

March 31, 2026

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

To Whom It May Concern:

Pursuant to OZAH rule 32.c, I am submitting this signed letter as part of the record in the case of **Holton-Arms School – Case No. CBA 1174-E**.

As a lifelong resident of Montgomery County, regular commuter on River Road, Holton-Arms alumna, and former Holton parent, I **strongly oppose** the proposed expansion of Holton-Arms School, which would have extensive repercussions on traffic and public safety.

River Road is already notorious for its congestion, and the section in front of Holton-Arms is arguably the most congested, especially during peak hours when Holton-Arms students and Creative Summer campers arrive and depart.

Far too often I have been caught in major bottlenecks near or at the school entrance, and I routinely witness drivers with Holton stickers on their cars speed down the shoulders on both sides of River Road. Driving my daughter to school and summer camp, I was involved in numerous near-collisions when I legally moved into the far-right lane to turn into the school—because another parent or student was driving on the shoulder.

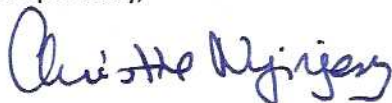
It is important to note that River Road is not a local thoroughfare. It is a state highway. The increased volume of cars from this expansion will inevitably lead to longer delays and heightened frustration among drivers. Likely it will force more Holton vehicles into the neighboring communities, notably Burning Tree, Bradley Boulevard and Al Marah. Residents there already report issues with Holton cars cutting through neighborhoods, creating dangerous conditions for pedestrians and cyclists and complicating access for Montgomery County school buses and emergency vehicles.

I also question the need for this expansion. As one of the most highly rated and respected schools in Maryland and the U.S., Holton-Arms is an exceptional institution, known for excellence not just in academics but overall school experience—which is possible because of its current size. And, financially, it is one of the healthiest private schools in the Washington area.

I hope you will deny this application and prioritize the well-being of county residents.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Christine Nyirjesy". The signature is cursive and somewhat stylized.

Christine Nyirjesy (Class of 1984, parent class of 2015)
4905 Baltan Road
Bethesda, MD 20816