

January 10, 2011

Dear Mr. Porterfield,

My name is Gene Johnson and I am a member of the Seth Johnson family. My husband, Mac Johnson, served on the Montgomery County Board of Education for over 14 years and my daughter taught at Lee High School for 28 years.

I am concerned that Seth Johnson School may not retain the name as it becomes a Magnet School. It was my idea to take up a donation at our annual family reunion for the Media Center at Seth Johnson School. This has been a successful endeavor for many years now and we hope for many years to come.

The entire family is very interested in the education of young people and want them to know about the impact Seth Johnson had on the lives of those around him, from family to members of the community. One of our first donations to the Media Center at Seth Johnson Elementary School included books in memory of Seth Johnson, his wife Neva and each of their 12 children. These books were chosen with the personal interests of each individual family member in mind and included a hand written inscription about that member of the family. Each year family members have visited the school, sometimes reading to children in the library. sometimes taking part in special programs like the dedication of the new wing. We would like to remain involved in the school that bears the name, Seth Johnson.

Since Seth Johnson School is in your district, I know that this is a matter close to you and your interests. I was impressed with your bio on the Montgomery County Public School website. I too, believe that schools must have parental support as well as, support from the community.

Please consider our family's concerns when the changes for new schools are proposed at your next meeting. I appreciate your interest in the matter at hand. You may call me at 272-7068.

Thank you,

Mrs. Gene Johnson