

School Board Appointment  
Commission of  
Anne Arundel County  
*Application Package*

*Open Seat for District 30 (A & B)  
on the  
Board of Education of Anne Arundel County*

Revised

*Deadline to submit applications: August 31, 2018, 12:00 pm*

# Application for Appointment to the Open Seat for District 30 (A & B) on the Board of Education of Anne Arundel County

*Mailed or hand-delivered applications must be received by noon on Friday, August 31, 2018, to be considered.*

*E-mailed applications must be received by noon on Friday, August 31, 2018, to be considered.*

*Mail or hand-deliver to:* School Board Appointment  
Commission of Anne Arundel County, c/o Board of Education Office,  
2644 Riva Road, Annapolis, MD 21401

*E-mail to:* sbac@aacps.org as a PDF file.

Please call 410-222-5311, after 24 hours, to confirm receipt.

Full Name <b>Jeffrey R. Macris</b>		List any former names used <b>None</b>	
Address (applicant must be an Anne Arundel County resident) <b>Annapolis, MD 21401</b>			Are you a registered voter? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
How long have you been an Anne Arundel County resident? <b>since Dec 2000 (*See Below)</b>	Date of Birth <b>[REDACTED]</b>	Can we contact you at work? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Email address <b>[REDACTED]</b>
Home Phone <b>[REDACTED]</b>	Work Phone <b>[REDACTED]</b>	Cell Phone <b>[REDACTED]</b>	

If you answer "yes" to any of the questions below, please attach comments.

- Yes  No (+see below) Have you ever been convicted of, entered a plea of guilty or nolo contendere, or forfeited collateral for any criminal violation other than a minor traffic offense? Minor traffic offenses do not include the offenses of operating under the influence of liquor, operating while impaired, reckless driving or the equivalent offenses in other states.
- Yes  No Have you ever been convicted of any crime that relates in any way to the responsibilities of a member of the Board of Education of Anne Arundel County?
- Yes  No Have you ever been convicted of any crime that has not been expunged or otherwise shielded? (+see below)
- Yes  No Are you delinquent on any federal, state, or local debt? (Include delinquencies for income, property, or other taxes, governmental loans, overpayment of benefits, required payments into or under governmental programs, and other debts or required payments to the government plus any defaults on or under loans which are or where guaranteed, insured, or subsidized by any unit of government.)
- Yes  No In the last five years, have you been, or are you presently a party of interest in any administrative agency proceeding or civil litigation, including any action regarding a professional license?
- Yes  No Have you ever been adjudged bankrupt or insolvent?
- Yes  No Has a complaint of discrimination on the basis of sex, race, religion, national origin, age or handicap ever been filed against you or against any firm or organization during your affiliation with it?

Please attach a current résumé with this application. In addition, please provide here any professional organizational memberships and positions held and length of service: (Please limit to past 15 years) *Attach additional sheets as necessary.*

*\* My family and I arrived in Annapolis in December 2000 on a set of active-duty military orders, to teach at the U.S. Naval Academy. Until my retirement from military service on 30 September 2017, we maintained official residency in the state of our previous duty station, Washington State. We have been Maryland residents since 1 October 2017. Received*

+University of Tennessee, Knoxville TN, August 1982, Public Intoxication.

**AUG 30 2018**

*Application for Appointment to the Board of Education of Anne Arundel County Board*

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Applicant Name

**Jeffrey R. Macris**

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Community Involvement: (Please limit to the past 15 years.)

*Attach additional sheets as necessary.*

(Please see also Education Resume for education-related community involvement)

- West Annapolis Civic Association, Board of Directors (approx. 2005-2007)
- West Annapolis Civic Association, Traffic Safety Chairperson
- Boy Scout Troop 366/Cub Scout Pack 366, Adult Leader and Scoutmaster (2005-present)
- St. Margaret's Church (approx 2008-2016) - Adult Education Discussion Leader
- Guest academic lectures at West Annapolis Civic Association, Military Officers of America, Navy League, Public Libraries
- Surfrider Foundation - Advocating for the health of our nation's oceans, beaches, and waterways

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Awards/Honors: What award/honors have you been most proud to receive?

(Please include the year of the award and the awarding institution or entity.)

