

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HARFORD COUNTY
CONSENT AGENDA ITEM REPORT
Citizens Advisory Committees Membership for the 2025-2026 School Year
October 6, 2025

Background Information:

Citizens Advisory Committees (CAC) are key groups that allow for in-depth and focused involvement from a wide range of community stakeholders who share their relevant perspectives in order to help inform decision-making. These groups help share the responsibility for guiding the school district towards continuous improvement.

After following the state and local regulations for committee membership, the following Citizens Advisory Committees have closed their application process for the 2025-2026 school year: the Career and Technical Education Citizens Advisory Committee, the Family Life Advisory Committee, and the Gifted Education Citizens Advisory Committee. Membership and work of these committees is guided by local regulations such as the Harford County Board of Education Policy 10-0002-000 as well as state regulations including COMAR 13A.04.18.01, MD Educ Code § 21-101 (2013), and Education Article, §§2-205, 5-401(d), and 8-201 – 8-204, Annotated Code of Maryland.

Discussion:

The Career and Technical Education (CTE) Citizens Advisory Committee

Members of the Career and Technical Education Citizen Advisory Committee serve as advisors, advocates and reviewers for Career and Technical Education Programs, which prepare students for further education and careers in current and emerging professions. The Council solicits participation for individuals representing businesses in the twelve Maryland Career Clusters.

This committee is charged with evaluating the adequacy of the Career and Technical Education programs being offered in all high schools in terms of meeting both student and workforce needs, investigating non-traditional funding sources to support CTE programs, and monitoring the progression of apprenticeship and internship programs.

Members were selected by the 2024-2025 sitting committee through a Microsoft Forms document to continue or to begin work on this committee for the 2025-2026 school year. The sitting members select a participant to represent each of the career cluster areas identified by the state of Maryland. Those career clusters include Arts, Media, and Communication; Business Management and Finance; Construction and Development; Consumer Services, Hospitality, and Tourism; Environmental, Agricultural and Natural Resources; Health and Biosciences; Human Resources Services; Information Technology; Manufacturing, Engineering, and Technology; Transportation Technologies; and Career Research and Development. The committee is required to carry one member per area.

Fourteen Harford County citizens applied for membership and were selected by last year's committee members by ballot vote or wished to continue their term on the CTE CAC. In addition, the committee includes multiple representatives from HCPS as ex officio members:

We recommend accepting the applicants and the 2025-2026 CTE CAC ballot vote.

The Family Life Education Citizens Advisory Committee

The members of this committee discuss and review the Family Life Education Curriculum and the alignment to the Maryland State Department of Education's comprehensive Health Education Framework.

The committee is charged with evaluating the Family Life and Human Development Education program in Grades K-12 in terms of compliance with state standards and investigating possible delivery models for realigned family life education content.

All Harford County citizens who applied for membership to the Family Life Education Citizens Advisory Committee for the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 school years were accepted for membership on the committee.

Twelve Harford County citizens applied for members to the Family Life Education Citizens Advisory Committee for the 2025-2026 school year.

We recommend continuing the recent Board of Education approach of accepting all applicants to serve as members of this committee.

Gifted Education Citizens Advisory Committee

The members of the Gifted Education Citizens Advisory Committee are charged with studying the research surrounding giftedness and twice exceptionality to recommend ways to infuse best practices into the manner in which identified students are served.

All Harford County citizens who applied for membership to the Gifted Education Citizens Advisory Committee for the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 school years were accepted for membership on the committee.

Thirteen Harford County citizens applied for membership to the Gifted Education Citizens Advisory Committee for the 2025-2026 school year.

We recommend continuing the recent Board of Education approach of accepting all applicants to serve as members of this committee.

Superintendent's Recommendation:

The Superintendent of Schools recommends that the Board of Education approve the identified members for the Career and Technology Education Citizens Advisory Committee, the Family Life Education Citizens Advisory Committee, and the Gifted Education Citizens Advisory Committee for the 2025-2026 school year. Once the Board has approved the members, HCPS representatives will provide an official invitation to each individual to serve on the committee.