



# Cecil County Public Schools **Annual Report**



**2018-2019**

# Board of Education

District 1- William Manlove  
District 2- James Fazzino  
District 3- Christie Stephens  
District 4- William Malesh  
District 5- Diana Hawley  
Student Member- Kelsey Meis



# Mission Statement

*CCPS serves equitably through positive relationships as a safe, collaborative community. We will ensure all learners acquire the knowledge, skills, and qualities to be responsible, caring, and ethical citizens.*

# Leadership Team

Jeffrey Lawson, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools

R. Joseph Buckley, Ed.D.  
Associate Superintendent for Administrative Services

Carolyn Teigland, Ed.D.  
Associate Superintendent for Education Services

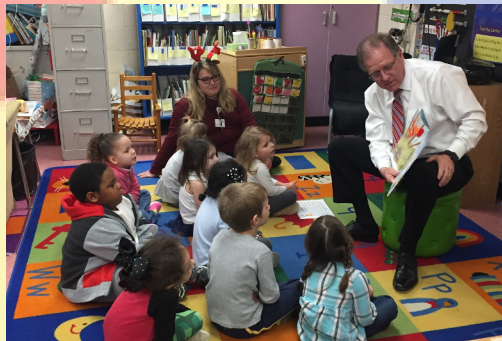
Sandra Jack  
Chief Financial Officer

Georgia Clark  
Executive Director for Elementary School Education

Anne Gellrich  
Executive Director for Secondary School Education

Sean Cannon  
Executive Director for Staff Relations

Perry Willis  
Executive Director for Support Services



## A Message from the Superintendent

Jeffrey Lawson, Ed.D.

I am pleased to share with you the 2018-2019 CCPS Annual Report which contains important financial information and describes significant accomplishments of Cecil County Public Schools' students and staff from the most recently completed school year of 2018-2019. During this school year we had much to celebrate, including the creation of a new strategic plan and CCPS logo.

The students and staff of CCPS continue to excel and receive recognition for significant accomplishments in both the classroom and the greater community. As a system, our focus remains on providing a world-class education with opportunities and supports for ALL students. We are equally committed to providing a high quality, people-first work environment for our employees. On behalf of the Board of Education and the employees of Cecil County Public Schools, I would like to thank you for your support of our county schools.



Follow Us!  
@CCPSMD

Annual report prepared by:  
Cecil County Public Schools  
Public Information Office  
410-996-5474





## State Champions

Zachary Laird, Bohemia Manor High School  
2018 State Class 1A Individual Champion for Boys' Cross Country

Brooke Walz, Bohemia Manor High School  
2019 State Class 1A Indoor Track Girls' 1600 Meter Run Champion  
2019 State Class 1A Girls' 800 Meter Run, 1600 Meter Run Champion

Elizabeth Kuhn, Perryville High School  
2019 State Class 1A Indoor Track Girls' Pole Vault Champion  
2019 Girls' Class State 1A Pole Vault

Emani Bell, Perryville High School  
2019 State Class 1A Indoor Track Girls' Shot Put Champion  
2019 State Class 1A Girls' Shot Put

Asia Travers, Elkton High School  
2019 State Class 2A Indoor Track Girls' Shot Put Champion

Anthony Egurola, Bohemia Manor High School  
2019 State Class 1A Boys' 110 Meter Hurdles

Alex Longeway, Bohemia Manor High School  
2019 State Class 1A Boys' 3200 Meter Run

Bohemia Manor High School Girls' Softball Team  
2019 State Class 1A Softball Champions

## Sportsmanship Awards

Bohemia Manor High School Girls' Track & Field  
Bohemia Manor High School Corollary Tennis  
Bohemia Manor High School Girls' Cross Country  
Bohemia Manor High School Volleyball  
Bohemia Manor High School Field Hockey

Elkton High School Corollary Bowling

North East High School Boys' Track & Field  
North East High School Girls' Track & Field  
North East High School Girls' Basketball  
North East High School Boys' Lacrosse

