

**From:** Pepi Acebo <unitblocks@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** 8/24/2021 2:18:21 PM  
**To:** Gwen Wisler AVL City Council <gwenwisler@avlcouncil.com>  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Re: Boards and Commissions: Open ACS Board of Education seat

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Greetings, Gwen -

Thank you for the reply.

I was disheartened this morning to watch Council Member Mosley and Vice Chair Smith ignore Council Member Roney's request to open up the process, including consideration of the endorsements made by the Asheville City Association of Educators and Buncombe County Association of Educations. Both associations serve City of Asheville families. Teacher and staff morale are particularly vulnerable right now and Dr. Freeman's contract is up for review in September.

Mosley gave legal advice that she herself questioned about Jackie Carr McHague's seat already being vacant to justify rushing the process to install George Seiberg immediately. As you may recall, in North Carolina, an official remains in office until replaced (or the effective date of a resignation). There is no rush. This is how Council members recently gained a year in office without specifically having their terms extended by statute.

Vice Mayor Smith also responded to public comment critical of the lack of open process by providing an inaccurate retrospective of the process last spring's Boards & Commissions meeting in which Roney was also ignored.

Vice Mayor Smith also directed staff to notify George Seiberg that he would be appointed to fill the vacancy. *This is clearly improper.*

It also appears that Mosley and Smith's actions were coordinated which brings up new issues with Open Meeting laws for bodies of three.

See <https://youtu.be/rUJ4Mf7HLaI>

Starting at 11:02 until 30:52 to catch the process, brief public comment, and Smith's response. Smith blocked public comment prior to the process.

My hope is that we will have a more open process with the full Council that reflects well on the City.

If you are concerned about my leaving the Asheville City Schools district, you'll be comforted to know I'm inheriting a home in West Asheville. I'm here for the long haul.

If you have any questions or concerns, I am a phone call away.

As always, I'm grateful for your guidance and prepared for any tough questions.

Yours in service,

Pepi Acebo, applicant and parent who lives and breathes Asheville City Schools

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On Tue, Aug 24, 2021, 2:37 PM Gwen Wisler AVL City Council <[gwenwisler@avlcouncil.com](mailto:gwenwisler@avlcouncil.com)> wrote:  
Thanks for your email, Pepi.

> On Aug 23, 2021, at 9:18 PM, Pepi Acebo <[unitblocks@gmail.com](mailto:unitblocks@gmail.com)> wrote:

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> Greetings, Gwen -

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> I ask for your consideration of an OPEN PROCESS in the interview and appointment to fill an upcoming vacancy on the Asheville City Board of Education.

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> I hope you will consider the applications of Libby Kyles and myself. Along with Jackie Carr McHague, Ms. Kyles and I were endorsed by the Asheville City Educators Association. In my opinion, it was particularly tragic that Ms. Kyles was blocked from being interviewed this spring given her depth and breadth of experience with education and equity in Asheville City Schools and our community.

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> Sadly, the corruption that I warned Council about in February continues to plague Asheville City Schools, putting the school system in greater jeopardy. I'm more than concerned about the recent removal of Assistant Superintendent Shane Cassida for refusing to retaliate against former Food & Nutrition Director Katie Treece for following the legal requirements of her job by reporting fraud to her NCDPI regional supervisor, Jeanette Broda, Ms. Treece's predecessor at Asheville City Schools. I am also getting new reports of nepotism and retaliation.

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> We need Board of Education members who are knowledgeable about the issues that are hampering Asheville City Schools from being the best it can be for our community, our families, our staff, and, of course, our students. I hope you will consider Libby Kyles or myself for the opening.

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> As in the past, I am always a phone call away if you have any questions or concerns.

>

> Yours in Service,

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> Pepi Acebo, applicant

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