

April 6, 2020

**Dear Florida Building Commission:** 

Disability Rights Florida, the State's designated Protection and Advocacy system for individuals with disabilities, joins the staff of the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation in opposing the waiver for vertical accessibility to the press box for the Community School of Naples' proposed stadium at 13275 Livingston Rd., Naples, FL 34109.

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Standards for Accessible Design § 35.151 New Construction and Alterations requires "each facility or part of a facility constructed by, on behalf of, or for the use of a public entity shall be designed and constructed in such manner that the facility or part of the facility is readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities." This \$4.1 million project also does not meet the waiver criteria for "unnecessary or extreme hardship to the applicant."

People with disabilities should have the opportunity to participate in all aspects of our society as fully and equally as those without disabilities. The ADA Standards for Accessible Design helps to break down these barriers and waivers such as this should be unequivocally denied.

Sincerely

**Allison Klein** 

Senior Advocate-Investigator

Advocacy, Education and Outreach Team

( u ll