

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

September 26, 2018

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Board of Education
From: Jack R. Smith, Superintendent of Schools
Subject: Instrumental Music Repair, Maintenance, and Replacement Budget

The purpose of this memorandum is to follow-up on a question from Ms. Ortman-Fouse about the budget for repair, maintenance, and replacement of musical instruments.

Question 1

What is the repair budget for band (musical instrument) equipment, and how are funds equitably provided to schools?

Response

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2019, the following funding sources are budgeted for instrumental music equipment:

- Instruments for disadvantaged students
- Instrument repair (does not include piano tuning)
- Furniture/equipment replacement
- Arts Initiative Expanding to Up County (formerly East County Initiative)

The funding source for instruments for disadvantaged students is an elementary and middle school account; instruments are purchased based on need. The budget request for purchasing instruments for disadvantaged students is \$56,963. Music teachers request instruments for students who receive Free and Reduced-Price Meals System (FARMS) services through the coordinator of fine arts. The instruments purchased remain a part of each school's instrument inventory.

Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) Instrument Music Disadvantaged Budget	
Level	Allocation
Elementary	\$39,162
Middle	\$17,801
Total	\$56,963

The instrument repair budget is \$76,848, not including the budget for piano tuning. This budget is allocated to schools for instrument repairs based on the number of students enrolled in their instrumental music program. The funds are applied equitably between schools as a per pupil amount.

MCPS Annual Instrument Repair Budget	
Level	Allocation
Elementary	\$10,215.49
Middle	\$39,874.12
High	\$26,758.44
Total	\$76,848.05

Schools have the discretion to use a portion of their furniture/equipment replacement allocations for the purchase of musical instruments. These funds are allocated from the School and Financial Operations Team to schools for discretionary use.

With the new Arts Initiative Expanding to Up County (formerly East County Initiative) in FY 2019, 10 elementary schools with high FARMS rates received additional staffing as well as additional instrumentation for the purpose of increasing student access to the instrumental music program. Each school received an average of 26 instruments for their program from a budget of \$80,000.

Question 2

What amount of instruments are accessible to students?

Response

The following chart indicates the current MCPS band and orchestra instrument inventory at the middle and high school level including the overall replacement cost. The elementary band and orchestra inventory is an approximation of what is needed to provide instruments to students receiving FARMS services.

MCPS Band and Orchestra Instrument Inventory Replacement Costs		
Level	Number of Instruments	Replacement Cost
Elementary	5,404	\$1,807,420.00
Middle	3,761	\$4,773,750.65
High	3,018	\$4,735,870.50
Total	12,183	\$11,317,041.15

Annual replacement costs of MCPS band and orchestra instruments at five percent of the current replacement value would be \$565,852.06.

Should you have any questions, please contact Dr. Maria V. Navarro, chief academic officer, at 240-740-3040.

JRS:MVN:BJC:bts

Copy to:

Executive Staff

Mr. Ikheloa