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**From:** Anthony DeBella <jhu1996@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 9, 2024 3:55 PM  
**To:** Budget Testimony  
**Cc:** Ahmad, Yousuf; CouncilMail; boe@hcpss.org; Bill Barnes  
**Subject:** FY 26 Operating Budget Hearing comments  
**Attachments:** A DeBella-FY26 Howard County Operating Budget Public Hearing Comments.docx

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Hello,

I am signed up to provide public comments to the County Executive on the FY26 Operating Budget at the December 9 Public Hearing. Attached please find testimony in favor of fully funding HCPSS.

VR,  
Anthony DeBella  
Laurel, MD 20723

FY26 Howard County Operating Budget Public Hearing Comments- December 9, 2024  
Anthony DeBella

While Howard County has the capacity to pay for many amenities, we must remember that our public schools are the bedrock of our communities and the foundation of our economic growth, in addition to being mandated by state law.

In fact, the State of Maryland is mandating that we increase our commitment to education to meet the aspirations of the Blueprint for Maryland's Future. Howard County's Operating Budgets dating back to 2021 have cited "On average over 60% of general fund operating budget has been allocated for education in recent years." In FY2020, Our County Executive's first Operating budget proudly cited "Education is the top funding priority of my administration," later noting "County spending on education ... represents 64% of our total general fund resources."

So why the change in language? Successive budgets show a steady decline in Howard County's spending on education by the county executive's own measure: falling (to 61% in FY22, 59% in FY23, 58% in FY24, and most recently) in successive years to 55% for FY25. Increases in the dollar amounts allocated don't measure up to the increases in costs as measured by CPI-U.

Howard County has steadily backed away from its financial commitment to our public schools by any measure publicly available. The share of HCPSS general fund expenses borne by the county has dropped from 77% in FY2019 to 73% in FY26, letting the state bear an increased share of our obligation while starving HCPSS of available resources. As income and property valuations rose with inflation, per capita general fund revenue has remained relatively steady in inflation adjusted dollars, and in fact for FY25 is 8% higher than its highest recent value (FY09). That is incomes for everyone outside education. According to a November 20, 2024 article in the Baltimore Banner<sup>1</sup>, teachers settled for a 3.5% raise and HC Library staff were offered 2%, while county employees receive raises of 5-7%. All while middle and high school students had class sizes increase to the detriment of the broad and diverse curriculum.

You know how highly valued HCPSS' academic curriculum is and found a way to collaborate with our new Superintendent and Board of Education to avoid further reductions to academic programs in FY25 that represent the core of a school system's function. We expect that last year's public engagement will convince you that further reductions to academics will not be tolerated.

I call on you and our County Council to publicly commit increased funding sufficient to accommodate HCPSS' response to Mandates from Maryland's Blueprint to the Future, Commitments to employees and students (employee benefits, staffing Guilford Park HS, transportation) and supporting the best of our superintendent's worthwhile priorities to

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<sup>1</sup> "Howard County Library Workers Press Board of Trustees for Higher Wages," by Abby Zimmardi, published in Baltimore Banner, November 20, 2024.

strategically position HCPSS as a desired destination for students, teachers, and their families. I hope that he and the Board of Education will request sufficient funds to meet the demonstrated needs of our students and educators.

Employee compensation, closing gaps in special education staffing, and school safety and security all are places where strategic investment will help HCPSS provide educational opportunity for all students.

Years of underfunding HCPSS have left no more margin for finding efficiencies. Paper is rationed. Transportation for in-county music assessments has been reduced. Students at Mayfield Woods no longer have an opportunity to participate in science fair. The opportunities that distinguish a Howard County education are steadily being eroded away.

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**From:** angela whalen <angwhalen@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 28, 2025 9:35 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Board of Education Operational Budget

**Follow Up Flag:** Flag for follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

I have been an employee for over 20 years, and the last 5-8 have been significantly more draining and difficult. I have seen a marked change in the services that children who have disabilities receive despite staff working harder. It does not work to do more with less year after year, with less and less support and acknowledgement. I know other jurisdictions have also struggled, however, when I have spoken to staff they share that they have multi year contracts and wages that are higher. I used to be proud to be a part of such an excellent system. I do not think we are the same system now, yet I and the rest of my colleagues are working harder and sacrificing more in and out of work to provide the care and support we know our children and families should get. I urge you to come to an agreement that is a fair, multi-year contract, that honors the work we all do on a daily basis, and is competitive with surrounding districts. I understand that the state and county budgets are in a precarious position and that not everything can be funded. The BOE can't continue to prolong negotiations each year, and not expect morale to worsen, and the BOE needs to rely on the county to allocate funding that will adequately meet the needs of the education system. It is very stressful and impacts not only employees but the whole community.

Thank you for your careful consideration,  
Angela Whalen

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**From:** Jacqueline Bates <jacqiefive@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 28, 2025 9:06 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Board of Education Operational Budget

**Follow Up Flag:** Flag for follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Howard County Council,

This year I am a 20 year teacher I taught at a private Catholic school in New Jersey and a public school in Washington, DC. I have seen a variety of school settings and moved to Howard County for the “good” school system. I left DC because class sizes and duties were growing and teachers pay was merit based. I saw colleagues lose their hair and go on sabbatical because of stress and toxic employment relationships. I am starting to feel, both as a parent and educator that Howard County is becoming more and more like DC, but maybe even worse. We are lowering the standards instead of raising them. We are increasing class size instead of lowering it. There is a lack of consequences for behavior county-wide. Students are roaming the halls instead of being in class because there is not enough staff to monitor the hallways during the day. There are too many meetings and not enough self-directed time. I took a \$25,000 pay cut (same position) to leave DC and work here because I believed that this county would be a better place to raise a family. That belief has been shattered. Our students are literally killing each other. There has been no town hall meeting to discuss the violence. There is way to much on our plate and nothing is being taken off. We at least deserve a fair wage and a multi year contract.

Jacqueline Bates  
Mother of Two  
20 Year Educator

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**From:** Melissa Pilcher <mlm1975@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 4, 2025 12:49 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Board of Education Operational Budget

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

I am a special education teacher at a Title One School in Howard County. Not only are we teaching the children, we are providing for their basic needs and helping to parent them. I spend every minute at work, doing my job. I work through lunch every day and spend an average of 12 hours a week working outside my contract hours to the benefit of the children on my caseload. I have over 25 years of experience, and this job keeps getting harder. Caseloads are getting larger, paperwork increases, Tienet stops doing something and the solution is not to fix Tienet, but to make teachers do more. I do what I do because I love the children, but I also love my family. I cannot keep up at this pace. At the very least, it would nice to be compensated appropriately. I want a fair, multi-year contract, that honors the work I do on a daily basis, and is competitive with surrounding districts. The morale worsens the more you delay and disrespect us.

Just a thought. Melissa L. Pilcher

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**From:** Kristen M. Reier <Kristen\_Reier@hcpss.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 5, 2025 3:21 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail; Sun, Holly; Ahmad, Yousuf; Ball, Calvin  
**Cc:** Carla J. Bacon; Amanda Brady; Lisa J. Carl; Meredith Adams; Meg Ricks  
**Subject:** HCPSS Operating Budget

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

**Good afternoon County Council members and County Executive Leadership Team,**

**Yesterday, our Board of Education voted to approve the proposed budget and I am writing to strongly urge your support for the funding outlined in that budget. Last year, due to budget shortfalls, my role as an Instructional Team Leader (ITL) was significantly impacted by the removal of our planning time.**

**This reduction in planning has significantly impacted my ability to perform crucial duties that ensure our students' success and well-being. Tasks such as advocating for my department, coordinating with colleagues, meeting with administrators, and organizing events to support student engagement and growth have been hindered. Without the necessary planning time, I am unable to carry out these responsibilities effectively, which ultimately affects the quality of education we provide.**

**As a teacher with 17 years of experience, I understand the importance of making difficult financial decisions during times of fiscal challenges. However, maintaining sufficient support for teachers is essential for the ongoing success of our schools. We cannot continue to expect high-quality outcomes while overburdening our staff.**

**Please consider the long-term impact of your decision and approve the funding that will allow HCPSS to reinstate critical planning time for ITLs, ensuring we can continue to provide the support our students and teachers deserve.**

**Thank you for your time and consideration.**

**Kristen M. Reier**  
**French Teacher**  
**World Languages Instructional Team Leader**  
**National Honor Society Sponsor**  
**French Honor Society Sponsor**  
**South Asian Club Sponsor**

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**From:** Torie Grant <toriegrant@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 19, 2025 2:11 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Fully fund HCPSS schools

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Howard County Council,

I am reaching out to strongly request that you fully fund the HCPSS FY26 Operating Budget.

Anything less than a fully funded budget risks increased class sizes, cuts to specialized programs, cuts to staffing, less individualized instruction, and fewer opportunities for all learners. Teacher and staff cuts hurt students and weaken our community.

Our children are still suffering the educational effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Math and reading scores remain lower than pre-pandemic levels. The coming years are a critical juncture in the education of Howard County children. Anything less than a fully funded budget is doing a giant disservice to our children and risks further academic decline.

Here in Howard County we are privileged to live in a diverse community. Many families, including immigrant families, move to Howard County for our wonderful public education system. These families make our community stronger. Cuts to educational programs will risk the loss of these families as they move elsewhere in search of better opportunities for their children.

The children of Howard County are the future of our community and world. Their education should be a top priority for local leaders. Fully funding the HCPSS budget tells the children and their families that you believe in them and prioritize investing in their future.

I look forward to continuing to work with you.

Thank you,

Torie Grant  
HCPSS Parent, Pediatrician, and Community Member



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**From:** Koliofotis, Ally <ally\_koliofotis@umr.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 26, 2025 3:13 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail; Budget Testimony; Ball, Calvin  
**Subject:** Make Students a Priority- APPROVE the BUDGET

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Hello

Writing to you today to remind you that all eyes are watching, as parents, teachers, citizens and taxpayers we are asking the Budget submitted by the HCPSS School Board be approved. Don't run down our school system down. It was top of the line one once upon a time. Reminding you that is your job, to look out for the best interest of our students. If this continues our school system will be subpar with the rest of the state. I don't believe as current administration/council you want that on your hands or on your watch. We want **FULL Funding** for our schools.

Regards,

Ally Koliofotis

Senior Field Account Manager

**UMR**

A UnitedHealthcare Company

Office: 763-292-6395 | fax: 844-881-8986 | email: [ally\\_koliofotis@umr.com](mailto:ally_koliofotis@umr.com)

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**From:** Alison Hickman <alisonhickman@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 28, 2025 6:43 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail; Ball, Calvin  
**Cc:** superintendent@hcpss.org; BoE Email  
**Subject:** HCPSS

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear County Council and County Executive Ball,

I don't have all the answers but this county's perception of how our school system is experienced is at odds with reality. At least some of the answer to that challenge needs to come with budget. I've certainly highlighted some perceived waste I see in transportation costs due to inefficient redistrict plans and I know there is some level of efficiency to be found, however that's just not going to solve the budget issues.

Our class sizes as just one example are unacceptable and I think we need to target some significant dollars here. Please revisit your funding intentions and consider deploying some additional dollars to target the most critical issues students are navigating such as class sizes. I have two current students and am stepparent of an adult graduate. All three are very different. Kids that need more support are having a REALLY hard time in the school system we've set up for them and class size adjustments and more paraprofessionals are absolutely critical- invest significant dollars here PLEASE.

Thank you for considering deploying significant additional funds with targeted focus on the areas that desperately need support. Teachers and our education system is a critical social backstop and our kids and broader community are in need of our support now more than ever.

Alison Hickman

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**From:** Jacquelin McCoy <Jacquelin\_McCoy@hcpss.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 29, 2025 5:51 PM  
**To:** Alison Hickman; CouncilMail; Ball, Calvin  
**Cc:** superintendent@hcpss.org; BoE Email  
**Subject:** Re: [External] HCPSS

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Thank you, Ms. Hickman, for your advocacy. These are extremely challenging times. I hope we all recognize that schools and communities didn't get to where they are overnight and it will take time and serious commitment to overcome the challenges in education that has been a reality for decades but are coming to light now that more people are being directly impacted.

We must work together as a community to overcome these challenges. It won't be easy or fast and may be more painful than we can know but the work must be done. I for one am willing to do my part as best I can.

Be well,  
**Jacky McCoy**  
Educator  
[Howard County Board of Education](#) (At-Large County 1)  
Pronouns: she, her, hers

*Real Education, Real Access, Real Family Engagement*

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**From:** Alison Hickman <alisonhickman@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 28, 2025 6:43 AM  
**To:** councilmail@howardcountymd.gov <councilmail@howardcountymd.gov>; cball@howardcountymd.gov <cball@howardcountymd.gov>  
**Cc:** Superintendent <superintendent@hcpss.org>; BoE Email <boe@hcpss.org>  
**Subject:** [External] HCPSS

! CAUTION: This email originated from outside of HCPSS. Do not click links or open attachments, unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear County Council and County Executive Ball,

I don't have all the answers but this county's perception of how our school system is experienced is at odds with reality. At least some of the answer to that challenge needs to come with budget. I've certainly highlighted some perceived waste I see in transportation costs due to inefficient redistrict plans and I know there is some level of efficiency to be found, however that's just not going to solve the budget issues.

Our class sizes as just one example are unacceptable and I think we need to target some significant dollars here. Please revisit your funding intentions and consider deploying some additional dollars to target the most critical

issues students are navigating such as class sizes. I have two current students and am stepparent of an adult graduate. All three are very different. Kids that need more support are having a REALLY hard time in the school system we've set up for them and class size adjustments and more paraprofessionals are absolutely critical- invest significant dollars here PLEASE.

Thank you for considering deploying significant additional funds with targeted focus on the areas that desperately need support. Teachers and our education system is a critical social backstop and our kids and broader community are in need of our support now more than ever.

Alison Hickman

**From:** [Aimee Kandelman](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 6:38:50 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Aimee Kandelman  
amk716@gmail.com  
6907 Meadowlake Rd  
New Market, Maryland 21774

**From:** [Alice Slattery](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 8:48:09 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

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Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Alice Slattery

Alice Slattery  
[alice\\_slattery@hcpss.org](mailto:alice_slattery@hcpss.org)  
2111 Ganton Green  
Woodstock, Maryland 21163

**From:** [Allyson Glassband](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 8:21:22 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Allyson Glassband

Allyson Glassband  
[allyson\\_glassband@hcpss.org](mailto:allyson_glassband@hcpss.org)  
5312 Winter Moss Court  
Columbia, Maryland 21045

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**From:** Amanda G <amanda.goeke@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 2:34 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** 2025-2026 HCPSS Budget

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear City Council Members,

We are exhausted from fighting... we fought hard last year to keep our elementary music programs and GT teachers, and though we won all of those threatened cuts back, it was exhausting. Many of us are fighting against our current country's administration decisions, our spouses losing their federal jobs, our country losing its precious land to oil and forestation companies. Please don't make us keep fighting. We are exhausted, we will fight hard, but we are exhausted. Please just give us our children and our students the money needed to continue as one of the best school systems in the country.

Kindly,  
Amanda Goeke  
202-870-8356



**From:** [Amanda Kreis](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 4:22:13 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Amanda Kreis

Amanda Kreis  
amanda\_m\_kreis@hcpss.org  
8583 Falls Run Rd  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

**From:** [Amy Leatherman Cowell](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 6:01:17 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS related service provider, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Related Service providers like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Amy Leatherman Cowell  
amyleath@msn.com  
1005 Briarfield Court  
Myersville, Maryland 21773

**From:** [Amy Miser](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 4:32:16 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely, Amy

Amy Miser  
asmommy38@gmail.com  
611 Streaker Rd  
Sykesville, Maryland 21784

**From:** [Andrea Molnar](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 6:01:17 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Andrea Molnar

Andrea Molnar  
andrea\_molnar@hcpss.org  
691 Long Corner Rd  
Mount Airy, Maryland 21771

**From:** [Andres Gordillo](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 4:29:32 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

An HCPSS employee who moved to Maryland from Florida for this very specific reason.

Andres Gordillo  
gordilloslp@gmail.com  
7822 Falling Leaves Ct  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

**From:** [Angela Alascia](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 4:21:34 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Angela Alascia  
angela\_alascia@hcpss.org  
1119 Marianna Avenue  
Westminster, Maryland 21157

**From:** [Benjamin Schmitt](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 4:21:46 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Benjamin Schmitt  
benjamin\_schmitt@hcpss.org  
7817 Whistling Pines Court  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

**From:** [Bonnie Zeitler](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** Please prioritize schools, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 4:28:44 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I am very concerned. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make tough decisions to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students. I'm sure you remember what you heard from stakeholders last year when the string and GT programs were threatened due to insufficient funding.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: our PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

This is far more important than building a new performing arts venue. Please fund education!

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely, Bonnie Zeitler

Bonnie Zeitler  
bonnie\_zeitler@hcpss.org  
1857 Stafford Court  
Sykesville, Maryland 21784



**From:** [Briana Dais](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 5:57:38 PM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Briana Dais  
brianaledais@gmail.com  
358 Shetland Square  
Glen Burnie, Maryland 21061

**From:** [Carol Eassa](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 4:21:32 PM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Carol Eassa  
carol\_eassa@hcpss.org  
5308 E Gladys Place  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

**From:** [Carol Shivers](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 10:09:19 PM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. Because of this stress level many educators are experiencing burnout and considering leaving the public school system or the profession entirely. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Carol Shivers  
carol\_shivers@hcpss.org  
14900 Perrywood Dr  
Burtonsville, Maryland 20866

**From:** [Carolyn Zerhusen](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 7:18:32 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Zerhusen  
carolyn.zerhusen@gmail.com  
9275 BREWINGTON LN  
Laurel, Maryland 20723

**From:** [Casey Retterer](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 6:01:21 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Casey Retterer  
casey.retterer@gmail.com  
11216 Green Dragon Ct  
Columbia, Maryland 21044

**From:** [Chelsea Dinh](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 5:45:35 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Chelsea Dinh

Chelsea Dinh  
chelseadinh@gmail.com  
10381 May Wind Ct  
Columbia, Maryland 21043

**From:** [Cheryle Nilles](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 7:25:47 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Cheryle Nilles

Cheryle Nilles  
[cheryle\\_nilles@hcpss.org](mailto:cheryle_nilles@hcpss.org)  
6070 Claire Dr  
Elkridge, Maryland 21075

**From:** [Christine Machado](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 10:02:38 PM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Christine Machado  
christine\_machado@hcpss.org  
8812 Castlebury Ct  
Laurel, Maryland 20723



**From:** [Cynthia Hastings](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 5:58:08 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Cyndi Hastings

Cynthia Hastings  
hastings.cyn@gmail.com  
9986 Cape Ann Drive  
Columbia, Maryland 21046

**From:** [Dani Gardner](#)  
**To:** [CouncilMail](#)  
**Subject:** Please fully fund hcps  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 6:01:40 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear County council-

I am asking as a mother and a teacher to please give more funding to hcps this year. Classes are already too big and we can't lose any more staff positions in the schools. Students are struggling and need more next year, not less.

Thank you for considering  
Dani Gardner

**From:** [Danielle Callender](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 4:35:28 PM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Danielle Callender  
danielle\_callender@hcpss.org  
5694 April Journey  
Columbia, Maryland 21044

**From:** [Deborah Vo](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 9:29:59 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Debbie Vo

Deborah Vo  
[deborah\\_vo@hcpss.org](mailto:deborah_vo@hcpss.org)  
2800 Stansway Ct  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

**From:** [Elena Brewer](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 4:21:06 PM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Elena Brewer

Elena Brewer  
elena\_brewer@hcpss.org  
5353 Smooth Meadow Way  
Columbia, Maryland 21044

**From:** [Elisabeth Holloway](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 7:35:15 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Elisabeth Holloway  
elisabeth\_holloway@hcpss.org  
5400 White Mane  
Columbia, Maryland 21045

**From:** [Elise Allen](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HCPSS Funding  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 6:02:03 PM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

Times are tough. Prices are increasing. The federal government has increased uncertainty made us all unsure of the future. We are all feeling it. Our HCPSS families and staff need security. But the current County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools, staff, and families. Funding must be restored now.

