

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2025 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader - Revised

House Bill 1207

(Montgomery County Delegation)

Ways and Means

Education, Energy, and the Environment

Montgomery County - Board of Education - Student Member Compensation
MC 7-25

This bill alters compensation procedures for the student member of the Montgomery County Board of Education. Although the bill does not alter compensation amounts for elected members, the bill specifies that future salary increases for elected members must take effect at the beginning of the term of office (and may not increase during the term of office). **The bill takes effect July 1, 2025.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: The bill has no material effect on Montgomery County Board of Education expenditures as the bill does not alter total compensation amounts, only the timing and form of compensation.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Bill Summary: The bill allows the student member of the Montgomery County Board of Education to elect to receive compensation in monthly installments as a stipend during the student member's term and receive any remaining amount as a scholarship after the end of the term. Under the bill, total compensation amount must remain equal to the lesser of (1) the highest annual resident undergraduate tuition, mandatory fees, and room and board that is charged at specified four-year public institutions of higher education within the University System of Maryland (USM) for the academic year in which the student member

serves on the board and (2) the amount that an elected member of the board (other than the board president) is entitled to receive as compensation in that year. The bill also repeals language requiring the student member to submit expense vouchers before the student member may be reimbursed for out-of-pocket expenses incurred in connection with official duties (but retains the reimbursement authorization).

Current Law: The Montgomery County Board of Education consists of seven elected members and one student member. Elected members serve four-year terms beginning December 1 after the member's election and until a successor is qualified; the student member serves a one-year term beginning on July 1 after the election of the student member. The board is 1 of 20 elected school boards in the State. There are 4 hybrid boards in the State. The **Appendix – Local Boards of Education Membership** shows the selection methods, terms of office, and membership of the 24 local boards of education.

Student Member Scholarship

The student member may not receive compensation, but after submitting expense vouchers, may be reimbursed for out-of-pocket expenses incurred in connection with official duties. Chapter 566 of 2022 set the student member scholarship amount to be the lesser of (1) the highest annual resident undergraduate tuition, mandatory fees, and room and board that is charged at specified four-year public institutions of higher education within USM for the academic year in which the student member serves on the board and (2) the amount that an elected member of the board (other than the board president) is entitled to receive as compensation in that year.

In fiscal 2025, the University of Maryland, College Park Campus (UMCP) had the highest tuition, fees, and room and board among specified USM institutions. Annual resident tuition, fees, average board costs, and costs for a standard double room totaled \$27,408 at UMCP. As this amount is higher than the \$25,000 in compensation for an elected board member set in current law, the student scholarship amount is currently held at \$25,000.

Additional Information

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

Designated Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Montgomery County; Montgomery County Public Schools; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 3, 2025
caw/hlb Third Reader - March 31, 2025
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Appendix – Local Boards of Education Membership

The composition of the local boards of education varies with members serving three- to four-year terms. Twenty counties have elected school boards and four counties have combined appointed and elected school boards. Twenty-two boards have student members; however, only 8 boards allow student members to vote, which generally excludes authority to vote on matters relating to collective bargaining and personnel. Three counties with voting student members also preclude student members from voting on matters relating to operating and capital budgets. **Exhibit 1** shows the selection methods, terms of office, and membership of the 24 local school boards.

Exhibit 1 Local Boards of Education As of January 2025

<u>School System</u>	<u>Number of Members</u>	<u>Term</u>		<u>Means of Selection¹</u>
Allegany	6	4 years	E	5 from county at large 1 student (nonvoting, one-year term)
Anne Arundel	8	4 years	E	7 from councilmanic districts 1 student (one-year term)
Baltimore City	12	3 or 4 years	A/E	2 elected from city at large 9 appointed by mayor 1 student (one-year term)
Baltimore	12	4 years	A/E	4 appointed by Governor from county at large 7 elected from councilmanic districts 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 by Governor 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)

<u>School System</u>	<u>Number of Members</u>	<u>Term</u>		<u>Means of Selection¹</u>
Cecil	6	4 years	E	5 from commissioner districts 1 student (nonvoting, one-year term)
Charles	10	4 years	E	1 from county at large 8 from commissioner districts 1 student (one-year term)
Dorchester	8	4 years	E	5 from councilmanic districts 3 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)
Harford	11	4 years	A/E	6 elected from councilmanic districts 3 appointed by County Executive 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	10	4 years	E	9 from school board districts 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	5 from commissioner districts
Talbot	9	4 years	E	7 from school board districts 2 students (nonvoting, one-year term)
Washington ²	8	4 years	E	7 from county at large 1 student (nonvoting, one-year term)
Wicomico	7	4 years	E	5 from councilmanic districts 2 from county at large

<u>School System</u>	<u>Number of Members</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Means of Selection</u> ¹	
Worcester	10	4 years	E	7 from commissioner districts 3 students (nonvoting, one-year term)

¹ E = Elected and A/E = Combined appointed and elected board: (1) in Baltimore County, members are appointed by the Governor from a list of names provided by the Baltimore County School Board Nominating Commission; (2) in Caroline County, members are appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate; (3) in Baltimore City, members are appointed by the mayor from a list of names provided by the Baltimore City Public School Board Community Panel; and (4) in Harford County, members are appointed by the county executive with the advice and consent of the county council.

² Although not in statute, the Washington County Board of Education reports that there is a student member on the board and that the student member can only concur on votes and must abstain from certain matters.

Source: Sections 3-101 through 3-1405 of the Education Article; Local Boards of Education
