

Poolesville Parent Supports a Rural School Policy:

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Hello, I am a parent of three children in the Poolesville Cluster, a business owner in Poolesville, and the President of the Poolesville Community and Economic Development Committee.

I am writing today to ask for your support for a Rural Schools Policy. I am very glad that the Board decided to keep Monocacy Elementary School in Barnesville open, and I appreciate the effort that went into that decision. But there is more work to be done. Please recognize the findings of the Roundtable, comprised of representatives from Poolesville, Barnesville, the Ag Reserve, District 2 school clusters and individual schools, held last spring and develop a policy for the four schools (Poolesville Cluster) located in the Agricultural Reserve that recognizes their special status and accepts lower enrollment levels at those schools than in other down county public schools. Please also keep in mind that the Roundtable also recommended the liberal transfer of students into Monocacy.

I respectfully request that you establish the policy so that those of us that live and work in Montgomery County's rural communities do not continue to suffer from lingering questions about our schools' future. Not only is it not fair to punish the schools in the Reserve for low enrollment, but the vitality of our communities depend on a stable school system in the Reserve.

Thank you,

Karen