

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION FORM RESPONSES

Thursday, May 12, 2022

Timestamp	First Name:	Last Name:	Magisterial District:	Your written comments for the May 12 work session:
Apr. 27, 22 -- 7:50: PM	Kiran	Sabharwal	Three Chopt District - Michelle F. Ogburn	<p>We are members of Team 1086 Blue Cheese, Deep Run's FIRST Robotics Challenge (FRC) team. We are one of only four teams in the county; we would like to change that. Part of our team's mission is advocating for STEM education funding at the national, state, and local level. With that goal in mind, we are requesting that the Henrico County School Board consider funding the registration fees of FRC teams created in the county's nine high schools. FRC is an incredibly formative program for high schoolers, creating opportunities to engage in a team environment, develop leadership skills, and learn programming, building, and media techniques. FRC teaches the skills of dedication, persistence, communication, and teamwork. Robotics provides a unique opportunity for students at our school to be a part of a welcoming, positive team environment regardless of skill level. There are opportunities for students interested in robot construction, media, graphic design, policy advocacy, programming, and outreach to grow on our team. Robotics programs across the county create leadership roles for all students; people of color represent 86% of our leadership and women represent 71%. Finally, the program provides students with a plethora of opportunities and access to qualified mentors to build their skills, STEM and otherwise. FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC) teams also better students' futures by participation in the program. For the last 3 years, 100% of our seniors graduated and attended college, at institutions such as MIT, Virginia Tech, UVA; 95% are majoring in STEM. Our graduates work in companies such as Google, Amazon, Oculus, and Boeing. To provide more opportunities for teamwork, STEM learning, and leadership, we believe all students in the county should be able to participate in FRC programs. We believe that more teams would be formed if the registration fee was covered by the county. Students should not be limited in opportunity by financial concerns. This investment in STEM education for Henrico County high schoolers is only 0.007% of the School Board's budget. It is important that the opportunity to participate in FRC is available to all students in Henrico County high schools. We would like to be placed on the agenda for the May 26th meeting to address this important issue.</p>
May. 10, 22 -- 8:35: PM	Anthony	Greulich	Tuckahoe District - Marcie F. Shea	<p>Please allow our children and young adults the right to peacefully protest during school hours. Missing class for 30 to 60 minutes is a good life lesson in knowing that each voice matters and that their opinion counts. Give them a designated area outside to walk and protest safely.</p>
May. 11, 22 -- 1:38: PM	Eric	Fagan	Brookland District - Kristi B. Kinsella	<p>As a current student at Glen Allen High School, I'd like to request that the website Nitrotype.com be unblocked from school computers. The game provides students with a fun way of learning and improving their typing ability and I see no purpose in having the game be inaccessible on school computers.</p>