*I was most proud to receive the 2010 Maryland State Department of Education's highest parental honor, the statewide "Parent Involvement Matters Award." From Maryland's 1.7 million public school parents, State School Superintendent Dr. Nancy Grasmick recognized me for leading an effort to help turn around two of the county's most historically challenged schools, Annapolis Middle and Bates Middle. Together with another dozen parents, we formed parent-led teams that studied data and lobbied public decision-makers for reforms at the two schools, both of which then ranked at very bottom of every objective measure of student performance, including math scores, language scores, and attendance rates. Our group of parents discovered that these two schools -- whose students at the time had the county's highest poverty rates, and where the demand for quality teachers was thus among the greatest -- had the highest teacher turnover rate, the lowest number of teachers with masters degrees, and the greatest number of teachers with only conditional teachers' certificates. In the darkest years of the financial crisis, we were able to bring two magnet programs to these schools (IB & an Arts magnet), win teacher incentives, and adopt school uniforms. Today, the schools' seats are filled, and students are excelling. I am proud to have played a role in their turnaround.*

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Please provide a bulleted list of three goals you hope to accomplish if you are appointed to the Board of Education.

Please limit each bullet to 15 words.

1. *Advocate for our county's growing population of military dependents.*
2. *Improve school security, to ensure that our students are safe to learn.*
3. *Ensure equal access to a quality education for all county students, regardless of income or geographic location.*

*Application for Appointment to the Board of Education of Anne Arundel County Board*

Applicant Name

**Jeffrey R. Macris**

Please answer the following questions. Your responses for each question must be typed on 8½-by-11 sheets of paper using single-line spacing and 12-point font.

1. Why are you interested in serving on the Board of Education of Anne Arundel County? Please include an explanation of the primary strengths you would bring to this position, and what you believe is the proper role of a Board member.
2. What do you believe are the most critical issues currently facing Anne Arundel County Public Schools? What specific ideas do you have to address these issues?
3. Please share any current Anne Arundel County Public Schools best practices and procedures you are familiar with and how you feel these initiatives benefit students and the community.
4. What is your exposure to, or experience with, Anne Arundel County Public Schools?

**I CERTIFY that:**

- *This application (and any copy or facsimile of same) contains no willful misrepresentation and that the information is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.*
- *Completion and submission of this application gives the School Board Appointment Commission of Anne Arundel County the authority to submit my name for a criminal records check, including a search of the child abuse registry.*
- *Information on this application and any documents submitted to be included with this application will be deemed public records of the School Board Appointment Commission of Anne Arundel County and may be made available to the public. Only information deemed confidential in accordance with applicable federal and state law will be withheld from public disclosure.*
- *Should any investigation at any time disclose otherwise, my application may be rejected, my name may be removed from consideration for appointment to the Board of Education of Anne Arundel County, and I may be disqualified from applying for any future Board vacancy.*
- *I am not presently employed by the Board of Education.*

*By signing this application, I am consenting to any reasonable inquiry that may be necessary to verify the information I have provided on this form or that I may provide in conjunction with my application for the Anne Arundel County Board of Education.*

*Jeffrey Macris*  
Jeffrey R. Macris

Signature

29 August 2018

Date

## Jeff Macris

██████████ Annapolis MD 21401 ~ ██████████

### Public Education Leadership

- Proud parent of five current/former Anne Arundel County Public School Students.
- PTA member 15 straight years.
- Co-chair (along with MD State School Superintendent Dr. Karen Salmon), Maryland State Department of Education Family Engagement Council, 2013-present.
- Annapolis Education Commission, Ward 2 Representative, Charter Member, 2007- present. Chair for 3 years. Mayor's Education Advisory Committee - 2006.
- Community Member, Annapolis Cluster Redistricting Committee 2017.
- Statewide MD State Department of Education "Parent Involvement Matters Award" winner, 2010. Recognized for leading efforts to bring IB magnet to Annapolis Middle and Performing Arts magnet to Bates Middle. Used data analysis to help turn around the struggling schools.
- AACPS Citizens Advisory Committee 2005-2008, Annapolis Cluster Coordinator 2006-2008.
- MGT AACPS Capital Improvement Study, 2006. Sole county parent representative. Reviewed all existing county education structures and prioritized future list of capital projects.
- Parent advisor, AACPS Superintendent Search Committee that hired Dr. George Arlotto.
- Middle School Schedule Task Force member, 2006.
- Chief Action Officer, Community Radio for the Arts and the Bay, Annapolis' only non-commercial radio station, jointly managed by AACPS and MD Hall for the Creative Arts.

### Education

<b>PhD</b>	2007 (with distinction) International Affairs - Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced Int'l Studies (SAIS)
<b>MA</b>	1995 Middle East Studies, Strategic Studies - Johns Hopkins SAIS
<b>BBA</b>	1984 Information Systems - James Madison University - magna cum laude
<b>Certificate</b>	1993 Arabic Linguist - Defense Language Institute, Monterey, California

### Professional

<b>2019</b>	Yale University - Visiting Presidential Fellow (will commute from MD).
<b>Oct 2017- pres</b>	Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory - Senior Analyst.
<b>Dec 2000 - Oct 2017</b>	U.S. Naval Academy History Department - Associate Professor, Middle East History, Military History, Professional Ethics. 2016 Naval Academy Professor of the Year (2003-07 graduate studies).
<b>August 2016 - pres</b>	Pepperdine University Washington DC Program - Adjunct Professor.
<b>Sept 1986 - Nov 2000</b>	U.S. Navy Officer & Pilot - P3 Orion Anti-submarine Warfare Aircraft Pilot. Overseas deployments to Italy, Spain, Iceland, Japan, Persian Gulf.
<b>May 1984-June 1986</b>	Radio Advertising Sales & Announcing - Florida Keys, NC, MD.

