

# PTACHC Legislative Update – DEC 4, 2023



# DECEMBER 2023

- DEC 4 COUNTY COUNCIL – LEGISLATIVE SESSION + PUBLIC HEARING ON RENT CONTROL**
- DEC 5 4PM – HCPSS BOE**  
**OF NOTE POLICY 8200 DIGITAL EDUCATION REPORT/ACTION *Look for 1 to 1 Ratio Tablets Issue***
- DEC 11 COUNTY EXECUTIVE FIRST FY 25 BUDGET HEARING (*SECOND HEARING TBD MARCH*)**  
[www.howardcountymd.gov/budgettestimony](http://www.howardcountymd.gov/budgettestimony)
- DEC 11 9:45AM COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING WITH HCPSS BOE**
- DEC 19 4PM – HCPSS BOE**
- JAN 10 SUPERINTENDENT RETIRMENT**
- JAN 11 4PM – HCPSS BOE**
- TBD – START OF SPENDING AFFORDABILITY COMMITTEE SAAC**
- TBD - STATE BILLS - <https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebiste/>**

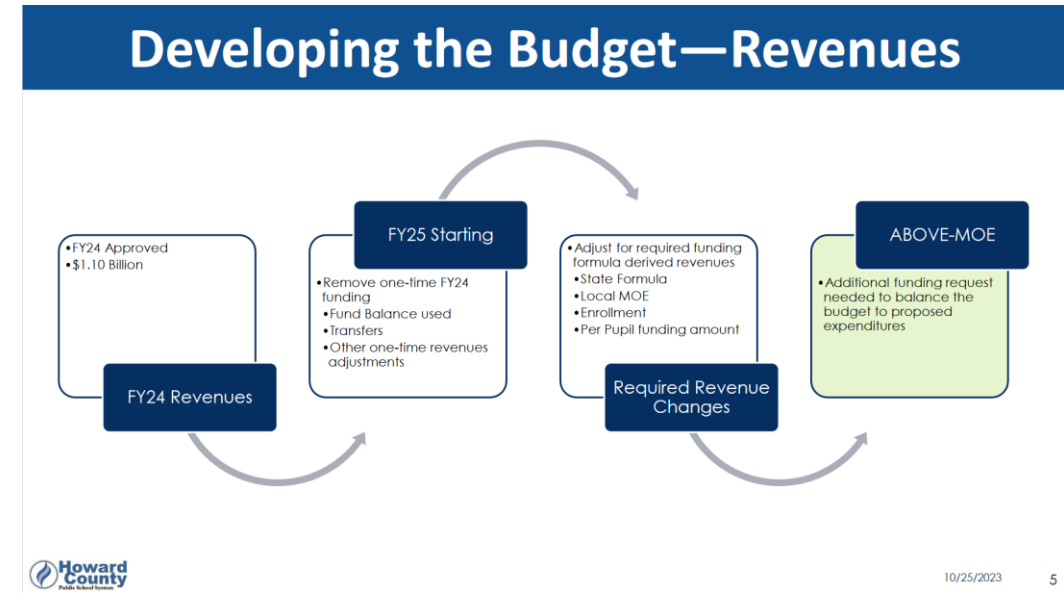
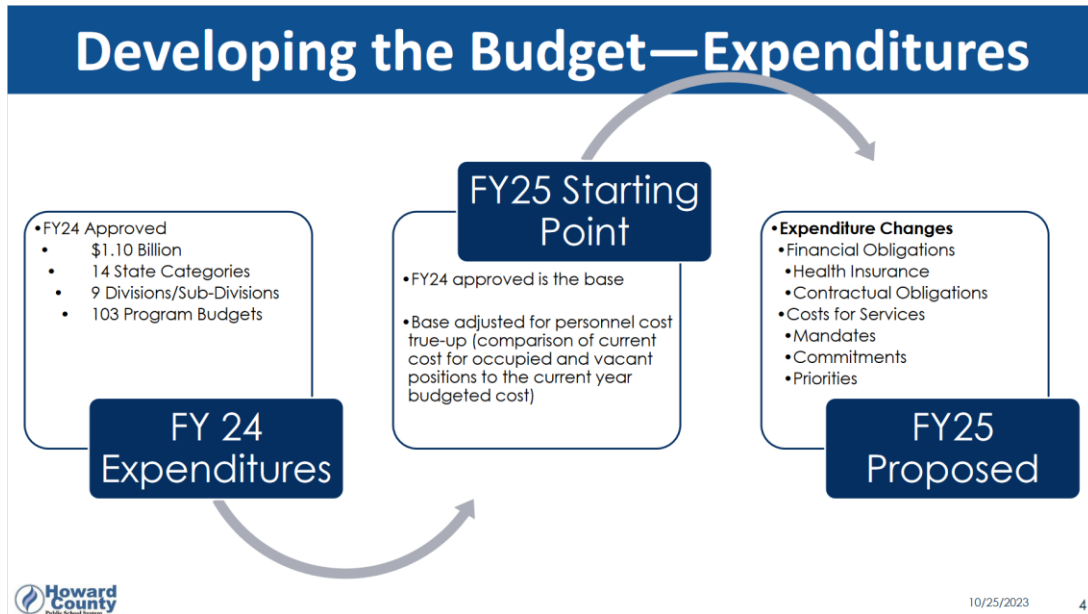
## Superintendent Presents Proposed Operating Budget

