

CITY OF BALTIMORE

BRANDON M. SCOTT, Mayor



OFFICE OF COUNCIL SERVICES

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Baltimore, Maryland 21202
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HEARING NOTES

Resolution: 21-0011R

Informational Hearing - Financial Literacy Curriculum Content Within the Baltimore City Public School System

Committee: Education, Workforce, and Youth
Chaired by: Robert Stokes, Sr.

Hearing Date: Thursday, May 6, 2021
Time (Beginning): 10:40 AM
Time (Ending): 11:40 AM
Location: Virtual "WebEx" Meeting
Total Attendance: Approximately 45

Committee Members in Attendance:
Robert Stokes, Sr. James Torrence
John Bullock Sharon Green Middleton
Antonio Glover Zeke Cohen
Phylicia Porter

Form with checkboxes for Bill Synopsis in the file?, Attendance sheet in the file?, Agency reports read?, Video or audio-digitally recorded?, Certification of advertising/posting notices in the file?, Evidence of notification to property owners?, Final vote taken at this hearing?, Motioned by?, Seconded by?, Final Vote?

Major Speakers
(This is not an attendance record.)

- Linda Chinnia, Board of School Commissioners, BCPSS

- Sonja B. Santelises, CEO, Baltimore City Public School System (BCPSS)
  - Joan Dabrowski, BCPSS
  - Monica Whippo, BCPSS
  - Rachel Pfeifer, BCPSS
  - Janise Lane, BCPSS
  - Mackenzie Garvin, Mayor's Office of Employment Development (MOED)
  - Lea Ferguson, Mayor's Office of Children and Family Success (MOCFS)
  - Aaron Moore, Department of Finance
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### **Major Issues Discussed**

1. CEO Santelises gave opening remarks stating, "We want our students to graduate ready for life! But, we can't do this work alone; we have many partnerships!"
2. Several representatives from the Baltimore City Public School System testified and used a PowerPoint Presentation to summarize their comments and/or discussion. *A copy of the Presentation is on file.*
  - Several of the speakers stated that financial literacy in some fashion is incorporated within curriculums/courses already offered.
3. The agency representatives from MOED and MOCFS discussed their agency report.
4. The representative from the Department of Finance talked about the economy, debt, banking, retirement and etc.; stating the importance of financial literacy. He also talked briefly about his background and experience in finance.
5. The committee/councilmembers asked the representatives from the BCPSS questions, stated concerns and asked for clarification about some issues. Some highlights from same were:
  - A committee member thanked Mr. Moore for sharing his personal testimony, experience and background in finance.
  - Questions
    - If we wanted to see an independent financial literacy curriculum in our schools what would be the process for same?
    - What barriers do you see for offering this course?
    - Can you provide a projection on how much it would cost citywide to implement the curriculum?
    - Can you explain how many hours are spent on financial literacy in high schools?
    - What is the percentage for the number of 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade students who take part in financial literacy programs and is there any pre-post acknowledgement of their achievement in the program(s)?
    - Do you still offer black history in the BCPSS?
  - Scams
    - Is concerned about scams against students
    - Is concerned about predatory lending; comments surrounding this topic
    - How are you warning young people about predatory lending and/or scams?
  - Comment(s):
    - Talked about other jurisdictions who offers financial literacy curriculum in their school system(s).

o **Request(s):**

- **Requested by Vice President Middleton:** Please provide the unit less plan and instructional video content used at all city high schools that offer financial literacy plans and/or courses.
- **Requested by Chairman Stokes:** Please provide a list of the schools who have black history curriculums and/or who have those type electives.

6. Committee member and primary sponsor of the Resolution, Vice President Middleton gave closing remarks, "Financial literacy should be taught through high school; it is important for students to be prepared before graduating high school. I hope to see this curriculum elevated in Baltimore City public schools."
7. The hearing was called to recessed; to reconvene at a later date for further discussion on this topic.
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### Further Study

Was further study requested?

Yes  No

If yes, describe.

1. See yellow highlights above in question #5.
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*Marguerite M. Currin*

Marguerite Murray Currin, Committee Staff

Date: May 7, 2021

cc: Bill File  
OCS Electronic File



## Baltimore City Council Committee Hearing Attendance Record

<b>Subject:</b> <span style="background-color: yellow;">Resolution</span> – Informational Hearing - Financial Literacy Curriculum Content Within the Baltimore City Public School System	<b>Resolution #21-0011R</b>
<b>Committee:</b> Education, Workforce, and Youth	<b>Chair:</b> Robert Stokes, Sr.
<b>Date:</b> <span style="background-color: yellow;">Thursday, May 6, 2021</span>	<b>Time:</b> 10:30 AM
<b>Location:</b> <span style="color: red;">WebEx Meeting</span>	

<b>PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY</b>				What is your position on this bill?		Lobbyist: Are you registered in the City?*	
<b><u>CHECK HERE TO TESTIFY</u></b>							
First Name	Last Name	Address / Organization / Email	Testify	For	Against	Yes	No
John	Doe	400 N. Holliday St. Johndoenbmore@yahoo.com	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
		<i>See hearing notes</i>					

\*NOTE: IF YOU ARE COMPENSATED OR INCUR EXPENSES IN CONNECTION WITH THIS BILL, YOU MAY BE REQUIRED BY LAW TO REGISTER WITH THE CITY ETHICS BOARD AS A LOBBYIST. REGISTRATION CAN BE DONE ONLINE AND IS A SIMPLE PROCESS. FOR INFORMATION VISIT: [HTTPS://ETHICS.BALTIMORECITY.GOV/](https://ethics.baltimorecity.gov/) OR CALL: 410-396-4730

# City of Baltimore

City Council  
City Hall, Room 408  
100 North Holliday Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

## Meeting Minutes - Final

### Education Workforce and Youth

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Thursday, May 6, 2021

10:30 AM Virtual/Du Burns Chambers, City Hall, 4th Floor: Phone:  
+1-408-418-9388, Access Code: 129 796 8778, Password:  
Public, Link: [https://bmore.webex.com/bmore/onstage/g.php?  
MTID=e838db8c9a4a8157e85f1de80737d851e](https://bmore.webex.com/bmore/onstage/g.php?MTID=e838db8c9a4a8157e85f1de80737d851e)

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21-0011R

#### CALL TO ORDER

#### INTRODUCTIONS

#### ATTENDANCE

**Present** 7 - Robert Stokes Sr., John T. Bullock, Zeke Cohen, Antonio Glover, Sharon Green  
Middleton, Phylicia Porter, and James Torrence

#### ITEM SCHEDULED FOR PUBLIC HEARING

21-0011R

##### **Informational Hearing - Financial Literacy Curriculum Content Within the Baltimore City Public School System**

For the purpose of inviting the Chief Executive Officer of the Baltimore City Public School System, the Commissioners from the Board of School Commissioners for the Baltimore City Public School System, the Director of the Mayor's Office of Employment Development, and the Executive Director of the Mayor's Office of Children and Family Success to appear before the City Council to discuss how we can: develop curriculum content for a course in financial literacy; require the curriculum content include instruction in choosing a career, earning an income, saving and investing money, credit, and budgeting; and require students to complete a course in financial literacy in order to graduate from high school in Baltimore City Public Schools.

**Sponsors:** Sharon Green Middleton, Danielle N. McCray, Kristerfer Burnett, John T. Bullock

Hearing was recessed; to reconvene at a later date.

#### ADJOURNMENT