



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0916

March 13, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for Shields Middle School Community Resource Center in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is Hillsborough County Public Schools, located at 15732 Beth Shields Way, Ruskin, Florida, 33573.

The funding would be used for the construction of a Community Resource Center at Shields Middle School in Ruskin, Florida that provides community members with opportunities for career preparation and skill development. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it is supporting an essential community resource that ensures a secure setting to offer services that promote economic stability and help shape how local residents navigate their futures and career pathways.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(2).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Vern Buchanan".

Vern Buchanan
Member of Congress