



Committee: Directly to Council
Committee Review: N/A
Staff: Craig Howard, Deputy Director
Purpose: To receive testimony/final action - vote expected
Keywords: MCPS

AGENDA ITEM #10
June 9, 2020
Public Hearing/Action

SUBJECT

Special Appropriation to the FY20 Capital Budget and Amendment to the FY19-24 Capital Improvements Program, Montgomery County Public Schools, \$446,075 for the Technology Modernization Project (Source of Funds: Current Revenue-General Fund Reserves)

EXPECTED ATTENDEES

None

DESCRIPTION/ISSUE

The County Council will hold a public hearing and consider action on a special appropriation to MCPS' FY20 Capital Budget for the Technology Modernization project. This will be used to provide equipment, software, and support to implement the Montgomery Can Code initiative during the summer of 2020.

SUMMARY OF KEY DISCUSSION POINTS

- On May 21, the Council introduced this special appropriation based on a funding need for the Montgomery Can Code Initiative identified in a May 19 letter from the Superintendent of Schools. On May 28, the Board of Education formally approved a request for this funding. This initiative is being implemented in partnership with Montgomery College and the Montgomery County Economic Development Corporation.
- The Board's request notes that, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Montgomery Can Code summer camp has shifted from a face-to-face platform on the Montgomery College campus to an all-virtual model. Instructors, both college faculty and MCPS teachers, have been hired by Montgomery College and will engage in extensive professional development to deliver the program in an online model. The camp is planned as a week-long experience for students, rotating in groups for five consecutive weeks, beginning July 13. Approximately 1,200 rising Grades 6–8 students at all 40 MCPS middle schools have registered for the camp. Based on a prioritized registration process, approximately two-thirds of the registrants are from 14 middle schools with the greatest Free and Reduced-price Meals System (FARMS) service rates.

This report contains:

Draft Special Appropriation Resolution	©1-2
Letter from Dr. Jack Smith, Superintendent of Schools (May 19, 2020)	©3-4
Board of Education Request (May 28, 2020)	©5-7

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Resolution No.: _____
Introduced: _____
Adopted: _____

**COUNTY COUNCIL
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND**

Lead Sponsor: County Council

SUBJECT: Special Appropriation to the Fiscal Year 2020 Capital Budget, and
Amendment to the FY19-24 Capital Improvements Program,
Montgomery County Public Schools
Technology Modernization Project, \$446,075
Source of Funds: Current Revenue - General Fund Reserves

Background

1. 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.
2. Section 302 of the County Charter provides that the Council may amend an approved capital improvements program at any time by an affirmative vote of no fewer than six members of the Council.
3. On March 11, 2020 the World Health Organization declared coronavirus COVID-19 a pandemic, and it has spread rapidly throughout the world. As of April 26, 2020, there were 3,645 confirmed cases in Montgomery County. There were 160 confirmed deaths and 20 probable deaths in Montgomery County. To slow the spread of the disease, Maryland Governor Hogan declared a State of Emergency. Executive Orders have closed schools, closed non-essential business, and issued a stay-at-home order for Maryland residents. Though the state stay-at-home order is now a safer-at-home order, Montgomery County is still a stay-at-home jurisdiction.
4. On March 16, 2020 Montgomery County Public Schools were ordered to be closed by the Maryland State Department of Education. The school system initiated a phased in continuity of learning model focusing on independent and self-paced student interaction with teachers. This model also incorporated content and new assignment availability at all levels. In order to ensure equity and access to this continuum of learning for all students, Montgomery County Public Schools loaned out school devices to students in need.

5. Montgomery County Public Schools is currently in Phase III of its Continuity of Learning online plan which runs until June 15th. The school system is still assessing and planning for summer programming (including Montgomery Can Code) and continued learning opportunities as well as preparing for how learning will continue, and in what capacity come this Fall.
6. In these COVID-19 times, and moving forward, it is a priority of Montgomery County Public Schools to have adequate supply and distribution of technology devices for all students. Turnover of devices is a reality as they reach the end of their useful lifespan. This appropriation will help ensure Montgomery County Public Schools has the technology devices needed as it moves beyond Phase III learning into the summer and our next school year. Devices are no longer options, but necessary tools needed by all our students in order to continue their education.
7. Notice of public hearing was given and a public hearing was held.

Action

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

A special appropriation for the FY20 Capital Budget and amendment to the FY19-24 Capital Improvements Program of the Montgomery County Public Schools is approved as follows:

<u>Project Name</u>	<u>Project Number</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Source of Funds</u>
Technology Modernization	P036510	\$446,075	Current Revenue-General Fund Reserves

The County will seek Federal and State reimbursement for any eligible costs.

This is a correct copy of Council action.

Selena Mendy Singleton, Esq.
Clerk of the Council



MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
MARYLAND
www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org

May 19, 2020



The Honorable Craig Rice
Chair, Education and Culture Committee
Montgomery County Council
Stella B. Werner Council Office Building
100 Maryland Avenue
Rockville, Maryland 20850

Dear Mr. Rice:

Thank you for your leadership in regard to the Montgomery Can Code (MCC) initiative, which will serve more than 1,200 Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) students this summer by teaching them how to code. This program undoubtedly will enable students to develop valuable skills that they can use in future learning and beyond in the workforce. Pursuant to your discussion with Deputy Superintendent Monifa B. McKnight, the funds needed for this initiative total \$446,075 and include the equipment, software, and setup requirements. This amount is inclusive of all cost expectations for this program. The vendor is standing by to process and order the necessary equipment following receipt of documentation from MCPS. As we understand, a special appropriation is required and MCPS staff is prepared to process the funding following approval of the special appropriation. Please inform us of next steps.

