

December 29, 2014

Dear Mr. Murphy,

I am writing in support of Vine's Preparatory School.

I am the mother of (4) four adult children (26, 25, 22, and 19 years old) who attended school in the State of Delaware, K-12. Each of my children had a VERY different learning style and excelled in varying social settings during these foundational school aged years. As a family who takes education seriously, we have covered just about any option available to us, regarding education, in the State of Delaware; we have home-schooled, public schooled, charter schooled and private schooled our children (each one according to the optimal outcome for that individual).

Private and Charter school options in Kent and Sussex County are minimal and there certainly is room for a couple more. The schools that are available (public, private, charter) do not always provide the optimal learning environment and specialized curriculum for specific children. It is important that we demonstrate our desire for ALL young people to achieve academic excellence by providing them with a variety of environments and curriculum to assist them in achieving that goal.

Vine's Preparatory School will be another option for parents of children in Sussex County; especially for those that have the ability and desire to excel in business or engineering. It will provide a more intimate learning environment to those students and families that choose to enroll in this Charter School. It will prepare the students for continued success in higher education, and ultimately in their professional lives.

I have been privileged to sit in on a couple of the preliminary meetings for the planning and implementation of structure for this school. Those who are working towards opening Vine's Preparatory School are dedicated to excellence and working diligently to consider every detail prior to opening its door. They welcome input as they are striving to, not just meet but, exceed state standards for Charter schools, and education in general. I feel strongly that this school will provide a beneficial and solid environment and curriculum to the students and families it will serve. I believe that the students who graduate from this program will be able to better themselves personally, as well as those around them.

I support the efforts of Vine's Preparatory School and encourage the Department of Education to assist them in this endeavor.

Respectfully Yours,

Jean Taylor
jeant703@gmail.com

Mr. Mark T. Murphy,
Secretary of Education

December 30, 2014

Dear Mr. Murphy,

I would love to see a new charter school come to Sussex County. There aren't many here. Wilmington / New Castle county and even Dover / Kent County seem to have quite a few, but there are not many here. I'd like to see our students and parents be able to choose what's best for them.

Lisa Cannon
20474 Clam Shell Rd
Georgetown, DE 19947

Mr. Mark T. Murphy
Secretary of Education,

December 28, 2014

Dear Mr. Murphy,

I live in Bridgeville, DE and I would be interested in having a Charter School in the Sussex County area. I think it would be a great way for us to show pride in our area. It would draw attention to us for something positive instead of some of the negative stuff you hear about us. It would be great for kids, parents, teachers, the community would have more jobs and we would have more pride and less crime. I hope it gets approved.

Thank you,
Tanika Brittingham
18329 Oak Road
Bridgeville, DE 19933

December 29, 2014

Mark Murphy, DOE Secretary of Education

This communiqué is being written in support of Vine's Preparatory School. I am the father of four children who attended a charter school during the elementary school years. I watched as the charter school experienced neighborhood changing success. A successful charter school gave involved parents, like my wife Jean and I, a more than viable option, as we aggressively searched for an alternative to our overcrowded public school. As a retired law enforcement officer, current business owner, as well as a local politician, I value the importance of a good education. I believe a new charter school in Sussex County is badly needed at this time. There are numerous parents there who will eagerly support a school that is based on the creativity required for engineering and the time tested methods used to initiate and operate a successful business. Our children are not statistics. Nor should they be taught to be average. A successful charter school will give our children the means to flourish, empower families as well as unite a community.

Respectfully submitted,

Ralph Taylor

ralph@thebugguydelaware.com

Mr. Mark T. Murphy,
Secretary of Education

December 30, 2014

Dear Mr. Murphy,

I am a lover of the arts, especially music and acting. My experience in Sussex County public schools coupled with my church foundation cultivated my love for music and performing.

I totally support a new charter school coming to the area that will promote the arts as well as academics. Some schools that focus on arts and music education can sometimes miss the emphasis on general education. It's important to be well-rounded in order to adjust well in society. It is my understanding that VPS will focus on quality choice education with an arts component (STEAM – Science Technology Engineering Arts Mathematics). I hope this school is granted approval and opens soon. It can be the beginning of rest of many young peoples' lives.

Sincerely,

Kaneisha Trott, Performing Artist
20032 Donovans Rd
Georgetown, DE 19947

Mr. Mark T. Murphy,
Secretary of Education

December 29, 2014

Dear Mr. Murphy,
We were excited to learn that our former teacher, Sharon Burton (Conaway now) is part of a team that's trying to bring a charter school to Sussex County. As graduates of public schools, we don't know much about charter schools, but we keep hearing that they usually give students choices and options. As parents now, we want the best for our children and we support Vine's Prep School coming to Sussex County.

Sincerely,

Alison Houchens
501 Palmer St
Apt 303
Milton, DE 19968

Bryana McCrea
1202 Palmer St
Milton, DE 19968

A'Mesha Coles
77 Par Haven Dr
Apt J23
Dover, DE 19904

Mr. Mark T. Murphy,
Secretary of Education

December 29, 2014

Dear Mr. Murphy,

I live in Sussex County and would like to see a new charter school come to our area. From what I understand, Vine's Preparatory School will help prepare kids for college and careers. I think this is a good option for kids who don't want to go to college or cant' afford it or just aren't college material. I hope this school gets approved. I also hope it has an after-school program to help keep kids off the street and out of trouble after school lets out.

Sincerely,
Keta Coleman
706 Woodland Mills Dr.
Seaford, DE 19973

Mr. Mark T. Murphy,
Secretary of Education

December 30, 2014

Dear Mr. Murphy,

I am a parent and grandparent of Sussex County schools. In fact, my grandson goes to the same school his mom went to. I'm proud of our schools, but I also think that kids in the area need more choices. It's only two tech high schools down here and they making it harder and harder to get in them.

My kids have already graduated from high schools in Sussex County. Now I want my grand babies to have the same opportunities and more. Vines Prep School will give my grandchildren choices and introduce them to special career choices even before high school. I think this is a great idea, not just for my family, but for families all over Sussex County.

Sincerely,
Carol Neal
21919 Hackney Circle
Lincoln, DE 19960

Mr. Mark T. Murphy
Secretary of Education,

Dear Mr. Murphy,

I have lived in Sussex County all my life. I began my education in segregated schools. To see the progress that we've made in public education makes me proud. But I also have some concerns about the future of public education. In my day, not everyone went to college, and with prices for education constantly rising, I don't think everyone will get a chance to go to college now, in my grandchildren's day. That's why it's good to give young people choices and options. Vine's Preparatory School will do just that – give kids choices. There isn't much here in Sussex County if you don't have an education, other than chicken plants and factory work. We need more young people interested in jobs that require skill and training past high school, but not necessarily college. Jobs like CNAs, lab technicians, auto mechanics, cosmetologists, etc. VPS will get students thinking about these types of careers sooner (in middle school) and help put them on the path to success. I'd love to see a school like this in the area.

Sincerely,
Brenda Johnson
803 B Moyer Circle
Milford, DE 19963
(302)249-2654
pjohndar@aol.com

Mr. Mark T. Murphy
Secretary of Education,

Dear Mr. Murphy,

I am interested in having a Charter School in the Sussex County area. I think it would be a great asset to the area. All students & parents would benefit from this school. The school will give students options and choices and help them get started on a career path.

Sincerely,
Gerene A. Burton
22217 Cabbage Pond Rd.
Lincoln De 19960
302-422-2678
Administrative Assistant Secretary
Wicomico County Public School