



MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the Board of Education
FROM: William J. Barnes, Superintendent
DATE: November 26, 2024
SUBJECT: Public Private Partnership Study Update

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide you with an update on the Public Private Partnership (P3) Study process. The Board of Education identified at the October 10, 2024, Board meeting the Board's interest and intent to have the Howard County Public School System (HCPSS) complete a P3 study to determine the viability of utilizing a P3 as an alternative financing strategy to complete Capital projects. Additionally, the Board requested a P3 presentation be provided to the full Board at a future Board meeting.

Based on communication with Charles County Public Schools staff, who completed a P3 study in 2023, the HCPSS study is estimated to cost approximately \$500,000. As the study is not currently budgeted within the Capital Budget, HCPSS staff have reviewed capital projects to determine available funding to complete the P3 study. A Fiscal Year 2025 Capital Budget Transfer will be brought to the Board for review and approval at the December 12, 2024, Board Meeting. The total transfer request will be \$2.5 million to fund the P3 study as well as the Educational Sufficiency Study related to the Capital Budget prioritization process and our effort to improve upon current practice associated with the HCPSS long-range master plan.

The HCPSS staff has contacted The Association for the Improvement of American Infrastructure (AIAI) to begin coordination of a P3 presentation to the Board at the January 16, 2025, Board meeting. The HCPSS staff has also contacted staff from Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) and the Howard County Government to participate in the presentation. AIAI is an organization that specializes in facilitating P3 discussions and education. PGCPS will provide a unique perspective as a local education agency who is in the process of two P3 agreements. The Howard County Government will also provide their experience from the Courthouse P3 project as well as their perspective as a funding agency to HCPSS. It is through this engagement that we strive to build capacity and understanding of P3 as an alternative financing strategy.

If you have any questions, please contact Cornell S. Brown, Jr., Chief Operating Officer, at cornell_brown@hcpss.org, or Daniel Lubeley, Executive Director, Capital Planning and Construction, at Daniel_lubelev@hcpss.org.

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Board of Education Office

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