



## House of Representatives

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July 12, 2010

DeKalb County Board of Education  
1701 Mountain Industrial Boulevard  
Stone Mountain, GA 30083

Dear Members of the Board of Education:

I am writing to encourage your favorable consideration of the facilities use agreement with the YMCA of Metropolitan Atlanta that I understand to be on the agenda for tonight's Board of Education meeting. In connection with this agreement, the YMCA proposes to substantially upgrade the athletic fields at Cross Keys High School using private funds.

No public funds are required for the proposed project, which creates a rare "win-win" opportunity for the school system in this otherwise difficult fiscal climate. A wide array of stakeholders will benefit from this proposal: the students at Cross Keys will receive remarkably improved facilities for their athletic activities, the Cross Keys school community will receive exterior facilities that match the SPLOST III improvements now taking shape inside the building, the YMCA will be able to expand its athletic programs, and the surrounding Brookhaven neighborhoods will benefit from the improved aesthetics of the refurbished Cross Keys exterior.

This public-private partnership will not shortchange the students at Cross Keys because their athletic and band programs and other activities will always take precedence over YMCA programs and activities, even with the YMCA's investment of capital. It is a rare day that DCSS (or any governmental entity) is presented with a deal as good as this one. I wholeheartedly support the proposed facilities use agreement and respectfully request your support, as well.

Sincerely,

Mike Jacobs