



Katrina Goggins
Director of Communications

June 26, 2017



This letter is being written in response to questions bolded and labeled “Q” in the document you submitted during the “Public Participation” portion of the June 12 meeting of the Trustees of School District 5 of Lexington and Richland Counties.

You asked, “With over 755 signatures on a petition against the proposed site on AMFR site, with the continued complaints and public participation questioning this proposed site, as well as complaints about the price of this land –topping out at over a million dollars once all fees are paid – WHY ARE YOU NOT LISTENING TO YOUR CONSTITUTS (sic)?

The District’s administration takes very seriously the concerns of all citizens. Great care is taken to ensure all factors and due diligence are considered in important decisions like site selection.

You asked, “WHY are you not looking at rezoning “east” and adding onto current facilities to help with the overcrowding?

We do not feel rezoning is the best option to address growth in our Chapin geographical area. In some cases, it would create longer bus routes for elementary school students.

Also, we find that families are vested in schools in their own neighborhoods and communities. In the superintendent’s Vision 2020 plan, he recommended that the new elementary school be built on the west side of the Town of Chapin. He made this recommendation to support the District’s commitment to neighborhood schools. To align with this goal, the district has determined that Amicks Ferry Road is a desirable location to place a new elementary school.

You asked, “Can you take current enrollment at the D5 schools, (specifically CES and LMES) use the child’s address, and pinpoint on a map, where those students live and see where the students are who populate the schools?

The District’s Accountability Office is working to make this capability available next fall.

Regards,

Katrina Goggins