



MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Expanding Opportunity and Unleashing Potential

850 Hungerford Drive ♦ Room 123 ♦ Rockville, Maryland 20850

BILL: SB0892 (Cross filed with HB1153)
TITLE: Public Schools – Mathematics Credit – Computer Science or Computer Programming Course
DATE: 3/3/2020
POSITION: SUPPORT WITH AN AMENDMENT
COMMITTEE: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs
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The Montgomery County Board of Education (Board) **supports** SB0892 **with an amendment**.

Computer science is the study of processes that interact with data. Therefore, there is an interdependent relationship between computer science and programming with mathematics. Computer science and programming utilizes the analysis and application of mathematics.

Mathematics teaches the usage of algorithms. Algorithms are a set of instructions that demonstrate the implementation of a program or an application. Mathematical concepts are required in many disciplines of computer science. Discrete mathematics is the foundation of programming and computer science. Mathematics provides the analytical skills required in computer science.

Given the current graduation requirement that students are enrolled in a math course each year of high school and the strong connection between mathematics and computer science, MCPS respectfully requests an amendment to clarify that only one (1) of the four (4) math credit requirements could be a computer science/programming course.

This would allow students to take a foundational computer science/programming course, explore interests, and applied mathematics career options.

For these reasons, the Board **supports** this legislation **with an amendment** and urges a favorable report.