**TO:**

**Atlanta Board of Education, Board Members**

**130 Trinity Avenue, S.W.**

**Atlanta, GA 30303**

**I support restoring and re-opening the Planetarium and Theater at Harper-Archer Middle School when it is renovated and re-purposed as Harper-Archer Elementary School.**

As a member of my community for \_\_\_\_\_\_ years, I support efforts to help expose our students to educational tools will help them academically. The Planetarium and Theater will do just that.

The kids in our community as well as all 52,000 APS students need access to this Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Math (STEM/STEAM) tool. Planetariums today teach STEM/STEAM and all subjects.

Our students need access to tools that give them access to STEM/STEAM career options that pay a living wage and will benefit them economically for the rest of their lives as productive members of the community and society at large.

The $1.5 Million price tag for the Planetarium is not too expensive. It is an investment into our future leaders who once exposed, excited, and have access during the school year and during summer programs from having their own Planetarium and Theater within APS. They will:

* have access to how technology actually works so they can make it better
* he able to solve today’s STEAM problems tomorrow
* be more creative and productive with their time
* be capable of making advances in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Math instead of just being captivated by cell phones and social media.
* learn about film and theater production careers with their own theater since Georgia is a mecca for film making
* also learn about film/theater/production careers behind the camera that include sound, music scoring, and much more!!

Since the Frederick Douglass High School Cluster is designated as a STEM Cluster, it also makes sense to restore and utilize the Planetarium and Theater at Harper-Archer when it is re-purposed as an elementary school. I urge all member of the APS School Board to approve this STEM/STEAM project and its’ funding.

Sincerely,

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Name/Signature Date I attended APS Yes/No

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add additional comments here or on back.

*Rev. 4/4/18*