I'm a parent of two children in ACPS: at TC and GW2. I am very concerned to hear that the council is considering cuts to the ACPS budget.

I ask you to overlook recent actions concerning Supt. Sherman and his management of the school budget. The truth is that any immediate cuts in the coming budget will most directly hurt our students through cuts to their core academic program materials, building facilities and equipment, staffing comments and support expenses for our kids elective programs. If the council is concerned that only 15% of the city's resident's have children in the schools, you should all be far more concerned if that number goes down further due to decreasing budgets during a time of increasing enrollments.

I am completely pleased with the level of instruction that my children receive in the ACPS, and I would hate to see this decline through budget cuts. Over the years I can honestly say that I have loved most of their teachers, am inspired by the level of dedication they exhibit...
to their students. How many of these dedicated professionals will be
leaving with budgets cuts, either by their own volition or through staff
reductions? These teachers display far more patience and understanding
than most of us outside teaching would, when faced with the multiple
barriers they have in ACPS including multiple native languages,
disciplinary problems, challenging family demographics.

At GW I know

personally that the teachers are responsible for the excellence of the
music and language programs. As these programs were threatened in
previous

budget cycles, I ask you to ensure that they not be cut system wide. TC
has a fantastically large academic program fitting for a school of its
size. I know personally that the breadth of the arts, music, and science
programs and the quality of their instruction is directly responsible for
the parents of many children, choosing TC over private schools within the
past few years.

I ask the council to consider all these factors in
reviewing the school budget tonight. I ask you to consider the school
budget as investment in our community and the future of our great city by
choosing not to cut the school budget.
I am writing to strongly disapprove cutting funding to the ACPS. One of the reasons that we moved to Ft. Worth Ave 20+ years ago was to be in the MacArthur school district. Since then, my son graduated from TCW with a 4.6 GPA and is now in his 1st year at UVA. My daughter now attends Hammond (and is on the high school tennis team).

I work as staff to the US House of Representatives Committee on Appropriations and also spent many years as a Senior Executive in the Secretary of Defense's Comptroller shop.

While, I understand that cutting budgets are difficult and contentious, I do not accept that further reducing funding for our schools is acceptable. Cutting teacher salaries would send our wonderful teachers to other school districts.

Further as it is, I am aware that the high school tennis team is being forced to make decisions that are a penny wise but a pound...
foolish. Rather than building tennis courts on campus… tennis team’s “home” matches are held miles away and our kids are bused there. That’s expensive. Today, West Texas and Brent crude oil commodity prices are $97.96 and $133.15 per barrel respectively. (...and busing is dangerous. I don’t like the fact that my kids have to drive through route 395 traffic to play “home” games.). Please be assured that I will be following the Council’s decisions concerning school funding…. And I vote....
I am a life-long resident of the City of Alexandria and both my husband and I are products of the Alexandria City Public School System. I am so tired of hearing about how the money spent on ACPS only benefits a small portion of the population. There are many public services I have never used but I am certainly glad we provide them. What kind of city do we want? Do we want to be the largest retirement community in the nation or do we want to be the sort of place families would like to live? I am getting uncomfortably close the retirement demographic but I will still want to have the sort of school system that people want their children to attend. Is this a way of trying to strong arm the School Board into reversing the decision on retaining the superintendent? I hope not, but it is difficult not to see this as the case. I have two children; one who graduated from TC last year and one who is a junior. I have been very active in the schools for the past 14 years and I think you would be misguided to think that getting rid of this superintendent is the right thing to do. I can tell you that TC was in crisis when he arrived and it...
is an entirely different, much better place today. Dr. Sherman is the
reason for this turnaround. There is much misinformation regarding
decisions he has made and the amount of money in his budgets. Our per
pupil costs have gone down. Some teachers may have negative feelings about
Dr. Sherman's tenure because he has introduced a fair amount of change.
You are familiar with how people react to change. They don't really like it. That doesn't always make it wrong.
If we do want to talk about the
15% with children, I think you will agree they make up a larger percentage
of the people who vote in our elections. Please do the right thing.
COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members


Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Kirsten
Last Name: Little

Street Address:
City: Alexandria
State: Virginia
Zip: 22314
Phone: 7035185389
Email Address: kirsten.little@gmail.com

Subject: ACPS funding cuts
Please do not cut ACPS funding my $1.23 million or more. Our City's children and teachers should not be penalized by our own City leaders for complying with a State mandate to increase salaries and pay related benefits to deserving employees."
It is my understanding that the City is considering cutting the ACPS budget for the coming year by $1.23 million. Please do not cut ACPS funding by $1.23 million or more. The City's children and teachers should not be penalized by our own City leaders for complying with a Virginia State mandate to increase salaries and pay related benefits to deserving employees.

This cut is being proposed without any debate or consideration of the impacts on the school system.

Patrick Jones
COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Brent
Last Name: Little
Street Address: 452 W Taylor Run Pkwy
    City: Alexandria
    State: Virginia
    Zip: 22314
Phone: 7035185389
Email Address: brentalittle@gmail.com
Subject: ACPS funding cuts
    Please do not cut ACPS funding my $1.23 million or more. Our City's
    children and teachers should not be
    penalized by our own City leaders for
Comments: complying with a State mandate to increase salaries and pay related
    benefits to deserving employees."
Please do not cut ACPS funding my $1.23 million or more. Our City's children and teachers should not be penalized by our own City leaders for complying with a State mandate to increase salaries and pay related benefits to deserving employees.
Good Afternoon,

It is our understanding that you will be looking at cutting Alexandria Public School Funding by over 1 million dollars this evening. I would ask that you not make this cuts. Our property values have decreased significantly over the past three years, while some of this can be attributed to the economic downturn our property value has decreased more than surrounding areas. We believe this is in part due to the poor quality of Alexandria Public Schools. We ask that you not contribute to this decline by penalizing our city's children and teacher through cutting salaries and benefits.

Thank you.

Alan and Amanda

Webber
Jackie Henderson

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<tr>
<th>From:</th>
<th>Rosanna Gioia <a href="mailto:chowrp@yahoo.com">chowrp@yahoo.com</a></th>
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<tr>
<td>Sent:</td>
<td>Monday, May 07, 2012 3:44 PM</td>
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<td>To:</td>
<td>William Euille; Frank Fannon; Kerry Donley; Alicia Hughes; Del Pepper; Paul Smedberg; Rose Boyd; Jackie Henderson; Rob Krupicka; Linda Owens; Elizabeth Jones</td>
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<tr>
<td>Subject:</td>
<td>COA Contact Us: ACPS Funding Cuts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Attachments:</td>
<td>ATT00001.txt</td>
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### COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** Rosanna  
**Last Name:** Gioia  
**Street Address:** 546 N West St  
**City:** Alexandria  
**State:** VA  
**Zip:** 22314  
**Phone:** 703-740-2668  
**Email Address:** chowrp@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** ACPS Funding Cuts

Please do not cut ACPS funding my $1.23 million or more. Our City's children and teachers should not be penalized by our own City leaders for complying with a State mandate to increase salaries and pay related benefits to deserving employees.

Thank you,  
Parent of an ACPS student and resident  
Rosanna Gioia
Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Kelly
Last Name: Dresen
Street Address: 501 E. Luray Avenue
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22301
Phone: 703 836 3288
Email Address: kelly.dresen@verizon.net
Subject: Proposed ACPS cuts

Please do not allow a $1.23 cut to the ACPS budget this evening. The issues at hand are complex and deserve to be debated by Council and by Alexandria citizens. I recognize that Council did not drive the timing of this issue entirely, but that is not sufficient reason to allow such a drastic cut to move through in this manner.

Allow those proposing the cut to make an argument, backed up by accurate information. It seems to me that many involved in this process are working with different understandings of the issue. Millions of dollars and the pensions of dedicated employees are not topics that should be decided in such an off-handed manner.

