

Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: August 23, 2022 9:45 pm  
Browser: Mobile Safari / iOS  
IP Address: 174.212.96.62  
Unique ID: 1001236157  
Location: 36.1187, -86.2626

**Name** Jennifer Howington

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**Email** xjenn123@yahoo.com

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**Phone** (615) 446-1792

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**Organization** Concerned citizen

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**I wish to comment on behalf of** Clarksville-Montgomery County Schools

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**Please provide your written comments below**

American Classical Charter Academy in Florida this year: "The judge's order said the school showed a lack of leadership and that they changed principals six times over the last year. It showed the school hasn't been paying all of its financial obligations and that it had projected \$182,000 of debt.

It also said that only 10 of the academy's 28 teachers were certified and that students were not provided the Exceptional Student Education or English Language Learners services outlined in their education plans."

American Classical Charter Academy Is part of Hillsdale College and that in itself should be enough to prevent these schools from opening. The underhanded tactics and back door dealing of our Governor to the detriment of public education and the youth of Tennessee is another reason to deny this school's application.

I have read the History and Civics curriculum and it as close to white washing history as I've ever seen. My mother's schooling in rural Alabama pre-Brown v BofE was more enlightened and they were taught that the Civil War was the War of Northern Aggression. An educational institution that fails to teach accurate history or critical thinking skills has no place in TN or any in state that wants informed citizens.

No charter school that is under Hillsdale's banner should be allowed in the state of TN.

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Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: August 24, 2022 3:57 pm  
Browser: Chrome Mobile 104.0.0.0 / Android  
IP Address: 162.251.172.1  
Unique ID: 1001595729  
Location: 36.5818, -87.4162

**Name** Samantha Hunter

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**Email** samantha.hunter0109@gmail.com

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**Phone** (443) 979-3522

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**Organization** A mom

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**I wish to comment on behalf of** Other

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**Please provide your written comments below**

I would like to say I'm a mom against charter schools. I do not have any special needs children, but I do know that these schools have historically discriminated against children who cannot keep up in a regular classroom or any child who may not excel in a regular classroom. Historically, charter schools cater to the rich (hence the need to pay to attend) and the scholarships they offer for gifted students can be rescinded at any time for any reason if that student no longer serves the charter school. Im under the impression that school should serve the child and not the other way around. I think these schools should not take any money out of the pockets of our already underfunded public schools for this reason. If parents want to, they are more than welcome to pay out of pocket for the whatever service they perceive a charter school can provide that a public school cannot, but I don't see why my tax dollars should pay for a charter school that does not serve the children and therefore, does not serve the community.

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Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: September 3, 2022 3:07 pm  
Browser: Chrome 104.0.5112.102 / Windows  
IP Address: 162.247.54.1  
Unique ID: 1005471907  
Location: 36.5037, -87.2729

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**Name** Tristan Woodall

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**Email** foundingfrotherscoffee@gmail.com

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**Phone** (850) 830-3676

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**Organization** Founding Frothers Coffee LLC

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**I wish to comment on behalf of** American Classical Academy Montgomery

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**Please provide your written comments below**

Good afternoon, My name is Tristan Woodall and I am the owner of Founding Frothers Coffee, here in Clarksville, Tn. I would like to speak on behalf of the American Classical Academy and wish to convey my desire to welcome this wonderful academy to Clarksville. Our children deserve the chance to learn from this style of education. This Education is exactly what our Founders learned in their studies back in the 18th century. This type of education is exactly what led to OUR Founding and the beliefs that we all hold to be true. I encourage Montgomery County to allow American Classical Academy and establish the first school here in Montgomery County and many more in the future. Looking at it from a pure business standpoint, it makes sense as well. The new growth that we will encounter in the next 5- 10 years we will need several more schools in the county. With that being said, there will be an influx of blue collar and white-collar families moving to the area with the oncoming growth and would love the opportunity to send their children to the American Classical Academy and become wonderful members of our growing community. I will be sending my children to the American Classical Academy and would love many more children to go.

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Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: September 5, 2022 9:33 pm  
Browser: Chrome Mobile 104.0.0.0 / Android  
IP Address: 71.228.176.81  
Unique ID: 1006039160  
Location: 36.5014, -86.8738

**Name** Darrell Woodard

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**Email** wood5757@comcast.net

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**Phone** (615) 578-1466

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**Organization** Robertson county commissioner

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**I wish to comment on behalf of** American Classical Academy Montgomery

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**Please provide your written comments below** Parental options

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Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: September 6, 2022 4:33 pm  
Browser: Firefox 104.0 / OS X  
IP Address: 76.18.175.120  
Unique ID: 1006420197  
Location: 36.4198, -86.7946

<b>Name</b>	Paula Farmer
<b>Email</b>	pfarmer@pmfaithconsulting.com
<b>Phone</b>	(615) 977-8997
<b>Organization</b>	Advocate for Education (Citizen)
<b>I wish to comment on behalf of</b>	Other
<b>Please provide your written comments below</b>	Actively working on comments.

Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: September 12, 2022 12:03 pm  
Browser: Safari 15.6.1 / OS X  
IP Address: 136.58.117.187  
Unique ID: 1008640504  
Location: 36.1769, -86.7339

<b>Name</b>	George Grant
<b>Email</b>	george@parishpres.org
<b>Phone</b>	(615) 521-1439
<b>Organization</b>	Franklin Classical School
<b>I wish to comment on behalf of</b>	Other

**Please provide your written comments below**

To the Tennessee Public Charter School Commission:

I am the founder of Franklin Classical School located in Franklin, TN and I have founded dozens of classical schools around the world. Additionally, I am a pastor at Parish Presbyterian Church, Director of the King's Meadow Study Center, Founder of Bannockburn College, and Coordinator of the Chalmers Fund. I've also authored dozens of books in the areas of history, biography, politics, literature, and social criticism.

I know and value the importance of a quality education. It's for this very reason I founded Franklin Classical School. Today, I write in support of American Classical Academy Montgomery's application and appeal to the Commission. The Tennessee Public Charter School Commission was founded to take politics out of the process and to judge an application solely on its merits. The Commission is responsible to provide a fact-based review of an application. I believe American Classical Academy Montgomery's application should be approved.

While there are many quality schools in Montgomery County, even the finest school is not the best fit for each student. Ultimately, I trust parents to make the decision that is best for each of their children regarding their education.

We need to provide additional public school options including high quality charter schools with a rigorous curriculum. For those students that need another option-this public charter school would provide at least one additional choice. Many families cannot afford other options and must rely on their traditional taxpayer funded public school and public charter school options.

I believe ACA dispels many of the falsehoods in Clarksville-Montgomery's rejection of their application in their Commission Appeal Statement-so I will not regurgitate those valid points here.

The proposed curriculum that ACA will use is built around time-tested quality materials that are used in thousands of public schools to help students master these subjects.

Ultimately, families, community members, elected officials and teachers in Montgomery County have expressed interest in and support for American Classical Academy's application as expressed in their numerous letters of support. And, I believe their application meets all the standards in order to be approved.

The Commission should judge the application on its merits-full stop. And, once approved, let families decide if they believe ACA would be a good fit for their students. This is about providing high quality educational options for families. The more high-quality options for families, the better. It is no surprise that the traditional public schools are afraid of the unknown and

therefore instead of providing options for families, they want to squash additional options.

We cannot fit kids into a one-size-fits-all approach. Most students will stay in their current school, especially if they are happy and believe their needs are being met. And, even if a student leaves and goes to ACA or another schooling option-that traditional public school still receives partial funding to not educate a student. Ultimately, this should not be about money-which sadly, is what it seems the administrators in monopolistic public school system are most worried about. We should be empowering families to seek out options to best fit their student's needs. School choice is proven to help raise the bar and provide a quality education for students.

