



# Bedford County Public Schools

Office of the Superintendent  
James G. Blevins, Ed. D.

P.O. Box 748 • 310 South Bridge Street  
Bedford, Virginia 24523-0748

Phone: 540/586-1045  
Fax: 540/586-7703

January 18, 2008

Mr. George Nester, Director  
Bedford County Department of Planning  
122 East Main Street  
Suite G-03  
Bedford, VA 24523

Dear Mr. Nester:

I am writing this letter to express my opposition to a proposed new cluster of town homes across from Jefferson Forest High School. These town homes, proposed by May Brothers, would house the company's migrant workers.

Please let me explain my reasoning for my opposition to this proposal:

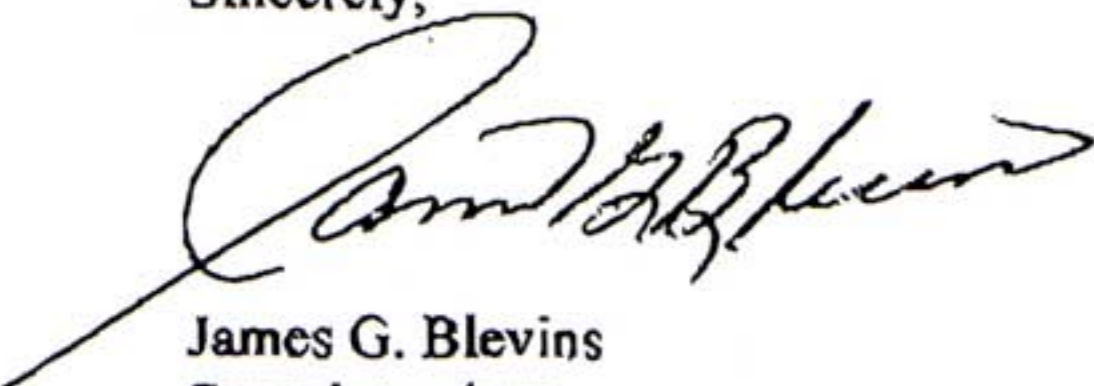
There is no doubt that our English as a Second Language requirement would go up if these homes were constructed this close to the school. I feel that the burden on our staff at JFHS would be more than they could handle.

This would also create the opportunity for students to interact with these individuals and their families in the confines of the homes. I feel this would not only create the potential for an increase in the crime rate, but would also potentially increase the occurrences of vandalism on school property.

I ask that you please take these points into careful consideration as you make a decision on whether or not to allow this project to go forward.

I will be happy to speak to you further on this matter if you so desire.

Sincerely,



James G. Blevins  
Superintendent

CC: Mrs. Mary Zirkle, Chief Planner



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January 28, 2008

Mr. George Nester, Director  
Bedford County Department of Planning  
122 East Main Street  
Suite G-03  
Bedford, VA 24523

Dear Mr. Nester:

I am writing this letter to explain a reversal in my stance against the construction of town homes near Jefferson Forest High School.

As you are aware, amidst information that I had previously received, I expressed concern over these workers living so close to our students in a letter to you on January 18.

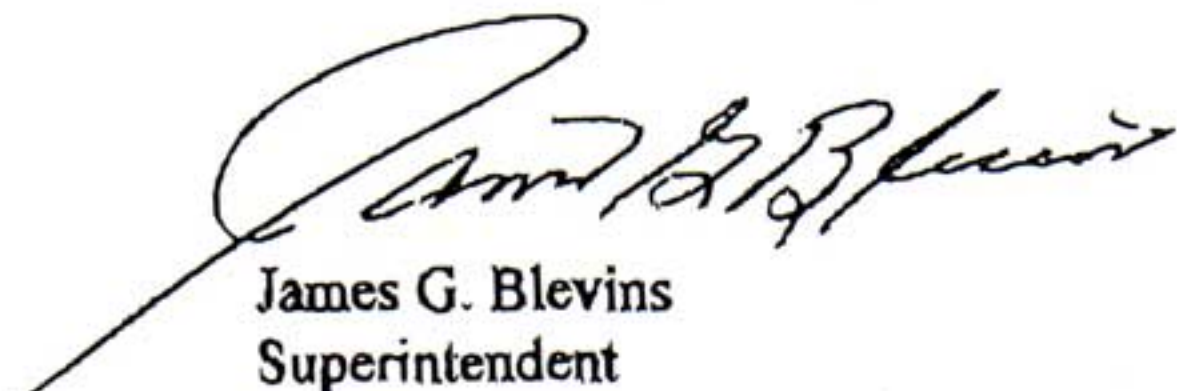
Since that time, I have met with Mr. David H. St. John of May Brothers Inc. Mr. St. John has informed me that these town homes will be positioned on the far end of this tract of land, so that they will be barely visible from JFHS.

Mr. St. John also brought to my attention the H-2B program, which is the only legal seasonal foreign worker visa program for non-agricultural employees. This program is very strictly regulated, and alleviated concerns I had about the absence of background checks.

In light of these conditions, I would now like to lend my support to the approval of this project

I will be happy to speak to you further on this matter if you so desire.

Sincerely,



James G. Blevins  
Superintendent

CC: Mrs. Mary Zirkle, Chief Planner