

Sayers, Margery

From: fivefingersdavis@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Rosemary Davis
<fivefingersdavis@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 20, 2022 5:30 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Expand enhanced school-based mental health services to ALL Howard County public schools

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing in strong support of bringing enhanced mental health supports to ALL Howard County public schools.

As you know, all schools in Howard County have a standard set of mental health services available to students but only about 60 percent of schools have an enhanced set of supports that includes 1:1 counseling services – offered to students, with parent permission, by licensed professionals during the school day. County Executive Dr. Calvin Ball has promised \$1 million in funding for mental health, along with nearly \$1 million in philanthropic support from the Horizon Foundation and the Kahlert Foundation, to bolster this program. These investments will help bring these enhanced mental health supports to all Howard County public schools over the next two years. We urge you to protect and expand funding for this important program in this year's budget to ensure this gets done.

This program eliminates many barriers to students getting the help they need. Parents in these schools don't need to take off work to get their child to treatment, and students don't have to miss a bunch of instructional time waiting for and traveling to and from appointments. Nationally, more than 70 percent of students receiving mental health services access them in the school setting. Howard County must not fall behind, especially in this time of great stress and anxiety for our students.

We want every child in Howard County to have all the tools they need to thrive inside and outside of the classroom. After nearly two years of this pandemic, our students need these mental health supports more than ever. We strongly urge you to protect and expand funding for these enhanced school-based mental health services.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Rosemary Davis
5375 5 Fingers Way Columbia, MD 21045-2352 fivefingersdavis@gmail.com

Sayers, Margery

From: bestmadelemonade@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of fran terry
<bestmadelemonade@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 20, 2022 5:07 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Expand enhanced school-based mental health services to ALL Howard County public schools

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
fran terry
10837 Braeburn Rd Columbia, MD 21044-4025 bestmadelemonade@gmail.com

Sayers, Margery

From: ayman@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Ayman Nassar
<ayman@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 20, 2022 4:30 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Expand enhanced school-based mental health services to ALL Howard County public schools

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Howard County Council,

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Ayman Nassar
3290 Pine Orchard Ln Ellicott City, MD 21042-2374 ayman@islamicleadership.org

Sayers, Margery

From: jessamined@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jessamine Duvall
<jessamined@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 20, 2022 9:07 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Expand enhanced school-based mental health services to ALL Howard County public schools

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing in strong support of bringing enhanced mental health supports to ALL Howard County public schools.

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Jessamine Duvall
6660 Dovecote Dr Columbia, MD 21044-4107 jessamined@gmail.com



LONG REACH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
6110 FORELAND GARTH, COLUMBIA MD 21045
410-730-8113 • LONGREACH.ORG
Tina Addo, Executive Director

Nina Basu, Chair • Ed Coleman, Vice-Chair • Reginald Avery • Josh Friedman • Dave Wissing

March 17, 2022

County Executive Calvin Ball
George Howard Building
3430 Court House Drive
Ellicott City, MD 21043

Dear County Executive Ball,


The Long Reach Village Board is writing in support of the inclusion of money specifically for the renovations and improvements of Jeffers Hill Elementary School. Long Reach Community Association (LRCA) represents nearly 17,000 community members and many of these families are from the Jeffers Hill and Kendall Ridge neighborhoods with children who attend Jeffers Hill Elementary School. The Village Board has heard from residents that the renovation of Jeffers Hill Elementary is long overdue. In addition, the renovation is an important part of the revitalization of Long Reach.

Jeffers Hill was built in 1975 and had some building modifications in 1999. After Jeffers Hill was placed on the Long-Range Master Plan 2010 for renovations in 2018, the planned year for the renovations was consistently pushed back year after year until 2028 and then last year when it was removed from the list. It was placed back onto the Long-Range Master Plan this year, but the planned year for the renovation is now 2031. If this date were to hold and not be pushed back further as it has been in the past, this will mean Jeffers Hill will be at least 56 years old before it is finally renovated. We are asking you on behalf of our community members and the children and staff at Jeffers Hill that you prioritize funding for Jeffers Hill Elementary School's renovations.

Jeffers Hill students and staff deserve to learn and work in a building that breeds a sense of pride and innovation. The look of any school can be a reflection of the community it serves. Jeffers Hill has been overlooked and the building reflects it.

The Long Reach Village Board respectfully requests the Howard County Executive include money in the 2023 Capital Budget for the renovations of Jeffers Hill Elementary School to allow the much-needed renovations and improvements at Jeffers Hill to be undertaken.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

FOF5EF3262DC401...

Edward Coleman
Board Vice Chair

Tina Addo
Executive Director

Sayers, Margery

From: Leah Miller <leahandmike28@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, March 25, 2022 10:27 AM
To: Budget Testimony; CouncilMail; Hira, Safa
Subject: Budget testimony in support of funding request for CEI

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Howard County Executive Ball, County Council Members, and County Leadership,

My name is Michael Miller. I live in the Hickory Ridge area of Columbia. I am providing testimony in support of the Community Ecology Institute (CEI) for inclusion in the county's operating budget at a significant level. I am a volunteer with CEI, primarily helping with property management at Freetown Farm. In addition, my family participates regularly in the Community of Families in Nature programs to engage kids and their families in fully experiencing all of the amazing natural areas Howard County has to offer. As you probably know, CEI is a unique organization that is successfully bringing together diverse and often under-served communities to achieve climate adaptation and resiliency, deep and meaningful environmental education, true equity, and healthy and thriving communities and nature.

I am continually impressed that CEI was able to bring so many diverse segments of the Howard County community together just three years ago to purchase and preserve the 6-acre Freetown Farm. And then, even through all the challenges posed by the pandemic, CEI was able to grow and distribute thousands of pounds of fresh, healthy produce and engage hundreds of children, families, and individuals in meaningful environmental education and restoration experiences – all without any indoor space or bathroom facilities.

CEI is now about to begin construction of its Community Ecology Center, which will allow for even more year-round, all-weather programming and community connection while better serving all Howard County residents regardless of age, physical abilities, or other challenges that may require the use of indoor space, heating and air conditioning, electricity and plumbing.

With the new facilities and other new programming already underway, CEI needs increased support from the county now more than ever. With the staff, materials, and outreach support this funding will provide, CEI will continue to serve even more county residents from all walks of life, all income levels, all background and will be even better positioned to further the county's priorities of thriving and healthy communities and a clean and sustainable environment. Please continue to support CEI in the 2023 operational budget at the requested funding level.

Thank you so much for your support and dedication to the needs of county residents like myself.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Miller

Sayers, Margery

From: Tameka Walker <cfin@cei.earth>
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2022 4:04 PM
To: Budget Testimony; CouncilMail; Hira, Safa
Subject: CSP Grant Testimony Letter: Community Ecology Institute

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

March 23, 2022

Dear Howard County Executive Ball, County Council Members, and County Leadership,

My name is Tameka Walker, I live in Ellicott City, and am providing testimony in support of the Community Ecology Institute (CEI) for robust inclusion in the county's operating budget. My relationship with CEI goes back to 2018 when I first began regularly attending the organization's flagship Columbia Families in Nature (CFIN) events with my family. Since then, my family has regularly volunteered at Freetown Farm and we have attended field trips there both in our previous homeschool co-op and currently at the school my children attend. Last fall, I had the immense privilege to be part of the first training cohort of Nourishing Gardens, CEI's fantastic gardening training program that helps install food and flower gardens for community members across Howard County. In late 2021, my connection to CEI deepened even further as I joined the staff as the program coordinator of CFIN, the program that originally led my family to the organization four years ago. I am grateful to be connected to CEI—it is a unique local success story and is making rapid strides towards fulfilling its mission to cultivate communities where people and nature thrive together by working towards tangible, community-level change at the many intersections of environment, education, equity and health.

My many experiences with CEI have made it very clear that it is a unique organization providing meaningful programming, resources, support, and education to a multigenerational and culturally/ethnically diverse community, regardless of socioeconomic status. The Community Ecology Institute is a gem that is highly reflective of Howard County itself—"a place that makes everyone feel at home". Moreover, all of CEI's initiatives promote the well-being of participants and the environment, which connects the organization directly to Howard County government's core principle and objective of improving the quality of life for all residents.

Within my family alone, three generations of Howard County residents have greatly enjoyed and benefited from experiences in nature through the Community Ecology Institute. Visiting Freetown Farm, exploring in the woods, and learning from "Miss Chiara" are some of my children's absolute favorite things to do. My husband has eagerly volunteered at the farm and is looking forward to being part of the Nourishing Gardens cohort this spring. My father-in-law has greatly enjoyed his time on the farm and we have all benefitted from the bounty of the NAACP garden. It is refreshing to have a space that uplifts and invites historically underserved community members and provides space for their meaningful, healing experiences in nature.

CEI is a highly unifying organization as well. My experience with Nourishing Gardens, for example, is a wonderful demonstration of diverse people of various ages and backgrounds coming together to better themselves, their families, and the community at large while benefiting the environment. The experiences we shared and the skills we gained were truly invaluable, and it is incredible to see how, even just a few months

after our 10-week training, cohort members have built upon the Nourishing Gardens foundation to expand their gardening work and help others in the community.

I have been very encouraged to experience how CEI provides excellent services to the community regardless of socioeconomic status. It is refreshing to lead with that value in mind now that I am the program coordinator of CFIN. During registration, families are able to easily choose a heavily discounted rate or receive full sponsorship if they are in financial need. The smiles I see on children's faces and the twinkle in their eyes as they make a new discovery during one of our nature events is truly beautiful and it is heartening to know that the experience is available to any family in the community, even if they are facing financial hardship.

The Community Ecology Institute offers unique and unparalleled services to the community that weave perfectly with Howard County's goals and principles. The county's continued support of CEI at the requested funding level would directly touch not only my family, but countless people in our community who also benefit from this indispensable organization.

Thank you so much for your consideration and continued support of The Community Ecology Institute!

Best,

Tameka Walker
A Community of Families in Nature
CFIN Program Coordinator

February 13, 2022

To Whom it May Concern,

The 2021-22 academic year has demonstrated the extraordinary burdens now placed on school nurses and health assistants within the Howard County Public School System. We started this year with a nurse-to-student ratio of approximately 1:890, well below recommended practice of at least 1:500¹ and less than neighboring school systems such as Prince George's (1:693), Harford (1:652), Baltimore (1:647), and Carroll (1:562)². This existing structural deficit has only been exacerbated by COVID-related absences among existing staff and a nationwide nursing staff shortage that has reduced the pool of job candidates and substitutes. As a result, our health services staff have struggled all year to carry the many burdens of the ongoing pandemic in addition to their normal day-to-day workload.

