

PUBLIC
BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HARFORD COUNTY
MINUTES OF MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2026

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>

Business Meeting

Call to Order / Roll Call

President Lauren Paige called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM. Roll call was taken. All Board members were present.

In-person attendance: Ms. Liliana Norkaitis, Miss Vibha Nanduri, Mrs. BangTam Miller, Mrs. Melissa Hahn, Ms. Carol Bruce, Mrs. Diane Alvarez, and Ms. Lauren Paige.

Virtual attendance: Dr. Carol Mueller and Mr. Wade Sewell.

Adoption of Agenda

President Paige called for a motion to adopt the agenda.

Motion, Second and Vote – Dr. Mueller made a motion to adopt the agenda. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Alvarez and adopted in a voice vote of 9-0. (Includes 1 affirmative student member vote).

Pledge of Allegiance

Miss Vibha Nanduri, Student Member of the Board, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moment of Silence

Dr. Dyann Mack, Superintendent requested a moment of silence to recognize and remember students and staff of the Harford County Public Schools community who have passed away and acknowledged the profound impact of their loss on the community. A moment of silence was observed in their memory.

Item A. Student Presentation “Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA)”

Mr. Tommy Schumacher, Area Director Harford County FCA, Mr. Isaiah Robinson, Graduate of Harford Community College and Havre de Grace HS Alum, Miss Elliana Haynes, C. Milton High School Student, Mr. Prince Morris, Edgewood High School Student, Mr. Gavin Trimble, North Harford High School Student, and Mr. Johnny Woods, Fallston High School Girl's Basketball Coach provided the Board a presentation on the “Harford County Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA)” program. The students present shared their personal experience of participating on FCA.

Public Comments

Speakers were invited to the meeting to provide their comments for the record either in-person or virtually. President Paige read a statement regarding protocol for public comments which included a provision that each speaker including those speaking on behalf of a group, would be allotted three (3) minutes to speak. Mrs. Yvonne Rallo, Board of Education Administrative Support Coordinator, called on individual speakers who were in person at the meeting and had registered to speak at the Board meeting. The following nine (9) people registered and provided in-person public comment: David Bauer, Iris Bauer, Madison Clark, Crystal Rufenacht, Cristina Lanocha, David Faby, Dom Heath, Cathy Kowalewski, and Tunisia Gannon.

There were no virtual speakers.

Board Member Comments

Board member comments were provided.

Superintendent’s Report

Dr. Dyann Mack provided the Superintendent’s report.

Old Business

President Paige announced no “Old Business” was scheduled for discussion.

Item B. Consent Agenda

President Paige called for a motion to approve the consent agenda as follows:

1. Monthly Report on Certificated Personnel: August 2026
2. Contract Award: On-Call Electrical Services
3. Contract Award: Computers, Servers, Network Hardware, and Related Peripherals and Accessories
4. Contract Award: Renewal of Library Automation and Management System
5. Contract Award: Local Telecommunications Services
6. 2027 Comprehensive Maintenance Plan
7. FY 2028 State Capital Improvement Program
8. Citizens Advisory Committees Membership for the: 2026-2027 School Year
9. Candidate for the Board of Education: Ethics Panel Position

Motion, Second and Vote - Mrs. Alvarez requested that consent agenda item number four (4): “Contract Award: Renewal of Library Automation and Management System”, be removed for discussion. Dr. Mueller made a motion to approve all consent agenda items with the exception of number four (4) Contract Award: Renewal of Library Automation and Management System. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Alvarez. The consent agenda was approved with all items, except number 4. “Contract Award: Renewal of Library Automation and Management System,” in a voice vote of 9-0. (Includes 1 preferential affirmative student member vote).

Consent Item Number 4. Contract Award: Renewal of Library Automation and Management System Discussion

President Paige opened for Board discussion contract award: “Renewal of Library Automation and Management System.” Mrs. Alvarez made a motion to defer a decision on this contract until two (2) meetings from now and it was seconded by Mrs. Hahn. After Board discussion with administration and staff on the impact of delaying a decision, Mrs. Alvarez withdrew her motion.

