

AGENDA ITEM #5F

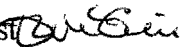
May 14, 2015

Action

M E M O R A N D U M

May 12, 2015

TO: County Council

FROM: Essie McGuire, Senior Legislative Analyst 

SUBJECT: **Action – Special Appropriation to the MCPS FY15 Operating Budget, \$4,787,121, MSDE Grant for Quality Teacher Incentive Program**

The Education Committee unanimously recommended approval of the special appropriation as requested.

Today the County Council will take action on a special appropriation to the Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) FY15 Operating Budget in the amount of \$4,787,121. The source of funds is a grant from the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) for the Quality Teacher Incentive Program.

The Board of Education requested this appropriation on March 30 (transmittal attached at circle 3). A draft appropriation resolution for the Council's consideration is attached on circles 1-2. The Council introduced this appropriation on April 28, and held a public hearing on May 12. There were no speakers for the hearing.

The Education Committee reviewed the request on April 29 and unanimously recommended approval. This program provides stipends to teachers in two categories: 1) teachers who hold National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) certification; and 2) teachers who hold an Advanced Professional Certificate (APC) and are teaching in a "comprehensive needs" school.

MCPS has received funds from this State program since 2000. While the funds for this program have increased each year, the FY15 amount of \$4.8 million is a significant increase from the FY14 amount of \$1.6 million. The increase is due to a larger number of teachers being eligible to receive stipends following the State's revised methodology for identifying a "comprehensive needs" school.

Resolution No.: _____
Introduced: _____
Adopted: _____

**COUNTY COUNCIL
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND**

By: County Council

SUBJECT: Special Appropriation to the FY15 Operating Budget,
Montgomery County Public Schools,
Quality Teacher Incentive Program, \$4,787,121
Source of Funds: Maryland State Department of Education

Background

1. Section 5-105 (d) of the Education Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland provides for the expenditure of non-local funds by the County Board of Education after adoption of the budget, only with the approval of the County fiscal authority.
2. Section 308 of the County Charter provides that a special appropriation is an appropriation which states that it is necessary to meet an unforeseen disaster or other emergency, or to act without delay in the public interest. Each special appropriation shall be approved by not less than six Councilmembers. The Council may approve a special appropriation at any time after public notice by news release. Each special appropriation shall specify the source of funds to finance it.
3. On March 30, the Board of Education requested a special appropriation for the Montgomery County Public Schools' FY15 Operating Budget as follows:

<u>Amount</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>Source of Funds</u>
\$4,787,121	Cat 3, Instructional Salaries	MSDE grant

4. This program provides stipends to teachers in two categories: 1) teachers who hold National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) certification; and 2) teachers who hold an Advanced Professional Certificate (APC) and are teaching in a "comprehensive needs" school. MCPS has received funds from this State program since 2000. There is a significant increase in funding in FY15 due to a larger number of teachers being eligible to receive stipends following the State's revised methodology for identifying a "comprehensive needs" school.
5. Notice of public hearing was given and public hearing was held.

6. The County Council declares this request is in the public interest to be acted upon without delay as provided for under special appropriation requirements described in Article 3, Section 308 of the Montgomery County Charter.

Action

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland approves the following resolution:

A special appropriation for the FY15 Operating Budget of the Montgomery County Public Schools is approved as follows:

<u>Amount</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>Source of Funds</u>
\$4,787,121	Cat 3, Instructional Salaries	MSDE grant

This is a correct copy of Council action.

Linda M. Lauer, Clerk of the Council

Office of the Superintendent of Schools
MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Rockville, Maryland

March 30, 2015

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Board of Education

From: Larry A. Bowers, Interim Superintendent of Schools *Larry A. Bowers*

Subject: Recommended Fiscal Year 2015 Supplemental Appropriation for the Quality Teacher Incentive Program

Recommendation in Brief

Authorization is requested to receive and expend, subject to County Council approval, a Fiscal Year (FY) 2015 supplemental appropriation of \$4,787,121 from the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) for the Quality Teacher Incentive Program.

Background

MSDE has provided \$4,787,121 to Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) for the Quality Teacher Incentive Program. The funds will provide stipends to 655 teachers who hold National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) certification and 2,637 Advanced Professional Certificate (APC) holders who currently are teaching in a "comprehensive needs" school.

The grant stipulates that a \$1,000 stipend be provided to educators who hold NBPTS certification. Teachers who received their certification prior to July 1, 2013, will receive \$1,000 while teachers who received their certification after this date will receive a prorated amount depending on the date that certification was issued. Educators with NBPTS certification will receive \$2,000 if they taught at an MSDE-identified "comprehensive needs" school during the 2014–2015 school year. Of the 655 NBPTS teachers, the Office of Human Resources and Development (OHRD) has identified 431 teachers who are eligible to receive a \$1,000 (or prorated amount) stipend, and 224 teachers who are eligible receive a \$2,000 stipend.

In addition, APC holders who currently are teaching in a "comprehensive needs" school are eligible to receive a \$1,500 stipend. Last year, 580 teachers received this stipend. The number of APC teachers receiving stipends this year has increased significantly due to the state's revised

methodology for identifying “comprehensive needs” schools. Prior to this year, schools were considered by the state to be “comprehensive needs” schools if they were not meeting Adequate Yearly Progress. Under the new methodology, each school receives a School Progress Index (SPI) measured by several indicators—achievement, student growth, and college and career readiness. Depending on its SPI (using data from the 2013–2014 school year), a school then is placed into one of five “strands.” Schools in the lowest two strands (Strand 4 and Strand 5) are considered as not progressing as expected; therefore, they are identified as “comprehensive needs” schools. As a result, the number of MCPS “comprehensive needs” schools has increased from 23 in FY 2014 to 84 in FY 2015.

Support of Board of Education Mission

The *Maryland Quality Teacher Incentive Act* of 1999 contains provisions that were enacted to attract and retain quality teachers. The funding from MSDE and the stipends that will be provided to MCPS educators support the MCPS core value of Excellence as stated in the Strategic Planning Framework, *Building our Future Together*. Workforce excellence achieved by recruiting and retaining the highest quality workforce is fundamental to providing the greatest public education to each and every student.

Relationship to Ongoing Program

MCPS has received funding from MSDE for the Quality Teacher Incentive Program beginning in FY 2000. While MCPS has received increased awards annually, the FY 2015 grant amount of \$4,787,121 has increased significantly from the FY 2014 amount of \$1,648,378. The state’s revised methodology for identifying “comprehensive needs” schools has resulted in more teachers being eligible to receive stipends.

Use of Funds

Funds will be used to provide stipends to 655 MCPS teachers who hold NBPTS certification, and to 2,637 APC holders who currently are teaching in MCPS “comprehensive needs” schools.

Recommended Resolution

WHEREAS, Montgomery County Public Schools has received notification from the Maryland State Department of Education that it will receive \$4,787,121 for the Quality Teacher Incentive Program; and

WHEREAS, The Office of Human Resources and Development has identified 655 teachers who hold National Board for Professional Teaching Standards certification, and 2,637 Advanced Professional Certificate holders who currently are teaching in Montgomery County Public Schools “comprehensive needs” schools who will receive stipends; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the interim superintendent of schools be authorized to receive and expend, subject to County Council approval, a Fiscal Year 2015 supplemental appropriation of \$4,787,121 from the Maryland State Department of Education for the Quality Teacher Incentive Program in Category 3, Instructional Salaries; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be sent to the county executive and County Council; and be it further

Resolved, That the county executive be requested to recommend approval of this resolution to the County Council.

LAB:AMZ:TPK:jp