

# Press Release

**UPDATE September 22, 2017**

For more information contact:  
Erika Schissler or Rachel Hise  
Department of Legislative Services  
(410) 946-5510 / (301) 970-5510

## **Maryland Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education Revisions to the Remaining Public Hearings**

(Annapolis, MD) — The Maryland Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education is holding public hearings throughout the State for people to testify on policies and strategies to make Maryland a top performing education system in the world and to prepare students for the 21<sup>st</sup> century global economy, and the funding needed for public preK-12 schools to achieve those goals. “Maryland’s public schools are good, but they can be much better,” said Dr. William E. “Brit” Kirwan, former chancellor of the University System of Maryland and chair of the Commission. “Our students deserve to receive the best education in the world — and they will need it to be competitive in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. We welcome the input of teachers, parents, students, and others who care about public schools to tell us what they think we need to do for Maryland to become a world class education system and prepare students for college and careers.”

The following procedures will be followed for the three remaining public hearings:

- Due to the high volume of interest in the October 12 public hearing in Baltimore City, the Baltimore City public hearing will start at 5:00 p.m.
- Sign ups are limited to a total of 60 individuals and must be made in advance. Sign ups will not be taken after 12 noon on the day of the hearing.
- Individuals who wish to testify are asked to sign up by either emailing [PreK-12InnovationandExcellenceCommission@mlis.state.md.us](mailto:PreK-12InnovationandExcellenceCommission@mlis.state.md.us) or calling Mindy McConville or Kim Landry at (410) 946-5510 or (301) 970-5510 no later than **NOON** on the day of the hearing. Please provide the following information: (1) name and contact information; (2) location/date of the meeting for which you are signing up; and (3) if you are speaking on behalf of a group, please include the name of the group.
- After the limit of 60 individuals is reached, additional interested parties may submit written testimony or sign up to testify at another public hearing location. Written testimony may be submitted by email to the email address above.

The Commission held its first public hearing on September 14, 2017, in Stevensville. Materials from the public hearings will be posted on the Commission’s website. The remaining public hearings are scheduled as follows:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Time</b>
September 28, 2017	LYNX at Frederick High School 650 Carroll Parkway Frederick, MD 21701	6:30-8:30 p.m.
October 12, 2017	Baltimore Polytechnic Institute 1400 W. Cold Spring Lane Baltimore, MD 21209	5:00-8:30 p.m.
October 25, 2017	Largo High School 505 Largo Road Upper Marlboro, MD 20774	6:30-8:30 p.m.

While testimony will generally be limited to 3 minutes per person, the Chair has discretion to make adjustments depending on how many people sign up. While it is not necessary to bring a written statement, if you do, please bring 40 copies with you to the hearing. Staff will collect and distribute it to the Commission members. Please note that the hearing will be recorded and posted to the Commission’s web page. If you are unable to attend but wish to submit written testimony, you may email your testimony to the email address listed above.

The Commission was formed through legislation in 2016 to make recommendations that enhance the adequacy and equity of State preK-12 funding and the availability of innovative educational opportunities that will prepare students for postsecondary education and the workforce in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, including examining the “Thornton” formulas established in 2002 and making recommendations to update them. More information about the Commission and the topics it is exploring can be found on the Commission’s [web page](http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/webmga/frmMain.aspx?pid=cmtepage&tab=subject7&id=IEE&stab=01) at <http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/webmga/frmMain.aspx?pid=cmtepage&tab=subject7&id=IEE&stab=01>.

###