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January 29, 2018

Cynthia L. Vaillancourt Chairman Board of Education of Howard County 10910 Clarksville Pike Ellicott City, Maryland 21042

Michael J. Martirano, Ed.D. Interim Superintendent Howard County Public School System 10910 Clarksville Pike Ellicott City, Maryland 21042

Dear Ms. Vaillancourt and Dr. Martirano:

I am writing as follow up to my letter dated January 12, 2018 regarding the possibility of building a high school at Troy Park in Elkridge. As you know, funding education and providing support for the anticipated student population growth in Howard County is my top priority. Opening the 13th high school in 2022 is essential to relieve overcrowding and is part of a long-term solution for capacity needs.

Based on review of the information shared with me to date from the County Recreation & Parks and Public Works departments, following initial discussions with the HCPSS Capital Planning and Operations office, I believe in the potential of the Troy Park site for a high school. It is important to note that there remain challenges to constructing a high school at this location, notably that additional land will need to be acquired to accommodate all of the features required for a high school property. However, the County owns a significant amount of land that has not yet been built out and would not require extensive environmental remediation. Very importantly, the future amenities at Troy Park which were promised to the community could still be provided at this site along with a high school. Such a shared use opportunity is exciting.

After reviewing preliminary concept plans, I am directing County staff to proceed with further evaluation, and I recommend you include Troy Park as a potential high school site. Please find attached a file with a preliminary draft concept plan that supports in depth evaluation to advance the feasibility of building a high school at Troy Park in Elkridge.

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To facilitate the acquisition of additional land at Troy Park, I am creating a capital project in the FY 2019 budget. Along with Troy Park, I still believe the Mission Road site in Jessup is valuable land for future schools. It is my hope to purchase this property to accommodate continued growth and provide flexibility in meeting the HCPSS Capital Improvement Program.

As I have offered previously, I am more than willing to meet with you and the other members of the Board of Education along with representatives from our Recreation & Parks and Public Works departments to address any questions or concerns you may have regarding potential school sites. Once again, thank you for your continued cooperation as we work together to provide the necessary infrastructure to relieve overcrowding in our schools.

Sincerely,

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Allan H. Kittleman County Executive

cc: Board of Education

Councilmembers B. Diane Wilson

Lonnie Robbins