I am a former HCPSS teacher and a current Teachers' Secretary, as well as mom to 2 HCPSS graduates and 1 current student. I currently work for full time for a wage that is below the poverty level. But yet I'm not here to ask for a raise (although I should). I am simply asking for you to fund the budget we need to sustain our school system. Notice I did not say to better it or improve it - but simply to sustain it. Schools are why I moved to this county 20 years ago and why I have stayed. A new library in town center is NOT the draw to Howard County. I assure you.

So find the money, fund our schools, provide for our families and give this county the assurance they need that education is still a priority.

Sincerely,  
Elise Allen

Elise Allen  
emkallen11@gmail.com  
10077 Century Dr  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21042

**From:** [Elizabeth Nieves-Soto](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 4:33:57 PM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Elizabeth Nieves

Elizabeth Nieves-Soto  
[elizabeth\\_nieves-soto@hcpss.org](mailto:elizabeth_nieves-soto@hcpss.org)  
8418 Kings Meade Way  
Columbia, Maryland 21046



**From:** [Elizabeth Vogel Chase](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 5:54:01 PM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Lyz Vogel Chase  
Sp. Ed. Resource Teacher

Elizabeth Vogel Chase  
[lyzvogelchase@gmail.com](mailto:lyzvogelchase@gmail.com)  
20549 Lowfield Drive  
Germantown, Maryland 20874

**From:** [Emily Benz](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 6:52:50 PM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Emily Benz  
emb61293@aol.com  
1537 Old Annapolis Rd  
Woodbine, Maryland 21797

**From:** [Eric Bricker](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 4:33:27 PM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible -- from overcrowded rooms, to lack of instructional support, to high quality teachers leaving the county en masse.

While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me -- and the quality educators you are seeking to acquire and retain to keep our educational system a crown jewel for years to come -- are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Eric Bricker, ELA Educator

Eric Bricker  
eric\_bricker@hcpss.org  
2557 Log Mill CT  
Crofton, Maryland 21114

---

**From:** Erin Cutts <erin.m.cutts@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 11:53 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Testimony for the County Executive's FY26 Operating Budget

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Howard County Council,

My name is Erin Cutts, and I am a parent from Thunder Hill ES. I am writing to urge full funding for the Howard County Public School System's FY26 budget request. Our schools need these resources to support students, educators, and vital programs.

At Thunder Hill ES, programs like reading support and teaching math at appropriate levels have made a real difference, but we still face challenges such as reading and math scores meeting state and national standards.

The proposed budget prioritizes staff retention, special education, and student safety—areas critical to student success. Without these investments, our students will not receive the education and support they deserve.

I appreciate your leadership and commitment to education. I urge you to fully fund this budget and advocate for the resources necessary to support all HCPSS students.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Erin Cutts

**From:** [Erin Wuerstlin](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 4:52:14 PM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Erin Wuerstlin

Erin Wuerstlin  
[erin\\_wuerstlin@hcpss.org](mailto:erin_wuerstlin@hcpss.org)  
623 Lucky Leaf Circle  
Catonsville, Maryland 21228

**From:** [Eva Schwegler](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 7:30:31 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Eva Schwegler  
eva\_schwegler@yahoo.com  
5781 Flagflower Pl  
Columbia, Maryland 21045

**From:** [Evanna Dahan](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 4:36:25 PM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Evanna Dahan

Evanna Dahan  
evanna\_dahan@hcpss.org  
13 dublin drive  
lutherville, Maryland 21093

**From:** [Faith Lewis](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 4:42:17 PM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I want to get straight to the point: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. We are trying to keep teachers in the classroom and so many are leaving for other professions that value and respect the huge impact they have on educating our students. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Faith Lewis

Faith Lewis  
faith\_lewis@hcpss.org  
13010 Claxton Drive  
Laurel, Maryland 20708



**From:** [Gillian Engelbrecht](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 4:20:17 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Gillian Engelbrecht  
Long Reach High School '14  
Lake Elkhorn Middle School Teacher

Gillian Engelbrecht  
gillian\_engelbrecht@hcpss.org  
6212 Painted Yellow Gate  
Columbia, Maryland 21045

**From:** [Greg Walsh](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 6:40:32 PM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I've been a HCPSS teacher for 18 years. I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Greg Walsh - Teacher for 18 years in HCPSS

Greg Walsh  
gwalsh1@umbc.edu  
9684 Horsham Drive  
Laurel, Maryland 20723

**From:** [Holly Crawford](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 11:08:52 PM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I wish I could take the outrageous taxes I pay in Howard County straight into the school where I work. It would make a huge impact on our school! But instead we again must fight for the basic funding we need to teach our children! Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Holly Crawford

Holly Crawford  
[holly\\_crawford@hcpss.org](mailto:holly_crawford@hcpss.org)  
6512 Quiet Hours  
Columbia, Maryland 21045

**From:** [Jackie Benz](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 4:27:35 PM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students. MY STUDENTS CANNOT AFFORD THESE CUTS.

I work in a high needs/Title one school. My students struggle with so much; food, school supplies and attention. As a person, I cannot give enough to my students. I already give supplies and food regularly, but I am also struggling financially. We, as parents and educators cannot afford these cuts. The proposed budget (by HCPSS) needs to be FULLY FUNDED.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Jackie Benz  
jackie\_benz@hcpss.org  
5474 Endicott Lane  
Columbia, Maryland 21044

**From:** [Jacqueline Bates](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 10:40:58 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Jacqueline Bates  
20 Year Educator

Jacqueline Bates  
[jacqueline\\_bates@hcpss.org](mailto:jacqueline_bates@hcpss.org)  
10826 Braeburn Road  
Columbia, Maryland 21044-4026

**From:** [Jamie Daniller](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 4:24:35 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Jamie Daniller  
jamie\_daniller@hcpss.org  
3016 Button Bush Lane  
Laurel, Maryland 20724

**From:** [Jamie Lee](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 5:18:35 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Jamie Lee

Jamie Lee  
jamie\_lee@hcpss.org  
5170 Downwest Ride  
Columbia, Maryland 21044

**From:** [Jamie Tettey](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council! Support US!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 4:25:19 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator and SLP , I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

We are tired and exhausted and need to know we are supported!

Today I was hit and kicked by a student!

Sincerely,  
Jamie Tettey  
SLP  
20 years

Jamie Tettey  
[jamie\\_tettey@hcpss.org](mailto:jamie_tettey@hcpss.org)  
5968 Glen Willow Way  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043



**From:** [Jenna DeMario](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 4:41:53 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

Please take the time to really understand what our budget the HCPSS BOE would mean for our schools. Personally as a math specialist split between schools we really need the 5 additional math specialists budgeted to have 1 at each middle school, especially with the new changes at the state level to the math curriculum! Math class sizes are already huge in so many schools, we need your support for classes to not be made bigger.

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you!

Sincerely,  
Jenna DeMario

Jenna DeMario  
[jennamaple@gmail.com](mailto:jennamaple@gmail.com)  
6510 Sunset Drive  
Sykesville , Maryland 21784

**From:** [Jennifer Smith](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 6:53:01 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Smith  
murmurapothecary@gmail.com  
1158 Elm Rd  
Arbutus, MD, Maryland 21227

**From:** [Jessica Dibenedetto](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 4:50:56 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

As a teacher who works in the district that Dr. Ball's children attended, i am writing to you out of dire concern. I've watched too many of my colleagues, some of the best educators ai ever met, leave this profession in favor of something that would be less stress (constant staffing cuts and increasing class sizes).

Effective teachers are some of the most important factors in a students success.

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Jessica Dibenedetto  
jessica\_dibenedetto@hcpss.org  
2844 Florence Rd  
Woodbine, Maryland 21797

**From:** [Jessica Tegges](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 4:40:39 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Jessica Tegges  
jessica\_tegges@hcpss.org  
1715 Reese Rd  
Westminster, Maryland 21157

**From:** [Jhonna Seifert](#)  
**To:** [CouncilMail](#)  
**Subject:** More funding Hcpss  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 6:26:37 PM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Jhonna Seifert

Jhonna Seifert (she/her/hers)  
GT Resource Teacher  
Atholton Elementary/Clemens Crossing  
**AES Rainbow Rep**

**From:** [John Criscuoli](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 7:14:06 PM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

John Criscuoli  
john\_criscuoli@hcpss.org  
5381 Brook Way  
Columbia, Maryland 21044

**From:** [John Miller](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 5:56:52 PM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

John Miller  
john\_miller@hcpss.org  
1504 Summit Ave  
Catonsville, Maryland 21228

**From:** [Julia Strohl](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 4:22:08 PM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Julia Strohl  
Band Teacher  
Hanover Hills ES & Elkridge ES

Julia Strohl  
juliamstrohl@gmail.com  
11070 Resort Rd Ste 102  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21042



**From:** [Karissa Bryant](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 4:40:57 PM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Karissa Strawley Bryant  
PLES - band & orchestra teacher

Karissa Bryant  
karissa\_bryant@hcpss.org  
214 Glen Rd.  
Pasadena, Maryland 21122

**From:** [Katelyn Choi](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 7:30:10 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Katelyn

Katelyn Choi  
katelyn\_choi@hcpss.org  
8489 Falls Run Road  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

**From:** [Katie Hodge](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 4:26:03 PM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Katie Hodge (Teacher, CCES)

Katie Hodge  
katherine\_hodge@hcpss.org  
1696 Gemini Drive  
Eldersburg, Maryland 21784

**From:** [Katie Noecker](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 5:57:11 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Katie Noecker  
ktmcd419@yahoo.com  
3229 Woodstream Lane  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21042

**From:** [Kelli Nichols](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 7:07:27 PM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Kelli Nichols

Kelli Nichols  
[kelli\\_nichols@hcpss.org](mailto:kelli_nichols@hcpss.org)  
608 E 36th St  
Baltimore, Maryland 21218

**From:** [Kerry Plummer](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 4:25:15 PM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Kerry Plummer  
kerry\_plummer@hcpss.org  
700 Middletrail Ct  
My. Airy, Maryland 21771

**From:** [Kimberly Gregory](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 4:47:20 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Kimberly Gregory

Kimberly Gregory  
kimberly\_gregory@hcpss.org  
317 Eagles Lndg Ct Apt J  
Odenton, Maryland 21113

**From:** [La Dawn Jackson-Shields](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 7:11:22 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
LaDawn Jackson-Shields

La Dawn Jackson-Shields  
[la\\_dawn\\_jackson-shields@hcpss.org](mailto:la_dawn_jackson-shields@hcpss.org)  
5722 Thunder Hill Road  
Columbia, Maryland 21045



**From:** [Lacey Weaver](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 7:07:42 PM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Lacey Weaver  
lacey\_weaver@hcpss.org  
326 Norgulf Road  
Reisterstown, Maryland 21136

**From:** [Leila Gradone](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 4:39:17 PM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Leila Gradone

Leila Gradone  
[leila\\_gradone@hcpss.org](mailto:leila_gradone@hcpss.org)  
2927 Shadowbrook Ct  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21042

**From:** [Lisa Cramer](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 7:39:31 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Lisa Cramer  
lisa\_cramer@hcpss.org  
8705 Cardinal Forest Circle  
Laurel, Maryland 20723

**From:** [Maggie Saunders](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 6:01:40 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Maggie Saunders

Maggie Saunders  
maggie\_saunders@hcpss.org  
306 White Oak Way  
Glen Burnie, Maryland 21113

**From:** [Marni Rosenbaum](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 7:22:01 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Marni Rosenbaum  
marni\_rosenbaum@hcpss.org  
7024 Copperwood Way  
Columbia, Maryland 21046

**From:** [Mary Eklund](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 7:27:04 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

The time to act is now. Howard County schools once had the reputation of being one of the best in the entire country. That reputation has been tarnished over the past several years because of continued difficulty with funding. With further cuts, our school system will go from a BMW to a Ford Fiesta. You have the power to stop this from happening.

As a Howard County educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the entire education system here. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools. Thank you for your support.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Mary Eklund

Mary Eklund  
mary\_eklund@hcpss.org  
14766 Shirley Bohn Road  
Mount Airy, Maryland 21771

**From:** [Matthew Deyton](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 4:20:38 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Matthew Deyton  
matt\_deyton@hcpss.org  
806 Meadow Field Ct.  
Mt. Airy, Maryland 21771

**From:** [Matthew Gresick](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 4:21:06 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Matthew Gresick  
mrgresick@gmail.com  
9 Sharonwood Ct  
Catonsville, Maryland 21228



**From:** [Matthew Noon](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 8:05:56 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I have spent over twenty years as a teacher with HCPSS, and I am a former HCPSS student. I take great pride in being a part of one of the best public school systems in our country. Until recently, whenever I mentioned Howard County Public Schools, I noticed a tremendous respect and admiration for what has, historically, been one of the strongest school systems anywhere. Repeatedly, I have conversed with parents who have moved to Howard County specifically because of the public schools.

Unfortunately, recent decisions made by our County Council and our County Executive have indicated a glaring disregard for the value that the HCPSS brings to our community. As someone who has invested so much of my life into our school system, and as someone who has seen firsthand how crippling these budgetary decisions have been, it is exceedingly disheartening to see our public school system repeatedly taken for granted by our county's government decision makers.

Whether anyone is willing to acknowledge it or not, our school system's lack of funding has had an immensely negative impact on the educational opportunities provided to our students. This is no longer a secret, and it is so frustrating to see that our county's decision makers continue to neglect one of the single greatest assets our community spent decades building.

Our schools are a huge part of what has made Howard County a desirable destination for families. Please understand that your failure to invest in our schools will impact not only our schools, but also every aspect of our county's unique offerings. Without a world class school system, we will be no different than any other community in our region.

It is truly disappointing that anyone needs a reminder of the value our school system returns to our community. However, it appears a reminder is necessary. I am hopeful that our decision makers understand the dire consequences that will inevitably result if a significant change in funding plans does not come to fruition.

Please do not be part of the reason our schools revert to mediocrity. We are hanging on by a thread, and continued negligence by our elected officials to help remedy the challenges will bring immeasurable consequences.

If you choose to continue to cut school funding, you are choosing to accept mediocrity. If you

choose to cut school funding, you are choosing to crush the single greatest asset our community has.

It's in your hands. No excuses. Fund our schools.

Sincerely,  
Matt

Matthew Noon  
matt\_noon@hcpss.org  
5364 Smooth Meadow Way  
Columbia, Maryland 21044

**From:** [Megan Davis](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 4:27:51 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Megan Davis  
megandavis425@yahoo.com  
9546 Red Apple Lane  
COLUMBIA, Maryland 21046

**From:** [Megan Scharmann](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 7:24:39 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Megan Scharmann

Megan Scharmann  
[megan\\_scharmann@hcpss.org](mailto:megan_scharmann@hcpss.org)  
129  
Catonsville, Maryland 21228

**From:** [Melissa Maheu](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 8:09:50 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Melissa Maheu  
melissa\_maheu@hcpss.org  
7909 Nottingham Way  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

**From:** [Michaeline Van Reenan](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 4:48:07 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Michaeline Van Reenan

Michaeline Van Reenan  
[michaeline\\_van\\_reenan@hcpss.org](mailto:michaeline_van_reenan@hcpss.org)  
6012 Kennard Court  
Sykesville, Maryland 21784

**From:** [Monique Cormier](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 6:53:26 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

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Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Monique Cormier  
monique\_cormier@hcpss.org  
5408 White Mane  
Columbia, Maryland 21045

**From:** [Morgan Covert](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 4:49:57 PM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Morgan Covert

Morgan Covert  
morgan\_covert@hcpss.org  
3292 Rosemary Lane  
West Friendship, Maryland 21794



**From:** [Octoria Hughes](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 9:37:20 PM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

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Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Octoria Hughes

Octoria Hughes  
octoria\_hughes@hcpss.org  
10721 Folkestone Way  
Woodstock, Maryland 21163

**From:** [Patricia Auld](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 4:25:33 PM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Pat Auld  
Thunder Hill Elementary School  
First Grade Teacher.

Patricia Auld  
patricia\_auld@hcpss.org  
9450 Garnett Lane  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21042

**From:** [Patricia Cummings](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 4:22:46 PM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Patricia Cummings  
patricia\_cummings@hcpss.org  
426 Ellwell Court  
Glen Burnie, Maryland 21061

**From:** [Patricia Walls](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 6:57:28 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Patricia Walls  
tricia\_walls@hcpss.org  
9315 Wild Grass Court  
Jessup, Maryland 20794

**From:** [Regina McCloskey](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 4:29:38 PM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Regina McCloskey

Regina McCloskey  
reginamccloskey1@gmail.com  
8456 Rolling Ridge Court  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

**From:** [Renisha Andrews](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 4:40:32 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Renisha Andrews  
renisha\_andrews@hotmail.com  
4726 Wakefield RD  
Baltimore City, Maryland 21216

**From:** [Richard Biniak](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** Restore School Funding Now – An Educator’s Plea  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 4:45:15 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear County Council Members,

I’m writing as an HCPSS educator who’s been through the wringer with budget cuts, and I’m not mincing words: the County Executive’s proposed budget is a disaster for our schools. If you don’t restore funding, the Board will be forced into “tough decisions” that hurt everyone—bigger class sizes, broken educator contracts, slashed programs, and fewer services for students.

I’ve been surplused six times in eight years. Six times, I’ve had my career stability yanked out from under me because of these budget games. This isn’t just numbers on a spreadsheet—this is my livelihood, my students’ education, and the future of our community. Year after year, cuts have stretched our classrooms to the breaking point, piled impossible workloads on educators, and chipped away at the quality of education that makes Howard County a place families want to call home.

I get that the federal budget outlook is shaky, but gutting our schools—the heart of what keeps this county thriving—is a reckless mistake. You’re playing with the lives of educators like me and the opportunities of our students. It’s time to get your priorities straight and fully fund our schools.

We’re counting on you to do the right thing. I’ll be at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30, and I hope to see you there, ready to listen and act.

Sincerely,  
MacGyver Biniak  
HCPSS Educator

Richard Biniak  
[macgyver\\_biniak@hcpss.org](mailto:macgyver_biniak@hcpss.org)  
6283 Old Washington Road  
Ellkridge, Maryland 21075

**From:** [Rosheeda Brooks-Samuel](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 4:30:58 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Rosheeda Brooks-Samuel

Rosheeda Brooks-Samuel  
[rosheeda\\_brooks-samuel@hcpss.org](mailto:rosheeda_brooks-samuel@hcpss.org)  
6614 Latrobe Falls Road  
Elkridge, Maryland 21075



**From:** [Sandra Myers](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 6:02:02 PM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Sandra Myers  
sandra\_myers@hcpss.org  
4744 Hallowed Stream  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21042

**From:** [Sara Weiser](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need your support!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 6:32:41 PM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I am deeply concerned that the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students. These are not acceptable cuts - our students deserve to be prioritized.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools. Today's well-educated students are tomorrow's well-educated taxpayers and voters. When we shortchange them, we shortchange the future of Howard County.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Sara Weiser  
saraweiser@yahoo.com  
4803 Wilwyn Way  
Rockville, Maryland 20852

**From:** [Shoshana Rose](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 6:01:13 PM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Shoshana Rose

Shoshana Rose  
shoshana\_rose@hcpss.org  
10654 Faulkner Ridge Circle  
Columbia, Maryland 21044

**From:** [Tijuana Jordan](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** County Council makes a Difference!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 8:05:48 PM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

Image "Howard County Council makes a Difference!" as the next headline in the news and media outlets. I am reminded of the statement, "Many hands make light work." You are the hand that makes the work of those in the school system light.

Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads greater than needed. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you!

Sincerely,  
Tijuana Jordan

Tijuana Jordan  
[tijuana\\_jordan@hcpss.org](mailto:tijuana_jordan@hcpss.org)  
7848 Somerset Court  
Greenbelt, Maryland 20770

---

**From:** Tina Barton <miketinabo@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 2:15 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Testimony about schools

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Note: I accidentally sent this via our [elkridgeheritage@gmail.com](mailto:elkridgeheritage@gmail.com) email address. I want to reiterate, these opinions are my own and do not reflect the Elkridge Heritage Society. I am sending again under my personal email address.

To The Howard County Council  
re Schools

I am part of the history committee for HoCo 250 and on the board of the Elkridge Heritage Society. (Nothing I say here reflects the views of either organization.) I have been studying the history of Elkridge as it relates to our nation's 250th anniversary, and the decades that followed. Elkridge used to be a real town with a real sense of community. I did not have the privilege of living here then so when I came to Elkridge in 1987, it had more of a feeling of suburbia. It was split in half by I-95 for one thing. Development was rapidly increasing, and I got to take advantage of that by moving into a house on Kara's Walk. But we worked, and shopped (other than the IGA) elsewhere until Elkridge Corners came along. Is this what America is all about?

Over time I came to realize that nothing about Elkridge development made sense. It is not walkable, or bike-rideable, and though my children attended St. Augustine School, I recognized that Elkridge residents were very concerned about public school capacity and wanted very much to have their own highschool again. My children went to Howard High outside Elkridge, but not that far. Other children in the community went to Long Reach, also not that far. But while there was lots of open land in Elkridge in the 80s, and even in the 90s, none of it was taken by the county for a highschool. The county did not have the foresight to predict the growth and plan for schools for families in developments that they allowed to be built willy nilly in a disjointed sort of way. They ended up putting an elementary school in Rockburn Park which was a travesty. Later they scrounged up the tiniest school land on Ducketts Lane for another elementary school. Oxford Square, while a charming neighborhood, is in the weirdest place surrounded by highways and business parks, and many of our children are sent to school there, which is now overcrowded.

The last attempt to lobby for a highschool ripped what community we had apart because the only obvious land was again Rockburn Park. The county finally realized they could not build in Rockburn Park (thankfully, in my opinion), and built in Jessup, a longer bus ride involving the bad traffic on Route 1. There was talk of using Troy Hill parkland for a school, which was more acceptable to some because we had not grown as attached to that park. But it was far from ideal.

This issue and other rifts resulted in the disbanding of the Greater Elkridge Community Association, brewed distrust and even hatred among our more vocal community activists, and broke the best system we had for speaking up for our area. We could blame ourselves and social media but ultimately it falls on the short-sightedness of the county government for allowing development without proper infrastructure.

Every so often the county comes up with a plan for a revitalization of Route 1, urbanization of Elkridge, some sort of town center, beautification of Lower Elkridge etc. But not much ever happens. We did fight for and get our own post office, library, and now community center. But look at where these things are! There is no connectivity, no sense of town, no highschool. One or two neighborhoods can walk or bike to the library. No one can walk or bike to the post office, and one neighborhood will be able to walk or bike to the community center. Most of our schools are not walkable or bikeable though I do appreciate some improvements made to Montgomery Rd for Elkridge Landing Middle School and Elkridge Elementary.

We can't undo the past. But we can make the future brighter. A highschool would do more than provide convenient commutes for our children. It will give them a sense of pride in Elkridge, a long lost sense of community, and maybe a desire to stay in Elkridge and build lives and businesses here. A highschool is more than a place for book learning and sports. It is an anchor for the community.

In my dreams we would have a highschool across Route 1 from the library with a pedestrian bridge or other safe passage (such as low speed limit and colorful crosswalk), and walkability from the highschool to the new community center. If I could get the post office somehow linked in through Harwood Park, my dream would be nearly complete.

I urge you to halt plans to expand schools in Columbia for Elkridge students. Elkridge is the oldest town in Howard County and deserves to become a real community again. Figure out a way to add school capacity for Elkridge students IN Elkridge!

Sincerely,

Tina Barton  
5021 Landing Rd  
Elkridge MD 21075

---

**From:** Elkridge Heritage Society <elkridgeheritage@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 8:26 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Testimony about schools

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

To The Howard County Council  
re Schools

I am part of the history committee for HoCo 250 and on the board of the Elkridge Heritage Society. (Nothing I say here reflects the views of either organization.) I have been studying the history of Elkridge as it relates to our nation's 250th anniversary, and the decades that followed. Elkridge used to be a real town with a real sense of community. I did not have the privilege of living here then so when I came to Elkridge in 1987, it had more of a feeling of suburbia. It was split in half by I-95 for one thing. Development was rapidly increasing, and I got to take advantage of that by moving into a house on Kara's Walk. But we worked, and shopped (other than the IGA) elsewhere until Elkridge Corners came along. Is this what America is all about?

Over time I came to realize that nothing about Elkridge development made sense. It is not walkable, or bike-rideable, and though my children attended St. Augustine School, I recognized that Elkridge residents were very concerned about public school capacity and wanted very much to have their own highschool again. My children went to Howard High outside Elkridge, but not that far. Other children in the community went to Long Reach, also not that far. But while there was lots of open land in Elkridge in the 80s, and even in the 90s, none of it was taken by the county for a highschool. The county did not have the foresight to predict the growth and plan for schools for families in developments that they allowed to be built willy nilly in a disjointed sort of way. They ended up putting an elementary school in Rockburn Park which was a travesty. Later they scrounged up the tiniest school land on Ducketts Lane for another elementary school. Oxford Square, while a charming neighborhood, is in the weirdest place surrounded by highways and business parks, and many of our children are sent to school there, which is now overcrowded.

The last attempt to lobby for a highschool ripped what community we had apart because the only obvious land was again Rockburn Park. The county finally realized they could not build in Rockburn Park (thankfully, in my opinion), and built in Jessup, a longer bus ride involving the bad traffic on Route 1. There was talk of using Troy Hill parkland for a school, which was more acceptable to some because we had not grown as attached to that park. But it was far from ideal.

This issue and other rifts resulted in the disbanding of the Greater Elkridge Community Association, brewed distrust and even hatred among our more vocal community activists, and broke the best system we had for speaking up for our area. We could blame ourselves and social media but ultimately it falls on the short-sightedness of the county government for allowing development without proper infrastructure.

Every so often the county comes up with a plan for a revitalization of Route 1, urbanization of Elkridge, some sort of town center, beautification of Lower Elkridge etc. But not much ever happens. We did fight for and get our own post office, library, and now community center. But look at where these things are! There is no connectivity, no sense of town, no highschool. One or two neighborhoods can walk or bike to the library. No one can walk or bike to the post office, and one neighborhood will be able to walk or bike to the community center. Most of our schools are not walkable or bikeable though I do appreciate some improvements made to Montgomery Rd for Elkridge Landing Middle School and Elkridge Elementary.

We can't undo the past. But we can make the future brighter. A highschool would do more than provide convenient commutes for our children. It will give them a sense of pride in Elkridge, a long lost sense of community, and maybe a desire to stay in Elkridge and build lives and businesses here. A highschool is more than a place for book learning and sports. It is an anchor for the community.

In my dreams we would have a highschool across Route 1 from the library with a pedestrian bridge or other safe passage (such as low speed limit and colorful crosswalk), and walkability from the highschool to the new community center. If I could get the post office somehow linked in through Harwood Park, my dream would be nearly complete.

I urge you to halt plans to expand schools in Columbia for Elkridge students. Elkridge is the oldest town in Howard County and deserves to become a real community again. Figure out a way to add school capacity for Elkridge students IN Elkridge!

Sincerely,

Tina Barton  
5021 Landing Rd  
Elkridge MD 21075



**From:** [Torie Grant](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 6:00:08 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

These budget cuts year after year make it harder for students to learn and for teachers to do their jobs. Class sizes were increased last year for middle and high school students. Families showed up to protest cuts to GT and music teachers. Enough is enough. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Many students are still suffering the long-term negative effects of prolonged virtual learning caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Now is NOT the time to cut programs in schools. Fully fund the HCPSS FY26 Operating Budget.

The children of Howard County are counting on you!

Sincerely,  
Torie Grant

Torie Grant  
toriegrant@gmail.com  
14055 Tall Ships Dr.  
West Friendship, Maryland 21794

**From:** [Victoria Gonzales](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 4:36:27 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Victoria Gonzales

Victoria Gonzales  
victoria\_gonzales@hcpss.org  
6 big stone court  
Catonsville, Maryland 21228

**From:** [Yasemin Gunes](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 6:52:07 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Yasemin Gunes  
yasemin\_gunes@hcpss.org  
7720 Baggins rd  
Hanover, Maryland 21076

**From:** [Yoselin Espinal](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 4:22:20 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Yoselin Espinal  
yoselin\_espinal@hcpss.org  
125 Carroll Rd  
Glen Burnie, Maryland 21060

**From:** [Afshan Hassan](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Thursday, April 24, 2025 1:10:22 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Afshan Hassan

Afshan Hassan  
afshan\_hassan@hcpss.org  
2123 Split Creek Lane  
Hanover, Maryland 21076

**From:** [Alexander Livieratos](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** Please save our schools!  
**Date:** Thursday, April 24, 2025 10:22:55 AM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

Public education in the United States is under attack. We need YOU to step up to help us.

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Alexander Livieratos  
alec\_livieratos@hcpss.org  
3250 Saint Johns Lane  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21042

**From:** [Amber Naden](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** Please help us.  
**Date:** Thursday, April 24, 2025 8:49:59 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

7 years ago I transferred from PG county to Howard. My first year was amazing. It was clear that the county council was invested in educators, I felt valued and appreciated, and was so glad I made the switch, even though it meant longer until retirement, and some other scary changes.

Every year since I joined, we've faced crippling cuts. We have had class increases, dwindling supports, and I just don't know how many more cuts we can make! Class sizes are now higher than many counties, including the title 1 school I came from in PG. Teachers are leaving in droves. Workloads have increased. I see this especially in special ed. We are drowning. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Amber Naden

Amber Naden  
amber\_naden@hcpss.org  
200 Country Chase Court  
Glen Burnie, Maryland 21061

**From:** [Amy Archibald](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Thursday, April 24, 2025 2:20:46 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Amy Archibald

Amy Archibald  
[amy\\_archibald@hcpss.org](mailto:amy_archibald@hcpss.org)  
6519 Carroll Highlands Rd  
Eldersburg, Maryland 21784



**From:** [Andres Gordillo](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Thursday, April 24, 2025 7:33:28 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

A new HCPSS teacher who moved here from out of that for this very same reason.

Andres Gordillo  
andres\_gordillo@hcpss.org  
7822 Falling Leaves Ct  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

**From:** [Ashley Warner](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Thursday, April 24, 2025 2:10:21 PM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Ashley Warner  
2nd Grade Teacher  
Clemens Crossing Elementary School

Ashley Warner  
ashley\_warner@hcpss.org  
6307 Leafy Screen  
Columbia, Maryland 21045

**From:** [Benjamin Schmitz](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Thursday, April 24, 2025 9:25:18 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

Education is one of the most important investments a community can make. Prioritizing and providing funding for education is of vital importance to helping Howard County grow and develop.

The County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Ben Schmitz

Benjamin Schmitz  
[benjamin\\_schmitz@hcpss.org](mailto:benjamin_schmitz@hcpss.org)  
8033 Watermill Ct  
Elkridge, Maryland 21075

**From:** [Breanna Morris](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Thursday, April 24, 2025 1:12:47 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Breanna Morris

Breanna Morris  
[breanna\\_morris@hcpss.org](mailto:breanna_morris@hcpss.org)  
9622 Baltimore Ave  
Laurel, Maryland 20723

**From:** [Bridie Condon](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Thursday, April 24, 2025 9:29:29 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Bridie Condon  
bridie\_condon@hcpss.org  
6011 Hidden Meadow Ln.  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

**From:** [Christina Shumaker](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Thursday, April 24, 2025 7:39:48 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Christina Shumaker  
christina\_shumaker@hcpss.org  
14101 Barbara Cir  
Cookeville, Maryland 21723

**From:** [Christine Hughes](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** The parent and educator needs you, County Council!  
**Date:** Thursday, April 24, 2025 9:44:23 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. Classes are so big. Teachers like me are being surplussed all over the county. This year, I got sent to a school 45 minutes from my house, on the opposite side of the county. As a parent of four, I am exhausted. It makes me want to leave education for something less demanding. Our county does so many things well, but teachers are overworked, and tired. They don't feel supported by the county. HCPSS has a great reputation, but the cracks are showing. Our taxes have gone up tremendously in the past few years, but I don't understand why more of that increase isn't going to education. It would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We appreciate all that you do for this county, and we look forward to seeing you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Christine Hughes

Christine Hughes  
christine\_hughes@hcpss.org  
3250 Starting Gate Court  
Woodbine, Maryland 21797

**From:** [Christopher Fenlon](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Thursday, April 24, 2025 9:26:06 AM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council (I kept some of the "stock" email text, but heavily personalized it after that; I truly hope you'll take my thoughts and perspective into account),

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator and former BCPS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

When I got into HCPSS 3 years ago, it was a breath of fresh air in more ways than one. I can't tell you how relieved I was to "escape" from Baltimore County. My mental health was in peril and I needed a BIG change. HCPSS was the BIG change that I needed. I was thinking I was done as a teacher. The workload seemed insurmountable in BCPS. Time management meant nothing and the care I showed for my students no longer seemed to mean anything to my superiors. Becoming a teacher in HCPSS REINVIGORATED my outlook and my career! Even though I have worked at 3 schools in 3 years here, they have been quite possibly the BEST years of my 16 year teaching career!

I finally feel like I have a workload that is manageable, I can have a healthy work-life balance, and be the teacher and champion that my students need me to be for them. My administrators have been the absolute BEST I have ever worked alongside! (Notice I didn't say "work for.")

The realization that some of these things could change significantly if we don't have the funding is not lost on me. I have worked for an inferior education system and I believe I am now working for one of the absolute BEST. I do not wish to return to feeling like I did when I was working for BCPS and I don't wish that on anyone. Please continue to work to secure the necessary funding to keep HCPSS one of the ideal school systems to work for. Our teachers and students are counting on it.

Sincerely,



Chris Fenlon  
Special Educator, Long Reach HS

Christopher Fenlon  
chris\_fenlon@hcpss.org  
19 S Morerick Ave  
Catonsville, Maryland 21228

**From:** [Christopher McKibben](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Thursday, April 24, 2025 8:30:29 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

Please vote to fully fund our schools!!! As an educator and a resident who has a child entering Middle School I know how important our excellent schools are. Losing funding will only erode public education in our county and will in the long run effect future citizens and residents of the county.

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Christopher McKibben  
christopher\_mckibben@hcpss.org  
5828 Blue Sky  
Elkridge, Maryland 21075

**From:** [Corinne Edwards](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Thursday, April 24, 2025 11:31:56 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Corinne Edwards  
corinne\_edwards@hcpss.org  
8070 Savage Guilford Rd  
Jessup, Maryland 20794

**From:** [Craig Blum](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Thursday, April 24, 2025 10:20:21 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Craig Blum

Craig Blum  
blum67@comcast.net  
5772 Moss Rock Way  
New Market, Maryland 21774

**From:** [Daniel Harman](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Thursday, April 24, 2025 8:40:03 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Daniel Harman

Daniel Harman  
daniel\_harman@hcpss.org  
559 Cardinal Drive  
Pasadena, Maryland 21122

**From:** [Dipti Gondalia](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Thursday, April 24, 2025 10:20:20 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Dipti Gondalia  
dkgondalia@yahoo.co.in  
7581 Hearthside Way  
Elkridge, Maryland 21075

**From:** [Douglas Deane](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Thursday, April 24, 2025 9:01:04 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools. Please, feel free to visit our schools and see first hand how much we are actively struggling. Any further cuts risk taking an already difficult and challenging environment to function becoming worse. We cannot afford to not finance our schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Douglas Deane  
douglas\_deane@hcpss.org  
1917 Lennox Drive  
Eldersburg, Maryland 21784

**From:** [Erika Park](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Thursday, April 24, 2025 7:48:04 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Larger class sizes put more stress on students and teacher alike. Students get less personalized attention, there are more behavior issues that detract from learning time, and teachers burn out.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Erika Park

Erika Park  
erika\_park@hcpss.org  
5370 Briar Oak Court  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043



**From:** [Gabrielle Hayes](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Thursday, April 24, 2025 10:14:27 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Gabrielle Hayes  
gabrielle\_hayes@hcpss.org  
13389 Triadelphia Road  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21042

**From:** [Jennifer Corn](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Thursday, April 24, 2025 8:11:08 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Jen. Corn

Jennifer Corn  
jennifer\_corn@hcpss.org  
1729 Florence Rd  
Mt Airy, Maryland 21771

**From:** [Jennifer Locust-Williams](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Thursday, April 24, 2025 11:13:25 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students. These changes will negatively impact the learning of all children.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made children suffer from the lack of resources needed for productive education. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools. Please consider the impact this budget has on children who need to learn in a safe environment.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Locust-Williams  
jennifer\_locust-williams@hcpss.org  
9065 N Laurel Rd  
Laurel, Maryland 20723

---

**From:** Jessica Bronson <jessica.r.bronson@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 24, 2025 6:16 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** HCPSS budget cuts

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Members of the Howard County Council,

As a resident, taxpayer, parent, and educator in Howard County, I am extremely concerned by the \$70 million budget shortfall for our schools.

Like many residents here, our family chose to relocate to Howard county specifically for the excellent school system. We chose to pay more to purchase our home and to pay higher taxes compared to surrounding counties knowing that the investment we were making would be rewarded by the educational opportunities for our child. As a tax payer, I want to see my money going to our schools. As a property owner, I want to protect my investment. When oyr schools decline, so do our property values.

I also chose to be an employee of our school system despite the fact that I can earn more money working elsewhere. I used to be employed as a teacher in DC, but considered the pay cut of coming to Howard county to be worth it. I love living and working here. I am proud to be both a parent and an employee of HCPSS. Please protect our schools and our children by fully funding the budget.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Jessica Bronson

**From:** [Jessica Stockham](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Thursday, April 24, 2025 9:05:07 AM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for personnel, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS paraeducator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Jessica Stockham  
CHS Science Paraeducator

Jessica Stockham  
jessica\_stockham@hcpss.org  
6627 Cambria Terrace  
Elkridge, Maryland 21075

**From:** [Joanne Topping](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** Students and Teachers Need You!  
**Date:** Thursday, April 24, 2025 8:22:10 AM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools. (I know, I was one of those people who moved to the county because I wanted my kids in great schools, even though I could have bought a much larger/nicer house in a nearby county for the same price.)

