The Anne Arundel County Board of Education OPPOSES HB 474. This Bill would change the Education Article to require:

- An elementary school student to be provided a daily program of physical activity that totals 150 minutes per week, including 90 minutes of physical education per week, with any remaining minutes of physical education to consist of developmentally appropriate, moderate to vigorous activity, including recess;
- A student’s program of physical activity to be consistent with the student’s individual education plan;
- Each elementary school to establish a physical activity leadership team to plan and coordinate activities required under this Bill;
- The Maryland State Board of Education to adopt necessary regulations.

This Bill is an attempt to mandate a specific physical education/activity program in local school systems. While the intent of the Bill is to enhance student involvement in more physical activity and related physical education, the objectives of the proposed legislation can continue to be most effectively addressed at the local school system level.

It is crucial for a local school board to retain the authority to address curricular issues for its schools. We oppose local public school curriculum content being mandated by the State Legislature. The authority to establish curriculum is the domain of the State Board and the local boards, the same entities charged with the responsibility to research, investigate, and evaluate both the curriculum and assessments. Accordingly, the Anne Arundel County Board of Education urges the House Ways and Means Committee to issue an UNFAVORABLE Report on House Bill 474.