

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2018 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**  
**First Reader**

House Bill 207  
Ways and Means

(Prince George's County Delegation)

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**Prince George's County Board of Education - Governance**  
**PG 509-18**

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This bill repeals the authority of the Prince George's County Executive to select the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the public school system as well as the chair and vice chair of the Prince George's County Board of Education. Instead, the board of education selects the CEO of the school system and the chair and vice chair of the board. The bill also repeals requirements related to the selection process for the CEO.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** The bill does not materially affect local finances or operations.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law/Background:** Chapter 147 of 2013 enhanced the authority of the Prince George's County superintendent of schools and designated the position as the CEO. Further, the legislation provided the county executive additional authority to select the CEO while reducing the authority of the county board of education. The county executive selects a CEO in accordance with a specified search process and the board of education appoints the CEO after agreeing on contract terms negotiated by the chair of the board.

Prior to 2013, the CEO position had existed previously as established by Chapter 289 of 2002, which made numerous changes to the Prince George's County Board of Education

and public school system. The CEO acted as the executive officer, secretary, and treasurer of the new board and was responsible for the overall administration of the county public school system. The provisions establishing the CEO and the CEO's responsibilities expired on June 30, 2006.

*Local Boards of Education in Maryland*

The Prince George's County Board of Education is 1 of 4 hybrid school boards in the State consisting of both elected and appointed members. There is 1 appointed school board in the State and 19 have elected boards. **Appendix – Local Boards of Education** shows the selection methods, terms of office, and membership of the 24 local boards of education.

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**Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Prince George's County; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 14, 2018  
nb/rhh

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## Appendix – Local Boards of Education

School System	Number of Members	Term		Means of Selection <sup>1</sup>
Allegany	6	4 years	E	5 from county at large 1 student (nonvoting, one-year term)
Anne Arundel <sup>2</sup>	8	4 years	E	7 from councilmanic districts 1 student (one-year term)
Baltimore City <sup>3</sup>	10	3 years	A	9 from city at large 1 student (one-year term)
Baltimore <sup>4</sup>	12	4 years	A/E	4 from county at large (appointed) 7 from councilmanic districts (elected) 1 student (one-year term)
Calvert	6	4 years	E	2 from county at large 3 from commissioner districts 1 student (nonvoting, one-year term)
Caroline	7	4 years	A/E	3 elected from school board districts 2 appointed from county at large 2 students (nonvoting, one-year term)
Carroll	11	4 years	E	5 from county at large 5 commissioners <i>ex officio</i> (nonvoting) 1 student (nonvoting, one-year term)
Cecil	6	4 years	E	5 from commissioner districts 1 student (nonvoting, one-year term)
Charles	8	4 years	E	7 from county at large 1 student (nonvoting, one-year term)
Dorchester	7	4 years	E	5 from councilmanic districts 2 students (nonvoting, one-year term)
Frederick	8	4 years	E	7 from county at large 1 student (nonvoting, one-year term)
Garrett	6	4 years	E	2 from county at large 3 from commissioner districts 1 student (nonvoting, one-year term)

<b>School System</b>	<b>Number of Members</b>	<b>Term</b>		<b>Means of Selection<sup>1</sup></b>
Harford	11	4 years	A/E	6 elected from councilmanic districts 3 appointed from county at large 1 superintendent <i>ex officio</i> (nonvoting) 1 student (one-year term)
Howard	8	4 years	E	2 from county at large 5 from councilmanic districts 1 student (one-year term)
Kent	6	4 years	E	5 from county at large 1 student (nonvoting, one-year term)
Montgomery	8	4 years	E	2 from county at large 5 from school districts 1 student (one-year term)
Prince George's <sup>5</sup>	14	4 years	A/E	9 elected from school board districts 4 appointed by county 1 student (one-year term)
Queen Anne's	7	4 years	E	1 from county at large 4 from commissioner districts 2 students (nonvoting, one-year term)
St. Mary's	6	4 years	E	1 from county at large 4 from commissioner districts 1 student (nonvoting, one-year term)
Somerset	5	4 years	E	All from commissioner districts
Talbot	9	4 years	E	7 from school board districts 2 students (nonvoting, one-year term)
Washington <sup>6</sup>	8	4 years	E	7 from county at large 1 student (nonvoting, one-year term)
Wicomico <sup>7</sup>	7	4 years	E	5 from councilmanic districts 2 from county at large
Worcester	10	4 years	E	7 from commissioner districts 3 students (nonvoting, one-year term)

