



# Press Release

102 S. Hickory Avenue, Bel Air, Maryland 21014 • Jillian V. Lader, Manager of Communications  
Office: 410-588-5203 • [jillian.lader@hcps.org](mailto:jillian.lader@hcps.org) • [www.hcps.org](http://www.hcps.org) • fax: 410-893-2478

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **BOARD REACHES TENTATIVE AGREEMENT WITH HARFORD COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICES COUNCIL (HCEC)**

*Agreement results in two steps, 2% COLA and longevity effective July 1, 2016*

The Board of Education of Harford County (the Board) and the Harford County Educational Services Council (HCEC), which represents approximately 900 Harford County Public Schools employees, including clerical/secretaries, paraeducators, nurses, instructionally-related technicians, transportation specialists and inclusion helpers, among other related instructional support personnel, have reached a tentative agreement between the two organizations.

On January 20, 2016, negotiators for the Board reached a tentative agreement with HCEC that translates into members of that unit receiving two (2) steps advancement on the pay schedule, a two percent cost of living adjustment (COLA) applied to the pay schedule, and longevity for all eligible members effective July 1, 2016. Additionally, HCEC has tentatively agreed to a change in contract language that ensures unit members an increase in compensation for promotions.

This is the second year of a three-year contract that expires July 1, 2018. The HCEC contract allows negotiations for salary and two (2) language items each year.

At this time, the Board has agreements or tentative agreements with three of the five bargaining units; the Harford County Educational Services Council (HCEC), the Association of Public School Administrators and Supervisors of Harford County (APSASHC), and the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME).

The Board began negotiations with the Harford County Education Association (HCEA), representing teachers, in November 2015 and no agreement has been reached to date. Negotiations are scheduled to begin with The Association of Harford County Administrative, Technical and Supervisory Professionals (AHCATSP) this month.

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