



May 19, 2017

**STATEMENT BY PRESIDENT LYNNE HARRIS AND VICE PRESIDENT FOR
ADVOCACY NEAL ORRINGER ON THE COUNTY COUNCIL'S FY 2018
OPERATING BUDGET PRELIMINARY AGREEMENT**

Rockville, Maryland— Montgomery County Council of PTAs President Lynne Harris and Vice President for Advocacy Neal Orringer released the following statement today on the approval of the County Council's FY 2018 operating budget:

"The government should have few higher priorities than providing every child a good education. The Council's budget reflects such a commitment. For the second year in a row, funding will exceed the State-mandated Maintenance of Effort level of funding, in order to keep class sizes down, and address the widening achievement gap. MCPS enrollment numbers keep rising, and we need the resources to keep pace with our growth.

"We must also be ready for new challenges. As federal and state leaders threaten to divert resources away from public education, the County may be called on to assume a greater share of education costs- especially for those most vulnerable. MCCPTA is preparing for battle! We will organize to fight any cuts to public education. That is our commitment to the students, schools and families of Montgomery County."

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT: Neal Orringer at vpadvocacy@mccpta.org

##