

*Arlington, Massachusetts 02476-0002*

P.O. Box 167 • 869 Massachusetts Avenue • (781) 316-3540

Office Of The School Committee

March 15, 2018

President Donald Trump  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 2050

Dear Mr. President Trump,

On April 17, 1775, the British army marched through what is now Arlington, on a mission to seize the muskets and gunpowder stored by the local militia in Concord. On their way back through our town, the British army encountered the bloodiest fighting of the first day of the American Revolution.

The Arlington School Committee views the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution as deriving from our new nation's desire to prevent a federal army from repeating the action of the British troops in 1775, making specific reference to "a well-regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a Free State."

The Arlington School Committee acknowledges that the Second Amendment does not provide an unlimited right for civilians to own military-style weapons or high capacity magazines.

The Arlington School Committee is concerned that, beginning with the Sandy Hook shooting, and ending with the Parkland shooting, the New York Times reports there were at least 239 school shootings nationwide, in which 438 people were shot, including 138 fatalities. A significant number of these deaths were caused by gunmen using assault rifles with high capacity magazines.

In the interests of maintaining safe and secure schools, the Arlington School Committee urges our state and federal lawmakers to take sufficient action to regulate firearms, in order to limit the ability of individuals to bring overwhelming firepower to our schools. Such actions should include, but should not be limited to:

- Prohibiting civilian ownership of military-style weaponry, including assault weapons.
- Prohibiting civilian ownership of large capacity ammunition magazines and silencers.
- Requiring successful background checks for any and all firearm transfers.
- Maintaining strict regulations for the concealed carry of weapons, and defeating federal legislation that would permit reciprocity across state lines for concealed carry permits.
- Increasing the minimum age to purchase firearms to 21.
- Enacting Extreme Risk Protection Order laws, establishing gun violence restraining orders to allow courts to remove guns from the home of people determined to be a threat to themselves or others.

On March 15, 2018, the Arlington School Committee voted to send this letter to our representatives in the General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the Congress of the United States, the Governor of Massachusetts, and the President of the United States.

Sincerely,

Mr. Jeff Thielman, Chair  
Arlington School Committee

Dr. Kathleen Bodie, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools

Cc: Dr. Allison-Ampe, Vice Chair of the Arlington School Committee  
Mr. Hayner, Secretary of the Arlington School Committee  
Mr. Schlichtman, Member of the Arlington School Committee  
Ms. Starks, Member of the Arlington school Committee  
Ms. Susse, Member of the Arlington School Committee  
Mr. Kardon, Member of the Arlington School Committee

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Office Of The School Committee

March 15, 2018

Governor Charlie Baker  
Massachusetts State House  
24 Beacon Street  
Office of the Governor, Room 280  
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Governor Baker,

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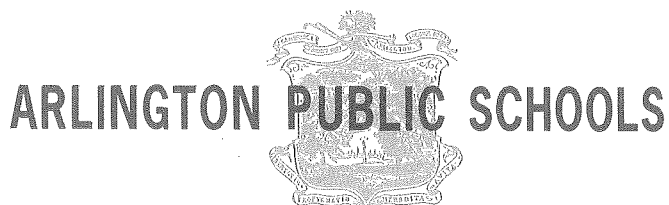
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Office Of The School Committee

March 15, 2018

Mr. Edward J. Markey  
United States Senator  
255 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Markey,

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Office Of The School Committee

March 15, 2018

Ms. Elizabeth Warren  
United States Senator  
317 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Warren,

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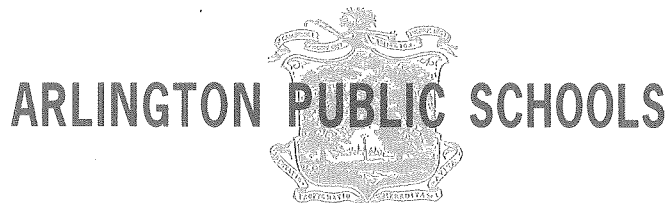
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Office Of The School Committee

March 15, 2018

Ms. Cindy Friedman, Senator  
General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
24 Beacon Street  
Room 413-D  
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Senator Friedman,

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Office Of The School Committee

March 15, 2018

Mr. Sean Garballey, Representative  
General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
24 Beacon Street  
Room 540  
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Representative Garballey,

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