

CS2News

WildmanforUSSenate.com

Confronting Problems and Bringing Solutions

In-Action is Un-Acceptable

Wildman Calls for Removal of Violent 2nd-thru-Pre-K Students

4-7-2024

by

Andrew J. (A J) Wildman

(Also, No Cell Phones In or Between Classes – Lunch Only – NOW)

Foreword

Hello there! This is Andrew J. Wildman. How are you holding up?

In writing, often the hardest thing to do is to decide how to start it. What words to write to attract the readers curiosity about the content that awaits their review.

For this important voter communication, I decided to begin with the words I have used in closing many times. It speaks well on my motivations,

I am doing this for you, and those that you Love and otherwise care about. And for the other 340,000,000+ of our fellow American men, women, and children that we shall never, ever meet.

And may God continue to bless America...

Like it or not folks, we are all in this 2024 social and economic struggle together. I am a patriot and a life-long observer of Domestic and Foreign policy. Further, my background is in business problem-solving, system design and implementation, and political writing.

My writing is now done under the business entity, CS2News. Resources are to be found under the CS2News name on Podcast, Twitter, and YouTube channel media. My regular usage of that media will pick up as the May 14, Democratic Primary approaches. It is how I will communicate directly with Maryland voters and frustrated Americans in all 50 states and DC. Not via campaign commercials. Pushing to get these All-American solutions to All Americans!

I also have 40+ solution proposals ready for your review with you at WildmanforUSSenate.com and other websites. However, today I bring a hard public problem and its near-term solution to a public-school, multi-family crisis that I was not even aware until mid-March. A few weeks ago.

o o o o

I am bringing this issue to your attention on the first week of April 2024. I am doing this as part of my current Democratic Primary campaign for Maryland's open US Senate seat. Again, the Democratic Primary will be held on May 14th.

I was about to begin my campaign push with a much-needed cell phone usage proposal for Maryland public schools. However, when I attended a couple of Carroll County School Board meetings in mid-March, I knew my priorities needed to change.

At the first meeting I had registered for and talked for 3 minutes on my Cell phone policy of “*no phones in or between classes – Lunch only*”. I also heard a few of the parents from 2 different schools talk about their elementary age children being repeatedly attacked by a particular classmate. These attacks had been going on since the start of this school year, last September. In a particular Carroll County elementary school at least 2 students are being attacked by the problem classmate. Unbelievably, the offending child is a 5-year-old pre-K student! More details on that in a moment.

In this First CS2News Problem Solution Report we will review the following:

1. Introduction – the Dysfunctional Legislative Change Process
2. My First Potential Constituent Problem – Child Student Violence and COMAR
3. A Public-School Behavior Problem – Well-Intended Policy that has Failed Students
4. The Normal COMAR Change Process – A Process Not Built for Speed
5. Our Demand Approach – Emergency Revisions NOW – Then Do the Paperwork
6. Public Acknowledgement that Superintendents Satisfied Due Diligence
7. Where Do We Go from Here

Please as you are reviewing this, keep in mind that I had no knowledge of this at all until the Carroll County School Board public meeting the evening of Wednesday March 13th. After that I attended another School Board meeting the following Monday night that focused on Student Behavior. There I spoke with the parents I had heard talk at the prior meeting.

I find the entire situation incredibly sad and disturbing almost beyond belief. Little children in public schools must and will be protected.

1. Introduction

To be very kind, the government's legislative review and change process has become too tedious and administratively complex. From Federal to Local governments, Quick Response legislation too often means months or longer, rather days or a few weeks. The troubling pre-K incident we reviewing is not unique. It is a clear example of an administrative procedure being more important than defending elementary age children. This cannot stand!

Add to that the gross waste of time and taxpayer funds, of the thousands of un-necessary duplicate research studies that are performed across all 23 counties in Maryland and Baltimore City. Duplicate studies across all 50 States and DC, too. Studies that will all reach the same repetitive conclusions.

I will present a couple of viable examples of this drawn-out legislative process. The system that is too focused upon the administrative process than in producing timely, near-term benefit and relief from a public crisis.

CS2News First Solutions

The first proposed policy revision is to Maryland's current COMAR Regulations regarding violence in elementary schools. And is applicable to the State of Maryland, only, as far as I know.

Note: COMAR stands for the Code of Maryland Regulations. It is the official compilation of all administrative regulations issued by agencies of the State of Maryland.

