

Dr. Vito A. Perriello Memorial Fund
C/o Charlottesville Area Community Foundation
P.O. Box 1767
Charlottesville, Virginia 22902
May 14, 2009



Dr. Pamela Moran
Superintendent of Schools
Albemarle County Board of Education
Charlottesville, Virginia 22902

RE: Gary Holmes Fagan Band Room Naming Proposal

Dear Pam and Members of the Board of Education:

This letter is written in compliance with the School Board's nomination procedure for naming a portion of an Albemarle County education facility for a worthy individual. On behalf, I am certain, of thousands of parents and former students of Henley Middle School in Albemarle County we would like to propose that the Band Room at Henley Middle School be named for Gary Holmes Fagan who has served as band director at the school for 32 of his 34 years of dedicated teaching in the Albemarle County Schools. His numerous personal honors include:

Piedmont Council of the Arts Educator Award 2001
Phi Beta Mu International School Bandmasters Fraternity – 2006
WINA Teacher of the Month 2002
Middle School Teacher of the Year by the UVA chapter of Phi Delta Kappa in 1989
Member of the James Madison University Music Education Advisory Council
National Band Association "Band Booster Award" by WAHS in 1987
Presidential Citation from the Governor's School of Virginia for the Visual and Performing Arts at The University of Richmond 1999

Of much greater significance in our minds, however, are the thousands of young people who have been given the gift of music by this dedicated teacher. Every year he has taught at Henley, the Concert Band has participated in the District Band Festival and has attained superior ratings on a consistent basis; his prestigious Jazz Band has brought home 1st place at the Tri-State Jazz Festival for 3 out of the past 5 years. The Henley Marching Band has received literally scores of prestigious awards during his tenure. The trophy cases at Henley are filled to overflowing with over 40 trophies won by the Marching Band at events like the Dogwood Parade, the Harrisonburg Poultry Parade and the Culpeper Firemen's Parade. Every year for 34 years, Gary has taken a fresh group of middle schoolers who are diverse in background and temperament, wildly varying in abilities and behaviors, and in many cases not able to read a note of music and performed his yearly miracle of marching them down Market Street in formation and making wonderful music by Spring. Walking into his band room and seeing the photographs of each and every symphonic band he's taught surrounding you on the walls tells the story. Under Mr. Fagan's tutelage not only have numerous students been inspired to enter the field of music and performing arts as a career, but an even larger number have learned the satisfaction of attaining excellence through hard work and team work, a core measure of educational and life success.

If the Superintendant and Board see fit to approve this request, the Dr. Vito A. Perriello Memorial Fund will take great pleasure in providing the resources necessary to create the signage to be placed above the door of the Band Room, and 2 commemorative plaques describing Mr. Fagan's contributions: one for the school and the second for his family. We would very much hope that this could be accomplished in time for a presentation at his final concert on the 28th of May. Thank you for considering this opportunity to recognize such an outstanding example of dedication to education by your approval of the Gary Holmes Fagan Band Room at J. T. Henley Middle School.

Sincerely,

Linda

The Perriello Family

Linda, Bo, Elizabeth, Paige and Tom Perriello

Cc: Dr. Patrick McLaughlin, principal

Pam -

Tom is also planning to have this read into the Congressional Record before the 28th!

linda1pe@yahoo.com

Donate money to school/ make sign

Bruce Benson

From: Pam Moran
Sent: Tuesday, May 19, 2009 1:18 PM
To: Bruce Benson
Subject: FW: Perriello Request

Pamela Moran
Superintendent of Schools
Albemarle County Public Schools
Charlottesville, Va 22902
moran@k12albemarle.org
434-296-5826

-----Original Message-----

From: Gary Fagan
Sent: Tuesday, May 19, 2009 8:48 AM
To: Pam Moran
Cc: Brian Wheeler; Barbara Massie Mouly; Jon Stokes
Subject: Perriello Request

Dear Dr. Moran,

It has come to my attention that Ms. Linda Perriello has made a written request to the county schools that she be allowed to initiate the naming of the band room at Henley in my honor upon my retirement from teaching. I believe she is planning a plaque to be placed at the band room entrance.

She has stated that my permission would be required for this proposal to move forward. This message is to inform you that I am happy to grant this permission and very much appreciate her efforts to honor me in this fashion.

I also appreciate the school administration efforts to assist her in any way.

I will be sending a hard copy of this note to you and to Mr. Jon Stokes, Ms. Barbara Massie Mouly and Mr. Brian Wheeler as well.

Thank you,

Gary Fagan