

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.

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This Resolution was read the third time and was ___Adopted,___ Adopted with amendments,___ Failed,___ Withdrawn by the County Council on _____,2016.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
8

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~~ stated that the proposed budget, which
14 was ultimately adopted by the Council, ~~will~~ would necessitate drastic cuts; and
15

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
18

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
24

25 **WHEREAS** those school system goals require communication, collaboration, leadership
26 and resources to be met; and
27

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.
30

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 assist the County Council in understanding the current and any
4 proposed operating and capital budgets of the Howard County Public School System. The
5 Committee shall:

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

21
22 ○ Review and analyze the operating and capital budgets for at least fiscal years 2014
23 through 2017 as requested by the Board of Education and as adopted by the
24 County Council.

25 ○ Review each audit of the Howard County Public School System for at least fiscal
26 years 2014 through 2016.

27 ○ Review amendments to the operating and capital budgets while they are before the
28 County Council.

29 ○ Review any proposed transfers between major categories of the operating budget.

- 1 ○ Review deferred capital maintenance funding and its potential impact on future
- 2 budgets.
- 3 ○ Review any projects or activities that were not fully funded.
- 4 ○ Review preliminary plans for new school sites.
- 5 ○ Provide recommendations for any improvements to the fiscal year 2018 budget.

6

7 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** That the Committee consists of one member appointed
 8 by each member of the County Council and that each of the following will be asked to appoint
 9 one member:

- 10 1. the Howard County Chamber of Commerce;
- 11 2. the Howard County Economic Development Authority;
- 12 3. the PTA Council of Howard County;
- 13 4. the Howard County Education Association;
- 14 ~~5. the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees;~~
- 15 5. American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME),
 16 representing custodial, maintenance, grounds, and warehouse staff;
- 17 6. Howard County Administrators Association (HCAA), representing school-based
 18 administrators, administrative interns, instructional facilitators, and athletics and
 19 activities managers;”;
- 20 ~~6. 7.~~ the Special Education Advisory Committee to the Board of Education;
- 21 ~~7. 8.~~ the Superintendent of the Howard County Public School System; and
- 22 ~~8. 9.~~ the County Executive.

23

24 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** That the Committee ~~may~~ shall:

- 25 1. ~~elect~~ select officers;
- 26 2. hold meetings; and
- 27 3. accept public testimony in person, in writing, or electronically.

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

3
4 ~~**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** That the County Auditor shall provide staff support for~~
5 ~~the Committee.~~

6
7 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** That the County Auditor shall conduct a financial audit
8 of the Howard County Public School System ~~that may include an audit of the School System's~~
9 and as the test areas are defined, they will include:

- 10 1. special education services;
- 11 2. legal services; and
- 12 3. health and dental fund.

13
14 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** That the Committee shall begin its work by July 29,
15 2016, and shall terminate on July 31, 2017.