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Calvert County Board of Education Executive Staff and School Board Members 1305 Dares Beach Road Prince Frederick, Maryland 20678

## Dear School Board Members:

We are scared about so many things going on in CCPS, including how employees are so badly treated and compromised. Maryland is a Right to Work state and we know Daniel D. Curry and CCPS exploit that to penalize employees for things as simple as telling the truth, asking for help, refusing to be compromised, and getting sick or being injured (including those who have been assaulted mentally, emotionally, physically and sexually by students who often receive few to no consequences for their actions). We have also heard stories about decent educators who didn't do anything wrong being called before you, the Board, to be censured, and you have supported Daniel D. Curry in his cruelty. Although censures are supposed to fall off teacher records after a year it doesn't always happen, which can make worrisome the prospect of pursuing employment outside of CCPS, for those who are even willing and able to walk away from their pensions. Retaliatory transfers are also a big problem, not to mention that educators are not always properly certified for the grade levels to which they are transferred, often through no fault of their own, and which are designed to make it even easier to get rid of them if they step out of line again. Rumor and gossip campaigns occur and educators are ostracized by abusive colleagues as well as those who fear being associated with them, lest they be targeted. Many skilled teachers have jumped ship and now we hear many new ones haven't yet been properly vetted and are being supervised by substitute teachers. That is expensive, unacademic, an invitation to abuse and clear indication of how horribly the majority of you, former Superintendent Jack Smith and Daniel D. Curry have run CCPS into the ground.

We are incredibly worried about the pressure some employees are under and how many may fear for their jobs even though they don't deserve it, only because Daniel D. Curry and others fear exposure. What choice do these employees have? Just like when we first informed you in a February 2018 <u>calvertedudocs.com</u> update about Daniel D. Curry inviting a shooting, why have you not acted to protect employees who are at the mercy of his malice and caprice as he decompensates and exposure becomes more imminent? Do you care to stop Daniel D. Curry's abuse and dishonesty before anyone else gets hurt? Why should innocent people pay a price for our efforts and exposure of problems in CCPS?

You have fostered an environment where people are constantly pitted against each other and no one knows whom to trust. We have seen too many instances where caring, conscientious CCPS

employees desperately try to preserve their own wellbeing while hurting their colleagues, students and others no more than absolutely necessary. The efforts employed by CCPS against us since Sarah was set up on April 30, 2018 have hardly ever succeeded, and we question what employees may have endured any time they have failed or when we have enraged Daniel D. Curry and he has lashed out at whomever is convenient. As our lawsuit proceeds, we wonder how many employees may be told to lie or lose everything. Curry is clearly decompensating and will take down anyone he can with him. We consider it entirely feasible that Curry would seize upon even any honest and slight employee error as justification for revenge, and even the best employees occasionally make mistakes.

Daniel D. Curry does not take responsibility for anything bad that happens, but is more than eager to take credit for anything that can be manipulated into sounding like CCPS is a well-run institution, and will blame anyone other than himself anytime anything goes wrong. A good example of this is how he justifies his stance on Seclusion and Restraint by referencing our complaints about chaos, violence and abuse in the system. There is no justification, but the explanation is simple - Daniel D. Curry is malicious, calculating and spends much of his time and thrives on obsessively devising situations where people suffer and he can sit back like a puppet master pulling strings. Why else would Daniel D. Curry terminate longtime teachers while offering contracts to new and inexperienced teachers before they have even student taught? What a disgusting and evil thing to do, stripping experienced teachers of their paychecks, healthcare and pensions, only so Curry can convince himself he isn't losing control. All the turnover in the world will not fix Daniel D. Curry's problems because the problem is, first and foremost, Daniel D. Curry. How can you let him continue this way?

Other than contact about which we have informed and/or copied you, and only relevant perfunctory/courteous communications, we have never had contact with anyone in CCPS who is employed at the Central Office, nor any substantial contact with anyone employed at Southern Middle School about anything pertaining to CCPS or our family's situation. No one employed by CCPS who is involved in or connected to our family's situation and efforts or about any problems at Southern Middle School has divulged anything regarding Southern Middle or our family's situation to us, nor have they deliberately or otherwise employed any other means to convey anything to us. We have made a point of avoiding communications which could compromise CCPS employees from around the County to whom we speak, tell people what we know, and direct them to the website. We have insisted on transparency as much as possible because CCPS is clearly a toxic and retaliatory institution and it was easy enough to discern what was happening even before we mailed our initial complaint, simply by looking at circumstances and behavior. These people at the very top aren't very smart – they only use abusive and fearmongering tactics to keep everyone else down and in line so they are not exposed and superseded.

School has resumed and there is again a real urgency to remove loser superintendent Daniel D. Curry. In March you were informed that blood will be on your hands if there is a shooting and you don't get rid of him. I (Katy) could not tell if it was former Board President Tracy McGuire or current Board President Dawn Balinski who mocked me when I said that. For so many reasons of which we have become aware, blood is already on your hands, and deliberate

ignorance and avoidance cannot change this fact. Curry and those who have actively supported him need to go.

We don't understand why the majority of the Board has still not acted to turn around the system and allows a "man" who thrills to difficulty and pain continue on such a dangerous and destructive path. Are you really so willfully and obstinately blind that you can't see what we have so clearly seen for so long? We were able to remove our kids, by necessity, and they are no longer at risk, but so many other people still are. Because many of you have shown yourselves to be so selfish and uncaring, think about this – if a shooting or other tragedy happens you have been warned repeatedly. If something happens and you haven't tried to prevent it, people will hate you when they find out. People's lives are literally at stake here and you're in charge. Why won't you acknowledge it and fix it? Maybe you don't like the "excitement," as Dawn Balinski referred to it, but that is what you were elected to do and if you took your roles seriously you would not have people excoriating you for your tremendous shortcomings. Board Members need to *care* and take responsibility. Current Board President Dawn Balinski, last Board President Tracy McGuire and long-serving member Bill Phalen would finally do the community a service by resigning in shame for their roles in this whole mess.

Desperately hoping you'll start doing the right thing before anyone else gets hurt,

John Blevins

Katharine Blevins

Cc: Dr. Susan Johnson, Director of Secondary School Improvement

Ms. Kim Roof, Director of Student Services

Ms. Karen Maxey, Assistant to the Board

Ms. Diane Workman, Assistant Superintendent

Mr. Anthony Navarro, Executive Director of Administration

Soon to be Former and Disgraced Superintendent Daniel D. Curry