

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2024 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader - Revised

House Bill 376
Appropriations

(Prince George's County Delegation)

Budget and Taxation

Study on the Feasibility of Relocating the Prince George's County Public School
System Headquarters
PG 501-24

This bill requires the Prince George’s County Board of Education to hire an independent consultant to complete a comprehensive study on the feasibility of relocating the board headquarters. The consultant must complete certain specified actions relating to studying and making recommendations on the feasibility of relocating the board headquarters. The county board must develop a solicitation process for hiring an independent consultant and cover the cost of the required study. The study must be completed before the county board enters into a new long-term lease. On or before June 1, 2026, the independent consultant must report its findings and recommendations to the county board. **The bill takes effect June 1, 2024, and terminates June 30, 2026.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The Maryland Stadium Authority can assist in the completion of the study as needed using existing resources. Revenues are not affected.

Local Effect: Prince George’s County expenditures increase by an estimated \$375,000 for the completion of the required study. Revenues are not affected. **This bill imposes a mandate on a unit of local government.**

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Bill Summary: The independent consultant must:

- conduct a thorough site selection analysis to identify and evaluate potential locations within Prince George’s County that are suitable for the construction of a new board headquarters when factoring a potential site’s (1) accessibility; (2) central location in the county and proximity to public schools; (3) proximity to public transportation and mass transit; and (4) potential for providing community amenities and resources;
- undertake a comprehensive financial analysis to estimate the costs associated with land acquisition, construction, and outfitting of a new headquarters;
- assess potential funding sources to support construction, including public-private partnerships and local, State, and federal funding;
- evaluate the environmental impact of the proposed relocation, including stormwater mitigation and energy efficiency considerations;
- ensure compliance during the relocation process by engaging with State and county agencies, including the Department of Permitting, Inspections and Enforcement; the Maryland Stadium Authority; the Department of Public Works and Transportation; and any other units the independent consultant considers necessary;
- explore opportunities to provide multi-use, multigenerational community amenities, including community spaces, libraries, recreational facilities, and educational training centers;
- conduct interviews with key stakeholders, including representatives from public schools in the county, school board members, county and State officials, parent-teacher associations, and local community organizations;
- conduct community surveys and questionnaires to solicit input and suggestions from stakeholders, county residents, and local businesses;
- establish a timeline that incorporates fund allocation, design, engineering, and construction phases; and
- explore any other pertinent information required to complete the study.

Current Law: The Prince George’s County Board of Education currently is headquartered in the Sasscer Administration Building in Upper Marlboro.

Local Expenditures: Prince George’s County Public Schools advises that, based on the cost of similar studies, completion of the report by June 1, 2026, would cost approximately \$375,000. Prince George’s County Public Schools further advises that there may be significant additional costs associated with implementing any recommendations of the study.

Additional Information

Recent Prior Introductions: Similar legislation has not been introduced within the last three years.

Designated Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Prince George's County; Maryland Stadium Authority; Prince George's County Public Schools; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 4, 2024
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