Thankfully between the existing ESSER grant funds and the Superintendent's Proposed 2022-23 Operating Budget, there is now a line of sight to permanent health services staffing improvements in the future. ESSER funds cover approximately 6 full time employees (5 nurses and 1 health assistant), while the proposed budget adds 21 more FTE (5 nurses, 14 health assistants, and 2 specialists). These additional positions, if they can be filled, will bring the HCPSS nurse-to-student ratio closer to recommended levels and to that of neighboring districts. Importantly, these newly proposed positions will ensure that each and every school within the district can be staffed with a full-time nurse and a full-time health assistant, eliminating the need for cluster nurse arrangements and other compromises that negatively impact the health and wellness of our student population.

The Superintendent's Proposed Budget thus represents a good foundation for further improvements, and **under no circumstances should health services staffing be reduced below these proposed levels**. From this foundational level, however, there is much more that can still be done to improve HCPSS health service delivery, enhance the benefits delivered to students throughout the system, and reward our hard-working nurses and health assistants for their invaluable work. I ask that you consider the following two enhancements to the Superintendent's Proposed Budget:

- First, include 4 additional full time nurse positions to cover planned and unplanned absences. As total staffing increases, more full time "float" nurses are required to provide regular coverage. Substitutes and contractors are difficult to find on short notice and are not as invested in the success of HCPSS, so do not offer a good long-term solution.
- Second, include additional funding for salary increases, overtime, and bonus pay. This will be critical to reward current health services staff, ensure strong staff retention, and

¹ This is a conservative target, given the position of the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American School Health Association, and the National Association of School Nurses, who recommend one nurse for every five hundred students even in schools with mild health complications. In actuality, no HCPSS school meets the definition of "mild" so the need for school nurses is even greater.

² https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/cm/2019/20191125/20191125_HHSEC1.pdf

enable HCPSS to attract qualified job candidates in a highly competitive labor environment.

With these budget and staffing enhancements, the Howard County Public School System will be able to improve and sustain its health services at a level more appropriate to the actual needs of our student population.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Stephen Pantano

Submitted by email:

- Howard County Council: councilmail@howardcountymd.gov
- Mr. Calvin Ball: cball@howardcountymd.gov
- Howard County Board of Education, boe@hcpss.org,
- Dr. Michael Martirano superintendent@hcpss.org,

Sayers, Margery

From: April Harrison <April_Harrison@hcpss.org>
Sent: Thursday, November 18, 2021 8:42 AM
To: Emily Steele; BoE Email; superintendent@hcpss.org; CouncilMail; Ball, Calvin
Subject: RE: [External] Funding is necessary for HCPSS Special Ed Support Positions

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Thank you for contacting the Board of Education and the Office of the Superintendent. I am confirming receipt of your email and that your comments have been received.

Best,

April Harrison
Administrator
Board of Education of Howard County
410-313-7194

From: Emily Steele <emilysteele725@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 17, 2021 4:53 PM
To: BoE Email <boe@hcpss.org>; Superintendent <superintendent@hcpss.org>; councilmail@howardcountymd.gov; cball@howardcountymd.gov
Subject: [External] Funding is necessary for HCPSS Special Ed Support Positions

! CAUTION: This email originated from outside of HCPSS. Do not click links or open attachments, unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Howard County Decision Makers,

I am writing because Special Ed support positions are some of the most difficult jobs in the Howard County Public School System and they're also some of the lowest paid. Many of these employees are not even school system employees and are working for barely above minimum wage with no benefits.

These employees are working with some of our most vulnerable students, many unable to speak for themselves. It is unconscionable that the employees who care day in and day out for these children are paid poverty level wages and are not given benefits. Even student assistants and paraeducators, who are HCPSS employees, are paid far less than a livable wage. This is unacceptable.

We know from hearing from ESAs that these jobs are extremely challenging. Some children frequently hit, elope, and generally demand 110% from their caregivers. Yet HCPSS doesn't feel that these positions deserve a livable wage. It's no wonder that there's a severe shortage of people willing to apply for these jobs.

I urge you, please, make all support staff positions full HCPSS employees, with benefits and a livable wage. Our most vulnerable students need and deserve staff that feel like they are justly compensated for the work they do and given benefits and paid sick days as well.

Sincerely,
Emily Steele
Columbia, MD

Sayers, Margery

From: Shannon Schneider <dr.shannon@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 30, 2021 12:32 PM
To: BOE@hcpss.org
Cc: Ball, Calvin; superintendent@hcpss.org; CouncilMail
Subject: Dunloggin Middle School Renovations

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear HCPSS Board of Education, Superintendent Dr. Martirano, and County Executive Dr. Ball,

DMS needs help. Now. Decades ago.

Please do not postpone the renovations. In fact, if at all possible, accelerate the work.

Dunloggin is a fine school, but sorely lacking in updating.

The bathrooms are so horrendous, my sons and many other children hold off on their biological needs until they get home. Holding their bathroom needs for 7 hours is NOT healthy. They also need better bathroom accommodations for the boys with regard to privacy. The boys have no privacy at the urinals. There are only 2 enclosed stalls. This is unacceptable. These children need their dignity and their privacy. We have progressed in our respect for children's right to bodily integrity. Honestly, we could use more "everyone" (non-gendered) bathrooms.

They have no natural light. It seems so dark in there.

The hallways are CROWDED. The school is highly overcrowded. It is unsafe. It is overwhelming. It is unfair to these children. (Having the shadow of a pandemic hanging over us doesn't help either. Crowds, throngs after being so careful for 18 months! Very shocking and anxiety inducing.) The cafeteria is overcrowded, so I have been told they were going to have trouble seating them if they used the needed plexiglass to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. I have been pulling them for lunch if they cannot eat outside. What about all the other children?

The technology is woefully outdated, so they cannot even use their television system for announcements. The elephantine televisions are the stuff of technology museum artifacts. The poor technology was on display even at parent orientations when we could not even understand the administration's recorded speech.

The science classrooms are missing sinks! This is inconvenient at best, at worst dangerous.

We have had portables for years and years, now up to 5 of them. Unacceptable. I will spare you all the reasons we do not want portables because you probably know them all.

The orchestra has NO room. As an audiologist, a former HCPSS band student myself, it is very upsetting. They are relegated along with language studies to portables, which would not be a great place auditorily for anyone to play music or learn a language. The acoustics are not designed for it. The small space creates a dangerous decibel environment for the children (bands/orchestras are supposed to have larger spaces to help alleviate the risk of over exposure to hazardous volumes in small ears.) We want to keep ears healthy, so they should not be crowded into a tiny space where they barely have room to move, let alone play!

We need better acoustic treatment throughout the school. How can we make the classrooms, cafeterias, gyms, and hallways quieter, which would help all the children with hearing or attention deficits...and all the other children too.

There is one water refilling station in the whole building. We need more.

Originally this school's desperately needed work was slated for 2019. Now the work won't be done until 2027. We moved here in 2010. We had our first child at DMS 3 years ago. My twins just began this fall. We will miss all the benefits of this renovation.

We can do better.
DMS needs your help. Now. Decades ago. Please.

Shannon Schneider, Au.D.
Mother of 3 Dunloggin Middle School students

Note: this was written prior to your last meeting but I missed the deadline to send. Though late, it is no less true. So for what it's worth... thank you for all you can do to improve the daily learning environment of our children!

Sayers, Margery

From: Temitayo Lewis <thelewismanagement@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 23, 2021 6:51 PM
To: BOE@hcpss.org; superintendent@hcpss.org; CouncilMail; Ball, Calvin
Subject: Dunloggin MS / / FY 2023 Capital Budget - Keep our place in line

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Hello,

Please renovate Dunloggin as planned. If the last renovation was in 1999, which was not even a major renovation, I am unsure what could be more important now to shift the date and divert funds elsewhere. I work for FDA and the government is always working and making sure we have a good working space but we struggled with making sure our children enjoy the same benefits. Please do not push the renovation date back any further and keep to the plan. Please keep Dunloggin in line to have a renovation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sade Lewis

Sayers, Margery

From: Brendan Gotowka <bgotowka@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 23, 2021 5:04 PM
To: BOE@hcpss.org; Ball, Calvin; superintendent@hcpss.org; CouncilMail
Cc: Emily Gotowka
Subject: Dunloggin MS / FY 2023 Capital Budget - Keep our place in line

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

To the BOE:

As a parent of two children assigned to Dunloggin Middle School, please keep our place in the FY23 capital budget line. We are not asking to move ahead, just keep our current place! Our community and schools (Northfield & Dunloggin) also support your entire plan.

Our children are finally back in the school building, please don't let the building itself fail our children! The school is in desperate need of renovation. Dunloggin MD has 5 portables, the bathrooms are a disgrace, and the building is falling apart.

A Concerned Parent
Brendan Gotowka

Sayers, Margery

From: Jaclyn Fuchs <jaclynfuchs1@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 23, 2021 2:54 PM
To: boe@hcpss.org; superintendent@hcpss.org; CouncilMail; Ball, Calvin
Subject: Capital Improvement Program

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Hello,

I am writing in strong support of the 5-yr Capital Improvement Program and 10-yr long-range master plan where Dunloggin Middle is next in line for the desperately needed additions designed to add 233 seats. As we have learned this past 1.5 yrs, schools provide critical growth support for children and space within school is necessary for health and mental well-being. I realize many schools need upgrading; however, our community is extra strong, in part, because of the school community. The parents are engaged! The kids are engaged! The teachers and administrators are engaged! In short, Dunloggin students, parents and faculty deserve for this plan to be carried out. My daughter is scheduled to start Dunloggin in 3 years and I'm a bit blown away to learn that she could very well end up in a trailer in which case we are faced with the choice of sending her to private school. We moved to this community for the public schools. It is supposed to be the best in the state. We love this community and we want to be proud of it, including the school system. Please keep on schedule to finish this expansion and remodeling plan.

Sincerely,
Jaclyn (future Dunloggin parent)

Sayers, Margery

From: Fred Jorgensen <jorgensenfred@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 23, 2021 1:52 PM
To: BOE@hcpss.org
Cc: superintendent@hcpss.org; CouncilMail; Ball, Calvin
Subject: DMS Needs You to Support FY 2023 Budget As-Is

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Good afternoon!

I'd like to thank you in advance for providing the maximum support possible for Dunloggin Middle School's badly needed renovation vis-a-vis the Superintendent's FY23 budget.

In the spirit of equity, we look forward to the County affording the DMS children the same caliber learning environment as their peers enjoy at Burleigh Manor and other middle schools in the area.

