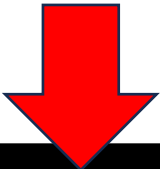


# PTACHC Legislative April 2026

PTACHC provides a non-partisan platform for candidates to express their views on education  
Share the event with your community. Candidates are responsive to issues that receive attention.  
Next Forum – April 18<sup>th</sup> at Howard High Auditorium 11am BOE followed by County Council

Simply search **PTACHC** on YouTube



Select recent and past candidate forums  
Links can also be found on the PTACHC.ORG website and officers Facebook Group

## Items of interest

Budget – Capital budget released April 1

For consideration

- \*What was the difference between the BOE request that was funded and actual need?
- \*Is the capital budget increase a one-time effort through debt (bonds) or sustainable in outyears?
- \*Will the upcoming Operating budget release require cutbacks?
- \*Legislative overlap – What changes create competition for operating or capital funding?

Executive Report on Operating budget is pending

Council input on budget – note budget is NOT PRE-Filed for April public council hearings or May Vote

April 30 7PM BOE work session on budget

May 4, 7PM – BOE public hearing

Final Budget vote (BOE) May 21, 4:30 PM

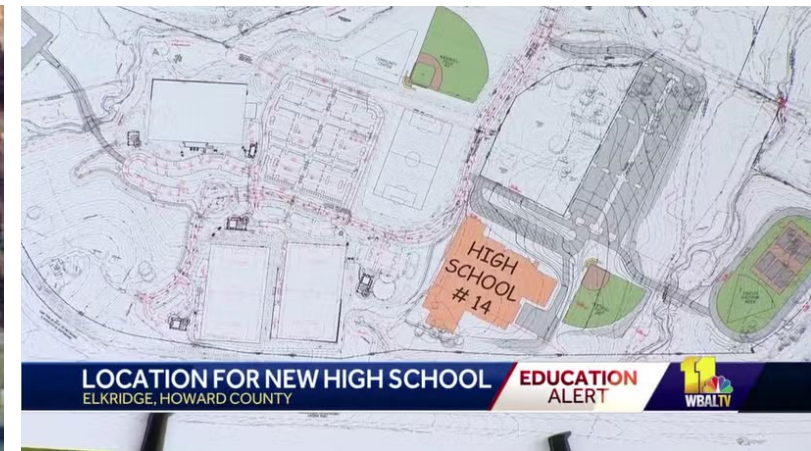
## Council Bills to watch

CB-19-2026 Renewable energy contract with CI renewables  
Building solar facilities for HCPSS. Requests all of future Marriottsville Middle School site property to be forfeited

Note – HCPSS is forfeiting land to HCFRS at HQ site so HCFRS can Forfeit it's property in Columbia for a housing project.

Note – HC Rec & Parks is forfeiting land at Troy Hill so HCPSS can build HS#14

Note HOCO-10-26 allows transfer tax land preservation revenue to be used toward “innovation”



Howard County Is in the process of creating many changes to Zoning and density. Many of these have a direct influence on enrollment growth and redistricting, while many have exemptions from school overcrowding protections or capacity mitigation.

April 7<sup>th</sup> DPZ – Cottage Clusters



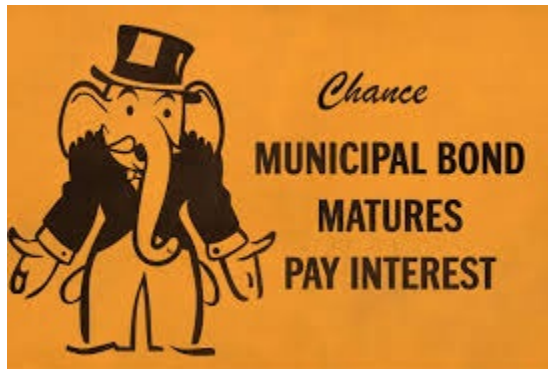
Milk Plant Closure



CR-39 Tax and APFO exemptions  
Fall River Terrace



CR-40–2026 Bond debt for development



CR52 TOD office to housing



Maple Lawn development

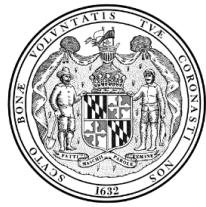


# SB31 State tracking kids and changing county development process

Rewrites have minimized the educational impact, but the bill is still moving forward to a April 8<sup>th</sup> hearing