<sup>1</sup>A = Appointed by Governor, except in Baltimore City, where board is appointed jointly by the Governor and the Mayor; E = Elected; and A/E = Combined appointed by Governor and elected board, except in Prince George's County.

<sup>2</sup>Chapter 473 of 2017 restructured the Anne Arundel County Board of Education from a nine-member appointed board to an eight-member elected board consisting of seven elected members (one from each of the seven councilmanic districts on a nonpartisan basis) and one student member. The effective date of Chapter 473 was June 1, 2017. The term of the elected members are staggered, with four members elected at the 2018 general election and four members elected at the 2020 general election. The members elected in November 2018 serve a six-year term, while the members elected in 2020 serve a four-year term. Thus, beginning in 2024, all members must stand for election.

<sup>3</sup>Chapter 593 of 2017 repealed the role of the Governor in making appointments to the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners; it also repealed the Governor's role in filling board vacancies and removing board members for certain causes. As a result, board members are appointed solely by the Mayor of Baltimore City. Chapter 593 also established the Baltimore City Public School Board Community Panel (which the mayor must convene) and specified its membership. The purpose of the panel is to select nominees to be recommended to the mayor as qualified candidates for appointment to the board (including candidates for vacancies). If the mayor elects not to appoint a member or to fill a vacancy from a list submitted by the panel, the mayor must reconvene the panel to submit additional names of qualified candidates. In addition, beginning with the 2022 general election, the board will be restructured as a hybrid board with two members elected from the city at large, nine members appointed by the Mayor of Baltimore City, and one student member.

<sup>4</sup>Chapters 480 and 481 of 2014 restructured the Baltimore County Board of Education from a 12-member appointed board (including 1 student member) to a 12-member board consisting of 4 at-large members appointed by the Governor, 7 nonpartisan members each elected from one of seven councilmanic districts, and a student member. The elected members will be elected at the general election in November 2018 and every four years thereafter. In addition, Chapters 480 and 481 of 2014 established the Baltimore County Nominating Commission. The commission is responsible for selecting eight nominees to be recommended to the Governor as qualified candidates for appointment to the Baltimore County Board of Education. The commission consists of 19 members of the county and must reflect the diversity of the county. Except in extenuating circumstances, the Governor must appoint members to the board of education from the list the nominating commission provides.

<sup>5</sup>Chapter 147 of 2013 altered the membership of the Prince George's County Board of Education by adding four appointed members to the existing elected board. The county executive appoints three members with certain experience requirements, and the county council appoints one member who must be a parent of a student in the county school system. If a seat held by an elected member becomes vacant, the county executive must appoint a qualified individual for the remainder of the term, with the appointment subject to rejection by a two-thirds vote of the county council.

<sup>6</sup>The Washington County Board of Education reports that the student member can only concur on votes and must abstain from certain matters.

<sup>7</sup>Chapter 169 of 2016, subject to referendum, required the restructuring of the Wicomico County Board of Education. In the 2016 general election, the county approved a fully elected board option, with five members each elected from one of the five councilmanic districts and two members elected from the county at large. Members will be elected at the general election in 2018 and every four years thereafter. The terms of board members who are in office on December 2, 2018, will expire on December 2, 2018.

Source: Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article, Sections 3-101 through 3-1405; Local Boards of Education