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Calvert County Board of Education

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Dear BoE members:

We were delighted to learn Dr. Susan Johnson was appointed Assistant Superintendent, and hope she will soon be Daniel D. Curry’s official replacement. It would be fitting for one of the two administrators with whom we weren’t supposed to meet - right after our daughter was set up and terrorized in an attempt to keep us from meeting with them - to be his successor, after he was content to manipulate and inconvenience her. Dr. Johnson is the sort of “true educator” superintendent CCPS deserves and needs. If she is the next superintendent, we hope she will be given the “latitude, respect and resources” she deserves and needs. We also hope she will not be subject to any undue scrutiny, pressure, or ill-intentioned/misguided attempts at conciliation for others’ wrongdoing.

We believe the majority of you are intent on continuing to turn around the system the minority of you and your predecessors have helped decimate. After so many years, it appears there is finally now a responsible Board majority. It shouldn’t be lost on anyone that after complicit Bill Phalen’s passing in September of 2020, former Commissioner Pat Nutter was appointed by the Commission to the Board almost immediately, with no public input, whereas the process the Commission employed to identify and appoint Inez Claggett to replace Kelly McConkey was widely advertised and took nearly three months, after he was elected to the Commission in November of 2018. Mr. McConkey was elected to the Commission a little less than two years into his term on the Board, and Bill Phalen passed away a little less than two years into his umpteenth term on the Board. So, why the difference in how the two replacement appointments were handled? Inez Claggett possesses a directly pertinent skillset and professional background, went through an extensive application and interview process, and has demonstrated through a variety of means her stalwart commitment to improving conditions for CCPS students and staff and turning around the system. Did the Commission appoint her with the impossible expectation that she would somehow simultaneously play ball *and* do the right thing? Was Pat Nutter appointed because the Commission wasn’t going to make the same mistake they felt they had with Ms. Claggett, so they decided on a yes-man with common interests? How can Pat Nutter live with himself, knowing what he knows about people being badly hurt and serious financial crimes, even exploiting public opposition to Critical Race Theory to undermine anti-racism initiatives Ms. Claggett has spearheaded? How can he encourage people to lash out at her, knowing she is trying to protect people he’s done nothing to help? He is afraid, and exploiting resistance to CRT as nothing more than a strawman distraction. More recently, Nutter has even teamed up with Dawn Balinski against Inez Claggett, although he supported Balinski’s opponent in the election. Chad Leo would have been vastly preferable to Balinski, and racism *is* a problem in CCPS. As the Commission funds a substantial portion of CCPS’ operations, CCPS’ new legislative position that the Commission should not be in control of appointing replacement Board members makes a lot of sense.

Complicit former Board member Tracy McGuire and member Dawn Balinski’s tributes to Bill Phalen after his death were anything but sincere and well-motivated. How dare all three of them have known for so long about children and educators being plotted and schemed against, sexually/physically assaulted, discriminated against, attempting suicide or killing themselves, etc. because of what Daniel D. Curry and other malicious educators in strategic positions of power have done to them? Dawn Balinski even called Bill Phalen’s passing “one of the hardest experiences you can go through.” Wow. If anyone thinks speaking ill of the dead is offensive in this instance, think about how Daniel D. Curry, Dawn Balinski and Tracy McGuire exploited Bill Phalen when they knew his health was failing, after he had already failed his community for over twenty years. They appointed him to Board President when they knew he was nearing the end. They exploited a senior citizen in declining health. They used him as a lightning rod to protect themselves. If anyone suggests stress from the potential of exposure for his role in facilitating abuse of countless staff members and students was unfair to him, Bill Phalen wasn’t stupid. He knew what was going on, was pompous and employed arrogant, narcissistic preemptive statements to avoid and sometimes even justify his dismissal of people being hurt. He cared more about being seen at public events and talking about Northern High (where his family attended) to the exclusion of everywhere else. He betrayed his community and it’s a necessary part of telling the truth. If he hadn’t gone along with McGuire, Balinski, and other negligent past members and superintendents, innumerable children and staff may not have been hurt. Graduation and achievement rates would be higher, which should be something even Dawn Balinski can appreciate. Other than taglines, canned phrases, and platitudes, associating herself with improved numbers and scores - even if they’ve only been manipulated to sound better than they are - matter more to her than people being hurt.