As required by the Maryland Code of Regulations, the Superintendent is required to articulate and request the funding needed to meet the mandates and the needs of the Howard County Public School System (HCPSS), so all students and staff have the greatest opportunity to succeed while also ensuring fiduciary responsibility over a budget that is largely funded by the taxpayers of Howard County.

# DECEMBER 2023

## HCPSS BUDGET – Tonight's Subject

<https://www.hcpss.org/about-us/budgets/>



# DECEMBER 2023

**FINAL GENERAL PLAN RELEASE DATE?  
STILL UNPUBLISHED.**

<https://www.hocobydesign.com/>

**COMPREHENSIVE REZONING TBD**

**\*SIGNIFICANTLY AFFECTS RATES OF  
GROWTH, REVENUE & EXPENSES**

**\*ALL CURRENT PROJECTIONS ARE  
BASED OFF OF THE *PRIOR* GENERAL  
PLAN – ADJUSTMENTS TO BOTH  
CAPITAL AND OPERATIONING WILL  
BE NEEDED**

**FUTURE TRENDS**  
Decreases in Enrollment and Birth Rates

Other noteworthy trends impacting future school capacity include decreasing enrollment post the Covid-19 pandemic and decreases in the national birth rates.

According to the United States Census Bureau, the number of births nationwide has been declining since 2008, which is now impacting kindergarten enrollment and will impact future enrollment growth in Howard County. Annual live birth counts from the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene have been declining since 2016, with an 11% overall decrease since 2016. The 2022 MDP birth projection included this recent historical data, leading to a declining birth projection for the County.

Enrollment has declined since the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic as some parents shifted their children to private school or homeschool, while some delayed kindergarten enrollment. Table B-4 from the HCPSS 2022 Feasibility Study illustrates those decreases between 2019 and 2021.

The 2022-2023 school year official enrollment count (September 30, 2022 official enrollment) showed an increase to 57,676 students, the first increase over 2019 enrollment levels. While annual enrollment is projected to increase in the future, the percent of increase may continue to be below recent historical trends given declining birth rates and until pandemic-related behaviors normalize. Graph B-1 shows historical enrollment trends and the recent decline in enrollment.

Student Groups	Counts
2019 Total Enrollment	57,518
2020 New Students	6,891
2020 Exiting Students	56,279
2020 Total Enrollment	8,368
2021 New Students	8,643
2021 Exiting Students	56,004
2021 Total Enrollment	56,004

Source: Howard County Public School System, Office of School Planning, K-12 enrollment, not including Pre-K.

**Graph B-1: Howard County Public School System Enrollments 2010 to 2022 (official Sept. 30 count)**

**Table B-5: Student Yields from New Units Built 2015-2019: All Grade Levels Combined**

Planning Areas	Students per Single-Family Detached Unit	Students per Single-Family Attached Unit	Students per Apartment Unit
Columbia	0.7048	0.3417	0.0448
Elkridge	0.6331	0.3633	0.1549
Ellicott City	0.8380	0.6440	0.1867
Rural West	0.7888	NA	NA
Southeast	0.5822	0.2533	0.1062
Countywide Average	0.7135	0.3928	0.1020

Source: Howard County Public School System, Office of School Planning, October 2022

**Smaller Housing Typologies**

To meet the growing demand for housing within our limited remaining land area, housing types will need to shift. HoCo By Design emphasizes accommodating future growth within mixed-use activity centers, missing middle housing, and accessory dwelling units—all of which consist of smaller housing typologies than traditional single-family detached homes. For example, new apartment units in Downtown Columbia, many of which are studio and 1-bedroom units, are expected to account for close to 20% of all new housing units built in the County between 2023 and 2040. Based on the official September 30, 2022 enrollment data, there are only 41 students living in the 1,199 new housing units from the Downtown Plan that are built and fully occupied. This is a standing yield rate of 0.034 students per unit, which is less than 5% of the yield rate for a typical new single-family detached home built in the County and less than 9% of a new townhome yield rate. Countywide, new apartment yields are about 14% of new single-family detached yields and 26% of new townhome yields.

