

Resolution No. 38-18 EXHIBIT A

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September 27, 2018

Mr. 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 2020 (FY20) 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 11/27/18. I support the FY20 PSC CIP request to be submitted to the IAC by the AAC LEA on 10/04/18, and urge your recommendation of State funding for all FY20 requests presented therein.

As you are aware, the Board of Education's official request for FY20 local funding will not be submitted to the County until March of 2019. The County Charter requires a budget process that provides final approval in June of 2019. 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 FY20 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:

 Nearly half (7 of 16) of the priority requests submitted by the AAC LEA, accounting for \$24.7 million and 46% of the entire PSC CIP request for FY20, are already supported by prior approved (FY19 and prior) appropriation authority provided by the County to the Anne Arundel County Board of Education. In other words, County funding sufficient to support nearly half of the entire amount requested <u>has already been made available</u> to the County Board of Education to spend on these projects. These requests should take precedence over any remaining requests.

- 2. Just over half (9 of 16) of the requests, accounting for \$29.3 million and 54% of the entire PSC CIP request for FY20, are already supported in the prior approved (FY19) County CIP. In other words, County funding sufficient to support 100% of the entire FY20 request has either already been made available or is already included in the County Council Approved FY19 CIP. All such requests must take precedence over any remaining requests.
- 3. This year, none of priority requests for State funding are ahead of the funding schedule provided for in the County Council Approved FY19 CIP.

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 FY20, 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: Michael Peroutka, Chairman, County Council
Members, Anne Arundel County Council
Julie Hummer, President, Board of Education
Members, Anne Arundel County Board of Education
George Arlotto, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools