BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HARFORD COUNTY
INFORMATIONAL REPORT
DECISION ON
FY 2028 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

November 9, 2026
November 23, 2026

Background Information:

The Rules, Regulations, and Procedures for the Administration of the Public School Construction Program require each Local Education Agency to submit its school system's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) to the State and local governments annually.

Each year, Harford County Public Schools (HCPS) updates a 5-year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) to identify and prioritize the funding needed to maintain school facilities, replace aging equipment, support educational programs, and provide safe and effective learning environments. HCPS does not receive an established funding target for developing its local capital request. Instead, HCPS identifies and prioritizes capital needs and submits a funding request to Harford County for consideration.

On September 28, 2026, the Board of Education approved the FY 2028 State-eligible CIP request. On November 9, 2026, the Board received an informational presentation outlining the proposed FY 2028 Local-Only CIP request and accompanying five-year plan.

Discussion:

For FY 2028, HCPS identified approximately $55.5 million in local-only capital needs. These needs were evaluated through the established CIP prioritization process, which considers the urgency of each project and its impact on educational programs, facility conditions, safety, regulatory requirements, and other factors. The CIP Priority Workgroup reviewed the projects and established the final priority order.

Recognizing the importance of consistent annual investment to maintain existing facilities, address aging infrastructure, and reduce the potential for more costly repairs in the future, the workgroup also considered a long-term approach to addressing capital needs. To develop the FY 2028 request and five-year plan, HCPS used the following funding assumptions for planning purposes:

- County Bonds: $60 million (consistent with FY 2027 school bond funding), with $51,320,200 committed to the FY 2028 local share of State-eligible projects, leaving $8,679,800 available for local-only projects.

- County Pay-As-You-Go Funding: $20 million as a proposed sustainable funding level for ongoing capital needs.

- Future Years: A 5% annual increase for planning purposes, based on average County growth, to help account for rising project costs.

Using these assumptions, HCPS developed a $28,679,800 FY 2028 Local-Only CIP request, prioritizing the highest needs within the proposed funding scenario. Larger projects were phased over multiple years where practical, while other needs were deferred to future years based on project priorities and readiness.

The accompanying five-year plan provides a framework for continued capital planning and coordination with Harford County. The plan will be reviewed and updated annually as needs, project costs, and available funding change.

The FY 2028 request represents a prioritized approach to addressing current needs while proposing a sustainable long-term investment in maintaining our public school facilities. Our Schools – Our Investment – Our Responsibility.

Superintendent's Recommendation:

The Superintendent of Schools recommends that the Board of Education approve the FY 2028 Capital Improvement Program for local-only projects budget request in the amount of **$28,679,800** for submission to the county government.