

OFFICE OF RACIAL EQUITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

Marc Elrich County Executive

Tiffany Ward Director and Chief Equity Officer

MEMORANDUM

June 26, 2025

To: Jennifer Bryant, Director

Office of Management and Budget

From: Tiffany Ward, Director

Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice

Re: Racial Equity Impact Assessment (REIA) for Supplemental Appropriation (SA) #25-

84 FY25 Capital Budget, Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS), Technology

Modernization (No. 036510), \$1,428,787

I. **FINDING:** In June of 2024 and 2023, the Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice (ORESJ) completed Racial Equity Impact Assessments (REIA) for Supplemental Appropriation (SA) requests regarding Technology Modernization for Montgomery County Public Schools. There are no significant differences between previous supplemental requests SA #23-103 and SA #24-89, and this current supplemental request SA #25-84 FY25 Capital Budget, Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS), Technology Modernization (No. 036510) as the funding is a continuation of Federal funding MCPS has received since FY2010. Therefore, ORESJ's finding statement and analysis remain unchanged:

Finding REIA #23-103 has the potential to advance racial equity and social justice in Montgomery County as it targets resources to households most burdened by the digital divide to help increase access to computers and reduce opportunity and achievement gaps in education, such as the Homework Gap. Of note, the absence of demographic data makes it difficult to determine to what extent this supplemental will mitigate racial disparities in educational outcomes for low-income MCPS students identified as Black, Indigenous, or People of Color (BIPOC).

Racial Equity Impact Assessment (REIA) Supplemental Appropriation (SA) #25-84 to the FY25 Capital Budget Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) Technology Modernization (No. 036510)

June 26, 2025

Page 2 of 2

II. BACKGROUND: The purpose of *SA* #25-84, *FY25 Capital Budget, MCPS, Technology Modernization (No. 036510)*, is to support expenditures to improve students' access to technology by purchasing technology hardware and software. Specifically, requested funds will cover technology costs that are eligible under the Federal program for E-Rate rebates, such as Internet access, routers, switches, firewall services, wireless access points (WAPs), and the newly added Wi-Fi hotspot devices and data plans. Additionally, the requested funds will allow MCPS to use local funds to address other necessities within the scope of the Technology Modernization project, such as purchasing Chromebooks, teacher laptops, computer lab technology, printers, and interactive panels.

As previously noted in the REIA for <u>SA #24-89</u>, ORESJ recommends that those considering SA #25-84 review REIA SA #23- 103, which is available at https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/ore/Resources/Files/23-103.pdf.

cc: Thomas W. Taylor, Superintendent of Schools, Montgomery County Public Schools Tricia Swanson, Director, Strategic Partnerships, Office of the County Executive