Tracy McGuire was smart enough to not run again, making way for better representation in her stead, even though she lied about being term-limited to save face. We told Dawn Balinski not to run again, but she was too arrogant to listen. It’s a shame she won reelection, but there is still time for her to correct her mistake by resigning for personal/health/family reasons. Nutter should go, too. These are “people” who have known for years about children being raped, and still don’t care, even after things “blew up a few years ago.” That was a reference to us, no? Maybe the Commission could appoint someone honest and caring to replace Balinski, à la Inez Claggett. Although Dawn Balinski has clearly stated she knows the Board has the power to hire and fire the Superintendent, set policy and establish the budget, she has bungled her responsibility to each repeatedly. She *knows* Daniel D. Curry molests young boys by way of his CCPS connections, including his 1st grade Patuxent Appeal Elementary teacher-wife, Jacqueline Wisnauskas. I don’t know if Wisnauskas actively molests the boys, too, but she is a procurement conduit, who Daniel D. Curry uses to document and memorialize his predation. Why does she still have a job, and at the most violent and dangerous elementary school in the County?

My son and daughter went to Southern Middle, the most violent and dangerous middle school in the County. Why do my caring, decent daughter’s abusers still have jobs, as if any child deserves what she went through? Evil, malicious “educators” like them are a perpetual liability, and it is vicious mean girl negligence and scheming like theirs which made it easier for Travis Mister to target prepubescent boys. Even if we had entered this process thinking initially at all about money (we didn’t, but it is a convenient ploy abusers use to hide and distract from their abuse), as opposed to being able to tell something horrible was happening to Sarah and feeling the evil in general, how could that excuse - and maybe even justify - what they did and tried to do to her?

There must be several educators who have ideas or full knowledge about which boys Travis Mister may have targeted, but who are too selfish and uncaring to divulge what they know. An en masse termination of complicit SMS staff may seem extreme, but what other option is there if things are to improve? You’ve had ample cause to fire them for over three years, and they deserve as much consideration and compassion as they showed my daughter. What are they going to do, except skulk away like the scum they are? They sure aren’t penitent and behave like cowardly, rabid, snarling, sneaky caged animals to convince themselves they don’t deserve to be made known for what they did and held accountable. They accuse me of not caring about my daughter and exploiting her for gain? They’re the ones who hoped she might end up institutionalized or killing herself. They’re the ones who tried to make it happen. I have never lost sight of what happened to her. *They* never cared, have done everything they can to continue to make her life miserable and used students to do it. She has been bullied and threatened by disturbed former classmates on social media, with one threatening to come to her home and beat her. While Sarah blocked these people and the scarier threats never materialized, can you imagine her going through that because “educators” were sicking students on her after they had already spent months trying to destroy her? Can you see why we might be eager to move on, for that and similar reasons? Who wouldn’t be? The assistant principal who was brought in to clean up after Travis Mister only lasted a year, and the most recent principal brought in to clean up after Mandy Blackmon just *resigned* (not retired) from Southern after only two years. She sounded like a tremendous improvement from cowardly, evil, venomous former Principal Mandy Blackmon, but even highly competent educators cannot operate under such untenable circumstances. You know a housecleaning is overdue, and while difficult to accomplish in short order, would help the incoming principal hit the ground running. Southern Middle was used as a dumping ground for some of the worst teachers for years, as well as other teachers by way of retaliation or to keep them down. There are some wonderful educators at Southern, but per capita, things have always been worse there than at every other middle school in the County, because there are more socioeconomically disadvantaged homes; and, consequently, kids who are easier targets for abuse, maybe only because their parents are trying to work enough hours to keep food on the table.

Southern Middle also housed one of two middle school Behavioral Development Program programs in the County, and the only Alternative Education program. Daniel D. Curry set it up that way upon his arrival to the CCPS, and promoted Travis Mister from gym teacher to assistant principal at the same time. Being new to CCPS, Curry couldn’t have moved that fast if he didn’t have help. This is networked years before and beyond Daniel D. Curry in Calvert County, and Daniel D. Curry is networked years back through Delaware, West Virginia and who knows where else. Daniel D. Curry is obvious and not that good at it, but he’s only one of many. That means this sort of thing is happening pretty much everywhere, and not only in school systems.

