Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

November 18, 2019

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker  
United States House of Representatives  
H-232, The Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
S-221, The Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
Minority Leader  
United States House of Representatives  
H-204, The Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Chuck Schumer  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
S-230, The Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. President, Speaker Pelosi, Leaders McConnell, McCarthy, and Schumer,

We write in support of continued efforts to rebuild America’s infrastructure. We were encouraged by the strong commitments made earlier this spring and hope to continue building on that momentum. Specifically, we wish to highlight our nation’s public schools as a critical area of need. The public schools that strengthen our communities and fuel our competitive economy are deteriorating. In order to continue leveraging the full potential of our public schools, we must invest in the rehabilitation of their deteriorating facilities.

To effectively contribute to our nation as adults, students require schools that support engagement and provide access to technology. Due to a lack of resources, many schools that intend to modernize with innovative programming and technology are far behind and cannot afford basic maintenance. Those schools struggle with poor indoor air quality, crumbling plaster, peeling paint, and faulty heating and cooling systems.

A comprehensive infrastructure plan should include investment in much-needed basic improvements for public school facilities from all communities, including urban, low-income, suburban, or rural. Federal agencies should consider partnering with states to evaluate need and find creative ways to finance future projects. Investments in the infrastructure of our public schools will improve student outcomes, stimulate job growth, and pave the way for innovation.

We are grateful for your leadership toward rebuilding America’s infrastructure. As you continue your work, we hope that you will recognize school infrastructure as a critical area of need and an essential component of our national infrastructure. We look forward to working with you to advance student success by investing in the infrastructure of our nation’s public schools.

Thank you for your consideration of our thoughts on this important matter.
Sincerely,

David P. Joyce
Member of Congress

Christopher H. Smith
Member of Congress

Brian Fitzpatrick
Member of Congress

Michael R. Turner
Member of Congress

Peter T. King
Member of Congress

Dan Newhouse
Member of Congress

David B. McKinley, P.E.
Member of Congress

Will Hurd
Member of Congress

Don Young
Member of Congress

Don Bacon
Member of Congress

Paul Cook
Member of Congress
cc:

The Honorable Donald Trump
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500