

**Sayers, Margery**

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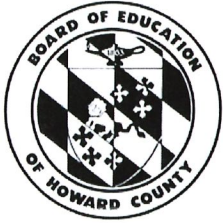
**From:** Kirsten Coombs <Kirsten\_Coombs@hcpss.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 29, 2019 8:55 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Cc:** Danielle Lueking  
**Subject:** CB17-2019 BOE Letter to Council 072919 APFO Wait Times.pdf  
**Attachments:** CB17-2019 BOE Letter to Council 072919 APFO Wait Times.pdf

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Please use this file as our official testimony.

Kirsten Coombs  
Vice Chair

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Board of Education of Howard County  
July 29, 2019

**Board of Education  
of Howard County**

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Christina Delmont-Small

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Michael J. Martirano, Ed.D.  
*Superintendent  
Secretary/Treasurer*

**County Bill 17 - 2019: Amendments to Adequate Public Facilities  
Wait Period**

Howard County Public School System is the fastest growing school system in Maryland in terms of enrollment growth. The investment in capital infrastructure has not kept pace with projected enrollment growth. Current enrollment projections forecast that within two years, the number of students will exceed the number of seats available countywide at all levels. Even with the projected opening of high school #13 in 2023 and the addition at Hammond High School, capacity will be insufficient at the high school level by 328 seats. Additionally, elementary school capacity is projected to be insufficient by 694 seats in the 2023-2024 school year.

It is the understanding of the Board of Education of Howard County (the Board) that the purpose of the Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance (APFO) is to allow public facilities, like the Howard County Public School System, sufficient time and financing to have commensurate capital infrastructure growth to meet projected population needs.

The current four-year APFO wait time has not been sufficient to enable the school system to plan, develop, finance, and build additional infrastructure. For this reason, the Board encourages the passage of CB17 to extend the current APFO wait times.

The Board recognizes that in order for the school system to provide seats for our students, there needs to be continued commitment to:

1. Land acquisition,
2. Capital funding, and
3. Adequate time to build capital infrastructure.

The passage of CB17 would address one of these three components. The Board looks forward to our continued partnership with our county government to provide the best possible education for all our students. We can do this better, together, if we have additional time to provide adequate public facilities.

## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** Kirsten Coombs <Kirsten\_Coombs@hcpss.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 29, 2019 8:50 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Cc:** BoE Email; Danielle Lueking; Mark Blom  
**Subject:** APFO  
**Attachments:** APFO.docx

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Attached is the Board's testimony.

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