Further, the current DMS facility simply cannot withstand its current enrollment and/or the growth anticipated - as things stand, the kids can barely pass each other in between classes due to the narrow hallways.

Thanks again for keeping DMS' place in line for badly needed funding and renovations.

Thank you,

Fred Jorgensen
3713 Ligon Road
Ellicott City, MD 21042

Sayers, Margery

From: NES PTA President <president@northfieldpta.org>
Sent: Thursday, September 23, 2021 1:22 PM
To: boe@hcpss.org; Ball, Calvin; CouncilMail; superintendent@hcpss.org
Subject: DMS renovation testimonies

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

September 22, 2021

Dunloggin Middle School PTA
9129 Northfield Rd
Ellicott City, MD 21042

Dear Howard County Board of Education,

Northfield Elementary School PTA is writing in support of the five-year Capital improvement program, and ten-year long-range master plan where Dunloggin MS is next in line for the desperately needed renovation/addition that will add 233 new seats. Currently, there are 5 portables so this addition is long overdue. This renovation and addition was originally scheduled to be completed in 2018, but here we are in 2021 and DMS is looking at another 6 years before it is scheduled to be completed. The current APFO chart shows the continued issue of overcrowding.

Dunloggin Middle School has not been renovated since its opening in 1973. DMS looks exactly the same as it did back when it opened according to parents who live in our community now and also attended DMS in the 70's. The planned renovations have been repeatedly postponed. Two portables at DMS have been there since at least 2009 when the current 7th graders were born. Five portables since 2014 when current 7th graders began Kindergarten.

Dunloggin Middle School is the oldest school that is also over capacity. DMS hallways are crowded, so much so, that staggered bell times are necessary in order for students to travel between class periods safely.

Bathrooms continue to be a uphill battle. Children at DMS choose to not go until they are home, which is not healthy, but also when they do go, they have to search for an open one which takes time. DMS ONLY has 8 student bathrooms (4 for girls and 4 for boys) in areas that are generally accessible to students (excluding health room and locker room). To put it in another perspective, there are only 7 toilets for over 300 female students.

Orchestra does not have a proper designated rehearsal space and has been in a crowded portable for at least 5 years. One year they had class in the cafeteria. There are science classrooms without sinks. Too few classrooms, so teachers are having to share classrooms and creating floating teachers. Only one art room. Classrooms are too small for the number of students per class. Extremely outdated technology & CRT TV's that do not work anymore.

While it would be nice to accelerate the overdue and needed renovation of DMS, we know that request is far-fetched. Dunloggin Middle School PTA is simply asking to keep its position with a completion date of 2027. We would also like to add that we are ONE school system. We are ONE county. We are ONE commUNITY. While DMS deserves renovation and additions, so do all the other schools that have millions of deferred maintenance and outdated HVAC, etc. Communities shouldn't have to battle to be the loudest heard to get what all schools already deserve!

Sincerely,

Meghan Leimenstoll
NES PTA President
Future DMS parent

--
Sent from Gmail Mobile

Sayers, Margery

From: Meghan Leimenstoll <meghanleimenstoll@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 23, 2021 1:21 PM
To: CouncilMail; Ball, Calvin; boe@hcpss.org; superintendent@hcpss.org
Subject: DMS renovation testimonies

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

September 22, 2021

Dunloggin Middle School PTA
9129 Northfield Rd
Ellicott City, MD 21042

Dear Howard County Board of Education,

Northfield Elementary School PTA is writing in support of the five-year Capital improvement program, and ten-year long-range master plan where Dunloggin MS is next in line for the desperately needed renovation/addition that will add 233 new seats. Currently, there are 5 portables so this addition is long overdue. This renovation and addition was originally scheduled to be completed in 2018, but here we are in 2021 and DMS is looking at another 6 years before it is scheduled to be completed. The current APFO chart shows the continued issue of overcrowding.

Dunloggin Middle School has not been renovated since its opening in 1973. DMS looks exactly the same as it did back when it opened according to parents who live in our community now and also attended DMS in the 70's. The planned renovations have been repeatedly postponed. Two portables at DMS have been there since at least 2009 when the current 7th graders were born. Five portables since 2014 when current 7th graders began Kindergarten.

Dunloggin Middle School is the oldest school that is also over capacity. DMS hallways are crowded, so much so, that staggered bell times are necessary in order for students to travel between class periods safely.

Bathrooms continue to be a uphill battle. Children at DMS choose to not go until they are home, which is not healthy, but also when they do go, they have to search for an open one which takes time. DMS ONLY has 8 student bathrooms (4 for girls and 4 for boys) in areas that are generally accessible to students (excluding health room and locker room). To put it in another perspective, there are only 7 toilets for over 300 female students.

Orchestra does not have a proper designated rehearsal space and has been in a crowded portable for at least 5 years. One year they had class in the cafeteria. There are science classrooms without sinks. Too few classrooms, so teachers are having to share classrooms and creating floating teachers. Only one art room. Classrooms are too small for the number of students per class. Extremely outdated technology & CRT TV's that do not work anymore.

While it would be nice to accelerate the overdue and needed renovation of DMS, we know that request is far-fetched. Dunloggin Middle School PTA is simply asking to keep its position with a completion date of 2027. We would also like to add that we are ONE school system. We are ONE county. We are ONE commUNITY. While DMS deserves renovation and additions, so do all the other schools that have millions of deferred maintenance and outdated HVAC, etc. Communities shouldn't have to battle to be the loudest heard to get what all schools already deserve!

Sincerely,

Meghan Leimenstoll
NES PTA President
Future DMS parent

Sayers, Margery

From: Jessica N Eng <eng.jessica@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 23, 2021 12:52 PM
To: BOE@hcpss.org
Cc: superintendent@hcpss.org; CouncilMail; Ball, Calvin
Subject: Dunloggin Middle School Renovation - Keep it a Priority!

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Board Members,

I am the parent of two young children zoned to attend Dunloggin Middle School.

Please keep the school renovation project a priority. In your capital budget approval, please keep Dunloggin's place in line. My children are 4 and 6 years old. Please keep this renovation in your long-term plan on schedule and on time.

Dunloggin MS is next in line for the desperately needed renovation / addition that will add 233 new seats. Currently, there are 5 portables so this addition is long overdue, so long that it was originally scheduled to be completed in 2019. But here we are in 2021 and now completion is scheduled for 2027, almost a decade later.

Please keep this project on schedule and on time. Keep its current priority in line. With the way construction projects work, the renovation will help alleviate overcrowding and keep up with wear and tear on the buildings.

Thank you,

Jessica Eng

Sayers, Margery

From: J J <jerry@jjey.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 23, 2021 12:29 PM
To: BOE@hcpss.org
Cc: CouncilMail; Ball, Calvin; superintendent@hcpss.org
Subject: Keep fiscal priority for Dunloggin middle school renovation project

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear board members,

My name is Jerry Jiang and I am a resident in the Dunloggin neighborhood. Both my kids attended (one of them is still in) Dunloggin Middle school.

DMS needs a renovation for a very long time. Compared to neighboring middle schools, it is really old both in the building and the technical equipment. There are several portables behind the school that have been there as long as I can remember. As more and more kids are assigned to DMS, it is getting more and more crowded. There was a minor improvement done in 1999, but it was ONLY a ceiling/lighting/hvac project. DMS needs to increase the capacity and improve the building and equipment.

I know the plan for the DMS renovation was scheduled for 2019 but was pushed back to 2027 - almost a decade later. I understand current priorities are the new high school and Hammond high school renovation. There can be other priorities that come up along the way. Due to the current condition of DMS, I urge you to make sure the scheduled renovation is not pushed back further. All DMS kids really need it!

Thank you and let me know if you have any questions.

Jerry

Sayers, Margery

From: Karen McMorrow <kmcirish7@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 23, 2021 11:51 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Dunloggin Middle School Needs Renovations NOW

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Howard County Council,

Dunloggin Middle School needs your support in keeping them in their position for critically needed renovations.

I am in support of the five-year Capital improvement program, and ten-year long-range master plan where Dunloggin MS is next in line for the desperately needed renovation/addition that will add 233 new seats. Currently, there are 5 portables so this addition is long overdue. This renovation and addition was originally scheduled to be completed in 2018, but this is 2021, and DMS is looking at another 6 years before it is scheduled to be completed. The current APFO chart shows the continued issue of overcrowding.

Dunloggin Middle School has not been renovated since it opened in 1973. The planned renovations have been repeatedly postponed. Two portables at DMS have been there since 2009, five portables since 2014. EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) identified poor air quality in portables in 2019, prior to the pandemic, in a study.

Dunloggin Middle School is the oldest school that is also over capacity at >111%. DMS hallways are crowded, so much so, that staggered bell times are necessary in order for students to travel between class periods safely. Crowded hallways create unfair conditions for children with anxiety and become unsafe as children are accidentally pushed around. This also makes it a burden for children with special assistive walking equipment. There have already been physical fights this year due to kids bumping each other in the hallway due to lack of walking space.

The bathroom situation is inexcusable. Many children at DMS choose to not use the bathroom until they are home which causes bladder and bowel retention. DMS ONLY has 8 student bathrooms (4 for girls and 4 for boys) in areas that are generally accessible to students (excluding health room and locker room). To put it in another perspective, there are only **7 toilets for over 300 female students**. Female middle school students are experiencing adolescent development like having their menstrual cycle for the first time and changing pads and tampons take time, longer than the 2 minutes allocated between classes as they scramble to find an open stall.

There are science classrooms without sinks which is a safety risk. Orchestra does not have a proper designated rehearsal space and has been in a crowded portable for at least 5 years. There are too few classrooms, so teachers are having to share classrooms and creating floating teachers. DMS has only one art room. Classrooms are too small for the number of students per class, especially during a pandemic. The technology is extremely outdated & several CRT TV's that do not work.

I ask that Dunloggin Middle School PTA keep its position with a renovation completion date of 2027 or sooner. Do not bump DMS as these renovations have a direct impact on our students ability to learn.

Please advocate for Dunloggin Middle School Renovations !!
Dr. Daniel and Karen Biederman RN, MS

Sayers, Margery

From: Kristine Parbuoni <kristine.rapan@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 23, 2021 10:52 AM
To: boe@hcpss.org
Cc: superintendent@hcpss.org; CouncilMail; Ball, Calvin;
courtney.watson@house.state.md.us; katiefry.hester@senate.state.md.us
Subject: Dunloggin MS Renovations

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Howard County Board of Education,

As a resident in Howard County and parent of two children in the Howard County Public School System (one at Northfield Elementary and one at Dunloggin Middle School), I am writing to voice my support of the superintendent's proposed capital budget and capital improvement plan where Dunloggin MS is next in line for desperately needed renovations/addition.

