

From: [Daniel Newberger](#)
To: [Julie E. Schrufer](#); [Leslie M. Brickner](#)
Subject: [External] Question about a flier that came home today
Date: Tuesday, November 19, 2019 9:32:56 PM
Attachments: [Flier from PRES, Nov 19, 2019.pdf](#)

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Good evening, I hope all is well with you both!

I had a question about a flier [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] It's from Glen Mar Church, advertising a Christmas event (attached below). There's a "not endorsed by HCPSS or the school" disclaimer at the bottom but it still struck me as really odd for a religious event at a religious institution to be distributed through the public school. Can you share if this is standard practice? Are there guidelines for vetting materials that go home with the kids? I'm not shocked or offended or anything like that, but it does seem a little strange/inappropriate.

Thanks!
Dan Newberger

From: [Daniel Newberger](#)
To: [Julie E. Schrufer](#)
Cc: [Laura ICE Newberger](#); [Leslie M. Brickner](#)
Subject: Re: [External] Request
Date: Friday, November 15, 2019 12:46:57 PM

Thank you so much for your principled stance! As always we are so glad [REDACTED] at your school. Have a great weekend!

On Fri, Nov 15, 2019 at 8:59 AM Julie E. Schrufer <Julie_Schrufer@hcpss.org> wrote:

Hello. Thank you for writing us directly and sharing your thoughts. Here is what I just sent a few families from PointersUnited that reached out to me:

I know this process has been very difficult for many of our families and community members. As you know, our PTA determined from the start of the school year that they were not taking a stand since in all scenarios members of our community would be impacted. They determined to remain neutral.

Administrators are also not to take a stand and need to remain neutral as we are proud employees to serve our entire county. I am not able to attend work sessions, public forums about redistricting, or be involved. Even if the PTA held a meeting (still determining not to take a stance), the administration would not be in attendance. I do not want any family to feel I am not supporting them but I also must do what is asked of me as the proud principal of PRES. We teach and welcome every child that enters our doors and it would not be right to take a stance for one over another. I will be sad to see any of our families and students leave PRES.

I can not speak to what other schools have done or why a board member came to one school vs. another. I do know that Cara Mahoney did reach out to Kirsten Coombs for our community to see what possibilities are available. I have been following the redistricting plan and have heard many of our families and students testimonies. I also reached out to my community superintendent to share how our community is feeling. Thank you for reaching out to me. Have a good day. Julie Schrufer

Thank you-Julie Schrufer

Julie Moraz Schrufer
Principal
Pointers Run Elementary School
[6600 S. Trotter Road](#)
[Clarksville, MD 21029](#)

julie_schrufer@hcpss.org

Harmony~Responsibility~Positivity~Consistency~Woo

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From: Daniel Newberger <daniel.newberger@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, November 15, 2019 12:37 AM
To: Julie E. Schruefer <Julie_Schruefer@hcpss.org>; Leslie M. Brickner <Leslie_Brickner@hcpss.org>
Cc: Laura ICE Newberger <laura.newberger@gmail.com>
Subject: [External] Request

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Hi Julie,

I've heard that the Pointers United group has asked you to set up a meeting with Kirsten Coombs. We really hope that you don't agree to do that.

Laura and I have been very passionate supporters of the superintendent's plan to use redistricting to address the educational inequities in the county. We strongly believe that redistricting is a powerful tool to help economically disadvantaged children. While we both love PRES and would be so sad to have to leave this wonderful school, if our polygons moving will help improve the inequity problem, then we are in favor of the move. Maybe it's because we both are products of diverse public schools growing up, but we just don't think that moving to Swansfield as opposed to Clarksville will be in any way a negative outcome for [REDACTED]

I know the P.U. group is citing the Clemens Crossing meeting with Jen Mallo as precedent for you asking for Kirsten to meet with them, but they are very different situations. The CC polygons only came into play with the BOE very late in the game, so their community didn't have a chance to publicly testify to the board. Our situation is the opposite—the Pointers Run polygons move to Swansfield was part of the original superintendent's plan, and hundreds of us in the neighborhood took advantage of the opportunity to speak to the Board, in person at the public hearings and in writing. There is no reason for them to meet with Kirsten, other than to try and pressure her to move the Pointers Run polygons to Clarksville in accordance with their desired outcome.

