

From: [Lisa Marini](#)
To: boe@hcpss.org; [CouncilMail](#); [Ball, Calvin](#)
Subject: Please Restore Environmental Educator Position
Date: Monday, May 22, 2023 7:11:42 PM

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

Dear County Executive Ball and members of the County Council and Board of Education,

The Howard County Board of Education has proposed cutting the full-time Environmental Educator position at the Howard County Conservancy after 16 years of groundbreaking environmental education programs that serve the students and teachers of HCPSS. **The signature programming developed through this partnership is absolutely essential to the county's ability to meet the state mandated environmental literacy graduation requirement.** Ann Strozyk, the award winning educator in this role, has been with the school system for 23 years with 13 of those years onsite at the Conservancy delivering programs to all middle and high school students in the county.

Howard County is one of the few counties in Maryland that does not have a school system funded environmental education center. Most school systems spend millions of dollars every year to own and operate their own centers. The cost effective partnership with the Howard County Conservancy (a private nonprofit) not only provides 20,000 county students with hands-on environmental and outdoor education each year, but has also led to the development of award winning and groundbreaking programs. These programs include the 9 & 10th grade Watershed Report Card - about to celebrate its 10th anniversary - Climate Knowledge, a first of its kind 6th grade climate curriculum supported by a federal grant from NOAA, and the new and growing Youth Climate Institute. These programs not only provide critically important science education but also engage and empower future generations in environmental stewardship.

Environmental education is a necessity. Cutting this position will likely cost more in the long run than it saves. I understand that all of you have very difficult budget decisions to make, but please reconsider the proposed cuts and continue funding the environmental educator position at the Howard County Conservancy.

Sincerely,

Lisa Marini

Vice President, Howard County Board of Trustees (speaking as an individual) and HCPSS parent

From: [Ned Tillman](#)
To: [Ball, Calvin](#); [CouncilMail](#); boe@hcpss.org
Subject: Funding of Environmental Education in HOCO
Date: Monday, May 22, 2023 5:29:48 PM
Attachments: [Ned's Bio 822.docx](#)

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Dear Elected Officials - I have worked extensively to fund, support, and manage programs in this county for three decades – see attached. Of all the programs that I have been involved with, the programs at the HOCO Conservancy strongly supported by HCPSS and their award-winning educator, Ann Stroyzk, have had the greatest impact over the years on the students and their parents. I strongly encourage you to continue their funding.

Ned Tillman

443-472-3681

ned@sustainable.us

www.SavingThePlaces.com

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[LinkedIn](#)

Author of:

1. *The Chesapeake Watershed*,
2. *Saving The Places We Love*,
3. *The Big Melt – Climate Fiction*,
4. ***Good Endeavour*** – Brand new historical novel!

Take a look at the new book [here](#).

All four books available at [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)

Ned Tillman

Author, Earth and Environmental Scientist, and Speaker

Experience:

- President/CEO of Environmental and Energy Firms for 27 years providing services to governments and corporations throughout the US and abroad.
 - Received 5 patents for award winning SmartData Solutions® process.
 - Received 4 Achievement Awards from the U.S. Environmental Business Journal
 - Best Innovative Company in Maryland in 2002
- Keynote presenter
- Howard County Preservationist of the Year 2016
- Instructor for Master Naturalist, Watershed Steward, and Legacy Leadership Programs
- Chair of the Howard County Board on Sustainability which advises the County Council and the Executives (from both parties) on sustainability, environmental, and climate issues.
- Created the Sustainability Plan for the City of Baltimore DOT
- Chair of Local Business Partnership that helps each firm become more sustainable.
- Facilitator of Urban Land Institute Technical Advisory Panel for Patapsco River Valley.
- Chair of Howard County 2030 General Plan Task Force
- Sustainability Task Force for Howard Community College
- Sustainability Policy Council for the Howard County Public School System
- Past Chair (8 years) of the Howard County Conservancy
- Board member: Horizon Foundation, MD Academy of Science, MPEA
- National board member of the Izaak Walton Conservation League of America
- Author of numerous papers, policies, regulations, and strategic plans. Alternative energy paper published in SCIENCE. Op Ed pieces in the Baltimore Sun.
- *Author of **The Chesapeake Watershed: A sense of place and a call to action.** 2009, Winner of two national awards:*
 - **2010 Winner** of the **Excellence in Journalism Award** chosen by the Renewable Natural Resource Foundation.
 - **2010 Winner** of the **Best Book on Environmental and Natural Resources** selected by The American Society for Public Administration.
- *Author of **Saving the Places We Love: Paths toward environmental stewardship.***
 - 2014, Book Selection of the Year. Howard County's Poetry and Literary Society, Community College, and Library
- *Author of **The Big Melt** – Shortlisted for two book awards*

Professional and Educational History

2006 – Present: Sustainable Growth, LLC and The Restoration Conservancy

1999 – 2006: President of Columbia Technologies, LLC

1982 – 1999: CEO of Target Environmental, Inc.

1981 – 1982: Senior Staff of Gruy Federal, Inc.

1978 – 1981: Senior Staff of The Johns Hopkins University/Applied Physics Lab

1973 – 1978: Project Manager for Dames and Moore Consultants (now part of URS)

1973 – Master's degree from Syracuse University in New York

1971 -- Bachelor's degree from Franklin and Marshall College in Pennsylvania