

# BALTIMORE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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*Chair, Baltimore City Board of  
School Commissioners*

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*Chief Executive Officer*

**Testimony of the  
Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners  
In Support of  
House Bill 202 – Restorative Schools Fund and Grants-  
Establishment**

**January 30, 2020**

In mid 2017, the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners revised its current policy on behavioral interventions and student discipline (Board Policy JKA) to reflect its commitment to using restorative approaches to create a positive school climate, with limited use of removal from the classroom being a cornerstone of the policy. City Schools would like to implement restorative approaches district-wide by 2023. The district's budget constraints have resulted in limited financial resources and human capital to provide ongoing training and support to 100% of City Schools' personnel on restorative approaches. City Schools' efforts in this area have largely been funded by outside community partners and grants. If this bill were to pass, it would provide some funding to offset the significant fiscal resources required to implement restorative approaches in the school setting.

Currently, City Schools has two (2) FTEs (1 Coordinator of Restorative Practices, 1 Restorative Practices Specialist) directly supporting restorative practice initiatives within the district. In order to successfully implement this bill, a minimum of sixteen (16) FTEs would need to be hired. This would include four additional district (1 EMS, 1 HS, 1 Family & Community, and 1 Data Analyst) office positions and one specialist per network (12 FTEs). This legislation would result in additional yearly revenue for City Schools to implement restorative approaches.

For the foregoing reasons, the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners supports House Bill 202 and urges a favorable report.

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