If the pandemic showed us anything, it is that each child has different and unique learning needs. We need to approve high-quality options and empower families to seek out the best public school option for each student. We should fund students and not systems.

It's disappointing that the CMCSS school board refused to even hold a discussion on approving this school.

Thank you for your time and attention-and I trust you will carefully consider and approve their application.



Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: September 13, 2022 8:11 am  
Browser: Chrome 105.0.0.0 / Windows  
IP Address: 96.4.6.66  
Unique ID: 1009009254  
Location: 36.0955, -87.1098

<b>Name</b>	Rebecca Jackman
<b>Email</b>	becky37042@gmail.com
<b>Phone</b>	(931) 980-0206
<b>Organization</b>	taxpayer
<b>I wish to comment on behalf of</b>	American Classical Academy Montgomery
<b>Please provide your written comments below</b>	Montgomery County does not need American Classical Academy. They did not reach out to the community to see what parents and students wanted.

Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: September 13, 2022 1:52 pm  
Browser: Chrome 105.0.0.0 / Windows  
IP Address: 96.4.9.70  
Unique ID: 1009171813  
Location: 36.4198, -86.7946

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**Name** Mike Williams

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**Email** simiusgravis@yahoo.com

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**Phone** (615) 631-0563

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**Organization** none

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**I wish to comment on behalf of** Clarksville-Montgomery County Schools

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**Please provide your written comments below**

I am an educator with 30 years experience in the classroom, a Ph.D., and almost 10 years of private and international school administration; two of my years (the worst ever) were in Tennessee Charter schools. Never in my career had I witnessed and experienced blatant disregard for educational best practices, "shifty, questionable" use of public tax dollars, and complete disregard for student expression and exploration. Furthermore, there is no "real, hand-on" accountability, once a charter is approved.

To say the least, I now am opposed to ANY and ALL future Charter Schools in Tennessee, without more involved, hands-on, and direct oversight.

All decisions should remain at the local level and all those decisions should be upheld.

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Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: September 13, 2022 3:54 pm  
Browser: Chrome 105.0.0.0 / Windows  
IP Address: 96.5.47.244  
Unique ID: 1009229478  
Location: 36.4911, -87.8798

<b>Name</b>	James Long
<b>Email</b>	jimlongtn@att.net
<b>Phone</b>	(615) 609-0030
<b>Organization</b>	none
<b>I wish to comment on behalf of</b>	Other
<b>Please provide your written comments below</b>	Local school boards should have the authority to self-govern, without fear of overreach by State commissions.

Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: September 13, 2022 11:38 pm  
Browser: Mobile Safari 15.6.1 / iOS  
IP Address: 73.108.205.89  
Unique ID: 1009372457  
Location: 35.9243, -83.9965

<b>Name</b>	Rob Quillin
<b>Email</b>	robquillin@comcast.net
<b>Phone</b>	(865) 588-7308
<b>Organization</b>	None - Tennessee citizen
<b>I wish to comment on behalf of</b>	American Classical Academy Montgomery
<b>Please provide your written comments below</b>	<p>I'm a 49 year old life-long Tennessee citizen with a graduate degree. My nephew just graduated from Hillsdale College this year. It was a wonderful experience and a balanced, truth- seeking education. I'm confident that any charter school associated with Hillsdale will be a wonderful option for Tennessee students. Our state should support giving our parents and children a choice in education and allowing them to use their hard-earned tax dollars to finance that education rather than limiting them to only the one-size fits-all government schools.</p>

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Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: September 15, 2022 12:43 pm  
Browser: Mobile Safari 15.6.1 / iOS  
IP Address: 107.119.65.2  
Unique ID: 1010054028  
Location: 35.2296, -80.843

**Name** Van chase

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**Email** van.g.chase@gmail.com

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**Phone** (931) 326-9372

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**Organization** CMCRTA

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**I wish to comment on behalf of** Clarksville-Montgomery County Schools

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**Please provide your written comments below** Hilldale Charter Schools are a bad idea for the Clarksville Montgomery School System. Our children deserve the highest standard of education. The best we can hope for with Hilldale is a lower is a lower standard of education for our children. The worst issue is the diverting of tax payer dollars to this for profit organization.

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Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: September 15, 2022 9:42 pm  
Browser: Mobile Safari / iOS  
IP Address: 170.103.71.169  
Unique ID: 1010314482  
Location: 36.5163, -87.5392

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**Name** Linda Medina-Griffy

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**Email** lmgriffy@gmail.com

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**Phone** (931) 624-6381

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**Organization** Private citizen

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**I wish to comment on behalf of** American Classical Academy Montgomery

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**Please provide your written comments below** If American Classical Academy meets the standards CMCSS set for them to meet, they should be approved. It would be good to have another public school option for parents and students. Mr Garland's comment as to why he opposes all charter schools, even those that met CMCSS's conditions, indicates it was out of disdain for Dr. Arnn and his comments, not for the school. As a teacher, I cannot appreciate Dr. Arnn's comments, but would welcome another school with a different approach to teaching and learning.

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Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: September 15, 2022 9:51 pm  
Browser: Mobile Safari 16.0 / iOS  
IP Address: 170.103.71.156  
Unique ID: 1010316511  
Location: 36.5163, -87.5392

**Name** Brock Michael

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**Email** brockamichael@gmail.com

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**Phone** (517) 425-2685

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**Organization** Myself

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**I wish to comment on behalf of** American Classical Academy Montgomery

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**Please provide your written comments below** I grew up in Hillsdale and the president is a very arrogant person. The comments he has made about our state and teachers prior speak for themselves. We don't need the negativity and curriculum that comes along with Hillsdale college. I completely agree with the first decision and think the charter should be denied. DO NOT BRING HILLSDALE TO CLARKSVILLE!!!!

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Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: September 15, 2022 9:58 pm  
Browser: Mobile Safari / iOS  
IP Address: 107.77.236.200  
Unique ID: 1010318075  
Location: 33.7485, -84.3871

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**Name** Robin Fairclough

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**Email** rhammer0003@yaboo.com

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**Phone** (931) 249-8861

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**Organization** Clarksville resident

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**I wish to comment on behalf of** Other

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**Please provide your written comments below**

I continue to struggle with the concept of "local authority": when a district determines a charter applicant does not meet their standards, how can another entity then overturn that decision and still hold the local district accountable for the outcomes of the charter school's services/performance? If a state commission overrules the local district's decision, then that commission or its authorizing agency should then be the ones held responsible for the services provided by the charter.

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Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: September 15, 2022 11:31 pm  
Browser: Mobile Safari / iOS  
IP Address: 73.120.44.110  
Unique ID: 1010353786  
Location: 36.2564, -82.6234

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**Name** Cristin Estevez

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**Email** cmesrevez31@gmail.com

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**Phone** (931) 257-4383

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**Organization** Resident of Montgomery county

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**I wish to comment on behalf of** Clarksville-Montgomery County Schools

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**Please provide your written comments below**

Our schools are already maxed out! The completion of the elementary and high school on Rossvie is already at capacity and not yet completed. This city has no problems letting houses burn to the ground due to outdated water lines, and freely allow greedy contractors to continue to build houses, houses that will have more children In them that will receive a poor education due to overpopulation. Give this county the charter schools, give this community a future. CMCSS greed for more money is not helping the citizens and we will remember this come voting time. Please stop the madness.

Sincerely,  
A concerned parent

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Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: September 16, 2022 10:31 am  
Browser: Mobile Safari 15.6.1 / iOS  
IP Address: 174.212.107.213  
Unique ID: 1010498799  
Location: 36.1187, -86.2626

**Name** David Forbes

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**Email** dforbes626@aol.com

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**Phone** (931) 206-1570

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**Organization** Citizen of Montgomery county

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**I wish to comment on behalf of** Clarksville-Montgomery County Schools

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**Please provide your written comments below**

The school board a elected body responsible to the voters has rejected these charter schools. As a voter and resident of Montgomery county that should be the final say. An unelected body should not have the power to overrule an elected body. Charter schools drain resources from the existing public schools. As a tax payer I don't want one dime of my property tax money going to a quasi private entity. I also pay extra on my license plate registration for the schools. As residents of the county no to these entities. If they do want to come they can come on their dime. They can open as private schools and the expense should be Bourne by the users.

