

November 13, 2025

Office of Zoning and Administrative Hearings
100 Maryland Ave #200
Rockville, MD 20850

To Whom It May Concern,

Pursuant to **OZAH Rule 3.2c**, we are submitting this signed letter to be considered part of the record in the case of **Holton Arms School - Case No. CBA-1174-E**. This is to confirm our **strong opposition** to the proposed expansion of Holton Arms. We will be unable to attend the scheduled meeting in person.

We have been a part of this community for nearly a decade as homeowners (**Pepperell Court**), and one of us grew up in the neighborhood, so our history here is long. For decades, drivers from both Holton Arms and Primary Day have used Burdette Road and Royal Dominion Drive as shortcuts through our neighborhood, Al Marah, to avoid daily traffic and congestion on River Road, which has significantly increased in the last several years. We have personally witnessed cars speeding through the neighborhood at various times throughout the day. This neighborhood has narrow streets with no sidewalks or speed bumps and several intersections (such as Burdette Road and Royal Dominion Drive) with no stop signs, which only makes traffic more of a hazard during morning and afternoon rush hours.

Minimizing risk and ensuring the safety of children in our community should be a top priority and concern for all involved. **The comfort and convenience of students and parents at Holton Arms does not and should not supersede that.** There are three bus routes (high school, middle school, and elementary school) for Montgomery County Public Schools in Al Marah. There are four bus stops in the neighborhood, two of which are on the “shortcut” route (Burdette Road and Royal Dominion Drive). There are many children on our streets waiting for and getting off buses at various times throughout the day. We have seen first-hand numerous cars speeding by when our daughter and other children were waiting at the bus stop in the mornings and disembarking from the bus in the afternoons.

There are many private schools in the area that prioritize their relationships with their surrounding communities and put measures in place to protect neighboring streets by prohibiting parents from driving on local roads during drop-off and pick-up times. We have personal experience with **The French International School/Rochambeau, Maplewood** campus on Rockville Pike. Parents of children in kindergarten and older are not permitted to drop students off on campus or pick up students at the end of the school day. There are shuttle bus collection points to bring students to and from school to minimize traffic impacts in the surrounding neighborhood. Parents also register their license plates with the school and the school uses license plate readers to track and monitor any parents or guardians who do not comply with the strict transportation policies and expectations the school has set forth for the community. This is something a school like Holton Arms no doubt has the resources to do as well.

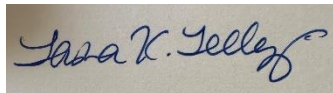
Holton Arms' proposed "solution" of a left-turn lane on the Al Marah side of Royal Dominion at the intersection with River Road acknowledges the issue of traffic in Al Marah but will only serve to encourage more Holton Arms traffic through Al Marah. This is NOT a practical solution. It is also worth noting that the neighborhood bordering Holton Arms on Burdette Road north of River Road has had a prohibition against an entrance/exit to the school on Burdette Road for many years. That neighborhood successfully avoided the additional traffic that we in Al Marah are concerned will create **increased risk in the neighborhood**, particularly to children who are walking to and waiting for buses to pick up or drop off throughout the day.

Holton Arms has filed documents indicating that: a) they still intend to pursue the expansion plans that concern neighbors, b) they do not intend to mandate any busing or other similar mandatory traffic mitigation plans, and c) they are still requesting that the county approve a dedicated left-hand turn lane on Royal Dominion. We do not want any construction on the Al Marah side of Royal Dominion (which Holton Arms cars should not be using anyway).

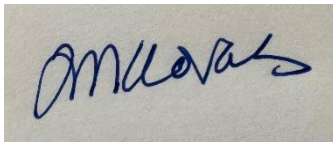
All these facts lead us to strongly OPPOSE the proposed expansion in academic and camp enrollment and facility rentals at Holton Arms.

Sincerely,

Tasha K. Teelucksingh

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tasha K. Teelucksingh". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'T' and 'K'.

Luke Kovacs

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Luke Kovacs". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'L' and 'K'.

cc: Nana Yaa A. Johnson