

TESTIMONY OF LAYLA HASAN
STUDENT, CAPITOL HILL MONTESSORI AT LOGAN
April 14, 2016

Hi, my name is Layla Hasan. Thank you for the opportunity for letting me testify for our school. I go to Capitol Hill Montessori at Logan, and am a third grader in Ms. Lowery's class. I live in Ward 7.

I like my school because it's Montessori. In Montessori, you don't sit around and stare at a board or a teacher. You pick your own lessons and are not taught all at the same time. I decide what subjects to work on and when. I love my teacher and my friends. Sometimes my teacher teaches kids one at a time, and other times she teaches several. In second grade, my friends and I learned about a problem with cicadas in Africa. In Africa, there were many cicadas that carried diseases and lots of people got sick. I like my school because I am free to pick what I want to work on and learn.

But I think my school building could improve more, like the cafeteria. Lots of teachers suggested that we should have a bigger cafeteria. Our school has 329 kids in the whole building. Some kids eat in the hallway because there's no more space in the multipurpose room and the cafeteria. There are two lunch periods for all the kids in the whole school. Kids that eat in the multipurpose room have to finish lunch on-time so the custodians can clean the room and get it ready for our PE teacher. He teaches PE in the multipurpose room.

Here are other areas where my school needs improvements. Some windows are opaque and not properly sealed. This is a quote from one of the primary teachers last week when it rained, "Yesterday, during the intense rain, for example, children standing in my classroom by the windows were treated to a fine mist blowing in. I don't think that's what Maria Montessori meant by seamlessness between the indoor and outdoor classrooms." Also, there is lead in the water and expired milk in the cafeteria. These are problems because these can make you sick.

Please help us fix our school so that we can comfortably work.

Thank you for your time