

Baltimore City Council Bill 25-0100 Children and Youth Fund – Updates

Education, Youth, and Older Adults Committee
December 18, 2025

The Baltimore City Public School System (City Schools) has reviewed Council Bill 25-0100, which seeks to modify the process and procedures by which the Children and Youth Fund (Fund) may disperse grants, alter the Fund's Board of Directors composition, and establish reporting requirements. City Schools has concerns with the bill as drafted and respectfully requests adoption of the following amendments, which we understand will be offered by the bill sponsor:

- **Amendment 1:** On page 6, line 7, strike the requirement for the Chair of the Board of School Commissioners or their designee to serve as a member of the Fund's Board of Directors.
 - *Rationale: The grant eligibility limitations described on page 3 explicitly state that organizations employing a member or officer of the Fund's Board are ineligible to receive a grant from the Fund. Without this amendment, the bill will have the unintended consequence of terminating the current middle school sports partnership, as well as any potential future partnerships, between City Schools and the Fund.*
- **Amendment 2:** On page 6, line 17, insert "publicly" as follows:
The Board shall reflect the diverse economic, social, geographic, and racial demographics of the City, as reflected in the most recent **PUBLICLY** available Baltimore City Public School System student enrollment data.
 - *Rationale: The clarification of "publicly available" enrollment data will ensure the bill does not unintentionally create data sharing challenges. In addition, City Schools advises the Council to carefully consider the Board characteristics as outlined and how they will be operationalized. For example, City Schools' publicly available enrollment data does not specify geographic characteristics.*

While City Schools must oppose Council Bill 25-0000 as drafted, adoption of the two amendments above will address our concerns. We appreciate the committee's consideration and stand ready to provide additional information upon request.