

Advocacy Update

Linton Springs Elementary
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\$6.7 million

That is the amount that Carroll County Public Schools Superintendent McCabe and the Board of Education have requested in additional FY2024 funding from the County for our schools to:

- Compensate for inflation and state-imposed Blueprint requirements
- Avoid extreme cost-cutting measures

"What you're seeing as far as budget goes is just the tip of the iceberg right now. We are going to have to implement Blueprint...

These are very serious times and this year we have a budget crisis that we're dealing with. But next year, the budget crisis will be at least four times what it is this year..."

- CCPS Superintendent McCabe, 3/8/2023

"We need your help, Carroll County parents..."

"...I can't stress this enough. If you don't want to see this school system look completely different in two years, you need to call - contact Carroll County Commissioners."

- Mrs. Herbert, President of the Carroll County BOE, 2/8/2023

WE MUST ACT NOW! You can help in 2 ways:



Attend the Town Hall about the Blueprint Implications hosted by CCPS Superintendent McCabe. Be and stay informed!

**Monday, March 20, 2023
at 6:00 p.m.,**

Century High School
in Sykesville (in the media center)



**& Wednesday, April 19, 2023
at 6:00 p.m.,**

Winters Mill High School
in Westminster (in the media center)



Sign the Change.org petition calling on the commissioners to fully fund CCPS.
<https://chnng.it/WDPKhSSZ>

See reverse for more details on these issues →

What Challenges Are Facing CCPS?

Blueprint Requirements & Budget Challenges

The Blueprint for Maryland's Future is a new state law that directs education activities and funding over the next decade. It contains many requirements for CCPS, including:

- Expanding access to full-day Pre-K for many families.
- Providing additional planning time for teachers during the school day. This is referred to as the 60/40 split, meaning 40% of the day devoted to planning time.
- Increasing the amount CCPS must pay in tuition to Carroll Community College for high school students participating in the dual-enrollment program.
- Allocating more resources and increasing per pupil spending for students within certain 'targeted populations,' including English Language Learners, Special Education, and students from lower-income families.

While many of the Blueprint objectives may be beneficial, each has a significant financial cost. Adding in the impact of inflation, **CCPS is facing a serious financial challenge.**

Further, under the Blueprint funding formulas, **CCPS will receive less state funding than other counties and the State places restrictions on how those funds are spent by CCPS.** Under Blueprint, CCPS must spend 75% of State funds and its own funds within certain categories such as the targeted student populations described above.

At the BOE Meeting on March 8, 2023, Board Members and the Superintendent discussed possible scenarios to accomplish the requirements without additional funding.

Class sizes could potentially triple from 25-30 currently to as many as 50-75 in one class. "We are starting to look at fire code as our guide for how many students per teacher, and certainly we never thought we would get to the point where safety and fire code was dictating our instructional pedagogy," Superintendent McCabe said.

Watch the Class Size Discussion



What Can We Do? *Speak to Our Elected Officials!*

At the county level:

- **The BOE has asked the Carroll County Commissioners to provide an additional \$6.7 million for FY2024. Support their request** by writing/calling your Commissioners (commissioners@carrollcountymd.gov), going to county commissioner meetings, and signing this [change.org](https://chnq.it/k8ywnRGTjd) petition: <https://chnq.it/k8ywnRGTjd>
- Keep in mind that CCPS will need much more funding in future years to meet the requirements, and they will need the continued support of the community.

At the state level:

- **Contact state officials** to ask them to let Carroll County run our excellent schools in a way that meets our needs. We can ask them to relax restrictions on how school systems spend State funds. Write to the Blueprint's Accountability & Implementation Board (AIB) at aib@maryland.gov or the Maryland State Department of Education at <https://news.maryland.gov/msde/contactofficeofmsde/>

Additional Resources

Please check out the new Advocacy Section on the PTA Website! It can be found at: <https://lintonspringspta.com/Lsy/custompage.cfm?cpid=6185> or by using this QR code

In this new section you will find:

- **Videos** of recorded meetings between the BOE, the Commissioners, and State delegates.
- **Calendar** of upcoming meetings, including the Superintendent's townhalls, Commissioner townhalls, and budget work meetings.
- **Contact Information** for county and State representatives.