These renovations, which were initially identified as necessary and included in the FY 2012 budget and slated for completion in 2018 have been delayed year after year. Dunloggin MS is overcrowded (currently at 111% capacity) and the 2020 and 2021 feasibility studies recommended an additional 100 seats be provided by 2024 (was ~ 100 seats from 2013-2019, now 233 seats are needed). Unfortunately, the budgets do not provide funding for these renovations for occupancy until 2027 so the capacity will continue to worsen. Dunloggin MS will be over 50 years old by that time (opened in 1973) without any renovations over those 50 years.

The community of Dunloggin has outgrown the school. The hallways are crowded and the lack of a sufficient number of bathrooms is inexcusable. Middle school is the time when our children are going through puberty, which means girls will inevitably need to use the restroom to address their period. Having only seven bathrooms for over 300 female students is not enough. Delaying use of the restroom is also unhealthy for our children and leads to constipation, urinary tract infections, anxiety, and poor hygiene. Since the school year began, my daughter has not used the bathroom and waits the seven hours of school time until she can use the restroom at home. We are fortunate to live close enough to the school to be a short walk home. I can't imagine what she would do if she needed to wait for a bus ride home. I know she will eventually need to use the facilities there, I hope she is able to find an open bathroom when the time comes.

We moved to Howard County primarily for the top ranked school system, and have been very happy with the wonderful teachers our children have had over the years. I'm impressed with how the teachers and students have adapted to their environment, but I wish the buildings and facilities they worked in were not a hindrance to the teaching and learning. At Back to School Night, I was shocked that the classrooms were so small for the number of students and that some teachers even have to share classrooms as they don't have enough.

While my children will have already moved on to high school by the time any renovations are completed, for the sake of the children in our community, I implore you to keep Dunloggin MS in its position (next in line for renovations).

Renovations to Dunloggin MS can not be pushed back any further!

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Kristine Parbuoni

Sayers, Margery

From: Emily Gotowka <emilygotowka@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 23, 2021 10:29 AM
To: BOE@hcpss.org
Cc: superintendent@hcpss.org; CouncilMail; Ball, Calvin
Subject: Dunloggin MS / FY 2023 Capital Budget - Keep our place in line

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

To the BOE:

As a parent of children assigned to Dunloggin Middle School, please keep our place in the FY23 capital budget line. We are not asking to move ahead, just keep our current place! We support your entire plan.

The school is in desperate need of renovation. Dunloggin MD has 5 portables, the bathrooms are a disgrace, and the building is falling apart. Our children are finally back in the school building, please don't let the building itself fail our children.

A Concerned Parent
Emily Gotowka

Sayers, Margery

From: Melissa Helicke <mhelicke@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 23, 2021 9:38 AM
To: BOE@hcpss.org
Cc: superintendent@hcpss.org; CouncilMail; Ball, Calvin; Melissa Helicke
Subject: Dunloggin Middle School renovation

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

By email:
To: BOE@hcpss.org

Cc: Superintendent@hcpss.org

councilmail@howardcountymd.gov

Cball@howardcountymd.gov

Dear county and school leaders,

I am writing to support the decision to keep Dunloggin in its current place for full renovation and expansion. I support the five-year Capital improvement program, and ten-year long-range master plan where Dunloggin MS is next in line for the desperately needed renovation / addition that will add 233 new seats. This renovation has been postponed and postponed and is well overdue.

I have had 2 children graduate from DMS (Ethan in 2018 and Sam in 2021. Both now at WLHS) and my 3rd child, Joshua, will enter Dunloggin in 2023. The teachers are outstanding. The facility is dreadful.

The school desperately needs expansion and renovation:

1. It is overcrowded. I urge you to stand in the hallways around the library when the kids change classes and experience it for yourself. It is nearly impassable. I genuinely worry what might happen if there were a true emergency that required immediate evacuation. The school is already on a staggered bell system so that not all kids pass at the same time. But this mitigation is insufficient. Sam's strategy was to find a 'big kid' and tail behind him to help push through the crowd to get to class without being trampled and get to class on time. This is not an exaggeration.
2. It is overcrowded. It has had portables since 2009. 12 years. It has had other portables since 2014. 7 years.
3. It is overcrowded. There are not enough restrooms for boys or for girls.
4. It is overcrowded. There is insufficient space for orchestra
5. It is overcrowded. There aren't enough science rooms so some science classes are held in rooms without water or sinks
6. It is outdated. The technology is outdated. There are tube TVs in the classrooms seem to be from the previous century.
7. It is outdated. It has few windows, is drab and depressing.
8. It is outdated. The bathrooms are abysmal. Both of my kids refused to use them. They "held it" all day for 3 years. My kids talked often about the water from the sinks coming out brown. Not light brown. True brown. It would seem to get fixed, then come back. The bathrooms are so awful that the PTA raised funds and parents renovated the bathrooms ourselves (just before COVID). Parents painted, changed mirrors and more. This is not how parents should be spending their time or money.

9. It is outdated. It is nearly 50 years and has never had a material renovation. All previous renovations were mechanical/infrastructure.

I will end my email with a story. I vividly remember attending DMS back to school night for Ethan in 2017. 4 years ago. On the way out, I asked Dr. Fink, then principal, if the school was due for renovation. He told me then that a renovation was indeed planned, but that Ethan would not benefit. And then he said joyfully, "but your Kindergartener will!" That kindergartener, Joshua, is now in 4th grade and at this pace, the renovation won't be complete for him either.

Please act. Please expand and renovate Dunloggin.

Please see graphic below of the Dunloggin renovation timeline as the community has gathered based on publicly available documents.

Thank you.

Respectfully,
Melissa Helicke
410-258-4752



Sayers, Margery

From: Leah Ruffner <Imatney@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 22, 2021 11:21 PM
To: boe@hcpss.org
Cc: superintendent@hcpss.org; CouncilMail; Ball, Calvin
Subject: Dunloggin MS Upgrades

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Re: Dunloggin Middle School/FY 2023 Capital Budget

Good Evening,

We would like to formally request that Dunloggin Middle School remain at the TOP of the list for proposed upgrades as nothing major has been done with this school for the most part since the 1970s and is in desperate need. Our son just finished 3 years of attending there and our daughter is scheduled to be there in 5 years. Overcrowding is already a major problem with the numerous portable buildings and the 'tiredness' of the facilities only make students/staff less inspired to be present there. For teens, school can be tough enough at that age. Please do not delay this work further!

My family and I truly appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely, Leah & Eric Ruffner

Sayers, Margery

From: hellonurse22 <hellonurse22@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 22, 2021 8:14 PM
To: BOE@hcpss.org
Cc: superintendent@hcpss.org; CouncilMail; Ball, Calvin
Subject: Dunloggin Middle School / FY 2023 Capital Budget - Keep our place in line

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

To whom it may concern,

Please allow Dunloggin Middle School keep its place in line. My children will be students at DMS in 4 years. Please let us to keep our place in line.

Thank you,
Debra Berry

Sent from my iPhone

Sayers, Margery

From: Beth Connor <margeconnor615@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 22, 2021 6:00 PM
To: CouncilMail; Ball, Calvin
Subject: Capital Budget 2023 - Dunloggin Middle School

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

To Whom It May Concern,

Please keep our current place in line for renovation and repairs for our neighborhood school (DMS) in the 2023 Capital Budget. This is long overdue as our school is way over capacity and houses more portables than ever was intended.

Beth Connor
St. John's Community Association
President

Sayers, Margery

From: Antonette Rogers <delta427@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 22, 2021 5:56 PM
To: BOE@hcpss.org
Cc: superintendent@hcpss.org; CouncilMail; Ball, Calvin
Subject: Dunloggin Renovation

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Please keep Dunloggin in it's current position for renovations. The need to disrupt overcrowded classrooms now is more critical than ever - for health, safety and academics. Thank you for the consideration.

Best,

Antonette

Sent from [Outlook](#)

Sayers, Margery

From: Sunnie Kim <sunniejang@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 22, 2021 5:13 PM
To: BOE@hcpss.org
Cc: superintendent@hcpss.org; CouncilMail; Ball, Calvin
Subject: Dunloggin MS / FY 2023 Capital Budget - Keep our place in line

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Hello,

I am writing to ask that Dunloggin Middle School keep its place in line in the Capital Budget.

My oldest son will be entering 6th grade there next year and I am worried about the overcrowded classrooms and hallways, deteriorated conditions of restrooms, and the use of portables to accommodate the over capacity number of students.

I know that things won't be better for him but I hope that when my younger two children go to Dunloggin, that it will be a better space than it is for my oldest.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Lydia Sunnie Kim
3907 Spring Meadow Drive
Ellicott City, MD 21042

Sayers, Margery

From: Kathleen T Walch <kath0134@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 22, 2021 1:36 PM
To: boe@hcpss.org
Cc: superintendent@hcpss.org; CouncilMail; Ball, Calvin
Subject: Keep Dunloggin MS on track for renovations

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Hi,

I am a mom to 2 daughters, one in First grade at Northfield ES and one that will be starting at NES next year.

Please keep Dunloggin MS in its current place in line for the much needed renovations it requires.

Thanks,
Kathleen Walch

Sayers, Margery

From: Valerie D Smith <vanity.phare@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 21, 2021 8:51 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: budgeting for OMHS deferred maintenance

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

I am a grandparent of two girls in Oakland Mills schools. One is in fifth grade at Stevens Forest Elementary, and her sister is in seventh grade at Oakland Mills Middle School.

I moved to Columbia with my husband eight years ago to be near my grand-kids. I had heard the hype about how Columbia was the dream community, planned around the ideals of racial, ethnic and economic equality and acceptance, and I was hooked. Too bad I didn't do more research. Too bad it's a lie.

Howard County is one of the wealthiest in the nation, we all know that. So it should not have come as a surprise to me that the wealthy people here control the development, including the school system, to suit themselves, and equality has nothing to do with it.

Oakland Mills has become the village where the poor, the disenfranchised people are housed, and their children are schooled. It's also the village where, despite the treatment by the ruling class, the ideals of racial, ethnic and income acceptance are practiced with dedication and determination by the teachers in the schools,.

The Superintendent's proposed capital budget and capital improvement program pushes off renovation of OMMS to a 2030 completion. It makes no mention of OMHS at all. The deferred renovations and maintenance on these two buildings make up 20 percent of the deferred renovations and maintenance across the entire system of over 70 buildings!

Please consider doing the right thing. Allot the necessary funds to OMMS and OMHS for much needed, overdue maintenance.

