

# County Council of Howard County, Maryland

2016 Legislative Session

Legislative day # 7

## RESOLUTION NO. 88 - 2016

Introduced by: Calvin Ball

A RESOLUTION creating the School System Budget Review Committee and directing the County Auditor to conduct a financial audit of the Howard County Public School System.

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Introduced and read first time on \_\_\_\_\_, 2016.

By order \_\_\_\_\_  
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator to the County Council

Read for a second time and a public hearing held on \_\_\_\_\_, 2016.

By order \_\_\_\_\_  
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator to the County Council

This Resolution was read the third time and was \_\_\_Adopted,\_\_\_ Adopted with amendments,\_\_\_ Failed,\_\_\_ Withdrawn by the County Council on \_\_\_\_\_,2016.

Certified by \_\_\_\_\_  
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator to the County Council

NOTE: [[text in brackets]] indicates deletions from existing language; TEXT IN SMALL CAPITALS indicates additions to existing language. ~~Strike out~~ indicates material deleted by amendment; Underlining indicates material added by amendment.

1           **WHEREAS**, the Howard County Board of Education requested an Operating Budget of  
2 \$612,594,438 for FY2017, while the County Executive's Proposed Budget funded only  
3 \$562,244,625, leaving a \$50,349,813 shortfall; and  
4

5           **WHEREAS**, the Howard County Board of Education requested \$105,011,000 in its  
6 Capital Budget for FY2017, while the County Executive's Proposed Budget included  
7 \$70,050,000, leaving a \$34,961,000 shortfall; and  
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9           **WHEREAS**, throughout the County Council’s budget deliberations, the County  
10 Executive and his budget office assured the Council repeatedly that his proposed budget fully  
11 funded the needs of the school system, including its negotiated agreements with educators; and  
12

13           **WHEREAS**, the Board and its staff have insisted that the proposed budget, which was  
14 ultimately adopted by the Council, will necessitate drastic cuts; and  
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16           **WHEREAS**, Section 902 of the Howard County Charter authorizes the creation of  
17 temporary advisory boards of citizens to study policies and issues; and  
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19           **WHEREAS** the Howard County Public School System has goals that every student  
20 achieves academic excellence in an inspiring, engaging, and supportive environment; every staff  
21 member is engaged, supported, and successful; families and the community are engaged and  
22 supported as partners in education; and schools are supported by world-class organizational  
23 practices; and  
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25           **WHEREAS** those school system goals require communication, collaboration, leadership  
26 and resources to be met; and  
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28           **WHEREAS**, Section 5-109(d) of the Education Article of the Maryland Code authorizes  
29 the County Council to conduct financial audits of the Board of Education.  
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1           **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the County Council of Howard County,  
2 Maryland, this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2016 that there is a School System Budget Review  
3 Committee established to:

- 4           1.       review and analyze the Operating and Capital Budgets of the Howard County  
5                   Public School System as proposed by the Superintendent, as requested by the  
6                   Board of Education, as modified by the County Executive, and as adopted by  
7                   the County Council;
- 8           2.       assist the County Council in understanding the current and any proposed  
9                   Operating and Capital Budgets;
- 10          3.       review amendments to the Operating and Capital Budgets while they are before  
11                   the County Council;
- 12          4.       evaluate any projects or activities that were not fully funded;
- 13          5.       review and offer recommendations on any proposed transfers between major  
14                   categories of the Operating Budget;
- 15          6.       review preliminary plans for the new school site;
- 16          7.       review each audit of the School System;
- 17          8.       review any deferred capital maintenance funding; and
- 18          9.       provide recommendations for any improvements to the Fiscal Y2018 budget.

19  
20           **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** That the Committee consists of one member appointed  
21 by each member of the County Council and that each of the following will be asked to appoint  
22 one member:

- 23          1.       the Howard County Chamber of Commerce;
- 24          2.       the Howard County Economic Development Authority;
- 25          3.       the PTA Council of Howard County;
- 26          4.       the Howard County Education Association;
- 27          5.       the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees;
- 28          6.       the Special Education Advisory Committee to the Board of Education;
- 29          7.       the Superintendent of the Howard County Public School System; and
- 30          8.       the County Executive.

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**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** That the Committee may:

1. elect officers;
2. hold meetings; and
3. accept public testimony in person, in writing, or electronically.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** That the Howard County Public School System and the County Budget Office are requested to cooperate fully with the Committee.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** That the County Auditor shall provide staff support for the Committee.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** That the County Auditor shall conduct a financial audit of the Howard County Public School System that may include an audit of the School System's:

1. special education services;
2. legal services; and
3. health and dental fund.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** That the Committee shall begin its work by July 29, 2016, and shall terminate on July 31, 2017.