The HoCo By Design Future Land Use Map (FLUM) is based on a housing projection model that estimates about 57% will be rental and condominium apartments, 24% townhomes, and 19% single-family detached units. This projection compares to 38% rental and condominium apartments, 29% townhomes, and 33% single-family detached units built in the last 20 years. It is expected that this change in unit type mix into the future will yield relatively fewer new students compared to the last 20 years.

PS-15 Chapter 8: Public School Facilities

HOCO BY DESIGN 2023 COUNCIL DRAFT

Chapter 8: Public School Facilities PS-16

# DECEMBER 2023

APFO CHANGES TO SCHOOL CHARTS AND **HOUSING ALLOCATIONS** VOTE TONIGHT (DEC 4<sup>th</sup>)

## APFO COMMITTEE STATUS

**Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance Committee required to convene within 1 year of General Plan update (Oct 2024). APFO determines the “acceptable” level of intentional school overcrowding**

**PTACHC has sent a letter of interest.**

## APFO START DATE UNDETERMINED

**\*DPZ claims delays are due to concurrent planning of Gateway, Comprehensive Rezoning and APFO. DPZ is seeking an National “APFO EXPERT” that will guide the county policy. Experience and qualifications are TBD.** (source - hclwv forum)

**PTACHC IS ALSO MONITORING THE STATE ACCESSORY DWELLING UNIT TASK FORCE** - <https://planning.maryland.gov/Pages/OurWork/ADUTF/ADU.aspx>

**EDUCATION RELATED MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY LOCAL BILLS FOR HOWARD COUNTY**  
**<https://www.howardcountymd.gov/state-delegation>**

**Howard County – Public Campaign Financing – Board of  
Education**

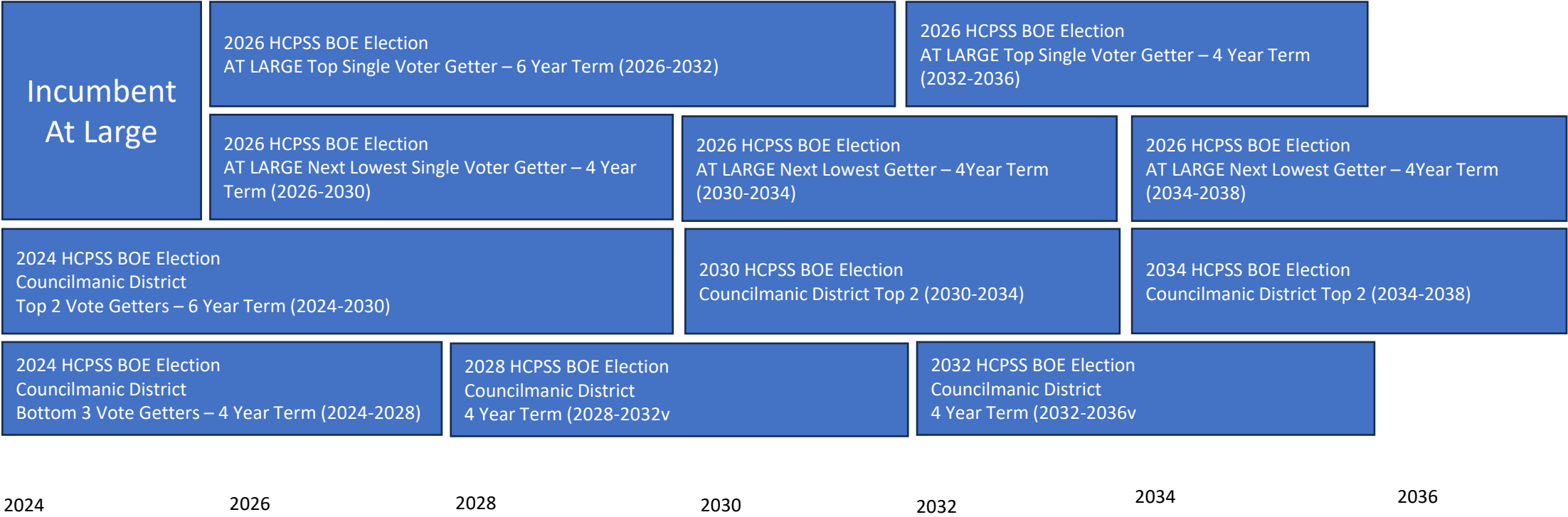
[Ho. Co. 1–24](#)

