

**May 23, 2019 School Board Meeting
Public Comments**

LEDs and CURE U -- CJ Chidlow

Hello my name is Carl - I go by CJ - and I am a CURE member. I think a couple of you may have seen me before. I apologize for not being able to present to you sooner; I was busy with rowing and studying for AP testing and all that stuff.

As Riley explained, in late January and early February of this year, CURE and ACPS signed a partnership agreement. In order to fulfill the agreements set in place via that partnership, CURE and ACPS worked together to build a roadmap for projects identified this school year. Those projects were to create a 100% optional educational program or tool that teaches students why their actions matter, how they can create change, and as they get older how they can lead environmental changes in their communities. We also wanted to receive a quote for how much a complete installation of LED lighting at TC Williams would cost - with the understanding that funding for such a project may or may not be approved.

So ACPS and CURE sat down and created a roadmap, via excel sheet, in order to accomplish those large goals - creating and implementing a educational program, and receiving a QUOTE for the TC LED project.

Before the CURE U project began, both CURE and ACPS agreed that the program would NOT be a curriculum because neither ACPS, CURE, nor any other entity would enforce or mandate the use of the program on teachers - it would be completely optional for them.

So with that in-mind, CURE and ACPS agreed to this PROCESS: both organizations would partner to conduct a survey to identify interest and potential education opportunities regarding student's gaps of knowledge, we would then take that data and with ACPS create a educational program. Once the program was created CURE needed to get buy-in from elementary principals - as again the program would not be mandated, CURE and ACPS would then do a beta trail of the program and reflect on the successes and failures of the program - making appropriate adjustments.

In the past few months CURE accomplished and fulfilled all steps of the aforementioned process: we conducted a survey with ACPS, we created the program with ACPS staff, we got buy-in from multiple elementary schools who want to test the program. However, less than two weeks ago, we were notified that ACPS executive members mandated a

complete stop and of the CURE U program, saying that it would have to go through the curriculum department, which could take up to two years. We followed the agreed upon process to its full expectations and entirety and yet, just weeks before we planned to conduct the beta, the program has been virtually shut down via ACPS direction and we have yet to know why.

In regards to the LED project, the process that was planned and agreed upon by both ACPS and CURE was as follows: CURE would conduct a lighting audit of TC Williams, ACPS would then take that information to their vendors to receive and provide CURE with a quote. CURE then provided the audit in the time-period identified in the process agreed upon by both organizations.

In accordance to that process, CURE would have received a quote more than a month ago. As of today, CURE has not received a quote.

So in conclusion, CURE would like a chance to sit down with ACPS and discuss these matters in more detail.

Thank you for your time and attention.