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Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: September 16, 2022 12:23 pm  
Browser: Chrome 105.0.0.0 / Windows  
IP Address: 75.3.65.26  
Unique ID: 1010555851  
Location: 36.5037, -87.2729

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<b>Name</b>	Caleb Ensley
<b>Email</b>	ensleycm@yahoo.com
<b>Phone</b>	(760) 673-9039
<b>Organization</b>	N/A
<b>I wish to comment on behalf of</b>	Other

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**Please provide your written comments below**

As a parent of two school aged children in Clarksville, Montgomery County I would like an American Classical Academy campus here. The county needs more options for parents outside of the overcrowded public schools, submitting to failing and poor policies from the CMCSS school board. In fact, we need an American Classical Academy and I would gladly enroll my children in this school. Please support this measure.

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Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: September 16, 2022 7:50 pm  
Browser: Silk 104.2.16 / Android  
IP Address: 47.40.207.127  
Unique ID: 1010724208  
Location: 36.5037, -87.2729

<b>Name</b>	Frances Hall
<b>Email</b>	Franhall144@yahoo.com
<b>Phone</b>	(931) 553-0353
<b>Organization</b>	Resident of Clarksville and parent
<b>I wish to comment on behalf of</b>	American Classical Academy Montgomery
<b>Please provide your written comments below</b>	As a long time resident of Clarksville, I feel that having a charter school here would be an asset to this community. We have a very good school system here but with the continued growth of our town families deserve this option if they choose it for their children.

Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: September 16, 2022 8:34 pm  
Browser: Safari 15.6 / OS X  
IP Address: 216.86.95.64  
Unique ID: 1010732170  
Location: 36.5246, -87.3465

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**Name** Leighton Brown

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**Email** leighton@nowtold.com

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**Phone** (931) 801-5051

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**Organization** Parent

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**I wish to comment on behalf of** Clarksville-Montgomery County Schools

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**Please provide your written comments below**

As a parent who lives in Clarksville with one student just graduated and another in 8th grade, I believe it is important to register my extreme agreement with the CMCSS committee that American Classical Academy - Montgomery's application to open a charter school in Montgomery County should be denied. In addition to the CMCSS committees presentation, I wish to add two other concerns: ACAM introduced Phil Schwank as principal in all three of the counties in which they have an appeal. These counties are quite distant from one another and could not possibly be served adequately by the same principal. In addition, in looking over the ACAM applications available on TN.gov, in section 1.3 their application refers to "the principals of moral character and civic virtue." Mixing up "principles" and "principals" shows an inattention to detail, especially in such an important document. It also points to a general sense of ACAM not fully thinking's g through or being worried about actually running a charter school. They should clearly be denied their application to open a charter school.

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Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: September 16, 2022 10:42 pm  
Browser: Chrome Mobile 105.0.0.0 / Android  
IP Address: 75.245.180.159  
Unique ID: 1010752985  
Location: 36.1052, -86.6591

**Name** Ascencion Lopez

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**Email** ascencionlopezjr@gmail.com

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**Phone** (931) 272-1906

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**Organization** The Latino community

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**I wish to comment on behalf of** Other

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**Please provide your written comments below**

The Clarksville Montgomery County School System receives over 350 million dollars every year to educate Almost 39,000 students every year. The numbers are approximates. It is no secret that Latinos are struggling under CMCSS. Also there's no guarantees that an acceptable amount of Latinos would be accepted into American Classical Academy Montgomery. This leaves the Latino community in a no win situation. We cannot succeed under the current system and we probably will not be accepted to ACAM. The only solution I can think of is to allow ACAM to open under a probationary period and ensure diversity and inclusion. If they don't meet a certain percentage of minorities they'll be closed. If the minority students do not meet or surpass the CMCSS education percentage; they'll be closed. The Latino community needs an opportunity to succeed. So either CMCSS improve the Latino test scores or Let ACAM try to improve it. Thank you

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Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: September 16, 2022 11:35 pm  
Browser: Mobile Safari / iOS  
IP Address: 172.58.147.97  
Unique ID: 1010761373  
Location: 36.1671, -86.7861

**Name** Toni Chambers

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**Email** adcount92@yahoo.com

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**Phone** (706) 524-2558

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**Organization** Self

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**I wish to comment on behalf of** American Classical Academy Montgomery

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**Please provide your written comments below**

Having another school option that is free or low cost to the community is important. Schools within the community are overcrowded, teachers are underpaid and disrespected and no amount of additional funds will improve this. Charter schools help lift the burden from the public schools and allow for smaller class sizes for parents who don't want to have their child in the local school system. Both of my young children attend private schools in the area yet my tax dollars go towards a public school system my family will never utilize. With behavioral problems riddled across most public schools in the country, charter schools can pick their student body and have more authority in the classroom. I hope the state of Tennessee makes the right decision and overrides the local government by accepting new charter schools into the community.

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Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: September 16, 2022 11:59 pm  
Browser: Mobile Safari 15.6.1 / iOS  
IP Address: 107.77.237.11  
Unique ID: 1010764209  
Location: 33.7485, -84.3871

<b>Name</b>	Wallace Redd
<b>Email</b>	wallaceredd@aol.com
<b>Phone</b>	(931) 216-5640
<b>Organization</b>	Our opinion
<b>I wish to comment on behalf of</b>	Other
<b>Please provide your written comments below</b>	My wife and fully support charter schools in Montgomery County.



Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: September 17, 2022 7:46 am  
Browser: Mobile Safari / iOS  
IP Address: 104.9.71.56  
Unique ID: 1010827955  
Location: 36.5037, -87.2729

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**Name** Kristi Seiber

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**Email** kristiseiber@yahoo.com

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**Phone** (931) 624-8543

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**Organization** Parent, grand parent, business owner and Taxpayer

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**I wish to comment on behalf of** Other

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**Please provide your written comments below**

School choice makes Everyone better. Competition is the best way to perfect what is being offered. If our school board is afraid of that they should listen to parents over the teachers unions. Not only that, all the teachers I know complain about over crowding and not enough teachers. Charters will help with that burden.

Parents have the right to make these decisions for their children. The school board and teachers need to remember they are employees of the state and not dictators of the people. If parents want charters- charters should be allowed- especially in TN, where we say we stand on freedom.

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Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: September 17, 2022 8:44 am  
Browser: Chrome 105.0.0.0 / Windows  
IP Address: 75.46.243.222  
Unique ID: 1010835708  
Location: 36.5818, -87.4162

<b>Name</b>	James Joiner
<b>Email</b>	agr1991@bellsouth.net
<b>Phone</b>	(931) 980-3447
<b>Organization</b>	Personal
<b>I wish to comment on behalf of</b>	Other