The second procedural change is to Cell Phone usage in the public schools and is applicable to all 50 States and DC. The entire Public School System in our country should make this happen during April of 2024. I will be happy to get Maryland schools there ASAP this school year! Yes, do it in this school year. Do it NOW!!!! That proposal will be presented separately.

2. My First Potential Constituent Problem – Child Student Violence and COMAR

This is the first real family crisis that I am confronting for a potential constituent. Thus, I consider it a test of my personal commitment and problem-solving abilities.

It will necessarily confront a problem in the school Student Behavior regulations for student's 2nd thru pre-K. It falls under the COMAR Regulations followed to administer the Public School system. Critical regulations that are not protecting even the youngest of Maryland's nearly 900,000 public school students.

Thus, as hard an issue as this is from many viewpoints, my challenge is to work to have a 5-year-old removed from a pre-K class. Removed from a pre-K class that I understand has about 20 children in it.

One question that I have not asked about yet is how long has this policy been in effect?

So then, let's get to it.

3. A Public-School Behavior Problem – Well-Intended Policy that has Failed the Students

The on-going student behavior problem situation – is a five (5) year old, pre-K student that has been assaulting classmates since the start of the 2023/2024 school year. The student repeatedly hits and pulls the hair of other students – both boys and girls. While the school has responded to these attacks, they have not removed the violent student from the class. That is, even after 7 months of this totally unnecessary stress for the entire class on 20 students and the teacher.

Not intending to be at all funny. To be clear, the outrageous result of continually allowing a 5-year-old to return to class and taking those opportunities to continue attacking their fellow classmate(s),

Has created a 5-year-old REPEAT OFFENDER!!!

Progressives you have gone too far!!

Why are they not removing the disruptive student from the class in direct response to loud complaints by the parents of the attacked students. As we will review, in brief the COMAR does not allow any 2nd thru pre-K student to be removed from regular classroom if they have an active Individualized Education Program or IEP – as it is commonly referred to.

I know of at least two (2) elementary schools in Carroll County with this on-going problem. And we have 23 Counties in Maryland and Baltimore City, too, all operating under COMAR, as well.

Thus, the parents are rightfully irate about it. I personally do not know how this public-school crisis did not get more attention by the Press since last September?? The teachers and the principal cannot remove the child because of a well-intentioned, yet severely flawed COMAR regulation regarding IEPs for the youngest students.

I would go so far as to speculate that several of the 23 Maryland County Superintendents of Schools are at various stages of dealing with this emotional standoff.

Now I have not yet asked why the Student Behavior IEP exception was made in the first place, not to allow the removal of students for repeatedly hitting classmates.

And there does not seem to be a practical reason or excuse for keeping such a violent student in a public-school classroom. That is, whether 5-years-old or 18-years-old.

Unintended Consequences for All Parties

Consider that because of an unintentional oversight in COMAR Student Behavior Regulations that the following is true regarding a specific Carroll County elementary school pre-K class with some 20 students in it:

- The offending student is not being held personally accountable for their violent behavior. There is apparently no effective punishment or corrective action being applied that could keep that student from continuing their violent behavior. And that since September, 2023. The child is “allowed” to go back and do it again. This will come to an end soon!
- The offended students are repeatedly attacked by another student. In the actual case we are talking about, the abuse started with the 2023/2024 school year last September.
- The offended students see that their abuser is not being sufficiently punished so they will quit attacking them and other classmates. Thus, they can feel less important than their abuser. They are being threatened and the teacher and principal are not stopping it.
- The offended students are always concerned about their attacker’s presence. And so are the other 18 kids in the class.
- The offended students then understandably blame the teacher and the principal for allowing them to be continually threatened and physically attacked.

Of course, neither of them nor the Superintendent of Schools are at fault. It is statewide policy. And it is also not the Superintendent’s fault for the amount of time and budget it takes to routinely revise COMAR. The routine COMAR change timeline will not serve this situation.

- The offended students could also have conscious and/or subconscious concerns about their own parents making them go back to that school every day and be in danger. Think about that! Kids naturally expect their parents to protect them!

I really felt for the parents I talked with. As a parent myself, I could not imagine such a situation. It is way beyond ridiculous policy.

- Then there is a whole offended class of students – in their own reasoning, sees the teacher and the principal as placing the needs of the offender as more important than they are individually and collectively. And they wonder if they could be a future target of the problem student.

