

CITY OF BALTIMORE

BRANDON M. SCOTT, Mayor



OFFICE OF COUNCIL SERVICES

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HEARING NOTES

Resolution: 23-0190R

Informational Hearing – Baltimore City Schools – Payments to Vendors

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

Hearing Date:

Time (Beginning): 5:10 PM

Time (Ending): 6:25 PM

Location: Council Chambers

Total Attendance: Approximately 14

Committee Members in Attendance:

Robert Stokes John Bullock Zeke Cohen Antonio Glover

Sharon Green Middleton

Bill Synopsis in the file?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Attendance sheet in the file?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A
Agency reports read?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Hearing televised or audio-digitally recorded?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Certification of advertising/posting notices in the file?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A
Evidence of notification to property owners?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A
Final vote taken at this hearing?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Motioned by:	Councilman Glover		
Seconded by:	Councilman Bullock		
Final Vote:	Favorable		

1. The primary focus of the hearing was on the reported shortage of vendors in Baltimore City Schools and the associated delays and problems in vendor payments.
2. The Baltimore City Schools transitioned to a new Financial Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system in July 2023, leading to unforeseen challenges and migration issues.
3. The migration issue resulted in delays and hardships for vendors, affecting over 3,000 purchase orders, causing a significant problem for vendors who were not paid as expected.
4. The committee inquired about the testing procedures for the new software and whether its functionality was thoroughly assessed before implementation.
5. Questions were posed about efforts to make vendors whole who experienced late payments, addressing potential financial hardships resulting from delayed payments.
6. Clarification was sought on the process of vendor payments, particularly the steps taken to validate and rectify issues with the migrated purchase orders.
7. Council members expressed concern about the impact on small local vendors and sought information on efforts to support them, given their critical role in the school system.

Further Study

Was further study requested?

Yes No

If yes, describe.

Committee Vote:

R. Stokes:.....	Yea
J. Bullock:.....	Yea
Z. Cohen:.....	Yea
A. Glover:.....	Yea
S. Middleton:.....	Yea
J. Torrence:.....	Absent
P. Porter:.....	Absent

Deontre Hayes

Committee Staff: Deontre L. Hayes

Direct Inquiries to: (410) 306-1760

Date: November 21, 2023

**BALTIMORE CITY COUNCIL
EDUCATION, WORKFORCE, AND YOUTH COMMITTEE
VOTING RECORD**

BILL#: 23-0190R

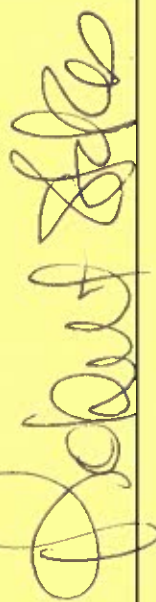
DATE: November 16, 2023

TITLE: Informational Hearing - Baltimore City Schools - Payments to Vendors

MOTION BY: Glover SECONDED BY: Bullock

- FAVORABLE** **FAVORABLE WITH AMENDMENTS**
 UNFAVORABLE **WITHOUT RECOMMENDATION**

NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
Stokes, R, Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bullock, J.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Glover, A.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cohen, Z.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Middleton, S.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Porter, P.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Torrence, J.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
TOTALS				

CHAIR: Robert Stokes x 

City of Baltimore

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

Meeting Minutes - Final

Education Workforce and Youth

Thursday, November 16, 2023

5:01 PM/virtual/Du Burns Chambers, City Hall, 4th Floor, Phone:
+1-408-418-9388, Access Code: 2339 407 5621, Password:
Public, Link: [https://bmore.webex.com/bmore/j.php?](https://bmore.webex.com/bmore/j.php?MTID=mb79ce6fd2931b27f6d055efb845bf4bc)
MTID=mb79ce6fd2931b27f6d055efb845bf4bc

23-0190R

CALL TO ORDER

INTRODUCTIONS

ATTENDANCE

- Present 5 - Robert Stokes Sr., John T. Bullock, Zeke Cohen, Antonio Glover, and Sharon Green
Middleton
- Absent 2 - Phylicia Porter, and James Torrence

ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR PUBLIC HEARING

23-0190R

Informational Hearing - Baltimore City Schools - Payments to Vendors

For the purpose of inviting representatives from the Baltimore City Public School System, the Board of School Commissioners, and the Office of the Comptroller to brief the City Council on reported issues regarding payment of vendors by City schools, including a discussion of delayed and unremitted payments to past vendors and the current system for procurement and payment of vendors.

Sponsors: Robert Stokes, Sr., John T. Bullock

A motion was made by Glover, seconded by Bullock, that this City Council Resolution be Recommended Favorably. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Stokes Sr., Bullock, Cohen, Glover, and Middleton