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Joanne Topping

Joanne Topping  
joanne\_topping@hcpss.org  
8094 Woodloo Dr  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

**From:** [Katarzyna Brodka](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Thursday, April 24, 2025 12:14:23 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Katarzyna Brodka  
katarzyna\_brodka@hcpss.org  
1720 Olive St.  
Baltimore, Maryland 21230

**From:** [Katherine Nelson](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Thursday, April 24, 2025 11:43:39 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Katherine Nelson  
katherine\_m\_nelson@hcpss.org  
5502 Heatherwood Road  
Halethorpe, Maryland 21227



**From:** [Kathleen Ende](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Thursday, April 24, 2025 8:39:57 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Ende  
kathleen\_ende@hcpss.org  
5451 Beaverkill Rd  
Columbia, Maryland 21044

**From:** [Kathleen Wurstner](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Thursday, April 24, 2025 12:43:28 PM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS ESP, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

ESP like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Kathleen Wurstner CNA / HA

Kathleen Wurstner  
kathleen\_wurstner@hcpss.org  
1008 Fitzallen Road  
Glen Burnie, Maryland 21060

**From:** [Kristin Meadows](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Thursday, April 24, 2025 8:35:12 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students including possibly our most vulnerable.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Kristin Meadows M.S. CCC-SLP

Kristin Meadows  
kristin\_meadows@hcpss.org  
11382 Liberty St  
Fulton, Maryland 20759

**From:** [Laura Swann](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HELP!  
**Date:** Thursday, April 24, 2025 12:25:16 PM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

HELP! I need somebody. HELP, not just anybody. HELP! You know I need someone. HELP! These are not just words from a Beatles song, they are a direct rallying cry that everyone in education is calling for. You are asking us to create Michaelangelo-masterpieces with Rose Art crayons. You are demanding more and more from us each year, and giving us less to do it with. We can't get blood from a stone. There aren't any young adults going to college to be a teacher anymore because they know how exhausting and demanding it has become. There's nobody to fill our places or positions, and this is THE most critical job. Everyone who becomes a productive member of our society needs to go through the school system. The students cannot read and write. They can't do basic math facts. Their executive functioning skills and critical thinking are near non-existent. These are the people who will be running our society in 20 years.

The County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Laura Swann

Laura Swann  
[laura\\_swann@hcpss.org](mailto:laura_swann@hcpss.org)  
10806 Beech Creek Drive  
Columbia, Maryland 21044

**From:** [Lori Custer](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Thursday, April 24, 2025 1:43:48 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. Our classroom sizes are already too large and schools are understaffed, especially in special education, where at times challenging student behaviors require the support of more than one staff member to keep the student, other students, and staff safe. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Lori Custer

Lori Custer  
lori\_custer@hcpss.org  
531 Isaac Russell Street  
New Market, Maryland 21774

**From:** [Marsha Pickett](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Thursday, April 24, 2025 1:09:59 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Marsha Pickett  
2nd grade teacher at BPES

Marsha Pickett  
[marsha\\_pickett@hcpss.org](mailto:marsha_pickett@hcpss.org)  
206 Violet Court  
Mount Airy, Maryland 21771

**From:** [Megan Middlebrook](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Thursday, April 24, 2025 7:37:44 AM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Megan Middlebrook

Megan Middlebrook  
[megan\\_middlebrook@hcpss.org](mailto:megan_middlebrook@hcpss.org)  
6220 Sandrise Court  
Elkridge, Maryland 21075

**From:** [Melissa Barbieri](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Thursday, April 24, 2025 7:46:03 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Melissa Barbieri

Melissa Barbieri  
melissa\_barbieri@hcpss.org  
8805 Groffs Mill Dr  
Owings Mills, Maryland 21117



**From:** [Nancy Barnes](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Thursday, April 24, 2025 10:00:39 AM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools. The situation is already so bad with understaffing that I am leaving the school system in June. I write on behalf of those I leave behind.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Nancy Barnes

Nancy Barnes  
nancy\_barnes@hcpss.org  
628 Piccadilly Rd  
Towson, Maryland 21204-3803

**From:** [Nancy Duke](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Thursday, April 24, 2025 7:48:01 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Nancy Duke  
Teacher & HCPSS parent

Nancy Duke  
nancy\_duke@hcpss.org  
5522 Green Dory La  
Columbia, Maryland 21044

**From:** [Peter Roeser](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Thursday, April 24, 2025 8:49:45 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Peter Roeser  
peter\_roeser@hcpss.org  
6450 Lauren Lane  
Spring Grove, Pennsylvania 17362

**From:** [Rachael Schultz](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** If you care about education at all...  
**Date:** Thursday, April 24, 2025 11:20:49 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Rachael H. Schultz  
River Hill High School

Rachael Schultz  
[Rachael\\_Schultz@hcpss.org](mailto:Rachael_Schultz@hcpss.org)  
12101 Clarksville Pike  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21029

**From:** [Russell Waldron](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Thursday, April 24, 2025 9:11:00 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

I am an Educator/Assessor for the Childfind program, my wife is a Resource teacher for the RECC programs, and my daughter is a Kindergarten teacher in the county as well. We all are committed to giving the best education we can to these children. Please don't fail them!

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely, Russell Waldron, Special Education Teacher

Russell Waldron  
russell\_waldron@hcpss.org  
9745 Early Spring Way  
Colombia, Maryland 21046

**From:** [Samantha Rangos](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Thursday, April 24, 2025 7:29:24 AM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Samantha Rangos  
samantha\_rangos@hcpss.org  
4284 Red Bandana Way  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21042

**From:** [Sarah Castrillon](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Thursday, April 24, 2025 11:30:55 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Sarah Castrillon  
sarah\_castrillon@hcpss.org  
7003 Folded Palm  
Columbia, Maryland 21045

**From:** [Shannon Milam](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Thursday, April 24, 2025 8:19:17 AM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible, an unhealthy situation for both teachers and students. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Shannon Milam  
shannon\_milam@hcpss.org  
6151 Tower Top  
Columbia, Maryland 21045



**From:** [Stephanie Sandlin](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Thursday, April 24, 2025 8:23:44 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Sandlin  
stephanie\_sandlin@hcpss.org  
1509 Martock Lane  
Hanover, Maryland 21029

**From:** [Teresa Tyrrell](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Thursday, April 24, 2025 8:26:54 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

The County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make tough decisions to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As a central office employee, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed staff and made workloads impossible. Staff in central office and our administrative partners in the schools are experiencing increased stress and feeling bad that they can't get everything done in a reasonable time. Certain tasks need longer turn-around time, are done hastily with mistakes (which end up needing more time to be fixed), or are skipped entirely with detrimental results. Projects and goals take longer to achieve with less staff, even when staff are working extra unpaid hours in evenings and on weekends. Some staff have left our system this year because the budget cycle was so rough last year. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators and support staff like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Tess Tyrrell

Teresa Tyrrell  
tess\_tyrrell@hcpss.org  
411 Lee Dr.  
Catonsville, Maryland 21228

**From:** [Tiffani Peguese](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Thursday, April 24, 2025 6:34:09 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Tiffani Peguese  
tiffani\_peguese@hcpss.org  
313 Holly Manor Road  
Catonsville, Maryland 21227

**From:** [Tim Reinhardt](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Thursday, April 24, 2025 2:17:03 PM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Tim Reinhardt

Tim Reinhardt  
[tim\\_reinhardt@hcpss.org](mailto:tim_reinhardt@hcpss.org)  
6520 Freetown Rd  
Columbia, Maryland 21044

**From:** [Timothy Lane](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Thursday, April 24, 2025 10:02:05 AM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Timothy Lane  
timothy\_lane@hcpss.org  
3117 Old Fence Road  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21042

**From:** [Tina Monroe](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Thursday, April 24, 2025 1:07:47 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely, Tina Monroe

Tina Monroe  
tina\_monroe@hcpss.org  
P.O. Box 174 Frederick Rd  
Lisbon, Maryland 21765

**From:** [Toni Ireland](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** Fully fund our HoCo Schools, County Council!  
**Date:** Thursday, April 24, 2025 7:48:24 AM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members:

The County Executive's proposed budget for Howard County Public Schools will be devastating. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make even more cuts to an already inadequate budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students. Many teachers have been teetering on the edge of leaving education for greener pastures due to the workload and stress caused by too many years of bare bones funding, and making cuts AGAIN will drive them out for certain.

As a long time HCPSS educator, I have seen a time when we didn't have to beg for money every year, and, for far too long now, I've also seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, there is NOTHING that should come before funding our public schools, which are the main resource still attracting families to our county. Already, our schools are seen as inferior compared to their former glory, and more cuts will further tarnish what was once a school system and a county to be proud of.

We are counting on you to prioritize our schools and fund them appropriately. You have some ground to make up from many previous years of an inadequate budget; please stop making exhaustive, weak excuses and change that this year! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Toni Ireland Lubbehusen, Howard County teacher and parent

Toni Ireland  
toni\_ireland@hcpss.org  
10518 Dorchester Way  
Woodstock, Maryland 21163

**From:** [Tracy Stansbury](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Thursday, April 24, 2025 10:17:29 AM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

Please be the role-model County Council that demonstrates its unwavering support to our students and our country's future by funding education! We can not continue in this very broken system without adequate funding. Our students need the same opportunities that you and I had when we were in school. As an educator, I can not be effective if class sizes are bigger. Show your constituents that here in Howard County, we are still progressive and we value democracy because we believe in an educated population because you will fully fund the education budget.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Tracy Stansbury  
tracy\_stansbury@hcpss.org  
4612 E. Leisure Ct  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043



**From:** [Amanda Kulikowski](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Friday, April 25, 2025 7:32:15 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Amanda Kulikowski  
amanda\_kulikowski@hcpss.org  
9437 Kilimanjaro Rd  
Columbia, Maryland 21045

**From:** [Brian Donoughe](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Friday, April 25, 2025 9:19:32 AM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Brian Donoughe  
brian\_donoughe@hcpss.org  
6171 ClearSmoke Court  
Columbia, Maryland 21045

**From:** [Chris Jackson](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Friday, April 25, 2025 9:15:39 PM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Chris Jackson  
christine\_jackson@hcpss.org  
9410 Kilimanjaro Rd  
Columbia, Maryland 21045

**From:** [Christina Held](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Friday, April 25, 2025 11:02:52 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Christina Held

Christina Held  
[christina\\_held@hcpss.org](mailto:christina_held@hcpss.org)  
8501 Falls Run Road  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

**From:** [Christina Ledgard](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Friday, April 25, 2025 8:35:55 PM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Christina Ledgard  
christina\_ledgard@hcpss.org  
8905 Blade Green Lane  
Columbia, Maryland 21045

**From:** [Christine Bielen](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Friday, April 25, 2025 7:28:48 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Christine Bielen  
christine\_bielen@hcpss.org  
6713 Lowes Lane  
Elkridge, Maryland 21075

**From:** [Deborah Courtney](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Friday, April 25, 2025 12:10:24 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Deborah Courtney  
Wilde Lake Middle School Teacher and Parent

Deborah Courtney  
deborah\_courtney@hcpss.org  
10307 Crimson Tree Ct  
Columbia, Maryland 21044

**From:** [Deborah Smelkinson](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Friday, April 25, 2025 8:53:04 PM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Deborah Smelkinson

Deborah Smelkinson  
[deborah\\_smelkinson@hcpss.org](mailto:deborah_smelkinson@hcpss.org)  
6391 Srockbridge Overlook Ct  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043



**From:** [Ellynn Self](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Friday, April 25, 2025 10:27:01 AM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Ellynn Self  
Howard County Taxpaying Citizen and,  
Secretary  
Phelps Luck Elementary School

Ellynn Self  
[ellynn\\_self@hcpss.org](mailto:ellynn_self@hcpss.org)  
6217 Free Stone Court  
Columbia, Maryland 21045

**From:** [Emma Goon](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Friday, April 25, 2025 1:03:44 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Emma Goon  
emma\_goon@hcpss.org  
8110 Aladdin Dr  
Laurel, Maryland 20723

**From:** [Grace Ruly \(Kelly\)](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Friday, April 25, 2025 9:30:25 AM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Grace Ruly

Grace Ruly (Kelly)  
[grace\\_kelly@hcpss.org](mailto:grace_kelly@hcpss.org)  
1211 S Conkling St  
Baltimore, Maryland 21224

**From:** [Heather Green](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Friday, April 25, 2025 7:10:59 PM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

An Educator Tired of Doing Too Much with Too Little

Heather Green  
heather\_green@hcpss.org  
4350 Old Field Lane  
Hampstead, Maryland 21074

**From:** [Jeanette Swank](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Friday, April 25, 2025 10:52:35 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's proposed budget is not just disappointing—it's catastrophic for our public schools. If you do not take immediate action to restore funding, the Board of Education will be left with no choice but to make devastating cuts. These so-called "tough decisions" will translate into overcrowded classrooms, slashed student programs, broken promises to educators, and the erosion of critical support services that many of our most vulnerable students depend on to succeed.

As a dedicated HCPSS educator, I have watched year after year as budget cuts hollow out the heart of our schools. Class sizes have ballooned, resources have dwindled, and educator workloads have become unmanageable. We are being asked to do more with less—again and again—while the needs of our students continue to grow. We are past the point of stretching; we are at the breaking point. Sadly, due to all of this we are losing our best and brightest teachers and the kids are the ones who will suffer.

Let's be clear: our public schools are one of the last remaining pillars of excellence and equity in this county. They are the reason families move here. They are the foundation of our community's future. And yet, year after year, we are asked to sacrifice that future in the name of fiscal restraint. I understand the uncertainty around federal funding—but undercutting public education now would be a profound and irreversible mistake. You cannot balance the budget on the backs of children and educators.

We are counting on you to make this right. The students, families, and educators of Howard County are watching—and we will be there in full force at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Do the right thing. Restore the funding. Invest in our schools.

Sincerely,  
Jeanette Swank

Jeanette Swank  
[jeanette\\_swank@hcpss.org](mailto:jeanette_swank@hcpss.org)  
114 Starhill Lane  
Catonsville, Maryland 21228

**From:** [Joanna Carpenter](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Friday, April 25, 2025 9:59:33 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I am very concerned that the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator and parent, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Joanna Carpenter

Joanna Carpenter  
joanna\_carpenter@hcpss.org  
6409 Rockledge Court  
Elkridge, Maryland 21075

**From:** [Kerri Taylor](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Friday, April 25, 2025 7:12:46 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Kerri Taylor

Kerri Taylor  
kerri\_taylor@hcpss.org  
8762 Redondo Way  
Jessup, Maryland 20794

**From:** [Kira Schuman](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Friday, April 25, 2025 8:46:56 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Sam Hunt

Kira Schuman  
[kschuman@mseanea.org](mailto:kschuman@mseanea.org)  
5082 Dorsey Hall Drive, Ste. 102  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21042



**From:** [Kristy Kaiser Moore](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Friday, April 25, 2025 1:25:33 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator and parent, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Kristy Moore

Kristy Kaiser Moore  
kristy\_moore@hcpss.org  
4136 Henhawk Court  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21042

**From:** [Laura Schwartz](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Friday, April 25, 2025 8:47:17 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Laura C. Schwartz

Laura Schwartz  
lancsgs@comcast.net  
3204 Normandy Woods Dr, Apt B  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

**From:** [Lauren McAleer](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Friday, April 25, 2025 11:47:31 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Lauren McAleer

Lauren McAleer  
lauren\_mcaleer@hcpss.org  
9503 Glen Ridge Dr  
Laurel, Maryland 20723

**From:** [Marlena Eckart](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Friday, April 25, 2025 8:16:04 AM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

The current budget will be detrimental to the children of Howard County. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

I grew up here in Howard County and went to school in HCPSS. I've been working on special education for several years now- the needs are rising. Our children need more support now than ever- and the projected cuts will harm the student population and hurt the potential of HoCo's future. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Marlena Eckart

Marlena Eckart  
marlena\_eckart@hcpss.org  
5012 Waterloo Road  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

**From:** [Pamela Sutkaytis](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Friday, April 25, 2025 10:37:03 AM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Pamela Sutkaytis  
pamela\_sutkaytis@hcpss.org  
10903 Beech Creek Dr  
Columbia, Maryland 21044-1034

**From:** [Sandy Wen](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Friday, April 25, 2025 10:30:14 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

The \$70mil shortfall in County Executive Calvin Ball's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make tough decisions to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Sandy Wen

Sandy Wen  
sandy\_wen@hcpss.org  
4018 Zuni Court  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

**From:** [Shira Levy](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Friday, April 25, 2025 2:09:50 PM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

I am a school psychologist. ADHD and Autism are on the rise and we do not have enough staffing to be able to intervene with these students. Their behaviors are impactful within the whole school environment, interrupting instruction for all.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Shira Levy  
shira\_levy@hcpss.org  
2843 Leaf Shade Drive  
ellicott city, Maryland 21042

**From:** [Tara Terry](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Friday, April 25, 2025 9:35:15 AM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Tara Terry  
tara\_terry@hcpss.org  
7406 Weather Worn Way  
Columbia, Maryland 21046



**From:** [Taylor Murphy](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Friday, April 25, 2025 8:06:01 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Taylor Murphy  
taylor\_murphy@hcpss.org  
3222 N Rolling Rd  
Windsor Mill, Maryland 21244

---

**From:** Skalny, Cindy  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 29, 2025 2:28 PM  
**To:** Anderson, Isaiah  
**Subject:** FW: HoCo Schools need you, County Council!

Cindy Skalny  
Chief of Staff  
Councilman David Yungmann, District 5  
Howard County Council  
3430 Court House Drive  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

410-313-3123



---

**From:** Tyler Petrini <tyler\_petrini@hcpss.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 25, 2025 7:09 PM  
**To:** Yungmann, David <dyungmann@howardcountymd.gov>  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be

concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! Please support us as we develop the leaders of tomorrow!

Sincerely,

Tyler Petrini  
Spanish Teacher

Tyler Petrini  
tyler\_petrini@hcpss.org  
6919 Old Waterloo Road  
Elkridge, Maryland 21075

▪

**From:** [William Eng](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Friday, April 25, 2025 3:20:15 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
William Eng, Ph.D., NCSP

William Eng  
William\_eng@hcpss.org  
7918 Anfred Dr  
Laurel, Maryland 20723

**From:** [Brenda Poling](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Saturday, April 26, 2025 5:36:33 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Brenda Poling  
brenda\_poling@hcpss.org  
2022 Orchard Avenue  
Jessup, Maryland 20794

**From:** [Carissa Easter](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Saturday, April 26, 2025 3:24:39 PM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

Please, please fund our schools in HCPSS. The CE's budget is not enough for our kids. For our future. I know it's a lot to ask and compounded with the uncertainty of federal funding, it feels even harder. But that makes this budget even more consequential. We MUST do this for our kids. The CE's budget would be devastating to our school system. I have seen first hand, as an educator and a parent, how budget cuts have changed things for the worse. Please change that trajectory. Our kids need this.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Carissa Easter

Carissa Easter  
carissa\_easter@hcpss.org  
9533 Longview Dr  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21042

**From:** [Janet Culver](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Saturday, April 26, 2025 5:55:23 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Dear Members of the County Council,

Please, please fund our schools in HCPSS. The CE's budget is not enough for our kids or for our future. I know it's a lot to ask and compounded with the uncertainty of federal funding, it feels even harder, but that makes this budget even more consequential. We MUST do this for our kids. The CE's budget would be devastating to our school system. I have seen first hand, as an educator and a parent, how budget cuts have changed things for the worse. Please change that trajectory. Our kids need this!