The following table provides detailed itemization for the budgetary requirements necessary for the MCC initiative.

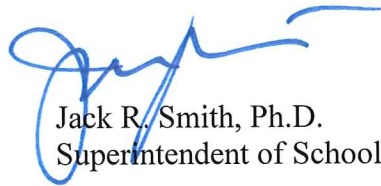
Item	Description	Quantity	Total Cost
iPads	iPads, Cases, Warranty	1,250	\$431,875
Jamf Licensing	Device Management	1,250	\$5,000
Setup by Staff	For two-week set up at warehouse		\$4,200
Distribution by Staff	Regional Sites		\$5,000
TOTAL	Estimate		\$446,075

Office of the Superintendent of Schools

850 Hungerford Drive, Room 122 ♦ Rockville, Maryland 20850 ♦ 240-740-3020

If you have questions or wish to discuss this information further, please contact Mr. Peter Cevenini, chief technology officer, at 240-740-2900. Thank you for continued support for the students of Montgomery County Public Schools.

Sincerely,



Jack R. Smith, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools

JRS:PC:sjk

Copy to:

Members of the Montgomery County Council

Members of the Board of Education

Dr. McKnight

Dr. Navarro

Dr. Wilson

Dr. Zuckerman

Mrs. Ahn

Dr. Johnson

Mr. Marella

Mr. Turner

Mr. Cevenini

Ms. McGuire

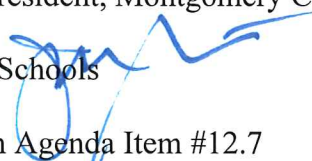
Ms. Webb

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

June 4, 2020

MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable Marc Elrich, County Executive
The Honorable Sidney A. Katz, President, Montgomery County Council

From: Jack R. Smith, Superintendent of Schools 

Subject: Transmittal of Board of Education Agenda Item #12.7

Fiscal Year 2020 Supplemental Appropriation Request for Montgomery Can Code Initiative

BOE Meeting Date: May 28, 2020

Amount: \$446,075

Type of Action: Supplemental Appropriation—Montgomery Can Code Initiative

JRS:AMZ:PC

Attachment

Copy to:

Dr. Zuckerman

Ms. McGuire

Mr. Cevenini

Mr. Adams

Ms. Karamihas


Montgomery County Office of Management and Budget

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

May 28, 2020

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Board of Education

From: Jack R. Smith, Superintendent of Schools 

Subject: Fiscal Year 2020 Supplemental Appropriation Request for Montgomery Can Code Initiative

Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) has been engaged with Councilmember Craig Rice, Chair, Montgomery County Council Education and Culture Committee; Montgomery College; the Montgomery County Economic Development Corporation (MCEDC); additional Montgomery County leaders; and business and community partners to develop an innovative approach to teach coding and computer science to middle school students. This initiative has come together as the Montgomery Can Code Initiative, which aims to serve approximately 1,200 MCPS students at all 40 middle schools this summer by teaching them how to code. The goal of this program is to expand access to middle schools students to teach them valuable skills that they can use in future learning and in the future workforce.

With student interest remaining strong and determined support among our partners during the COVID-19 pandemic, summer camp has shifted from a face-to-face platform on the Montgomery College campus to an all-virtual model. Montgomery College, MCEDC, and MCPS extensively have planned during the last several weeks to be in a position to move forward with the virtual camp experience. Instructors, both college faculty and MCPS teachers, have been hired by Montgomery College and will engage in extensive professional development to deliver the program in an online model. As part of this partnership, funding for instructors and professional development is being provided by Montgomery College. The program will be provided at no cost for students. The camp is planned as a week-long experience for students, rotating in groups for five consecutive weeks, beginning Monday, July 13, 2020. Approximately 1,200 rising Grades 6–8 students at all 40 MCPS middle schools have registered for the camp. Based on a prioritized registration process, approximately two-thirds of the registrants are from 14 middle schools with the greatest Free and Reduced-price Meals System (FARMS) service rates.

The MCPS funds needed for this initiative total \$446,075 and include the equipment, software, and set-up requirements. The Montgomery County Council has expressed its intent to consider a supplemental appropriation to provide funding to support this initiative. This amount is inclusive of all cost expectations for this program. The following table provides detailed itemization for the budgetary requirements necessary for the Montgomery Can Code initiative.

Item	Description	Quantity	Total Cost
iPads	iPads, Cases, Warranty	1,250	\$431,875
Jamf Licensing	Device Management	1,250	\$5,000
Set-up by Staff	For Two-week Set-up at Warehouse		\$4,200
Distribution by Staff	Regional Sites		\$5,000
TOTAL	Estimate		\$446,075

I recommend that the Board approve the following resolution.

WHEREAS, The Montgomery Can Code initiative will serve more than 1,200 Montgomery County Public Schools students this summer by teaching them how to code; and

WHEREAS, This initiative has been developed through a partnership among Montgomery College, the Montgomery County Economic Development Corporation, Montgomery County Government, and Montgomery County Public Schools; and

WHEREAS, The Montgomery County Council has indicated its intent to consider providing funding to support this initiative that will enable students to develop valuable skills that they can use in future learning and beyond in the workforce; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education request a Fiscal Year 2020 supplemental appropriation in the amount of \$446,075 for the Technology Modernization Capital Improvements Program Project to support the Montgomery Can Code initiative; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be forwarded 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.

JRS:AMZ:em