

FUND OUR FUTURE

IT IS TIME TO REINVEST IN OUR STUDENTS.

Growing Needs/Fewer Resources

OUR COMMUNITY must begin to reinvest in education and change the way the Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) budget has been funded for the past eight years. Together, we must achieve full funding of the budget to ensure every child has the opportunity for success. The FY 2017 Operating Budget includes resources to serve more than **2,500** additional students; **reduce class sizes**; **close the achievement gap**; improve students' literacy and math skills; and build the cultural proficiency of staff.

ENROLLMENT SKYROCKETS WHILE STAFFING FAILS TO KEEP PACE

STUDENT ENROLLMENT



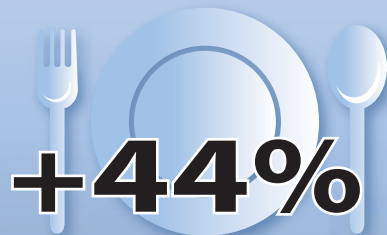
STAFFING INCREASE



- MCPS is the largest and fastest-growing school system in Maryland
- Enrollment has increased by 17,171 students since 2009
- More than 1,800 staff positions have been eliminated since 2009

STUDENT NEEDS SPIKE TO ALL-TIME HIGHS

FY 2015
FARMS
54,099



FY 2009
37,692

ESOL
21,463



16,250

- Eligibility for free and reduced-price meals (FARMS) is up by 16,407 students
- Enrollment in English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) programs is up by 5,213 students

GREATER CHALLENGES BUT STUDENTS RECEIVING FEWER SUPPORTS

SPENDING



- Montgomery County government has decreased per-student spending by \$1,200 for MCPS since 2009
- 400 fewer teachers, resulting in **class size** increases

FUND OUR FUTURE • **Make Your Voice Heard**

We must **FUND OUR FUTURE**. That's where you come in.

YOUR VOICE MATTERS

It is critical that our elected leaders hear from you about the essential role school plays in your children's lives, and the importance of giving students access to the opportunities and resources they need to be college and career ready. Here are **three easy ways** to make your voice heard:

ACTION #1: ATTEND AND ADVOCATE AT COUNTY COUNCIL BUDGET MEETINGS

- **TESTIFY AT THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARINGS** on the FY 2017 Operating Budget. Call 240-777-7803, beginning March 17, to sign up.
 - APRIL 5** 7:00 p.m.
 - APRIL 6** 1:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.
 - APRIL 7** 1:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.
- Additionally, Montgomery County Council Education Committee Chair Craig Rice, in partnership with MCPS and Montgomery College, is holding meetings across the county to discuss education funding. You can attend and share your perspective about education funding in our community. Call 240-777-7803 or visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov/COUNCIL/PHSignUp.html, beginning March 17, to sign up.
 - MARCH 9** 6:30 p.m. at Gaithersburg High School
 - MARCH 16** 6:30 p.m. at Col. Zadok Magruder High School
 - MARCH 23** 6:30 p.m. at Thomas S. Wootton High School

ACTION #2: CONTACT YOUR ELECTED COUNTY OFFICIALS

- **LET YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS KNOW WHY THEY SHOULD FULLY FUND OUR BUDGET** by sending emails, tweets, letters, short videos, and testimonials. You can share your thoughts and opinions with the key decision makers at the contact information below. Don't forget to use the hashtag #MCPSFundOurFuture

County Executive Isiah Leggett	ocemail@montgomerycountymd.gov
Councilmember Roger Berliner	Councilmember.Berliner@montgomerycountymd.gov / @RogerBerliner
Councilmember Marc Elrich	Councilmember.Elrich@montgomerycountymd.gov / @marc_b_elrich
Councilmember Nancy Floreen	Councilmember.Floreen@montgomerycountymd.gov / @nfloreen
Councilmember Tom Hucker	Councilmember.Hucker@montgomerycountymd.gov / @tomhucker
Councilmember Sidney Katz	Councilmember.Katz@montgomerycountymd.gov / @MC_Council_Katz
Councilmember George Leventhal	Councilmember.Leventhal@montgomerycountymd.gov / @georgeleventhal
Councilmember Nancy Navarro	Councilmember.Navarro@montgomerycountymd.gov / @nancy_navarro
Councilmember Craig Rice	Councilmember.Rice@montgomerycountymd.gov / @RicePolitics
Councilmember Hans Riemer	Councilmember.Riemer@montgomerycountymd.gov / @hansriemer

ACTION #3: EMPOWER YOUR COMMUNITY WITH KNOWLEDGE

- **MCPS HAS CREATED RESOURCES** to help you and your community understand the budget. Use these tools to help you advocate and encourage others to advocate with you. Please find more budget information at www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/budget17

FY 2017 RECOMMENDED OPERATING BUDGET

BUDGET FAST FACTS: A short summary of the FY 2017 budget recommendation

BUDGET 101: The MCPS budget explained

NEIGHBOR-TO-NEIGHBOR: A toolkit for small-group discussions about the budget

BUDGET TIMELINE

- **MARCH 15, 2016** County Executive Leggett makes budget recommendation
- **APRIL/MAY 2016** County Council holds public hearings; final County Council action on May 19
- **JUNE 14, 2016** Final Board of Education action on the budget