--

Valerie D Smith

Sayers, Margery

From: David Smith <acmdas@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 21, 2021 4:07 PM
To: boe@hcpss.org; CouncilMail; Ball, Calvin; katiefry.hester@senate.state.md.us; trent.kittleman@house.state.md.us; reid.novotny@house.state.md.us; Courtney.watson@house.state.md.us; clarence.lam@senate.state.md.us; eric.ebersole@house.state.md.us; Jessica.feldmark@house.state.md.us; terri.hill@house.state.md.us; guy.guzzone@senate.state.md.us; vanessa.atterbeary@house.state.md.us; shane.pendergrass@house.state.md.us; jen.terrasa@house.state.md.us; Lt.governor@maryland.gov; pfranchot@comp.state.md.us
Subject: Regarding Budgeting for OMHS Deferred Maintenance

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

I'm David Smith, I live in Oakland Mills, and I'm going to talk about our high school and middle school.

I want to brag a bit, and complain for a bit, and then, because I'm a retired consultant, make a recommendation.

I live here because two of my granddaughters live here. They live here because their mom decided that good schools – good schools with diverse student bodies – were a top priority for raising her girls.

We're proud that Oakland Mills Middle and High schools offer such quality education, and we're proud that their student bodies are so diverse - that they're composed of such a high proportion of underrepresented races and ethnicities and have the highest percentages of students receiving meal assistance in the county. We are proud of Oakland Mills and of Oakland Mills' schools.

Now for the complaint - we've been hearing about how our secondary schools need critical maintenance - \$111M for our High School - and the School Board hasn't even included it on the master plan to be done by fiscal 2030. That's just the beginning – it gets worse – but you know the details, so all I'm going to say now is that this looks bad - it looks very, very bad.

Here in Howard County we talk the talk about being committed to diversity and equity, but when it comes to walking the walk - like funding maintenance on the OM secondary schools, well, it doesn't look good. It looks like the newer, wealthier communities, the ones with less diversity and fewer disadvantaged students, get the Board's attention and the taxpayers' money.

If that doesn't sound good when I say it right now, imagine what it will sound like when the Baltimore Sun decides to do a hit piece on us with "hypocrisy" or worse in the headline. It just doesn't look good at all.

But I'm not a complainer – I'm a consultant and I have a recommendation. I'm confident that there's a perfectly good explanation for this situation, and what we've got here is a failure to communicate.

I'm sure that all the school board has to do, and do right away, is to explain, in detail, why things have gotten to this state, why it really isn't as bad as it looks, and what they have planned to set it right.

And not by saying that "the squeaky wheel gets the funding" and OM hasn't pushed hard enough to make the Board do the right thing. I'm sure that you're really much better managers than to fall back on that old saw.

And that's all I have to say about that.

Thank you

David Smith
6146 Commitment Court
Columbia, MD 21045

Sayers, Margery

From: Chao Wu <Chao_Wu@hcpss.org>
Sent: Saturday, September 4, 2021 11:51 AM
To: Nathan BrownEagle; BoE Email; CouncilMail; Ball, Calvin;
katiefry.hester@senate.state.md.us; trent.kittleman@house.state.md.us;
reid.novotny@house.state.md.us; Courtney.watson@house.state.md.us;
clarence.lam@senate.state.md.us; eric.ebersole@house.state.md.us;
Jessica.feldmark@house.state.md.us; terri.hill@house.state.md.us;
guy.guzzone@senate.state.md.us; vanessa.atterbeary@house.state.md.us;
shane.pendergrass@house.state.md.us; jen.terrasa@house.state.md.us;
lt.governor@maryland.gov; pfranchot@comp.state.md.us
Subject: Re: [External] Re: Fund the Deferred Maintenance for Oakland Mills Schools

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Hi Mr. BrownEagle,

Thanks for your email talking about the defered maintenance. It is both a problem for Oaklan Mill schools and the whole HCPSS system. The school board is paying close attention to this problem. I will give you some udpate on this.

1. Oakland Middle School is on top of our maitenance list. After the completion of High School 13, Hammond High School and Talbott Sprint ES in two years, it will be moved into the rennovation short list. This is in the latest HCPSS capital project plan.
2. The whole HCPSS is lacking money for rennovation.
3. Current schools are growing old quickly and need more money for maintenance, which aggregates the whole maintenance list all the time.
4. We need more school capacity (new schools) since our student population keeps growing fastest in the state. We are in a constant catching-up mode. Building new schools is very expensive and decreases the money for maitenance effort.

I am looking forward to a long term collobaroative effort between HCPSS, county and state to address these issues.

Best regards,

Chao

Chao Wu, Ph.D.
Chair, Board of Education of Howard County
www.hcpss.org

From: Nathan BrownEagle <nathan.s.browneagle@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, September 3, 2021 6:10 PM

To: BoE Email <boe@hcpss.org>; councilmail@howardcountymd.gov <councilmail@howardcountymd.gov>; cball@howardcountymd.gov <cball@howardcountymd.gov>; katiefry.hester@senate.state.md.us <katiefry.hester@senate.state.md.us>; trent.kittleman@house.state.md.us <trent.kittleman@house.state.md.us>; reid.novotny@house.state.md.us <reid.novotny@house.state.md.us>; Courtney.watson@house.state.md.us <Courtney.watson@house.state.md.us>; clarence.lam@senate.state.md.us <clarence.lam@senate.state.md.us>; eric.ebersole@house.state.md.us <eric.ebersole@house.state.md.us>; Jessica.feldmark@house.state.md.us <Jessica.feldmark@house.state.md.us>; terri.hill@house.state.md.us <terri.hill@house.state.md.us>; guy.guzzone@senate.state.md.us <guy.guzzone@senate.state.md.us>; vanessa.atterbeary@house.state.md.us <vanessa.atterbeary@house.state.md.us>; shane.pendergrass@house.state.md.us <shane.pendergrass@house.state.md.us>; jen.terrasa@house.state.md.us <jen.terrasa@house.state.md.us>; lt.governor@maryland.gov <lt.governor@maryland.gov>; pfranchot@comp.state.md.us <pfranchot@comp.state.md.us>

Subject: [External] Re: Fund the Deferred Maintenance for Oakland Mills Schools

! CAUTION: This email originated from outside of HCPSS. Do not click links or open attachments, unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good evening,

Please don't devalue the educational experience of the children of Oakland Mills. I grew up in Arizona and I have experienced what it's like when those in power, such as yourselves, choose to neglect a population of the community.

The deferred maintenance on Oakland Mills Middle and Oakland Mills High represents 20 percent of all deferred maintenance across the system. The students of Oakland Mills Middle and Oakland Mills High represent 3 percent of the HCPSS student body. The students of Oakland Mills Middle and Oakland Mills High are also more likely to be from racially and ethnically underrepresented backgrounds and are twice or more as likely to have financial challenges than the rest of the HCPSS student body. It is also morally responsible to stop making this 3 percent carry 20 percent of the burden of the deferred maintenance burden.

Thank you

Nathan BrownEagle

Sayers, Margery

From: Nathan BrownEagle <nathan.s.browneagle@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, September 3, 2021 6:11 PM
To: boe@hcpss.org; CouncilMail; Ball, Calvin; katiefry.hester@senate.state.md.us; trent.kittleman@house.state.md.us; reid.novotny@house.state.md.us; Courtney.watson@house.state.md.us; clarence.lam@senate.state.md.us; eric.ebersole@house.state.md.us; Jessica.feldmark@house.state.md.us; terri.hill@house.state.md.us; guy.guzzone@senate.state.md.us; vanessa.atterbeary@house.state.md.us; shane.pendergrass@house.state.md.us; jen.terrassa@house.state.md.us; lt.governor@maryland.gov; pfranchot@comp.state.md.us
Subject: Re: Fund the Deferred Maintenance for Oakland Mills Schools

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Good evening,

Please don't devalue the educational experience of the children of Oakland Mills. I grew up in Arizona and I have experienced what it's like when those in power, such as yourselves, choose to neglect a population of the community.

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Thank you

Nathan BrownEagle

Sayers, Margery

From: Jonathan Edelson <jledelson.omca@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 2, 2021 10:10 AM
To: Gmail 2
Subject: End Deferred Maintenance in Oakland Mills Now
Attachments: Def HVAC and Renovations.pdf; OMCA-Testimony_HCPSS-Capital-Budget-Capital-Improvement-Program-8_12_2021.pdf

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Good Morning:

Today, the Superintendent of the Howard County Public School System (HCPSS) will present his proposed capital budget and plan to the Howard County Board of Education. Unfortunately, that plan has excluded Oakland Mills High School for several years. Oakland Mills High School is nearly 50 years old. While it has received a couple of additions, the original part of the building has never undergone systemic renovation. It's HVAC and other systems are past their life expectancy, and in an HCPSS evaluation of facilities several years ago, they came to the following impact statement if the HVAC replacement is not completed: "Due to the fact that the system is old, obsolete and continues to be problematic we are unable to provide a conducive-learning environment to both the students and staff."

Since that assessment, deferred maintenance on Oakland Mills High School has ballooned to \$111 million, yet it has not appeared in an HCPSS capital plan. This, plus the \$51 million in deferred maintenance on Oakland Mills Middle next door represents 20 percent of all deferred maintenance across HCPSS. Furthermore, Oakland Mills High has more deferred maintenance than any other facility within HCPSS.

The residents of Oakland Mills and the nearly 2,000 families these two schools serve have had enough. On behalf of the nearly 10,000 members of the Oakland Mills Community Association, we are asking you to get involved and question these inequities in HCPSS capital planning as the budget makes its way through the county and state funding process.

For your information, I am attaching testimony delivered to the HCPSS Board of Education on August 12 as well as the most recent deferred maintenance spreadsheet I have received from the school system.