- Further, until the problem student is removed from their class, the class of offended students will think about going back into that class every Sunday night. That is all wrong and could leave lasting marks!
- The result is a pre-K class of 20 students where the practical good of the Many is knowingly being sacrificed in order to serve a Few. Or in this case, just the one...

Not rocket science, folks! That pretty well makes the point, I believe.

Of course, be prepared when the Progressives come whining around the corner that we are abusing some poor child. We will simply tell them, “Yes, in this case we certainly are!” Common Sense revisions that honor the physical safety of majority of students in the classroom. Those being distracted, at least, by the mere presence of the one violent student.

4. The Normal COMAR Change Process – A Process Not Built for Speed

The COMAR maintains procedures regarding repeatedly disruptive and/or violent student behavior for all grades, pre-K thru 12. It has alternate behavior policies for students in 2nd-thru-pre-K.

The 2nd-thru-pre-K COMAR Procedures as currently written to *strictly prohibit* schools from removing even repeatedly violent students from class. That is, IF, the subject student has an active IEP in process.

A well-intentioned policy that turned out to be rather idealistic, at best. In the defense of the flawed procedure, policy makers (not the schools) could have falsely assumed that students at such young ages would not be acting in such aggressive ways. Dreamers! Obviously, they were mistaken.

However, not in their defense it could be fair to speculate that administrators were determined to keep such troubled students in class to support their “inclusion” in a regular classroom environment. Such academic idealism has led to poor results for student classroom safety. It has resulted in aggressive, if not violent students remaining in classrooms they should be permanently removed from.

I personally wonder that in this case, if the child in question was not ready for public school classroom participation at the start of the 2023/2024 school. Are schools required to take all pre-K age students? To be determined.

I would wonder if the mother had a difficult time keeping the aggressive child in regular daycare? Thus, she opted to take advantage of the public-school pre-K option as an opportunity to drop her problem child – on the school system! And the educational experience of the other 19 students was then sacrificed.

Again, it needs to be confirmed, but it seems quite possible that many of the 23 Maryland County Superintendents of Schools could be dealing with this problem at some level.

It is a bureaucratic fact that only the General Assembly in Annapolis applies revisions to COMAR. And that no such change is now on work, and so there is no chance such changes could happen until after the 2023/2024 school year ends.

That means, that a failed violent student policy that has been argued about this entire school year – will likely remain in place as the 2024/2025 school year begins. That is Beyond Sense (BS)!

At this time, I do not believe that such a legislative change in violent student policy is even in the works. Even in spite of such repeated violent classroom attacks.

5. Our Demand Approach – Emergency Revisions NOW – Then Do the Paperwork

In-Action is Un-Acceptable

We the People have simple Demands. Remove such obviously violent students from the classroom to protect the kids and maintain a safe, stable learning environment.

Simply stated, instances of violence in public schools are bad enough in grades three (3) and up and that must be stopped. However, when such repeated acts of violence happen in classes pre-k thru 2nd-thru-pre-K, the schools are now restricted by COMAR from removing that child from the classroom. Something must and will be done now, and not within the normal, drawn-out COMAR change process.

Our Only Near-Term Solution

It is called, Emergency legislation. Again, not rocket science. It is done all the time, as needed, and it is absolutely necessary now to confront a very a solvable classroom crisis.

Legislation that is required to promptly and adequately resolve this active classroom crisis. Required legislative changes could be put in place by the General Assembly in Annapolis in a matter of days. Then the formal multi-month process of adjusting COMAR Regulations for this policy revision would be processed as normal.

The Bottom Line – Protect All the Children

In this case, a repeatedly violent (September 2023 thru March 2024 anyway) pre-K 5-year-old child must be removed from the classroom even with an active IEP. There is simply no rational reason or lame excuse not to implement that critical policy revision immediately.

To me, this is what they used to be called the mainstreaming of students with various challenge into a regular classroom environment.

Current Dept. of Education laws and Maryland COMAR regulations protect children with certain intellectual and/or physical challenges being removed from regular classes. I do not believe the public has any problem with that policy. And a class of students can be expected to be supportive of someone with such challenges.

However, that policy was unfortunately written for the perfect world we do not live in. Because we have real kids in our school system and something is happening with students with an IEP that was evidently not planned for.