Perryville High School Girls' Soccer  
Perryville High School Boys' & Girls' Cross Country  
Perryville High School Boys' Basketball

Rising Sun High School Football  
Rising Sun High School Softball  
Rising Sun High School Corollary Bocce

Bohemia Manor High School was recognized by the Board of Education as the first recipient of the School Sportsmanship Award. This award recognizes a CCPS high school which has shown extraordinary respect for the game by exhibiting fair play, ethical behavior, and adherence to the rules of the game. This award formally recognizes the student-athletes, coaches, and administrators of Bohemia Manor High School for their commitment to the importance of sportsmanship in Cecil County.





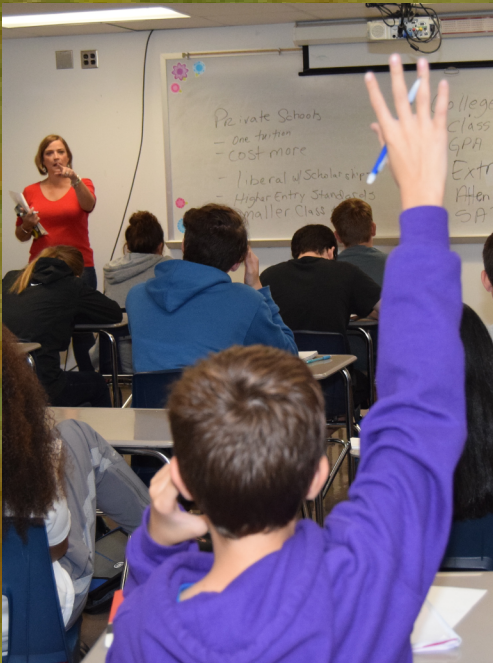


# The AVID Program

During the 2018-19 school year, three schools have begun implementation of the AVID program. AVID stands for Advancement VIA Individual Determination and is currently being offered at Elkton Middle School, Cherry Hill Middle School, and Elkton High School.

AVID is a college readiness program and provides participating students the opportunity to develop college readiness skills. The program focuses on the development of reading and writing skills as well as critical thinking, teamwork, and organizational skills.

Students hear from guest speakers and participate in field trips that highlight the benefits of higher education and how to make college an accessible goal. Students are currently experiencing a high level of success which will result in positive outcomes for them in the future.



## Early College Academy

This partnership program between Cecil College and Cecil County Public Schools is in its first year and is housed at Elkton High School. Upon successful completion of the program, students will earn a high school diploma and an Associate of Arts degree in General Studies. In addition, multiple articulation agreements with other colleges are in place to facilitate the transfer to a bachelor degree program of study.

This first cohort of students is comprised of twenty-seven high school freshmen representing three of the county's five high schools. Early College Academy (ECA) blends high school and college into a rigorous yet supportive program, compressing the time it takes to complete a high school diploma and the first two years of college. While taking classes, students are guided through seminars and individualized advising to help them build academic skills.

Throughout their enrollment, students are supported by tutors, mentors, and advisors from Cecil County Public Schools and Cecil College staff. For more information on the Early College Academy, visit the website.



## CCPS Students Attend CADCA National Leadership Forum

Students from four CCPS high schools attended the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's 15th Annual Prevention Day held on Monday, February 4, in conjunction with the Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America's 29th National Leadership Forum held in Washington, D.C.

Students participated with their coalition partners in presenting Cecil County's anti-drug message and also participated in individual training sessions to learn how they can continue to improve upon the effectiveness of their youth coalition.

Students also participated in the Capital Hill Day where they were able to interact with state and national legislators including U.S. Senator Chris Van Hollen and Congressman Andy Harris.

Students who attended were Ainsley Erdner (BMHS), Matthew Lynn (BMHS), Kelsey Meis (BMHS), Gwen Klim (EHS), Asia Travers (EHS), Katie Crouch (NEHS), Hannah Tingley (NEHS), Mike Rando (RSHS), and Reid Wooten (RSHS).



