

Name	Email	Topic	Public Comment
Chris Dennard	christina_dennard@charleston.k12.sc.us	EL	The EL curriculum is comprehensive and research based, providing a foundation for teaching reading skills and phonemic awareness. The curriculum is founded in text that allows students exposure to both fiction and nonfiction sources. These sources are analyzed at a new level and used to deepen students' understanding of textual purpose, text features, text analysis, text citation and an overall appreciation of literature and culture.
Ragan DuBose-Morris	morris05@gmail.com	Public Sessions	Is there an opportunity for community members to participate in a Zoom session for the scheduled community sessions?  Thanks, Ragan DuBose-Morris

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Joan Chard	joanchar@comcast.net	9/17/22 - CCSD - "CCSD's School Board's Plan to Restructure its Governance Framework"	<p>Saturday, September 17, 2022  September 17th is Constitution Day &amp; Citizenship Day:  "This day commemorates the September 17, 1787 signing of the United States Constitution"  "Each educational institution that receives Federal funds for a fiscal year is required to hold an educational program about the U.S. Constitution for its students on September 17 (if it falls on a weekend; it should be held in the previous or next week)."  <a href="https://www2.ed.gov/policy/fund/guid/constitutionday.html">https://www2.ed.gov/policy/fund/guid/constitutionday.html</a></p> <p>Dear Charleston County School District (CCSD) - Superintendent - Donald Kennedy:  - and -  Dear Charleston County School District (CCSD) - Board Members:  Eric Mack,  Courtney Waters,  Kate Darby,  Cindy Bohn-Coats,  Joyce Green,  Erica Cokley,  Helen Frazier,  Kristen French,  Lauren Herterich:</p> <p>This email is in reference to the CCSD's School Board's Plan to "Restructure its Governance Framework" (i.e. the Publicly Elected School Board Members giving away their power to the CCSD's Superintendent).</p> <p>CCSD School Board have you included CCSD's "Governance Framework" community meetings in your busy schedule?</p> <p>Why do taxpayers have to attend community meetings for explanations of what changes are included in Governance Restructuring?</p> <p>Why haven't CCSD's School Board Members simply indicated to taxpayers "in writing" what specific changes they want to make regarding their governing power?</p> <p>The dictionary defines "govern" as "to control; to rule by sovereign authority."</p> <p>Do CCSD's School Board Members want to give away their "authority to control and to rule CCSD" to Superintendent Kennedy?</p> <p>CCSD's Board and CCSD's Superintendent Kennedy want to split the district's policy manual into a BOARD POLICY Manual and a DISTRICT POLICY Manual, essentially giving CCSD's Superintendent Kennedy almost complete control of all CCSD District decision-making.</p> <p>When CCSD's Board CANDIDATES accused CCSD's Board MEMBERS of trying to enact a fundamental shift in authority, CCSD's Board Members denied that was their goal, but still voted "to study" the change of giving CCSD's Superintendent Kennedy Board control.</p> <p>South Carolina Code of Laws Title 59 states:  "the legally-constituted governing body of the school district is the Board of Trustees of CCSD."  "The Superintendent's function is the execution of the Board's policies."</p> <p>Thus it appears illegal for CCSD's Board Members to give away their powers to anyone.</p> <p>Taxpayers can now vote to remove CCSD's Board Members who make poor decisions, but taxpayers cannot vote to remove CCSD's Superintendent Kennedy if he makes poor decisions.</p> <p>CCSD's Board Members do NOT vote to give away your power to the CCSD's Superintendent.</p> <p>Stop CCSD's Board's "Plan to Restructure CCSD's Governance Framework!"</p> <p>Sincerely,  Joan Chard  Grandmother of 3 CCSD Students  Former College Teacher</p>