Consent Item Number 4. Contract Award: Renewal of Library Automation and Management System

Motion, Second and Vote – Ms. Norkaitis made a motion to approve consent agenda item number 4, for contract award: “Renewal of Library Automation and Management System”. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Miller and approved in a voice vote of 9-0. (Includes 1 affirmative student member vote).

Meeting Break

The Board proceeded with the meeting without taking a break.

New Business

Item C. Decision on Proposed Revisions to Board Policy 20-0002-000 School Calendar.

President Paige introduced the topic on the proposed revisions to Board policy 20-0002-000 School Calendar. The proposed policy was first presented to the Board at the August 17, 2026, business meeting. The policy was then posted for public comments for thirty (30) days. Twelve (12) comments were received and shared with the Board for review. The following action was taken.

Motion, Second and Vote – Dr. Mueller made a motion to approve the proposed revised Board policy titled “20-0002-000 School Calendar”. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Miller. The motion was approved in a roll-call vote of 8-1 (Includes 1 affirmative student member vote). Mrs. Hahn cast a negative vote.

Item D. Decision on Proposed Amendments to the Board Handbook

President Paige introduced the topic for Board discussion and Ms. Norkaitis, presented the proposed amendments to the Board Handbook for consideration of approval.

Motion, Second and Vote – Ms. Norkaitis made a motion to approve the proposed Board Handbook amendments together as a package. The motion was seconded by Ms. Bruce and approved in a roll- call vote of 8-1. (Includes 1 affirmative student member vote). Mrs. Hahn cast a negative vote.

Item E. Decision on Inclement Weather Learning Plan

Mr. Bernard Hennigan, Deputy Superintendent for Schools, was joined by Ms. Heather Kutcher, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, Dr. Martha Barwick, Supervisor of Innovation in Learning, and Ms. Rebecca Pensero, Coordinator of Supplemental Instruction and Career Programs, and they presented the proposed Inclement Weather Learning Plan for the 2026-2027 school year. Board approval for the plan was sought, and the following action took place.

Motion, Second and Vote – Ms. Bruce made a motion to approve the 2026-2027 Inclement Weather Learning Plan, as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Norkaitis and approved in a voice vote of 9-0. (Includes 1 affirmative student member vote).

Item F. Decision on Proposed Revisions to Board Policy: 02-0058-000 Student Elopement

Lauren R. Driver, Esq., General Counsel, presented the proposed updates to Board policy titled “Student Elopement.” The proposed policy was first presented to the Board at the July 20, 2026, business meeting. The policy was then posted for public comments for thirty (30) days. Two (2) comments were received and shared with the Board for review. The following action was taken.

Motion, Second and Vote – Mrs. Miller made a motion to approve the proposed revised Board policy titled “02-0058-000 Student Elopement”. The motion was seconded by Ms. Norkaitis. The motion was approved in a voice vote of 9-0 (Includes 1 affirmative student member vote).

Item G. Presentation of Quarterly Financial Report for the Period Ending June 30, 2026

The Board received a presentation on the quarterly financial report for the period ending June 30, 2026, from Ms. Deborah Judd, Chief Financial Officer and Mr. Eric Clark, Director of Budget. The report included detailed analysis of revenues and expenditures. The information that was presented was preliminary and unaudited with no material changes expected. Highlights of the financial information shared were as follows:

- Revenues – Total revenue received for FY 2026 is 100.2% of budgeted revenue, compared to 100.3% in the previous year.
- Expenditures – Expenditures for the fiscal year were approximately 98.7% of the appropriation, compared to 99.0% in the previous year.
- Fund Balance – Projected unassigned fund balance is \$21.7 million.
- Assignments for fund balance include the following:
 - FY27 Budget \$10.6 million
 - Fuel \$1.0 million
 - Lease payments for student and teacher devices \$4.0 million
 - Health insurance call \$5.0 million

No formal action was taken by the Board.