# Cecil's Principal for a Day

During the week of February 25-March 1, thirty-two business leaders, elected officials, and community members participated in the first Cecil's Principal for a Day program sponsored by CCPS and the Business and Education Partnership Advisory Council (BEPAC). The purpose of the program is to strengthen relationships between schools and the greater community by giving an inside look at the daily operation of today's public schools supporting today's students.

Cecil's Principal for a Day participants shadowed a school principal in typical day-to-day activities and interacted with students and staff, providing participants with a first-hand and current school experience. This was also an opportunity for both the school principal and the participant to discuss each of their respective roles, the preparation of the future workforce, and potential future partnership initiatives.

The program culminated with a breakfast and roundtable discussion including all participants and their respective host principals on March 5 at the Cecil County School of Technology sponsored by BEPAC.

*"Principal for a Day at North East High School was a great opportunity to see educators in action and engage with students; our emerging workforce. Impressive things are happening in our schools. The variety of subject matter and programs available to students provide them opportunities to be challenged and skills necessary to chart their course for future educational and career success."*  
- Bruce England, Executive Director  
Susquehanna Workforce Network



## Expanded Athletic Opportunities for Younger Students

This year saw an expansion of extra-curricular athletic activities at both the middle school and the elementary school level. More than 350 students participated in the elementary school basketball "play days" held in March. In just its first year of the program, the positive response and participation supported the program need.

At the middle school level, new intramural team programs held in partnership with Cecil County Parks & Recreation included soccer (fall season), basketball (winter season), and unified track (spring). Each of these programs was incredibly successful.

While the programs provide students with an additional extra-curricular opportunity, it also builds the culture of sportsmanship from an early age, as has the middle school. A second play day will be held this Saturday, March 16, at all five high schools. Be sure to follow @ccpsathletics on Twitter for the latest news and updates on physical education and athletics in CCPS.





# Student Achievements

15 CCPS students competed at the Baltimore Science Fair. They brought home a total of 29 awards in addition to a 1st and 2nd place finish in physical science & 4 honorable mentions in physical science and biological science.

CCST welding students, Hunter Madron (PHS), Dylan High (NEHS), and Cody Savage (RSHS) received first place at the Maryland SkillsUSA competition in Welding & Metal Fabrication and then went on to compete at the National SkillsUSA competition in Louisville, KY.

The North East Elementary Game Warriors and the Perryville High School BrainAid teams were Destination ImagiNation state winners.

Students from all five high schools and the Cecil County School of Technology presented their capstone research projects at the annual Capstone Gallery Walk. Participating students are part of the STEM Academy, Project Lead the Way programs, or Career & Technology Education programs, and several middle school science fair winners.

The Cecil County School of Technology graduated 277 members of the Class of 2019.

75 students who participated represented all 6 middle schools at the CCPS Robotics Competition held at Cecil College. Great job! A special thanks to MSDE and WL Gore for the grants that supported this event!

North East High School FBLA Chapter received the following accolades at the Maryland competition:

Maryland Outstanding Chapter  
Region 3 Conference Champions  
1st Place-Local Chapter Annual Business Report  
2nd Place-FBLA Week  
3rd Place-Largest Professional Division Membership  
Maryland Who's Who Recipient  
Jamar Tolbert, Grade 12, North East High School

Over 100 girls participated in the Girls in STEM program held at Cecil College.

In November, students from Bohemia Manor Middle and North East Middle attended the AMC8 competition at Salisbury University. From CCPS, first place went to Emma Phelps and Holly Adams. Second place went to Barbara Morton, and third place was tied between Tristan Fleischhacker, Gavin Hawley, Brin Khanjar, and Allyson Miklas. The American Mathematics Competitions (AMC) is a program of the Mathematical Association of America (MAA).

