

RE: Senate Bill 362 - Primary and Secondary Virtual Schools - OPPOSE

Leslie Tupaj

1013 Dominion Road

Chester, MD 21619

myboycal@yahoo.com

My Testimony

To Whom It May Concern,

I can't begin to tell you what this program has meant to us this year. My boys handled virtual learning so well when Covid forced them to remain home. They thrived! I was absolutely thrilled to hear that a program like this was being offered to us, I jumped at the chance to get them both signed up. Covid was a concern, of course, but I knew both of my boys would excel at online learning. I was right. They aren't stressed out anymore. We haven't had tears in 2 years. The social and educational anxiety that came from in school learning was immense. We struggled all the time.

This program has been a true blessing in our home. I can help my kids with school again! I couldn't before. I would have to lookup everything they came to me with. Even then it was, "Sorry Charlie!". Now I can see what they are learning. I can relearn it myself! I can help them! That is amazing! I'm so happy to be able to help them.

I'm so impressed with their time management. They know they're schedules. They keep up with their schoolwork like pros. They are relaxed and confident. It wasn't like this when they went to school in person. I've seen such a switch in their personalities.

I hope you consider keeping this program going. The teachers are so good! The SSC's (Student Success Coordinator) are so helpful. I love that they meet with someone one on one to make sure they are staying on top of their work. My youngest son's SSC mapped out an exact plan on how he could keep up with his work. He would say, "My SSC said to do this on this day, and I'll take care of the rest using my schedule." How cool is that? Someone that meets once a week with them to make sure they're okay?

Please, PLEASE consider keeping this going. I've seen such wonderful things from this experience. I don't want my boys to regress. Thanks for your time and consideration.

Leslie Tupaj

Proud mom to 2 boys kicking butt with virtual learning!