

Montgomery County Board of Education

Legislative Annual Priorities

2020 Session of the Maryland General Assembly

The Montgomery County Board of Education supports—

Fully Funding Education—

- ▶ Full commitment to **funding any legislatively mandated Kirwan Commission recommendations**, including the Geographic Cost of Education Index (GCEI), compensatory education, student transportation, and parity in state support for employee salaries for all educational employees.
- ▶ A robust and innovative statewide **school construction and renovation funding plan** for Fiscal Year 2021 to address school facility needs.
- ▶ Developing a mechanism to ensure that locally forward-funded projects remain eligible for state funding, even after the project has been completed.
- ▶ Changing the state funding process from a project-by-project allocation to a “block grant” allocation to allow Local Education Agencies (LEA) to have flexibility in funding local capital projects.
- ▶ Establishing incentives for green and energy-efficient school construction.

Providing Equitable Opportunities to All Students—

- ▶ **Increased State funding for specialized programs**, including Career and Technology Education (CTE) programs, to make them more readily available to all students.
- ▶ Ensuring that any chosen accountability system is implementable and focused on rigor for all, **eliminating disparity based on race and economic circumstances**. It also must focus on meaningful progress for English learners and special education students that supports teaching and learning.
- ▶ Expansion of the Maryland Meals for Achievement Program as an entitlement, to include all eligible schools that choose to apply.
- ▶ Efforts to increase federal funding for the Summer Food Service Program.

Supporting Physical, Social, and Psychological Well-Being for All Students—

- ▶ Creating and funding a **comprehensive suicide-awareness, prevention, intervention, and postvention model** to support students and reinforce effective coping and help-seeking strategies.
- ▶ Additional funding to expand training of staff **members and support for students showing signs and symptoms of mental health illnesses and concerns**, for substance use awareness and education, interventions, and supports, to expand training for staff members on trauma-informed schools and care, and to expand restorative justice supports to promote and support culture and climate in school and address the disproportionate suspension of students.

- ▶ The continued promotion of an **atmosphere of respect and nondiscrimination** for all students and staff members, regardless of race, ethnicity, color, ancestry, national origin, religion, immigration status, sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, family/parental status, marital status, age, physical or mental disability, poverty and socioeconomic status, language, or other legally or constitutionally protected attributes or affiliations.

Preparing All Students to be College, Career, and Community Ready—

- ▶ **Maintaining the authority of local boards of education** to determine educational policy, curriculum, additional graduation requirements, and administration.
- ▶ Additional funding for expanding CTE programs.

Preserving Local Autonomy Over Education—

- ▶ **Retaining decision-making authority at the local level**, which includes, but is not limited to, school calendars, curriculum, testing, staffing, and procurement issues.

Creating a Safe and Secure Environment for all Students—

- ▶ Innovative initiatives and funding that speak to strategies that **ensure a safe and secure learning and working environment for students and staff**, including those that address gang prevention and involvement and promote targeted interventions to reduce gang activity.

Working Together with Families and Communities—

- ▶ **Including family and community stakeholder voices** in policy decisions.
- ▶ Encouraging parents to be involved in their children’s schools.
- ▶ Supporting and partnering with parent-teacher associations throughout the local school system.

Investing in Early Childhood—

- ▶ Universal prekindergarten services. Statewide initiatives that **foster school readiness** through the provision of high-quality early childhood programs, including **child care**.
- ▶ Efforts that encourage the provision of **an array of services by a variety of agencies**.
- ▶ Efforts to ensure affordable **child care** subsidies and copayments for parents.
- ▶ Efforts that protect the safety, health, and well-being of children in **child care**.

Maryland's Largest School District

MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

OUR SCHOOL SYSTEM

Maryland's Largest School District

MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Expanding Opportunity and Unleashing Potential



LARGEST DISTRICT IN MARYLAND

14th largest school system in the United States

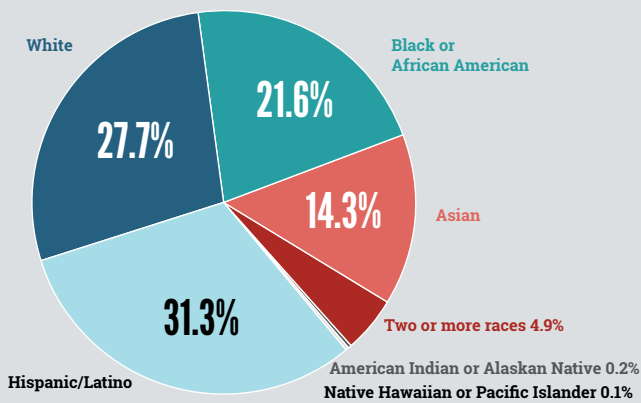
165,380 STUDENTS*
*Fall 2019

208 SCHOOLS

135 ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS
40 MIDDLE SCHOOLS
25 HIGH SCHOOLS

5 SPECIAL SCHOOLS 1 ALTERNATIVE PROGRAM 2 EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING CENTERS

STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS 2018-2019



2009: 139,237
to Fall 2019: 165,380

ENROLLMENT +26,143

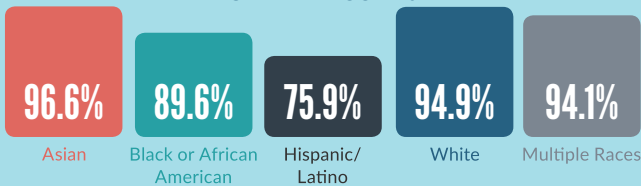
100,000 BUSES
MILES A DAY
= more than 4 times around the equator (1,307 buses)

FACILITIES
25 MILLION
square feet of school and office space to clean and maintain



2018 MCPS GRADUATION RATE

OVERALL 88.4%



The MCPS overall graduation is rate ABOVE state and national average.



\$364 MILLION
Scholarships Awarded
TO THE CLASS OF 2018

SERVICES 2018-2019



OUR WORKFORCE 2018-2019



23,857
of Employees