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St. Mary's County Public Schools
Division of Supporting Services
Department of Capital Planning
27190 Point Lookout Road
Loveville, Maryland 20656

Ms. Kimberly Howe
Director

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Maryland Department of Planning
State Clearinghouse
120 E. Baltimore St., Suite 2000
Baltimore, MD 21202

RE: FY 2026 Defense Community Infrastructure Grant – OLDCC-26-F-001

To whom it may concern:

St. Mary's County Public Schools (SMCPS) has applied for the FY 2026 Defense Community Infrastructure Grant for the Esperanza Middle School for LED Lighting and Building Envelope project. Esperanza Middle School is located at 22790 Maple Road in Lexington Park, Maryland. This school serves students and families of Naval Air Station (NAS) Patuxent River, and this project is considered a community support facility type project that would enhance military quality of life. The school is located within the Lexington Park Development District which is designated for growth and is a certified priority funding area.

Esperanza Middle School was originally constructed in 1960, with additions in 1965, 1969, 1976, and 2000. The total square footage of the building is 115,866 sq. ft. Esperanza Middle School is not included in the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties and is a category II school under the IAC/MHT Programmatic Agreement. This project is designed in conjunction with a planned HVAC systemic renovation to address mold conditions in the building in August/September 2024. The HVAC project was submitted for federal grant funds under the Military Connected Schools Grant in May 2026. The HVAC project will replace the system and include the ability to control humidity in the building. The current grant application for LED Lighting and Building Envelope will ensure energy efficiency and reduce the infiltration of humidity.

Per the review requirements, the following attachments are included with the review package:

- Attachment A: Grant application as submitted, including a detailed description of the project
- Attachment B: Project study completed by RTM consultant
- Attachment C: USGS Quad Map indicating location of project
- Attachment D: Photographs of Esperanza Middle School

Information on the scope of the project is provided in the project study provided as Attachment B. Information on the construction dates for the building are provided above.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact my office at (301) 475-4256, extension 6.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Howe
Director of Capital Planning

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Attachments

St. Mary's County Public School System does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, age, national origin, marital status, sexual orientation, religion, or disability in matters affecting employment or providing access to programs.