Of Note – Howard County has yet to implement any new recommendations from the APFO task force.  
 Unknown when legislation will be submitted for unlimited overcrowding/pay-to-play

<b>Title</b>	School Construction and Housing - School Zones and Adequate Public Facilities Ordinances			
<b>Sponsored by</b>	Senator <a href="#">Lam</a>			
<b>Status</b>	In the House - Hearing 4/08 at 1:00 p.m.			
<b>Analysis</b>	<a href="#">Fiscal and Policy Note</a>			
<b>Synopsis</b>	Requiring each county board of education to submit a student residency and school zones report to the Department of Planning and the Interagency Commission on School Construction by July 1 each year, beginning on July 1, 2026, requiring a county board to consult with certain municipalities and incorporate certain data when developing an education facilities master plan; providing that adequate public facilities ordinances may not delay the processing and completion of site development plans, but may delay construction starts; etc.			
<b>Committees</b>	Original: <a href="#">Education, Energy, and the Environment</a>	Opposite: <a href="#">Appropriations</a>		
<b>Committee Testimony</b>	<a href="#">Witness List</a>			
<b>Details</b>	Cross-filed with: <a href="#">HB0337</a> Bill File Type: Pre-Filed Effective Date(s): June 1, 2026 Bill imposes a local government mandate, which is a directive in a bill requiring a local government unit to perform a task or assume a responsibility that has a discernible fiscal impact on the local government unit			
<b>History</b>	^			
<b>Chamber</b>	<b>Calendar Date</b>	<b>Legislative Date</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Proceed</b>
Senate	9/05/2025	9/05/2025	Pre-filed	
Senate	1/14/2026	1/14/2026	First Reading Education, Energy, and the Environment <a href="#">Text - First - School Construction and Housing – School Zones and Adequate Public Facilities Ordinances</a>	
Senate	1/23/2026	1/23/2026	Hearing 2/17 at 1:00 p.m. <a href="#">Vote - Senate - Committee - Education, Energy, and the Environment</a>	
Senate	3/16/2026	3/16/2026	Favorable with Amendments Report by Education, Energy, and the Environment	
Senate	3/18/2026	3/02/2026	Favorable with Amendments {313426/1 Adopted	41
Senate	3/18/2026	3/02/2026	Second Reading Passed with Amendments <a href="#">Text - Third - School Construction and Housing - School Zones and Adequate Public Facilities Ordinances</a>	41
Senate	3/19/2026	3/03/2026	Third Reading Passed (33-12)	42A
House	3/20/2026	3/07/2026	Referred Appropriations	44A
House	3/26/2026	3/26/2026	Hearing 4/08 at 1:00 p.m.	



Department of Legislative Services  
**General Assembly of Maryland**  
**Dates of Interest**  
**2026 SESSION**  
**449<sup>th</sup> Session**

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

- January 14** **GENERAL ASSEMBLY CONVENES** (noon, Wednesday)  
**21** Final date for Governor to introduce budget bill  
**21** Final date for the Governor to introduce the capital budget bill  
**23** *10<sup>th</sup> Day* – **SENATE AND HOUSE BILL REQUEST GUARANTEE DATE**  
**26** *13<sup>th</sup> Day* – Administration bills introduced in the Senate after this date referred to Senate Rules Committee  
**28** *15<sup>th</sup> Day* – Final date for introduction of Governor’s Salary Commission, General Assembly Compensation Commission, and Judicial Compensation Commission recommendations. Legislative action must be taken within 50 days after introduction of the joint resolutions of the Governor’s Salary Commission and the Judicial Compensation Commission.

