



McMINN COUNTY SCHOOLS

3 South Hill Street • Athens, TN 37303

Ph: (423) 745-1612 • Fax: (423) 744-1641

Director of Schools • Lee Parkison

April 24, 2019

Mr. Christopher Butler



Mr. Butler:

The following information is being provided in response to the Public Record Request we received from you on April 16, 2019.

Should you have further questions or need further assistance, I may be reached at (423) 745-1612, extension 1310 or by email at lparkison@mcmminnschools.com.

Sincerely,

Lee Parkison
Director of Schools

On Apr 2, 2019, at 9:34 AM, Angela Miller

@mcmminnschools.com>> wrote:

April 2, 2019

Dear Legislator,

I am the principal at Mountain View School in Etowah, Tennessee. I would like to voice my concerns for Bill Lee's voucher bill that is a direct assault on public schools. K-12 education plays a powerful role in overcoming terrorism, immigration, economy, and the opioid crisis. Public education is necessary in ensuring an educated people to vote for key political positions.

Upon close analysis of Governor Bill Lee's legislation, one will find that the children he claims to be helping would be the ones harmed. Low-income families will be affected the most by this bill. They do not have the means to pay the monies not covered by vouchers. The children who will benefit from this bill are those who are already in home-school, private, or parochial schools. His bill benefits the middle class family.

Our public schools, as well as educators, are constantly under attack. Public school teachers and administrators are held accountable for student test scores. This is not true of charter and private schools. There is no way to measure the effectiveness of the schools receiving funds from ESAs. I would like to see the governor do his homework on TN Common Core Standards, state assessments, and vouchers. The issue is not the public school. It is the downfall of parents not being involved in children's lives. We have a societal issue with rampant drugs, misuse of government subsidies, and incarceration of parents. Parent engagement needs to be addressed rather than taking funds from public schools.

Public education is THE frontier of democracy in America. We take all children. We take the broken, the hungry, the forgotten, and instill in them a hope for a bright future. We must recognize the importance of public education and never forget what our founding fathers of this great nation envisioned. Support public education by passing sound policies that will improve public education. Please vote NO to vouchers and educational savings accounts. Do not allow Governor Bill Lee to use manipulation and intimidation to gain the votes needed for this bill.

Sincerely,

Angie Miller, Principal

Mountain View School

This message may contain confidential information. If you are not the intended recipient, please forward the message to @mcmminnschools.com>

From: [Angela Miller](#)
To: [Mike Bell](#)
Subject: Re: Say No to ESAs
Date: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 7:46:20 AM

Thank you for your kind response. I appreciate you taking the time to do so.

There are no quick answers. I pray for our children, state, and country.

I appreciate your work in Nashville and hope you have a blessed week.

Angie

From: Mike Bell <sen.mike.bell@capitol.tn.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 9:26 PM
To: Angela Miller
Subject: Re: Say No to ESAs

Angie,

I couldn't agree with you more on the problems in our schools are primarily due to societal and family deterioration. I've spoken to enough teachers to realize they are facing an almost impossible task due to so many children having almost no support at home.

We've got to figure a way to encourage, incentivize, or compel parents to get more involved in their children's education. My support of the Governor's ESAs is based partially on the hope it will encourage parents to take a more active role in the education of their children.

The Governor's ESA plan is absolutely not an attack on public education but It is an acknowledgment that we have some failing schools and that's where most of the resources Lee has asked for will be used. In those districts with failing schools.

I have a daughter-in-law who teaches just down the hill from you at Etowah City school. I talk to her weekly about education issues and I know y'all are putting your hearts into your job. I appreciate you.

Mike Bell

From: [Angela Miller](#)
To: [James Gilbert](#)
Subject: Re: Letter to Legislators regarding Vouchers/ESAs
Date: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 12:54:12 PM

Thank you Jeff. It may not help, but I can't stand quietly while our schools are attacked. Educators work so hard for so little. They choose this profession to make a difference. I want some respect for our teachers.

From: James Gilbert
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 11:34 AM
To: Angela Miller
Subject: RE: Letter to Legislators regarding Vouchers/ESAs

WAY to GO ANGIE!!!! I LOVE IT!!! I have emailed & will continue to call & email. Thank you for sharing this w/ me. You are the BEST!!

From: Angela Miller
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 10:56 AM
To: James Gilbert <[REDACTED]@mcmminnschools.com>
Subject: Fw: Letter to Legislators regarding Vouchers/ESAs

April 2, 2019

Dear Legislator,

I am the principal at Mountain View School in Etowah, Tennessee. I would like to voice my concerns for Bill Lee's voucher bill that is a direct assault on public schools. K-12 education plays a powerful role in overcoming terrorism, immigration, economy, and the opioid crisis. Public education is necessary in ensuring an educated people to vote for key political positions.

Upon close analysis of Governor Bill Lee's legislation, one will find that the children he claims to be helping would be the ones harmed. Low-income families will be affected the most by this bill. They do not have the means to pay the monies not covered by vouchers. The children who will benefit from this bill are those who are already in home-school, private, or parochial schools. His bill benefits the middle class family.

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not allow Governor Bill Lee to use manipulation and intimidation to gain the votes needed for this bill.

Sincerely,

Angie Miller, Principal

Mountain View School

I am sharing the letter I have sent to legislators. I am including email addresses in hopes that you will voice any concerns you have regarding education.

rep.dan.howell@capitol.tn.gov

rep.mark.hall@capitol.tn.gov

sen.mike.bell@capitol.tn.gov

rep.mark.cochran@capitol.tn.gov

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This message may contain confidential information. If you are not the intended recipient, please forward the message to mailadmin@mcminnschools.com

From: [Angela Miller](#)
To: [Mountain View Teachers](#)
Subject: Letter to Legislators regarding Vouchers/ESAs
Date: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 10:53:13 AM

April 2, 2019

Dear Legislator,

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