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**Sent:** 2/22/2021 4:51:21 PM  
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**Subject:** Asheville City School Board Nominations

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Dear Asheville City Council members,

I am writing to you as a citizen of Asheville and a parent of three Asheville City School children to ask that you uphold the unanimous vote earlier in the month, which called for interviewing the three existing Asheville City School Board members plus FIVE applicants. I encourage you to go a step further and to accept essays from all applicants. I know that three, in particular, Libby Kyles, Pepi Acebo and Kate Fisher, have spent countless hours advocating on behalf of the students and parents within the Asheville City School system. Libby Kyles also offers the additional perspectives of a teacher, administrator and the black community in Asheville, a desperately underserved population. The Asheville City Association of Educators will also be putting forth their own recommendations. It is in the best interest of my children and the teachers in our community to receive their thoughtful recommendations before limiting the applicant pool. Asheville City Schools has the largest achievement gap in this state, so clearly we can do better. Why place limits on that potential?

With the withdrawal of Stephen Blounts' application, there are now only four additional applicants. At the very least, I request that you include an additional applicant to bring the number back up to 5 applicants.

Thank you,  
Katy Estrada