

Public Comments for School Board Meetings

#447

I would like to provide: *

In-Person Comments in the School Board Meeting Room

Select the meeting date:* *

June 16, 2022 6:30 p.m.

My public comments are related to: *

Safety/Security

Topic *

Gun Violence Resolution

Full Name *

Alexandra Griffin

What is your relationship to ACPS? *

Community Member

Upload a copy of your public comments or other supporting documents:



[acps_address_2022.docx](#) 15.9KB · DOCX

Chair Alderton and Esteemed Members of the Alexandria School Board,

My name is Alexandra Griffin and I'm a volunteer with the Alexandria Moms Demand Action chapter, where I help manage communications efforts. We have lived in Alexandria for over 20 years, and I was Chair of the Talented and Gifted Advisory Committee in 2016, where I'd been a member since 2013. So, we have many friends and deep ties to this community and ACPS.

Today I'm here to thank you for your continued support of gun violence prevention, for being a Community Partner for the Wear Orange event on June 3rd, and for passing the Gun Violence Prevention proclamation at the June 2nd Board meeting. We are so pleased to work with you on this important effort, and even more pleased to see progress toward preventing gun violence.

Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense wholeheartedly supports the motion before the Board today for annual firearm secure storage communication to families at a minimum, and for adding gun violence prevention (GVP) resources to the ACPS website. These simple actions can truly save lives, and this proclamation is an important part of increasing the safety of all students and educators in Alexandria.

My fellow Moms stand ready to work with you to urge Congress and the Virginia General Assembly to prioritize the following in passing common sense gun reform legislation:

1. For Congress, pass background checks on all gun sales, to ensure those people who shouldn't have guns can't easily get them simply by buying from an unlicensed seller, just as Virginia enacted in 2020
2. Pass Extreme Risk ("Red Flag") laws, which allow for quick intervention when a person is at serious risk of harming themselves or others with a firearm
3. End the sale and possession of military-style assault weapons, which have disproportionately been used in recent shootings. According to ET Research, between 2009-2020 the ten mass shooting incidents with the most casualties all involved the use of a firearm equipped with a high capacity magazine, an assault weapon, or both
4. Increase education efforts that encourage secure storage of guns in the home, such as the Be Smart program
5. Fund mental health services for both potential perpetrators of gun violence who may harm themselves or others with a firearm, and for those victims of gun violence who need support healing.

These commonsense provisions are widely supported by Americans, and by Virginians. We can't wait to act. Thank you.