On 12/03/19 we stated that as Daniel D. Curry is finally on his way out the door, “do not allow him to take ANYTHING with him.” This serves as a reminder. Since it had already been decided he’d be leaving, why did Daniel D. Curry get to “recommend approval” on 05/06/21 for a new $30,000 vehicle for himself? You voted to transfer that money from the Legal Fees account to the New Equipment account, because “legal expenses this past year have been nominal.” Why, after what he has done, did you purchase a Chevy Volt for him from Criswell Chevrolet in Gaithersburg, around 75 miles away, under a State of Maryland blanket PO, because his “current lease expires at the end of this fiscal year?” CCPS has leased two Toyota Priuses of which we are aware for him, from Bayside Toyota in Prince Frederick, since his Summer 2014 arrival. He had one from 2015 through 2018 and the second until recently. Coincidentally, both the Teacher and Support Professional of the Year were announced the same day you approved his new car, and Daniel D. Curry was part of the choreographed delivery of the awards. Calvert County-based Bayside Auto donates a two-year lease on a new Chevy to one, and a two-year lease on a new Toyota to the other. It’s not too hard to tell where Curry got the idea to get CCPS to *buy* him a new car. It’s also a bit of a slap in the face to local benefactor Bayside Auto, who donates two two-year leases to CCPS teachers and staff every year. Daniel D. Curry was determined to get a new car for himself, just like he was delivering from Bayside to two hardworking education professionals. Did CCPS pay for any other portion of his new vehicle’s purchase? What is he going to do if he isn’t allowed to take anything with him? Sue? Go to the media? He knows he could go down a lot harder than pretty much anyone around him, and he would never take the chance. He’ll just slither away.

Similarly, after years of Daniel D. Curry and Jack Smith before him trying to destroy decent educators and depriving them of their healthcare and pensions, it would be a travesty for our daughter’s abusers to receive what so many of their caring counterparts have had taken from them. That includes people like former St. Leonard Elementary master teacher Jennifer Hudson, who should never have been hit in the temple by a violent student who was encouraged to misbehave through a variety of means beyond her control; was forced back to work against doctors’ orders; deliberately ***tortured***by Daniel D. Curry himself when she was transferred to the Central Office, causing her brain damage to spread and cement; and deprived of pay and insurance to which she was entitled and for which she worked hard. CCPS *needs* to reinstate her insurance, which she should have never lost. Some of the “educators” who hurt and/or were prepared to hurt our kids, like former SMS teacher Lavonne Chase, who was part of the campaign of abuse against our daughter, and who was in charge of a number of behaviorally challenged students, have since retired with pensions and healthcare. Her classroom was conveniently located immediately near Travis Mister’s office. Now that she’s retired, what could Lavonne Chase possibly lose by finally telling the truth about what she knows? How does she live with herself? My daughter cared about her and was so upset to see what she went through at Southern, while she participated in trying to destroy Sarah. How could anyone lash out at us for trying to force the truth, instead of directing their vitriol at the “educators” and other staff who have direct knowledge of children being molested and who will plot and scheme against innocent children to hide the truth? Why would they do that? Why was Lavonne Chase allowed to retire with a pension and healthcare, while Jennifer Hudson was thrown away and had to fight for the little bit she has so far received? My daughter’s abusers have been encouraged and rewarded. Jennifer Hudson, who would never have done the things they did and would have fought something like that if she learned it was happening, has suffered tremendously, only for doing her best and helping so many. Daniel D. Curry forced her disability through a variety of means, and didn’t let her take anything with her. We were estimated ~$28,000 - $58,000 for her emails alone. We’re glad CCSO personnel can retire with group healthcare, and she should have it, too. Meanwhile, former Board member Tracy McGuire’s husband, Gerry McGuire, is retiring from his “Data Processing” position in the IT department. We assume he’ll be able to take a pension and insurance and all forms of Jennifer Hudson’s insurance should be reinstated.

