



NEWS RELEASE

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Board of Education Approves \$2.58 Billion Operating Budget Request for Fiscal Year 2025

Towson, MD – The Board of Education voted on February 27 to approve a \$2.58 billion budget for Fiscal Year (FY) 2025. The proposed budget request, which includes a modest increase of \$42.3 million over the FY 2024 general fund budget, will allow Baltimore County Public Schools (BCPS) to fast forward student achievement and ensure students are learning at high levels, have access to innovative programs, and receive comprehensive supports and services.

“The Board adopted a fiscally responsible operating budget request that will help advance excellence for all BCPS students and address the significant needs of the system,” said Board Chair Tiara Booker-Dwyer. “We believe this budget will help BCPS make significant progress toward eliminating disparities in academic achievement, increase system efficiency, reduce redundancy, and move resources closer to schools. We look forward to collaborating with our County leaders on next steps for this budget.”

The investments outlined in the Board’s proposed FY 2025 operating budget request are aligned with the system’s four priority areas:

- Academic achievement
- Infrastructure
- Safety and climate
- Highly effective teachers, leaders, and staff

The proposed budget request includes targeted resources to implement strategic areas of work that will create the conditions necessary for improvements in its English language arts, mathematics, English for

Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL), and special education programs. This includes:

- Reduced class sizes in Grades 3-5.
- Expansion of full-day PreKindergarten programs.
- Compensation enhancements for staff.
- Special education Individualized Education Program (IEP) chairpersons in elementary schools.
- Elementary math lead teachers pilot.
- Additional special education, ESOL, staff development, and special area teachers.
- New English Language Learner (ELL) and secondary English language arts curriculum.
- Expansion of community schools.
- Virtual academy teachers.
- Student safety assistants and additional athletic trainers.

The Board's operating budget request reflects input from an array of stakeholders, including staff, parents, students, and community members. The Board held an operating budget hearing and a budget work session in January.

The Board's budget request will now go to the Baltimore County Executive for review and consideration for his April budget proposal, followed by the County Council's vote to adopt the budget in May.

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[Baltimore County Public Schools](#), the nation's 22nd largest school system, engages and empowers its talented students, teachers, staff, and stakeholders and strives to build an innovative and collaborative learning community where all students excel and reach their highest potential.

Engage. Empower. Excel.