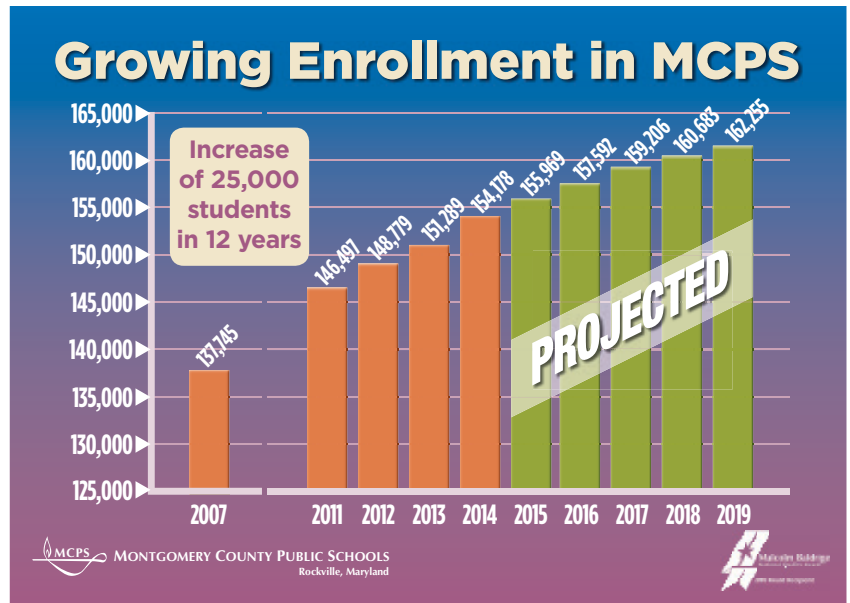


MONTGOMERY COUNTY NEEDS STATE SUPPORT to Solve School Capacity Shortage

Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) is facing unprecedented enrollment growth with no end in sight. Since 2000, MCPS has grown by 14,599 students—more growth than that of Anne Arundel, Howard, Frederick and Baltimore counties combined. In the next six years, we expect to enroll another 11,000 students. No other school district has seen or anticipates the kind of student growth that Montgomery County has and will continue to experience.

► **By the 2019-2020 school year, NEARLY HALF of MCPS schools will have significant space shortages.**



The Board of Education's Capital Improvements Program request to the County of \$1.74 billion addresses many of the district's needs and keeps most needed projects on schedule, but it still falls well short of the \$2.2 billion needed to solve the capacity shortage and keep all projects on track.

State Solution Based on Baltimore Model Can Help Solve the Problem

The County is seeking authorization from the Governor and the Maryland General Assembly for an arrangement similar to the one approved for Baltimore City Public Schools last year.

Like Baltimore City, the County will ask the state of Maryland to authorize school construction bonds. In our case, the bonds will be for projects specifically aimed at providing additional classrooms at our severely overutilized schools. Like Baltimore City, the state investment would be leveraged by a County investment. The combined state and local revenue stream would support bonds to fund construction projects over the next five years.

This plan, which is supported by County Executive Isiah Leggett, the Montgomery County Council, the Board of Education and Montgomery's legislative leaders in Annapolis, will provide resources over and above current County and State capital expenditures for MCPS. With the new bonds, MCPS could provide roughly 1.5 million square feet of instructional space to house the projected enrollment increases for the next six years and beyond.

MCPS is a national leader in public school education and plays a large role in Maryland's position in state rankings of quality school systems. The County is a primary driver of the economic growth of both the County and the State. For example, employment along the I-270 corridor represents 22.4% of the State's total payroll employment. To keep the County competitive, we must invest in our classrooms to prepare our future workforce.

► **Make your voice heard: Call the Governor, your State Senator and Delegate and ask them to just SAY YES TO SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION FUNDING FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY NOW!**