# Staff Achievements

Dr. Jessica McGowan from North East High School was named Maryland FBLA Advisor of the Year.

Ms. Amy Sexton, Athletic Director at Elkton High School, was named the 2019 Maryland State Athletic Directors Association (MSADA) Athletic Director of the Year for District 7.

Perryville High teacher, Ms. Jennifer Terrell, was selected as first runner-up for the 2019 Maryland World Language Teacher of the Year!

Ms. Lori Pitcock received the award of Outstanding Educator in Gifted and Talented Education-Teacher as Leader from the Maryland State Department of Education.

Ashley Christy- Social Studies teacher at Bohemia Manor High School was named the VFW Teacher of the Year. Ms. Christy was named the 2018-19 Teacher of the Year by the Chesapeake City Memorial VFW Post 7687. Ms. Christy also won the district's award and the state of Maryland VFW award as well.

The CCPS Business Services Department has achieved the Government Finance Officers Association's (GFOA) Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting and the Association of School Business Officials' (ASBO) Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018. This is the sixteenth consecutive year that CCPS achieved these prestigious awards. In order to be awarded a Certificate of Excellence from these two organizations, a school system must publish an easily readable and efficiently organized Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR). The report must satisfy both generally accepted accounting principles and applicable legal requirements and the individual program standards.

In May, Bay View Elementary school was awarded their first re-certification as a MAEOE (Maryland Association for Environmental and Outdoor Education) Green School; they originally received their certification in 2015. MAEOE is the organization that certifies that the Green School is providing hands-on, inquiry-based instruction to students where they learn how to reduce their ecological footprint and encourage sustainable practices. Within Cecil County Public Schools, there are 11 Green Schools, or 38% of the CCPS are Green School certified. Statewide, there are currently 621 Green Schools or 27% of approximately 2200 public and independent schools





## Seal of Biliteracy

The Board of Education recognized the achievements of eleven recent CCPS graduates who earned the State of Maryland Seal of Biliteracy this year. Those students who met the criteria prior to graduation through a state of Maryland-approved language assessment were recognized for this prestigious achievement at their school's senior awards ceremony.

CCPS was among the first seven school systems in Maryland to recognize this achievement. In addition, the first Seal of Biliteracy for Arabic and English in the state of Maryland was awarded by CCPS in 2017. In order for students to be eligible to receive the Seal of Biliteracy, they must pass the Maryland High School Assessment in English 10; and demonstrate Intermediate High proficiency or higher in listening, speaking, reading, and writing in a language other than English.

Congratulations to these students!

Scarlett Camacho, Elkton High, Spanish and English

John DeBiase, Rising Sun High, Spanish and English

Ilario Ercole, Perryville High, Spanish and English

Mariana Espinoza-Barrientos, Bohemia Manor High, Spanish and English

Abanoub Fahim Matta, Elkton High, English and Arabic

Ethan Kyger, North East High, Spanish and English

Nelson Magana Alvarez, Perryville High, Spanish and English

Jovanne Saldierna, Bohemia Manor High, Spanish and English

Anna Scott, Bohemia Manor High, French and English

Alexandra Trupkiewicz, Rising Sun High, Spanish and English

Lily Waddell, Rising Sun High, French and English

## GFOA/ASBO Awards

On Saturday, May 18, the Business and Education Partnership Advisory Council (BEPAC) hosted its fifth annual Preakness Pride fundraising event at Schaefer's Canal House. This event serves as the central fundraiser for the organization and supports initiatives such as the Classroom Partnership grants, National Competition Grants, and two annual scholarships. This year, the event raised \$24,000 that will all directly support schools and students. In total over the past five years, this event has raised over \$100,000 to support BEPAC's initiatives.