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Janet Culver

Janet Culver  
janet\_culver@hcpss.org  
5667 Compton Ln  
Eldersburg, Maryland 21784

**From:** [Jennifer Corn](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Saturday, April 26, 2025 6:04:09 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Jen. Corn

Jennifer Corn  
jennifer\_corn@hcpss.org  
1729 Florence Rd  
Mt Airy, Maryland 21771



**From:** [Joelle Biele](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Saturday, April 26, 2025 9:00:37 AM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Joelle Biele  
joelle\_biele@hcpss.org  
10091 Century Dr.  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21042

**From:** [John Cservek](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Saturday, April 26, 2025 4:49:25 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
John

John Cservek  
[john\\_cservek@hcpss.org](mailto:john_cservek@hcpss.org)  
6140 Regent Park Rd  
Catonsville, Maryland 21228

**From:** [Julia Miller](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Saturday, April 26, 2025 3:19:01 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Julia Miller, HCPSS Educator and Parent of an HCPSS student

Julia Miller  
julia\_miller@hcpss.org  
6924 Knighthood Lane  
Columbia, Maryland 21045

**From:** [Linda Tsai](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Saturday, April 26, 2025 3:37:21 PM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

You can do better for our students. the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, HCPSS will lose more staff because we simply can't handle the increased class size and all the work we do each and every day to keep our children safe and educated.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Linda Tsai

Linda Tsai  
[linda\\_tsai@hcpss.org](mailto:linda_tsai@hcpss.org)  
4134 Brittany Drive  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

**From:** [Mary DeFrances](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Saturday, April 26, 2025 2:18:26 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. Personally speaking, this year my 3rd grade class is 28 students with six 504's and one IEP with another one in testing. I have not another adult support in my class. Most of the time, it feels nearly impossible to meet the needs of all children in my class. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
A concerned HCPSS educator

Mary DeFrances  
mary\_defrances@hcpss.org  
6743 Quad Lane  
Sykesville, Maryland 21784

**From:** [Mary Goff](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Saturday, April 26, 2025 9:16:09 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools. I pay for tissues, hand sanitizer, and other classroom materials to the tune of over \$300 a year at least. I also spend 6 hours a week on school work between planning, and grading.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Mary Goff  
mary\_goff@hcpss.org  
3014 Brookwood Road  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21042

**From:** [Megan Fichter](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Saturday, April 26, 2025 6:49:43 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Megan Fichter  
megan\_fichter@hcpss.org  
3001 Fawnwood Drive  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21042

**From:** [Nina Diehl](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Saturday, April 26, 2025 6:46:28 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

Please restore funding to our schools. HCPSS schools are known for their high quality. People move here because of this fact.

When classrooms are overcrowded and teachers are overburdened, the schools will lose their status as being the best. The good teachers we are known for will leave HCPSS because giving each student what they need, providing quality feedback on student work, and managing behaviors for a classroom of students will just not be possible with greater class sizes.

Students deserve well-funded programming. They deserve art rooms with art supplies, music rooms with instruments, tech rooms with technology.

Do not allow HCPSS schools to go downhill next year. We have a wealthy county and we can afford to pay for our children's success.

Sincerely,  
Nina Diehl

Nina Diehl  
[nina\\_diehl@hcpss.org](mailto:nina_diehl@hcpss.org)  
9304 Spring Water Path  
Jessup, Maryland 20794



**From:** [Roxanne Budsock](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** Mr. Yungman  
**Date:** Saturday, April 26, 2025 3:14:32 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Mr. Yungman,

Thank you in advance for taking the time to read my request and for any support you are able to give as we navigate this unimaginable setback in our school system. I have been a part of the HCPSS for over 40 years. First as a teacher, then as a parent, and now as a paraeducator in elementary school. What was once one of the wealthiest, most thriving school systems in the state, has now become one that fills me with panic and anger. Families move to Howard County with a perceived promise that their children, whether special or regular educational needs, will receive top notch instruction. I witness first-hand each and every day, that this is not possible with the staffing shortage and lack of resources our counting is experiencing.

As an educator, I feel that we are left to the wolves. I currently work in kindergarten where the need for support is critical and being ignored. We are overwhelmed with special needs students that are not receiving state mandated services because there aren't enough special education teachers and paraeducators to support them. As a result, my duties have shifted from students in the traditional classroom, to special education students. Because my time is taken away from the general education student, those who need interventions and additional support are also suffering. Sadly, I see this becoming the norm going forward. We have already been notified that we are going from four to three teachers next year, which is insane. We are already drowning with the student load of our neediest students, and the influx of new special education students is increasing. This past year has been the hardest. As a general education paraeducator, I know that our situation is not isolated. All schools in the HCPSS are suffering from teacher burnout, lack of services and the feeling of abandonment. We need help and cutting the budget is going to be devastating for all students and staff.

In addition to student needs, I don't think the BOE realizes how critical the role of a general education para is to the day-to-day functioning of each school. By cutting funds, next year's budget and how it will affect our salary is a slap in the face. Our job is not one that entails clerical duties. We do none of that for our teams. We are there to support the teachers and students, so that classroom teachers can do their job...teach. We get students in and out of buses and cars, we cover lunch and recess duty, we cover classes when teachers attend the overwhelming number of IEP meetings for current and incoming special education students. Just this week there are 5 hours of coverage needed for students. For the next few weeks, just as many meetings are on the calendar. We cover, if possible, when there are no substitute teachers available. Unfortunately, that has not been possible this year because we have one-

on-one daily responsibilities with special needs students. Yes, I'm a general education para working in special education every day. Again, we are pulled away from general education students that could use additional assistance. The students that we have in kindergarten this year are severe. Support staff are hit, bit, kicked, and spit on and there is little we can do about it. We are there for the students and we do our best to move forward. One in particular should have been placed in a regional program but was mainstreamed into our school. He is non-verbal, self-harming and gaining nothing from being in the regular classroom. By reducing the budget for students like this, they will not be placed in an environment where they can thrive, and the rest of the students are not receiving what they need. Everyone is hurting due to the lack of funds.

I am two years away from retirement. I have no idea how the budget is going to affect this. If there is a reduction in funds, will I, as a paraeducator, still receive the benefits that I was promised. Will it be worth it to stay in the school system if my situation changes. I was depending on the health care benefits that HCPSS offers retirees. My husband tells me to walk away, to quit, if this happens. This is not something that I can do. I'm not doing this for the money...I bring home approximately \$500 per week after deductions. That's less than \$100 per day. I stay because I love my school, its administration and my coworkers. We have an amazing PTA and community. It's just so incredibly disheartening to think that the Board will reduce what little I am already making for a job that I give over 100% to each day.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Roxanne Budsock

Roxanne Budsock

roxanne\_budsock@hcpss.org

10127 Hobson Choice Lane

Ellicott City, Maryland 21042-1617

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**From:** Alice Arcieri Bonner <alarcieri@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 27, 2025 11:18 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Restore funding 2026

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

**Please secure or restore funding for FY26!**

**Operating budget was not fully funded by Calvin Ball. Howard county students will suffer with the loss of anymore teacher, staff, or programs. You have the power to restore the funding. Please know this is what your constituents want and need.**

Alice Bonner, Esq. Staff Attorney FutureCare Health

**From:** [Ann Valuntis](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Sunday, April 27, 2025 12:08:08 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

Personally, the budget cut will effect me by having to be split between two schools in order to maintain my position and obtain the salary I have. Being split between two schools is not fair to the students and reduces my ability to build relationships with students, staff and family. This type of move lowers my teacher confidence and makes me feel marginalized like a pawn instead of a person with a supportive community. Teaching is hard enough! Please dont allow these cuts to the budget!

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Ann Valuntis

Ann Valuntis  
ann\_valuntis@hcpss.org  
30 Austringer Court  
Pikesville, Maryland 21208

**From:** [Bette Kennard](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Sunday, April 27, 2025 3:42:00 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Bette Kennard  
bette\_kennard@hcpss.org  
3521 Cabot Rd  
Randallstown, Maryland 21133

---

**From:** Gina Dowd <gcbd11@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 27, 2025 10:59 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** No cuts!

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

I have 3 children that attend, Pointers Run ES, Lime Kiln MS and River Hill HS. I am writing to express my support of NO cuts to programs, staff,, teachers, training, etc. We moved to Howard County, MD from Colorado mostly because of the excellent schools. All cuts will greatly affect my children. NO CUTS!

Sincerely,  
'Gina Dowd

**From:** [Jennifer Theimer](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Sunday, April 27, 2025 9:29:01 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Theimer  
jennifer\_theimer@hcpss.org  
10567 Hounslow Dr  
Woodstock, Maryland 21163

**From:** [Joanna Sanders](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Sunday, April 27, 2025 7:27:44 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Joanna Sanders, OTR/L

Joanna Sanders  
joanna\_sanders@hcpss.org  
360 Kohler School Rd  
New Oxford, Pennsylvania 17350-9204



**From:** [Karol Moore](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Sunday, April 27, 2025 6:08:34 PM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Karol Moore, PT, DPT  
Itinerant physical therapist

Karol Moore  
karol\_moore@hcpss.org  
3734 Ligon Rd  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21042

**From:** [Kathleen Ende](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Sunday, April 27, 2025 11:54:16 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Ende  
kathleen\_ende@hcpss.org  
5451 Beaverkill Rd  
Columbia, Maryland 21044

**From:** [Kathryn Davis](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Sunday, April 27, 2025 3:48:42 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Davis  
Kathryn\_Davis@hcpss.org  
9709 Rugby Ct  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21042

**From:** [Kyli Bumbray](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Sunday, April 27, 2025 12:46:51 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Kyli Bumbray  
kyli\_bumbray@hcpss.org  
7030 Knighthood Ln  
Columbia, Maryland 21045

**From:** [Melissa Schmitt](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Sunday, April 27, 2025 7:01:22 PM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Melissa Schmitt

Melissa Schmitt  
melissa\_schmitt@hcpss.org  
7817 Whistling Pines Court  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

**From:** [Mollie Wolf](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Sunday, April 27, 2025 10:23:46 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Mollie Wolf  
mollie\_wolf@hcpss.org  
10292 Wayover Way  
Columbia, Maryland 21046

**From:** [Tamara Jones](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Sunday, April 27, 2025 9:38:47 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Tamara Jones

Tamara Jones  
tamara\_jones@hcpss.org  
7660 Bluff Point Ln  
Elkridge , Maryland 21075

---

**From:** abidemiola2@gmail.com  
**Sent:** Monday, April 28, 2025 10:47 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** HCPSS Funding

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

I am writing to respectfully urge you to fully fund the Howard County Public School System (HCPSS) operating budget and to reconsider any proposed cuts.

Our schools are the heart of our community. Every cut to the HCPSS operating budget directly impacts our students' education, teacher support, classroom resources, special education services, and the overall quality of learning in our county.

Howard County has long been known for its excellence in education — it is one of the reasons families choose to live here. Cutting school funding risks weakening our schools' ability to meet the growing needs of all students, especially at a time when they require more support than ever.

Please prioritize our children and teachers by protecting the HCPSS operating budget. Investing in education is investing in the future success, health, and strength of Howard County.

Thank you for your leadership and for considering the voices of families and community members like mine. I respectfully ask that you fully fund our schools.



---

**From:** Alison Hickman <alisonhickman@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 28, 2025 9:15 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail; Ball, Calvin  
**Cc:** superintendent@hcpss.org; BoE Email  
**Subject:** Re: HCPSS

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear County Council and County Executive Ball,

Since my original email, I've seen updated communications that the school system values the county as a partner, that we are in a difficult mandate environment and that the County is funding the school system above MOE and at historic levels.

These are process-oriented updates that offer context but no solutions. They do not drive towards the ultimate **outcome of appropriate class sizes and appropriate, significant and needed paraprofessional levels of support** among other attributes that our school system needs to be "world class." Please stay anchored towards these outcomes and ensuring we achieve them - do not get distracted by process and process-oriented success measures.

If the only way to achieve these outcomes is increased funding, then it is clear it is time to increase the funding. I don't have all (or any) of the answers, but I'm interested in an outcome-oriented update on our school system's class sizes and ensuring we have adequate paraeducator support, and it is clear more dollars are needed to achieve these absolutely critical goals. Paraeducators are incredible assets to our schools as an extra pair of hands to our overwhelmed teachers - I suspect the ROI on every position would be quite high if we were able to measure it. Just a few days in any classroom will convince you quickly that we should be seeking to grow our pool of paraeducators annually.

I recognize these are difficult choices, but at some point the answer becomes more and more clear - the school system must be funded at a higher level. I trust this leadership community will make the difficult choices necessary elsewhere in the County's budget to fund HCPSS at the level necessary so our students and school communities can thrive.

Thank you for your continued service to our community.

Alison Hickman

On Fri, Mar 28, 2025 at 6:43 AM Alison Hickman <[alisonhickman@gmail.com](mailto:alisonhickman@gmail.com)> wrote:

Dear County Council and County Executive Ball,

I don't have all the answers but this county's perception of how our school system is experienced is at

odds with reality. At least some of the answer to that challenge needs to come with budget. I've certainly highlighted some perceived waste I see in transportation costs due to inefficient redistrict plans and I know there is some level of efficiency to be found, however that's just not going to solve the budget issues.

Our class sizes as just one example are unacceptable and I think we need to target some significant dollars here. Please revisit your funding intentions and consider deploying some additional dollars to target the most critical issues students are navigating such as class sizes. I have two current students and am stepparent of an adult graduate. All three are very different. Kids that need more support are having a REALLY hard time in the school system we've set up for them and class size adjustments and more paraprofessionals are absolutely critical- invest significant dollars here PLEASE.

Thank you for considering deploying significant additional funds with targeted focus on the areas that desperately need support. Teachers and our education system is a critical social backstop and our kids and broader community are in need of our support now more than ever.

Alison Hickman

**From:** [Alix West](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Monday, April 28, 2025 7:58:44 AM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Alix West

Alix West  
alix\_west@hcpss.org  
11127 Eugene Avenue  
Fulton, Maryland 20759

**From:** [Ashlea Harmon](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Monday, April 28, 2025 3:07:47 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. We are already underfunded and understaffed. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Ashlea Harmon  
ashlea\_harmon@hcpss.org  
4710 Salterforth Place  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

**From:** [Aubrey Roesener](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Monday, April 28, 2025 11:11:40 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Aubrey Roesener

Aubrey Roesener  
[aubrey\\_roesener@hcpss.org](mailto:aubrey_roesener@hcpss.org)  
139 Merrimack Way  
Arnold, Maryland 21012

---

**From:** CHANDRA ANAGANI <anagani.chandra@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 28, 2025 1:01 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Please fully fund HCPSS

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

I am writing to respectfully urge you to fully fund the Howard County Public School System (HCPSS) operating budget and to reconsider any proposed cuts.

Our schools are the heart of our community. Every cut to the HCPSS operating budget directly impacts our students' education, teacher support, classroom resources, special education services, and the overall quality of learning in our county.

Howard County has long been known for its excellence in education — it is one of the reasons families choose to live here. Cutting school funding risks weakening our schools' ability to meet the growing needs of all students, especially at a time when they require more support than ever.

Please prioritize our children and teachers by protecting the HCPSS operating budget. Investing in education is investing in the future success, health, and strength of Howard County.

Thank you for your leadership and for considering the voices of families and community members like mine. I respectfully ask that you fully fund our schools.

**From:** [Elizabeth Greer](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Monday, April 28, 2025 11:21:00 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Greer  
elizabeth\_greer@hcpss.org  
1010 Langley Road  
Glen Burnie, Maryland 21060

**From:** [Emily Braman](#)  
**To:** [CouncilMail](#)  
**Subject:** URGENT: Please fully fund HCPSS operating budget  
**Date:** Monday, April 28, 2025 8:18:15 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my deep concern about the potential lack of full funding for the Howard County Public School System's operating budget next year. Without adequate financial support, our schools face severe consequences, including teacher cuts, increased class sizes, and reductions in essential services.

Howard County's **special education programs** are **critical** to ensuring that every child, regardless of ability, receives the individualized attention and support they need to succeed. These programs are not luxuries—they are necessities that enable students with diverse learning needs to thrive. **Budget cuts would directly harm these children**, limiting access to specialized instruction and essential resources. **We cannot afford to undermine special education.**

Additionally, class sizes **must not** continue to increase. Our children are already learning in overcrowded classrooms, stretching teachers to their limits. Educators are **overworked, underpaid, and leaving the profession at alarming rates**. Larger class sizes mean less individualized instruction, more student struggles, and a decline in the overall quality of education. **Increasing class sizes while reducing resources is a failure of priorities—and we owe our students better.**

While ensuring proper funding for special education is paramount, we must also preserve **Gifted & Talented (GT) programs**, which provide advanced learners with the challenges they need to reach their full potential. Every child—whether they require specialized support or advanced opportunities—deserves the tools to thrive.

A fully funded budget is not simply a financial decision—it is an investment in the future of our children and the strength of our community. We urge you to prioritize education funding so that our schools can continue to offer high-quality education, reasonable class sizes, and equitable opportunities for all students.

Let's work together to ensure that Howard County schools remain a point of pride for our community.

Thank you for your time and attention to this urgent matter.

Sincerely,

Emily Braman



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**From:** Skalny, Cindy  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 29, 2025 2:30 PM  
**To:** Anderson, Isaiah  
**Subject:** FW: HoCo Schools need you, County Council!

Cindy Skalny  
Chief of Staff  
Councilman David Yungmann, District 5  
Howard County Council  
3430 Court House Drive  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

410-313-3123



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**From:** Gabrielle Reckendorf <gabrielle\_reckendorf@hcpss.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 28, 2025 9:37 AM  
**To:** Yungmann, David <dyungmann@howardcountymd.gov>  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be

concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Gabrielle Reckendorf

Math 6/7 Teacher

Elkridge Landing Middle School

Gabrielle Reckendorf

[gabrielle\\_reckendorf@hcpss.org](mailto:gabrielle_reckendorf@hcpss.org)

5701 Rowanberry Drive

Elkridge, Maryland 21075

▪

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**From:** Girish Shetty <shettygirish75@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 28, 2025 10:19 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** HCPSS Operating Budget Concern

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing to respectfully urge you to fully fund the Howard County Public School System (HCPSS) operating budget and to reconsider any proposed cuts.

Our schools are the heart of our community. Every cut to the HCPSS operating budget directly impacts our students' education, teacher support, classroom resources, special education services, and the overall quality of learning in our county.

Howard County has long been known for its excellence in education — it is one of the reasons families choose to live here. Cutting school funding risks weakening our schools' ability to meet the growing needs of all students, especially at a time when they require more support than ever.

Please prioritize our children and teachers by protecting the HCPSS operating budget. Investing in education is investing in the future success, health, and strength of Howard County.

Thank you for your leadership and for considering the voices of families and community members like mine. I respectfully ask that you fully fund our schools.

Girish Shetty  
281-235-3841 (M)

**From:** [Jaimie Shirokobrod](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Monday, April 28, 2025 9:48:04 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Jaimie Shirokobrod  
jaimie\_shirokobrod@hcpss.org  
722 East Watersville Rd.  
Mount Airy, Maryland 21771

**From:** [Jeannette Dixon](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Monday, April 28, 2025 6:09:59 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Jeannette Dixon  
jeannette\_dixon@hcpss.org  
5460 Trumpeter Rd  
Columbia, Maryland 21044

**From:** [Jhonna Seifert](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Monday, April 28, 2025 11:44:59 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Jhonna Seifert

Jhonna Seifert  
[jhonna\\_seifert@hcpss.org](mailto:jhonna_seifert@hcpss.org)  
7238 Single Wheel Path  
Columbia, Maryland 21046

**From:** [Kaitlyn Kessler](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Monday, April 28, 2025 8:35:29 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Kaitlyn Kessler, M.S. CCC-SLP

Kaitlyn Kessler  
[kaitlyn\\_kessler@hcpss.org](mailto:kaitlyn_kessler@hcpss.org)  
612 Scott Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21230

**From:** [Katherine Reddy](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Monday, April 28, 2025 2:55:51 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Katherine Reddy  
katie\_reddy@hcpss.org  
2121 Mount Hebron Drive  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21042



**From:** [Kelly Gailey Walker](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Monday, April 28, 2025 10:27:54 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Kelly Walker  
Northfield Elementary School

Kelly Gailey Walker  
[kelly\\_gaileywalker@hcpss.org](mailto:kelly_gaileywalker@hcpss.org)  
7512 Indian Pipe ct  
Columbia, Maryland 21046

**From:** [Kelly Groves](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Monday, April 28, 2025 10:47:56 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Kelly Groves  
kelly\_groves@hcpss.org  
6404 Pennell Ct  
Elkridge, Maryland 21075

**From:** [Kimberly Rodriguez](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Monday, April 28, 2025 11:35:34 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Rodriguez  
kimberly\_e\_rodriguez@hcpss.org  
8340 Linda ct. apt.3b  
Jessup, Maryland 20794

---

**From:** krupa vora <krupavv@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 28, 2025 11:33 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Howard county cuts

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

I am writing to respectfully urge you to fully fund the Howard County Public School System (HCPSS) operating budget and to reconsider any proposed cuts.

