



Montgomery County Public Schools

RECOMMENDED FY24 BUDGET

\$3,208,490,078

FULL TIME EQUIVALENTS

24,529.33

MISSION STATEMENT

The Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) operates a countywide system of public schools for students from pre-kindergarten through high school. For the 2022-2023 school year (FY23), 159,997 students in prekindergarten classes through Grade 12 attend 210 separate public educational facilities. For the 2023-24 school year (FY24), enrollment is estimated to be 161,831 students.

BUDGET OVERVIEW

The County Executive's role in the MCPS budget process is to present to the County Council a recommended total budget. The total Recommended FY24 budget is \$3,208.5 million, an increase of \$288.5 million, or 9.9 percent over the FY23 Approved budget of \$2,920.0 million. This recommended budget exceeds the amount required by the State's Maintenance of Effort (MOE) law by \$264.8 million.

In response to the Board of Education's largest ever requested budget, an increase of nearly \$300 million, the County Executive's recommended budget funds 99.8% of the Board's request.

In order to support this level of spending, the County Executive's budget assumes a \$0.10 property tax rate authorized under State Law (§5-104 of the Education Article). State Law permits counties to increase a property tax rate above a limit imposed by a charter for the sole purpose of funding the approved budget of the County Board of Education. All revenue generated under a supplementary school funding property tax must be allocated to schools and may not supplant local appropriations, two restrictions with which the County Executive's budget complies.

Separately, in addition to funding the MCPS' budget, \$27.2 million will be provided by the County from the Consolidated Retiree Health Benefits Trust for the purpose of paying retiree health claims in FY24.

The County also supports operations of the school system through expenditures in other budgets. For example:

- school health services, childhood wellness, mental health services, and Linkages to Learning programs are provided by the Department of Health and Human Services;
- high speed internet service provided by the County's FiberNet program;
- research and internet resources are made available in the Montgomery County Public Libraries' budget;

- crossing guards are provided by the Department of Police;
- sports academies for youth are sponsored by the Department of Recreation;
- reimbursements for classroom and school sports field rentals by residents or organizations are provided by the Community Use of Public Facilities; and
- the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission provides maintenance of MCPS' ballfields.

In addition to the total recommended in the operating budget for public schools, MCPS' Capital Improvements Program (CIP) requires County funding. Approximately \$29.1 million in FY24 Current Revenue: General and \$74.0 million in Recordation Tax are recommended in the Amended FY23-28 CIP. The Debt Service requirement for the MCPS capital program is estimated at \$150.0 million in FY24.

The table below summarizes the contributions to MCPS that are appropriated in other departments or agencies:

Additional County Support for MCPS in FY24	
MCPS Budget (in millions)	\$3,208.5
Additional County funding (not included in MCPS budget)	
• Debt service on school construction bonds	\$150.0
• Pre-funding retiree health benefits	\$62.3
• Support services	\$125.6
• Technology modernization	\$26.7
Total additional County funding	\$364.5
Total expenditures for MCPS	\$3,572.9
Sources: CE Recommended FY24 Operating and Capital Budgets	
Numbers may not sum due to rounding.	

The recommended budget includes the County's contribution of \$2,062.4 million plus \$25.0 million in carryover funds (65.1 percent of all recommended funding), \$1.0 million of which is for lease payments at the new Stone Street warehouse. State Aid and grants total \$933.3 million (29.1 percent); Federal grants and aid total \$88.4 million (2.8 percent); and tuition, fees, and private grants total \$12.8 million (0.4 percent). The recommended appropriation for the fee-supported Enterprise Fund is \$85.0 million (2.6 percent) and for the Special Revenue Fund is \$1.7 million (0.1 percent).

The County Executive recommends a reduction to the Instructional Television Fund appropriation of \$0.1 million, recognizing a shortfall of revenues in the Cable Fund.

Tax Supported Funding for the Public Schools

For FY24, the total tax-supported portion of the County Executive's recommended budget (excluding grants, enterprise funds, fund balance, and special revenue funds) is \$2,995.9 million, an increase of \$301.2 million, or 11.2 percent from the FY23 adjusted tax-supported spending, driven by increases in the County contribution and State funding. The tax-supported portion of the recommendation includes a FY24 local contribution of \$2,062.4 million, plus carryover of \$25.0 million from prior-year appropriations, for a total local contribution of \$2,087.4 million. The local contribution represents a \$223.3 million increase from the prior-year appropriation.