We are so disappointed that the P.U. group has put you in this position. They have asked you, in effect, to support their efforts to lobby the board for their desired redistricting outcome by arranging for this meeting with Kirsten. This is a really unreasonable and, I think, unethical thing for them to have done, since everyone is aware that HCPSS personnel need to stay neutral in the redistricting fray.

We hope that you will not agree to arrange for this meeting.

Warm regards,
Dan & Laura Newberger

From: [Daniel Newberger](#)
To: [PRESPTA Committee](#)
Subject: [External] Fwd: Request for PTA to ask Kirsten Coombs to meet with PRES community regarding redistricting.
Date: Thursday, November 14, 2019 9:30:48 PM

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Thanks for your input, Matt.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Matthew Levine** <goofylevine@gmail.com>
Date: Thu, Nov 14, 2019 at 9:14 PM
Subject: Re: Request for PTA to ask Kirsten Coombs to meet with PRES community regarding redistricting.
To: Daniel Newberger <daniel.newberger@gmail.com>

Why don't u just send your kids 30 min in a bus we don't all need to cause you want to.

On Nov 14, 2019, at 8:06 PM, Daniel Newberger <daniel.newberger@gmail.com> wrote:

I strongly disagree with this. The PTA should continue to maintain an impartial stance in regards to redistricting.

On Thu, Nov 14, 2019 at 7:53 PM Amy Bree Becker <amybreebecker@gmail.com> wrote:

As a Co-Chair of the Literacy Committee and someone impacted by these moves, I support Syma's request in full and would ask that the PTA ask for a meeting with Ms. Coombs our cluster representative.

I'm sharing with the full Board group

Amy Becker

Dear PTA Board Members:

As you are likely already aware, the BOE voted this afternoon to move our four polygons in the Pointers United group from PRES to Swansfield Elementary. We are shocked and extremely disappointed by the BOE's action.

We need the PRES PTA's support in reaching out to BOE members asking them to rescind their vote. We have only ONE WEEK until this action will be final.

We understand that the Clemens Crossing PTA was able to successfully meet with Jen Mallo, which prompted Ms. Mallo to propose that our polygons be moved. We are hopeful that our PTA will opt to support parents who currently send their children to PRES. Please advise if you can help us in approaching the BOE. And please pardon any and all typos - sent from the BOE work session.

Thank you,
Syma Siddiqui

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From: [Daniel Newberger](mailto:Daniel.Newberger@gmail.com)
To: amybreebecker@gmail.com
Cc: [PRESPTA Committee](#)
Subject: [External] Re: Request for PTA to ask Kirsten Coombs to meet with PRES community regarding redistricting.
Date: Thursday, November 14, 2019 9:28:06 PM

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Hi Amy,

Your email said you fully support Smya's request, which stated "We need the PRES PTA support in reaching out to BOE members asking them to rescind their vote." I read that as asking the PTA to take a stance, which I do not think we should do. The Clemens Crossing situation seems different; their polygons were not in play until late so they didn't have the opportunity to provide oral testimony to the Board, as opposed to our polygons where we have had sufficient opportunity to be heard.

On Thu, Nov 14, 2019 at 9:10 PM Amy Bree Becker <amybreebecker@gmail.com> wrote:
I am simply asking that the PTA request a meeting with our cluster rep, Kirsten Coombs. I was not asking for the PTA to take a stance. That was pretty clear.

On Thu, Nov 14, 2019 at 9:06 PM Daniel Newberger <daniel.newberger@gmail.com> wrote:

I strongly disagree with this. The PTA should continue to maintain an impartial stance in regards to redistricting.

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Professional Web Site: <http://www.amybreebecker.com>

Twitter: @amybree

The Book: [Political Humor in a Changing Media Landscape](#)

From: [Daniel Newberger](#)
To: [Hcpss Redistricting](#)
Subject: [External] Written testimony
Date: Tuesday, November 12, 2019 9:54:30 PM
Attachments: [Redistricting testimony, Newberger.pdf](#)

Please see the attached written testimony.

Warm regards,
Daniel Newberger, 