Our schools are the heart of our community. Every cut to the HCPSS operating budget directly impacts our students' education, teacher support, classroom resources, special education services, and the overall quality of learning in our county.

Howard County has long been known for its excellence in education — it is one of the reasons families choose to live here. Cutting school funding risks weakening our schools' ability to meet the growing needs of all students, especially at a time when they require more support than ever.

Please prioritize our children and teachers by protecting the HCPSS operating budget. Investing in education is investing in the future success, health, and strength of Howard County.

Thank you for your leadership and for considering the voices of families and community members like mine. I respectfully ask that you fully fund our schools.

Thank you,  
Krupa Vora-Knarr.

**From:** [Lisa Carl](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** Please fully support HCPSS  
**Date:** Monday, April 28, 2025 7:38:05 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Lisa Carl  
Reservoir High School

Lisa Carl  
lisa\_carl@hcpss.org  
6358 Sykesville Road  
Sykesville, Maryland 21784

---

**From:** Madhavi Annapureddy <mannapureddy@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 28, 2025 2:44 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Please stop budget cuts to HCPSS

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Hi Calvin Ball,

I am writing to respectfully urge you to fully fund the Howard County Public School System (HCPSS) operating budget and to reconsider any proposed cuts.

Our schools are the heart of our community. Every cut to the HCPSS operating budget directly impacts our students' education, teacher support, classroom resources, special education services, and the overall quality of learning in our county.

Howard County has long been known for its excellence in education — it is one of the reasons families choose to live here. Cutting school funding risks weakening our schools' ability to meet the growing needs of all students, especially at a time when they require more support than ever.

Please prioritize our children and teachers by protecting the HCPSS operating budget. Investing in education is investing in the future success, health, and strength of Howard County.

Thank you for your leadership and for considering the voices of families and community members like mine. I respectfully ask that you fully fund our schools.

Thanks & Regards,  
Madhavi Annapureddy

**From:** [Michelle Tarr](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Monday, April 28, 2025 2:45:02 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Michelle Tarr  
Michelle\_Tarr@hcpss.org  
9014 Early April Way  
Columbia, Maryland 21046

**From:** [Monica Butler](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Monday, April 28, 2025 12:33:41 PM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible, especially after cutting the number of Paraeducators...making it difficult for us and classroom teachers. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Monica M. Butler  
Kindergarten Paraeducator and HCPSS employee since 2008

Monica Butler  
monica\_butler@hcpss.org  
6041 Otterbein Lane  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043



**From:** [Pamela Riley](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Monday, April 28, 2025 4:35:32 PM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Pam Riley

Pamela Riley  
pamela\_riley@hcpss.org  
8001 Cocan Way  
Elkridge, Maryland 21075

**From:** [Peter Roeser](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Monday, April 28, 2025 8:09:42 AM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Peter Roeser  
peter\_roeser@hcpss.org  
6450 Lauren Lane  
Spring Grove, Pennsylvania 17362

**From:** [Samantha Lerch](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Monday, April 28, 2025 2:17:39 PM

---

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Sammy Pendleton EES

Samantha Lerch  
sammy\_lerch@hcpss.org  
326 Stratford Rd  
CATONSVILLE, Maryland 21228

**From:** [Samuel Rosen](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** Why people move to HoCo  
**Date:** Monday, April 28, 2025 11:25:55 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools, after several years of devastating budgets. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Samuel Rosen  
samuel\_rosen@hcpss.org  
906 McKewin Ave  
Baltimore, Maryland 21218

---

**From:** vcsekhar parepalli <vcsekhar.parepalli@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 28, 2025 10:52 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Request to fully fund the Howard County Public School System (HCPSS) operating budget and to reconsider any proposed cuts

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Hi,

I am a parent to 2 beautiful kids residing at Howard County. Am writing to respectfully urge you to fully fund the Howard County Public School System (HCPSS) operating budget and to reconsider any proposed cuts.

Our schools are the heart of our community. Every cut to the HCPSS operating budget directly impacts our students' education, teacher support, classroom resources, special education services, and the overall quality of learning in our county.

Howard County has long been known for its excellence in education — it is one of the reasons families choose to live here. Cutting school funding risks weakening our schools' ability to meet the growing needs of all students, especially at a time when they require more support than ever.

Please prioritize our children and teachers by protecting the HCPSS operating budget. Investing in education is investing in the future success, health, and strength of Howard County.

Thank you for your leadership and for considering the voices of families and community members like mine. I respectfully ask that you fully fund our schools.

Thanks

VC Sekhar Parepalli

**From:** [Shayna Fastovsky](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Monday, April 28, 2025 10:42:20 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Shayna Fastovsky  
shayna\_fastovsky@hcpss.org  
7085 Montgomery Rd  
Elkridge, Maryland 21075

**From:** [Sherry Stephanos](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Monday, April 28, 2025 8:30:18 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely, Sherry Stephanos

Sherry Stephanos  
sherry\_stephanos@hcpss.org  
10633 Delfield Court  
Laurel, Maryland 20723

---

**From:** ShivaKumar Peddi <peddishiva@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 28, 2025 10:38 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Please Fully Fund the HCPSS Operating Budget – Protect Our Schools and Students

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Council,

I am writing to respectfully urge you to fully fund the Howard County Public School System (HCPSS) operating budget and to reconsider any proposed cuts.

Our schools are the foundation of our community. Every reduction to the HCPSS operating budget directly affects the quality of education, diminishes teacher support, strains classroom resources, limits special education services, and ultimately undermines the learning experience for all students.

Howard County’s reputation for educational excellence is one of the primary reasons families choose to live here. Reducing funding threatens our schools’ ability to meet the growing and diverse needs of our students — needs that are more critical than ever.

I ask that you prioritize our children, our educators, and our community’s future by fully protecting the HCPSS operating budget. An investment in education is an investment in the long-term strength, vitality, and success of Howard County.

Thank you for your leadership and for listening to the voices of families and community members like mine. I respectfully urge you to fully fund our schools and safeguard the quality of education that defines our community.

Sincerely,

Shivakumar Peddi, P.E.  
6107 Flutie Lane, Clarksville, MD 21029  
775-291-8777





**From:** [Stacey Schroeder](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Monday, April 28, 2025 10:15:30 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Stacey Schroeder  
stacey\_schroeder@hcpss.org  
2234 Merion Pond  
Woodstock, Maryland 21163

**From:** [Suzan Young](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Monday, April 28, 2025 10:17:05 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I understand you might feel like you are stuck between a rock and a hard place, but we as educators do not deserve the budget cuts that will impact our classrooms. Howard County students deserve the best education! Sharing a over populated classroom with over worked staff (because of staffing cuts), will not give them the best.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Thank you!

Sincerely, Suzi Young

Suzan Young  
suzi\_young@hcpss.org  
6261 Cardinal Lane  
Columbia, Maryland 21044

**From:** [Vicki Learn](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** We ALL need you!!!!  
**Date:** Monday, April 28, 2025 7:32:16 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Vicki Learn  
OMHS

Vicki Learn  
[vicki\\_learn@hcpss.org](mailto:vicki_learn@hcpss.org)  
8495 Falls Run Road  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

**From:** [Zakiya Williams](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Monday, April 28, 2025 3:36:35 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Zakiya Williams

Zakiya Williams  
zakiya\_williams@hcpss.org  
7075 Montgomery Road  
Elkridge, Maryland 21075

---

**From:** Amber Mahmood <amber54321@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 29, 2025 4:28 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Fully Fund the HCPSS FY26 Operating Budget

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Howard County Council

My name is Amber Mahmood and I am a parent from Pointers Run Elementary School. I am writing to urge full funding for the Howard County Public School System's (HCPSS) FY26 budget request. Our schools need these resources to support students, educators, and vital programs.

At Pointers run, teachers and staff work their hardest to make sure children are given the opportunity to succeed and become their fullest potential. They make learning fun and encourage students everyday.

The proposed budget prioritizes staff retention, special education, and student safety—areas critical to student success. Key priorities are needed e.g., athletic trainers, special education support, sufficient staffing. Without these investments, our students will not receive the education and support they deserve.

I appreciate your leadership and commitment to education. I urge you to fully fund this budget and advocate for the resources necessary to support all HCPSS students.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Amber Mahmood

---

**From:** Skalny, Cindy  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 29, 2025 9:44 PM  
**To:** Anderson, Isaiah  
**Subject:** FW: HoCo Schools need you, County Council!

Cindy Skalny  
Chief of Staff  
Councilman David Yungmann, District 5  
Howard County Council  
3430 Court House Drive  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

410-313-3123



---

**From:** Analeigh Hughes <analeigh\_hughes@hcpss.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 29, 2025 6:39 PM  
**To:** Yungmann, David <dyungmann@howardcountymd.gov>  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be

concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Analeigh Hughes  
Early Childhood Special Education Teacher

Analeigh Hughes  
analeigh\_hughes@hcpss.org  
7075 Montgomery Rd  
Elkridge, Maryland 21075

▪

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**From:** Anthony DeBella <jhu1996@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 29, 2025 12:57 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Cc:** boe@hcpss.org; Bill Barnes; Ahmad, Yousuf; Budget Testimony  
**Subject:** Education Public Hearing Comments  
**Attachments:** Comments on FY26 HCPSS Operating Budget-DeBella,A.pdf

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Greetings Council members.

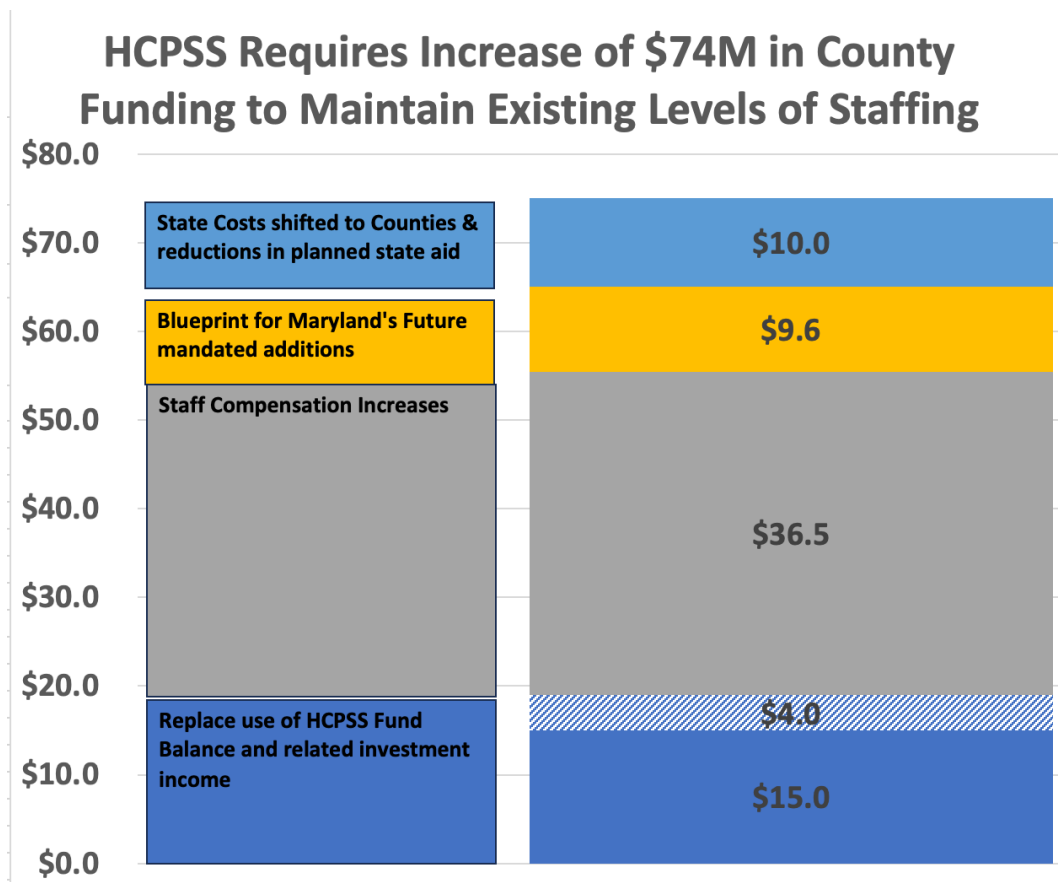
Here is my submission for the April 30 Operating Budget Public Hearing on Education. I value the opportunity to speak and discuss matters with the council, and would prefer to be present physically, but I intend to participate via WebEx due to work travel commitments.

Respectfully,  
Anthony DeBella  
Laurel, MD 20723



Comments in Support of Increasing FY26 HCPSS Operating Budget- Anthony DeBella, April 30, 2025

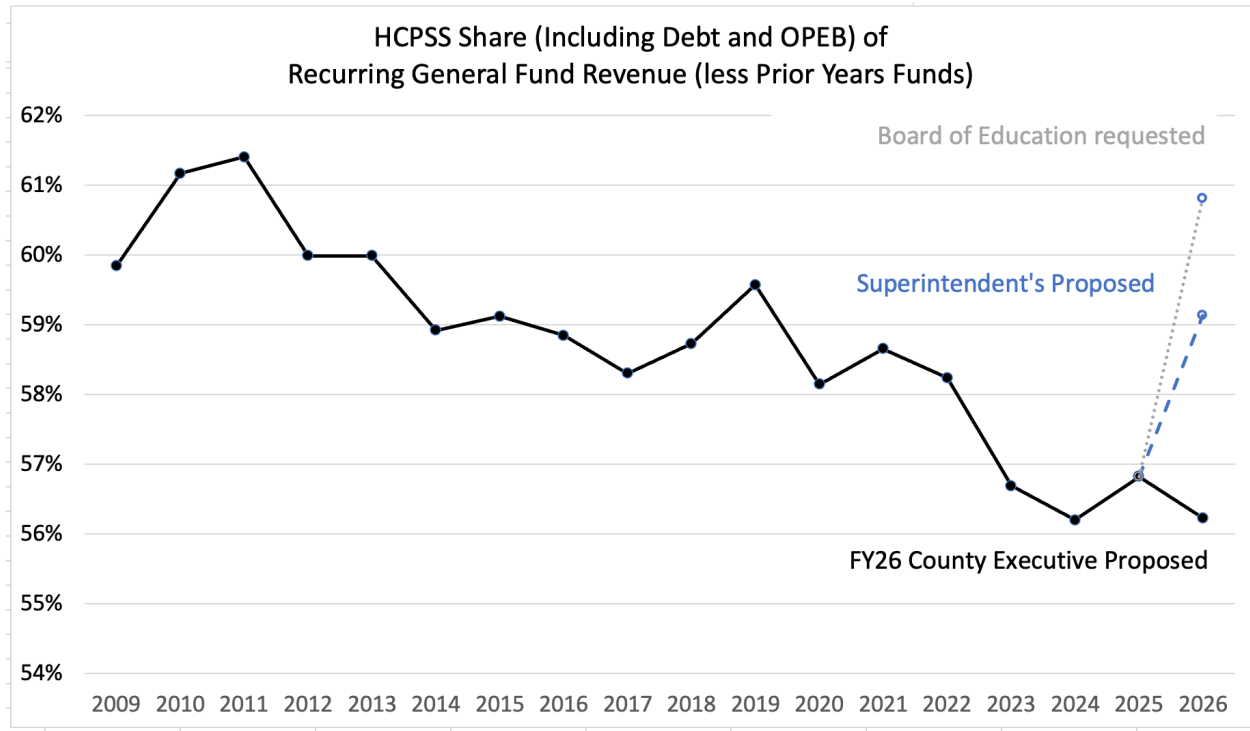
Budget decisions always evoke tough choices and balancing this year’s ever growing needs against resources that never seem to grow as quickly makes this year no different. This year, an additional \$74M<sup>1</sup> are necessary to meet the same need for HCPSS as last year. The four major sources of that increased need are illustrated below



This is the very much UN-surprising result of the gradual reduction in the percentage of growing available resources allocated to education. The accepted measure of this balance of resources is the percentage of

<sup>1</sup> April 24 Update from Superintendent Bill Barnes notes that additional \$6M of State Funding will be available, reducing the necessary addition from \$80M to \$74M

available general revenue funds allocated toward that legally mandated need. In the past few years, general fund revenue has been significantly augmented by prior years funds made possible by consistent budget surpluses, which are NOT available for use for school system operating expenses. This year, Spending Affordability Advisory Commission has advised using less prior years funds. That is the only area of the county executive's proposed budget with significant reductions. Every other area of the proposed budget continues its steady growth enabled by growth in available recurring tax revenue. Consider the allocation to HCPSS including associated debt and OPEB relative to the recurring general fund revenues available for HCPSS, that is, the general fund budget without use of prior years funds not permitted for use in operating expenses. That analysis shows that despite the significant amount of new tax revenue allocated to public schools in the county executive's proposed budget, the proportion of available funds dedicated to HCPSS is still lower than at any time. Any apparent uptick in the proportion of general fund revenue dedicated to the schools is the result of decreasing use of prior funds by approximately \$100M. This trade off speaks volumes about the relative of priority of education relative to the other needs of the county.



During an economic downturn in 2011, the county executive’s budget book comments cited funding reductions from state sources and how Howard County increased funding for education despite having to cut a corresponding amount from the rest of the county budget. Then, Howard County was forced to furlough employees, hold 200 county positions vacant, and close offices over the winter holidays. The measures proposed by the county executive for FY26 pale in comparison. The proposed level of funding for HCPSS for 2026 puts teachers and students at the forefront of county cost saving measures. Hardly the way to demonstrate education is a priority. Asking county employees to increase their contributions to their benefits merely asks them to make “almost” the same 15% cost share as HCPSS teachers (15 – 15.8%) already do.

General Fund investment income has greatly exceeded budgeted levels for the past three years<sup>2</sup> and that recurring revenue should be used to support current year education expenses rather than future PayGo. County Council should include revenue such that an additional \$10M in investment income<sup>3</sup> realized by the county can be used as the basis of restoring \$30M to HCPSS above the County Executive’s proposal such that the superintendent’s same services level funding can be achieved.

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<sup>2</sup> Howard County Investment Report from February 28, 2025 and the 2024 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report

<sup>3</sup> General fund balance on \$900M should yield about \$36M at benchmark interest rates (4%), but only \$22.5M is budgeted for FY26.

---

**From:** Candice Nager <candice.nager@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 29, 2025 12:02 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Full Funding for HCPSS FY26 Operating Budget

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Howard County Council,

My name is Candice Nager, and I am a parent and PTA member from Pointers Run Elementary School, with 2 elementary school students. I am writing to urge full funding for the Howard County Public School System's (HCPSS) FY26 budget request. Our schools need these resources to support students, educators, and vital programs.

The proposed budget prioritizes staff retention, special education, and student safety—areas critical to student success. Key priorities are needed: sufficient staffing and special education support. My eldest son has also benefited from GT teacher support and 3rd grade strings. Without these investments, our students will not receive the education and support they deserve.

My current 3rd grader has greatly enjoyed the current GT offerings, and looks forward to GT math next year in 4th grade and beyond. Having GT teachers in elementary school is positive for all children because it:

1. Increases the number of total teachers available to children in elementary school. Children who are not pulled out for GT opportunities, have an increased teacher to student ratio in their classes. Learners of all abilities get more individualized attention and are appropriately challenged.
2. Prevents disengagement and disruptions. When children are taught at their level, their minds are engaged and they naturally diminish disruptive behaviors.
3. Promotes social and emotional development for children who are accelerated learners.

