

via email May 30, 2024

To: Sandy Harrington
Cc: Melissa Anderson, Chair
Darlene Dawson, Vice Chair
Chelsea Quintern
Jack Rickett

I will not be able to participate in public comments during the June 3, 2024, regular OCPS School Board meeting due to travel plans. I wish to express my support for the OCPS School Board decision to discontinue membership in the Virginia School Board Association (VSBA).

School board members are certainly within their remit to determine if the ~ \$12,000 annual cost for VSBA membership is commensurate with benefits received back to OCPS.

In your August 23, 2023, Orange County Candidate Showcase responses, you proclaimed your individual support for encouraging the Orange County School Board becoming a “Virginia School Board Association Master Board.”, However, as we now know, the majority of the Orange County School Board members oppose VSBA membership – and for valid reasons.

- While the VSBA purports to be non-partisan, it has a history of supporting issues contrary to the values of the majority of Orange County voters, to wit:
 - VHSL allowing biological males to compete in female sports (**how can anyone ignore the obvious unfair size, strength, and weight advantages biological males over the female opponents in sports?**)
 - allowing males sharing of female locker and bathrooms, (**why shouldn't all sexes enjoy the right to privacy?**)
 - allowing pornographic reading materials in school libraries (**is this something you support?**).

In your statements at the May 3, OCPS School Board meeting you opined that the “ideologies of other policy groups, who may now be used, will hurt the curriculum and students”. Your claim is without substantiation and offers no clues to identities nor ideologies.

- This suggests the promotion of ideologies that you favor, not those of the Orange County electorate at-large? **Specifically what other policy groups do you allege will cause curriculum and students to be hurt?**
- **Why should the taxpayers of Orange County be forced to subsidize an organization that openly advocates for policies the majority of Orange County residents repeatedly oppose at the polls?**

As one of your constituents, I hope you will fulfill the promise which you made at a school board meeting this spring - to answer correspondence (in this case the questions posed in bold font above). A record of my past correspondence experience with you as my Orange County School Board District 5 representative is available by clicking [here](#). *The taxpayers and families of Orange County deserve to know where you stand.*

Respectfully,
Gary MacFadden