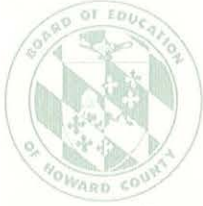




**HOWARD COUNTY**  
PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM



January 5, 2018

**Board of Education  
of Howard County**

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*Interim Superintendent  
Secretary/Treasurer*

The Honorable Allan H. Kittleman  
County Executive  
Office of County Executive  
George Howard Building  
3430 Court House Drive  
Ellicott City, MD 21043

Dear County Executive Kittleman,

Thank you for your letter of December 18, 2017, inquiring as to the Board of Education's assessment of the Mission Road property as a potential school site. The selection and acquisition of property suitable for a school site is a collaborative endeavor, and we appreciate your initiative in seeking an update from the Board of Education on its opinion of the Mission Road property.

As you note in your letter, the Board of Education had previously expressed tentative acceptance of the Mission Road property as a site. Specifically, at its September 8, 2016, meeting the Board voted to give preliminary approval and to proceed with an assessment of the site under Board of Education Policy 6000 Site Selection and Acquisition. Board Policy 6000 sets forth the considerations and conditions under which the Board will give final approval to a site. The Board of Education met in closed session on January 3, 2018, and determined that the Mission Road property is not an appropriate site for a school due to the current conditions and characteristics of the property.

As the Board of Education and County continue working together to find suitable school sites, we want to also update you regarding developments concerning the Rockburn property at the corner of Landing and Montgomery Roads. At its meeting, the Board also considered the Rockburn property, and voted to withdraw its interest in that property as a school site.

The Honorable Allan H. Kittleman  
January 5, 2018

Page Two

The Board of Education appreciates your ongoing support of the Howard County Public School System, and its immediate need to address overcrowding by the acquisition of suitable school sites and the construction of new schools. In this regard, we thank you for your recent commitment to accelerate funding for High School #13 and the County's purchase of a site in Turf Valley for Elementary School #43. We look forward to continuing to work with the County in selecting and acquiring a suitable school site in a priority funding area.

Sincerely,



Cynthia L. Vaillancourt  
Chairman, Board of Education of Howard County



Michael J. Martirano, Ed.D  
Interim Superintendent

MCB/kc