



HEARING NOTES

Mayor and City Council Resolution: 24-0523

Operating Budget for the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2025

Committee: Ways and Means
Chaired by: Councilman Eric T. Costello
Hearing Date: Tuesday, June 4, 2024 – Budget Hearing
Time (Beginning): 6:00 PM
Time (Ending): 9:45 PM
Location: Council Chambers
Total Attendance: Approximately 55 in-person
Approximately 10 virtually

Committee Members in Attendance:

Eric T. Costello
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> n/a
Agency reports read?	<input type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> n/a
Video 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 type="checkbox"/> yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> n/a

Major Speakers

(This is not an attendance record.)

- Sonja Santelises, Baltimore City Public Schools (BCPS)
- Ronald McFadden, Commissioner, BCPS
- Alison Perkins-Cohen, Baltimore City Public Schools
- Christopher Dougherty, Baltimore City Public Schools
- Joan Dabrowski, Baltimore City Public Schools
- Stacy Place-Jose, Baltimore City Public Schools
- Lynette Washington, Baltimore City Public Schools

Major Issues Discussed

Budget Hearing – June 4, 2024

1. The May 16th hearing (Budget Overview) was called to recess and reconvened on June 4, 2024.
2. A PowerPoint presentation was given by BCPS. *A copy of the presentation is on file.* Some highlighted comments and/or topics of discussion were:
 - * Talked about equity, accomplishments and feedback from community and schools
 - * Enterprise Fund – is funded by U.S. Agriculture (Food provided to students)
 - * Received Post Funding for COVID
 - * There are more eligible children this school year than last school year; take this as a positive sign!
 - * There is a Psychiatrist and School Nurse in every school
3. The committee/council members asked questions, stated concerns, asked for clarification, and etc. Some highlights of same were:

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- Glad to see:
 - The increase in teachers' salaries
 - Increase in community engagement
 - Crossing Guards:
 - Glad to see you are hiring more guards
 - Do you have a partnership with the Department of Transportation?
 - Concern: Traffic
 - Potential: Students being hit by a car/vehicle, how are you addressing this?
 - Concern: CEO Contract
 - The CEO currently does not have a contract!
 - What is the status of the CEO Contract?
 - Would like to know where her contract is!
 - This is not the time to switch leadership!
 - Your leadership is extremely important!
 - Comment: Think you should get another contract but feel you need to at look your leadership cabin! Need a conversation about this!
 - Early Childhood Education
 - How do you think we can get to universal kindergarten for 4 years old and maybe 3 years old?
 - Body Cameras for School Police
 - Where are you with this?
 - Comments regarding accountability, training and the possibility of a pilot program for cameras
 - School Police
 - Adequate Training – is of concern
 - Have you audited overtime for the School Police? Requested by Councilmember Torrence: Please provide an update for same by August 30, 2024
 - Requested by Councilmember Middleton: Proved an updated list for the Judy Centers and where each center is located

- Violence Intervention
 - Make sure the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between MONSE and the schools is taken care of!
 - Violence due to social platforms (social media, Instagram, etc.) - is of concern
 - What can we do to address this issue?
- Students' Safety After School Hours
 - Comments regarding employees going beyond their duties to help students
 - Comment regarding a Dunkin Donut Business that recently opened near/in a school area, "don't know how it got approved!"
 - All agencies must work together for the safety of our students!
- Comments regarding Restorative Practices and the importance of thereof!
- English Language Learners
 - There is an increased demand for same and an assessment for this demand is needed – talk about this!
 - Not enough Interpreters – is of concern
 - Testing methods – is of concern
- Enterprise Fund – Meals in School
 - Is there a connection with any of the urban farms near schools? **Answer: Yes, will provide a list for same.**
- Curfews
 - Would like a commitment for having supervision for students 15 minutes before school hours and 15 minutes after school hours!
 - Comment regarding "School Police" passing the buck for keeping students out of school doing certain hours; accountability is important!
- 21st Century Buildings – comments
 - Overcrowding in schools – is of concern
 - Blight buildings – is of concern
 - Requested by Councilmember Cohen: Provide an update, when possible for the plans to address blight buildings
- Cell Phones
 - We need a citywide ban for cell phones in schools!
- Apprenticeship Programs
 - Needs to be more formalized!
 - What is the plan to make the pathways more formalized?
- Drop-Out Rate – is of concern
- Concern: That students who really need help get it! (Dollars/concentrated poverty)
- Comment: Cameras are needed in every school!
- Hall Monitors – the importance of monitors in every school
- Douglas High School
 - Would like to understand the current challenges at the school! **Requested by Councilmember Torrence: Would like a briefing regarding same.**
- Digital Harbor
 - School intervention at Digital Harbor – talk about the MOU for same

4. Hearing called to recess.

Further Study

Was further study requested?

Yes No

If yes, describe. See “red and yellow” highlights above.

Marguerite M. Currin

Marguerite M. Currin, Committee Staff

cc: Bill File

OCS Electronic File

Date: June 12, 2024



Baltimore City Council Committee Hearing Attendance Record

Subject Mayor and City Council Resolution: Operating Budget for the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2025	Bill #: 24-0523
Committee: Ways and Means	Chair: Eric Costello
Date: Tuesday, June 4, 2024	Time: 6 PM
Location: Clarence "Du" Burns Council Chamber	

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

CHECK HERE TO TESTIFY

			What is your position on this bill?		Lobbyist: Are you registered in the City?*		
			For	Against	Yes	No	
First Name	Last Name	Address / Organization / Email	Testify 				
John	Doe	400 N. Holliday St. Johndoenbmore@yahoo.com	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
✓ Ronald	McFadden	Chair, Balto. City School Board					
Shantell	Roberts	Vice Chair, Balt. City School Board					
✓ Senja	Santeliso	CEO, Baltimore City School System					
✓ Christopher	Daugherty	CFO, Baltimore City School Board					
✓ Allison	Perkins Chen	Chief of Staff Balto. City School System					
✓ Joan	Dabrowski	CAO, Balt Baltimore City School System					
✓ Stacy	Place Tose	Chief of Schools					
✓ Lynette	Washington	COO					

*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

Ways and Means

Tuesday, June 4, 2024

6:00 PM Virtual/Du Burns Chambers, 4th Floor, City Hall, Phone:
+1-408-418-9388, Access Code: 2341 129 3232, Password:
Public, Link: [https://bmore.webex.com/bmore/j.php?](https://bmore.webex.com/bmore/j.php?MTID=m4a5f380a56ce5431ab4a96fa01b3c80e)
MTID=m4a5f380a56ce5431ab4a96fa01b3c80e

24-0523 - BCPSS Budget

CALL TO ORDER

INTRODUCTIONS

ATTENDANCE

Present 2 - Eric T. Costello, and Sharon Green Middleton

Absent 5 - Kristerfer Burnett, Ryan Dorsey, Danielle N. McCray, Isaac "Yitzy" Schleifer, and Robert Stokes Sr.

ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR PUBLIC HEARING

24-0523

Operating Budget for the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2025

For the purpose of approving the budget estimated to be needed for the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners for operating programs during Fiscal 2025; providing for certification of the approved budget to the State Superintendent of Schools; and providing for a special effective date.

Sponsors: Administration City Council

Hearing recessed.

ADJOURNMENT

