



Committee: Directly to Council
Committee Review: N/A
Staff: Nicole Rodriguez-Hernandez, Legislative Analyst
Purpose: To receive testimony/final action - vote expected
Keywords: #MCPS

AGENDA ITEM #14
September 29, 2020
Public Hearing/Action

SUBJECT

Supplemental Appropriation to the FY21 Operating Budget, Montgomery County Public Schools, \$18,344,404 for the Technology Program Grant (Source of Funds: Federal Grant)

EXPECTED ATTENDEES

None

COUNCIL DECISION POINTS & COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

None

DESCRIPTION/ISSUE

The County Council will receive testimony and consider action on a supplemental appropriation to the FY21 Operating Budget, Montgomery County Public Schools, \$18,344,404 for the Technology Program Grant. The source of funds is the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act-Coronavirus Relief Fund.

SUMMARY OF KEY DISCUSSION POINTS

- The Board of Education requested this appropriation on August 25. The County Executive recommended approval on September 8. The Council introduced this appropriation on September 15.
- This supplemental appropriation is needed because MCPS received funding from the Coronavirus Relief Fund-Maryland Local School System: Technology Grant.
- MCPS plans to use these grant funds for technology-related learning. Specifically, MCPS' goal is to provide one-to-one technology access to all students which includes a computer or device and Internet access.

This report contains:

County Executive Recommendation (Sept 8, 2020)	©1
Draft Supplemental Appropriation Resolution	©2-3
Board of Education Request (Aug 25, 2020)	©4-6

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OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND 20850

Marc Elrich
County Executive

M E M O R A N D U M

September 8, 2020

TO: Sidney Katz, President, County Council

FROM: Marc Elrich, County Executive *Marc Elrich*

SUBJECT: Supplemental Appropriation #21-487 to the FY21 Operating Budget
Montgomery County Public Schools
CARES Act – Coronavirus Relief Fund – Technology Program Grant, \$18,344,404

I am recommending a supplemental appropriation to the FY21 Operating Budget of Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) in the amount of \$18,344,404 for the CARES Act's Coronavirus Relief Fund's Technology Program Grant. This appropriation will provide funds for MCPS to purchase equipment and devices that will aid students' distance learning, especially those that do not currently have access to the internet or a device on which to participate in classes and complete homework or research.

This supplemental appropriation is needed to provide spending authority for grant funds received from the CARES Act's Coronavirus Relief Fund's Technology Program Grant. As a grant award, there is no effect on the County's current or future maintenance of effort requirements.

I recommend that the County Council approve this supplemental appropriation in the amount of \$18,344,404 and specify the source of funds as Federal Funds.

I appreciate your prompt consideration of this action.

ME:rh

Attachments

Resolution No: _____
Introduced: _____
Adopted: _____

COUNTY COUNCIL
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

By: Council President at the Request of the County Executive

SUBJECT: Supplemental Appropriation #21-487 to the FY21 Operating Budget
Montgomery County Public Schools
CARES Act – Coronavirus Relief Fund – Technology Program Grant, \$18,344,404

Background

1. Section 307 of the Montgomery County Charter provides that any supplemental appropriation shall be recommended by the County Executive who shall specify the source of funds to finance it. The Council shall hold a public hearing on each proposed supplemental appropriation after at least one week's notice. A supplemental appropriation that would comply with, avail the County of, or put into effect a grant or a Federal, State or County law or regulation, or one that is approved after January 1 of any fiscal year, requires an affirmative vote of five Councilmembers. A supplemental appropriation for any other purpose that is approved before January 1 of any fiscal year requires an affirmative vote of six Councilmembers. The Council may, in a single action, approve more than one supplemental appropriation. The Executive may disapprove or reduce a supplemental appropriation, and the Council may reapprove the appropriation, as if it were an item in the annual budget.
2. The County Executive has requested the following FY21 Operating Budget appropriation increases for Montgomery County Public Schools:

<u>Personnel Services</u>	<u>Operating Expenses</u>	<u>Capital Outlay</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Source of Funds</u>
\$0	\$18,344,404	\$0	\$18,344,404	Federal Funds

3. This increase is needed to provide spending authority for the use of grant funds received from the CARES Act's Coronavirus Relief Fund's Technology Program Grant. As a grant award, there is no effect on the County's current or future maintenance of effort requirements.
4. The County Executive recommends a supplemental appropriation to the FY21 Operating Budget in the amount of \$18,344,404 for the CARES Act's Coronavirus Relief Fund's Technology Program Grant and specifies that the source of funds will be Federal Funds.
5. Notice of public hearing was given, and a public hearing was held.

