

FREDERICK COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Recommended FY2016 Operating Budget Highlights V 1.0

Operating Budget Highlights

The Superintendent's recommended fiscal year 2016 operating budget totals \$563,974,912. It reflects an increase of \$24,450,317 or 4.5% over the fiscal year 2015 operating budget.

The Superintendent's recommended budget includes expenditures that the Superintendent believes are needed to continue to provide quality educational services to the children of Frederick County for fiscal year 2016. It reflects the feedback obtained from engaging individuals from all sectors with a stake in public education. The recommended budget has \$23.6 million more in expenditures than revenues.

Should one-time funding be available from the County, the Superintendent hopes consideration will be given to a one-time transfer to help FCPS complete Phase 1 and move into Phases 2 and 3 of the school system's Technology Now plan. Phase 1 completion requires \$1.9 million for middle schools. Phase 2 requires \$6 million for high schools. Phase 3 requires \$4 million for elementary.

The Superintendent will continue to work with the Board of Education over the next several months to balance the budget request as revenues are more firmly established and expenditure requests are vetted.

Revenue Highlights

The county allocation of \$246.8 million represents the Maintenance of Effort level of funding required under state law (a \$1 million increase based on new students) and an increase of \$1.5 million for the teacher pension shift for a total increase of \$2.5 million or 1%.

The state revenue estimate is unchanged from fiscal year 2015 revenues due to the uncertainty of state aid funding.

Other sources of funding are estimated at \$1.7 million less due to lower use of fund balance projected for fiscal year 2016.

Expenditure Highlights

Reversals and Adjustments: There is \$0.1 million less in reversals and adjustments, mainly associated with the reversal of the funds allocated in fiscal year 2015 for the strategic plan consultant.

Continuation of Programs and Services: The \$4.6 million increase in this area includes health and dental insurance increases due to inflation; new retirees and temporary employees transitioning to permanent positions; and funding for technology and curriculum resources. The increase in continuation of programs and services is mitigated by savings due to employee turnover and utility efficiencies. The inflationary increase to insurance is an estimate and subject to negotiations.

Enrollment: Due to a small projected enrollment increase for fiscal year 2016, formula-based staffing will increase. This recommended budget includes a net increase of \$1.9 million as a result of enrollment.

Mandated: A \$3.1 million increase is mainly due to a net increase in pension expenses, increase in bus replacements, and the net growth in allocation to charter schools. The legislated local cost of state pension sharing is offset partially by an increase in the transfer from the local government associated with this pension cost sharing.

Salary and Staffing Resource Pool: This increase includes a resource pool that is subject to negotiations. This funding could be used for salary increases and/or staffing to meet systemic needs.

New Requests: The \$0.8 million increase for new requests is mainly for software and to account for the ability to use prior year fund balance.

Operating Fund Expenditures FY2014 through FY2016

	FY 2014 Approved	FY 2015 Approved	FY 2016 Superintendent's Recommended
Non-Personnel Expenditures	70.1	70.0	73.2
Benefits	145.3	149.7	159.6
Salaries	317.3	319.8	331.2
Total	532.7	539.5	564.0

Dollars in millions (rounded)

The Budget Process and How You Can Participate

Public Meetings and Budget Timeline

FCPS encourages the public to attend hearings and to provide written and/or oral testimony. The remaining FY16 process will include:

- Wed, Jan 7 *Building Frederick's Future: Education at a Crossroad* Superintendent presents recommended operating budget and continues to learn community priorities
- Wed, Jan 14 Superintendent presents recommended budget to BOE
- Wed/Thu, Jan 21/22 BOE budget work sessions
- Fri, Jan 23 Governor releases recommended state budget
- Wed, Jan 28 BOE discusses operating budget
- Wed, Feb 4 BOE holds public hearing on FY2016 operating budget—7 PM, Oakdale High
- Wed, Feb 11 BOE discusses operating budget—regular meeting
- Wed, Feb 18 BOE work session and approval of operating budget request to county
- Thu, Mar 19* County Executive's public hearing on draft operating budget
- Thu, Apr 30* County Council's public hearing on proposed FY2016 operating budget
- Wed, May 13 BOE meeting (regular)
- Mon, May 25 County Council adopts operating budget
- Wed, May 27 BOE meeting (regular)
- Wed, June 10 BOE adopts final budget; establishes state-mandated category totals
- Fri, June 12 BOE forwards adopted budget to Frederick County Government

*Tentative

Submitting Comments and Testimony

The Superintendent and BOE welcome public feedback. You may submit written comments for consideration during the school system's budget preparation process.

Contact the Superintendent and Board of Education

Mail: 191 S. East St., Frederick, MD 21701
Phone: 301-696-6850
Fax: 301-696-6950
Email: Board@fcps.org*

*Please use the email address for submitting general budget comments that do not require an individual response. Submissions are forwarded to the BOE and appropriate school system officials.

Email the County Executive

Jan H. Gardner:
jgardner@frederickcountymd.gov

Email the County Council

- President Bud Otis, Member at Large:
botis@frederickcountymd.gov
- Vice President M.C. Keegan-Ayer, District 3:
mckeegan-ayer@frederickcountymd.gov
- Tony Chmelik, District 2:
tchmelik@frederickcountymd.gov
- Kirby Delauter, District 5:
kdelauter1@frederickcountymd.gov

- Jerry Donald, District 1:
jdonald@frederickcountymd.gov
- Jessica Fitzwater, District 4:
jfitzwater@frederickcountymd.gov
- Billy Shreve, Member at Large:
billy@frederickcountymd.gov

More information on the County budget process:

www.frederickcountymd.gov

Speak at the Public Hearings:

Board of Education

Wednesday, February 4, 7 PM

Oakdale High, 5850 Eaglehead Dr., Ijamsville

County Executive

Thursday, March 19 (tentative)

County Council

Thursday, April 30 (tentative)

Other Ways to Participate

FCPS has made a concerted effort to engage the public in this year's budget process. This has included the Superintendent's presence at numerous school and community events as well as her Community Night Town Hall meetings. Public engagement has also included:



FCPS Maryland



@FCPSMaryland
#FCPSpromise



youtube.com/user/FCPSmaryland



ThePromise
@FCPS.org

A special Web section at www.fcps.org

An FCPS smart phone app, available from www.fcps.org

FindOutFirst messages and news releases

All public engagement will factor into the Superintendent's final budget recommendation to the Board of Education on January 14, 2015.

For More Information

Residents who want more information on the school system budget may contact:

FCPS Fiscal Services
301-644-5008

See the full Superintendent's Recommended Fiscal Year 2016 Operating Budget:
www.fcps.org