I have recently read several criticisms by members of Council of the lack of transparency and accountability shown by other city groups, notably ACPS. This last-minute add/delete move is almost a carbon copy of add/delete shenanigans we suffered at the hands of some members of the School Board last February. If you contend that you hold

Comments:

Note: The above text is a continuation of the subject line and body of the email.
yourselves to a higher standard, then rise to a higher standard.
Esteemed Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members,

I write to ask you to vote against the $1.23 million dollar cut from the budget for the schools. Alexandria schools are some of the weakest in the Northern Virginia area, and can ill afford to cut the amount needed to comply with state salary increases.

Thank you,
Amy F
I understand that the City Council is considering reducing the Alexandria City Public School budget by over $1 million for the coming 2012-2013 school year. I believe this reduction would be a huge mistake. As a resident of the city and a voter, I urge you not to reduce the budget. The current budget is already stretched due to a student population that has increased dramatically since 2007.

As a voter and a tax payer I question the City Council's commitment towards providing our students with a first class education. They need to think long and hard about their responsibilities. I know that I will take note of their actions at the next election.

Please do the right thing and support our students.

Thank you.

Olga Thomas
Plan to reduce allocation to ACPS

Dear Mayor Euille and Members of the City Council:

I am a parent of a kindergartner who attends Charles Barrett Elementary. I am writing to echo concerns raised by fellow ACPS parents about the planned reduction of the allocation to ACPS by $1.2 million.

The majority of my co-workers send their children to private school in D.C. or Maryland. I have always been a big supporter of public schools (being the product of Fairfax County Public Schools myself) and have been proud this past year to compare notes with these parents and realize how fantastic Barrett Elementary is, even in the face of decreasing budgets and increasing demands. The attention and care my daughter has received in her first year of school has been incredible.

Due to the amazing efforts and talents of all of the ACPS employees (from the fantastic bus driver to the teachers, assistant teachers, special teachers, and principal) with whom she comes into contact on a typical day.
at Barrett, she has grown from a shy pre-schooler hesitant to take chances to a brave risk-taker who seems to come home with a new skill every week.

My husband, a product of private schools, has had to admit that I was correct that public school was the best choice when we live in a community like Alexandria.

It is because of the fantastic work I have witnessed by ACPS employees this year that I am so disheartened to learn that ACPS is now facing such a large decrease in funds. I am not an expert on test scores or other improvements that other parents and PTA members have written to you about. I can only say that cutting the budget of a school system that it taking such strides and doing so well seems exactly the wrong approach to take, especially if we care about the future of our community. I urge you to reconsider and do the right thing for the children of Alexandria. Kerry Leibig
COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members


**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

**First Name:** Kerry

**Last Name:** Leibig

**Street Address:** 3306 Elmore Drive

**City:** Alexandria

**State:** Virginia

**Zip:** 22302

**Phone:** 703-403-3863

**Email Address:** kerry.leibig@eeoc.gov

**Subject:** Plan to reduce allocation to ACPS

Dear Mayor Euille and Members of the City Council: I am a parent of a kindergartner who attends Charles Barrett Elementary. I am writing to echo concerns raised by fellow ACPS parents about the planned reduction of the allocation to ACPS by $1.2 million.

The majority of my co-workers send their children to private school in D.C. or Maryland. I have always been a big supporter of public schools (being the product of Fairfax County Public Schools myself) and have been proud this past year to compare notes with these parents and realize how fantastic Barrett Elementary is, even in the face of decreasing budgets and increasing demands. The attention and care my daughter has received in her first year of school has been incredible. Due to the amazing efforts and talents of all of the ACPS employees (from the fantastic bus driver to the teachers, assistant teachers, special teachers, and principal) with whom she comes into contact on a typical day...
at Barrett, she has grown from a shy pre-schooler hesitant to take chances
to a brave risk-taker who seems to come home with a new skill every week.