- 1. Why are you interested in serving on the Board of Education of Anne Arundel County? Please include an explanation of the primary strengths you would bring to this position, and what you believe is the proper role of a Board member.**

*As the parent of 5 present/former Anne Arundel public school students, I have been deeply involved in school issues for 15 years, both at the local school level and as the Ward 2 representative to the Annapolis Education Commission, an appendage of the City of Annapolis. I am interested in serving on the Board of Education to continue this long tradition of improving our public schools for all of our county's children.*

*In terms of strengths, I would bring to the Board a unique vantage as a career military veteran who would advocate for the very special needs of the growing military presence in our county. Last year, furthermore, after I left my job as a military professor at the U.S. Naval Academy, I took a new position as a senior analyst at Johns Hopkins University's Applied Physics Laboratory, using data analysis to study and assess large government organizations. If selected, I would bring to the Board of Education a similar fact-based/data-driven approach to solving our school system's most pressing challenges.*

*In my mind, the proper role of a Board member is to set strategic direction for the school system, and to provide high-level feedback and guidance to the school administration through the Superintendent.*

- 2. What do you believe are the most critical issues currently facing Anne Arundel County Public Schools? What specific ideas do you have to address these issues?**

*In my mind, the most critical issues facing Anne Arundel County Public Schools are two-fold: assuring student safety, and guaranteeing that all students – regardless of income, geographic location, or any other factor – receive equal access to a top-notch education. First, with respect to student safety, our school system needs to continue to invest in physical improvements to our schools, as well as invest in mental health services that might identify and help to treat student depression and other mental illness before a catastrophe.*

*Second, regarding equal access to a high-quality education for all students: in my fifteen years of school advocacy, our parental groups' data analysis has uncovered a troubling and continuing correlation between student poverty levels in our county and sub-par access to top-quality schools. Our studies of Anne Arundel county showed that poor students often go to schools that are in below-average physical condition, and their teachers often have less experience, have fewer Master's Degrees, and have higher turnover than students in other parts of the county. In my mind, this is not just. Regardless of income or other circumstance, I think that every student should have an*

*equal chance at attending a top-notch school with top-notch teachers and faculty. Identifying and correcting these imbalances, I think, is a pressing moral issue I would like to address if selected for the school board.*

**3. Please share any current Anne Arundel County Public Schools best practices and procedures you are familiar with and how you feel these initiatives benefit students and the community.**

*There are two practices of AACPS that benefit the greater community. First, the advent of programs of choice during the last decade has improved the quality of our county's public education by allowing families and students to better match their talents and skills with their own unique circumstances. It allows students to chase their passions. My oldest student attended the Automotive Technology program at CAT South, while my second son just graduated last year from the IB program. They were two different kids with two different sets of passions, and these programs of choice allowed them both to fulfill their own passions. And these programs of choice are rightfully situated within the public school system.*

*The second AACPS practice that benefits our students and community is the methodical and business-like way that school capital projects are chosen and scheduled. I served as the only parent member in the original 2006 AACPS MGT Study that evaluated all of the capital structures in the AACPS inventory, and then ranked them in accordance with need. A follow-up study a decade later fine-tuned that ranking. The county's continued use of an independently-derived master construction list provides for a predictable and objective process to allocate scarce capital dollars. The continued use of novel public-private ventures such as the Monarch Academy and Chesapeake Science Point, furthermore, should be expanded, for they provide for a more efficient use of scarce capital funds and stretch further our county's limited tax dollars.*

**4. What is your exposure to, or experience with, Anne Arundel County Public Schools?**

*Over the past 15 years my wife and I have been consumed with raising five children, getting them through public schools, and getting them ready for career or college. We have now been PTA members for 15 straight years, and in the course of those years we have taken part in a wide variety of AACPS services and activities. Our kids, for example, have received special education services, taken advantage of assistance with reading, gotten speech remediation, taken part in Individual Education Plans, embarked in music and physical education training, participated in magnet/signature programs, done vocational education, and more. In all of these activities we have worked alongside our teachers and principals, laughed with them, and shared more than one tear. It has been an honor to be a part of AACPS as a parent, and I would relish the opportunity to help to lead it as a member of the Board of Education.*