

# BALTIMORE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

**Bernard C. “Jack” Young**  
*Mayor, City of Baltimore*

**Cheryl A. Casciani**  
*Chair, Baltimore City Board of  
School Commissioners*

**Dr. Sonja Brookins Santelises**  
*Chief Executive Officer*

Position Statement  
**Baltimore City Council Ordinance 19-0411**  
**Renaming Fairmount Harford Building to Lake Clifton Park Building**

July 25, 2019

On July 22, 2019 the Baltimore City Council introduced the above-captioned ordinance to change the name of the Fairmount Harford Building, located at 2555 Harford Road, to the Lake Clifton Park Building.

Baltimore City Public Schools (City Schools) strongly supports this name change. The building, located at the southwest corner of Clifton Park, has been home to at least four school programs: Clifton Park Middle School (named after the park where the building is located), Fairmount-Harford High School (a geographical area), Baltimore Antioch Diploma Plus, and Achievement Academy Alternative High. In addition, in September 2019, the newly renovated building will become home of the Reach! Partnership School. While the program name is Reach! Partnership, the athletic teams play under the Lake Clifton name. Reach! students can join the Lake Clifton Alumni Association upon graduation, and the name permanently in stone over what will be the main entrance to the new building is Clifton Park. The proposed name change was initiated to bring consistency between the permanent name on the building and new building signage.

The renaming process was conducted in accordance with Baltimore City Public Schools’ Naming/Renaming School Facility Regulation (FFA-RA). The 21<sup>st</sup> Century School Buildings Program ensured neighborhood community groups and organizations, students, teachers, elected officials and other interested citizens were afforded an opportunity to vote on the renaming. A community forum was held with the Coldspring Homestead Montebello community whereby City Schools provided a presentation of the process, dates, renaming options and vote. An online survey was sent to Reach! staff and PTO, Lake Clifton alumni, and community members. Surveys were also distributed to students during lunch shifts.

The survey, conducted between April and May 2019, resulted in overwhelming support among students, staff, PTO, members of the community and the Lake Clifton Alumni Association to rename the Fairmount-Harford Building as Lake Clifton Park.

Having met the necessary committee and engagement requirements of the Naming/Renaming policy, on May 28, 2019 the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners (Board) voted to request that Baltimore City Council change the name of the Fairmount Harford Building to the Lake Clifton Park Building.

City Schools will be pleased to testify further on this issue upon request.

For additional information, please contact City Schools Government Affairs:

Melissa Broome  
Director of Policy and Legislative Affairs  
MCBroome@bcps.k12.md.us  
(443) 525-3038

Dawana Sterrette  
Director of Legislative and Government Affairs  
DSterrette@bcps.k12.md.us  
(443) 250-0190