MOE is a State requirement that each jurisdiction spend at least as much per-student on its local school district as it did in the prior year in order to receive additional State Aid. This requirement increases when enrollment grows and decreases when enrollment declines. For FY24, MOE allows for a decrease of \$41.5 million. With a recommended County contribution increase of \$223.3 million over FY23, the County Executive's budget exceeds the MOE-required level by \$264.8 million.

Fiscal Summary

The County Executive's total recommended budget, from all funding sources, is \$3,208.5 million, and funds 99.8 percent of the BOE request. The County Executive relies on the BOE to determine the most appropriate manner to deliver educational services within its recommended budget allocation.

However, §5-102 (c)(2) of the Education Article requires the County Executive to "indicate in writing which major categories of the annual budget of the county board have been denied in whole or reduced in part and the reason for the denial or reduction," a law that pertains only to counties whose "governing body ... consists of a county executive and county council," §5-102 (c)(1).

The County Executive's budget is \$7.5 million less than the Board of Education's total budget request due to a shortfall in revenues to both the Cable Fund and the General Fund. In order to conform with §5-102 (c)(2), and because of a shortfall in revenues, the County Executive intends to allocate \$0.1 million of the \$7.5 million to expenditures under Fund 5 Instructional Television Special Revenue Fund, and for the remaining \$7.4 million to be allocated between Categories 1-14 in equal proportion to the total amount of the County contribution in each Category. For example, if 15 percent of all County funds are allocated to Category 1 Administration, then 15 percent of the \$7.4 million should be allocated to Category 1 Administration as well.

Spending Affordability

In February 2023, the Montgomery County Council approved FY24 Spending Affordability Guidelines (SAG) of \$2,720.8 million for the tax-supported funds of MCPS. The BOE requested \$3,003.3 million in tax-supported funds, exceeding the SAG guideline by \$282.5 million. The County Executive's recommendation is \$275.1 million above the SAG guideline.

Additional Budget Details

The County Executive affirms the authority of the BOE to establish educational policy and determine the allocation of appropriated funds in support of the mission of the public school system. Complete information regarding the MCPS' budget request is available in the FY24 Operating Budget adopted by the BOE in February 2023. Copies of that budget are available at Montgomery County libraries, on the MCPS website, and upon request from the school system.

COUNTY PRIORITY OUTCOMES

While this program area supports all seven of the County Executive's Priority Outcomes, the following is emphasized:

Thriving Youth and Families

PROGRAM CONTACTS

Contact Ivon Alfonso-Windsor of the Montgomery County Public Schools at 240-740-3037 or Richard H. Harris of the Office of Management and Budget at 240.777.2795 for more information regarding this agency's operating budget.

BUDGET SUMMARY

	Actual FY22	Budget FY23	Estimate FY23	Recommended FY24	%Chg Bud/Rec
CURRENT FUND MCPS					
EXPENDITURES					
Salaries and Wages	0	0	0	0	—
Employee Benefits	0	0	0	0	—
Current Fund MCPS Personnel Costs	0	0	0	0	—
Operating Expenses	2,574,233,991	2,729,660,177	2,717,555,327	3,020,900,292	10.7 %
Current Fund MCPS Expenditures	2,574,233,991	2,729,660,177	2,717,555,327	3,020,900,292	10.7 %
PERSONNEL					
Full-Time	0	0	0	0	—
Part-Time	0	0	0	0	—
FTEs	22,399.34	22,623.50	22,623.50	23,242.56	2.7 %
REVENUES					
Tuition-Other Sources	2,259,933	1,259,933	1,259,933	1,259,933	—
Basic State Aid	384,201,699	424,688,660	424,688,660	415,772,353	-2.1 %
Federal Revenues	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	—
Foster Care/Miscellaneous	180,000	180,000	180,000	180,000	—
GCEI - Geographic Cost of Education Index	39,382,053	42,290,391	42,290,391	0	-100.0 %
Students With Disabilities	64,098,271	77,447,408	77,447,408	87,435,661	12.9 %
Supplemental Grant	49,094,041	0	0	0	—
Thornton Legislation	210,952,720	94,674,168	94,674,168	104,568,200	10.5 %
Transportation	42,164,380	50,978,010	50,978,010	55,568,313	9.0 %
Blueprint	31,301,475	30,186,595	38,843,931	34,188,924	13.3 %
Compensatory Education	0	133,783,552	133,783,552	200,618,950	50.0 %
Comparable Wage Index	0	0	0	33,818,923	—
Current Fund MCPS Revenues	823,734,572	855,588,717	864,246,053	933,511,257	9.1 %
GRANT FUND MCPS					
EXPENDITURES					
Salaries and Wages	0	0	0	0	—
Employee Benefits	0	0	0	0	—
Grant Fund MCPS Personnel Costs	0	0	0	0	—
Operating Expenses	94,767,392	108,108,340	99,451,004	100,956,665	-6.6 %
Grant Fund MCPS Expenditures	94,767,392	108,108,340	99,451,004	100,956,665	-6.6 %
PERSONNEL					
Full-Time	0	0	0	0	—
Part-Time	0	0	0	0	—
FTEs	588.70	708.55	708.55	638.70	-9.9 %
REVENUES					

