

**From:** Downs, Meghan <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 3/23/2020 9:29:06 PM  
**To:** Nancy Garrett <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** RE: How can we help WCS lead?

**WARNING: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Do not click on links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.**

Thanks, Nancy - very much appreciate it. Look forward to connecting.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 23, 2020, at 6:08 PM, Nancy Garrett <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Hi, Megan: I'm happy to connect and talk through the issues and discuss your concerns.

I will look for some time on your calendar.

Nancy

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**From:** Downs, Meghan <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 23, 2020 5:53:05 PM  
**To:** Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>; Carol Birdsong <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Gary Anderson <[REDACTED]>; Nancy Garrett <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** How can we help WCS lead?

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As a parent of two Williamson County Schools students, thank you for everything you are doing to 1) help students in the community who need food assistance, 2) address employee-related questions and concerns, and 3) begin implementing disaster-preparedness learning plans/develop learning plans for the 40,000+ students in our area. I recognize that you are working tirelessly, this situation is hitting you on multiple fronts, and you are likely being inundated with a million (differing) opinions as to how learning should continue during this time.

I truly appreciate everything you are doing right now, but I also question if it's enough (not for lack of trying!) and what the community can/should be doing to help (albeit remotely) during this time of need?

#### **Leading the Way**

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We need to be getting creative right now. Innovating. Leading the way – just like Williamson County Schools always has. And yet it feels like we're holding ourselves back, while trying to work within perceived constraints.

*We can't offer online learning opportunities because there's a small population of our system that doesn't have internet. We can't provide Chromebooks to students who need them because we don't have enough for all. We can't provide packets to our students because how could we possibly tailor those packets to students with IEPs.*

I fully recognize that these are *real* challenges and the answers aren't easy, but we've got to figure out how to rise above them. It simply is not enough to provide families with a list of online resources (which, by the way, excludes the very learners we're being told would be excluded if we were to implement online learning) without even giving them the context of what content their students should be focused on. Further, it seems like a LOT of school systems across the country – even systems in impoverished areas – are figuring this out faster than we are.

### **How can we help?**

So my question is, how can we help? How can the community come together and partner with you? How can we find solutions for our students who don't have internet access? How can we secure additional technology resources to help bridge our existing gap? How can we partner with businesses who are quickly, and in many cases successfully, shifting thousands of employees to remote working, while leveraging easy-to-use technology that schools can also be using?

And I'll take it a step further. How can I help? I am ready, willing, and able to volunteer my time. If we were merely facing two more weeks of this shutdown, I would not be contacting you today. I would simply be thanking you for what you're doing, enjoying my extra-found time with my children, and telling them to do some online work using the links you have provided.

But I think we're all realizing that we are not going back to school on April 6. So how can we help you continue to provide a first-rate public-school education for our children in the face of this ongoing pandemic?

Thank you,

Meghan Downs

(Mother [REDACTED])

### **Meghan Downs**

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Deloitte

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**From:** Google Alerts <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 3/23/2020 11:01:20 AM  
**To:** Nancy Garrett <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Google Alert - williamson county schools

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## Google Alerts

### williamson county schools

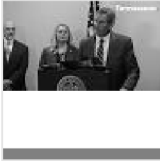
Daily update · March 23, 2020

#### NEWS

#### Williamson County Schools, Franklin Special provide learning resources for students amid school ...

The Tennessean

Franklin Special **School District** Director of **Schools** David Snowden emphasized that the learning packets are meant to provide academic support while ...



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#### Local Organizations Launch Food Collection Program

Williamson Source

OneGenAway is currently working with **Williamson County Schools** and Franklin Special School District to provide meals for kids who are no longer ...



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#### UPDATE 3-22-20: COVID-19 Cases at 505 in Tennessee, Now 8 in Rutherford Co.

Wgnsradio

Sunday, 3-22-20 Update: The Tennessee Department of Health has updated the positive cases for coronavirus to 505 across 41 **counties**. There are 8 ...



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#### Tennessee Governor Issues Order on Bars, Restaurants

U.S. News & World Report

Dr. Aaron Mlstone, a physician at **Williamson Medical Center** in Franklin, ... In the state's largest **county**, Shelby **County Schools** announced Sunday ...



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**Cc:** Gary Anderson <[REDACTED]>  
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