



October 24, 2015

Dear Future Leaders of Howard County Library System,

On behalf of the 2015 Howard County Library System team, greetings!

If all goes as planned, this letter will be read 25 years from now, then again in 50, and finally, in 75 years. Note that our words are conveyed on paper—a medium we are willing to bet will still be around in three quarters of a century!

While it is possible that we know you, it is more likely that we do not, as those of you reading this have probably joined the Howard County Library System team well after our retirement and lifespans.

We hope to be able to return to thank you in person (in 2040). However, we meld pragmatism with our passion, so we take this opportunity to express our profound gratitude for your leadership in HCLS' future landmark years—2040, 2065, and 2090—and for keeping the 75-year plan we have set into motion today moving forward.

Today, we host Celebrate 75, a communitywide fest to commemorate HCLS' 75th Diamond Anniversary, connecting our past to the present, and the present to the future—so, in a sense, you are here as well. We wonder what the world will be like in your time—what the latest technology will look like and how our community will have evolved.

We therefore raise our glasses in a toast to you, who, by continuing the 75-year plan, pledge to secure Howard County Library System's legacy of delivering our mission of high quality public education for all.

If you are reading this in 2040 or 2065, we hope you will celebrate 100 and 125 years of HCLS still setting the standard for excellence in education in your time.

We are confident that this will be the case because our mission is timeless. We also encourage you to write a letter to the future HCLS leadership, placing it in your respective time capsules to connect with the leadership in 2090.

Thank you for being our future, for continuing the excellence that is Howard County Library System, and for now joining us as part of history!

With our gratitude and very best wishes,

Valerie J. Gross
President & CEO

Ankur (Andy) P. Dalal
HCLS Board of Trustees, Chair