



**SARASOTA COUNTY**  
"Dedicated to Quality Service"

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

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phone: 941-861-5344 fax: 941-861-5987

February 13, 2013

Sarasota County School Board  
1960 Landings Boulevard  
Sarasota, FL 34231

Dear School Board Members:

Our county is known internationally for its Sarasota School of Architecture and the iconic buildings that represent the work of renowned architects such as Paul Rudolph. When you commenced the construction planning for the new Riverview High School, which involved demolition of that Rudolph designed building, we expressed our concern at the loss of a significant piece of the county's architectural fabric. At that time it was agreed through the 2007 site and development plan approval that was given that, in consideration for the loss of that building, the School Board would insure that the Rudolph Addition to Sarasota High School was protected through an appropriate rehabilitation.

To insure that the unique architectural features of this nationally designated historic structure are preserved, we request that the School Board direct Harvard Jolly Architects to revise their plans for Sarasota High School's Building No. 4. This redesign would incorporate and rehabilitate the significant character-defining elements which are: (i) the floating walkway, (ii) linear light wells and, (iii) the steel door frames. We believe that involvement of the School Board's preservation architect and the Sarasota Architectural Foundation in the design process is essential to the successful implementation of an appropriate rehabilitation.

We recognize the need to move ahead with construction at Sarasota High School so that our students can receive the best possible 21st century learning experience. We also know that a properly rehabilitated architectural treasure is an asset that benefits the entire community. This is the time to honor an important commitment that was made with a specific purpose.

Sincerely,

CAROLYN J. MASON  
Chair

- C: Jane Goodwin, Chair, Sarasota County School Board
- Shirley Brown, Vice Chair, Sarasota County School Board
- Caroline Zucker, Sarasota County School Board
- Dr. Carol Todd, Sarasota County School Board
- Frank Kovach, Sarasota County School Board
- Sarasota County Commission
- Randall H. Reid, County Administrator