

From: Courtney <courtneymegan1@gmail.com>
Sent: 2/17/2021 1:16:19 PM
To: Kim Roney
Cc:
Subject: Re: ACS Board of Education

Hi Councilwoman Roney,

Thank you so much for taking the time to respond to my email. I sincerely appreciate your attention and commitment to these concerns.

I'm curious - since Stephen Blount has withdrawn his application, will another applicant be given the opportunity to move on to the interview stage?

Thank you,
Courtney

On Tue, Feb 16, 2021 at 7:38 PM Kim Roney <kimroney@avlCouncil.com> wrote:
Courtney, thank you so much for taking the time to reach out and make your voice heard!

I appreciate your endorsement of Libby, Pepi, and Kate. In last week's Council process, a number of former educators and parents did not advance to the next step of interviews, and as an update, Stephen Blount has withdrawn his application.

I hear and share your concerns. I have attached a copy of the questions I have asked in advance of the Asheville Primary School decision, which includes highlighted responses from the Asheville Board of Education. I'm currently pushing for a joint meeting of the Council, Commission, and Board of Education as we take next steps in our roles.

With Gratitude,
Kim

On Fri, Feb 5, 2021 at 10:04 AM Courtney <courtneymegan1@gmail.com> wrote:
Dear Councilmembers,

I'm writing today in regards to the Asheville City Schools Board of Education. I am increasingly concerned about the lack of transparency and open communication between the board and the community. The most recent meeting on Monday February 1 only deepened my concerns. It seems clear that this school district has longstanding problems with management of both budget and general operations, and I feel it is time for a change.

I am asking you to commit to appointing new members to the Board when the current terms expire. Pepi Acebo, Libby Kyles, and Kate Brewer Fisher are members of our community who prove themselves time and again to be informed, concerned, and dedicated to fighting for decisions that are in the best interest of our children, and I believe this is exactly who we need now to begin to correct the course the ACS district has been on.

I also encourage you to consider making a move to these being elected positions in the future. When Board members feel accountable to the community, they have more incentive to act in the interests of the community.

As a parent of a child at Asheville Primary School, these issues are becoming apparent to me as plans to close and dissolve both of the successful, vital schools housed on the Haywood Rd property progress. Both the Board and the Superintendent continue to evade questions, obscure information, and misrepresent not only the school community, but also the communication which they have had with us. And it all comes from a decision to sacrifice a school (two schools!) to close a financial gap caused by

chronic mismanagement of funds; a problem of the Board itself.

What we have now isn't working. Our city, our community, and our children deserve better. I encourage you to carefully consider your appointments to the board, and help make the bold changes we need to move our schools forward with the best interest of our students in mind.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Courtney Sullivan



Kim Roney (she/her/ella)

Asheville City Council

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