test scores, and individually some will benefit but collectively blacks will always score the lowest. Urbanized blacks will bring more behavior problems and disruption to the classroom which is why parents will remove their children to home schooling, private schools or out of the county altogether.

Howard County will be like Montgomery County which had the same problem years ago and before that Baltimore and Prince Georges Counties and Baltimore City.

Understand this ... Parents are going to influence their children and children will think they are not wanted which was caused problems in schools. Elementary schools (disruption in classroom) Middle and High School (rejection, grouping, more fights) Radical Black groups will use word "racism" like it's cotton candy but Columbia's concept and vision included all people. People have to embrace the vision that Rouse had and in the beginning it did work. County Need to bring that back again and get the people to understand and value the vision.

This is our recommendation if the County and Schools decide to "integrate incomes"

How you dress is the cliché in middle and high school (Wear uniforms) Farm students get free lunch while others pay. (Free Meals for ALL)

Joyce, Myra, Wilbur

From:

roberta brown <rbrownjhu@yahoo.com>

Sent:

Wednesday, September 25, 2019 9:17 PM

To:

CouncilMail

Subject:

CB 42 and CR 112

Attachments:

County Council Letter.pdf

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Howard County Council,

Please find my letter attached regarding CB42 and CR112.

Roberta Bardini

September 25, 2019

Dear Elected Members of the Howard County Council,

I urge you to vote NO on CR 112 and YES on CB 42. Your predecessors in Howard County have created a problem by caving to developer's interests. This, coupled with zoning regulations, have forced the bulk of affordable housing in Howard County in the eastern part of the county. Instead of concentrating on zoning changes in some rural portions of the county and forcing developers to pay for infrastructure such as roads and schools, you have the gall to recommend that HCPSS integrate based on socioeconomic factors. This is complete insanity. This will be a neverending cycle until the county council fixes the problems that only YOU can fix. Clean up your house before you demand that someone else clean up the problem that your predecessors created.

Sincerely,

Roberta Bardini

From:

Tara Scully <taramscully@gmail.com>

Sent:

Friday, September 27, 2019 12:17 PM

To:

CouncilMail

Subject:

Yes to CB42, No to CB112

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Opel Jones, Vice Cl.



Howard County Council

George Howard Building 3430 Court House Drive Ellicott City, Maryland 21043-4392

David 1

County Council Legislative Work Session
Continuation – Day 2
Friday, September 27, 2019
C. Vernon Gray Room
11:00 a.m.

Agenda

- Council Bill 42-2019 Introduced by Christiana Mercer Rigby and Deb Jung;
 Co-sponsored by Opel Jones and Liz Walsh AN ACT to alter the school facilities surcharge in accordance with Chapter 744 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2019; and generally relating to the school facilities surcharge.
- Council Resolution 112-2019 Introduced by Christiana Mercer Rigby, Opel
 Jones and Deb Jung A RESOLUTION requesting the Howard County Public
 School System to draft, approve, and implement a lawful multi-year Integration
 Plan to ensure that Howard County Public Schools are integrated by
 socioeconomic factors.

Please consider my feeling toward the bills from District 5 - Valleymede voter.

Yes for CB42 - make the developers pay mor e and let them charge it to new home buyers. We need money for the schools!

No for CB112 - our school system is one of the most diverse in the entire country. We need more money for facilities not more money being spent for busing children around. Children also need their sleep and don't need to be on long bus

rides. Provide more funds and resources to schools that need it to close the achievement gap. I lived in Howard County and I'm a product of Hammond Elementary, Hammond middle and Atholton high school, class of 1999. I'm a life long resident, who also works in HoCo.

- Tara =) Sent from my iPhone