

## THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT

(301) 952-3426

CHAIRMAN
DERRICK L. DAVIS
Councilman District 6

JUL 2 1 2016

Segun Eubanks, Ed. D., Chair Board of Education Sasscer Administration Building 14201 School Lane Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

Dear Dr. Eubanks:

In response to your and Dr. Maxwell's joint letter, dated July 11, 2016, the Prince George's County Council hereby approves the Board's reconciliation request to reassign \$96,601,500 between major expenditure categories included in the Fiscal Year 2017 Approved Operating Budget. The County Council's Approved FY 2017 Operating Budget for Prince George's County Schools was set at \$1,923,860,100 and this requested and approved reconciliation action redistributes funding among the various statutory categories of spending within the total authorized spending level for FY 2017. The reconciliation process is done at the beginning of each new fiscal year to reconcile PGCPS' operating budget with the final appropriation approved by the County Council. Through reconciliation PGCPS is able to refine and align projected spending among the various statutory expenditure categories to reflect PGCPS' projected spending within each category, consistent with its operational plans and policies for the fiscal year. The effect of this reconciliation / transfer, as approved by the County Council on Tuesday, July19, 2016, is reflected in Attachment 1.

The Council understands that this transfer request was approved by the Prince George's County Board of Education, as recommended by Chief Executive Officer Dr. Kevin Maxwell. We understand that this reconciliation action is needed to maintain fiscal stability and to preserve and enhance essential school system programs and services, consistent with the PGCPS Strategic Plan.

The transfer request increases funding in two (2) major expenditure categories: Fixed Charges and Health Services. The additional expenditures required for these two (2) categories are offset by reduced funding in twelve (12) major expenditure categories: Administration, Mid-Level Administration, Instructional Salaries, Textbooks and Instructional Materials, Other Instructional Costs, Special Education, Student Personnel Services, Student Transportation Services, Operation of Plant, Maintenance of Plant, Food Service Subsidy, and Community Services. We concur that the requested reconciliation actions provide PGCPS with needed funding for important educational and operational initiatives and priorities, will enable PGCPS to maintain and expand essential programs, and will enable PGCPS to maintain sound fiscal management.

Finally, as discussed during the recent Committee of the Whole (COW) meeting, the additional appropriation of \$7,500,000 that you also are requesting for FY 2017 will require a formal budget amendment and cannot be handled through the budget reconciliation process. You indicated that the additional \$7,500,000 will come from PGCPS' available unassigned fund balance and will be used for certain one-time expenses. We understand that you will shortly submit your formal request to the County Executive requesting his endorsement of your proposal. Upon approval by the County Executive, the Administration will submit a proposed Bill to amend the FY 2017 budget to the County Council for our consideration and action. I understand that the County Council can expect to receive the necessary legislative proposal in September. Upon receipt of the proposed legislation, we will give it prompt attention.

The County Council looks forward to a continued and strengthened partnership with the Board of Education, working closely to further strengthen and improve the overall performance and effectiveness of Prince George's County Public Schools. If I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,

Derrick L. Davis Chairman