**Please provide your written comments below**

My comments are on my behalf and the behalf of the hundreds of people I know in Montgomery County. I am a Christian and a conservative, the majority of my votes have been cast for Republicans. I'm 53 and have lived in Montgomery County my entire life. I am a businessman, graduated from APSU and attended CMCSS. My 3 children have attended and graduated from CMCSS. Two are college graduates in professional careers and the youngest is pursuing her college degree currently. CMCSS is an exceptional school system. Like all organization, private or public, things don't always work exactly as it should, but CMCSS is committed to continuous improvement and that is not just a catch phrase for CMCSS. When a problem is identified, they seek to determine what the issue is and resolve it. They may not resolve it to everyone's satisfaction, but NO organization can please everyone - not even a classical public charter school that will have much less oversight than a public school system. This classical school wants waivers from over 10 Tennessee state laws - laws that Tennessee government - including Governor Lee- think are necessary for public schools to follow in order to provide an appropriate education for our students. Why would we give taxpayer dollars to an out-of-state organization, funded by people in Michigan to then not have that organization follow the same Tennessee laws as public schools??? It makes absolutely no sense. While I am a Christian, I believe to preserve everyone's religious freedoms, including Christians, we must have a separation in church and state. This is a slippery slope. Now it is a Christian based organization wanting taxpayer dollars to teach "virtue and goodness" to children. A lot of religions espouse values of virtue and goodness - Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, but would we want taxpayer monies being used for public charter schools backed by organizations founded on any of those religious principles? I think not. While I believe Christ is the only way to have a true relationship with God and be saved, I do not pretend that Christians are the only ones who espouse and attempt to live a virtuous and good life. The arrogance of this Michigan group to think they are the only ones who can teach our children virtue and goodness, and that they are the only ones who can have virtuous and good teachers to teach our kids. It is absolutely amazing and terrifying at the same time. CMCSS is made up of over 5000 employees working every day to support the students of our county. Are all of those employees perfect? No, but neither will the employees of this Michigan group if we give them taxpayer dollars. I have read a lot of the application and materials about this proposed school. I do not support it and from the hundreds of people I know, most Montgomery County citizens do not. Don't be fooled by the small group of loud people who want to criticize CMCSS. I saw one lady interviewed on the news who said she doesn't like CMCSS because they give laptops to her kids and those laptops "spy on her kids." Seriously? If that is the type of people who support this Michigan group, you have to see that it cannot be what is best for this community. Please do not vote to approve this charter school.

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Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: September 17, 2022 10:00 am  
Browser: Mobile Safari 15.6 / iOS  
IP Address: 174.212.97.209  
Unique ID: 1010847536  
Location: 36.1187, -86.2626

**Name** Heather Crary

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**Email** heaatheracrary@gmail.com

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**Phone** (651) 505-1349

---

**Organization** Self - community member

---

**I wish to comment on behalf of** Clarksville-Montgomery County Schools

---

**Please provide your written comments below** The schools here doing well. The community is focused on building more to support the children. We don't need anything others coming in and competing with that for funding, we should focus on continuing to expand the schools the way we are. Focus on bringing in and retaining good teacher and supporting the programs we have... not adding other facilitating organizations to that

---

Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: September 17, 2022 10:24 am  
Browser: Chrome Mobile 105.0.0.0 / Android  
IP Address: 162.251.174.107  
Unique ID: 1010852064  
Location: 36.5818, -87.4162

**Name** Sam Wamack

---

**Email** swamack@gmail.com

---

**Phone** (989) 779-0083

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**Organization** N/A, citizen of Clarksville

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**I wish to comment on behalf of** Other

---

**Please provide your written comments below**

As a parent with children in CMCSS, I am appalled that the state would even consider overruling the community's clear wishes on this subject. To do so will divert resources away from the schools and into a group which has expressed total contempt for the very people charged with teaching the next generation. Those resources should stay with the schools to further improve them, not be diverted to out-of-state fundamentalists with an anti-education agenda.

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Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: September 17, 2022 11:04 am  
Browser: Mobile Safari 15.6 / iOS  
IP Address: 99.54.139.0  
Unique ID: 1010859775  
Location: 36.5818, -87.4162

**Name** Suzanne Butler

---

**Email** exurbia05.lever@icloud.com

---

**Phone** (931) 215-2966

---

**Organization** Myself

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**I wish to comment on behalf of** Other

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**Please provide your written comments below**

As the mother of three children in public schools in the CMCSS district I am troubled by the comments made about schools and teachers in our district. While there is always room for improvement, teachers are NOT indoctrinating the kids. It's all they can do to manage to teach the curriculum as it is. There is no room for charter schools that clearly have an agenda like Hillsdale. It would be an absolute conflict of interest to invest state funds to charter schools that have a clear bias. And for Hillsdale and their proponents to suggest that public school teachers have a "woke agenda" is projection at its finest. Please uphold the ruling that denies Hillsdale any access to our community. Thank you.

---

Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: September 17, 2022 12:16 pm  
Browser: Chrome 105.0.0.0 / Windows  
IP Address: 99.44.185.249  
Unique ID: 1010873761  
Location: 36.5037, -87.2729

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**Name** Karen Pendergrass

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**Email** kkpendergrass@gmail.com

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**Phone** (931) 801-8973

---

**Organization** TRTA

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**I wish to comment on behalf of** Clarksville-Montgomery County Schools

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**Please provide your written comments below**

As a retired teacher, I was appalled by the statements of Larry Arnn concerning teacher education and teachers. He is greatly mistaken when he states that anyone can teach. One quarter of the schools in Montgomery County are reward schools. The district earned an advancing designation. We are not a failing district and do not need a charter school. There is no evidence that charter schools outperform public schools. There is more evidence that charter schools do poorly compared to public schools. Charter schools would siphon badly needed money from public schools. We do need increased state funding to provide for higher teacher salaries and attract and retain teachers. Increased funding would allow for an increase in other support services which benefit the academic and emotional well-being of our students.

---

Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: September 17, 2022 2:08 pm  
Browser: Chrome 105.0.0.0 / Windows  
IP Address: 99.59.160.172  
Unique ID: 1010894608  
Location: 36.6642, -87.4208

<b>Name</b>	David Efird
<b>Email</b>	dpefird@gmail.com
<b>Phone</b>	(270) 305-9219
<b>Organization</b>	CMCSS
<b>I wish to comment on behalf of</b>	Clarksville-Montgomery County Schools
<b>Please provide your written comments below</b>	No charter schools in Clarksville!



Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: September 17, 2022 2:10 pm  
Browser: Mobile Safari / iOS  
IP Address: 162.247.54.159  
Unique ID: 1010895111  
Location: 36.5037, -87.2729

**Name** Amanda Oliver

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**Email** aollie@rocketmail.com

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**Phone** (270) 945-1050

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**Organization** Clarksville City and Montgomery County Tax Payer

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**I wish to comment on behalf of** Clarksville-Montgomery County Schools

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**Please provide your written comments below** Do not take resources away from our public schools! We should be strengthening and supporting them. Instead. This is just an effort to line politicians pockets. We voted no! If you vote yes, we will know against whom your intentions reside-against our kids and community!!

---

Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: September 17, 2022 2:15 pm  
Browser: Mobile Safari / iOS  
IP Address: 162.247.54.159  
Unique ID: 1010895903  
Location: 36.5037, -87.2729

<b>Name</b>	Jason Oliver
<b>Email</b>	d.jadonoliver@gmail.com
<b>Phone</b>	(270) 915-1015
<b>Organization</b>	N/a
<b>I wish to comment on behalf of</b>	Clarksville-Montgomery County Schools

Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: September 17, 2022 10:06 pm  
Browser: Mobile Safari 15.6 / iOS  
IP Address: 162.247.54.152  
Unique ID: 1010969682  
Location: 36.5037, -87.2729

<b>Name</b>	Heather Crary
<b>Email</b>	heaatheracrary@gmail.com
<b>Phone</b>	(651) 505-1349
<b>Organization</b>	Self - community member
<b>I wish to comment on behalf of</b>	Clarksville-Montgomery County Schools
<b>Please provide your written comments below</b>	The schools here doing well. The community is focused on building more to support the children. We don't need anything others coming in and competing with that for funding, we should focus on continuing to expand the schools the way we are. Focus on bringing in and retaining good teacher and supporting the programs we have... not adding other facilitating organizations to that

Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: September 18, 2022 10:39 am  
Browser: Chrome 105.0.0.0 / OS X  
IP Address: 170.103.109.156  
Unique ID: 1011064453  
Location: 36.5037, -87.2729

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<b>Name</b>	George Childs
<b>Email</b>	Chris.Childs@marshallreddick.com
<b>Phone</b>	(615) 852-1835
<b>Organization</b>	Clarksville Realtor
<b>I wish to comment on behalf of</b>	Other

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**Please provide your written comments below**

I am a local resident of Clarksville and my children have attended Classical education in the past outside of Clarksville. It has been highly beneficial to their development and has greatly increased their knowledge of all aspects of education from an early age. I highly recommend that Clarksville consider ACAM's application as they would be a great asset to our community and provide an alternate option to traditional schools for tax paying parents who choose that option.

