



**Board of Education  
of Howard County**

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April 22, 2019

Calvin Ball  
County Executive  
Howard County Government  
3430 Courthouse Drive, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Ellicott City, MD 21043

Dear County Executive Ball,

Thank you for requesting clarification regarding the Board's motions at its April 11, 2019 meeting regarding the Development Rights and Responsibilities Agreement (DRRA) to purchase land for High School 13. As you know, the Howard County Board of Education is about to begin a comprehensive process to balance capacity utilization across all 77 of our current schools in order to relieve the overcrowding of schools located in the highly-developed eastern part of Howard County. The success of the resulting solution is highly dependent on the opening of High School #13 for the 2023-2024 school year.

The Board recognizes that it is the County's responsibility to negotiate the DRRA, however, we felt it was necessary to discuss and share our concerns regarding the impact of the DRRA as proposed. We are encouraged that the County and seller are working to amend the agreement and address the concerns that have been raised. We appreciate you taking our concerns into account as you continue these negotiations. The Board remains committed to opening High School #13 in 2023 and will continue to work collaboratively with the County to achieve this goal. If you have any questions regarding the Board's motions or our timeline for the new high school, please contact Scott Washington, Director of Capital Planning & Construction at [Scott\\_Washington@hcpss.org](mailto:Scott_Washington@hcpss.org) or 410-313-6807.

The Board appreciates your continued partnership, and your leadership in advancing this critical capital project, as we work to create safe and equitable learning environments for all students in Howard County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mavis Ellis".

Mavis Ellis

CC: County Council members