Harford County PTA Leaders, April 17, 2019

A primary purpose of PTA is to advocate for families and children. The County Executive has sent his proposed budget to the Harford County Council for their review. The CE included $10M plus another $650K which has been reserved specifically for mental health.

We encourage you to share your voice on behalf of this cause. If you don't know what to say, you may personalize this email and send it to council@harfordcountymd.gov. At many of the County Council sessions I attended, the correspondence received has been mentioned.

Feel free to share with your membership.

I will also keep you informed of upcoming events concerning the budget. If you have questions, please let me know.

Have a great day!

Renee

Renee DeBiase

President, HCCPTA

---- Advocacy email follows. Send email to council@harfordcountymd.gov.

Dear Members of the Harford County Council,

My name is (insert name here). I am a concerned (parent, teacher, student, citizen) who resides in District (find your district info here <https://voterservices.elections.maryland.gov/VoterSearch>). I am writing in hopes that you will support the HCPS BOE budget request.

The standards for education are more rigorous than ever!  However, we have seen steady reductions in staffing and programs across the district over many years for a variety of reasons:  the cost of living continues to increase, the cost of healthcare continues to increase, the student population in recent years has also increased. The result?  Harford County is ranked last in per pupil funding for Maryland.

Recently it was announced that Mr. Glassman will support a ~$10.7M increase to HCPS.  The BoE asked for $15M. To some, the request may seem like the $4.3M is in the noise.  It isn’t.

Dr. Bulson’s proposed budget request to the BoE was based on what he thought the County Executive would support.  If you look at the staffing trends, clearly HCPS needs more than either the county or state has allocated to our children.  Since HCPS relies on the taxpayer, we are relying on you.

Public education is supposed to level the playing field. Increased class sizes and fewer classroom supports can only broaden the disparity gap.  Please consider joining me in advocating for the children in Harford County.

Sincerely,

Name

Address

Town