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Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: September 18, 2022 11:00 am  
Browser: Mobile Safari 15.5 / iOS  
IP Address: 170.103.109.156  
Unique ID: 1011068970  
Location: 36.5037, -87.2729

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<b>Name</b>	Katie Childs
<b>Email</b>	katiechilds100@gmail.com
<b>Phone</b>	(615) 415-7068
<b>Organization</b>	Self
<b>I wish to comment on behalf of</b>	American Classical Academy Montgomery

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**Please provide your written comments below**

Hello, respectfully I would like to vote in favor of offering a Classical Academy option in Montgomery county. My sons attended a homeschool group for the past four years called Classical Conversations. Together we benefitted from education employing the classical model. In modern America we have done a lot of things right and a lot of things good, our governments and education sector work tirelessly to keep up with the latest technologies and trends, but unfortunately when comparing todays 7th grade student with one from 100 years ago the modern student is not only lacking in manners, focus and composure, but largely in mathematical computation skills, written and oral communication, vocabulary and knowledge of historical events. We have taught to the test for far too long. Giving the Classical approach a chance would at the very least not hurt the modern student, and if applied correctly I believe could reignite a love for learning in many students. A charter option is always favorable. I urge you to look past the negative stigma surrounding the Classical model and do your own research. Look into Classical Conversations and Jonathan Edwards Classical Academy, call and speak to the headmaster, directors and educators of the model. Reach out to parents of students who are under this model. And if you are brave find a McGuffey reader from the early 1900's, upon looking back you may find that all of our forward thinking and use of technology have done a disservice to our individual students and on a larger scale, our nation and world.

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Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: September 18, 2022 8:21 pm  
Browser: Chrome 105.0.0.0 / OS X  
IP Address: 75.245.145.217  
Unique ID: 1011180240  
Location: 36.524, -82.5163

---

<b>Name</b>	Carol Allison
<b>Email</b>	newsouth.carol@gmail.com
<b>Phone</b>	(931) 237-6709
<b>Organization</b>	Parent
<b>I wish to comment on behalf of</b>	Clarksville-Montgomery County Schools
<b>Please provide your written comments below</b>	The lack of respect that ACAM has shown for public education and public school teachers is appalling. Their request for 19 waivers shows they do not take seriously the guidelines the state has established. I strongly urge the state to deny the Hillsdale College/ACAM application for a charter for a school in Montgomery County.

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Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: September 18, 2022 8:24 pm  
Browser: Chrome 105.0.0.0 / OS X  
IP Address: 75.245.145.217  
Unique ID: 1011180700  
Location: 36.524, -82.5163

<b>Name</b>	Larry Allison
<b>Email</b>	newsouth.larry@gmail.com
<b>Phone</b>	(931) 206-1234
<b>Organization</b>	Grandparent
<b>I wish to comment on behalf of</b>	Clarksville-Montgomery County Schools
<b>Please provide your written comments below</b>	I strongly oppose the ACAM request for a charter school in Montgomery County. Please vote No. They don't have any concept about how good our schools are for all students. Please vote No.

Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: September 18, 2022 8:58 pm  
Browser: Firefox 104.0 / Windows  
IP Address: 12.195.182.215  
Unique ID: 1011186946  
Location: 37.8065, -85.4592

<b>Name</b>	Raul Lopez
<b>Email</b>	rauljlopez@comcast.net
<b>Phone</b>	(615) 977-1510
<b>Organization</b>	Latinos for Tennessee
<b>I wish to comment on behalf of</b>	American Classical Academy Montgomery



**Please provide your written comments below**

Dear Tennessee Public Charter School Commission:

My name is Raul Lopez and I am the executive director for Latinos for Tennessee. We are a statewide group committed to promoting faith, family and freedom, which are top priorities for Hispanic families across our state. I ask that you approve the charter appeal for American Classical Academy Montgomery.

On behalf of Latinos in Montgomery County, we are supporting ACA Montgomery because we strongly believe that all families should have the ability to decide for themselves where to send their children to school. For the Latino community, school choice is especially important, because we believe education is the key to living out the American Dream. We know that with a good education, economic mobility is possible.

As is the case for many Tennessee counties, Montgomery County is experiencing tremendous growth, which is putting a great deal of pressure on the local school district to meet the increasing demands of its residents. We believe that ACA Montgomery would provide an additional, content-rich education option for the families of Montgomery County. ACA Montgomery was already found by the local school system to have met the standards for academic plan and financial capacity. As for its facility, I understand ACA Montgomery has already identified an existing property with great accessibility for families.

Our families specifically want this classical charter model because of its focus on reading and literacy, which are the bedrock of all education. At the end of the day, the decision we make about where to send our children should be based on our own best judgment, not that of an outside functionary telling us what is best for our children.

On behalf of Latinos in Montgomery County who support school choice and are facing strained resources in the public schools, I urge you to approve the charter for American Classical Academy Montgomery. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Raul Lopez

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Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: September 19, 2022 12:00 pm  
Browser: Chrome 105.0.0.0 / Windows  
IP Address: 68.114.133.120  
Unique ID: 1011416134  
Location: 36.5818, -87.4162

**Name** Brian Easley

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**Email** brianeasley92@gmail.com

---

**Phone** (731) 307-0229

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**Organization** EasleyDone

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**I wish to comment on behalf of** Clarksville-Montgomery County Schools

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**Please provide your written comments below**

The reason I feel we must uphold our decision on Charter schools is they are more exclusive to students that share their learning goals and limit access to other students with different goals. Charter schools have a higher teacher turnover rate also. Charter Schools are not going to fix any problem we have currently, it must first start with making our current schools bigger to occupy growth, we must also look at and make sure our current school curriculum meets needs of all kids and that those kids with special needs are getting the proper help as well as we can identify those students with learning disabilities and get them on proper educational plans so that they will succeed. The fix is not Charter Schools in our community, the fix is making sure that our teachers and kids have every single tool needed to perform and access to those better learning paths.

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Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: September 19, 2022 12:35 pm  
Browser: Chrome 105.0.0.0 / Windows  
IP Address: 8.27.213.5  
Unique ID: 1011433860  
Location: 36.5818, -87.4162

<b>Name</b>	ROBERT BELL
<b>Email</b>	rbell96630@gmail.com
<b>Phone</b>	(931) 266-7532
<b>Organization</b>	Retired Army
<b>I wish to comment on behalf of</b>	American Classical Academy Montgomery
<b>Please provide your written comments below</b>	I support approving the charter applications of both organizations, especially the American Classical Academy. Parents and children should have choices. I believe school funding should follow the student, and students and their parents be allowed to choose the school that they feel meets their needs most closely.

Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: September 19, 2022 1:23 pm  
Browser: Chrome Mobile 105.0.5195.79 / Android  
IP Address: 107.119.65.24  
Unique ID: 1011460225  
Location: 35.2296, -80.843

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**Name** Ecclesia Walker

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**Email** walker\_n83@hotmail.com

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**Phone** (254) 423-0344

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**Organization** Parent CMCSS

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**I wish to comment on behalf of** Clarksville-Montgomery County Schools

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**Please provide your written comments below**

The citizens of Clarksville-Montgomery County elected the members of our school board. The members of our school board voted against bringing charter schools into our community. For the state to override that decision is a slap in the face to voting residents of Montgomery County. We participated in the democratic process to elect representatives to speak on behalf of our interests. We have spoken and so have they. No charter schools for Clarksville-Montgomery County.

