



August 15, 2019

Dear Miss Jessie,

I am in receipt of your memo dated August 14, 2019 regarding the Aviation Maintenance Program. I have read through the memo.

Your opposition to sharing the Aviation Mechanics Program with Stonewall Jackson High School is duly noted.

I understand there has been interest in creating this program over a number of years. It was sent out in an informational packet last fall. I understand the hold up in getting this program done sooner was not having an appropriate curriculum and cost concerns.

There is interest from the Governor's office and his workforce development officials. The Secretary of Education notified me of the Governor's interest in seeing this type of program both here and in Hampton roads.

I understand this to be an exciting opportunity for both the aviation mechanics school and for our school Division.

I am glad to know of all the work you have done over the last few years to try to bring this program to fruition. I believe your hard work will pay off.

I discussed this opportunity with Superintendent Walts. I understand the senior leadership has been working to make this happen. They are trying to work within the context of the five-year CTE plan, the past work that they've already done on this idea, and within the context of the new directive voted on by the School Board.

This new directive was voted on in June along with the boundary lines for the 13th high school. If you recall a concurrent resolution to increase funding for economically disadvantaged students across the county was voted on. This was not specific to any one school but rather economically disadvantaged students across the Division. The second aspect of the resolution included renovating older schools. The third part of the resolution specifically said we should add specialty programs to Stonewall Jackson high school.

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Mrs. Lillie Jessie
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I am excited by the work Rita Goss and the senior staff have done to make this happen for both Woodbridge Senior High School and Stonewall Jackson High School. I believe their effort falls in line with the idea and spirit that CTE programs should be represented on both sides of the county. I believe the public will appreciate that.

I also have the utmost confidence in Rita Goss and Doug Wright to make both high schools stand up a comprehensive program over time that will satisfy our ultimate goals for this program and our students.

You are correct that the School Board has a public obligation. Our obligation will always be towards what a majority of the Board voted on.

Again, I have noted your opposition to the Aviation Mechanics Program being set up this way.

Thank you as always for your continued advocacy for our students and our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Lateef', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Babur Lateef, MD
Chairman
Prince William County School Board

cc: Dr. Steven Walts, Superintendent
Mr. Keith Imon, Deputy Superintendent
Mrs. Rita Goss, Associate Superintendent for Student and Professional Learning