By: Senator Lam

For the purpose of authorizing the governing body of Howard County to establish a system of public campaign financing for members of the county board of education; and generally relating to public campaign financing in Howard County.

Considerations \* Expansion of Candidate Pool  
Draft Position For Discussion :  
*PTACHC SUPPORTS PUBLIC CAMPAIGN FINAINCING  
FOR THE HCPSS BOE*

# 2-24 Bill (Draft)



**EDUCATION RELATED MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY LOCAL BILLS FOR HOWARD COUNTY**  
**<https://www.howardcountymd.gov/state-delegation>**

**Howard County Board of Education – Board Member Terms  
and Compensation Commission**

[Ho. Co. 2-24](#)

By: Senator Lam

For the purpose of altering the terms of the members of the Howard County Board of Education; establishing the Howard County Board of Education Compensation Commission; and generally relating to the terms of members of the Howard County Board of Education and to the Howard County Board of Education Compensation Commission.

Considerations \* CHANGE IN BOE TERMS

Draft Position(s) For Discussion :

*PTACHC SUPPORTS A BOE COMPENSATION COMMISSION.*

*PTACHC SUPPORTS BOE TERM ADJUSTMENTS WITH THE  
FOLLOWING ADMENDMENTS \_\_\_\_\_*



**EDUCATION RELATED MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY LOCAL BILLS FOR HOWARD COUNTY**  
**<https://www.howardcountymd.gov/state-delegation>**

**Howard County Board of Education – Liquidated Damages – Model Policy and Requirements**

Ho. Co. 3-24

By: Senator Lam

For the purpose of requiring the Howard County Board of Education, on or before a certain date and in consultation with the Howard County Executive and the Howard County Council, to publish a model policy concerning the inclusion and use of liquidated damages provisions in procurement contracts; requiring certain student transportation procurement contracts to include a liquidated damages clause consistent with the model policy, subject to a certain exception; requiring certain documentation of a decision not to pursue certain liquidated damages under certain circumstances; and generally relating to Howard County Board of Education procurements and liquidated damages provisions

Considerations \* Applicability to all future contracts

\*Local Control

Draft Position For Discussion :

*PTACHC HAS NO POSITION FOR 3-24*

**EDUCATION RELATED MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY LOCAL BILLS FOR HOWARD COUNTY**  
**<https://www.howardcountymd.gov/state-delegation>**

[Ho. Co. 6-24](#)

By: Delegates Wu and Terrasa

For the purpose of authorizing the Howard County Council to adopt, by law, a ranked-choice voting method for elections for the Howard County Board of Education; and generally relating to the use of ranked-choice voting for elections for the Howard County Board of Education.

Considerations \* Change relevant to non-partisan races

Draft Position For Discussion :

*PTACHC SUPPORTS Ranked-Choice Voting for BOE Elections*

**EDUCATION RELATED MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY LOCAL BILLS FOR HOWARD COUNTY**  
**<https://www.howardcountymd.gov/state-delegation>**

**Howard County – Commercial Building Excise Tax – Board of Education Deferred Maintenance**

[Ho. Co. 13-24](#)

By: Delegate Atterbeary

For the purpose of authorizing the County Council of Howard County to impose an excise tax on commercial building construction; requiring the excise tax revenue to be used only for deferred maintenance needs identified by the Howard County Board of Education; and generally relating to a commercial building excise tax in Howard County and deferred maintenance in the Howard County Public School System. Workgroup to Study the Fiscal and Operational Viability of Public–Private

Considerations \* Two Separate Issues

Draft Position For Discussion :

*PTACHC SUPPORTS An Commercial Excise Tax For Differed Maintenance*

*PTACHC SUPPORTS A PPP workgroup that comprehensively compares PPPs ability to resolve long term systemwide needs.*

*PTACHC requests representation on this workgroup.*

**EDUCATION RELATED MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY LOCAL BILLS FOR HOWARD COUNTY**  
**<https://www.howardcountymd.gov/state-delegation>**

**Partnerships for Howard County Public Schools – Established**

[Ho. Co. 14–24](#)

By: Senator Lam

For the purpose of establishing the Workgroup to Study the Fiscal and Operational Viability of Public–Private Partnerships for Howard County Public Schools; and generally relating to the Workgroup to Study the Fiscal and Operational Viability of Public–Private Partnerships for Howard County Public Schools.