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Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: September 19, 2022 2:44 pm  
Browser: Chrome Mobile 105.0.5195.79 / Android  
IP Address: 107.127.49.79  
Unique ID: 1011495236  
Location: 35.2296, -80.843

**Name** Valerie Hunter

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**Email** valerie.hunter912@gmail.com

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**Phone** (931) 278-1418

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**Organization** Parent

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**I wish to comment on behalf of** Clarksville-Montgomery County Schools

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**Please provide your written comments below** I feel the charter school would take funds away from the public schools that are under funded. That all students would be allowed to be able to attend due to lack of transportation.

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Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: September 19, 2022 5:57 pm  
Browser: Chrome Mobile 105.0.5195.129 / iOS  
IP Address: 75.143.149.23  
Unique ID: 1011591306  
Location: 36.5818, -87.4162

<b>Name</b>	Cynthia Brown
<b>Email</b>	cdb42@msn.com
<b>Phone</b>	(714) 478-1223
<b>Organization</b>	CMCEA
<b>I wish to comment on behalf of</b>	Clarksville-Montgomery County Schools
<b>Please provide your written comments below</b>	Please do not allow funds from the public schools go to charter schools. We are already hurting and teachers are buying much of their own supplies. If a student goes to a charter school and is expelled, that student returns to the public school but the funds stay with the charter school. That is not logical, ethical, nor should it be legal. Please do not support charter schools.

Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: September 19, 2022 6:22 pm  
Browser: Mobile Safari 15.6.1 / iOS  
IP Address: 97.89.44.169  
Unique ID: 1011600770  
Location: 36.5818, -87.4162

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**Name** Cindy Strattman

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**Email** synthia.strattman@cmcss.net

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**Phone** (931) 206-2266

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**Organization** CMCEA

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**I wish to comment on behalf of** Clarksville-Montgomery County Schools

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**Please provide your written comments below**

In my experience, Charter schools cater to the haves and not the have nots. This is not about socio-economic level. This is about students who have either a parent at home who is emotionally able to assist in his/her learning, or have parents who work one 9-5 job and can offer assistance. What about students who need Sped or 504? Will a charter school have to meet those needs? Teachers with multiple degrees from accredited colleges already feel undervalued and attacked by those without a full understanding of what teaching takes. Why would our school system bring in a so-called "leader" who ridicules teachers and the colleges that educated them? Wouldn't the money spent on Larry Arnn (He has to be making it somewhere. Why else be in the charter school business?) be better spent on more reading intervention teachers, sped teachers, sped aides, incentives to keep teachers in the classroom, or tutoring for at risk 3rd graders?

Our tax money for schools needs to stay here in Montgomery County, TN, and not used to line Larry Arnn's pockets!!

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Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: September 19, 2022 6:36 pm  
Browser: Chrome Mobile 105.0.5195.129 / iOS  
IP Address: 75.143.149.23  
Unique ID: 1011605744  
Location: 36.5818, -87.4162

**Name** Cynthia Brown

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**Email** cdb42@msn.com

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**Phone** (714) 478-1223

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**Organization** CMCEA

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**I wish to comment on behalf of** Clarksville-Montgomery County Schools

---

**Please provide your written comments below** Please do not allow funds from the public schools go to charter schools. We are already hurting and teachers are buying much of their own supplies. If a student goes to a charter school and is expelled, that student returns to the public school but the funds stay with the charter school. That is not logical, ethical, nor should it be legal. Please do not support charter schools.

---



Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: September 19, 2022 7:23 pm  
Browser: Mobile Safari 15.6.1 / iOS  
IP Address: 174.128.177.39  
Unique ID: 1011619675  
Location: 37.751, -97.822

<b>Name</b>	Regina Lyle
<b>Email</b>	lyleregina@yahoo.com
<b>Phone</b>	(931) 206-1164
<b>Organization</b>	CMCSS
<b>I wish to comment on behalf of</b>	Clarksville-Montgomery County Schools
<b>Please provide your written comments below</b>	Please do not consider this charter school for Montgomery County. It is a disgrace to public schools, students and teachers to allow this negativity to be a part of this community.

Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: September 19, 2022 9:46 pm  
Browser: Mobile Safari 15.6.1 / iOS  
IP Address: 161.82.90.10  
Unique ID: 1011654019  
Location: 36.4176, -87.4914

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<b>Name</b>	Ruth Nunn
<b>Email</b>	nuttynun@ymail.com
<b>Phone</b>	(931) 237-4140
<b>Organization</b>	Cmcss
<b>I wish to comment on behalf of</b>	Clarksville-Montgomery County Schools

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Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: September 20, 2022 12:12 pm  
Browser: Chrome Mobile 105.0.0.0 / Android  
IP Address: 96.32.228.182  
Unique ID: 1011889778  
Location: 36.5037, -87.2729

**Name** Mary Stratton

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**Email** mmrys66@yahoo.com

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**Phone** (270) 602-7485

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**Organization** Acam

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**I wish to comment on behalf of** American Classical Academy Montgomery

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**Please provide your written comments below**

The schools are bursting at the seams, we have guns at schools, nurses taking photo of students in girls bathroom, fights, ect. Parents deserve to have a choice. Students arent one size fits all they deserve a choice. There's enough money in our budget with our population doubling. Im pro-choice for open American Classical Educational School. We will be lucky to have another school and it will boost our economy and home values by have more choices in schools.

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Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: September 20, 2022 1:29 pm  
Browser: Chrome Mobile 103.0.5060.129 / Android  
IP Address: 174.212.112.137  
Unique ID: 1011928762  
Location: 36.0711, -86.7196

<b>Name</b>	Vanessa Hearn
<b>Email</b>	vanessa.hearns@cmcss.net
<b>Phone</b>	(731) 431-4036
<b>Organization</b>	N/A
<b>I wish to comment on behalf of</b>	Clarksville-Montgomery County Schools
<b>Please provide your written comments below</b>	Please do not allow this type of ignorance in our school system.

Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: September 20, 2022 7:45 pm  
Browser: Chrome 105.0.0.0 / Windows  
IP Address: 107.77.236.100  
Unique ID: 1012086023  
Location: 33.7485, -84.3871

<b>Name</b>	John England
<b>Email</b>	john@nevadateamoutfitters.com
<b>Phone</b>	(775) 870-7353
<b>Organization</b>	American Classical Academy Montgomery
<b>I wish to comment on behalf of</b>	American Classical Academy Montgomery
<b>Please provide your written comments below</b>	<p>I want to express my recommendation to the commission in support of American Classical Academy Montgomery.</p> <p>Given the challenges facing our families today, it is important to provide educational choice and options as it pertains to their children.</p> <p>Respectfully, John England</p>

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Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: September 20, 2022 9:34 pm  
Browser: Chrome Mobile 102.0.0.0 / Android  
IP Address: 68.52.149.101  
Unique ID: 1012116838  
Location: 36.5014, -86.8738

**Name** Raymond Francis

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**Email** utbigray@aol.com

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**Phone** (615) 417-5009

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**Organization** None

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**I wish to comment on behalf of** American Classical Academy Montgomery

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**Please provide your written comments below** We live in greatest country in world because of freedoms. Parents deserve choice for education for their children. Charter schools such as Classical Academy provides a oppurnity that traditional public schools do not offer. It is unamerican & immoral to punish students because of zip codes. Educators, should be thrilled of this choice for students.