Thank you for your attention to this matter,

Jonathan Edelson
Chairman, Oakland Mills Community Association

Location	Last Replaced	Project Description	Year Deferred	Total Deferred Operating Cost	Total Deferred Capital Cost
Folly Quarter MS	2003	Replace admin Rooftop Unit	2017	\$200,000	
Lime Kiln MS	1999	Office rooftop unit	2015	\$220,000	
ARL	1986	Replace two Roof Top Units, RTU #1 and #10. (34 yo and leaking)		\$400,000	
Forest Ridge ES	1992	Two Boilers	2014	\$650,000	
ARL	1968	Major Heating Venilation and Air Conditioning renovation	2011		\$25,000,000
Bonnie Branch MS		Chiller			\$500,000
Bonnie Branch MS	1999	Systemic, Boiler, & HVAC Renovation (2022)	2015		\$11,000,000
Centennial HS	1977/1997	Renovation, Addition & HVAC Replacement (2024)	2009		\$90,450,000
Central Office	1980	Air Handler Units and Boiler	2010		\$10,000,000
Cradlerock ES/Lake Elkhorn MS		Heating Venilation and Air Conditioning System Replacement	2015		\$16,000,000
Dunloggin MS	1994	Replace Chiller			\$400,000
Dunloggin MS	1994	Replace Cooling Tower			\$200,000
Dunloggin MS		Renovation, Addition & HVAC Renovation (2020)			\$41,200,000
Elkridge ES		Renovation			\$50,336,000
Elkridge Landing MS	1995	Replace 2 Boilers			\$500,000
Elkridge Landing MS	1995	HVAC Replacement	2016		\$10,800,000
Ellicott Mills MS		Replace one chiller			\$500,000
Folly Quarter MS		Replace Chiller			\$500,000
Forest Ridge ES	1992	Heating Venilation and Air Conditioning System Renovation	2014		\$42,764,000
Fulton ES	1997	HVAC Replacement & Roof (2024)	2016		\$18,900,000
Gorman Crossing ES	1998	Replace 2 Boilers			\$500,000
Hammond ES/MS	1987	Boiler Replacement, includes pumps, valves and associated piping 2021	2009		\$500,000
Hammond MS		Renovation & HVAC Replacement (2025)			\$41,395,000
Harpers Choice MS	1994	Replace Chiller			\$500,000
Harpers Choice MS		Renovation & HVAC Replacement			\$17,196,000
Hollifield Station ES	1997	Renovation & HVAC Replacement (2025)	2016		\$8,800,000
Jeffers Hill ES	1974	Boiler Replacement, includes pumps, valves and associated piping	2016		\$500,000
Jeffers Hill ES	1998	Renovation & HVAC Replacement	2014		\$51,010,000
Lime Kiln MS	1999	Replace 2 Boilers			\$500,000

Location	Last Replaced	Project Description	Year Deferred	Total Deferred Operating Cost	Total Deferred Capital Cost
Long Reach HS		Replace 3 boilers	2016		\$1,500,000
Long Reach HS		Replace 2 chillers	2016		\$1,000,000
Long Reach HS		Heating Venilation and Air Conditioning system replacement	2016		\$38,000,000
Manor Woods ES	1994	Systemic HVAC Renovation (2022)	2015		\$10,600,000
Mayfield Woods MS	1991	Replace 2 Boilers			\$500,000
Mayfield Woods MS		Renovation			\$41,300,000
Murray Hill MS	1997	Replace 3 boilers	2016		\$750,000
Oakland Mills HS	1973	Renovation and HVAC Replacement (FY16 on CIP)	2009		\$110,682,000
Oakland Mills MS		Full Renovation (Proposes 2023)			\$51,210,000
Old Bushy Park	1976	Gas Conversion of Boiler burners	2009		\$650,000
Old Cedar Lane	1981	Replacement of Heating Venilation and Air Conditioning Equipment	2009		\$10,000,000
Patapsco MS	1996	Heating Venilation and Air Conditioning Control Project	2011		\$350,000
Patapsco MS	1996	Renovation & HVAC Replacement	2011		\$51,010,000
Pointers Run ES		Renovation			\$20,016,000
River Hill HS		Replace 6 boilers	2014		\$3,000,000
River Hill HS	1994	Two New Chillers	2014		\$1,000,000
St Johns Lane ES		Replace two boilers	2000		\$500,000
St Johns Lane ES		Replace one cooling tower	2000		\$200,000
St Johns Lane ES		Heating Venilation and Air Conditioning system renovation	2009		\$16,200,000
Wilde Lake HS	1996	Heating Venilation and Air Conditioning system renovation 5 boilers, 2 chillers and 2 rooftop units.	2015		\$5,500,000
				\$1,470,000	\$803,919,000
				OPERATING	CAPITAL



Oakland Mills Community Association
The Other Barn • 5851 Robert Oliver Place
Columbia, MD 21045
410-730-4610 • oaklandmills.org



August 12, 2021

Oakland Mills Community Association Testimony on the HCPSS Capital Budget and Capital Improvement Program

Good evening and thank you for this opportunity to discuss the school system's capital budget and capital improvement program. My name is Jonathan Edelson, and I am representing the nearly 10,000 members of the Oakland Mills Community Association.

During a recent Oakland Mills village board meeting, we were advised to be succinct and direct in our capital budget message. We were also told we must speak with a larger voice

Quite simply, over \$160 million dollars in deferred maintenance on two buildings, Oakland Mills Middle and Oakland Mills High, in the same cluster is unacceptable. These buildings have consistently been kept under capacity while the school system and county celebrate acquisition of land and new construction to expand capacity.

In Oakland Mills, we proudly proclaim that we are OM; we are strongest together. However, we have a smaller voice despite being surrounded by overcrowded middle and high schools. We don't determine how many families attend our schools. This is a disservice to both those who attend Oakland Mills schools and those who continue to attend neighboring overcrowded schools.

It would be fiscally responsible to use your existing facilities to their maximum capacity and to prevent your structures from declining to the point that the deferred repairs cost more than entirely new buildings.

The deferred maintenance on Oakland Mills Middle and Oakland Mills High represents 20 percent of all deferred maintenance across the system. The students of Oakland Mills Middle and Oakland Mills High represent 3 percent of the HCPSS student body. The students of Oakland Mills Middle and Oakland Mills High are also more likely to be from racially and ethnically underrepresented backgrounds and are twice or more as likely to have financial challenges than the rest of the HCPSS student body. It is also morally responsible to stop making this 3 percent carry 20 percent of the burden of the deferred maintenance burden.

So, to put it very succinctly: Oakland Mills Middle and Oakland Mills High: you have a fiduciary and moral responsibility to fill them and fix them.

Sayers, Margery

From: Rachel Berman <rachel.STEMUS.berman@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 2, 2021 9:53 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Stop Deferred OM Maintenance

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Our children, school staff, and OM community deserve better than the current conditions of our OM schools, specifically OMMS and OMHS. The continued deferred maintenance speaks volumes to the value placed on our OM community and its children and staff. Our children suffer, our staff suffers, our community suffers. Change this trend. Put money into our schools.

STOP THE DEFERRED MAINTENANCE OF OAKLAND MILLS SCHOOLS!

STOP THE DEFERRED MAINTENANCE OF OAKLAND MILLS SCHOOLS!

STOP THE DEFERRED MAINTENANCE OF OAKLAND MILLS SCHOOLS!

Rachel Berman
Columbia Resident
Parent of Future OMHS Scorpions

Sayers, Margery

From: Stacy Correll <sycorrell@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 2, 2021 8:57 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Funding for Oakland Mills High School and Middle School

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

I am writing to you as you look at budgets for school maintenance.

My daughter is a junior at OMHS. While I am excited for her to be back in school this fall, I am also very concerned given the status of repairs at OMHS. She will be going back into a school that needs over \$100M in repairs and still has the original HVAC system that is almost as old as I am. The new high school that is being built will cost less than the repairs needed at OMHS! That is simply ridiculous. How can we be building a new school when an existing one is in such bad shape?

Why do 3% of the county's students account for 20% of the deferred maintenance? How in your minds can you justify this? And surely you know the optics of how it looks - two of the schools with some of the highest percentages of FARMS students (for the record - my daughter is not one of them) are the two that are in such a state of disrepair literally sitting less than a mile from each other in the same neighborhood. Why are the students in these two schools valued so much less than students in other parts of the county?

I will be very blunt - I have been praying a news outlet (local TV, NPR, the Sun) will pick up this story and cover it because I feel like that is the only way anything will change. Which is pretty pathetic to say - that we need to shame people to get them to do the right thing. You know the right thing to do is to move funding from other projects to these two. Please do the right thing.

Stacy Correll
6253 Hidden Clearing

Sent from my iPad

Sayers, Margery

From: Kathleen V. Hanks <Kathleen_Hanks@hcpss.org>
Sent: Tuesday, August 31, 2021 1:51 PM
To: Rose BrownEagle; BoE Email; CouncilMail; Ball, Calvin;
katiefry.hester@senate.state.md.us; trent.kittleman@house.state.md.us;
reid.novotny@house.state.md.us; Courtney.watson@house.state.md.us;
clarence.lam@senate.state.md.us; eric.ebersole@house.state.md.us;
Jessica.feldmark@house.state.md.us; terri.hill@house.state.md.us;
guy.guzzone@senate.state.md.us; vanessa.atterbeary@house.state.md.us;
shane.pendergrass@house.state.md.us; jen.terrasa@house.state.md.us;
lt.governor@maryland.gov; pfranchot@comp.state.md.us
Cc: Student Board Member
Subject: RE: [External] Fund the Deferred Maintenance for Oakland Mills Schools

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Ms. BrownEagle:

Thank you for contacting the Board of Education regarding the Superintendent's Proposed FY 2023 Capital Budget. Your email will be saved as written testimony for the public hearing process. Please note that written testimony is part of the public record maintained by the Board Office and is uploaded online to BoardDocs as part of the public hearing. The Capital Budget will be presented to the Board on Thursday, September 2 during the 7 p.m. session. There will be another Public Hearing on Thursday, September 23 at 7 p.m. Constituents may register to speak online ([view](#)).

The Board will also hold a work session and approval after the Public Hearing on Thursday, September 23. However, this is the beginning of the process for the Capital Budget, and the final budget will be approved in the spring. Once again, thank you for contacting the Board and providing valuable input.

Kind regards,

Kathy Hanks
Administrator
Board of Education of Howard County
Phone: 410-313-7194
Email: khanks@hcpss.org

From: Rose BrownEagle <rose.browneagle@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 30, 2021 9:39 PM
To: BoE Email <boe@hcpss.org>; councilmail@howardcountymd.gov; cball@howardcountymd.gov;
katiefry.hester@senate.state.md.us; trent.kittleman@house.state.md.us; reid.novotny@house.state.md.us;
Courtney.watson@house.state.md.us; clarence.lam@senate.state.md.us; eric.ebersole@house.state.md.us;
Jessica.feldmark@house.state.md.us; terri.hill@house.state.md.us; guy.guzzone@senate.state.md.us;
vanessa.atterbeary@house.state.md.us; shane.pendergrass@house.state.md.us; jen.terrasa@house.state.md.us;

lt.governor@maryland.gov; pfranchot@comp.state.md.us

Subject: [External] Fund the Deferred Maintenance for Oakland Mills Schools

! CAUTION: This email originated from outside of HCPSS. Do not click links or open attachments, unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good evening,

I am a resident of Oakland Mills Community Association and a parent of a child who attends a Howard County Public School in Oakland Mills.

