SENATE OF VIRGINIA

COL. RICHARD H. BLACK

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Re: Loudoun Math and IT Academy

Dear School Board Members:

I write to withdraw my support for the proposed Loudoun Math and IT Academy. Unfortunately, I was not fully apprised of certain misgivings expressed by the public regarding this proposal.

Questions have been raised about whether other charter schools associated with this particular network have experienced high rates of failure and poor financial management.

Since \$8 million will be diverted from the Loudoun County Public School System for the proposed school, I am reluctant to endorse a proposal submitted by a group whose management does not enjoy a solid level of public trust and confidence.

I am a strong supporter of science, math, and information technology. I believe that those subjects should receive increased emphasis within our educational system. I remain a supporter of charter schools. However, we need reasonable assurance that those we approve are properly structured and managed.

Please disregard any reference to my earlier support for the current proposal. I appreciate the hard work done by each of you to ensure that our students receive the best possible education.

Warm regards,

Richard H. Black

Senator of Virginia, 13th District