

Baltimore County Board of Education Budget Message; Second Public Input Session Scheduled for February 12

The Board of Education of Baltimore County is still considering the FY2020 BCPS operating budget. No proposal has been approved by the Board of Education, and members may vote to modify the budget before final approval.

“The Board of Education is committed to supporting our dedicated professionals who positively impact our students every day. The operating budget is very much a work in progress,” stated Board Chair Kathleen Causey.

An initial proposed operating and capital budget request of \$2.38 billion was presented to the Board on January 8. That request reflects an increase of 33.6% over the FY2019 adjusted budget. It exceeds the maintenance of effort level by 11.2% or \$91.2 million.

Given the County’s identification of an \$81 million revenue deficit, Board leadership requested information that preserves newly proposed staffing levels, while reducing expenditures to align spending more closely to maintenance of effort levels of recent prior years. The collaborative exchange of ideas and data between the Superintendent and the Board of Education reflects the decision-making process.

The Board will hold a work session on the budget on February 5, 2019, at 6:30 p.m. The Board will hold an additional public hearing on the proposed FY2020 operating budget at on Tuesday, February 12, 2019, at 7 p.m. (snow date Wednesday, February 13, 2019) to seek additional community input. The Board is expected to vote on the proposed operating budget request on February 19, 2019.

<http://www.bcps.org/budget/FY20/FY2020-Proposed-Budget.pdf>

Sign-up for those members of the public wishing to speak at the February 12 public hearing begins at 6 p.m. at the Greenwood Campus, 6901 N. Charles Street, Building E, Towson, Maryland 21204. Each speaker will be allotted three minutes and is welcome to bring a written copy of any remarks or to provide any remarks to the Board by email at boe@bcps.org.

The school system is committed to accessible communication with its stakeholders. Accordingly, all Board of Education meetings are live-streamed and can be viewed on the BCPS website at <http://www.bcps.org/>, or on BCPS-TV (Comcast Xfinity channel 73, Verizon FiOS channel 34).

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