



HEARING NOTES

Resolution: 22-0237

Operating Budget for the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2023

Committee: Ways and Means
Chaired by: Councilman Eric T. Costello
Hearing Date: Thursday, May 26, 2022 – Budget Overview
Time (Beginning): 4:05 PM
Time (Ending): 4:50 PM
Location: Council Chambers
Total Attendance: Approximately 20

Committee Members in Attendance:
Eric T. Costello Kristerfer Burnett
Robert Stokes, Sr. Isaac "Yitzy" Schleifer
Danielle McCray Sharon Green Middleton

Hearing Date: Thursday, June 2, 2022 – Budget Hearing
Time (Beginning): 7:15 PM
Time (Ending): 10:00 PM
Location: Council Chambers
Total Attendance: Approximately 40

Committee Members in Attendance:
Eric T. Costello Kristerfer Burnett
Robert Stokes, Sr. Isaac "Yitzy" Schleifer
Sharon Green Middleton
Excused Absence: Kristerfer Burnett

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input 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 B. Santelises, CEO, Baltimore City Public School System (BCPS)
 - Ronald McFadden, Board of School Commissioners
 - Chris Doherty, Baltimore City Public School System
 - Robert Cennamo, Department of Finance, BBMR
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Major Issues Discussed

1. The representative from the Baltimore City Public School System gave an overview of the proposed budget on May 26, 2022. *A copy of the presentation is on file.* Some highlights from the Presentation were:
 - Talked about schools' pillars and themes; Reconnect/Restore/Reimagine
 - Talked about federal funding and stated some of funding will be for one-time only spending
 - Finally getting back to some type of normalcy
 - Processes are moving much better now with virtual meetings
 2. Committee/councilmember asked questions, made comments and etc. Some highlights of discussion and/or concern were:
 - Comments and concerns expressed regarding homeless students
 - Importance of financial literacy
 - Comments regarding the enrichment of school clubs; the importance of partnership with state nationals (National Competition)
 - Safety conditions at some schools –are of concern
 - What is the budgeted amount for restorative practices? **Answer: Per Doherty, will research and respond back**
 - Art in Schools – Will some funding be spent on musical equipment? **Answer: Yes**
 3. The May 26th hearing was called to recess and reconvened on June 2, 2022.
 4. The chairman informed the attendees and listening audience about the purpose of the June 2, 2022 hearing; the representatives from BCPS is to give an evaluation of their fiscal year 2023 budget proposal.
 5. The representative from the Board of School Commissioners gave opening remarks and talked briefly about some of the highlights of the budget proposal.
 6. The CEO of BCPS introduced her staff and publicly expressed gratitude to all of her staff for their good work. She also stated, "There have been many challenges but we are committed to our young people."
 7. A PowerPoint presentation was given by BCPS. *A copy of the presentation is on file*
 8. The representative from the Department of Finance discussed the following topics:
 - * Maintenance of Efforts
 - * Nurse Program
 - * Crossing Guards
 - * Construction and Improvements
 - * 21st Century Schools
 - * Kirwin Contributions/Commitment
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9. Committee/councilmember asked questions, made comments and etc. Some highlights of same were:
- ARPA Funding
 - What is your allocation? **Answer: \$443 million**
 - What are your plans for this funding?
 - How much of the \$443 million is already committed?
 - **Requested by Chairman Costello: Provide a spreadsheet displaying the breakdown of funding; to include expenses for same.**
 - Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC)
 - **Requested by Chairman Costello: Provide a high-level update on the status of HVAC system throughout all schools**
 - Mental Health Support
 - Talk about spending and/or investment in this area.
 - **Requested by Member Stokes: Provide a list of all the schools that have mental health support and the number of employees that have been hired for same.**
 - Learning Lessons Forfeited/Lost During COVID
 - Talk about this
 - Homeless Students
 - **Requested by Member Middleton: Provide a list of funding available for homeless students.**
 - Disabled Students
 - How were disabled students handled during the pandemic? Talk about this.
 - Increased substance abuse – is of concern
 - Restorative Practices
 - How many schools are practicing restorative practices:
 - All of us are struggling with violence in the city; when will all schools have restorative practices?
 - **Requested by Councilmember Cohen: Provide feedback on this topic within the next four weeks**
 - COVID Related Cases Within Council District 10 – is of concern
 - Talk about:
 - Contact tracing
 - Quarantine efforts within families
 - Quality Esurance Checks
 - **Requested by Councilmember Porter: Provide specific strategies for your quarantine efforts for families**
 - Building Opportunity Funding such as Casino dollars, how are you distributing these funds?
 - Capital Improvement Plans
 - **Requested by Councilmember Torrence: Proved a breakdown of your capital spending beginning with 2018 and going forward**
 - Tutoring
 - Concern – return on investment – where is the data for outcomes?
 - **Requested by Councilmember Torrence: Provide data for the outcomes for tutoring systemwide, for current fiscal year, by:**
 - **School and by grade**
 - Health Suites – talk about this
 - Attracting and retaining families