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Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: September 20, 2022 11:41 pm  
Browser: Chrome Mobile 105.0.0.0 / Android  
IP Address: 172.58.61.160  
Unique ID: 1012149855  
Location: 39.7388, -104.9868

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**Name** Melissa Marquais

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**Email** melissamarquais@gmail.com

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**Phone** (615) 720-4129

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**Organization** The Kindness Objective

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**I wish to comment on behalf of** American Classical Academy Montgomery

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**Please provide your written comments below**

I have a third grader, in the public school system, here in Clarksville TN. I have been hoping and praying for an alternative to the public school system since my son was in first grade.

With have some wonder Teachers, but that is not the issue. The issue for my son is the curriculum itself. I know what it's like to struggle in school. I always had a unique way of learning and if I was bored, which I usually was, the struggle only intensified.

Our children are all unique and have their own interests and ways of learning. The public school system is not flexible at all and our children are being forced to learn in ways that simply do not work for all of them.

My son cries and gets physically sick from trying to conform and understand the curriculum that he is being forced on him. My son went from being a bright, happy child who used to love to learn, to a frustrated, unhappy child who dreads every day of the week and there are no alternatives for him. That is just simply not fair.

If it were up to me, I would replace every public school with a Charter school, but I know that is not realistic. At the very least, our community and our children deserve an alternative solution that grants them the ability to thrive.

I hope you will take my son and the many children like him, into consideration as you reconsider this schools application.

Sincerely,  
Melissa Marquais

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Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: September 21, 2022 6:09 pm  
Browser: Firefox 105.0 / OS X  
IP Address: 76.18.175.120  
Unique ID: 1012519386  
Location: 36.4198, -86.7946

---

**Name** Paula Farmer

---

**Email** pfarmer@pmfaithconsulting.com

---

**Phone** (615) 977-8997

---

**Organization** Charter school supporter

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**I wish to comment on behalf of** American Classical Academy Montgomery

---

**Please provide your written comments below**

When it comes to education, whether it's private, public, or otherwise, no institution is without flaws and imperfections. Charter schools offer a viable choice for parents. Educational systems are not 'one size fits all.' American Classical Academy Montgomery (ACAM) is a great choice for parents whose children's educational needs aren't being met. I wouldn't consider that to be a 'dig' against public schools, but an opportunity to offer ACAM as a viable option. The Clarksville-Montgomery County School System is an above average, public school district that has 36,426 students in grades PK, K-12 with a student-teacher ratio of 17 to 1. According to state test scores, 45% of students are at least proficient in math and 41% in reading. It's great to celebrate the progress but let's focus on the 55% (math) and 59% (reading) students with ACAM as an option. These students are being groomed to become leaders. I support American Classical Academy Montgomery's plans to support the educational goals and needs in Montgomery by way of a charter school.

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Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: September 22, 2022 5:02 pm  
Browser: Mobile Safari 14.1.2 / iOS  
IP Address: 76.18.173.202  
Unique ID: 1013110688  
Location: 36.5014, -86.8738

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**Name** Danavan Hylton

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**Email** danavan.hylton@e1connect.com

---

**Phone** (615) 953-4969

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**Organization** Hylton Elite Marketing Agency

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**I wish to comment on behalf of** Other

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**Please provide your written comments below**

I do not know enough information to make a sound decision, but I do believe that Clarksville-Montgomery County Schools, and American Classical Academy Montgomery both did a great job being professional, and courteous during the appeal public hearing.

Both organizations showed a great example to children of how the democracy process works, and how one should be prepared to advocate your case when it's your time to speak.

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Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: September 22, 2022 5:34 pm  
Browser: Chrome 105.0.0.0 / Windows  
IP Address: 77.234.44.179  
Unique ID: 1013124447  
Location: 40.7597, -73.981

**Name** Brian Andreichuk

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**Phone** (914) 443-2854

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**Organization** Retired

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**I wish to comment on behalf of** Other

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**Please provide your written comments below**

Choice and competition are one of the most important methods to improve a process. The education process in our public schools is the most important process that has a direct impact on our children and their future. We must strive to make it World Class and continuously improving.

My experience comes from the US Automotive industry. A few decades ago, the Japanese were taking away a significant percentage of our sales. This competition was very painful while it was developing, but I think you will agree it forced the American car companies to make drastic changes in the way vehicles were designed, tested and manufactured. The result was a much-improved product for the US customer.

I believe that ACA will provide the push that the public schools need in Clarksville, TN.

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Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: September 22, 2022 5:47 pm  
Browser: Safari 15.6.1 / OS X  
IP Address: 104.9.68.64  
Unique ID: 1013130010  
Location: 36.5037, -87.2729

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**Name** janet andreichuk

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**Organization** concerned grandparent

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**I wish to comment on behalf of** American Classical Academy Montgomery

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**Please provide your written comments below**

I attended the September 16th school board meeting to show support for the creation of a Charter school in Clarksville that uses Classical teaching methods. I am very concerned that our public educational system is deteriorating and getting worse as the years pass. Unfortunately, my 11 year old grandson, a fifth grader, has become a victim of this deteriorated system. HE CAN'T READ!!! His reading problems have been known for years by the school and his teachers, but his problem has not been solved. In hopes of improving his less than second grade reading level, we have started home schooling. I am concerned for him and all my other grandchildren. I want them to have the level of training that a Classical program would provide. I would like my grandchildren to be exposed to all the great liberal arts and science studies that the Classical program provides, along with their additional programs used to develop moral values and self reliance. The well rounded programs that a Classical education provides may not be the solution for every family but it would be for ours. By providing families with a choice of school programs everyone can find the type of education they prefer. I urge you to vote for giving our Clarksville community a choice. Please vote to approve the Charter school that will use the American Classical teaching methods. Give us a choice.....please!!!!

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Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: September 23, 2022 1:23 pm  
Browser: Chrome 105.0.0.0 / Windows  
IP Address: 68.186.136.196  
Unique ID: 1013453265  
Location: 36.5037, -87.2729

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<b>Organization</b>	Individual
<b>I wish to comment on behalf of</b>	American Classical Academy Montgomery

**Please provide your written comments below**

As a newly elected School Board member in District 7 for Clarksville-Montgomery County, I did not have the privilege to vote on these charter schools. However, I feel compelled to come forward and speak publicly in light of recent comments from another School Board member who has recently declared in the media that there would be no support from local school leaders.

I am a lifelong resident of Montgomery County, a local pastor who attended CMCSS from Elementary school through graduation and am a parent of three children in the district.

Montgomery County is a rapidly growing area, and our student population is increasing by almost 1,000 students yearly. Last year, I attended a fantastic program, Leadership CMCSS, in which district employees shared a lot of great facts about the district. During a session, it was shared that once the Kirkwood Complex is completed, on the current growth trends we would be at the same overpopulation numbers we had in 2021.

We have portables at schools all across our district as our buildings cannot currently properly house the population of students we currently serve. Though I believe in our community and the district office and their plans for the district, I think we need to be open and creative in our approach to the future to best serve our students and community. Charter Schools could help be part of the solution for public education - providing additional public school choices for students who desire additional options and helping alleviate our building demands and overcrowding issues.

This past year as a parent, I attended almost every school board meeting. I heard firsthand the arguments for and against charter schools in Montgomery County and listened to the results of the CMCSS Charter School Review Committee. I also attended the American Classical Academy Montgomery (ACAM) community meeting, where most in attendance greatly supported charter schools.

As a candidate, I heard from the community about charter schools and the tremendous support for American Classical Academy.

From my observation, those who are against charter schools typically focus on the alleged ideology of the particular school or the fact that less funding goes to our current public schools. However, as the funds follow the student, it is a fact that those students attending a charter school would have a portion of their taxpayer dollars follow their child to the charter school. Having a portion of the funds follow the student would be a potential problem if we were a stagnant or declining district. However, we are not a stagnant or declining district, and adding charter schools as another choice for public schools in our community would help with our student overpopulation problem. It would not affect the district as we will continue to grow each year, and a portion of the funding even remains with the zoned public school even though they no longer have to expend resources to educate that student.