Please fund the deferred maintenance at Oakland Mills Middle and High Schools. A Howard County Public School System capital plan that neglects Oakland Mills Middle and High Schools is unacceptable.

The deferred maintenance on Oakland Mills Middle and Oakland Mills High represents 20 percent of all deferred maintenance across the system. The students of Oakland Mills Middle and Oakland Mills High represent 3 percent of the HCPSS student body. The students of Oakland Mills Middle and Oakland Mills High are also more likely to be from racially and ethnically underrepresented backgrounds and are twice or more as likely to have financial challenges than the rest of the HCPSS student body. It is also morally responsible to stop making this 3 percent carry 20 percent of the burden of the deferred maintenance burden.

Thank you,

Rose BrownEagle

Sayers, Margery

From: Kathleen V. Hanks <Kathleen_Hanks@hcpss.org>
Sent: Tuesday, August 31, 2021 1:51 PM
To: Gray Cole; BoE Email; CouncilMail; Ball, Calvin; katiefry.hester@senate.state.md.us; trent.kittleman@house.state.md.us; reid.novotny@house.state.md.us; Courtney.watson@house.state.md.us; clarence.lam@senate.state.md.us; eric.ebersole@house.state.md.us; Jessica.feldmark@house.state.md.us; terri.hill@house.state.md.us; guy.guzzone@senate.state.md.us; vanessa.atterbeary@house.state.md.us; shane.pendergrass@house.state.md.us; jen.terrasa@house.state.md.us; lt.governor@maryland.gov; pfranchot@comp.state.md.us
Cc: Student Board Member
Subject: RE: [External] Oakland Mills School Renovations

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Mr. Cole:

Thank you for contacting the Board of Education regarding the Superintendent's Proposed FY 2023 Capital Budget. Your email will be saved as written testimony for the public hearing process. Please note that written testimony is part of the public record maintained by the Board Office and is uploaded online to BoardDocs as part of the public hearing. The Capital Budget will be presented to the Board on Thursday, September 2 during the 7 p.m. session. There will be another Public Hearing on Thursday, September 23 at 7 p.m. Constituents may register to speak online ([view](#)).

The Board will also hold a work session and approval after the Public Hearing on Thursday, September 23. However, this is the beginning of the process for the Capital Budget, and the final budget will be approved in the spring. Once again, thank you for contacting the Board and providing valuable input.

Kind regards,

Kathy Hanks
Administrator
Board of Education of Howard County
Phone: 410-313-7194
Email: khanks@hcpss.org

From: Gray Cole <john.gray.cole@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 30, 2021 7:29 PM
To: BoE Email <boe@hcpss.org>; councilmail@howardcountymd.gov; cball@howardcountymd.gov; katiefry.hester@senate.state.md.us; trent.kittleman@house.state.md.us; reid.novotny@house.state.md.us; Courtney.watson@house.state.md.us; clarence.lam@senate.state.md.us; eric.ebersole@house.state.md.us; Jessica.feldmark@house.state.md.us; terri.hill@house.state.md.us; guy.guzzone@senate.state.md.us; vanessa.atterbeary@house.state.md.us; shane.pendergrass@house.state.md.us; jen.terrasa@house.state.md.us;

lt.governor@maryland.gov; pfranchot@comp.state.md.us

Subject: [External] Oakland Mills School Renovations

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Good evening,

I'm writing to you as a resident of the Thunder Hill neighborhood within Oakland Mills, in an effort to persuade you to include renovations to Oakland Mills Middle School and Oakland Mills High School in your upcoming capital spend plan. The continued deferred maintenance on those properties (more than \$150 million to date) is creating a wide sense of unfairness in our community.

Please consider addressing these properties in your next capital spend plan

Thank you for the time

John Cole

9266 Grape Wine Ct, Columbia, MD 21045

Sayers, Margery

From: Rose BrownEagle <rose.browneagle@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 30, 2021 9:39 PM
To: boe@hcpss.org; CouncilMail; Ball, Calvin; katiefry.hester@senate.state.md.us; trent.kittleman@house.state.md.us; reid.novotny@house.state.md.us; Courtney.watson@house.state.md.us; clarence.lam@senate.state.md.us; eric.ebersole@house.state.md.us; Jessica.feldmark@house.state.md.us; terri.hill@house.state.md.us; guy.guzzone@senate.state.md.us; vanessa.atterbeary@house.state.md.us; shane.pendergrass@house.state.md.us; jen.terrasa@house.state.md.us; Lt.governor@maryland.gov; pfranchot@comp.state.md.us
Subject: Fund the Deferred Maintenance for Oakland Mills Schools

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Good evening,

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Please fund the deferred maintenance at Oakland Mills Middle and High Schools. A Howard County Public School System capital plan that neglects Oakland Mills Middle and High Schools is unacceptable.

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Thank you,
Rose BrownEagle

Sayers, Margery

From: Gray Cole <john.gray.cole@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 30, 2021 7:29 PM
To: boe@hcpss.org; CouncilMail; Ball, Calvin; katiefry.hester@senate.state.md.us; trent.kittleman@house.state.md.us; reid.novotny@house.state.md.us; Courtney.watson@house.state.md.us; clarence.lam@senate.state.md.us; eric.ebersole@house.state.md.us; Jessica.feldmark@house.state.md.us; terri.hill@house.state.md.us; guy.guzzone@senate.state.md.us; vanessa.atterbeary@house.state.md.us; shane.pendergrass@house.state.md.us; jen.terrasa@house.state.md.us; lt.governor@maryland.gov; pfranchot@comp.state.md.us
Subject: Oakland Mills School Renovations

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Please consider addressing these properties in your next capital spend plan

Thank you for the time
John Cole
9266 Grape Wine Ct, Columbia, MD 21045

Sayers, Margery

From: Kathleen V. Hanks <Kathleen_Hanks@hcpss.org>
Sent: Monday, August 30, 2021 2:59 PM
To: Meghan Cole; BoE Email; CouncilMail; Ball, Calvin; katiefry.hester@senate.state.md.us; trent.kittleman@house.state.md.us; reid.novotny@house.state.md.us; Courtney.watson@house.state.md.us; clarence.lam@senate.state.md.us; eric.ebersole@house.state.md.us; Jessica.feldmark@house.state.md.us; terri.hill@house.state.md.us; guy.guzzone@senate.state.md.us; vanessa.atterbeary@house.state.md.us; shane.pendergrass@house.state.md.us; jen.terrasa@house.state.md.us; lt.governor@maryland.gov; pfranchot@comp.state.md.us
Cc: Student Board Member; Scott Washington; Daniel Lubeley
Subject: RE: [External] Renovations for OMMS and OMHS

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Ms. Cole:

Thank you for contacting the Board of Education regarding the Superintendent's Proposed FY 2023 Capital Budget. Your email will be saved as written testimony for the public hearing process. Please note that written testimony is part of the public record maintained by the Board Office and is uploaded online to BoardDocs as part of the public hearing. The Capital Budget will be presented to the Board on Thursday, September 2 during the 7 p.m. session. There will be another Public Hearing on Thursday, September 23 at 7 p.m. Constituents may register to speak online ([view](#)).

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Kind regards,

Kathy Hanks
Administrator
Board of Education of Howard County
Phone: 410-313-7194
Email: khanks@hcpss.org

From: Meghan Cole <mchenry.meghan@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 30, 2021 6:30 AM
To: BoE Email <boe@hcpss.org>; councilmail@howardcountymd.gov; cball@howardcountymd.gov; katiefry.hester@senate.state.md.us; trent.kittleman@house.state.md.us; reid.novotny@house.state.md.us; Courtney.watson@house.state.md.us; clarence.lam@senate.state.md.us; eric.ebersole@house.state.md.us; Jessica.feldmark@house.state.md.us; terri.hill@house.state.md.us; guy.guzzone@senate.state.md.us; vanessa.atterbeary@house.state.md.us; shane.pendergrass@house.state.md.us; jen.terrasa@house.state.md.us; lt.governor@maryland.gov; pfranchot@comp.state.md.us
Subject: [External] Renovations for OMMS and OMHS

! CAUTION: This email originated from outside of HCPSS. Do not click links or open attachments, unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good Morning,

Please invest in OMMS and OMHS. A capital plan that ignores the deferred maintenance at our schools is unacceptable. Our community deserves better

Thank you,
Meghan Cole

Sayers, Margery

From: Kathleen V. Hanks <Kathleen_Hanks@hcpss.org>
Sent: Monday, August 30, 2021 1:39 PM
To: Warren Wortman; BoE Email; CouncilMail; Ball, Calvin;
katiefry.hester@senate.state.md.us; trent.kittleman@house.state.md.us;
reid.novotny@house.state.md.us; Courtney.watson@house.state.md.us;
clarence.lam@senate.state.md.us; eric.ebersole@house.state.md.us;
Jessica.feldmark@house.state.md.us; terri.hill@house.state.md.us;
guy.guzzone@senate.state.md.us; vanessa.atterbeary@house.state.md.us;
shane.pendergrass@house.state.md.us; jen.terrasa@house.state.md.us;
lt.governor@maryland.gov
Cc: Jonathan Edelson, OMCA; Student Board Member; Daniel Lubeley; Scott Washington
Subject: RE: [External] OMMS & OMHS Deferred Maintenance

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Wortman:

Thank you for contacting the Board of Education regarding the Superintendent's Proposed FY 2023 Capital Budget. Your email will be saved as written testimony for the public hearing process. Please note that written testimony is part of the public record maintained by the Board Office and is uploaded online to BoardDocs as part of the public hearing. The Capital Budget will be presented to the Board on Thursday, September 2 during the 7 p.m. session. There will be another Public Hearing on Thursday, September 23 at 7 p.m. Constituents may register to speak online ([view](#)).

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Kind regards,

Kathy Hanks
Administrator
Board of Education of Howard County
Phone: 410-313-7194
Email: khanks@hcpss.org

From: Warren Wortman <wwortman.omca@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, August 28, 2021 4:04 PM
To: BoE Email <boe@hcpss.org>; councilmail@howardcountymd.gov; cball@howardcountymd.gov;
katiefry.hester@senate.state.md.us; trent.kittleman@house.state.md.us; reid.novotny@house.state.md.us;
Courtney.watson@house.state.md.us; clarence.lam@senate.state.md.us; eric.ebersole@house.state.md.us;
Jessica.feldmark@house.state.md.us; terri.hill@house.state.md.us; guy.guzzone@senate.state.md.us;
vanessa.atterbeary@house.state.md.us; shane.pendergrass@house.state.md.us; jen.terrasa@house.state.md.us;
lt.governor@maryland.gov
Cc: Jonathan Edelson, OMCA <jledelson.omca@gmail.com>
Subject: [External] OMMS & OMHS Deferred Maintenance

! CAUTION: This email originated from outside of HCPSS. Do not click links or open attachments, unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Howard County Representatives,

Oakland Mills Middle School and Oakland Mills High School have deferred maintenance totaling more than **\$160 million**. This astounding number is shocking considering that Oakland Mills students only comprise 3% of the Howard County student population. Thus, three percent of the Howard County student population bears 20% of the county's deferred maintenance. This is unacceptable!

