

PUBLIC  
BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HARFORD COUNTY  
MINUTES OF MONDAY, JULY 16, 2025

*The information included here provides a summary of the agenda items presented and actions taken during the above meeting of the Board of Education of Harford County. The video recordings of the Board meetings are the official record of the meetings and can be viewed at: <http://www.hcps.org/boe/livestream/>. Informational reports are located at: <https://www.hcps.org/boe/boardmeetingschedules.aspx>*

Special Budget Meeting

Call to Order / Roll Call

The Board of Education of Harford County met in a virtual format via video teleconference on Monday, June 16, 2025. President Aaron Poynton called the meeting to order at 4:01 PM. Roll call was taken. All Board members were present with the exception of Ms. Carol Bruce, who was absent.

Virtual attendance: Mrs. Diane Alvarez, Ms. Carol Bruce, Mrs. Terri Kocher, Dr. Carol Mueller, Miss Sasha Pazoki, Mrs. Denise Perry, Mr. Wade Sewell, Ms. Lauren Strauss, Mrs. Melissa Hahn, and Dr. Aaron Poynton

Note: Ms. Carol Bruce and Mrs. Denise Perry joined the meeting virtually, after roll call was taken.

Adoption of Agenda

President Poynton called for a motion to adopt the agenda.

Motion, Second and Vote – Mrs. Alvarez made a motion to adopt the agenda. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Kocher and adopted in a voice vote of 9-0. Ms. Carol Bruce was absent for this motion.

Item A. Decision on Board of Education's FY 2026 Budget

Ms. Deborah Judd, Assistant Superintendent for Business Services, Mr. Eric Clark, Director of Budget, Mr. Justin Hedrick, Budget Analyst, and Mr. Joshua Stenger, Budget Analyst, provided an overview of the Superintendent's proposed budgets for FY 2026, and the Board took the following actions.

Restricted Fund, Food Service Fund, and Capital Projects Fund: Motion, Second and Vote – Mr. Sewell made a motion, seconded by Dr. Mueller to approve the Restricted Fund of "fifty-one million, three hundred twenty six thousand, fifty dollars and zero cents" (\$51,326,050.00), the Food Service Fund of "twenty-three million, three hundred twenty thousand dollars and zero cents" (\$23,320,000.00), and the Capital Projects Fund of "sixty-seven million, five hundred ninety-one thousand, four hundred seventy-four dollars and zero cents" (\$67,591,474.00), as presented. The motion was approved in a voice vote of 9-0. Ms. Bruce was absent for this motion. (Includes 1 preferential only affirmative student member vote).

Unrestricted Fund: Motion, Second and Vote – Mrs. Hahn made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Kocher to amend the Unrestricted Fund request of "six hundred seventy million, twelve thousand, one hundred sixty-three dollars and zero cents" (\$670,012,163.00), by adding ten million dollars and zero cents (\$10,000,000.00) from the fund balance to the operating unrestricted budget. The motion failed in a voice vote of 4-6. Ms. Bruce, Dr. Mueller, Miss Pazoki, Mrs. Perry, Mr. Sewell, and Dr. Poynton cast negative votes. (Includes 1 preferential only negative student member vote).

Meeting Break

The Board recessed until they were called back to order by President Poynton. Roll call was taken. All Board members were present virtually.

Amendment to Unrestricted Fund: Motion, Second and Vote – Dr. Poynton made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Kocher to amend the Unrestricted Fund request of "six hundred seventy million, twelve thousand, one hundred sixty-three dollars and zero cents" (\$670,012,163.00), by adding two million, five hundred dollars and zero cents (\$2,500,000.00) from the fund balance to the operating unrestricted budget. The motion stipulated that the \$2,500,000.00 be designated specifically for classroom educators with the express purpose of maintaining or reducing classroom size and to be allocated at the discretion of the Superintendent, with priorities given to grades K-3, and with a focus on

ensuring the classroom sizes are at or below recommended levels. The motion was approved in a roll call vote of 9-1. Mrs. Hahn cast a negative vote. (Includes 1 preferential only affirmative student member vote).

Amended Unrestricted Fund: Motion, Second and Vote – Mrs. Kocher made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Perry to approve the amended Unrestricted Fund of “six hundred seventy-two million, five-hundred twelve thousand, one hundred sixty-three dollars and zero cents” (\$672,512,163.00), as presented. The motion was approved in a roll call vote of 8-1. Mrs. Hahn cast a negative vote. (Includes 1 preferential only affirmative student member vote). Mrs. Alvarez abstained.

Adjournment

With no further business and with Board consensus the meeting adjourned at 5:56 PM.

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Sean W. Bulson, Ed. D.  
Superintendent of Schools and Secretary-Treasurer

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Aaron S. Poynton, D.P.A.  
President, Board of Education of Harford County



BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HARFORD COUNTY  
NOTICE OF BOARD SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING

**Monday, June 16, 2025, at 4:00 pm - Adjournment**

This meeting will be conducted in a virtual fashion with only Board members and staff in attendance virtually. The meeting will be streamed live *and* archived for later viewing on the HCPS website.

**There is no time allotted for public comments during this special virtual meeting.**

\*The next full Board meeting is set for Monday, June 23, 2025.