Considerations \* PPP ability to serve, rather than prioritize all long term capital needs.

Draft Position For Discussion :

*PTACHC SUPPORTS A PPP workgroup that comprehensively compares PPPs ability to resolve long term systemwide needs.*

*PTACHC requests representation on this workgroup.*

**EDUCATION RELATED MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY LOCAL BILLS FOR HOWARD COUNTY**  
**<https://www.howardcountymd.gov/state-delegation>**

**HCPSS – Publishing of School Need Criteria Scores**

Ho. Co. 16-24

By: Delegates Watson, Wu, and Ziegler, and Senator Hester and Lam

This bill, intended to provide predictability and increase transparency in school renovation priorities made by Board of Education, is still in drafting. The final bill text will be posted when available.

Considerations \*Prioritization vs Comprehensive Capital Planning

Draft Position For Discussion :

*PTACHC SUPPORTS clear, consistent evaluation of school capital needs and funding availability.*

*PTACHC requests representation in this process.*

**EDUCATION RELATED MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY LOCAL BILLS FOR HOWARD COUNTY**  
**<https://www.howardcountymd.gov/state-delegation>**

**Howard County – Voting Methods**

Ho. Co. 17-24

By: Senator Hester

For the purpose of authorizing the Howard County Council to adopt, by law, a ranked choice voting method or an approval voting method for elections for certain local offices; and generally relating to the use of ranked choice voting or approval voting for elections for local offices in Howard County.

This bill is still in drafting. The final bill text will be posted when available.

Considerations \* Bill Is incomplete – Requires Monitoring and research on Ranked Voting

Draft Position For Discussion :

*PTACHC does not have a position on 17-24 at this time.*

**EDUCATION RELATED MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY LOCAL BILLS FOR HOWARD COUNTY**  
**<https://www.howardcountymd.gov/state-delegation>**

**Howard County - Task Force to Study Reallocation of Transfer  
Tax Revenue**

Ho. Co. 18-24

By: Delegate Wu

This bill, intended to identify funding for deferred maintenance in Howard County schools, is still in drafting. The final bill text will be posted when available.

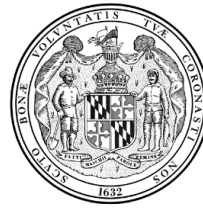
Considerations \* XFR Tax not directly aligned with expenditure.

\*XFR Tax is widely used to fulfill General Fund obligations in local government.

Draft Position For Discussion :

PTACHC will consider support once details are drafted.

# MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY DATES



Department of Legislative Services  
**General Assembly of Maryland**  
**Dates of Interest**  
**2024 SESSION**  
 446th Session  
*(Preliminary)*

JANUARY						
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	H					
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	H					
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

FEBRUARY						
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11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	H					
25	26	27	28	29		

MARCH						
					1	2
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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

APRIL						
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

- January 10** GENERAL ASSEMBLY CONVENES (*noon, Wednesday*)
- 17 Final date for the Governor to introduce budget bill.
- 17 Final Date for the Governor to introduce capital budget bill.
- 19 10th Day – Final date for submission of Executive Orders reorganizing the Executive Branch of State Government; either Chamber may disapprove by resolution within 50 days.
- 19 10th Day – SENATE AND HOUSE BILL REQUEST GUARANTEE DATE
- 22 13th Day – Administration bills introduced in the Senate after this date referred to Senate Rules Committee
- TBD Governor delivers State of the State Address
- February 5** 27th Day – SENATE BILL INTRODUCTION DATE  
Senate bills introduced after this date referred to the Senate Rules Committee
- 8 In order to meet the bill introduction date, House bills must be filed with the Chief Clerk’s office by 5:00 P.M.
- 9 31st Day – HOUSE BILL INTRODUCTION DATE  
House bills introduced after this date referred to the House Rules and Executive Nominations Committee
- 18 40th Day – “Green Bag” appointments submitted by Governor (*Delivered on Friday, February 16*)
- March 4** 55th Day – Final date for introduction of bills without suspension of Rules
- 12 63rd Day – Committee Reporting Courtesy Date  
Each Chamber’s committees to report their own bills by this date.
- 18 69th Day – Opposite Chamber Bill Crossover Date  
Each Chamber to send to other Chamber those bills it intends to pass favorably.  
Opposite Chamber bills received after this date subject to referral to Rules Committees (Senate Rule 32(c), House Courtesy Date)
- April 1** 83rd Day – Budget bill to be passed by both Chambers.
- 8 90th Day – ADJOURNMENT “SINE DIE” (*Monday*)
- May 8** Final date for an extended session (*Wednesday*)
- 14 Maryland Presidential Primary Election

