

Office of the Superintendent of Schools  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
Rockville, Maryland

January 19, 2023

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Board of Education  
From: Monifa B. McKnight, Superintendent of Schools  
Subject: Enrollment (12-06-2022-03-B, -D)

During the *Overview of the Superintendent's Recommended Fiscal Year 2024 Operating Budget* presentation, Board members requested the following information:

**Question B:**

Ms. Harris requested information regarding the number of students returning to the school system versus the Pre-COVID enrollment numbers.

**Response B:**

Prior to the pandemic, enrollment was trending upward peaking at 165,267 students for school year 2019–2020.

During school year 2020–2021, a partial virtual learning year due to COVID-19, enrollment trends included:

- An increase in the number of students withdrawing and opting for homeschooling
- An increase in the number of students withdrawing and opting for private schooling
- A decrease in the number of students enrolling in international schools

During school year 2021–2022, a full in-person learning year, enrollment trends included:

- An increase in the number of students enrolling in Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) from homeschooling of approximately 1,000 students
- An increase in the number of students enrolling in private schools of approximately 410 students
- An increase in the number of students enrolling in MCPS from international schools of more than 3,000 students

- An increase in the number of students withdrawing and attending another public school district in the state of Maryland of almost 1500 students
- An increase in the number of students withdrawing from MCPS as either a dropout due to a variety of reasons or as their whereabouts were unknown.

**Question D:**

Ms. Silvestre requested data regarding where the additional students are coming from: Are they (students) from an overall enrollment bump from students returning to the system after leaving during the height of the COVID pandemic in 2020/2021, or are these enrollment numbers increasing from a boost in international students/Newcomers?

**Response D:**

The following chart indicates the number of students who were enrolled in MCPS with an enrollment code of 18, transfer in from another country.

- Of the years noted, students transferring internationally peaked in fiscal year (FY) 2020, dramatically plummeted in FY 2021 during the pandemic and have increased in FY 2022 and FY 2023.
- Overall district enrollment is continuing to increase post-pandemic with the current unofficial enrollment as of December 31, 2022, at 161,836 students.

School Year	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
<b>Enrollment Code</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>N</b>
18 - Foreign school	1,803	1,785	2,580	658	1,351	2,210
Official September 30 Enrollment	161,546	162,680	165,267	160,564	158,232	160,554

*\*Prepared by the Office of Shared Accountability*

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Stephanie S. Sheron, chief of strategic initiatives, via email.

MBM:PKM:SSS:alr

Copy to:

Executive Staff

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