

I am writing to express my growing concern regarding the lack of transparency demonstrated by the teachers' union in their recent endorsements of political candidates. As a concerned member of our community and an advocate for fair and open processes, I believe that the current level of opacity undermines the integrity of the electoral process and erodes public trust in our educational institutions. EASMC, Education Association of St. Mary's County when endorsing a candidate will also fund these candidates, paying for mailers, social media ads.... How much money goes to these candidates and where does the money come from? The union is actively supporting specific candidates, yet the criteria and decision-making processes lack of clarity raises several questions:

1. **Criteria for Endorsements:** How does the union determine which candidates to support? What specific qualifications or positions are prioritized in these endorsements?
2. **Decision-Making Process:** Who is involved in the decision-making process? Is there a transparent, democratic procedure in place for selecting candidates?
3. **Impact on Members:** How are union members informed about these endorsements? Are there opportunities for members to provide input or voice concerns regarding the union's political support?

As an organization that represents educators and influences public education policy, it is crucial for the teachers' union to operate with transparency and accountability. The union's decisions regarding political endorsements can have significant implications for educational policies and funding, and as such, these decisions should be made openly and with the input of its members. By addressing these concerns, the union can strengthen its credibility and maintain the support of its members and the community it serves.

I urge the teachers' union to take immediate steps to clarify its endorsement process and criteria, and to engage openly with its members regarding these important decisions. How much money is being spent on their campaigns? By doing so, the union can reaffirm its commitment to transparency and uphold the values of accountability and integrity that are essential to our democratic process.

This year the picks by the union are Josh Guy, a 22 year old that lives at home with his parents, Cathy Allen who is a democrat and Mary Washington also a democrat. EASMC like our current BOE is simply allowing themselves to be used as an arm to the state pushing an agenda without any consideration for our small community and our family values.

I encourage you to VOTE Brandie Edelen educator, parent and small business owner. Elena Brewer educator, and parent and David Drys financial wizard and parent. All Republicans who will stand up to support our community and its family values.