Adjournment

With no further business and with Board consensus the meeting adjourned at 8:13 PM.

Dyann R. Mack, Ed. D.
Superintendent of Schools and Secretary-Treasurer

Lauren Paige
President, Board of Education of Harford County



BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HARFORD COUNTY
NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PARTICIPATION
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2026

BUSINESS MEETING: 6:00 PM – ADJOURNMENT

This meeting will be conducted in a hybrid fashion and public attendance will be permitted as explained below:

DOORS WILL OPEN AT 5:55 PM AND THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 6:00 PM

For this business meeting, in order to allow time for the Board to complete scheduled business, registered speaker's allotted time shall be limited to no more than three (3) minutes for individuals and individuals representing groups.

The Board of Education of Harford County will hold a hybrid Business Meeting on Monday, September 28, 2026, at 6:00 PM in the Board Room of the A.A. Roberty Building with Board Members, staff, and presenters in attendance both virtually and in-person. Seats will be available on a first-come-first served basis. The meeting will be streamed live and archived for later viewing on HCPS [Website](#).

Public Comment Participation Call-In and In-Person Process

Individuals or groups recognized by Harford County Public Schools (i.e. – PTAs, unions, and other school system stakeholders) wishing to speak on an agenda item or to comment on an education-related matter not on the agenda may request to do so by sending an email to publiccomment@hcps.org or calling 410-588-5347.

Call-In Registrations must be received by 12:00 PM on Monday, September 28, 2026. All fields on the registration form must be completed.

1. First and Last name / if speaker is a Group Representative, then please state the name of the Group
2. Local Address
3. Email Address
4. Phone Number
5. Agenda item or subject your Public Comment pertains to
6. Will you provide in-person **or** virtual Public Comment
7. Registration forms are limited to one (1) per person

****Failure to provide complete information as required above will void the request to provide Public Comment.***

- Registered virtual speakers will receive an email from HCPS with a Call-in Phone # and a Conference ID #.
- Registered speakers are required to call-in and enter the conference ID# at 6:00 PM on Monday, September 28, 2026.
- Important: If you are unable to take your phone off mute, you may need to dial *6.
- If you are admitted from the virtual lobby to the meeting, you will be greeted by an HCPS staff member when it is time to begin your public comment. Expected hold time in the virtual lobby may vary based on number of registered speakers. The maximum wait time in the lobby is 30 minutes; should you be disconnected please call back.
- "Request to Appear Before the Board" cards will be available for in-person attendees prior to the Board Meeting for sign-up and must be submitted prior to the opening of the meeting.

The Board has authorized public comment in accord with its policy [Public Participation at Board Open Meetings or Public Hearings](#) and as summarized below:

- Each speaker shall be limited to no more than three (3) minutes for individuals and individuals representing groups. Speakers must state his or her name, and, if representing a group, must identify the group he or she represents. If a speaker identifies themselves as a representative of a group, then only one (1) representative from the group may provide comment for the identified group.
- The Board presiding officer may reduce the amount of time allocated to each speaker if allocating 3 minutes to each speaker will impede the Board's ability to complete scheduled business.
- The Board will receive in-person public comment first and virtual public comment second. The Board expects that all comments will be submitted with the decorum and respect appropriate to the conduct of public business.
- Topics such as personnel matters, pending appeals, specific student disciplinary matters or which constitute commercial solicitations are not permitted.
- Disparaging comments, personal attacks, and inflammatory remarks about specific schools, personnel, any person, or group are not permitted. Speakers who engage in these comments will be reminded of the rules and the Board reserves the right to remove the speaker. In addition, public comment is an opportunity for members of the community to address the Board of Education. Please direct your comments to the Board and not to other members of the public in the audience.
- All public comments submitted will be part of the records maintained by the Board office.