



JAN H. GARDNER
Frederick County
Executive

HB 1290

Education – Public School
Construction – Funding and
Administration

County Position: FAVORABLE

Date: March 29, 2022
Committee: Budget & Taxation

Frederick County Executive Jan Gardner urges your **SUPPORT** for House Bill 1290 – Education – Public School Construction – Funding and Administration.

School facilities should provide an optimal environment for teaching and learning. Adequate and safe school facilities support the State’s commitment to a K-12 public school system that provides excellence, access and opportunity for every Maryland student and compliment the goals of the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future. A robust and responsive public school construction program is a priority for all of us.

County Executive Gardner supports the provisions in the proposed legislation that:

- Reflects the recommendations of the Workgroup on the Assessment and Funding of School Facilities which was established based on recommendations of the Knott Commission;
- Provides incentives for school construction projects meeting certain established criteria, including having a high percentage of students receiving free or reduced-priced meals, receiving good maintenance ratings, or constructing “net-zero” buildings;
- Establishes a revolving loan fund which will help local jurisdictions forward-fund the State’s share and, in some instances the local share, of school construction projects that may otherwise be deferred because of a local jurisdiction’s limited debt capacity; and
- Ensures an environment in which all students can learn and supports the goals of the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future.

Frederick County Executive Gardner urges a **FAVORABLE** report for House Bill 1290.