

Press Release

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Maryland Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education to Hold Four Public Hearings Around the State for Public Input

(Annapolis, MD) — The Maryland Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education will hold four public hearings throughout the State for people to testify on policies and strategies to make Maryland a top performing education system in the world and to prepare students for the 21st century global economy, and the funding needed for public preK-12 schools to achieve those goals. “Maryland’s public schools are good, but they can be much better,” said Dr. William E. “Brit” Kirwan, former chancellor of the University System of Maryland and chair of the Commission. “Our students deserve to receive the best education in the world — and they will need it to be competitive in the 21st century. We welcome the input of teachers, parents, students, and others who care about public schools to tell us what they think we need to do for Maryland to become a world class education system and prepare students for college and careers.”

The four public hearings will take place as follows:

Date	Location	Time
September 14, 2017	Stevensville Middle School 610 Main Street Stevensville, MD 21666	6:30-8:30 p.m.
September 28, 2017	LYNX at Frederick High School 650 Carroll Parkway Frederick, MD 21701	6:30-8:30 p.m.
October 12, 2017	Baltimore Polytechnic Institute 1400 W. Cold Spring Lane Baltimore, MD 21209	6:30-8:30 p.m.
October 25, 2017	Largo High School 505 Largo Road Upper Marlboro, MD 20774	6:30-8:30 p.m.

Individuals who wish to testify are asked to sign up by either emailing PreK-12InnovationandExcellenceCommission@mlis.state.md.us or calling Mindy McConville or Kim Landry at (410) 946-5510 or (301) 970-5510 by **NOON** on the day of the hearing. Please provide the following information: (1) name and contact information; (2) location/date of the meeting for which you are signing up; and (3) if you are speaking on behalf of a group, please include the name of the group. If you are not able to sign up in advance, signup sheets will be available at the hearing location beginning at 6:00 p.m.

While testimony will generally be limited to 3 minutes per person, the Chair has discretion to make adjustments depending on how many people sign up. While it is not necessary to bring a written statement, if you do, please bring 40 copies with you to the hearing. Staff will collect and distribute it to the commission members. Please note that the hearing will be recorded and posted to the Commission's web page. If you are unable to attend but wish to submit written testimony, you may email your testimony to the email address listed above.

The Commission was formed through legislation in 2016 to make recommendations that enhance the adequacy and equity of State preK-12 funding and the availability of innovative educational opportunities that will prepare students for postsecondary education and the workforce in the 21st century, including examining the "Thornton" formulas established in 2002 and making recommendations to update them. More information about the Commission and the topics it is exploring can be found on the Commission's [web page](http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/webmga/frmMain.aspx?pid=cmtepage&tab=subject7&id=IEE&stab=01) at <http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/webmga/frmMain.aspx?pid=cmtepage&tab=subject7&id=IEE&stab=01>.

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