Former SMS Dean Rachel Baker received a special reward from Daniel D. Curry for what she did and would have done to my daughter at Southern Middle and was *promoted* to Assistant Principal at Huntingtown High, at an illegally advertised meeting. Now she is a teacher at Northern High, but her transfers aren’t mentioned in personnel reports attached to Board agendas. She needs to go, too. When my eldest son was at Southern he called her a bitch. I raise my kids to respect and care for their educators and was horrified when I found out, but later learned he was absolutely right and I am proud of him for telling the truth. No child should be expected to show respect to the likes of her, and she should leave the field of education for good. People who will do what she did should not be in any helping profession. Sarah’s vile former SMS substitute Spanish teacher, Ashley Adams, still has a job at Dowell Elementary, and Travis Mister is still at the CTA at Calvert High, where some of his Southern victims do/may attend. Why are they still in the system? Travis Mister recently attended leadership training? He’s not a leader; he’s a liability who morphs into anything anyone wants him to be at any given point, like instances when I observed him flirting with overgrown cheerleader moms and appealing to other mothers’ maternal nature, which worked on me only a few days prior to Sarah and 8-10 of her peers being accused of bullying a young man he was abusing. We have no idea why lowbrow Ashley Adams has been protected, but if Travis Mister is being in any part protected because of family influence, why? When we were searching for an attorney one told me if I wanted to “go after a king” I had “better be sure and kill him.” While I am sure his language was only figurative, no one who does what Travis Mister did should be considered untouchable. Even if he is capable of change, it’s not worth the risk. Calvert County is nothing if not insular and incestuous, but small-town communities *can* exist and thrive without the clannish insidiousness that is a hallmark of abusive institutions. Getting rid of Travis Mister would help. Terminating pedophile educators who hurt kids is a good idea in general, and it sounds like improper fingerprinting standards and background checks have contributed to abusers existing in CCPS for a long time.

According to a 4/12/17 story by Andrew Cephas, formerly of the Calvert Recorder, former CCPS HR Director Dr. Victoria Karol alleged in a suit against CCPS that Executive Director of Administration Tony “Navarro repeatedly harassed and intimidated her on the guidelines that human resources used in fingerprinting new hires starting in May 2015. She notes that the guidelines were established based on training she and the human resources staff received from the Criminal Justice and Information System and the results of the CJIS audits of the school system’s fingerprinting files.

According to the lawsuit, Navarro ignored the advice of Karol and her staff and contacted a retired state trooper working in the student services department regarding the fingerprinting guidelines.”

\*The “retired state trooper” from the article was CCPS School Safety Specialist Larry Titus, who wore a State Police t shirt in a pathetic bid to intimidate us at our 7/08/20 Mexican standoff of a records pick up. Larry Titus does a great job keeping abusers safe in CCPS, but not so much anyone else. \*

On 7/08/20 John asked Larry Titus why another person was let into the building, but we weren’t, even though we had an appointment, because before our records pickup was scheduled to occur, we were informed the Central Office was purportedly suddenly closed due to COVID and we would have to meet with Larry Titus outside to “make the exchange.” In a panicked but confidential tone Larry Titus informed us the person was a new employee there for fingerprinting and background check. I then asked him if CCPS was abiding by proper fingerprinting standards and policy. He didn’t seem too sure, and said “I hope so, or CCPS is hiring people we shouldn’t be.” We paid an outrageous amount for improperly and incompletely provided records we were not allowed to review. On 6/10/21 $36,758 was transferred from the Recruitment account to the New Technology Equipment account “to pay for replacing the fingerprinting equipment and the related multi-year maintenance agreement. The current equipment is outdated.” Maybe I missed it, but was there a corresponding bid approved for the new equipment? What equipment is it? What does the agreement cover? How do you know if it is up to proper standards and how much it really costs? On 12/02/20 we pointed out Gemalto Fingerprinting “has had a running contract with CCPS for Live Scan fingerprinting,” for which CCPS already pays around $5,000 for “Annual Livescan Maintenance” at the start of each calendar year, with a little less than four months remaining in this year’s agreement.