I appreciate your leadership and commitment to education. I urge you to fully fund this budget and advocate for the resources necessary to support all HCPSS students.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best regards,

Candice Nager

---

**From:** Cathy <cathy.melvin21@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 29, 2025 6:58 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Restore Full Funding to HCPSS

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing as a former student, parent, grandparent and retired employee of the Howard County Public School System.

Please restore FULL FUNDING to the Howard County Public School System in the FY26 Operating Budget.

The schools that my grandchildren attend are overcrowded and very old.

My grandchildren also have to walk the 1.5 miles to school, on roads WITHOUT sidewalks!

This county does not need a brand new, millions of dollars, library on the lakefront.

We need to prioritize the children in this county.

Maybe you could restore full funding but ask the Board of Education to kick in some by eliminating most of the DEI staff that they have over there on Rt. 108.

Please find other places to pull some money from.

I know Mr. Ball just gave a grant to a new preschool in Sykesville and all of his press makes it appear that he is fully funding the HCPSS budget request, but that does not appear to be correct.

It is a shame to see what is happening with the overcrowded classrooms and all of the portables.

Please Fully Fund.

Cathy

***Cathy Melvin***

--

**From:** [Deborah Sharkey](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 29, 2025 10:31:29 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

The County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless funding is restored for the coming school year, the Board will be forced to make tough decisions when balancing the budget that will negatively impact class sizes (by increasing them,) break contracts for educators, reduce necessary programs, and reduce needed services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads more and more difficult. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund our county public schools that have a reputation for outstanding education. Without this funding, maintaining our educational standard will be challenging, even impossible.

Educators, and the Howard County community, count on you to make this work. We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Deborah Sharkey

Deborah Sharkey  
deborah\_sharkey@hcpss.org  
5662 Sheerock Court  
Columbia, Maryland 21045

**From:** [Elizabeth Fryer](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 29, 2025 6:58:10 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Fryer  
elizabeth\_fryer@hcpss.org  
5792 Sunset View Lane  
Frederick, Maryland 21703



**From:** [Heather Verron](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 29, 2025 9:07:43 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Heather Verron  
heather\_verron@hcpss.org  
10618 Hunting Ln  
Columbia, Maryland 21044

**From:** [Holly Martin](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 29, 2025 9:10:32 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Holly Martin  
holly\_martin@hcpss.org  
6381 Stockbridge Overlook Ct  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

---

**From:** Skalny, Cindy  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 29, 2025 9:44 PM  
**To:** Anderson, Isaiah  
**Subject:** FW: HoCo Schools need you, County Council!

Cindy Skalny  
Chief of Staff  
Councilman David Yungmann, District 5  
Howard County Council  
3430 Court House Drive  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

410-313-3123



---

**From:** Jacob Cecil <jacob\_cecil@hcpss.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 29, 2025 7:51 PM  
**To:** Yungmann, David <dyungmann@howardcountymd.gov>  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'd like to speak plainly, the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Calvin Ball is putting Howard County and our schools at risk. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an 18 year veteran HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is

understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Jacob Cecil

Visual Arts Teacher

River Hill High School

Jacob Cecil

[jacob\\_cecil@hcpss.org](mailto:jacob_cecil@hcpss.org)

2913 Gibbons Avenue

Baltimore, Maryland 21214

▪

**From:** [Julie Florindez](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 29, 2025 12:11:25 PM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

Please, please fund our schools in HCPSS. The CE's budget is not enough for our kids. For our future. I know it's a lot to ask and compounded with the uncertainty of federal funding, it feels even harder. But that makes this budget even more consequential. We MUST do this for our kids. The CE's budget would be devastating to our school system. I understand that you have difficult decisions to make. School staff like me often work many hours above and beyond what is required, and the pay increase is so valued.

Educators like me are counting on you!

Sincerely,

Julie Florindez

Julie Florindez  
julie\_florindez@hcpss.org  
113 Glyndon Dr. Apt T1  
Reisterstown, Maryland 21136

**From:** [Kathryn Dempsey](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 29, 2025 11:31:49 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Dempsey  
kathryn\_dempsey@hcpss.org  
2767 Thornbrook Rd  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21042

---

**From:** Mary M <mfmayo@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 29, 2025 11:00 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Prioritize Our Schools — Restore Full Funding to HCPSS

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Howard County Council,

As a parent of children in the Howard County Public School System, I urge you to restore full funding to the budget. Our community is very stable and attracts and retains amazing people and families. This is in large part due to the Howard County Public Schools' promise and proven track record of high quality, public education.

Divestment in public schools will erode the brand of our school system and cause a devastating chain reaction. Existing community members whose families' educational needs are not met will be forced to move elsewhere. Without the draw of the school system, the county will lose its appeal to new community members. Without the population density to make business profitable, our local businesses will be forced to move as well.

Thanks to HCPSS, I can see that my children are truly being prepared for future career success and on how to benefit their local and global as good citizens. Please continue this legacy for all who live and play in Columbia.

Thank you,  
Mary Monroe  
District 4

**From:** [Nicole Meshbesh](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 29, 2025 7:48:40 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,  
Nicole Meshbesh

Nicole Meshbesh  
nicole\_meshbesh@hcpss.org  
10530 Resort Rd Unit 209 Unit 209  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21042



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**From:** Skalny, Cindy  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 29, 2025 2:46 PM  
**To:** Anderson, Isaiah  
**Subject:** FW: HoCo Schools need you, County Council!

Cindy Skalny  
Chief of Staff  
Councilman David Yungmann, District 5  
Howard County Council  
3430 Court House Drive  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

410-313-3123



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**From:** Rachel Lewis <rachel\_lewis@hcpss.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 29, 2025 2:11 PM  
**To:** Yungmann, David <dyungmann@howardcountymd.gov>  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be

concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Rachel Lewis

rachel\_lewis@hcpss.org

112 N Hammonds Ferry Rd.

Linthicum Heights, Maryland 21090

▪

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**From:** Reena <reena.duseja@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 29, 2025 9:44 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Please read: Prioritize Our Schools — Restore Full Funding to HCPSS

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing as a concerned parent in Howard County to urge you to restore full funding to the Howard County Public School System (HCPSS) in the FY26 Operating Budget.

Over the past several years, HCPSS has been consistently underfunded. To maintain even a same-services budget this year, the school system needs at least \$80.6 million. Without this funding, our community will continue to face larger class sizes, reductions in essential programs, and layoffs of valued staff -- all of which directly impact the quality of education for our kids.

It is troubling that when financial pressures arise, it is our schools that are first in line for service reductions. The school system should not be leading the way in cuts. Education is a core public service — it is imperative that we don't scale back for the future of our kids and our communities.

Moreover, recent investment reports suggest the county will have at least \$10 million more in available funds than currently projected. Instead of shifting "extra" money into PAYGO projects, we should prioritize critical services like education. Our students, teachers, and schools should not be asked to sacrifice while funding is diverted elsewhere.

As a parent of one child in HCPSS, I see firsthand how thin resources already are. We cannot afford to cut any deeper.

Howard County's reputation for excellence is built on its schools. We must continue to fund our schools as it will also impact our economy. I urge you to prioritize our students and schools by restoring the necessary funding to HCPSS.

Thank you for your leadership and attention to this urgent matter.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Reena Duseja  
Ellicott City MD  
District 5

---

**From:** Sarah H. Bae <Sarah\_Bae@hcpss.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 29, 2025 11:24 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Prioritize Our Schools — Restore Full Funding to HCPSS

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

## **Dear Members of the Howard County Council,**

I am writing as a concerned teacher and resident of Howard County to respectfully urge you to restore full funding to the Howard County Public School System (HCPSS) in the FY25 Capital Budget.

Over the past several years, HCPSS has faced chronic underfunding. This year, in order to maintain even a same-services budget, the school system requires at least \$80.6 million. Without this critical support, our community risks larger class sizes, the reduction or elimination of essential programs, and the potential loss of dedicated staff—all of which directly impact the quality of education our students receive.

It is deeply concerning that when financial constraints arise, our schools are often the first to bear the brunt of reductions. Education is not a discretionary expense—it is a foundational public service that strengthens our community, supports families, and prepares future leaders.

Furthermore, recent financial projections indicate the county may have at least \$10 million more in available funds than originally anticipated. Rather than allocating these resources to PAYGO projects, I urge you to consider reinvesting in our students and educators. Now is not the time to ask our schools to do more with less.

As a teacher and a parent of one child who attended HCPSS, I see every day how hard our teachers work and how limited resources already are. We simply cannot afford to cut any further.

Howard County's reputation for excellence is rooted in the strength of its public schools. Please prioritize the long-term well-being of our students and our community by fully restoring the necessary funding for HCPSS.

Thank you for your time, leadership, and commitment to the future of Howard County.

**Sincerely,**

Sarah Bae

1st Grade Teacher  
Phelps Luck Elementary School  
410-313-6886

**From:** [Sydney Ousborne](#)  
**To:** [Yungmann, David](#)  
**Subject:** HoCo Schools need you, County Council!  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 29, 2025 10:16:46 AM

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[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Councilperson David Yungmann,

Dear Members of the County Council,

I'm not going to sugarcoat it: the County Executive's budget will be devastating to our schools. Unless you restore funding now, the Board will be forced to make "tough decisions" to balance the budget, including increased class sizes, broken contracts for educators, program reductions, and reduced services for students.

As an HCPSS educator, I have seen firsthand how budget cuts year after year have squeezed the classroom and made educator workloads impossible. While it is understandable to be concerned about the outlook of the federal budget, it would be a grave mistake to underfund the main resource still attracting families to our county: public schools.

Public schools are the main avenue to providing resources to so many of our county's families. Our school system has been tasked with significantly more than providing academic content to our children. The budget needs to reflect the amount of responsibility and action that is being asked of our school system. Cutting funding while ever increasing the responsibilities of the school system is asking for failure in an already overtasked system.

Educators like me are counting on you! We will see you at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 30.

Sincerely,

Sydney Ousborne  
sydney\_ousborne@hcpss.org  
9989 Winter Sun Rd  
Laurel, Maryland 20723

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**From:** tara hixson <tarahixson@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 29, 2025 8:48 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Prioritize Our Schools--Restore Full Funding to HCPSS

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing as a concerned [parent/teacher/resident] in Howard County to urge you to restore full funding to the Howard County Public School System (HCPSS) in the FY25 Capital Budget.

Over the past several years, HCPSS has been consistently underfunded. To maintain even a same-services budget this year, the school system needs at least \$80.6 million. Without this funding, our community will face larger class sizes, reductions in essential programs, and layoffs of valued staff -- all of which directly impact the quality of education for our students. It is troubling that when financial pressures arise, it is our schools that are first in line for service reductions. The school system should not be leading the way in cuts. Education is a core public service — not a luxury item to be scaled back.

Moreover, recent investment reports suggest the county will have at least \$10 million more in available funds than currently projected. Instead of shifting "extra" money into PAYGO projects, we should prioritize critical services like education. Our students, teachers, and schools should not be asked to sacrifice while funding is diverted elsewhere.

"As a parent of two children in HCPSS, I see firsthand how thin resources already are. We cannot afford to cut any deeper."

Howard County's reputation for excellence is built on its schools. I urge you to prioritize our students and schools by restoring the necessary funding to HCPSS.

Thank you for your leadership and attention to this urgent matter.

Sincerely,  
Tara Hixson

Phelps Luck Elementary School Parent

---

**From:** Aarti Ondhia <aarti.ondhia@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 30, 2025 3:37 PM  
**To:** Ball, Calvin  
**Cc:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Urgent: Budget concerns

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Calvin,

I'm incredibly disappointed to see where the conversations with the hcps operational and capital budgets are. Despite repeated requests from the community to ensure the future generations are given a solid foundation amidst an already decimated public education, we are being ignored. Last year we battled for GT, music, special ed and athletics - and now, while so many in our community face awful uncertainty about their livelihoods, instead of supporting these families, another battle has been created.

With the growing development and increasing population of every urban area, surely this is factored into long term planning? Schools here have lead in water, asbestos, and children in portacabins as a permanent solution.

Quite frankly, I don't care about a multi million dollar library when children aren't being given the basic skills they need to utilize these facilities.

I sincerely hope you are able to review and fully fund the much much needed budget this community deserves, and avoid these conversations going forward.

Regards,

Aarti



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**From:** Alec Livieratos <aleclivi@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 30, 2025 11:41 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Save our Schools!

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

As a parent of three kids (two in the HCPSS Schools at SJLES, PMS, and one in pre-k) and resident of Ellicott City, I am writing to ask you to push back against the attack on public education that is happening in this country.

Over the past several years, HCPSS has been consistently underfunded. To maintain even a same-services budget this year, the school system needs at least \$80.6 million. Without this funding, our community will face larger class sizes, reductions in essential programs, and layoffs of valued staff -- all of which directly impact the quality of education for our students. It is troubling that when financial pressures arise, it is our schools that are first in line for service reductions. The school system should not be leading the way in cuts. Education is a core public service — not a luxury item to be scaled back.

Moreover, recent investment reports suggest the county will have at least \$10 million more in available funds than currently projected. Instead of shifting "extra" money into PAYGO projects, we should prioritize critical services like education. Our students, teachers, and schools should not be asked to sacrifice while funding is diverted elsewhere.

[Insert your personal connection here, e.g., "As a parent of two children in HCPSS, I see firsthand how thin resources already are. We cannot afford to cut any deeper."]

Howard County's reputation for excellence is built on its schools. I urge you to prioritize

our students  
and schools by restoring the necessary funding to HCPSS.

Thank you for your leadership and attention to this urgent matter.

~Alec

---

**From:** Amber Smith <amberlynnsmith@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 30, 2025 7:57 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Prioritize Our Schools — Restore Full Funding to HCPSS

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Howard County Council,  
I am writing as a concerned parent in Howard County to urge you to restore full funding to the Howard County Public School System (HCPSS) in the FY26 Operating Budget.

Over the past several years, HCPSS has been consistently underfunded. To maintain even a same-services budget this year, the school system needs at least \$80.6 million. Without this funding, our community will face larger class sizes, reductions in essential programs, and layoffs of valued staff -- all of which directly impact the quality of education for our students. It is troubling that when financial pressures arise, it is our schools that are first in line for service reductions. The school system should not be leading the way in cuts. Education is a core public service — not a luxury item to be scaled back.

Moreover, recent investment reports suggest the county will have at least \$10 million more in available funds than currently projected. Instead of shifting "extra" money into PAYGO projects, we should prioritize critical services like education. Our students, teachers, and schools should not be asked to sacrifice while funding is diverted elsewhere.

As a parent of a child in HCPSS, I see firsthand how thin resources already are. We cannot afford to cut any deeper.

Howard County's reputation for excellence is built on its schools. I urge you to prioritize our students and schools by restoring the necessary funding to HCPSS.

Thank you for your leadership and attention to this urgent matter.

Sincerely,  
Amber Didier

---

**From:** Bethann Ritter Snyder <britte19@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 30, 2025 8:50 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Testimony on BOE FY26 budget request  
**Attachments:** Request to Council to Fund the HCPSS FY26 Budget.docx

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Please see the attached testimony in favor of fully funding the HCPSS budget as requested by the Board of Education.

April 30, 2025

Dear Howard County Council:

I am a community member and parent in Elkridge, with two young children in Howard County Public Schools. I am writing to you today to ask you to fully fund the Board of Education's FY26 operating budget request.

Superintendent Barnes described his proposed FY26 Operating Budget as a same services request, asking only for more special education staff, moderate staff compensation markers, and additional security assistants. After listening to the people of Howard County – your constituents – the Board of Education added funding for athletic trainers and instructional team leaders on top of what the superintendent proposed.

The request that the BOE made to the County Executive is the direct result of effective constituent advocacy and encouragement for them to ask for what they'd need in order to provide the high-quality education our county's children deserve. The BOE's budget request would return HCPSS to receiving around 59% of the county's budget, the level it last received in 2019 (which was low by historical standards, as the share was 60% or more in the early teens). The massively reduced budget sent to you by the County Executive would fund HCPSS at a historically low 56% of the county budget, showing a lack of care for our children. The County Executive's proposal is a disservice to the children of our county and a slap in the face to our educators, asking all of them to deal with reduced services, instruction, and even larger class sizes.

Last year, programs like elementary gifted and talented (GT), 3<sup>rd</sup> grade strings, and BSAP – programs that make HCPSS unique – were on the chopping block when the BOE proposed a budget that didn't go much beyond "Maintenance of Effort." These programs, along with special education, athletic trainers, and so many more important and enriching programs matter to the citizens of Howard County and the well-being of our children. Last year, the County Executive, Council, and the BOE received numerous complaints from the community for the BOE's lowballed FY25 request, so it should come as no surprise that the BOE course-corrected for FY26. The BOE's FY26 request is grounded in essential services with rock solid justification for every dollar. It is not aspirational nor is it extravagant. It is what the community needs to grow and thrive and what HCPSS – our CHILDREN – deserve.

Howard County wants to be seen as a place where everyone is welcome and valued. We like to talk about valuing equity and ensuring our youth have opportunities. But if the

BOE's FY26 budget request isn't fully funded, the BOE will have to make cuts. And it will end up being those special programs like 3<sup>rd</sup> grade strings, elementary GT, and social studies clubs like speech & debate that are cut. There will be staffing cuts so that class sizes may end up exceeding the current maximums (33 students/teacher in middle & high schools, 31 students/teacher in grades 3-5, and 25 students/teacher in grades 1-2). However, if the County Council funds the full FY26 HCPSS budget, it means HCPSS can maintain current class sizes and retain these opportunities for students to develop executive function skills, logical & critical thinking, public speaking, group work, and so much more. Studies have shown that students engaged in the arts often show improved cognitive skills, better concentration, and enhanced problem-solving abilities. These benefits extend beyond the classroom and positively influence their academic achievements. I've seen that with my own children, as learning to read music and play the viola unlocked their ability to read books, a skill they had struggled with for years. Thanks to learning the viola in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, my child went from struggling to read picture books and simple graphic novels to now joyously reading Harry Potter or Narnia books as a 4<sup>th</sup> grader. We should ensure that all of our students – our children – have access to these types of programs that unlock the joy of learning like it has for my child.

I wish I could testify in person this evening in support of the BOE's budget proposal, but I am running my elementary-aged children to their activities this evening, one of which is a program called MESA – Maryland Math, Engineering, and Science Achievement, a brainchild of our own Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab. MESA is an after school program for students in K-12 run by willing teachers to help provide students hands-on experience with science and engineering solutions to real-world challenges. This year, elementary students could choose to create a planetary lander, wearable technology for babies, an amusement park ride, or a device to pick up trash from water or land. While school PTAs provide funding for the program, only 25 of our schools had teachers with the energy to run this program for our students. If you fail to give HCPSS the funding requested by the BOE, the teachers we will have left will be too demoralized and burned out from teaching their ever-larger classes and having to make due with even less to provide such amazing extracurricular activities for our students.

I frequently see complaints in community groups on social media about youth having nothing to do after school; the Mall in Columbia has even imposed restrictions on youth in the mall. But the programs the BOE would likely cut if you don't fully fund their FY26 budget request are just the sort of programs to engage kids in productive activities. We should be expanding these opportunities – programs like MESA and debate and Model UN that are provided through the schools - because that is the one place kids can definitely get to every day.

Howard County likes to bill itself as one of the best places to live in the US. We brag about Columbia being ranked as one of the Happiest Cities in the US, one of the top places for Jobs in the US. But we won't retain those rankings if our school system becomes less than, as that will make Howard County a less desirable place to live. Do you want that to happen during your tenure? Because it WILL happen if HCPSS isn't fully funded for what it NEEDS in FY26. A restrictive budget that leads to cuts isn't maintaining effort since so many valuable programs would end up on the cutting room floor. Failing to fund the BOE's FY26 budget will take our county backwards, not forwards.

