

# Public Comments for School Board Meetings

#604

I would like to provide: \*

Written Public Comments

My public comments are related to: \*

General Public Comments

Topic \*

Recognizing Teacher Excellent at LCTA – Mr. Raymond Pulliam

Full Name \*

Heidi Gomez

What is your relationship to ACPS? \*

Parent/Guardian of an ACPS Student

Enter your comments here OR upload below:

As we celebrate LCTA Principal Zissios' legacy to character education, we are writing to share our wholehearted thanks to Mr. Raymond Pulliam, who has taught 4th grade at Lyles Crouch Traditional Academy this year. LCTA is so fortunate to have a teacher of his caliber and dedication.

For 9 of the last 10 years, my husband and I have served as US diplomats overseas. When it was time to return home, we knew we wanted our boys to attend Lyles Crouch due to its long-standing commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion, and accessibility – long before DEIA became a buzzword.

We fundamentally believe that children must feel safe and connected to their teachers before they can learn. Mr. Pulliam have done just that, helping our sons build confidence to make friends, try new experiences, and appreciate different perspectives.

Mr. Pulliam cares deeply about the quality of education for all students, creating a classroom environment where students feel a strong sense of belonging. He is an excellent listener who encourages his students to be critical thinkers and advocates for themselves and others. His classroom assignments unlock our kids' creative potential – so much so that they enjoy going to school. And that is something every parent wants to see.

Mr. Pulliam is a greatly admired teacher who has had a positive impact far beyond his own classes. For example, I especially appreciate my son reminding me when I was struggling with something that “we never fail, we either

succeed or we learn." A quote, he says, he learned from Mr. Pulliam.

Mr. Pulliam's commitment to our kids is exemplary. And I hope the Alexandria City Public School recognizes his commitment to his students' well-being and educational excellence. We're lucky to have such an outstanding educator and public servant serving our community. He is "SIMPLY THE BEST."

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