



MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Expanding Opportunity and Unleashing Potential

15 West Gude Drive ♦ Suite 100 ♦ Rockville, Maryland 20850

BILL: Senate Bill 311

TITLE: Education - The Blueprint for Maryland's Future - Revisions

DATE: April 1, 2026

POSITION: Support with Amendment

COMMITTEE: Appropriations

CONTACT: Patricia Ursprung, Coordinator, Legislative Affairs

The Montgomery County Board of Education (Board) supports Senate Bill 311 with an amendment to reinstate the removal of the technology report in Education Article Section 5-212.

This bill makes needed improvements to a few areas of the Blueprint for Maryland’s future. Most notably and importantly for the Board and Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS), this bill, as introduced, would remove an annual report on technology expenditures, extend the current calculation for compensatory education funding, permit concentration of poverty grant funds to be used for fine arts programming indefinitely, expand the definition of wraparound services to include “other evidence-based academic interventions,” extend the limit on the number of dual enrollment courses in which a student can enroll at the system’s expense, expand teacher licensure options, and delay the requirement that principals be national board certified for five years.

These changes will positively impact MCPS in many ways. Eliminating the reporting requirement will reduce administrative burden on the system. Expanding teacher licensure options may help with the current teacher shortage and increase the pool of licensed professionals available to teach in MCPS. Retaining the existing compensatory education formula will prevent a reduction in funding for some of our students with the greatest need. Expanding the definition of wraparound services, and permitting the use of concentration of poverty grant funds for fine arts education, will allow MCPS to better utilize the grant funds to have the greatest impact on our students. And extending the limitation on the number of dual enrollment courses students can take, and delaying the requirement that principals earn their national board certification in order to be eligible to hold the position, will allow MCPS to reallocate the funds that would otherwise be dedicated to those areas to better serve our students.



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Senate Bill 311, which was requested by the Accountability and Implementation Board, reflects a shared commitment between the AIB, the Department of Education, and local education agencies to ensure the goal of the Blueprint remains intact, while recognizing and addressing some of the challenges that school systems face in their day-to-day implementation of the transformative law.

Because of the various benefits of this legislation, the Montgomery County Board of Education recommends issuing a **favorable** report on Senate Bill 311, if amended to reflect the bill as originally introduced.