

E. L. NORMAN, Ashburn  
CHAS. J. FORD, Round Hill  
STILSON H. HALL, Leesburg  
CHAS. M. SOUDER, Lovettsville

DR. C. E. BROWN, Round Hill  
WM. T. SMITH, Lincoln  
O. L. EMERICK, Division Superintendent  
RUTH M. EMERICK, Clerk

COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD  
OF  
LOUDOUN COUNTY  
PURCELLVILLE, VA.

April 25, 1923.

Mr. W. W. Pugh,  
Sterling, Va.

My dear Mr. Pugh:

I regret that I could not reply to your letter by Tuesday night of this week but I have been out of the office since Saturday on other work.

The decision to close Coleman's school this year was made because up to the time of that meeting the attendance of the school had been less than ten and the school board had no legal right to run a school with so small a number.

If there is prospect of a better attendance next year it would be well, perhaps, to have a petition about as the one inclosed signed by patrons and sent to me to be presented to the board or sent to Mr. Norman to present. I asked the board to provide funds for Coleman's school for next year so that it could be run if there were enough children. The board provided the funds in its budget.

I desire very much that every child have a good chance to get an education and I have been fighting and hphill fight to endeavor to see to it that the children of the one-room schools have a more nearly equal chance with the children attending larger school by advocating for one-room schools longer terms or the same term for all, supervision or some one to serve about as a principal of a larger school serves so as to be able to help the one-room teachers and through them the children, and for an equality of salary, so far as the size of kind of school is concerned. It sometimes seems to me that I am fighting alone.

We have a number of schools about like Coleman's in size. They are a big problem. A teacher can handle well thirty children daily but when we operate schools for ten children daily this makes the cost for each child about three times as great.

I wish to assure you that I shall be very much pleased if there can be found enough children to justify running your school.

Very sincerely yours,  
O. L. Emerick