

Candace B. Hollingsworth
Mayor



Tracey E. Douglas
City Administrator

January 21, 2021

Juanita Miller
Chair, Prince George's County Board of Education
14201 School Lane
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

Re: Support of Adoption of a Resolution Committing to 100% Clean Energy Schools and Implementation of a Focus Workgroup

Dear Dr. Miller:

The City of Hyattsville is writing to support adoption by the Prince George's County Board of Education to create a clear timeline to power our public schools with 100% clean energy, including the energy used for electricity, heating, cooling, cooking, and transportation. We are also writing in support of initiation of a Focus Workgroup to develop a School Climate Change Action Plan that will outline how to implement these goals in a timely, cost-effective, and equitable manner.

While the City of Hyattsville is relatively small (an estimated 20,355 residents in 2.73 square miles), we have a high density of public schools. Located within Hyattsville are Felegy and Hyattsville Elementary Schools, Nicholas Orem and Hyattsville Middle Schools, and Northwestern High School. Transitioning our public schools to clean energy will provide a safe learning environment for our students and align with our community sustainability goals.

Once implemented 100% Clean Energy Schools will:

- Reduce the carbon footprint of our county school system, which is of vital importance given the size and importance of the institution;
- Limit exposure of children to air pollution from the burning of fossil fuels in the buildings and on buses;
- Allow for improved heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems that will improve indoor air quality in the learning environment;
- Save money from reduced maintenance and fuel costs over time;
- Create an opportunity for STEM, vocational, and other students to learn, hands on, about the technologies of the future;
- Set up a more equitable learning environment for all students, including by allowing saved funds to improve other neglected aspects of school buildings.

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These are all goals that City of Hyattsville supports and would like to see implemented. We believe that the Prince George's County Board of Education should adopt a resolution setting a date for 100% Clean Energy Schools and implement a Focus Workgroup to implement the goals.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kevin Ward', written over a horizontal line.

Kevin Ward
Interim Mayor

CC: Sonya Williams, Vice Chair, District 9
David Murray, District 1
Joshua M. Thomas, District 2
Pamela Boozer-Strother, District 3
Shayla Adams-Stafford, District 4
Raaheela Ahmed, District 5
Belinda Queen, District 6
Kenneth Harris II, District 7
Edward Burroughs III, District 8
Paul Monteiro, Appointed
Sandra D. Shephard, Appointed
Curtis Valentine, M.P.P., Appointed
Ninah Jackson, Student Member of the Board