My husband, a product of private schools, has had to admit that I was
correct that public school was the best choice when we live in a community
like Alexandria.

It is because of the fantastic work I have witnessed by
ACPS employees this year that I am so disheartened to learn that ACPS is
now facing such a large decrease in funds. I am not an expert on test
scores or other improvements that other parents and PTA members have
written to you about. I can only say that cutting the budget of a school
system that is taking such strides and doing so well seems exactly the
wrong approach to take, especially if we care about the future of our
community. I urge you to reconsider and do the right thing for the
children of Alexandria. Kerry Leibig
Subject: ACPS budget

Please do not cut the ACPS budget tonight. There is concern around town that cuts over $1m may be considered this evening. It is difficult to justify removing funds from a struggling school system. Please do not compromise the schools further by cutting funds. Thank you.
COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members


Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Nathan
Last Name: McKenzie
Street Address: 808 Ramsey St
   City: Alexandria
   State: VA
   Zip: 22301
Phone: 703-216-9870
Email Address: njmckenzie2000@zoho.com
Subject: ACPS Funding
   As a parent of a rising kindergartner I am writing to support the
   reinstatement of $1.23M to the ACPS budget.
   My understanding is that
   the state has mandated requirements that will cost $1.7M and provided
   $1.23M to defray those costs. It is not right for the city to take that
   money for other purposes (which is the effect of the ACPS budget
   reduction).

   If my understanding is incorrect, please provide information
   that clarifies. If my understanding is correct, please do not cut the ACPS
   budget by $1.23M.

   Additionally, the fact that this issue is being
   addressed in this manner (via a budget add/delete process that is only
   countered by frenzied ad hoc grass roots efforts) is not painting the city
   process in good light.

   Sincerely,
   Nate McKenzie
Dear Mr. Mayor, Mr. Vice Mayor and members of Council:

On behalf of the First Night Alexandria board of directors, I would like to thank you for your ongoing support of this family-friendly, alcohol-free community celebration of the New Year through the performing arts. We are working on making this more of a full day event with many more activities for children and adults being planned for the afternoon, as well as an outstanding lineup of performances in the evening and a spectacular fireworks display on the river at midnight. More reasons for people to spend the entire day or weekend in Alexandria.

We hope you will all join us at this year's event and follow our progress at www.FirstNightAlexandria.org.

Congratulations on your efforts to pass this budget and for your service to the City of Alexandria. Best wishes for your continued success.
Sincerely,

Ann M. Dorman, Executive Director
First Night Alexandria
Honorable Mayor Euille and members of City Council,

I am writing to urge you to fund our city schools as originally planned. I believe that my four children have received a high quality education in ACPS, and the schools need to be fully funded to continue to provide an excellent education to our city's children.

Lois Cramer
From: Manya Magnus <manyadm@gwu.edu>
Sent: Monday, May 07, 2012 4:24 PM
To: William Euille; Frank Fannon; Kerry Donley; Alicia Hughes; Del Pepper; Paul Smedberg; Rose Boyd; Jackie Henderson; Rob Krupicka; Linda Owens; Elizabeth Jones
Subject: Disappointed in impact of proposed budget on ACPS
Attachments: COA Contact Us: Disappointed in impact of proposed budget on ACPS

COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Manya
Last Name: Magnus
Street Address: 415 Underhill Place
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22305
Phone: 703 299 0389
Email Address: manyadm@gwu.edu
Subject: Disappointed in impact of proposed budget on ACPS
Dear Mr. Mayor, Mr. Vice Mayor, and Honorable City Council Members:

I was very disappointed to learn of the proposal to be discussed tonight that will negatively impact the ACPS budget. I was also deeply disappointed to learn that one rationale for this budgetary decision includes the concept that it will have minimal effect since only 15% of Alexandria City households have children attending public schools, as I understand Mr. Fannon (and perhaps others) have voiced.

Comments:
Public schools not only bring education to our children--future generations that may decide to live in and contribute to Alexandria as well as to our world in general--It also invites economic improvement right now: educated families in the area are moving to our city because of its excellent schools, increasing the tax base for our many needs. This aids everyone: not just those with children in public schools but anyone in the city who uses public works, the streets, libraries, and so forth.
I am a parent of two children in the ACPS system. My husband and I moved here because of the school system and are an example of how a strong educational infrastructure encourages people to move to Alexandria, thereby increasing the tax base.

Please do not reduce the resources for ACPS; the future of our city and our children depend on them.

Yours truly,

Manya Magnus, PhD, MPH
COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members


Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Lisa
Last Name: Goeas
Street Address: 1409 Coventry Lane
   City: Alexandria
   State: Virginia
   Zip: 22304
Phone: 7033701269
Email Address: lgoeas@hotmail.com
Subject: ACPS funding
   Please do not cut ACPS funding my $1.23 million or more. Our City's
   children and teachers should not be penalized by our own City leaders for
Comments: complying with a State mandate to increase salaries and pay related
   benefits to deserving employees.”
Rachel Townsend <rtownsend@sidley.com>

Monday, May 07, 2012 4:58 PM

COA Contact Us: ACPS Funding Cuts

Please do not cut ACPS funding by $1.23 million (or more). Particular
without the proper debate that should occur on this issue. Reducing the
City’s allocations because of the $1.23 million dollars that the State is
providing to help pay for salary increases does not consider the fact that
the state is only funding the salaries, not the attendant increase in costs
for payroll taxes and benefits that are tied to the salaries. ACPS will
be responsible for those unfunded yet mandated costs. Thus, while
salaries
may increase for some, ACPS will be unable to retain other good teachers
because it will not have the funds to both increase the salary and provide
the attendant benefits. Our City’s children and teachers should not be
penalized by our own City leaders for complying with a State mandate to
increase salaries and pay related benefits to deserving employees.
Karen White <karentwhite@yahoo.com>
Monday, May 07, 2012 5:16 PM
William Euille; Frank Fannon; Kerry Donley; Alicia Hughes; Del Pepper; Paul Smedberg; Rose Boyd; Jackie Henderson; Rob Krupicka; Linda Owens; Elizabeth Jones
COA Contact Us: Do NOT cut ACPS funding!
ATT00001.txt

COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
Time: [Mon May 07, 2012 17:16:03] Message ID: [39243]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Karen
Last Name: White
Street Address: 808 W. TimberBranch Pkwy.
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22302
Phone: (703) 836-1769
Email Address: karentwhite@yahoo.com
Subject: Do NOT cut ACPS funding!
Comments: Do not cut ACPS funding by $1.23 million or more. Our City's children and teachers should not be penalized by our own City leaders for complying with a State mandate to increase salaries and pay related benefits to deserving employees.
From the "15 percent" that cares about Alexandria children and the people who teach them.
COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members


Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Maribeth
Last Name: McCarthy
Street Address: 4038 Ellicott Street
   City: alexandria
   State: VA
   Zip: 22304
Phone: 703-820-9032
Email Address: richandmb@comcast.net
Subject: School budget cuts
   Please do not cut ACPS funding my $1.23 million or more. Our City's
   children and teachers should not be penalized by our own City leaders for
Comments: complying with a State mandate to increase salaries and pay related
   benefits to deserving employees.
COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members


Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: susan
Last Name: hyre
Street Address: 1306 kingston avenue
   City: alexandria, va
   State: va
   Zip: 22302
Phone: 703370881
Email Address: paperworks@comcast.net
Subject: budget cuts
Comments: Please do not cut our ACPS budget because of the state monies coming our way. Our City's children and teachers should not be penalized by our own City leaders for complying with a State mandate to increase salaries and pay related benefits to deserving employees. Our teachers are underpaid and overworked in my humble opinion.

Don't do it. Please.