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Joan Chard	joanchard@comcast.net	"Greenville County School Board Joins Charleston County in Political Survey."	<p>Editor at Post &amp; Courier                      Editor at Moultrie News</p> <p>"Greenville County School Board Joins Charleston County in Political Survey"</p> <p>Like it or not, South Carolina Public School System has become political. Last month, 35 candidates for Charleston County School Board received a Republican political survey, asking their stand on questions such as Critical Race Theory, Transgender Rights and Book Bans. Now Post &amp; Courier indicates a similar incident in Greenville County.</p> <p>Candidates are asked to check the box that indicates the extent to which they agree, disagree, or are neutral regarding each statement. Candidates are invited to interviews in person to elaborate on their views.</p> <p>When criticized, Maurice Washington, Chairman of the Charleston GOP, countered that the survey was designed to discover School Board Candidates' views on political issues such as Mandated Masks/Vaccines, White Privilege, and Parental Approval of History Content. Republicans obviously believe that Democrats are using K-12 public education to push their Democratic indoctrination agenda.</p> <p>Two SC School Districts, Lee County and Horry County, currently identify the political party of candidates. Lancaster County is also interested in doing so. Governor McMaster's letter to lawmakers in March indicated "...the proposal to transition to partisan elections may have merit."</p> <p>In my quest to identify highly qualified candidates, I need to know their stance on all issues Board Members will probably vote on. I would like to know more than "name, rank and serial number."</p>
Nancy Lewis	nlewis8@att.net	SEL/CRT	<p>Get rid of curriculum that teaches children that they are victims. Get rid of curriculum that involves an emphasis on sex and gender. What happened at Camp Road Middle could happen in any class. If content is going to be inappropriate, you need to give teachers opt out forms for parents. I do not ever want my child defining terms having to do with someone's sex.</p> <p>The public is tired of mistakes made by this board. You make a mistake, say I'm sorry, and that's it. What corrections will be put in place? Our children receive consequences when they make a mistake. I guess that federal money is the goal.</p> <p>By using SEL disguised as CRT, you are promoting racism and division.</p> <p>Other things I've heard about that are concerning- racist Marxist posters in a classroom, Black Lives Matter fists bulletin board, teacher explaining he is a they, furries running around all campuses. I am not against helping where there is disparity. If a teacher displayed only white people, that would concern me too. Writing assignments- Do you find America welcoming? We have an open border with people pouring in. Of course America is welcoming. It's the meting pot. Why not emphasize the flag and love of our country? America is full of opportunity. Does this not concern you?</p> <p>Diversity is wonderful, but you are helping a generation to hate each other and creating more confusion and division v unity.</p>
Brittany Fournet	fournetb@gmail.com	New District 9 school comments	<p>I am a community member who lives in the Swygerts Landing neighborhood, where the new school is proposed to be built. I'm not opposed to a new school, but I am concerned about traffic flow based on the current design. River Road is already very busy near this location, and adding a traffic light or round-a-bout will only cause more back up in this area. Also based on the current design bus and car riders will be driving through the Swygerts Landing neighborhood. How do you propose to not create a traffic gridlock in this neighborhood on school mornings and afternoons?</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
Jacquie Berger	jacquielwarner@gmail.com	Jewish Holidays/Early Release Days	<p>As the board begins to plan the 2023-2024 school calendar, I would like to request that if there are going to be two early release days scheduled in I Thank you for your consideration, Jacquie Berger</p>
Daniel Pittman	danpitty@gmail.com	comments on district 9 school	<p>I'm concerned about the dangers of added traffic through the Swygerts Landing neighborhood and River Road due to the proposed school. Would there be a better location for this school that would not cause such traffic problems?</p> <p>Thank you</p>
Pat Cline	patcline@earthlink.net	tennis courts at new school in D9	<p>To CCSD staff and Members of the Board of Trustees,</p> <p>It was with great interest that I read page 29 of the 2021-2022 CCSD Year in Review. I would like for CCSD to consider a partnership with Charleston County Parks and Recreation to build tennis courts at the new Johns Island elementary school.</p> <p>We do not have a Tennis Center on Johns Island. However, we continue to have winning tennis teams at Angel Oak Elementary. It would be a great asset to our community if we had courts available for our students at the new school. It is my understanding that some of the acreage could be allocated for tennis courts.</p> <p>Please consider this request as you design plans for the school and bus lot.</p> <p>Sincerely, Pat Cline</p>

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Sammy Stevens	sammy.c.stevens@gmail.com	Proposed school on River Rd	<p>Good afternoon. Please see the attached letter concerning the proposed school on River Rd.</p> <p>Dear CCSD,</p> <p>This letter is BEGGING YOU to reconsider the proposed location of the new District 9 Elementary School. I write this letter not only as a concerned parent of CCSD elementary aged children, but as a member of the neighborhood that would be negatively impacted by the proposed location of the new District 9 Elementary School. The proposed location of this school is poorly thought out on so many fronts. From a traffic perspective, it is pure insanity to think that River Road can support the additional traffic of an elementary school servicing the ENTIRTY of Johns Island, at any time of day. This would negatively impact everyone who travels on this road during peak times. Not to mention, the infrastructure itself cannot support additional cars. The roadway and shoulders (what little shoulder exists) is already failing. I understand that the intent is to divide the elementary schools on the island, having ½ a the new school and ½ and the existing Angel Oak Elem which may help from a traffic standpoint. However, this in and of itself is a problem! This will be a nightmare for those parents, like myself, who would have children in each school. Even with staggered bell schedules, which you have mentioned you would only consider, this makes pick up and drop off for those who do not use the buses to be very challenging. It's already nearly impossible to navigate the car rider line at AOE! Now let's add parents who are rushing from school to school, all traveling the same routes. Not to mention the buses that are doing the same thing! And why in the world would anyone think it makes sense to bus children from across the island to get to these schools? There is NO REASON an elementary aged student should spend that much time on a bus! I understand that a portion of this proposed school location was gifted to CCSD and therefore they believe it's the best site, however there are SO. MANY. RED. FLAGS. HERE!!!!!!</p> <p>In addition to everything I have mentioned above, the site is comprised of numerous wetlands and the adjacent neighborhood of Swygerts Landing already has tremendous flooding and stormwater concerns. Adding the amount of impervious surface associated with the construction of a school will only serve to exacerbate the issues. Has CCSD even obtained appropriate authorizations and permits from the Corps or DHEC? Has the City of Charleston been involved in stormwater plan reviews and discussions? How much of our taxpayer dollars are going to be spent on compensatory mitigation for wetland impacts that could be avoided if CCSD would just look at alternative sites? There is SO MUCH land for sale on Johns Island right now, I find it hard to believe that this is the only alternative that CCSD could come up with.</p> <p>Additionally, with two proposed roads and entrance points running through Swygerts Landing, you are now making a residential development a through-route to the school. This makes these existing residential streets more like a highway at times and a parking lot at others – during school drop off and pick up times. Not to mention, this will bring addition crime of opportunity into our neighborhood. As a homeowner in Swygerts Landing, I do not appreciate that I was not given adequate opportunity to provide public comment, nor engaged by CCSD or my HOA to be able to have a say in this. If CCSD wants to put a school at this property, which I have clearly demonstrated is a TERRIBLE decision, they should do so without negatively impacting the Swygerts Landing Homeowners by adding access points throughout our neighborhood.</p> <p>Again, I emlore you to please reconsider this location and the proposal to divide our children into the school structure you have proposed for the new District 9 School. Nothing about this plan makes sense for anyone involved.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Sam Stevens                  Concerned CCSD Parent and Resident of Swygerts Landing                  Sammy.c.stevens@gmail.com</p>