BUDGET SUMMARY

	Actual FY22	Budget FY23	Estimate FY23	Recommended FY24	%Chg Bud/Rec
Federal Grants	83,878,035	88,567,963	88,547,344	88,293,005	-0.3 %
Private Grants	10,031,204	10,031,204	10,031,204	11,531,204	15.0 %
State Grants	858,153	9,509,173	872,456	1,132,456	-88.1 %
Grant Fund MCPS Revenues	94,767,392	108,108,340	99,451,004	100,956,665	-6.6 %

FOOD SERVICE FUND

EXPENDITURES

Salaries and Wages	0	0	0	0	—
Employee Benefits	0	0	0	0	—
Food Service Fund Personnel Costs	0	0	0	0	—
Operating Expenses	68,848,570	63,411,099	63,411,099	68,092,925	7.4 %
Food Service Fund Expenditures	68,848,570	63,411,099	63,411,099	68,092,925	7.4 %

PERSONNEL

Full-Time	0	0	0	0	—
Part-Time	0	0	0	0	—
FTEs	607.57	604.45	604.45	607.57	0.5 %

REVENUES

Sale of Meals	1,131,282	19,467,167	19,467,167	24,148,993	24.0 %
Federal Food	94,089,032	41,982,540	41,982,540	41,982,540	—
State Food	1,802,838	1,961,392	1,961,392	1,961,392	—
Miscellaneous: Investment Income	2,376	0	0	0	—
Food Service Fund Revenues	97,025,528	63,411,099	63,411,099	68,092,925	7.4 %

REAL ESTATE FUND

EXPENDITURES

Salaries and Wages	0	0	0	0	—
Employee Benefits	0	0	0	0	—
Real Estate Fund Personnel Costs	0	0	0	0	—
Operating Expenses	4,813,175	4,957,216	4,957,216	4,957,216	—
Real Estate Fund Expenditures	4,813,175	4,957,216	4,957,216	4,957,216	—

PERSONNEL

Full-Time	0	0	0	0	—
Part-Time	0	0	0	0	—
FTEs	11.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	—

REVENUES

Real Estate Fund	2,832,976	4,957,216	4,957,216	4,957,216	—
Real Estate Fund Revenues	2,832,976	4,957,216	4,957,216	4,957,216	—

FIELD TRIP FUND

BUDGET SUMMARY

	Actual FY22	Budget FY23	Estimate FY23	Recommended FY24	%Chg Bud/Rec
EXPENDITURES					
Salaries and Wages	0	0	0	0	—
Employee Benefits	0	0	0	0	—
Field Trip Fund Personnel Costs	0	0	0	0	—
Operating Expenses	1,048,486	3,074,182	3,074,182	2,854,856	-7.1 %
Field Trip Fund Expenditures	1,048,486	3,074,182	3,074,182	2,854,856	-7.1 %
PERSONNEL					
Full-Time	0	0	0	0	—
Part-Time	0	0	0	0	—
FTEs	4.50	4.50	4.50	5.00	11.1 %
REVENUES					
Field Trip Fees	763,806	3,074,182	3,074,182	2,854,856	-7.1 %
Field Trip Fund Revenues	763,806	3,074,182	3,074,182	2,854,856	-7.1 %

ENTREPRENEURIAL ACTIVITIES FUND

EXPENDITURES					
Salaries and Wages	0	0	0	0	—
Employee Benefits	0	0	0	0	—
Entrepreneurial Activities Fund Personnel Costs	0	0	0	0	—
Operating Expenses	8,689,763	9,046,838	9,046,838	9,046,838	—
Entrepreneurial Activities Fund Expenditures	8,689,763	9,046,838	9,046,838	9,046,838	—
PERSONNEL					
Full-Time	0	0	0	0	—
Part-Time	0	0	0	0	—
FTEs	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	—
REVENUES					
Entrepreneurial Activities Fee	1,073,335	2,446,838	2,446,838	2,446,838	—
Entrepreneurial Activities Fund Revenues	1,073,335	2,446,838	2,446,838	2,446,838	—

