



MONTGOMERY COUNTY OFFICE OF RACIAL EQUITY & SOCIAL JUSTICE

REIA #26-33

Blueprint Community Schools Program

Requesting Agency/Department(s)

Dollar Amount

Montgomery County Public Schools

\$1,825,921

Funding Source

MCPS Restricted Fund Balance

Finding

The Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice (ORESJ) finds that *Supplemental Appropriation (SA) 26-33 Blueprint Community Schools Program* does not appear to substantively alter programming that differs from the Racial Equity Impact Assessment (REIA) of Supplemental Appropriations #24-49 MCPS Blueprint Career Advising Program and #25-50-MCPS Blueprint Community Schools Program. Therefore, ORESJ's findings remain unchanged:

*“The Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice (ORESJ) finds that the Supplemental Appropriations for MCPS Blueprint for Maryland’s Future #25-49 Career Advising Program and #25-50 Community Schools Programs **have the potential to advance racial equity and social justice in Montgomery County** as the supplementals appropriate prior year funding for both programs. While the supplemental funding requests are technical in nature, the funding supports Blueprint for Maryland’s Future programs—designed to eliminate achievement and opportunity gaps between students from different family incomes, races, ethnicities, abilities, and disabilities, and other defining characteristics.”*

Background

Purpose

In collaboration with the Office of Well-Being and Student Services and the Department of Student Engagement and Behavioral Health, and in alignment with the school's needs assessment plan, the purpose of the supplemental appropriation is to strengthen wrap-around

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services to students and families through the Community Schools Program. As noted in REIA #24-49 and #24-50,¹ the Blueprint Community Schools Program works to remove barriers to learning and provide positive, equitable environments where students can thrive.

Additional Background Information (Optional)

Any funds budgeted for the *Blueprint Community Schools Program* that are unused at the end of the fiscal year are required to be appropriated in the next fiscal year to support the program. As such, funds from this appropriation will be used to continue:

- supporting part-time salaries and associated benefits to support activities such as professional learning for wellness trainers on trauma-informed practices and de-escalation strategies, as well as for parent community coordinators on family engagement with families of different races, ethnicities, and cultural backgrounds;
- contractual services to provide family engagement capacity building sessions, out-of-school-time activities for science, technology, engineering, arts, mathematics, and athletics;
- other program costs to provide food and snacks for family workshops and extracurricular activities;
- furniture, equipment, and supplies such as bins, clothing racks, and other movable items, in community school family resource centers; and
- registration fees and travel for professional development costs for the annual family engagement and community schools conference.

Relevant REIAs and Other Assessments

ORESJ has conducted REIAs since 2021. The following REIA(s) are relevant to supplemental appropriation #26-33.

- REIA #24-49 MCPS Blueprint Career Advising Program and #25-50-MCPS Blueprint Community Schools Program
<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/ore/Resources/Files/25-49-50.pdf>
- REIA #24-44 Department of Health and Human Services Increase Somatic Services at Montgomery County Public Schools
<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/ore/Resources/Files/24-44.pdf>
- REIA #23-68 – Amendment to the FY23 Operating Budget for Maryland School-Based Health Center Program
<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/ore/Resources/Files/23-68.pdf>

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- REIA #22-49 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Cooperative Agreement
Cooperative Agreement
<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/ore/Resources/Files/22-49.pdf>

Caveats

This REIA has been conducted with the best available information at the time of writing, including department responses to the Racial Equity and Social Justice template and research conducted by ORESJ Policy Team Analysts. While the assessment examines specific racial equity and social justice impacts of the funding request, it cannot fully address all systemic inequities that affect the communities in question, nor do we seek to examine impacts outside the scope of the funding request. We recommend using this assessment as a starting point for discussions about the program's impact on advancing racial equity and social justice in Montgomery County.

References

¹ <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/ore/Resources/Files/25-49-50.pdf>