- Talked about the importance of attracting and retaining families
 - Talked about how important it is to communicate successes
 - Talk about this
 - Extended Learning/Learning Plans
 - Requested by Councilmember Torrence: Provide a briefing and/or feedback on students' learning plans
 - School Safety – Particularly MERVO
 - What are some of your plans?
 - What is the plan for MERVO?
 - School Lunches – is of concern
 - Students are frustrated with school lunches
 - How are your addressing this matter?
 - Social Workers in Non-Charter Schools
 - A social worker(s) should be in every school five days a week; is this the plan? Answer: Yes
 - Community Schools Program
 - Is there any increased funding for this program?
 - What about any coordination efforts – talk about this
 - Requested by Councilmember Porter: Provide relevant criteria pertaining to the Community School Coordinators
 - Vendor Contracts
 - How many of these contracts are in State?
 - How many of these contracts are outsourced out of State?
 - Requested by Councilmember Cohen: Provide data for same
 - Quick Pulse Surveys
 - Can the results from these surveys be broken down to examine the needs and requests of families? Answer: Yes
 - By school also? Answer: Yes
 - Schools that are closed down (Surplus Property) is of concern
 - Some are an eyesore
 - Some are being vandalized
 - Before these properties are turned over to the city is any dialogues held regarding same?
 - Need of the students – Upgraded technology
 - What are you doing to address this issue?
10. The Chairman thanked CEO Santelises for her leadership and staff for their hard work. Hearing recessed.
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Further Study

Was further study requested?

Yes No

If yes, describe. See above requests “highlighted in red and yellow.”

Marguerite M. Currin

Marguerite M. Currin, Committee Staff

Date: June 7, 2022

cc: Bill File
OCS Electronic File



Baltimore City Council Committee Hearing Attendance Record

Subject: Mayor & City Council Resolution – Operating Budget for the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2023 – BUDGET OVERVIEW - BCPS	Resolution #: 22-0237
Committee: Ways and Means	Chair: Eric T. Costello
Date: Thursday, May 26, 2022	Time: 3:01 PM
Location: Council Chambers	

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

CHECK HERE TO TESTIFY



First Name	Last Name	Address / Organization / Email	Testify	What is your position on this bill?		Lobbyist: Are you registered in the City?*	
				For	Against	Yes	No
John	Doe	400 N. Holliday St. Johndoenbmore@yahoo.com	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
		Chris Doherty					
		BCPS					

*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



Baltimore City Council Committee Hearing Attendance Record

Council Bill – Ordinance of Estimates for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2023 – Day Three – BUDGET HEARINGS	Bill #: 22-0235
Committee: Ways and Means	Chair: Eric T. Costello
Date: Thursday, June 2, 2022	Time: 9:00 AM
Location: Council Chambers	

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

CHECK HERE TO TESTIFY



First Name	Last Name	Address / Organization / Email	Testify	What is your position on this bill?		Lobbyist: Are you registered in the City?*	
				For	Against	Yes	No
John	Doe	400 N. Holliday St. Johndoenbmore@yahoo.com	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
CHRIS	DOHERTY	BCPSS					
DR. Lynette	WASHINGTON	BCPSS					
	Sandekins	BCPSS					
Melissa	Broome	11					
Dwana	Sterrette	11					
Adam	Willis	media / Baltimore Banner					

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City of Baltimore

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

Meeting Minutes - Final

Ways and Means

Thursday, May 26, 2022

3:01 PM

Du Burns Chambers, 4th Floor, City Hall

**22-0237: Budget Hearings: FY2023 Overview: BBMR/BCPSS Overview
CHARM TV 25**

CALL TO ORDER

INTRODUCTIONS

ATTENDANCE

Present 5 - Eric T. Costello, Kristerfer Burnett, Danielle N. McCray, Sharon Green Middleton, and Robert Stokes Sr.

Absent 1 - Ryan Dorsey

Out-Chamber 1 - Isaac "Yitzy" Schleifer

ITEM SCHEDULED FOR PUBLIC HEARING

22-0237

Operating Budget for the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2023

For the purpose of approving the budget estimated to be needed for the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners for operating programs during Fiscal 2023; providing for certification of the approved budget to the State Superintendent of Schools; and providing for a special effective date.

Sponsors: City Council President (Administration)

Hearing called to recess; to reconvene on June 2, 2022

ADJOURNMENT

City of Baltimore

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

Meeting Minutes - Final

Ways and Means

Thursday, June 2, 2022

6:30 PM

Du Burns Chambers, 4th Floor, City Hall

22-0237: School Budget Hearings CHARM TV 25

CALL TO ORDER

INTRODUCTIONS

ATTENDANCE

- Present** 5 - Eric T. Costello, Ryan Dorsey, Sharon Green Middleton, Isaac "Yitzy" Schleifer, and Robert Stokes Sr.
- Excused** 1 - Kristerfer Burnett
- Absent** 1 - Danielle N. McCray

ITEM SCHEDULED FOR PUBLIC HEARING

22-0237

Operating Budget for the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2023

For the purpose of approving the budget estimated to be needed for the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners for operating programs during Fiscal 2023; providing for certification of the approved budget to the State Superintendent of Schools; and providing for a special effective date.

Sponsors: City Council President (Administration)

Hearing recessed. Voting session to be held in near future.

ADJOURNMENT