

## Calvin S. Hawkins, II Chair At-Large Council Member

## PRINCE GEORGE'SI

"Building the People's Movement"

May 27, 2021

The Honorable Dr. Juanita Miller, Chair Prince George's County Board of Education Sasscer Administration Building 14201 School Lane Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

Dear Dr. Miller:

The Prince George's County Council herewith transmits an approved FY 2022 Board of Education Operating Budget in the amount of \$2,343,232,400 for the support of Prince George's County Public Schools. The County's contribution to the Board exceeds maintenance of effort by \$96,109,478, and the overall approved budget is 2.8%, or \$65,094,400, more than the current fiscal year's approved operating budget. The enclosure provides a summary of the County Council's approved FY 2022 Operating Budget revenue, by source, along with expenditure allocations, by major category.

Economic factors of the COVID-19 pandemic caused a downward adjustment of anticipated revenues and has had a major impact on future revenue flow to the County. Given the uncertainty and volatility of future revenues, the County Council, therefore, is unable to provide the requested additional funds to the Board of Education at this time.

Adequate financial support remains a priority budget concern for educational improvement to advance the school system's goals and outcomes. Throughout the extent of this unprecedented and challenging pandemic, our schools have continued to operate at optimal levels to effectively prepare students for the college or career of their choice.

The County Council shares the ideals of the Prince George's County Public Schools Coherence Framework. We look forward to continued progress in achieving the vision set forth in the CEO's Focus Areas for Addressing the Digital Divide, Mental Health Supports, Building Maintenance, School Budgeting Effectiveness, and Program Efficiency Review. Our commitment to ensuring funding support safeguards that our schools will meet optimal levels of performance. Thereby, the Council has allocated 61.8% of the County's approved FY 2022 General fund budget to the Board of Education. Consequently, the Council awaits the Board of Education's reconciliation of the approved budget amount that will reflect the Board of Education's priorities.

The future will be challenging for Prince George's County, particularly for our students. The Council thanks the Board of Education, the CEO, and the staff of our school system for the unflinching efforts in their pursuits to address the immediate public health and safety needs of our students while maintaining continuity of learning. We look forward to our ongoing commitment to the Board of Education during these challenging times. If you have any questions, or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

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Calvin S. Hawkins, II Chair

Enclosure