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October 26, 2017

Robert A. Gorrell, Executive Director  
Maryland State Department of Education  
Interagency Committee on School Construction  
200 W. Baltimore Street  
Baltimore, MD 21201

Dear Mr. Gorrell:

The Fiscal Year 2019 (FY19) Public School Construction Capital Improvement Program (PSC CIP) request, as submitted to the Interagency Committee on School Construction (IAC) by the Anne Arundel County Local Education Authority (AAC LEA), has been received and reviewed by County Government.

In accordance with procedures set forth by the IAC, written local government support for the PSC CIP request and any subsequent amendments to that request is required by 11/27/17. I support the FY19 PSC CIP request submitted to the IAC by the AAC LEA on 10/05/17, and urge your recommendation of State funding for all FY19 requests presented therein.

As you are aware, the Board of Education's official request for FY19 local funding will not be submitted to the County until March of 2018. The County Charter requires a budget process that provides final approval in June of 2018. It should be noted, that despite the fact that State aid amounts to less than one-quarter of the total approved CIP, I am aware of no instances where the County has not supported a Board of Education project that has been approved for funding by the State.

The general guidelines outlined in section 102.1.A.1.a. and b. of the PSC CIP procedures manual are well put. Accordingly, it must be emphasized that County support for the FY19 PSC CIP request submitted by the AAC LEA is similarly prioritized in light of the "anticipated availability of both local and State funds" and the recognition that "local capital needs for school construction projects far exceed both local and State resources." Therefore, County support of the PSC CIP request must be accepted within the confines of the following three priority bands:

1. One-third (7 of 22) of the priority requests submitted by the AAC LEA, accounting for \$14.3 million and 25% of the entire PSC CIP request for FY19, are already supported by prior approved (FY18 and prior) appropriation authority provided by the County to the Anne Arundel County Board of Education. In other words, County funding sufficient to

support one-third of the entire amount requested has already been made available to the County Board of Education to spend on these projects. These requests should take precedence over any remaining requests.

2. Over half (13 of 22) of the requests, accounting for \$40.3 million and 70% of the entire PSC CIP request for FY19, are already supported in the prior approved (FY18) County CIP. In other words, County funding sufficient to support 95% of the entire FY19 request has either already been made available or is already included in the County Council Approved FY18 CIP. All such requests must take precedence over any remaining requests.
3. The balance of remaining requests constitute either new requests, or requests for funding ahead of the funding schedule provided for in the County Council Approved FY18 CIP. While all of these requests are supported by the County, full funding (to the extent eligible) of those projects already supported and committed to must come first.

As a general rule, the County supports the relative priorities assigned by the AAC LEA, as applied within the confines of these three over-riding priority bands. A listing of the entire PSC CIP request for FY19, presented in the context of these three over-riding priority bands, is attached.

I appreciate your continued support of our efforts to deliver quality public education to the children of Anne Arundel County.

Sincerely,



Steven R. Schuh

cc: John J. Grasso, Chairperson, Anne Arundel County Council  
George P. Arlotto, Ed.d., Anne Arundel County Superintendent of Schools  
Julie K. Hummer, President, Anne Arundel County Board of Education  
Members, Anne Arundel County Council  
Members, Anne Arundel County Board of Education

