

Recent & Ongoing Activities

- March 19: Rally for the Fund: rally in Annapolis encouraged the General Assembly to support [HB 1687](#) or [SB 1122](#) so that state Casino revenues will finally be used to boost State-wide education funding.
- Maryland General Assembly currently in session, considering dozen of education-related bill including
 - [HB 679](#) to overturn the annual school end-date set by the Governor by executive order in August 2016;
 - [HB 1415](#), the so-called Kirwan Commission bill, to establish early literacy programs, create Learning in Extended Academic Programs (LEAP) grants for schools in which at least 90% of students qualify for federal free/reduced priced meals, expand eligibility requirements for the Teaching Fellows for Maryland scholarship program; create grants for more schools to build innovative a Career and Technology Education programs; and extend the final report date for the Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education.
 - [SB 1122](#) was approved by the Senate 3/19 on a vote of 47-0 to put to a general election vote amending State Constitution to lock in state casino revenues to supplement (not supplant) Education dollars.
- County Executive endorsed the Board of Education's [operating budget proposal](#). The recommended \$2.59B budget for FY 2019 is a \$72.96 million (2.9 percent) increase over FY 2018. Most of this increase will be used to provide the same level of services to our growing number of students, ongoing salaries and benefits, and increasing operational costs, but it also includes \$16.12 million to expand and implement our key bodies of work. This includes:
 - Introducing new career readiness pathways, including Aviation and Aerospace; Cybersecurity; Fire Safety and Rescue; Law Enforcement and Leadership; and more
 - Adding more two-way elementary language immersion programs
 - Expanding programs in Computer Science, Coding and Robotics
 - Implementing extended year programs at two elementary schools beginning July 2019
 - Launching a Recovery Education program
 - Expanding the College Tracks and Achieving Collegiate Excellence & Success (ACES) programs
 - Expanding Middle and Early College program

Future Activities

- ****April 10,11: COUNTY COUNCIL OPERATING BUDGET HEARINGS—SIGN UP NOW!!!**
go to this link and scroll down to the April 10 and 11 links to sign up!**
<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/calendar.html#/?i=1>
- **April 23:** League of Women Voters +NAACP joining MCCPTA in organizing a Board of Education candidates forum at Gaithersburg High School (see attached)
- MCCPTA Voter Guide being assembled, circulation far and wide will be needed.

Attachments (below):

- Board of Education Candidates Forum Flyer



League of Women Voters of Montgomery County
Montgomery County Council of PTAs
NAACP, Montgomery County Chapter

PRESENT

BOARD OF EDUCATION Candidates' Forum

At-Large: Ryan Arbuckle, Timur Edib, Marwa Omar Ibrahim,
Julie Reiley, Brandon Orman Rippeon, John A. Robertson,
Karla Silvestre, Stephen Sugg

District 3: Lynn Amano, Patricia O'Neill, Laura Simon

Monday, APRIL 23, 2018

Gaithersburg High School Cafeteria

101 Education Blvd, Gaithersburg

6:30 – 7:00 arrival and informal conversations with candidates

7:00 Questions to the candidates

8:45 Wrap-up and depart

Moderator: Tracie Potts



Affects everyone whether you have school age children or not.

Be an INFORMED voter to make your two choices in each race!