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**Sent:** 2/22/2021 8:59:26 AM  
**To:** Esther Manheimer <esthermanheimer@avlcouncil.com>  
**Cc:** sagerturner@avlcouncil.com, Kim Roney <kimroney@avlcouncil.com>, Daniel Withrow <ncae.acae@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Board of Education Appointment Process

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Good morning, Mayor Manheimer --

I am hoping that you'll let me in on your priorities regarding tomorrow's votes on the Board of Education appointment process.

I am concerned about an email you sent to a parent that seems to indicate that existing members of the Board of Education should be reappointed because there was no reason not to do so.

If this is the case, we should talk. If there are off-limits topics, I'll respect that, too.

I hope that I'll have your support tomorrow to be interviewed for appointment to the Board of Education. I gratefully appreciated the opportunity to interview and your vote for my appointment to the Board two years ago.

I also hope that Council will ask the vice mayor to recuse herself due to her role in the withdrawal of Stephen Blount's application, and that Council will disregard her deciding Boards & Commissions committee votes related to school board appointments.

At a minimum, some existing members of the Board of Education should be replaced with an applicant who would be willing to constrain the Chair and the Superintendent from imprudent actions that put Asheville City Schools in jeopardy.

I suggest amending the proposed motion to give Council more flexibility in interviewing applicants. This may be prudent if issues came to light that caused existing members of the Board of Education to resign. Under the current proposed motion, you may find yourself wanting to appoint five new members with only four applicants scheduled to interview.

You might give yourself additional flexibility by including the candidates endorsed by the Asheville City Association of Educators, whomever they may be, and/or all candidates put forward during the Boards and Commissions meeting, which would include Libby Kyles, Kate Brewer Fisher, and myself.

There is a way forward.

I am grateful for your accessibility and support of Asheville City Schools.

Thank you for all you do to support our kids and our community!

Yours in service,

Pepi Acebo

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*cc: Council members Kim Roney and Sage Turner due to their recent votes on the Asheville City Board of Education process. ACAE president Daniel Withrow.*