CCPS’ surveillance installation situation is a nightmare, too, and what do you know, Larry Titus is a factor. Larry Titus actually *accompanied* a potential bidder, Andrew Gerber, who pled guilty to molesting a child or children under the age of twelve, through the schools. The bid was rigged for Calvert-based Mr. Gerber and now-defunct G Technologies - a ~$35k IDIQ bid (Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity) for which they were actually paid ~$145k, then were allowed to select their successor when they went out of business, whereupon their replacement, Marathon Technologies, has been paid at least/around $900k more. IDIQs are pointless/impossible to contest. CCPS never intended to consider the other, more responsible bidders. Some of the payments for this surveillance installation - which was supposed to cost only around $35k - came from a hidden fund or funds, the existence of which CCPS lied about in Phase 1 of our PIA suit. Daniel D. Curry has continued to lie about their existence since then, but now we can *prove* they exist, from the other records we did receive from Phase 1, and some since. Andrew Gerber has a history of Chapter 7s, most recently around the same time his company was going out of business. One of the assets he was able to keep was a $700k private Nicaraguan island purchased to bypass creditors. If he would do those things, does it sound like he would have a problem with bid rigging and kicking back? And, contrary to a Spring 2018 Board meeting where School Construction Supervisor Darrell Barricklow said all installations would be up and running by the end of April, Marathon Technologies had yet to be entered into the vendor system and the Board had not yet voted to transfer the contract. Larry Titus, School Safety Specialist? What does he do, because there is nothing remotely nice to say about this surveillance situation. Between only the surveillance and fingerprinting and background checks, one must question what his role really is in CCPS. Why would Daniel D. Curry know about Titus’ negligence and incompetence, and yet want *him* to handle our records pickup, after how badly Phase 1 of our PIA suit went for CCPS? Ms. Karen Maxey is CCPS’ Records Custodian and the only one registered with the MD AG’s office for that role, but Daniel D. Curry has consistently limited and usurped her authority. If it isn’t already obvious, Daniel D. Curry uses retired State Trooper Larry Titus as private security and an enforcer.

From our own experience and observation, former Calvert Recorder reporter Andrew Cephas did a good job reporting to the community, but seemed subject to seriously excessive editorial pressure. Right after our situation “blew up” a little over three years ago he left the Recorder and was replaced on the education beat by new editor Mike Reid, who slavishly dedicated himself to propping up Daniel D. Curry and making CCPS sound like a well-run institution. He even featured Daniel D. Curry in a sickeningly creepy photo and headline story on 2/01/19.



Daniel D. Curry likes to distribute these infant onesies to new mothers through his Calvert Tots program and is “interested in them [newborn babies] as soon as they arrive.” He brazenly alludes to his predilections at graduation ceremonies, and used his 2019 State of the Schools luncheon, attended by “more than 100 Calvert County dignitaries, the Calvert County Board of Education and various businesses,” to reel in innocent victims. Then Mike Reid helped spread the word in the Recorder. We are curious about the timing of Mike Reid’s arrival and his investment in and control of dishonest and incomplete reporting on CCPS. Fortunately, his CCPS reporting tapered off after we had long been calling him out.

From that same luncheon Mike Reid referred to Dawn Balinski as being newly elected, although she had already been on the Board over two years, and had served another term a few years earlier. She opened the luncheon by saying “We have some great ideas and we’d love to hear your ideas. I’m hoping that we can work together.” Daniel D. Curry spoke afterward. He doesn’t say or do anything unless there is something in it for himself. He is an incessant hint dropper, gloater and flaunter who thinks he’s too clever for anyone to discern what he’s doing. So why would he tell the luncheon attendees “nowadays mental health challenges are greater than ever, especially among our little ones,” … “but we have a great partnership with the health department?” The Calvert County Health Department has a listing for a **“Calvert County Infants and Toddlers Program”** for newborns to age two on their website. An internet search shows the 443-550-8379 number comes up as currently belonging to a CCPS speech pathologist. While we are not suggesting *any* impropriety by her, did that number used to go to someone else in CCPS? We started asking questions about the Infant and Toddler program and Curry’s wife on 10/17/19, which terrified Daniel D. Curry. He ordered CCPS attorneys to bluff and say we had been referred to law enforcement, which wasn’t true, unless Sheriff Mike Evans alone is “law enforcement.” When called on their deception they tried again and suggested we sit down with Evans and Daniel D. Curry to talk it out. Why would Daniel D. Curry be so comfortable as to suggest the Sheriff would be willing to participate in something like that? We let the Board know what Daniel D. Curry had done, and copied the Sheriff. The Board did nothing, even though a superintendent using lawyers to try to intimidate people telling the truth about sickening abuse should be a firing offense, all by itself. Then we emailed the Sheriff, making sure he was aware we knew serious crimes were being committed in CCPS. Mike Evans did promptly and cordially email me to say he had assigned our concerns in the Sheriff’s Office and provided me his phone number. We’ve dealt with a lot of those sorts of toothless and desperate - yet still sometimes stress-inducing - attempts at intimidation.