- February 9** *27<sup>th</sup> Day* — **SENATE BILL INTRODUCTION DATE**  
Senate bills introduced after this date referred to the Senate Rules Committee  
Deadline for members to send LBI requests to DLS to guarantee preparation by 55<sup>th</sup> day.  
**11** Governor delivers the State of the State Address (noon)  
**12** Day before House Bill Introduction Date; “Hopper” will close at 5:00 P.M.  
**13** *31<sup>st</sup> Day* — **HOUSE BILL INTRODUCTION DATE**  
House bills introduced after this date referred to the House Rules and Executive Nominations Committee  
Deadline for members to send LBI requests to DLS to guarantee preparation by the 55<sup>th</sup> day.  
**22** *40<sup>th</sup> Day* — “Green Bag” appointments submitted by Governor (*Delivered on Friday, February 20*)

- March 9** *55<sup>th</sup> Day* — Final date for introduction of bills and LBIs without suspension of Rules  
**17** *63<sup>rd</sup> Day* — Committee Reporting Courtesy Date  
Each Chamber’s committees to report their own bills by this date  
**23** *69<sup>th</sup> 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)

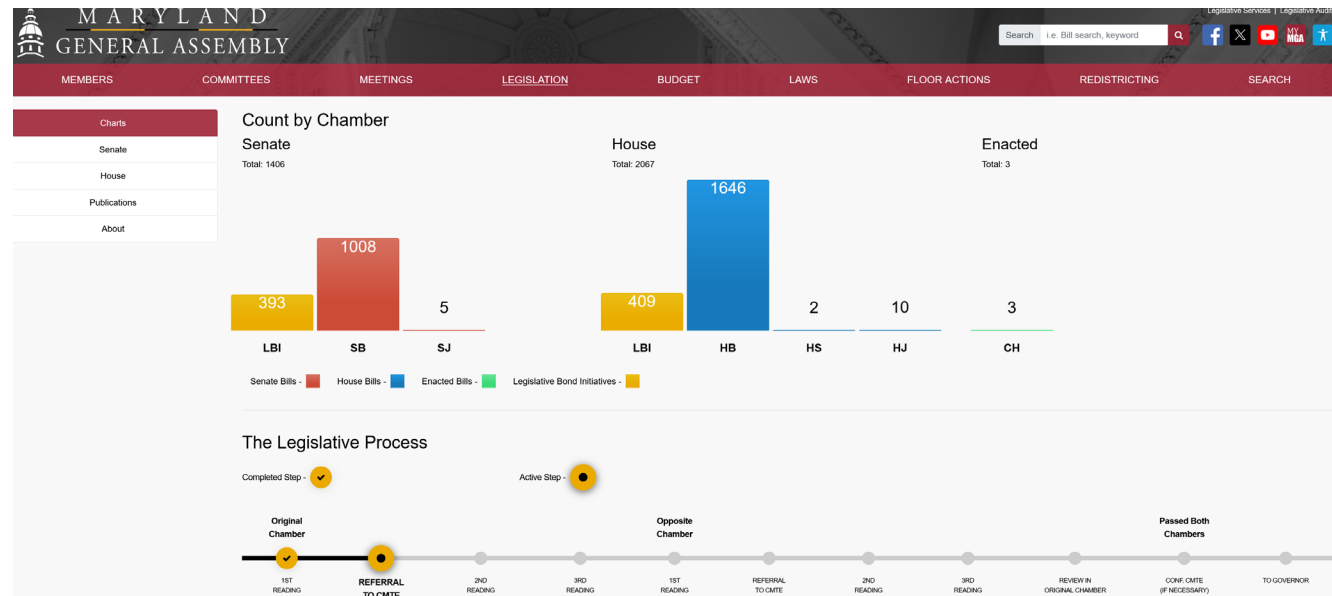
- April 6** *83<sup>rd</sup> Day* — Budget bill to be passed by both Chambers  
**13** *90<sup>th</sup> Day* — **ADJOURNMENT “SINE DIE”** (Monday)

