

Good evening School Board members and Dr. Walts. My name is Lisa Laughlin and my address is on file with the clerk.

Teachers have historically worked at home, by choice. Teachers often voluntarily donate time at home to support initiatives they have identified to promote learner success. There is often not enough time in the school day to accomplish this due to meetings and the myriad of things that must be attended to in an educator's day. This is far different than expectations to complete mandated trainings without providing time to do so. It's about time Prince William recognize there is but so much time in the day and that while training initiatives may be relevant and important, they should be completed during the work day.

Prince William County has a duty and obligation to protect the health, safety, and welfare of its employees. The importance of this must be conveyed at every level of administration.

No employee should be asked to come in early for a faculty meeting when PWCS has issued a 2-hour delay. Delays, deemed necessary for the safety of students and staff, give additional time for conditions to improve or to determine improvement may not occur and schools to be closed. Nothing has ever been discussed at a faculty meeting that is worth endangering the welfare of staff.

No employee should be allowed to be physically assaulted by students. When administration fails to take immediate and direct action to ensure

their health, safety, and welfare and the situation is allowed to continue, professional educators are at risk.

The concerns I have outlined for you are all management issues- honoring contracted time, a work load that can be accomplished during the work day, and a respect for the safety and well-being of employees. As management issues, they can only be addressed by bodies such as you and the administration of Prince William County Schools. However, the choices you make in addressing them have a direct impact on teachers and staff.

Life is full of choices. I chose to be a teacher. I believe I was born to be a teacher. I can spin magic, engage learners, and create life-time learners. I am a good teacher. I also must choose to work in an environment that respects my abilities as a professional educator, treats me fairly, honors agreements, and ensures my safety. I hope that will be within Prince William County.

You have a choice, too. You can support me and all the other professional educators and staff by acting to address our concerns and in providing healthy, fair work environments. Actions express priorities. Please demonstrate, through action, that we are a priority.