

20 September 2011

Hello, my name is Kayleigh. I went to Harambee elementary since kindergarden. I am now currently an eighth grader at Crosswinds middle school. I would like to share a few of my thoughts with you. So, I'm going to stay away from all the politics and money area. I'm going to talk about it from a kid's perspective, and I would like you to do so, too. First off, closing EMID would be the worst decision. Beautiful schools, it would be so sad if they were empty. Another thing is, the teachers. They would lose their jobs. You know, something funny about the teachers over at Crosswinds and Harambee, they are so different from regular teachers. They really do care, they don't just teach you the facts, they teach about EVERYTHING! They are some of the only people I can turn to, and they don't treat the students like numbers at the school. It's really special at Crosswinds. It's like a big happy family. There are so many races and cultures, it's just wonderful. The diversity in this school and Harambee is so rich, it's taught me to not judge someone by their looks. Crosswinds is also very accepting of our peers, no matter what. There is always someone to talk to. The teachers, the setting, the community, the students, and the learning all bring us up into a family. I spend practically 80% of my life over at Crosswinds, so to everyone it is a second family home. It's not a giant school where everyone keeps to themselves, it's a community in which we all share our thoughts, feelings, and points of views without being put down. Another thing is the unique arts program. Where do I start? Haha, I'll start with the theatre program. I have a big passion for the theatre arts and the program is my outlet for my creative passion. It has been wonderful. The band/orchestra is absolutely brilliant, too. I was in the advanced band on flute, 1st chair, but I quit to follow my dreams of theatre. What's great about that is that I could choose, and the options are so diverse. The orchestra is just amazing. They are all VERY gifted with their instruments. Well, I really hope you would consider the things my peer and I have been telling you all. Just remember that closing our school is the worst option. Forget about the money and the politics and think about simply the communities of Crosswinds and Harambee. Closing the schools down would be (I know it sounds cheesy, but I mean it.), it would be like closing my heart down. I'm sure I'm not the only one who thinks this. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Kayleigh Schlenker, EMID family member since kindergarden to 8th grade.