I and many others in the community believe there is enough room in the budget. Howard County has the funding for the school system. Possible sources above tax revenue include the larger- than-budgeted earnings from investment funds, which are currently outpacing both the FY25 budgeted amount and FY26 projections. Members of our community have also noticed that the SAAC estimates of additional revenue are extremely conservative and have created wide gaps in actual earned revenue, which turns into Pay Go money and does not prioritize the school system.

Last year, HCPSS experienced staff reductions and program cuts. Class sizes got bigger, and teachers had to do more with less – limits were even placed on how much paper teachers could use and subscriptions for electronic resources (ebooks for classroom use and other electronic learning tools) were cut. We are counting on Council's leadership in these uncertain times to do what is necessary to maintain excellence and prevent class size increases and staff reductions from happening again this year. We ask that you show us your commitment to our public schools by fully funding the HCPSS FY26 operating budget.

Sincerely,

Bethann Snyder  
Elkridge Resident and HCPSS Parent



---

**From:** Carol Eckstein <cceckstein@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 30, 2025 9:20 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Prioritize Our Schools — Restore Full Funding to HCPSS

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing as a concerned parent and grandparent in Howard County to urge you to restore full funding to the Howard County Public School System (HCPSS) in the FY26 Operating Budget.

Over the past several years, HCPSS has been consistently underfunded. To maintain even a same-services budget this year, the school system needs at least \$80.6 million. Without this funding, our community will face larger class sizes, reductions in essential programs, and layoffs of valued staff --all of which directly impact the quality of education for our students. It is troubling that when financial pressures arise, it is our schools that are first in line for service reductions. The school system should not be leading the way in cuts. Education is a core public service — not a luxury item to be scaled back.

Moreover, recent investment reports suggest the county will have at least \$10 million more in available funds than currently projected. Instead of shifting "extra" money into PAYGO projects, we should prioritize critical services like education. Our students, teachers, and schools should not be asked to sacrifice while funding is diverted elsewhere.

As a former teacher and substitute as well as a parent of a HCPSS teacher of 24 years and a grandparent of two children in HCPSS, I see firsthand how thin resources already are. My daughter is burned out trying to teach 33 students in a classroom meant for 25 students, while making all of the accommodations for special ed students as well as trying to help them one-on-one, because there are not enough special ed resources. Her classroom is a fire hazard for her wheelchair-bound student because there is no room to manipulate his wheelchair safely and quickly for an evacuation. My grandson's high school elective choices are severely compromised because of the staff cuts over the past years. We cannot afford to cut any deeper.

Howard County's reputation for excellence is built on its schools. I urge you to prioritize our students and schools by restoring the necessary funding to HCPSS.

Thank you for your leadership and attention to this urgent matter.

Sincerely,  
Carol Eckstein  
2618 Melba Rd.  
Ellicott City, MD

---

**From:** Lauren <laurenmoore07@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 30, 2025 7:40 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Prioritize Our Schools — Restore Full Funding to HCPSS

**Follow Up Flag:** Flag for follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing as a concerned parent in Howard County to urge you to restore full funding to the Howard County Public School System (HCPSS) in the FY26 Operating Budget.

Over the past several years, HCPSS has been consistently underfunded. To maintain even a same-services budget this year, the school system needs at least \$80.6 million. Without this funding, our community will face larger class sizes, reductions in essential programs, and layoffs of valued staff -- all of which directly impact the quality of education for our students. It is troubling that when financial pressures arise, it is our schools that are first in line for service reductions. The school system should not be leading the way in cuts. Education is a core public service — not a luxury item to be scaled back.

Moreover, recent investment reports suggest the county will have at least \$10 million more in available funds than currently projected. Instead of shifting "extra" money into PAYGO projects, we should prioritize critical services like education. Our students, teachers, and schools should not be asked to sacrifice while funding is diverted elsewhere.

The school system is a primary reason that my family, as well as many of my friends with young children, moved to Howard County.

Howard County's reputation for excellence is built on its schools. I urge you to prioritize our students

and schools by restoring the necessary funding to HCPSS.

Thank you for your leadership and attention to this urgent matter.

Sincerely,  
Lauren & Daniel Zunikoff  
Proud parents of a Hollifield Elementary student

---

**From:** KCallaghan <ktcall@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 30, 2025 5:20 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** HCPSS budget

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Please make the needed cuts to the budget. I know programs will need to be streamlined or cut, but the county and state are at a place where every dollar matters.

[Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer](#)

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**From:** Kelly Klinefelter Lee <kellyklinefelter@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 30, 2025 6:30 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** HCPSS Budget

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Chair Walsh, Vice-Chair Jones, and Members Jung, Rigby, and Yungmann, Local government has never been as important in the United States of America as it is today. I am grateful that you and our current board of education – people who value democracy, progress, science, and reason – are leading our most valuable local institutions in the face of the current federal chaos.

Please allow to me share some HCPSS budget facts:

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- [MIT's](#)
- [living wage calculator](#) says that a single worker with no children, who works 40 hours a week for 52 weeks a year, needs to make \$26.48 an hour to live in Howard County. Half the steps and grades for paraeducators, for example, on our current payscale make less than that. We cannot continue to underpay folks who serve our children.
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- Between 2010 and 2025, per pupil funding in HCPSS has risen from \$13K to almost \$20K.
- But adjusted for inflation, using the Bureau of Labor Statistics' inflation calculator, that is an increase of only \$300 per pupil.
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- Since 2019, those of us who serve in schools see:
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  - a 30% increase in students seeking mental health treatment in school;
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  - an 8% increase in student homelessness;
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- a 16% increase in students receiving special education services;
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- a 32 % increase in English language learners in our schools;
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- and a 43% increase in the number of students who qualify for free and reduced school lunches.
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- Of course we have endured a pandemic and moved to one-to-one technology for secondary school students, and these devices are now being replaced for many high school students, adding a completely new set of expenses to the budget.
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Unfortunately, that \$300 increase in real dollars over the last 15 years – that’s not meeting the needs of our students.

Here’s what’s happening in our Howard County schools today:

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- We have too many classrooms staffed with uncertified, unqualified individuals. How do we retain and attract qualified employees? Not by cutting salaries, adding expectations, and removing supports.
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- We have escalating violence as students’ needs go unmet. We need support personnel to address both root causes and the disorder itself.
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- Our physical plants are crumbling. For example, too many of our schools don’t have enough working toilets on any given day to meet the needs of students and staff: they’re broken down by age or broken by vandalism. Either way, adequate working toilets should be a bare minimum requirement in our schools.

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- We don't have enough books, paper, pencils, tissues, or hand sanitizer to operate our classrooms without teachers supplying them.
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And this is all because every year since 2010 our funding has not kept pace with our children's needs.

Please understand:

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- **The superintendent and the board of education made this request because we asked them to.** Our coalition knows that our schools need this funding. Parents know that our schools need this funding. Students know it. Teachers and paras and custodians and kitchen staff know it, too, because they're struggling to pay their rent while working in an overburdened system.
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- **As the keeper of the purse, the state of the schools is the county government's responsibility.** Please prioritize our children's one chance at a K-12 education.
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Yours very truly,  
Kelly Klinefelter  
Howard Progressive Project



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**From:** Kim Reid <kst481@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 30, 2025 9:53 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Prioritize Our Schools — Restore Full Funding to HCPSS Dear Howard County Council

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing as a concerned [parent/teacher/resident] in Howard County to urge you to restore full funding to the Howard County Public School System (HCPSS) in the FY26 Operating Budget.

Over the past several years, HCPSS has been consistently underfunded. To maintain even a same-services budget this year, the school system needs at least \$80.6 million. Without this funding, our community will face larger class sizes, reductions in essential programs, and layoffs of valued staff -- all of which directly impact the quality of education for our students. It is troubling that when financial pressures arise, it is our schools that are first in line for service reductions. The school system should not be leading the way in cuts. Education is a core public service — not a luxury item to be scaled back.

Moreover, recent investment reports suggest the county will have at least \$10 million more in available funds than currently projected. Instead of shifting "extra" money into PAYGO projects, we should prioritize critical services like education. Our students, teachers, and schools should not be asked to sacrifice while funding is diverted elsewhere.

Howard County's reputation for excellence is built on its schools. I urge you to prioritize our students and schools by restoring the necessary funding to HCPSS.

Thank you for your leadership and attention to this urgent matter.

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**From:** Marisa Nihill <marisanihill@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 30, 2025 1:21 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Prioritize Our Schools — Restore Full Funding to HCPSS

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing as a concerned parent in Howard County to urge you to restore full funding to the Howard County Public School System (HCPSS) in the FY26 Operating Budget.

Over the past several years, HCPSS has been consistently underfunded. To maintain even a same-services budget this year, the school system needs at least \$80.6 million. Without this funding, our community will face larger class sizes, reductions in essential programs, and layoffs of valued staff -- all of which directly impact the quality of education for our students. It is troubling that when financial pressures arise, it is our schools that are first in line for service reductions. The school system should not be leading the way in cuts. Education is a core public service — not a luxury item to be scaled back.

Moreover, recent investment reports suggest the county will have at least \$10 million more in available funds than currently projected. Instead of shifting "extra" money into PAYGO projects, we should prioritize critical services like education. Our students, teachers, and schools should not be asked to sacrifice while funding is diverted elsewhere.

As a parent of two elementary aged children in HCPSS, I know that any cuts made today will have long term ripple effects for my children through the duration of their time in school.

Howard County's reputation for excellence is built on its schools. I urge you to prioritize our students and schools by restoring the necessary funding to HCPSS.

Thank you for your leadership and attention to this urgent matter.

Sincerely,  
Marisa Nihill  
9050 Billow Row, Columbia MD

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**From:** mila rose lagaman <c\_mrslagman@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 30, 2025 7:26 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Prioritize our school!-restore full funding to HCPSS

**Follow Up Flag:** Flag for follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing as a concerned parent in Howard County to urge you to restore full funding to the Howard County Public School System (HCPSS) in the FY26 Operating Budget.

Over the past several years, HCPSS has been consistently underfunded. To maintain even a same-services budget this year, the school system needs at least \$80.6 million. Without this funding, our community will face larger class sizes, reductions in essential programs, and layoffs of valued staff -- all of which directly impact the quality of education for our students. It is troubling that when financial pressures arise, it is our schools that are first in line for service reductions. The school system should not be leading the way in cuts. Education is a core public service — not a luxury item to be scaled back.

Moreover, recent investment reports suggest the county will have at least \$10 million more in available funds than currently projected. Instead of shifting "extra" money into PAYGO projects, we should prioritize critical services like education. Our students, teachers, and schools should not be asked to sacrifice while funding is diverted elsewhere.

As a parent of two children in HCPSS, I see firsthand how thin resources already are. We cannot afford to cut any deeper.

Howard County's reputation for excellence is built on its schools. I urge you to prioritize our students and schools by restoring the necessary funding to HCPSS.

Thank you for your leadership and attention to this urgent matter.

Sincerely,  
Mila Rose Chavez  
9101 E Stayman Dr Ellicott City

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**From:** Monique Barnes <monique.mbarnes@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 30, 2025 9:49 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Programs at Howard County Schools

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

All programs matter to our students. I am Monique McCready....a parent to two little girls going to Hanover Hills Elementary. One is in 5th grade and has been in Violin since 3rd grade, she has a learning disability, and she has thrived with all the programs she is in. I also have one daughter in 1st grade and she has not had the opportunity to do music yet. These programs are incredibly necessary for growth and development. These are children that have been disadvantaged by COVID. Lost time with Teachers and friend due to a President that could not handle the health crisis properly.

I want people to understand how devastating that was for them, and I need the board to stop the nonsense. We should not have to remind you of what is important. The budget should have been monitored and balanced correctly. The deficit is not the kids fault and not the proud parent fault or teachers fault. So we should not be penalized for bad budgeting and bad business decisions on the boards account. It's real simple. We pay a hefty fee in taxes to live here and a lot of parents are paying for property here because of the schools. Don't make more money disappear from the county by disrupting the schools and the value it brings. People can move.

Howard County has a reputation to uphold when it comes to an exemplary school system. Don't make people mad by mishandling funds anymore, or waste our time and yours. To keep it short. None of the programs should go, and that was communicated several times last year. Why should we have to repeat ourselves? These budgetary issues should not be brought up to tax paying families again as we told you last year how we felt about the mishandling of funds and the disorganization of the board.

It's beyond unacceptable at this point. You want to be a wealthy county with the best schools? Then don't mess up the budget. Period. There is a casino that you should be getting funds from. At this point the taxpayers here should sue the board for not handling money properly. If that is not what you want then figure out a way to operate efficiently without affecting the children.

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**From:** Annie McLean <annie.w.mclean@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 30, 2025 12:06 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Cc:** boe@hcpss.org; budgetfeedback@hcpss.org; Ball, Calvin; Budget Testimony; Rob McLean  
**Subject:** Please Fully Fund Our Schools

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Howard County Council and Community Leaders,

As parents whose children attend Manor Woods Elementary School, we are writing to implore you to fully fund Howard County Public School System's FY26 operating budget.

The high quality education that students receive at HCPSS is the primary factor that draws families to live and stay in Howard County. Over the last several years, the schools have been consistently underfunded and the stress on the school system and the quality of education is evident. Funding is necessary to keep class sizes from getting any larger, maintain the excellent GT and strings programs at the elementary level, and build schools to keep up with the endless growth caused by unchecked development.

Certainly there are likely things that should be reexamined about how the BOE prioritizes money, but the programs (GT & Orchestra) and teachers that contribute to the exceptional education students receive at HCPSS are NOT among them. Instead, the abhorrent ZUM bus contract and the unnecessary and resource intensive redistricting efforts should be heavily scrutinized.

We implore you to do whatever is necessary to fully fund our schools and maintain the level of excellence that makes us all proud to live in Howard County.

Thank you for your leadership in this matter,  
Annie and Rob McLean

10312 Greenbriar Court, EC 21042

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**From:** Sarah Browning <semperxi.sv@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 30, 2025 9:35 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Prioritize Our Schools — Restore Full Funding to HCPSS

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing as a concerned parent in Howard County to urge you to restore full funding to the Howard County Public School System (HCPSS) in the FY26 Operating Budget.

Over the past several years, HCPSS has been consistently underfunded. To maintain even a same-services budget this year, the school system needs at least \$80.6 million. Without this funding, our community will face larger class sizes, reductions in essential programs, and layoffs of valued staff -- all of which directly impact the quality of education for our students. It is troubling that when financial pressures arise, it is our schools that are first in line for service reductions. The school system should not be leading the way in cuts. Education is a core public service — not a luxury item to be scaled back.

Moreover, recent investment reports suggest the county will have at least \$10 million more in available funds than currently projected. Instead of shifting "extra" money into PAYGO projects, we should prioritize critical services like education. Our students, teachers, and schools should not be asked to sacrifice while funding is diverted elsewhere.

As a parent of one child in HCPSS, with another who will be attending next year, I see firsthand how thin resources already are. We cannot afford to cut any deeper or expend any additional resources.

Howard County's reputation for excellence is built on its schools. I urge you to prioritize our students and schools by restoring the necessary funding to HCPSS.

Thank you for your leadership and attention to this urgent matter.

Sincerely,  
Sarah Browning

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**From:** Terri Marcus, President <president@ptachc.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 30, 2025 5:05 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** PTACHC April 30 Testimony Operating Budget  
**Attachments:** April 30 Operating Budget Testimony.docx

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Good evening,

Just sending in my testimony for this evening's public testimony session for the FY26 operating budget.

Terri Marcus  
President, PTA Council of Howard County



## FY26 OPERATING BUDGET – PUBLIC TESTIMONY – EDUCATION

Good evening members of the Council,

I am Terri Marcus, President of the PTA Council of Howard County, and I am testifying tonight on behalf of the thousands of PTA members in the county.

As a voice for parents, teachers, and students, I am here to simply ask you to restore as much funding as possible to the school system to bring it as close as possible to the Board of Education's requested budget. It is very discouraging to have to be here once again with our hands out asking for money, especially when I think we all started off the year feeling kind of hopeful because we finally had the school board submit a budget that more truly reflects what the actual needs of the school system are. I want to emphasize that this is still a step in the right direction, even if we know full funding is likely unattainable in any particular year.

After Mr. Barnes' presentation to the school board last night, we know HCPSS needs at a minimum, \$29.2 million, just to cover existing services, such as employee compensation and benefits and to meet existing service commitments. Finding this \$29.2 million should be job #1. If that's possible, why stop there? Restoring a full \$54.3 million will allow the school system to meet their "other priorities". These "other priorities" are not luxuries. They are things like adding security and special education positions, math and reading teachers and specialists, middle school principals, and athletic trainers. Any number between \$29.2 and \$54.3 million would obviously allow some of these priorities to become reality. It is to every citizen's benefit, whether you have a student or not, that HCPSS retains its reputation as an excellent school system.

Just like you as council members, PTA representatives don't get to pick and choose specific spending priorities that benefit one group over another, but there is one thing we can advocate for – and that is to provide enough funding that we can avoid another across-the-board class size increase at any grade level. We just did this last year. It is hugely detrimental to all the students and to staff. Mr. Barnes very reluctantly made mention of class size increases last night, but he

made it clear that it is once again a very real possibility. Programming and staffing cuts could also very well be on the chopping block again.

The county executive's proposed budget informs us that of the \$1.187 billion dollar budget for HCPSS, \$801.5 million of that will come from the county with the remainder coming from various other sources. The county is to provide \$39.3 million above MOE, \$1.5 million in one-time PAYGO funding, and \$6.7 million in employee pension costs that were dumped on the county from the state. Dr. Ball's budget mentions that the funding growth to HCPSS "accounts for approximately 55% of all new county General Fund revenue growth this fiscal year." [https://www.howardcountymd.gov/sites/default/files/2025-04/Fiscal%20Year%202026%20Proposed%20Operating%20Budget%20Book\\_0.pdf](https://www.howardcountymd.gov/sites/default/files/2025-04/Fiscal%20Year%202026%20Proposed%20Operating%20Budget%20Book_0.pdf)

My question is: Why only 55%? Where is the other 45% going? What is the argument for it not going to the school system? That \$801.5 million going to HCPSS of the total \$2.3 billion county operating budget means that HCPSS is receiving only 34.85% of the total operating budget. That percentage seems low if education is, in fact, a priority for the county.

As your work sessions progress from the capital budget to the operating budget side of things – we would also urge you to uphold the medical principle to at least do no harm. Do not pass any new legislation that creates exemptions or undercuts funding to the school system. Do not set yourselves up for even tougher decisions in the future by reducing the amount of revenue available to meet the school board's requests year after year.

We know that all of you value education. We have seen your work in previous years to restore funding to the school system when possible. Please continue to demonstrate that commitment to your youngest and most vulnerable constituents and to their families who pay a lot to keep this whole system going. So, I wish you all good luck and just ask that you keep all the students and parents and teachers in mind when making the tough decisions ahead.

Thank you.

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**From:** VidhyaPriya GopalaKrishnan <g.vidhyapriya@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 30, 2025 9:44 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** HCPSS Operating Budget

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Hi,

I am writing to respectfully urge you to fully fund the Howard County Public School System (HCPSS) operating budget and to reconsider any proposed cuts.

Our schools are the heart of our community. Every cut to the HCPSS operating budget directly impacts our students' education, teacher support, classroom resources, special education services, and the overall quality of learning in our county.

Howard County has long been known for its excellence in education — it is one of the reasons families choose to live here. Cutting school funding risks weakening our schools' ability to meet the growing needs of all students, especially at a time when they require more support than ever.

Please prioritize our children and teachers by protecting the HCPSS operating budget. Investing in education is investing in the future success, health, and strength of Howard County.

Thank you for your leadership and for considering the voices of families and community members like mine. I respectfully ask that you fully fund our schools.

Thanks  
Vidhya Gopalakrishnan