ACAM's total school population after seven years would be around an estimated 700 students. The other denied Charter School, Oxton Academy, will have less than 300 students for their model. We currently grow more than this in a year when you compare both schools' total population combined when they are fully operational.

On ideology, I understand that not everyone likes the classical education model. The good thing is that we have excellent schools in CMCSS for those families that want a more traditional curriculum and public school model, but to deny families the option that would select this model based on perceived bias alone is not a good argument. The families ACAM would serve are those who choose to send their students to the school, and those families would love the choice. It's clear to me they desire this option, and no one is forcing families to send their kids here. It's optional.

For those outraged by the comments from Hillsdale College President Dr. Larry Arnn, let me say I have a great love for our teachers and do not in any way agree with his words. However, ACAM is not Hillsdale. They utilize curriculum from the college, but to the critics who make this parallel let me say that ACAM is no more Hillsdale than CMCSS is APSU - which we have partnerships with, and we recruit teachers. To hold ACAM accountable for the comments of a President of an entity that has no oversight or connection to the school except through curriculum is frivolous and political. It's a red herring meant to distract from the real issues of providing educational choices that best fit individual students' education needs.

I appreciate all the work that went into the Charter School Review Committee and believe a lot of good came from this process. Oxton Academy even stated that this committee helped them amend their packets for the good as they pointed out necessary waivers that would help them in the long run. I believe everyone on the committee is well-meaning, and I appreciate their efforts. However, I think the decision to deny the second amended application didn't have merit.

On ACAM's second denial, the health and safety plans were said not to be sufficient; however, this section remained unchanged and was not brought up the first time around. This denial is unfair to make a criticism and not allow them the ability to speak to it or make changes. Secondly, it is my understanding that state law requires charter schools to have a plan for their location - which they did detail a plan. The location plan did not warrant denial as they met the standards, and securing a site for a school that has not passed approved seems to ask them to put the cart before the horse. I digress, though, as they have recently secured their location.

Lastly, waivers were the final reason ACAM was recommended for denial by the Charter Review Committee. As stated before with Oxton Academy, CMCSS suggested certain waivers they should pursue when evaluating the

school. Charter Schools applying for waivers is normal, and the denial hinged on the committee not accepting that sufficient data was proven to demonstrate the capacity of the classical model. In my research, the classical education model is very successful and leads to outstanding student education, so I believe these waivers are warranted.

With Oxton Academy receiving approval from the Charter Committee and denial with a 4-3 split from the School Board and with the comments made on "why" they decided to deny this charter school that night and since in the media - it seems that for most of those who rejected Oxton Academy was for political reasons and would have never approved ACAM.

I speak on behalf of what I believe to be a substantial majority of the community in support of charter schools and school choice. Therefore, I am asking the Tennessee Public Charter School Commission to vote to allow parents the option to send their children to American Classical Academy Montgomery.

I submit these comments today on my behalf and not on behalf of the School Board.

Aron Maberry  
Clarksville-Montgomery County School Board Member - District 7

Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: September 23, 2022 1:42 pm  
Browser: Chrome 103.0.5060.114 / Windows  
IP Address: 104.192.236.126  
Unique ID: 1013461579  
Location: 36.5246, -87.3465

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<b>Organization</b>	PARKER FAMILY
<b>I wish to comment on behalf of</b>	Other



**Please provide your written comments below**

This letter, this plea, comes from a heavy heart and exasperated mind. My name is Jennifer I Parker. I have two special needs sons who could not receive educations in the traditional public-school setting. They simply aren't traditional learners. However, they are exceedingly bright as most children of this nature are. Just because they learn differently than traditional students, they too deserve to receive the best education possible that will meet them at their level of learning. I remember the "no child left behind" mantra that was heroically shouted from the rooftops years ago. It echos in my mind as a broken promise because my oldest son Aidan was left behind...repeatedly by a school system promising never to let that happen. It wasn't just that promise that was broken, it was his spirit, his trust in learning and his belief in himself as a child who had the capability to learn. He assumed it was his fault. That was the real tragedy. He was too young to understand the truth of what was happening. An overcrowded school, a teacher already spread too thin, lacking the ability to reach him on his level, and an organization who simply did not want to deal with him because they already had more than they could handle. I begged in middle school for an IEP for Aidan because he excelled in elementary school with that in place. His needs were met. When he got to middle school, I was told, "let's see how it goes" by the guidance counselor. When tested I was told he was too intelligent for an IEP. With research on my side, I recoiled with the fact that behavior was a main factor in an IEP, but I never got one. Aidan begged for help that never came. Lost, confused and bored Aidan began to act out in class. He became the class clown. For this they wanted to send him to alternative school, and we had services put into our home. I feared actually losing my family. I simply would not let this happen. I withdrew him from CMCSS school system and enrolled him in Academy for Academic Excellence. So much damage had been done by this point, he would barely show his face, he hid behind his hair and a hoodie, would barely say a word and just felt worthless. They had their work cut out for them. They were some improvements, but they didn't have the staff to reach Aidan. We need a charter school that targets at risk students like Aidan who slipped through the cracks and the system failed. He's now 16 and going into the 10th grade. I'm looking for a homeschooling program for him that I can afford which is increasingly difficult because I'm disabled and on a fixed income each month. I had no idea how much education can cost! It can be more than a house payment if you want the best for your child which is no doubt what they deserve and are worth! I've looked into Socratic and classical educations, and they are by far the highest rated. Online they are around \$1000/month. I've seen some schools online as high as \$3900/month. And yes, there are two free options, but they fill up extremely fast and are not available. So right now, I'm left scrambling trying to figure out what I can afford so I don't get into trouble and go to jail for my son not being in school and how to find an educational setting that will renew my son's faith in learning so he can have a happy and productive life. All of this while trying to provide for my family's necessities such as food, clothing and everything they need. If Oxton Academy was here I would be able to enroll him for free and not have to worry about how I'm going to pay a tuition and keep clothes on him and keep him fed. I would

also know that he was being engaged with others like himself that learn differently, and he wouldn't feel like an outsider anymore. That alone would be priceless. In the end I want what every parent wants...to see their child happy and successful. I want to know that one day when I'm gone, he can carry on and have a life that is meaningful and giving back to his community and doing for others because someone did it for him. A school like Oxton isn't just a high school, it's a place where boys become men and learn how to start the rest of their lives. Help me give that to my son. He's been through enough. Help give that to all of the at-risk kids in our community. They stand at a turning point, give them a positive option, they will take it and be better for it! Please vote yes for charter schools. Our kiddos are worth it. Families here in Clarksville, TN deserve to have opportunities other families have without having to relocate so our children can have the education they need.

Thank You,  
Jennifer L Parker

Form Name: American Classical Academy Montgomery Public Hearing Form- Written  
Submission Time: September 23, 2022 1:55 pm  
Browser: Firefox 102.0 / Windows  
IP Address: 104.192.236.104  
Unique ID: 1013466964  
Location: 36.5246, -87.3465

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<b>Organization</b>	Taxpayer
<b>I wish to comment on behalf of</b>	Clarksville-Montgomery County Schools

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**Please provide your written comments below**

I am a retiree whose children attended our local public schools. I have mentored at one of our elementary schools. I am a firm believer in public tax dollars going to public schools, not to private or religious-based schools, and this includes charter schools, no matter the cloak in which they are couched. I am a product of a parochial school from elementary through high school, which my Protestant church-attending, Sunday School-teaching, choir member father , who also had taught history in high school, paid for without tax dollars helping. Often asked if he wished he had tax dollars paying for our education, his consistent response was that was not appropriate. He was, as I am, a strong believer in total separation of church and state, a concept we seemed to have deviated from. I am completely opposed to my tax dollars supporting charter schools, most especially those which have religious underpinnings, as Hillsdale does. Deny this application!

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