Again, we are focused on the 2nd-thru-pre-K group. And the problem is repeated, unprovoked attacks by the subject student against their classmates. The way the school system administrators are responding to this is as though that law finds such abusive behavior acceptable under that “protected” classification.

I believe the following line could be all that is needed to clarify the policy and serve to remove the problem student,

are in protected status, *“except in cases of personal assault and especially in cases of repeated personal assault”*.

That needs to be applied to both the Dept. of Education laws and Maryland COMAR regulations, immediately. And the legislature needs to declare that the courts will not entertain any law suits against this prudent and practical revision that protects students from assault in school.

One straightforward Dept. of Education legislative revision that covers all 23 Maryland counties, Baltimore City, 49 other States, and DC, too!

Let’s work together to get it done in April. We will do it for the kids, the parents, the teachers, and the principals. And the School Boards will be very relieved...

As We Now Enter this Legislative Push – Remember We are the People

First of all, We the People of the Great State of Maryland need to remember that:

- Maryland is our state! Democrats, Independents, Republicans, and everybody else.
- We the People are the ones to be served by our elected officials.
- The rules are supposed to be made and refined as required for our Common Good.
- Legislatively, what is best for and approved by the majority should become law. Unless it truly hurts the minority, in which case negotiations over the issue would need to continue.
- Often times those that were against given legislation, actually benefit from it once it is enacted.

However, we are no longer going to cater to extreme Progressive interests when the Common Good of the majority needs to be served. The normally too quiet Moderate Democrats in Maryland and around the nation will now make ourselves known.

6. Public Acknowledgement that Superintendents Satisfied Due Diligence

The critically important for the public to understand that administrative responsibility for such Education related COMAR revisions, is the oversight responsibility of the 23 County Superintendents of Schools in Maryland and their counterpart in Baltimore City.

They oversee and are responsible for budget, planning, and research on such policy changes within their jurisdiction. Once the General Assembly approves the removal of such student from class all such research will be suspended or not even started within the current budget year.

Superintendents annual review criteria includes tracking of all planned and budgeted projects for the year in process. Since these projects can be abruptly closed out or not even started, they will all be granted a waiver and acceptable rating while closing down or not even starting such projects. Thus, they will not be penalized for those related decisions.

That is only fair.

I believe they all want this done and the sooner the better. This actually good news for their schools. We are just getting to them much sooner.

Further, I believe the Superintendents want the proposed Cell Phone policy tomorrow is well. So, let's make these two practical Education advancements happen at once. In this very 2023/2024 school year.

7. Where Do We Go from Here

This write-up will be: posted at WildmanforUSSenate.com/hot-topics and page down.

This will be the first of a set of near-term legislation I will be sending to retiring Maryland US Senator Ben Cardin the second week in April. Directly seeking, if not demanding in the service of Marylanders, that he and the rest of our State's US Congressional Democrat members, as well as, our General Assembly in Annapolis.

This is 2024 emergency legislation to be passed and enacted. Moderate Democrats in Maryland and across the nation once step forward and Demand action.

This write-up will be of interest emailed to:

- Senators Chris Van Hollen and Ben Cardin
- Governor Wes Moore
- US Representative David Trone
- Prince George's County Executive Angela Alsobrooks
- Democratic Party leadership in the Maryland State Senate and House of Delegates. We need the Democrats to own this fast-tracked student supporting legislation. It will help build the Party's opinion with the public and the voters.
- Dr. Carey Wright the Interim Maryland State Superintendent of Education
- The editor of the Baltimore Sun
- The editor of the Washington Post
- Various Press and Media entities
- And many, many others over the next the next weeks and months.

I have a real interest in education issues and I will be pushing rather loudly, as required, to get this classroom crisis moving toward quick resolution this month – in April of this year!!

In Closing – To Repeat

I am doing this for you, and those that you Love and otherwise care about. And for the other 340,000,000+ of our fellow American men, women, and children that we shall never, ever meet.

Maryland has long been called, "America in miniature". Maryland will now lead the nation is confronting and fixing long-standing, but correctable problems.

And may God continue to bless the United States of America...

Take care, A J Wildman

In-Action is Un-Acceptable

**Remove Violent Pre-K Student
NOW**

**Cell Phones Only at Lunch Break
NOW**

**Annapolis & 23 School Boards Emergency Revisions
NOW**