Thank you. Susan Hyre
**Jackie Henderson**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>From:</th>
<th>Haley Crittenden Gordon <a href="mailto:hcrit@comcast.net">hcrit@comcast.net</a></th>
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<td>Sent:</td>
<td>Monday, May 07, 2012 6:24 PM</td>
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<td>To:</td>
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<td>Subject:</td>
<td>COA Contact Us: Do Not Cut Funding</td>
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**COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members**

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**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

**First Name:** Haley

**Last Name:** Crittenden Gordon

**Street Address:** 905 Crestwood Dr

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<td>22302</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phone:</td>
<td>703-933-1021</td>
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**Email Address:** hcrit@comcast.net

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<tr>
<th>Subject:</th>
<th>Do Not Cut Funding</th>
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Please do not cut ACPS funding my $1.23 million or more. Our City's children and teachers should not be penalized by our own City leaders for complying with a State mandate to increase salaries and pay related benefits to deserving employees."

**Comments:** Alexandria needs to remain a vibrant community for all people. If we do not build a strong school system, families with school age children will not move to Alexandria or will not stay. Can we afford to be an elderly community or a community of young adults, who move out as soon as they have a family?
Dear Mayor Euille and Council Members,

I have three children currently attending Alexandria City Public Schools. I have always been a strong supporter of the public schools, even though we could afford to send them to private schools. There are so many excellent teachers here and my kids have gotten a terrific education.

Please DO NOT cut funding for the schools, which I have heard is under consideration. It would severely hinder the ability of the schools to attract and retain good teachers which is the MOST IMPORTANT influence on our children.

Thank you,
Lillian

York
Dear Council Member,

I am writing to follow up on the school funding issue and wanted to let you know that I am very unhappy with your decision.

Sincerely,

Pam Smith
Michael Hepburn <michael.hepburn@ymail.com>
Monday, May 07, 2012 4:11 PM
William Euille; Frank Fannon; Kerry Donley; Alicia Hughes; Del Pepper; Paul Smedberg; Rose Boyd; Jackie Henderson; Rob Krupicka; Linda Owens; Elizabeth Jones
COA Contact Us: Please Do Not Cut ACPS Funding
ATT00001.txt

COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Michael
Last Name: Hepburn
Street Address: 101 S Reynolds Street, Apt 420
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22304
Phone: 703-447-1751
Email Address: michael.hepburn@ymail.com
Subject: Please Do Not Cut ACPS Funding
To: Alexandria City Council Members

As a member of the Jefferson Houston School PTA and also a resident of our City I wanted to make sure that I sent an email to you all in order to urge you to not cut ACPS funding by $1.23 million or more. My fellow PTA members and Parents feel that our City's children and teachers should not be penalized by our own City leaders for complying with a State mandate to increase salaries and pay related benefits to deserving employees. I stand with them when I say that we are not for reducing funding to ACPS for the FY13 Fiscal Year and I hope we have your support.

Respectfully,
Michael A. Hepburn
Hi,

The future of the U.S. is our kids. Do not cut the budget but find out the what the 'wastes' are in the system and fix them - find out how to deliver more with less expense and then you simulate a budget cut - but provide more value for the money invested.

The problem with government is that it tries to run with little or not expertise on how to run an organization and this is where our kids will suffer.

Find these areas of redundancy and no value add....and eliminate or incorporate them in other tasks.

We cannot expect our children to compete in the world, if they do not have the skills.

Alexandria is blessed with a diverse
population, many who cannot afford private schools (others would not want
to separate our kids in that way from the community.) With the blessing of
diversity comes a responsibility to ensure a quality education for all.

History has shown, repeatedly down the ages, that the quality of a
"world leader" country is defined by the education, cultural
exposure and social services for its people - not by the divisiveness that
such actions as cutting budgets, but through diligent consideration
given to streamlining operations and eliminating waste.

History has also shown that it is better to proactively address social reform through education, than through incarceration - which WILL be the result of limiting the less fortunate from having a chance at a fair education and future occupation.

