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By email: ozah@montgomerycountymd.gov

Office of Zoning and Administrative Hearings

Montgomery County, Maryland

100 Maryland Avenue, Room 200

Rockville, MD 20850

Support Re: Special Exception Application of Holton-Arms School, Case No. CBA 1174-E

To the Office of Zoning and Administrative Hearings:

We are writing to express our support for Holton-Arms School's request for a Special Exception Major Modification and to share our family's experience with the school's transportation system.

Our daughter Charlotte is in seventh grade and rides the Holton bus every day to and from school. The stop we use is located near Lucky Strike off of Westbard Avenue, which is about five minutes from our home. The location is convenient and well used by families from several schools in the area, and the parking lot is well maintained and cleared in the winter, making it a reliable and safe pickup location.

One of the features we appreciate most is the Samsara app tracking system, which allows families to see the bus location in real time. The app provides accurate, moment-to-moment tracking so we know exactly when the bus will arrive. It makes planning mornings much easier and gives parents peace of mind knowing where the bus is at any given time.

The school has also made communication around transportation very efficient. If we have a question or need to make a change, the transportation team is responsive and helpful. Through the Veracross parent portal, families can easily

submit transportation updates, such as when a student will ride home with another family, and both households confirm the change. The system ensures that the school always knows where each student is supposed to go.

Beyond logistics, the bus has become an important part of Charlotte's school experience. The students have formed close friendships through their daily rides. Sometimes they even meet early for coffee before the bus arrives to study together. The buses are equipped with internet access, which can be helpful in getting a jump on homework, but the girls often choose to put their phones away and talk with one another instead. It has created a strong sense of community among students across multiple grades.

Overall, the bus system is reliable, well organized, and thoughtfully managed. Stops are conveniently located, buses are not overcrowded, and the technology tools used by the school make transportation safe and easy for families.

For these reasons, we can attest to the successful transportation system that serves Holton's families and support Holton-Arms School's request for a Special Exception Major Modification.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Josh Miller



Cory Miller