- May 13** Final date for an extended session (Wednesday)

**POST-SESSION**

- May 3** 20<sup>th</sup> Day after adjournment — Final date for presentation of bills to Governor  
**June 1** Other than emergency bills and as otherwise provided, earliest date for bills to take effect  
**June 2** 30<sup>th</sup> Day after presentation–Governor to sign/veto bills by this date  
**July 1** Budgetary, tax, and revenue bills to take effect  
**October 1** Usual effective date for bills

Maryland General Assembly wrap up “SINE DIE”  
**APRIL 13 2026**



While HCPSS and PTACHC may not have the same positions on topics, the HCPSS legislative committee Information on Boarddocs is a great resource to track State legislation relating to Howard County As well as a resource to track what your BOE supports or opposes

**Agenda Item Details**

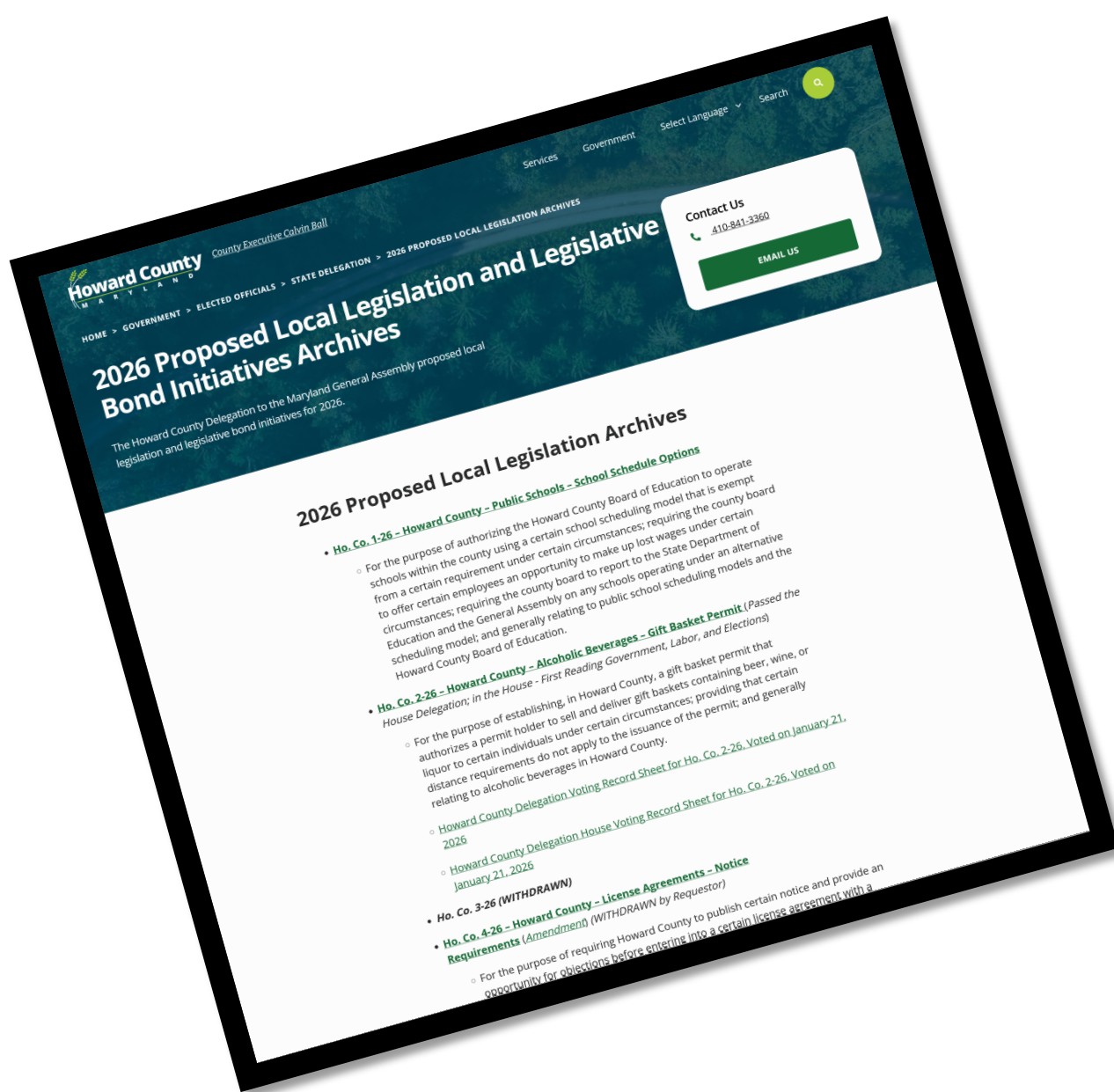
Meeting	Mar 26, 2026 - 4 & 7 p.m. Meeting of the Board of Education of Howard County
Category	ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA
Subject	Legislative Report - 2026 General Assembly (Danielle Lueking) - ACTION
Type	Action
Recommended Action	Move approval of the Legislative Report with recommendations as noted.
Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Priority 4 - 4. Improve operational responsiveness survey ratings.</li><li>Priority 4 - 1. Foster a culture of continuous improvement in which schools, offices, and departments monitor and report progress toward strategies and goals and make adjustments in a timely manner.</li></ul>

