

Public Comments for School Board Meetings

#871

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Written Public Comments

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General Public Comments

Topic *

Jefferson–Houston Leadership

Full Name *

Nora Lovrien Buehler

What is your relationship to ACPS? *

Parent/Guardian of an ACPS Student

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Dear Drs. Kay–Wyatt and Finney,

The Jefferson–Houston SOL pep rally happened last Friday. All my 3rd and 5th grade sons were talking about were the tests, the pep rally, and all the exciting end of year activities that come after this important milestone. And my only thought was that Dr. McCain and Ms. Young were not there with their enthusiastic, smiling faces to give high–fives, words of encouragement, and lead the school in a rousing act of school pride.

This is heartbreaking.

I want to reiterate my concerns, now communicated in multiple emails, and to the School Board on April 25, that Jefferson–Houston's leadership needs to come back to school. They have created a level of stability and positive energy absent for a long time and hard to recreate. The acting leadership is doing a great job of keeping things together, but they are not permanent and the J–H community needs permanent and committed.

Since Dr. McCain and Ms. Young were put on leave FOUR weeks ago, there has been no further communication, leaving families to wonder what is going on and leaving the lingering sense that our beloved school administration must have done something wrong due to the awful, indirect, and politically–timed communication. We need to understand what is happening with the investigation, the intention to reinstate McCain and Young, provide resources to the pre–school program so that such a mistake never happens again, and see

the ACPS leadership take at least a modicum of responsibility that Central Office should duly be taking for the March 19th incident.

For years Jefferson–Houston was viewed with great skepticism by prospective parents, ranked super low on "Great Schools", and transferred out of with HIGH frequency. It is not that way anymore. The school is still a work in progress and to keep going, we need the leaders with the vision, the commitment, and the stamina to make it happen. These leaders are McCain and Young.

Teacher Appreciation Week is this week and I would have loved nothing more than to welcome McCain and Young back to Jefferson–Houston with great fanfare. They NEED to feel some love. The action taken against them was too harsh and political and hard to come back from.

Thank you,

Nora Lovrien Buehler