Action

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

A supplemental appropriation to the FY21 Operating Budget of Montgomery County Public Schools is approved as follows:

<u>Personnel Services</u>	<u>Operating Expenses</u>	<u>Capital Outlay</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Source of Funds</u>
\$0	\$18,344,404	\$0	\$18,344,404	Federal Funds

This is a correct copy of Council action.

Selena Mendy Singleton, Esq.
Clerk of the Council

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

August 28, 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 #11.10

Recommended Fiscal Year 2021 Supplemental Appropriation for the Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security Act – Coronavirus Relief Fund – Technology Program Grant

BOE Meeting Date: August 25, 2020

Amount: \$18,344,404

Type of Action: Approval

JRS:DKM:jp

Attachment

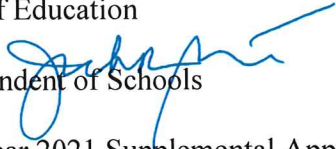
Copy to:
Mr. Marella
Montgomery County Office of Management and Budget

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

August 25, 2020

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Board of Education

From: Jack R. Smith, Superintendent of Schools 

Subject: Recommended Fiscal Year 2021 Supplemental Appropriation for the Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security Act - Coronavirus Relief Fund – Technology Program Grant

Recommendation in Brief

Authorization is requested to receive and expend, subject to County Council approval, a Fiscal Year 2021 supplemental appropriation of \$18,344,404 from the *Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act* (CARES Act) - Coronavirus Relief Fund – Technology Program grant. This grant was included in the CARES Act that was signed into law on March 27, 2020. Under this Act, the U.S. Department of the Treasury has provided the states with emergency relief funds to address the impact that the Novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) has had, and continues to have, on states and localities across the nation.

Background

The outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic has had a major impact on Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) and its ability to provide teaching and learning to its students. As a result of the pandemic and in compliance with Governor Lawrence J. Hogan Jr. and Maryland State Superintendent of Schools Karen B. Salmon's direction, MCPS closed its school buildings beginning March 16, 2020, and did not reopen buildings for the remainder of the 2019–2020 school year. MCPS instituted a Continuity of Learning plan that relied on distance learning for the remainder of the 2019–2020 school year, summer school, and the start of the 2020–2021 school year. This continuity of learning plan requires purchasing additional educational technology devices and equipment or materials to support summer learning, supplemental after-school programs, and the 2020–2021 school year.

Section 5001 of the CARES Act established the Coronavirus Relief Fund to make payments for specific uses to states as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Local school systems may use funds to implement distance learning programs necessary as a result of school closures due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Support of Board of Education Mission

MCPS will use CARES Act - Coronavirus Relief Fund – Technology Program grant funds for technology-related learning. MCPS will utilize the funds to provide devices and wireless access to students who need such support, in order to ensure that all students have equitable access to synchronous and asynchronous instruction and other learning opportunities. The goal is to provide one-to-one access to all students, which includes both an end user device (via Chromebook or iPad) and Internet access (via MiFi device). MCPS believes that the learning management system is robust and prepared to meet the needs of all of its students, but without access to a device and/or Internet, some students would be left behind. Our plan is to ensure that all MCPS students have the technology and access necessary to provide equitable learning experiences.

Use of Funds

Funds will be used to provide for:

- Purchase of Technology Support and Resources.

Recommended Resolution

WHEREAS, Montgomery County Public Schools has received notification from the Maryland State Department of Education that it will receive \$18,344,404 for the Maryland Local School System: Technology grant funded through the *Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act*; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the superintendent of schools be authorized to receive and expend, subject to County Council approval, a Fiscal Year 2021 supplemental appropriation of \$18,344,404 for the *Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act* - Coronavirus Relief Fund - Maryland Local School System: Technology grant in the following category:

<u>Category</u>	<u>Amount</u>
04 Textbooks and Instructional Supplies	\$18,344,404
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$18,344,404</u>

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:DKM:TPK:jp