And, almost a year after we first made the Board aware that Daniel D. Curry has been inviting a school shooting to CCPS, he anticipatorily informed the luncheon attendees “We’ve had active shooter training,” …”and who would have ever thought that?” Daniel D. Curry waxed tritely about “equity,” which, in his mind, is nothing more than a noble concept for him to twist and thwart to make it sound like he cares and to facilitate his pedophilic and sadistic goals. Pedophilic educators are very good at distorting nuances of policy and procedure to sound like they’re of the same bent as caring educators and policy makers; however, their intention is to create chaos and fear. For example, Inez Claggett’s version of Critical Race Theory is vastly different from Curry’s sick interpretation. Hers is honest, with a goal of righting inequities in the system. When she stated she felt the need to put her child in private school because he was subject to unaddressed racist abuse, it should tell you how much Daniel D. Curry cares, that he wouldn’t even try to placate her and make sure her son was protected. If she can’t feel comfortable about her son’s wellbeing and protection - at one of the better schools in the County - no one should.

Pedophile educators are also good at twisting and manipulating numbers, like mandating Maryland public school students receive half credit for work they don’t turn in. The numbers sound better to complicit BoEs, newspapers and their readers, and everyone else. If some poor child is being abused, parents might not as easily catch on and contact the school with any concerns or be as inclined to believe something horrible is going on. Pedophiles make sure they end up in key positions of influence and power throughout systems which cater to or provide in any way for children. How was Daniel D. Curry recruited to CCPS? How were his predecessors procured to be CCPS superintendents? Does the State of Maryland BoE bear any responsibility? Do they care? Daniel D. Curry has bragged in blog posts about how he dismissed people who would call him for help, when he worked at the state education level in West Virginia. Contacting the MD BoE for help is pretty much the same. While it can be a good idea to farm out recruiting responsibilities, that sometimes presumes school systems do not have the best candidates already among their own ranks, and that BoEs are discerning and have enough wisdom to ensure reasonable and stringent selection and vetting have occurred. “National” searches may only mean someone did an internet search and applied. If the Maryland Association of Boards of Education responsibly vetted Daniel D. Curry, and Jack Smith before him, they would have known not to consider them. Maybe the headhunters who procured Jack Smith and Daniel D. Curry used a different set of criteria than any decent person would to choose candidates to send to the Board for consideration. For example, if there is an organization contracted to locate candidates for a superintendent search, three of their employees are assigned to the department/office in charge, and one of them is a pedophile, while the other two are former educators – who *maybe* are caring, possibly out-of-touch or worse - who haven’t been in the classroom for a long time, the results can be disastrous. Pedophiles who act on their urges are conniving and sneaky. They’re good at undermining and compromising people, and cutting them off at the knees. They place candidates where they want them and where they are wanted. Let’s say the pedophile among the three makes sure certain candidates are steered the right way. Maybe they have final say because education is such a misogynistic profession from the top down. Speaking up and fighting back, if one refuses to back down, results in the sort of hell we have been through. Why should the selection process for public school superintendents be any less rigorous than for someone going through a high-level government clearance process?

Steve Lucas was the principal when my eldest son was at Calvert High and not safe to remain in the system, because we removed our daughter from CCPS and they couldn’t get to her. Larry Titus acted like he didn’t know anything about it on 07/08/20. Now Steve Lucas is the superintendent of Lake Forest, DE, which is where Daniel D. Curry was superintendent before he came to Calvert County. Steve Lucas became an educator later in his career, and did not come up through the ranks. He and Daniel D. Curry appeared to be especially chummy. He became a Huntingtown High NJROTC instructor in 2008, was fast tracked through school administrations, and only twelve years later was hired by Lake Forest, DE. Daniel D. Curry also appeared to have a special understanding with Anthony Barone, who was promoted to principal at Curry’s wife’s elementary school, at the same illegally advertised meeting where Rachel Baker was promoted, after what she did to our daughter. Barone was prepared to hurt my son and should have been terminated then. Even though School Safety Specialist and retired State Trooper Larry Titus volunteered to us on 7/08/20 that “no job is worth compromising [his] character,” Larry Titus is a liar. Larry Titus knows about all of this and he’s known about it from the beginning. He was in on it. Larry Titus has demonstrated he cannot be trusted and must go.