Please show that you are worth the confidence that Alexandria has shown in you (and pays you), by making change for the good and not the bad - for using expert knowledge to improve our community and not damage it beyond repair.

We know you would not knowingly break our trust by investing in personal interests at the deficit of your community.

Thank you for your time and consideration - and your service!
COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members


Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Stacy
Last Name: Norris
Street Address: 3 W Uhler Ave
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22301
Phone: 703-684-5215
Email Address: espnorris@verizon.net
Subject: Proposed School Budget Cuts

Our kids education is too important to us to even consider cutting the ACPS budget.

I understand you are considering taking back $1.23 million because the state is giving you that much more--this would seem to be an even exchange--state money replaces city money, it doesn't add up.

Unfortunately, the state money comes with mandated step salary increases,

but the state is only funding the salaries, not the attendant increase in costs for payroll taxes and benefits that are tied to the salaries. So ACPS will have to absorb the cost of the increased payroll taxes and benefits--a sort of unfunded mandate, if you will. If the city were not taking back the $1.23, there would be no problem. Don't try to cover yourselves by trying to "send a message" because of the CIP stuff.

I understand you also want fund pay increases for city staff.

ACPS is likely to have to cover the shortage by dipping into pension reserves which is not an ideal decision to have to make. I repeat, please
don't cut the ACPS budget! Thank you for your time.
The schools in Alexandria have improved in recent years and there is a reason for it. Please reconsider your decision to reduce the budget by the $1.23 million from the VRS. The school budget seems tight (at least at the individual school level) and I don't like the idea of stretching it even more. While I appreciate the need for efficiency and austerity, 92% of parents in Alexandria send their children to the public schools.

I live in Rosemont and know how much I pay in taxes. We live in a townhouse and I can only imagine what others are paying. We are looking to increase our revenue base and what better way to draw people to the $600,000+ homes, than to offer them quality schools.

Thank you for your consideration.
COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members


Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Gwen
Last Name: Day-Fuller
Street Address: 4017 Fort Worth Ave.
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22304
Phone: 703-370-3199
Email Address: gwen_dayfuller@comcast.net
Subject: Thank You!!!!

Dear Mayor Euille, Vice Mayor Donley and City Council Members,

Thank you so much for listening to us with regard to the CCNA sponsored program,

Rare(Reach and Rise for Excellence). We are so proud of the work we are doing and the students we are serving in Alexandria. We are very excited to know that our students are moving in the right direction by participating in a program that is designed to move them closer to achieving their goals. We applaud your desire to help us and we are so thankful for your support.

As stated at one of our fundraiser events, we are here for the long term. We want our students to feel the security of knowing that we are with them for years to come and that we sincerely want to support them.

Your contribution is a contribution to the development of middle school students in Alexandria. We want our
students to leave the RARE Program feeling the success of accomplishment.

We know that RARE will help them develop a positive sense of self and we know that this will follow them wherever they go. As they climb each step on the ladder toward success, we believe that their academic achievement will be enhanced. This is our ultimate goal. Thank you for helping us take several steps on our journey. Please come visit us at Hammond when time permits.

Sincerely,

Gwen

Day-Fuller, Co Chair CCNA
COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members


Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Susan
Last Name: Gildersleeve
Street Address: 3512 Saylor Pl
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22304
Phone: 703-370-2364
Email Address: pwg.dc@comcast.net
Subject: proposed ACPS budget cuts

Under Dr. Sherman, the 3 ACPS campuses my children have attended have made huge strides in addressing systemic issues that constrain education. I have been critical of many factors prior to his reorganizations, and now couldn't be more pleased. ACPS is already 'doing more with less' - as class cohorts swell, huge funding challenges already exist. Add to this the $1M/yr TCW will be losing when its 3-yr PLA supplement ends.

Comments: If Council is concerned with 'process,' then add more transparency and communication - don't cut off the system's oxygen.

I vote for strong public education.

Sincerely,

Susan C. J. Gildersleeve