

HB 0196- In Favor

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Dear Members of the House Ways and Means Committee,

As a retired Montgomery County Public school teacher, grandparent to three MCPS students and as a taxpaying citizen of Montgomery County, I want to express my full support for the bill HB 0196 requiring all public schools to publish a catalog of Library materials.

Parents should be able to know what books or other materials are available to their children. Transparency is always the best policy, especially when it comes to educating all children. Success for every student should be our focus and working together as a teacher/parent combined effort is the only way to attain that effort.

During my time as an educator, "Failure was not an option" for any student. In order to achieve this, it meant an open door policy to all parents. Parents should always be informed what resources are available to their children; whether in their classrooms or in their school libraries. In addition, as a taxpayer, it's the right of all parents to have the ability to access this information.

Parents in our county have access to all their students' records; homework assignments, tests, and grades online. This has been a great way for parents to help their students keep up with their assignments as well as holding them accountable. In addition, parents having the availability to log onto a school's website at the start of each school year to view library resources would benefit schools that have smaller budgets. Parents could be advocates to move resources where needed,

I hope you realize this bill would be a valuable tool for all parents, students, and staff!

Thank you