## POST-SESSION

- April 28** 20th Day after adjournment — Final date for presentment of bills to the Governor
- May 28** 30th Day after presentment — Governor to sign/veto bills by this date.
- June 1** Other than emergency bills and as otherwise provided, earliest date for bills to take effect.
- July 1** Budgetary, tax, and revenue bills to take effect.
- October 1** Usual effective date for bills



# Reference Material

Schedule C

## Howard County, Maryland School Facilities Surcharge As of June 30, 2023

Fiscal Year	Beginning Balance	Surcharge Collected	Debt Service Surcharge Bonds*	Pay Go	Ending Balance
2005	\$ -	\$ 5,946,543	\$ -		\$ 5,946,543
2006	5,946,543	6,814,269	-		12,760,812
2007	12,760,812	6,371,054	2,204,998		16,926,868
2008	16,926,868	4,749,863	4,313,639		17,363,092
2009	17,363,092	3,796,822	5,801,401		15,358,513
2010	15,358,513	5,890,008	6,167,534		15,080,987
2011	15,080,987	4,875,886	6,911,415		13,045,458
2012	13,045,458	5,660,948	7,000,115		11,706,292
2013	11,706,292	6,581,536	7,764,529		10,523,299
2014	10,523,299	6,765,059	8,066,618		9,221,740
2015	9,221,740	6,883,468	7,500,572		8,604,636
2016	8,604,636	7,268,211	7,246,418		8,626,429
2017	8,626,429	5,944,674	7,255,368		7,315,735
2018	7,315,735	6,219,580	7,065,629		6,469,686
2019	6,469,686	5,650,869	7,108,644		5,011,911
2020	5,011,911	4,542,354	7,141,574		2,412,691
2021	2,412,691	9,409,794	6,466,201	3,000,000	2,356,283
2022	2,356,283	16,049,851	5,930,855	4,000,000	8,475,280
2023	16,146,362 **	18,411,198	4,931,535	9,070,864	20,555,162

\* Principal and Interest

\*\* Beginning balance was restated to report actual Pay Go expenditures instead of budgeted.

The County sold \$31,000,000 of School Facilities Surcharge Bonds in January 2006, \$27,470,454 in March 2007, \$16,533,546 in February 2008, \$7,950,000 in March 2009, \$5,940,534 in February 2010, \$40,000 in February 2011, \$19,466 in November 2011, \$5,000,000 in April 2014, \$471,000 in April 2015, \$1,933,910 in March 2016, \$3,595,090 in April 2017, \$1,000,000 in April 2018, \$858,000 in May 2019 and \$142,000 in May 2020. The outstanding debt service on those bonds is \$27,469,378. The surcharges collected annually will be used to fund those future debt service payments.

## School Surcharge Status

**\*A One Time Payment For One Time Expense (CAPACITY)**

**\*Frees up available funding for reoccurring expenses (Operations/Renovations)**

**\*Can be used for Non-Capacity Projects (Backfill Issues)**

**\*Should fund PAY-GO expenses (Revenues should closely pace capacity needs and expenses)**

**\*Was (and still is) used to repay a revolving line of debt for past expenses – now at \$27 Million**

**\*2023 Only \$9M used for capacity projects of \$18M Collected**

**\*Charged in \$ Per Square Foot of new residential development (I.E. – Already is “progressive” charging less for small affordable unit types and more for large Single-Family homes)**

**\*Even with 2018 Increase phased in, amount is far below actual costs needed to cover expenses.**

**(See Oakland Mills, Dunloggin, Turf Valley and others for real-life examples)**

**\*There is NO current legislative effort by the HCPSS, Council, Executive Office, State or other to rectify.**

**\*OUR shared school system is falling behind as a result.**