

BALTIMORE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Catherine E. Pugh
Mayor, City of Baltimore

Marnell A. Cooper
*Chair, Baltimore City Board of
School Commissioners*

Dr. Sonja Brookins Santelises
Chief Executive Officer

March 13, 2017

Ms. Sarah Long, Principal
Ms. Amy Thomas, Parent Volunteer
Federal Hill Preparatory
1040 William St.
Baltimore, MD 21230

Re: Systemic Partnership between Federal Hill Preparatory and
Baltimore City Public Schools

Dear Ms. Long and Ms. Thomas:

I am writing to describe some of the work between Federal Hill Preparatory (FHP) and Baltimore City Public Schools (City School) during the past two years, which will serve as documentation for your application to be a MAEOE Green School.

In 2015-16:

- FHP received a Green, Healthy, Smart Challenge grant via the City's Office of Sustainability, a key partner with City Schools. The grants are for student-led greening efforts, and at FHP the funds were used to transform a dilapidated space into a bird sanctuary/outdoor classroom by the green team and 5th grade in partnership with the Patterson Park Audubon Society.
- FHP received a School Energy Hub grant from the Baltimore Energy Challenge, a key partner with City Schools. The funds were used to increase awareness in the school community by designing an energy saving logo that was placed on t-shirts and given to the entire student population at a school-wide celebration. The students may wear the t-shirts in school every Wednesday to remind them to save energy.

In 2016-17:

- FHP has designated one staff person, the librarian Wendy Morone, as the School Sustainability Ambassador, who is the point of contact for greening and sustainability work, as required by City Schools' Sustainability Policy passed in June 2016.

- Ms. Thomas has represented FHP as part of the K12 Food Waste Working Group, a partnership between City Schools, the City's Office of Sustainability, the Institute for Local Self Reliance, and multiple local partners. The Working Group is exploring ways to reduce food waste through right-sizing the amount of food ordered, giving uneaten food to individuals and organizations who can use it, and composting food waste. Ms. Thomas provided detailed information for a case study of FHP and its cafeteria composting program. The Working Group met on the following dates: Sept 7, 2016; Dec 15, 2016, and Feb 24, 2017.
- FHP is receiving a Green, Healthy, Smart Challenge grant via the City's Office of Sustainability, a key partner with City Schools. The grants are for student-led greening efforts, and at FHP the funds will be used for to build on past projects to make them more effective. Plans include installing a large mural on the blacktop that will tie to 2 storm drains, installing a blackboard in our outdoor classroom, conducting a school awareness campaign with posters and signs, and creating a nature trail connecting all of our outdoor areas. Constellation Energy volunteers will assist during National Volunteer week April 23-29, 2017.

Please note that in Baltimore City, the school system is a separate entity than the City of Baltimore. Therefore, while the City's Office of Sustainability it technically not part of the school system, we are close partners, share funding raised for school greening efforts, and coordinate our work closely.

If you have any questions, I am available to talk by phone (443-642-4542) or email (jpi-sunyer@bcps.k12.md.us).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Joanna Pi-Sunyer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J".

Joanna Pi-Sunyer
Green Schools Coordinator