

Dear County Council Members,

I am cautiously optimistic to hear about this \$7,687,000 grant for school-age child care during distance learning. My understanding is that currently, only one provider per school is able to provide support for school-aged kids' distance learning. These providers are the "big ones" in the county. My concern is that other valuable, small to medium-sized daycare and education companies are being left out of the remote learning scene inside MCPS schools. And I hope that the grant money will not go exclusively to those "big companies."

Our company, Panda Programmer, Inc. has been supplying after-school services to elementary and middle school students in Montgomery County for over 5 years. We teach students how to program computers. Before the pandemic hit, we were teaching in approximately 25 MCPS schools. We have inquired with the ICB/CUPF about renting school space for remote learning and have been told that only one provider (once again, the "big ones") is allowed to rent space in each school, at least through Jan 29, 2021.

In many cases, the company that is eligible to provide remote learning services at a school is not currently providing any services at the school. As a result, NO remote learning services are currently being provided at these schools. Travilah, Dufief, and Diamond elementary schools are 3 examples of schools where the single provider is not providing any services at the school.

Please don't exclude medium-sized companies such as Panda Programmer from the remote learning program during this challenging time. I implore you to have the ICB/CUPF open up the unused schools to experienced, middle-sized providers, and consider us for the grant money as well.

Thank you for the opportunity to address you this afternoon.

Will Corbin

President, Panda Programmer, Inc.