

Concerned about your child and the funding of public education in Anne Arundel County?

Please read and consider voicing your opinions.

Did you know that Anne Arundel County is 18th in the state in per pupil spending and has the lowest starting teacher salary of any county in our area, except for Frederick? In addition, in the last 2 years, AACPS has gained 2,313 new students and not been able to hire any net new teachers.

Last month, the BOE passed a \$1.2 billion FY2019 Operating Budget that contains 27 additional teaching positions and additional compensation for all employees. The budget would boost the number of classroom teachers and special education teaching positions to reduce class size. It includes funding for an additional 290.5 positions, approximately 95% of which would be allocated for teachers and others who have daily contact with students. It would also provide every school system employee with a compensation increase. The request also includes \$3 million for 29.2 positions to help address increasing issues related to the social and emotional wellness of students (including 14.4 school counselors, 8 social workers, 5.8 school psychologists, and 1 pupil personnel worker.)

Visit this link for more information regarding the budget from AACPS:

<https://www.aacps.org/Page/5594>

This is the AACPS Board of Education recommended budget. The County Executive will include funding for the school system in his proposed FY2019 budget, which will be released May 1st.

If you are concerned about the funding that AACPS will receive, please express your concerns by either attending a public hearing or writing the County Executive and the county council.

The County Council will hold Public Hearings (*just attend or speak also*):

May 10 7:00 pm at 44 Calvert St. in Annapolis, 21401

(If you are testifying, show up early to put your name on the list.)

May 14 7:00 pm at North County High School

(If you are testifying, show up early to put your name on the list.)

Here are the phone numbers and e-mail addresses of our County Executive and County Council Members.

County Executive:

(410) 222-1821

Steve Schuh:stevensschuh@aacounty.org

County Council Members:

(410) 222-1401

Peter Smith:peter.smith@aacounty.org

John Grasso:john.grasso@aacounty.org

Derek Fink:dfink@aacounty.org

Andrew Pruski:andrew.pruski@aacounty.org

Michael Peroutka:michael.peroutka@aacounty.org

Chris Trumbauer:ctrumbauer@aacounty.org

Jerry Walker:jerry.walker@aacounty.org

You can also write a Letter to the Editor

Urge the County Executive and County Council to fully fund the AACPS Board of Education's Requested Budget for FY2019.

For submissions to The Capital: 400 words or less (*include address & daytime phone number*).

E-mail your submission to: sgunn@capgaznews.com & capletts@capgaznews.com or send a written copy to: Letters to the Editor 888 Bestgate Road, Suite 104 Annapolis, MD 21401.