[03 26 2026 Legislative Report - 2026 General Assembly.pdf \(796 KB\)](#)

**Motion & Voting**

- ★ To approve the Board's Legislative Committee's recommendations exclusive of HB0575, HB0962, HB1074, and HoCo 15-26.  
Motion by Andrea Chamblee, second by Jennifer Swickard Mallo.  
Final Resolution: Motion Carries  
Yes: Linfeng Chen, Meg Ricks, Antonia Watts, Erin Alistar, Jacquelin McCoy, Andrea Chamblee, Jennifer Swickard Mallo
- ★ Move that the Board oppose HB0575 - Public Schools - Student Attendance - Excused Absences for Civic Engagement  
Motion by Antonia Watts, second by Linfeng Chen.  
Final Resolution: Motion Carries  
Yes: Linfeng Chen, Meg Ricks, Antonia Watts, Jacquelin McCoy, Andrea Chamblee  
Nay: Erin Alistar, Jennifer Swickard Mallo
- ★ Move that the Board support HB0962 Local Public Campaign Financing - County Boards of Education  
Motion by Antonia Watts, second by Jennifer Swickard Mallo.  
Final Resolution: Motion Carries  
Yes: Linfeng Chen, Meg Ricks, Antonia Watts, Erin Alistar, Jacquelin McCoy, Andrea Chamblee, Jennifer Swickard Mallo
- ★ Move that the Board support HB1074 - Public Ethics Law - Participation Restrictions and Requirements for Local Governments and School Boards  
Motion by Antonia Watts, second by Andrea Chamblee.  
Final Resolution: Motion Carries  
Yes: Linfeng Chen, Meg Ricks, Antonia Watts, Erin Alistar, Jacquelin McCoy, Andrea Chamblee, Jennifer Swickard Mallo
- ★ Move that the Board oppose HoCo 15-26 - Howard County - Office of the Inspector General - Access to Public Records.  
Motion by Antonia Watts, second by Jennifer Swickard Mallo.  
Final Resolution: Motion Carries  
Yes: Meg Ricks, Antonia Watts, Jacquelin McCoy, Andrea Chamblee, Jennifer Swickard Mallo  
Abstain: Linfeng Chen, Erin Alistar

<https://go.boarddocs.com/mabe/hcpssmd/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=DPMKBY51064C>



Status of State Bills focused on Howard County are on the Howard County Delegation of the MGA website.

Bills passed by Howard County Delegation Need to go on to committee and then Governor

<https://www.howardcountymd.gov/state-delegation/2026-proposed-local-legislation-and-legislative-bond-initiatives>