We raised 3 children who successfully attended Oakland Mills MS and HS more than ten years ago. Those schools were seedy then, and they are in even worse disrepair now. The neglect of the county towards our Oakland Mills schools is shameful. The county's insistence on building brand new schools while allowing Oakland Mills schools to crumble is disrespectful of the Oakland Mills community.

Repair Oakland Mills schools or rebuild them.

Respectfully,

Warren and Amy Wortman
Oakland Mills Residents

Sayers, Margery

From: Meghan Cole <mchenry.meghan@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 30, 2021 6:30 AM
To: boe@hcpss.org; CouncilMail; Ball, Calvin; katiefry.hester@senate.state.md.us; trent.kittleman@house.state.md.us; reid.novotny@house.state.md.us; Courtney.watson@house.state.md.us; clarence.lam@senate.state.md.us; eric.ebersole@house.state.md.us; Jessica.feldmark@house.state.md.us; terri.hill@house.state.md.us; guy.guzzone@senate.state.md.us; vanessa.atterbeary@house.state.md.us; shane.pendergrass@house.state.md.us; jen.terrasa@house.state.md.us; lt.governor@maryland.gov; pfranchot@comp.state.md.us
Subject: Renovations for OMMS and OMHS

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Good Morning,

Please invest in OMMS and OMHS. A capital plan that ignores the deferred maintenance at our schools is unacceptable. Our community deserves better

Thank you,
Meghan Cole

Sayers, Margery

From: Joan Aron <joanaron@ymail.com>
Sent: Saturday, August 28, 2021 8:52 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: OMMS and OMHS deferred maintenance

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

To: Howard County Council

The HCPSS Capital Budget and Capital Improvement Program must invest in Oakland Mills Middle School (OMMS) and Oakland Mills High School (OMHS). These two buildings have accrued over 160 million dollars in deferred maintenance. This need represents 20 percent of all HCPSS deferred maintenance, which is a disproportionate burden for 3 percent of HCPSS students. Fix OMMS and OMHS.

Joan L. Aron

5457 Marsh Hawk Way

Columbia, Maryland 21045

Sayers, Margery

From: Warren Wortman <wwortman.omca@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, August 28, 2021 4:04 PM
To: boe@hcpss.org; CouncilMail; Ball, Calvin; katiefry.hester@senate.state.md.us; trent.kittleman@house.state.md.us; reid.novotny@house.state.md.us; Courtney.watson@house.state.md.us; clarence.lam@senate.state.md.us; eric.ebersole@house.state.md.us; Jessica.feldmark@house.state.md.us; terri.hill@house.state.md.us; guy.guzzone@senate.state.md.us; vanessa.atterbeary@house.state.md.us; shane.pendergrass@house.state.md.us; jen.terrasa@house.state.md.us; lt.governor@maryland.gov
Cc: Jonathan Edelson, OMCA
Subject: OMMS & OMHS Deferred Maintenance

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Howard County Representatives,

Oakland Mills Middle School and Oakland Mills High School have deferred maintenance totaling more than **\$160 million**. This astounding number is shocking considering that Oakland Mills students only comprise 3% of the Howard County student population. Thus, three percent of the Howard County student population bears 20% of the county's deferred maintenance. This is unacceptable!

We raised 3 children who successfully attended Oakland Mills MS and HS more than ten years ago. Those schools were seedy then, and they are in even worse disrepair now. The neglect of the county towards our Oakland Mills schools is shameful. The county's insistence on building brand new schools while allowing Oakland Mills schools to crumble is disrespectful of the Oakland Mills community.

Repair Oakland Mills schools or rebuild them.

Respectfully,

Warren and Amy Wortman
Oakland Mills Residents

Sayers, Margery

From: Lee and Peggy Skaggs <lpskaggs1@verizon.net>
Sent: Saturday, August 28, 2021 9:53 AM
To: boe@hcpss.org; CouncilMail; Ball, Calvin; katiefry.hester@senate.state.md.us; trent.kittleman@house.state.md.us; reid.novotny@house.state.md.us; Courtney.watson@house.state.md.us; clarence.lam@senate.state.md.us; eric.ebersole@house.state.md.us; Jessica.feldmark@house.state.md.us; terri.hill@house.state.md.us; guy.guzzone@senate.state.md.us; vanessa.atterbeary@house.state.md.us; shane.pendergrass@house.state.md.us; jen.terrasa@house.state.md.us; lt.governor@maryland.gov; pfranchot@comp.state.md.us
Subject: Superintendent's proposed budget - deferred maintenance in OM schools

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Good morning,

I am writing today as I am extremely concerned about the unfair burden being placed on Oakland Mills Middle School (OMMS) and Oakland Mills High School (OMHS) regarding deferred maintenance projects in the Howard County Public School System (HCPSS). I am a long-time resident of Oakland Mills, and all three of my grown children attended the Oakland Mills schools: Stevens Forest Elementary, Oakland Mills Middle School and Oakland Mills High School. My children had very positive experiences in these schools, and I believe both current and future students deserve the same. Therefore, I feel very strongly that any HCPSS capital plan that continues to defer maintenance on OMMS and OMHS is not acceptable. Funding deferred maintenance projects in these schools must be included in the superintendent's proposed budget as this is a high priority.

The Board of Education has deferred maintenance in Oakland Mills middle and high schools for too long. Equity questions are raised as 20 percent of all deferred maintenance in the HCPSS lies in two schools: OMMS and OMHS. Due to boundary lines created in the past and redistricting decisions, these OM schools are kept below capacity while neighboring schools are overcrowded; to date, capacity has been used as a justification for prioritizing other school maintenance projects over projects in these OM schools. OMMS and OMHS students and families consist of some of the most economically disadvantaged in the county; in addition, these students are more likely to be racially underrepresented in the county. Oakland Mills students deserve better than this! What kind of message are we sending when the Oakland Mills students who make up 3% of the HCPSS student body carry the burden of 20% of deferred maintenance projects in the school system?

Oakland Mills matters! Oakland Mills students and families matter!

Thank you for your dedication and time. Please do the right thing.

Peggy Skaggs
Oakland Mills Resident

Sayers, Margery

From: Emily Markus <eromei@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 23, 2021 1:14 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Fwd: Dunloggin Middle Renovate NOW

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Emily Markus** <eromei@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Aug 23, 2021 at 1:06 PM
Subject: Dunloggin Middle Renovate NOW
To: <boe@hcpss.org>, <councilmail@howardcounty.gov>, <calvinball@howardcountymd.gov>

Dear Board Members, Council Members, and Dr. Ball,

I am a parent of three children assigned to Dunloggin Middle in the future. My oldest will be attending in 2024. It has come to my attention that FY budgets 2012-2017 all included completion of DMS renovation by 2020 or earlier. Our community is still waiting.

DMS is almost 50 years old and has never had a significant renovation. It is poorly laid out, lacks sufficient bathrooms, and is significantly overcrowded. The 2020 and 2021 feasibility studies recommend additional seats by 2024. The budget doesn't include these seats until 2027.

One of my particular concerns as a parent of a daughter is the situation with the bathrooms. There are only 7 toilets in the school for over 300 girls. This falls below minimal workplace requirements. How is this acceptable in 2021 in Howard County? Would you want your daughters missing out on education time or their short lunch period because they are waiting in line for the bathroom?

Please take a tour of Dunloggin Middle. Look at the five portable classrooms, at the crowded hallways and classrooms and the state that the bathrooms are in. Stop delaying the renovation of DMS. We are overdue to renovate now.

Thank you,
Emily Markus

Sayers, Margery

From: frandonaldson@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Fran Donaldson
<frandonaldson@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 20, 2022 10:26 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Expand enhanced school-based mental health services to ALL Howard County public schools

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing in strong support of bringing enhanced mental health supports to ALL Howard County public schools.

As you know, all schools in Howard County have a standard set of mental health services available to students but only about 60 percent of schools have an enhanced set of supports that includes 1:1 counseling services – offered to students, with parent permission, by licensed professionals during the school day. County Executive Dr. Calvin Ball has promised \$1 million in funding for mental health, along with nearly \$1 million in philanthropic support from the Horizon Foundation and the Kahlert Foundation, to bolster this program. These investments will help bring these enhanced mental health supports to all Howard County public schools over the next two years. We urge you to protect and expand funding for this important program in this year's budget to ensure this gets done.

This program eliminates many barriers to students getting the help they need. Parents in these schools don't need to take off work to get their child to treatment, and students don't have to miss a bunch of instructional time waiting for and traveling to and from appointments. Nationally, more than 70 percent of students receiving mental health services access them in the school setting. Howard County must not fall behind, especially in this time of great stress and anxiety for our students.

We want every child in Howard County to have all the tools they need to thrive inside and outside of the classroom. After nearly two years of this pandemic, our students need these mental health supports more than ever. We strongly urge you to protect and expand funding for these enhanced school-based mental health services.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Fran Donaldson
2911 Pauls Provision Ellicott City, MD 21042-3891 frandonaldson@hotmail.com

Dear Howard County Decision Makers,

I am writing to urge you to increase funding for Special Ed support positions. These are some of the most difficult jobs in the Howard County Public School System and they're also some of the lowest paid. Many of these employees are not even school system employees and are working for barely above minimum wage with no benefits.

These employees are working with some of our most vulnerable students, many unable to speak for themselves. It is unconscionable that the employees who care day in and day out for these children are paid poverty level wages and are not given benefits. Even student assistants and paraeducators, who are HCPSS employees, are paid far less than a livable wage. This is unacceptable.

We know from hearing from ESAs that these jobs are extremely challenging. Some children frequently hit, elope, and generally demand 110% from their caregivers. Yet HCPSS doesn't feel that these positions deserve a livable wage. It's no wonder that there's a severe shortage of people willing to apply for these jobs.

I urge you, please, make all support staff positions full HCPSS employees, with benefits and a livable wage. Our most vulnerable students need and deserve staff that feel like they are justly compensated for the work they do and given benefits and paid sick days as well.

Sincerely,

J. Kim Birnbaum

Elkridge, MD