Retired State trooper Sheriff Mike Evans knows about these things and so many more, too, and doesn’t seem to have ever cared to force an investigation through the means he has at his disposal. Why wouldn’t he want to address child molestation and students being driven to suicide? Why wouldn’t he want to know why? Why wouldn’t he be horrified to know about parents who were charged with abetting truancy for protecting their daughter? Who signed off on the charges, which were later thrown out by a disgusted judge? Why wouldn’t he be horrified Daniel D. Curry threatened us with the same thing in the Calvert Recorder? Why would he allow it in the community he was elected to represent and protect? Maybe he doesn’t like what’s happening in CCPS, but other things are more important to him. Sheriff’s Office personnel used to retire with pensions, but no healthcare. That was absolutely wrong, but a good way to address it would have been for Sheriff Evans to petition the Commission and marshal the community’s support to fix it, which might have involved being shot down a few times before succeeding. Instead, we think he saw a way to shore up his position with CCSO personnel by guaranteeing them retirement healthcare through CCPS, and took the cheap and easy way out by leveraging knowledge he had of crimes being committed against children in CCPS. Daniel D. Curry was all too eager to comply. It’s also not unreasonable to wonder if CCPS may have provided insurance to people who were never employed by CCPS or the CCSO, or who left on bad terms and did not legitimately retire, but Daniel D. Curry has not allowed Records Custodian Ms. Maxey to provide us those records. CCPS’ egregious OPEB liability appears to have been corrected in recent CCPS and County budgets, and now CCSO personnel retire with legally funded healthcare which doesn’t come at the expense of children being harmed, like retiring personnel always should have received. What did Mike Evans know about our situation?

Another curious set of insurance expenditures is for an exclusively mail-away prescription service called Express Scripts. CCPS already provided excellent prescription coverage to staff through Blue Cross Blue Shield, which also offered mail-away services, and CCPS has consistently maintained that coverage since. In October 2017, Calvert County Public Schools posted an RFP for prescription drug insurance benefits for employees/retirees/dependents. There supposedly were six bidders, which were evaluated by the eight-member CCPS healthcare team, and a consultant from Bolton Partners. Less than four years later, half of the eight CCPS employees on that healthcare team have left CCPS, although Executive Director of Administration Anthony Navarro - who former HR Director Dr. Victoria Karol alleged in her 3/21/17 lawsuit “repeatedly harassed and intimidated her” over fingerprinting standards – remains. The 11/9/17 Board meeting had a *three hour* Closed Session, and then opened the public portion of the meeting with a Board vote on two appeals (17-02 and 17-03) pertaining to a legal matter, for which there was no explanation. The Board voted to uphold the decision of the Superintendent on the first, and Tracy McGuire motioned to “defer appeal for thirty days” on the second, which also passed unanimously. Most of the rest of the meeting was a MABE “planning retreat,” which doesn’t accomplish much, but is a necessary procedural step prior to holding a vote to hire or fire the Superintendent. Bids were accepted for prescription drug insurance until 12/5/17. On 12/22/17 Dr. Victoria Karol’s federal lawsuit against CCPS was dismissed. On Tuesday, 1/9/18 the Board held a meeting which was closed to the public.

