



Serving Learners, Families, and the Community

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF CECIL COUNTY
GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER EDUCATION LEADERSHIP CENTER
201 BOOTH STREET • ELKTON, MD 21921

phone: 410.996.5499 • fax: 410.996.5471 • www.ccps.org

William H. Malesh
President, Board of Education

Diana B. Hawley
Vice President, Board of Education

March 1, 2021

The Honorable Paul G. Pinsky, Chair
Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee
Miller Senate Office Building, 2 West Wing
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear State Senator Pinsky:

Re: Endorsement of *Senate Bill 823, Cecil County – Board of Education – Member Terms and Compensation*

As President and Vice President of the Board of Education of Cecil County (BOE), we are submitting this letter with the full support of all five Board members. We strongly support *Senate Bill 823, Cecil County – Board of Education – Member Terms and Compensation*, which is scheduled for a committee hearing on March 3, 2021.

The premise of this legislation is two-part. First, it is to change our BOE term limits for serving the Cecil County Public Schools (CCPS). SB 823 would provide the opportunity for Board members to serve three terms of four years each (upon successful election results), instead of the current two terms of four years each. This change would solidify our Board with a built-in balance of continuity, while maintaining their collegial relationship, and allowing members to experience a full rotation of Board assignments. Cecil County is rich in community partnerships; our Board is well respected as cohesive partners.

The second part of SB 823 legislation is to provide increased compensation. The compensation of our BOE has not been changed in nearly 20 years. Our Board members are truly dedicated individuals committed to serving our learners, families, and the community. The hours spent in Board meetings is staggering, as well as their time when visiting schools and showing their support by attending various events such as graduations, fine arts performances, sporting events, MABE trainings/committee meetings, STEM gallery walks, CCPS committee work, and Cecil Night in Annapolis, just to name a few. Our current Board members will not benefit from this increased compensation; but they would surely deserve it, as will their followers.

The Board of Education of Cecil County genuinely appreciates sponsorship from Senator Gallion and Senator Hershey. We whole-heartedly endorse SB 823 and request your support and assistance in passing this bill.

Sincerely,

William H. Malesh
Board President

Sincerely,

Diana B. Hawley
Board Vice President

cc: Cecil County Delegation