

## Metropolitan School District of Martinsville

School Board of Trustees
Matt Hankins, President
Heather Staggs, Vice-President
Luke Jackson, Secretary
Dan Conway, Member
Jacque Deckard, Member

Mr. Eric Bowlen, Superintendent
Mrs. Suzie Lipps, Assistant to the Superintendent for
Curriculum, Instruction and Human Resources
Mrs. Whitney Kuszmaul, District Treasurer

January 16, 2024

MSD of Martinsville is deeply disappointed that the U.S. Supreme Court has denied its petition to resolve an issue that has divided federal courts and left school districts across the country in disarray. As the education system continues to evolve rapidly, local school boards must be empowered to navigate sensitive emerging issues with discretion to serve the best interests of students. Federal courts are hopelessly in conflict over how to decide these issues, and the District hoped that the Supreme Court would have resolved this important conflict. The District will now consult closely with legal counsel to determine appropriate next steps that are both in compliance with the law and what is best for our students and community.

Eric Bowlen
Superintendent
MSD of Martinsville