

County Council of Howard County, Maryland

2016 Legislative Session

Legislative Day No. **3**

Resolution No. 31 -2016

Introduced by:

Dr. Calvin Ball, Councilmember

A RESOLUTION requesting that the Environmental Sustainability Board review the various reports commissioned by Howard County Public School System pertaining to mold at Howard County Public Schools and provide a report to the County Council and County Executive making recommendations on addressing environmental concerns, specifically on mold at Howard County Public Schools.

Introduced and read for the first time on _____, 2016.

By order _____

Jessica Feldmark, Administrator to the County Council

Read for a second time and a public hearing held on _____, 2016.

By order _____

Jessica Feldmark, Administrator to the County Council

This Resolution was read for the third time and was Adopted ____, Adopted with amendments ____, Failed ____, Withdrawn ____ by the County Council

on _____, 2016.

Certified by _____

Jessica Feldmark, Administrator to the County Council

1 **WHEREAS**, the Howard County Government does not inspect for the presence of mold
2 nor are there agencies within Howard County Government with employees certified for the
3 inspection and/or identification of mold; and
4

5 **WHEREAS**, the Howard County Public School System, by way of the Howard County
6 School Board, is an autonomous organization whose mission is to "...cultivate a vibrant learning
7 community that prepares students to thrive in a dynamic world" by establishing policies and
8 procedures to foster a safe environment for student and employees; and
9

10 **WHEREAS**, the Howard County Public School System has commissioned several
11 independent studies pertaining to alleged incidents of mold at Centennial High School, Glenelg
12 High School, Glenwood Middle School, Mount View Middle School, and Pointers Run
13 Elementary School, including but not limited to:

- 14 • Global Facility Solutions, LLC's memo dated September 30, 2013: Summary of
15 Initial Findings from Site Visit at Glenwood Middle School located in Glenwood,
16 MD; and
- 17 • Building Dynamics, LLC memo dated January 20, 2016: Mount View Middle
18 School: Mold Investigation Progress Report; and

19 convened the School Board's Indoor Environmental Quality Advisory Committee, an ad hoc
20 group of thirty-five members comprised of parents, community members, Howard County
21 Government Employees, PTA council members, and school system leaders which is scheduled to
22 release its report on February 25, 2016; and
23

24 **WHEREAS**, Section 6.307 of the Howard County Code states that Boards and Commissions
25 may conduct studies and reviews, advise and recommend, and assume other functions as provided by
26 law and Section 6.600(i)(8) of the Code states that the Environmental Sustainability Board by
27 resolution of the County Council shall review and make recommendation on matters pertaining to
28 environmental protection, preservation, or sustainability in the County.

1 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the County Council of Howard County,
2 Maryland this _____ day of _____, 2016, that the Council requests that the
3 Environmental Sustainability Board prepare a report with an evaluation of studies performed by the
4 School System’s Indoor Environmental Quality Advisory Committee and any indoor environmental
5 air consultants hired by the School System pertaining to:

- 6 1. The methodology used to conduct the school facility studies;
- 7 2. The validity of the findings of the studies;
- 8 3. The studies’ recommendations for mold remediation; and
- 9 4. Any possible weakness discovered in the studies or additional recommendations.

10
11 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the County Council of Howard County requests
12 that, as part of it report, the Environmental Sustainability Board provide recommendations on
13 addressing environmental concerns on mold at Howard County Public Schools.

14
15 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Council encourages the
16 Environmental Sustainability Board, in undertaking this review, to create a workgroup
17 which may include:

- 18 1. Individuals with professional background or expertise in indoor air
19 quality;
- 20 2. Representatives from the Howard County Health Department;
- 21 3. Representatives from the Department of Public Works, Bureau of
22 Facilities;
- 23 4. Large scale residential and/or commercial property managers who
24 have experience dealing with mold; and
- 25 5. Any other individual who may contribute a beneficial perspective
26 to assist with the review process.

1 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the County Council of Howard County
2 requests that the report be provided to the Council and the County Executive by September 30,
3 2016.