

FY26. With careful prioritization and updated assumptions that reflect actual economic performance, the County has the capacity to fund this request.

We cannot afford to ask our schools to “do more with less” year after year. Students, teachers, and families deserve stable, fully supported educational environments. Please choose to invest in our children by maintaining funding levels that protect current staffing and services.

Sincerely,

Kevin Skolnik

Parent of 2 children at Swansfield Elementary School

From: Jennifer Peters <jerb405@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 15, 2025 1:09 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Restore funding to HCPSS!!!

Importance: High

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Dear Howard County Council,

I'm writing as a concerned [parent/teacher/resident] to urge you to fully fund the Howard County Public School System in the FY26 Operating Budget.

HCPSS has faced years of underfunding. This year, the system needs at least \$29.2 million just to maintain current services. Without it, we'll see larger class sizes, fewer programs, and staff layoffs - all of which hurt our students.

It is unacceptable that our schools are the first to face cuts when budgets tighten. Education is a core service and should be protected, not sacrificed. The percentage of the Howard County Public School System's share of the recurring General Fund Revenue has not kept up with historic norms and inflation.

My child receives special education services to enable her to reach her full potential. These cuts will put that at risk, which will lead us to consider moving to a different County the values their school system. We cannot afford more cuts.

Please prioritize students and restore funding to HCPSS.

Thank you-
Jennifer Peters
15008 High Forest Court,
Dayton MD 21036