Then, at the 2/08/18 meeting the Board unanimously approved a contract with Express Scripts, an exclusively mail-away prescription service, even though CCPS never got rid of BCBS Carefirst prescription coverage. Afterward, the Board approved the Superintendent’s contract for another four years, knowing what the Board *knew.*  Complicit Bill Phalen made a motion to approve the contract, and Balinski seconded, later saying “we’re very proud of Dr. Curry.” Complicit former Board member Tracy McGuire was also effusive in her praise. Then-Board member Kelly McConkey panickily jumped in right before the vote was held, to praise Curry’s commitment to “get all the employees’ backsteps” and “when there’s insurance money left over he’s the one who’s always suggested the premium holidays, and he’s [McConkey’s] been very happy with that.” Why would he feel the need to justify the unjustifiable, as if teachers should be indebted to a monster Superintendent who makes their lives hell, while still not earning what they’ve long been guaranteed? Employees are compensated premium overpayments? What courage and innovation on the Superintendent’s part! Curry only suggests that for PR fluff - as if it’s his largesse to deign to disburse – while telling teachers they expect too much. Those are the nicest things McConkey could say? Why the cheap, insincere compliments commending the Superintendent? We’ve heard many stories of Kelly McConkey expressing disgust and anger at what happened to students, staff and families. So why didn’t he back it up by protesting Daniel D. Curry’s contract renewal and voting “NO?” Why didn’t he go to the media and contact his constituents to ask them to protest it? Why did he vote “Yes?” He *knew* better. Board member Pamela Cousins, who was named in Dr. Karol’s lawsuit – “Ms. Cousins and [former HR Director] Ms. Hutchins would frequently call one another” – was also a part of the unanimous vote to renew the Superintendent’s contract. But, no waves were made, CCPS was committed to Daniel D. Curry for another four years, people continued being hurt all sorts of ways and CCPS began paying for mail-away prescription insurance coverage for the equivalent of around 5.5% of the County’s population. We’ve already told you about some of the mail interference we have experienced, and another CCPS family experienced the same thing. Then-Board member Kelly McConkey knew what was really going on, not long afterward rallied the public he was elected to represent to protest for better safety measures in CCPS, after the Great Mills shooting, and pretended he really cares, while supporting the sadistic pedophile who has fantasized and hoped for years for a shooting in the districts he has run. McConkey had undoubtedly been on the Board long enough by then to know the rally/protest was pointless, but he was running for the County Commission, so why not? Blood is on Commissioner McConkey’s hands, and more will be if Daniel D. Curry and others of his ilk aren’t gone soon. One must also ask, with CCPS paying around a million or more a month for this unneeded prescription coverage, how is the money cleaned up, for any weight being moved?

But, after years of financial mismanagement, the last Auditor’s report was reassuring. The auditor sounded pleasantly surprised, too. We still have plenty of questions surrounding Fund 7, including about the account numbers themselves, which start with “L” and may indicate “liability.” CCPS isn’t supposed to be able to float large lines of credit, only vehicle/equipment leases, credit cards, etc.. The Calvert County Commission is supposed to be the only authority allowed to encumber substantial lines of credit, by way of bonds. Does CCPS owe repayment of any part of Fund 7, which we can prove from invoices, payment copies and eFinance ledgers exists in CCPS’ financial system? If so, to whom? Even though now CCPS is beginning to be able to claim legitimate and reasonable budget management and oversight, with strong policies in place, which – if properly implemented – will make it possible to more easily remove abusive and/or ineffective administrators and other staff, it needs to be made sure there are no more hidden slush funds. CCPS is moving in the direction of being as well-run as possible, within the parameters of funding and policy issues which may exist, and everyone owes Board member Inez Claggett a debt for her role in forcing change. We hope CCPS will start the ‘21- ‘22 school year with a superintendent who cares.

[www.calvertedudocs.com](http://www.calvertedudocs.com) has been updated.

Sincerely,

John Blevins Katharine Blevins

Cc: Dr. Susan Johnson, CCPS Assistant Superintendent

Mr. Anthony Navarro, CCPS Director of Administration

Mr. Larry Titus, CCPS School Safety Specialist

Ms. Karen Maxey, CCPS Assistant to the Board and Records Custodian

Mr. Hayden Kelly, CCPS Student Member of the Board

Mr. Earl Hance, Calvert County Commission President

Mr. Mike Hart, Calvert County Commissioner

Mr. Steve Weems, Calvert County Commissioner

Mr. Kelly McConkey, former BoE member and Calvert County Commissioner

Mr. Christopher Gadway, newly appointed Calvert County Commissioner

Mr. Cary Hansel, Hansel Law

Daniel D. Curry, de facto Records Custodian and soon-to-be former Superintendent