INSTRUCTIONAL TELEVISION FUND

EXPENDITURES					
Salaries and Wages	0	0	0	0	—
Employee Benefits	0	0	0	0	—
Instructional Television Fund Personnel Costs	0	0	0	0	—
Operating Expenses	1,793,911	1,769,775	1,769,775	1,681,286	-5.0 %
Instructional Television Fund Expenditures	1,793,911	1,769,775	1,769,775	1,681,286	-5.0 %
PERSONNEL					
Full-Time	0	0	0	0	—
Part-Time	0	0	0	0	—

BUDGET SUMMARY

	Actual FY22	Budget FY23	Estimate FY23	Recommended FY24	%Chg Bud/Rec
FTEs	13.50	13.50	13.50	13.50	—
REVENUES					
DEPARTMENT TOTALS					
Total Expenditures	2,754,195,288	2,920,027,627	2,899,265,441	3,208,490,078	9.9 %
Total Full-Time Positions	0	0	0	0	—
Total Part-Time Positions	0	0	0	0	—
Total FTEs	23,636.61	23,976.50	23,976.50	24,529.33	2.3 %
Total Revenues	1,020,197,609	1,037,586,392	1,037,586,392	1,112,819,757	7.3 %

MCPS BUDGETS FY85-FY24

County Fiscal Year	Budgeted Enrollment	Total Budget	County Funding	As Percent of Total
85	91,704	\$399,916,181	\$330,035,065	82.5%
86	92,871	\$436,875,791	\$361,788,973	82.8%
87	94,460	\$475,866,930	\$398,053,264	83.6%
88	96,271	\$519,622,140	\$434,582,576	83.6%
89	98,519	\$577,957,669	\$488,062,505	84.4%
90	100,259	\$642,553,932	\$545,768,528	84.9%
91	103,732	\$702,260,084	\$601,407,797	85.6%
92	107,140	\$712,896,646	\$603,939,300	84.7%
93	110,037	\$738,767,864	\$622,732,456	84.3%
94*	113,429	\$793,907,907	\$666,557,884	84.0%
95	117,082	\$830,010,147	\$695,512,609	83.8%
96	120,291	\$878,160,420	\$718,938,647	81.9%
97	122,505	\$915,141,097	\$740,984,871	81.0%
98	125,035	\$958,416,196	\$765,835,476	79.9%
99	127,852	\$1,034,768,530	\$820,833,423	79.3%
00	130,689	\$1,105,644,145	\$870,940,869	78.8%
01	134,180	\$1,216,096,599	\$959,754,838	78.9%
02	136,832	\$1,323,625,477	\$1,029,703,651	77.8%
03	138,891	\$1,412,161,822	\$1,079,188,698	76.4%
04	139,203	\$1,501,381,116	\$1,136,392,169	75.7%
05	139,337	\$1,609,382,533	\$1,217,214,553	75.6%
06	139,387	\$1,713,736,154	\$1,296,325,112	75.6%
07	137,798	\$1,851,496,287	\$1,384,725,787	74.8%
08	137,745	\$1,985,017,619	\$1,456,912,582	73.4%
09	137,763	\$2,066,683,294	\$1,531,482,602	74.1%
10	140,500	\$2,200,577,000	\$1,573,754,447	71.5%
11	143,309	\$2,104,188,040	\$1,425,385,344	67.7%
12	146,497	\$2,086,786,613	\$1,387,101,480	66.5%
13	149,018	\$2,160,029,595	\$1,436,513,701	66.5%
14	151,289	\$2,225,421,052	\$1,475,223,045	66.3%
15	153,852	\$2,276,763,984	\$1,515,027,760	66.5%
16	156,447	\$2,318,388,936	\$1,540,794,230	66.5%
17	159,016	\$2,457,473,761	\$1,650,794,230	67.2%
18	161,470	\$2,528,825,122	\$1,683,943,316	66.6%
19	163,294	\$2,612,644,776	\$1,712,627,645	65.6%
20	164,477	\$2,680,574,773	\$1,726,807,241	64.4%
21	166,317	\$2,756,257,059	\$1,752,612,120	63.6%
22	164,175	\$2,782,097,823	\$1,754,247,868	63.1%
23	160,627	\$2,920,027,627	\$1,839,071,460	63.0%
24	161,831	\$3,208,490,078	\$2,062,389,035	64.3%

Sources: Approved Operating Budgets and CE Recommended Budget

Note: Budgeted enrollment is the enrollment figure used during development of that year's budget.

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