

# Public Comments for School Board Meetings

#862

I would like to provide: \*

Written Public Comments

My public comments are related to: \*

Equity

Topic \*

Financial equity in our schools

Full Name \*

Lyndsey Clouatre

What is your relationship to ACPS? \*

Community Member

Enter your comments here OR upload below:

My name is Lyndsey Clouatre and I live at 205 Hume Avenue. I don't have children, but many of my friends' children attend Alexandria schools and I have volunteered with ACPS students through the Campagna Center for the past three years. I'm writing today to express my concerns with inequities across our schools. I don't think it's a secret that some ACPS schools have parents who have the finances and connections to throw and attend fundraisers that raise tens of thousands of dollars for both essentials and nice to haves for their community school while other schools have student bodies where the vast majority of students come from economically disadvantaged households. I also don't think it's a secret that there's a geographic divide between what are seen as the desirable schools and the schools that, for unfounded reasons, parents are told to avoid if they can.

I am deeply concerned these inequities continue to occur within our schools. It is unconscionable that within a single school system, a student's educational experience can vary dramatically based on where they live or how much money their family makes. Every child deserves an exceptional education in Alexandria City Public Schools, whether they're an eighth generation Alexandrian or their family arrived in the United States last week. Every child deserves a properly equipped classroom with a reasonable class size and the materials they need to learn and thrive, whether they're the child of a billionaire or live in public housing or are unhoused.

The School Board and ACPS leadership must take these inequities seriously. Your role is to make the decisions that are best for the children in Alexandria City Public Schools,

regardless of the political or social consequences. If that decision is redistricting to help alleviate these inequities or establishing a means where our fabulous fall fundraisers can benefit all ACPS schools, you will have my full support and the full support of many others. Don't just talk the talk; walk the walk when it comes to equity for all. Thank you.

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