

Timestamp	First Name	Last name	City	State	Zip code	Are you representing yourself?	If not, who are you representing?	Remarks	File Upload (optional)
2026-10-01 14:06:33	Sarah	Parks	Lothian	MD	20711	Yes		Dear Members of the Anne Arundel County Council, I am writing as a parent, a Southern High School graduate, and a lifelong member of the Southern High School community to implore you to support funding and investment in Southern High School in Harwood. This is personal for my family. I graduated from Southern High School in 2005. My husband is a third-generation Southern graduate from the Class of 2001. And our children are expected to graduate from Southern in the Classes of 2035 and 2037. For generations, Southern has been an important part of our community. Yet, despite decades of growth and change around it, the school itself has remained fundamentally the same for more than 40 years. The needs are no longer cosmetic or optional. They are infrastructure needs that directly affect the health, safety, education, and overall well-being of our students. Both the County Council and AACPS have acknowledged that Southern needs significant improvements, including a second gymnasium and HVAC upgrades. We have heard that these improvements are priorities. Yet years continue to pass without meaningful progress or even a clear timeline for when this work will begin. At some point, promises without action become unacceptable. I am deeply concerned that if we continue to delay investment, my children will eventually attend a school that is struggling with aging infrastructure, longstanding HVAC problems, inadequate recreational space, and technology infrastructure that does not adequately support the educational needs of today's students. No parent should have to wonder whether their child's school building is being allowed to deteriorate because their community has not been considered a priority. The consequences of being left behind extend far beyond the walls of the high school. As a parent of children growing up in South County, I see firsthand how inadequate athletic and recreational facilities affect our entire community. My nine-year-old daughter currently practices with her county sports team until 8:45 p.m. because of the limited availability of fields and gym space in our area. By the time she gets home, gets ready for bed, and settles down, it is approximately 9:30 p.m. She is then expected to wake up at 6:15 a.m. and catch the bus at 7:10 a.m. the next morning. I am 39 years old, and even I don't want to be out that late... Similarly, as of today, my seven-year-old's soccer practices have moved from 5:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. because the field she practices on has no lighting. My husband and I both work outside the home; neither of us gets home until after 4:00 p.m. We fight to get home, get our daughter ready for practice, and to the field on time every Monday and Wednesday. Sadly, my family's story is not unusual. South County families are increasingly being forced into an impossible choice: accept extremely early or late practices and activities because facilities are unavailable, or tell our children they simply cannot participate. That is not a reasonable choice for families, and it is not the quality of community infrastructure our children deserve. The reality is that Southern High School's infrastructure affects far more than high school students. It affects elementary and middle school students who will eventually attend Southern. It affects youth sports programs that depend on shared community facilities. It affects families who live in a rapidly growing part of Anne Arundel County. And ultimately, it affects the future of the entire South County community. I recognize that the county and our schools have competing infrastructure needs and that funding decisions are difficult. But	

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2026-10-01 15:57:05	Kenji	Brown	Deale	Maryland	20751	Yes		My name is Kenji Brown II, and I am a proud Southern High School alumnus. Southern is more than a building. It represents the pride, tradition, and spirit of South County — a community that I believe is the backbone of Anne Arundel County. One day, I want to bring my own children to Southern and let them experience that same Bulldog pride and that same Bulldog energy. But I do not want them walking into the same Bulldog building. Our students deserve a modern school that reflects the strength of the community it serves. Renovating Southern is not just an investment in a building — it is an investment in the future of South County.	