

Public Comments for School Board Meetings

#788

I would like to provide: *

Written Public Comments

My public comments are related to: *

Safety/Security

Topic *

Safety and Transparency

Full Name *

Anne Koster

What is your relationship to ACPS? *

Parent/Guardian of an ACPS Student

Enter your comments here OR upload below:

I am shocked and outraged and totally let down by a) the fact that an elementary school student somehow brought a loaded gun to Lyle Crouch ES; b) the complete lack of transparency from ACPS about this event – not only to the families of Lyle Crouch, but to the entire ACPS school community. There should have been a message coming straight from the superintendent about the incident that evening – once the safety risk and immediate impacts were figured out – letting ALL parents know what happened and how it was being handled. There should have and still should be follow up actions and communications showing what actions are being taken to prevent this from ever occurring again but also to ensure that we as parents trust the school district to keep our kids safe by communicating across the district and offering district wide support. This incident does not only affect children at Lyle Crouch. Kids across the district connect in ways outside of school, and news that there was a loaded gun on school property, IN a classroom, is extremely unsettling and traumatic to many kids even just by hearing about it.

This transparency and lack of trust issues is an ongoing and major issue across ACPS, which is not limited to this single incident. There is zero transparency relating to safety issues at our schools, and what I perceive is less than zero honest interest in solving them by the central office. Parents are fed up. All issues concerning safety, threats, violence, drugs, really anything related, no matter the grade level, should be dealt with and (of course while protecting privacy and adhering to privacy laws) SHARED across our city so that we understand that not only do you care but are taking the lives of our children seriously. We need change and we need it now.