

Andrew Friedson

Montgomery County Council Member

Re : Public hearing April 22, 2025 on proposed property tax increase

Councilman Friedson,

I am a resident of District 1. I received your letter indicating you would not support property tax increases to fund the public schools. I was sorry to hear that.

Your letter acknowledges that education is a priority. Yet you don't want to raise taxes to support that priority. In fact, our county is known for its excellent schools: their high standards, record of achievement and the broad spectrum of services for children with learning challenges. A commitment to public school education is hollow if we are unwilling to sacrifice for it.

Yes, times are hard for many. And an "anti-tax" stance may be a popular talking point. But the facts are these: the tax increase can only be used for school funding and the entire school community; and we currently pay less per pupil in real dollars than we did before the 2008 recession.

I urge you to Support the County Executive's proposed 3.5 cent property tax rate increase required to fully fund Montgomery County Public Schools.

Marci Greenstein

Bethesda, Maryland

Many of us live in District 1 and Andrew Friedson is our Councilmember. He opposes raises the property tax to fund our public school budget. The tax increase can only be used for school funding and the entire school community - the new superintendent, the board of Ed, all the unions, ptas, etc - are supporting it. We still currently pay less per pupil in real dollars than we did before the 2008 recession

For education-----

*Partners: Montgomery County Public Schools Educator Unions  
(Montgomery County Education Association and SEIU Local 500)*

- Fully fund the Board of Education's FY26 Operating Budget recommendations for Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS)
- Support the County Executive's proposed 3.5 cent property tax rate increase required to fully fund MCPS
- Our union partners suggested focusing on the need for increased funds for special education, which will only be possible with a fully funded budget.
- Fully funding the MCPS budget will also ensure there is funding for restorative justice - see the following section for more details

