

Lexington, Va.,  
May 28, 1930.

Member of School Board,  
Lexington Va.,  
Dear Sir:

The petition of the Lylburn Downing teachers asking the public to endorse them for another year is not a defense against the petition asking for a male principal and dismissal of [REDACTED]. No attack as they have informed the public has been made on the four subordinate teachers, and their petition should have no weight in this case.

If they desire to assist in securing names on a petition which only concerns [REDACTED], there can be no objection to them exercising their right as any other person. The petition is getting signatures on the false pretense that the citizens are attacking the whole faculty for their dismissal, in which case they could easily get the endorsement of those who have opposed [REDACTED] in their petition, because none of us would desire such a radical and wholesale dismissal of the teachers.

[REDACTED]'s unpopularity among the colored people with whom she is working makes her dubious about passing around a petition only concerning herself to our people, but she prefers to have her name with the other teachers to help shield and insure a decent endorsement. The scheme is plainly made a fact when she only places her name on a petition sent to the white citizens, who know nothing about her qualifications nor the facts in the case.

Thanking the Board for its tolerant and patient attitude, and hoping to receive a decision in compliance with our petition, we are,

Respectfully,  
Committee:

*John B. Thompson*  
Chairman.

P. S. A petition gotten out in support of [REDACTED] and signed by the colored citizens shall be considered equitable and just since the attack is only on her.

Lexington, Va.  
May 28, 1930

Member of School Board,  
Lexington Va.,  
Dear Sir:

The petition of the Lyburn Downside teachers asking the public to endorse them for another year is not a defense against the petition asking for a public purchase and dismissal of Mrs. A. J. Rowland. No attack as they have informed the public has been made on the four subordinate teachers, and their petition should have no weight in this case.

If they desire to attack in writing names on a petition which only concerns Mrs. Rowland, there can be no objection to their exercising their right as any other person. The petition is getting signatures on the false pretense that the citizens are attacking the whole faculty for their dismissal, in which case they could easily get the endorsement of those who have opposed Mrs. Rowland in their petition, because none of us would desire such a record and dismissal of the teachers.

Mrs. Rowland's unpopularity among the colored people with whom she is working makes her dubious about passing around a petition only concerning herself to our people, but she pretends to have her name with the other teachers to help shield and insure a decent endorsement. The scheme is plainly made a fact when she only places her name on a petition sent to the white citizens, who know nothing about her qualifications nor the facts in the case.

Thanking the board for its tolerant and patient attitude, and hoping to receive a decision in compliance with our petition,

*Chambers*

Respectfully,  
Committee

P. S. A petition gotten out in support of Mrs. Rowland and signed by the colored citizens shall be considered equitable and just since the attack is only on her.