In February, BEPAC announced a total of \$20,000 in Classroom Partnership Grants awarded to support a total of twenty-six projects. Examples of these projects include support for an after-school STEAM program at Elkton Middle School and an after-school Girls in STEM program at Cherry Hill Middle School, the purchase of a 3-D printer and supplies for Perryville High School, books for Book Club at Calvert Elementary School, and support for outdoor classroom space as part of the Green School certification project at Perryville Elementary School.

## Habitat Partnership

On Saturday, April 13, the twenty-first house built by the Cecil County School of Technology was moved to its new owner's lot in Perryville. The home was purchased by Habitat for Humanity Susquehanna. This is the second home that Habitat Susquehanna has purchased from CCST.

Construction of the three-bedroom house will be completed by Habitat for Humanity Susquehanna's volunteers over the next several months and will include porch framing, insulating, siding, drywall, doors and trim installation, and painting.

"This project represents many hours and hard work put forth by staff and students at CCST," said Principal Jim Miró. "The students felt a great deal of pride knowing that the house would soon become a home for a family here in Cecil County. CCST and Habitat for Humanity Susquehanna have partnered on this particular house and hope to continue the partnership for future homes."

Read the full press release [HERE](#).





A group of students in white shirts are performing on a stage. Some are standing in a line, and others are playing drums. The stage is lit with warm lights, and the background is dark. The audience is visible in the foreground, mostly in silhouette.

# Program Highlights

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Cecil County Public Schools has attained official organizational certification from the ALICE Training Institute. ALICE is an acronym for Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, and Evacuate. The philosophy of ALICE is to use technology and information to enable staff and students to make informed decisions in a crisis. In order to receive such certification, an organization must show that a minimum of 75% of employees have completed the online training modules over the first two years of implementation, all school-based active shooter drills must be entered and cataloged in the online portal, and appropriate emergency operations procedures must be submitted to the ALICE organization.

Thirty-two individuals served as Principal for a Day in our first year of the program hosted by the Business and Education Partnership Advisory Council. Each of our schools had at least one elected official or member of the business community spend time with them to learn about the every day operation of a school. Participants worked through lunch duty, spoke to students and staff, participated in Career Days and Read Across America activities, and more. We are so appreciative of the hospitality offered by our schools and the willingness of our Principal for a Day participants to jump right in!

On Tuesday, May 14, Cherry Hill Middle School celebrated its fiftieth anniversary with a celebration event attended by current and former students and staff, community members, and administrators. The event kicked off with a ceremony and was followed by tours of the building, activities for participants, an area to explore yearbooks from years past, and food trucks in the parking. Through the Striving Readers Grant, CCPS provided every 7th and 8th grade student with free books to read over the summer. Sixth graders also received books through the SPARK program.

A total of 173 students participated in the Upper Chesapeake Summer Center for the Arts held over the summer at Washington College. Disciplines included Digital Arts, Visual Arts, Literary Arts, Theater, Chorus, Band, Dance, and Orchestra.

North East Middle held a school-wide Service Day where students participated in service projects at 11 locations across the county including NorthBay, Elk Neck State Park, Fair Hill, Perry Point, and more.

In partnership with the Cecil County Sheriff's Office, Gilpin Manor Elementary served as the first Cecil County site of the PAL program which serves as an after-school program hosted by law enforcement with school students.





On April 2, 2019, the Cecil County Public Schools Teacher of the Year Gala was held at Singerly Banquet Hall and attended by over three hundred guests. The evening was spent honoring the sixteen nominees. The announcement of the winner was made at the end of the evening, naming Josie Perry of Rising Sun High School as the 2019 Teacher of the Year.

Ms. Perry is a National Board certified social studies educator dedicated to teaching her students about the diverse, interconnected world. She earned her Bachelor's degree in History-Secondary Education from Salisbury University (1999), her Master's in School Counseling at Wilmington University (2002), and an Advanced Graduate Certificate in Global Education from Rice University (2011). She is a Fulbright Teachers for Global Classrooms Fellow, serves on the School Leadership Team, and leads professional development. She is currently the coordinator for the Cecil County Teacher Leadership Network, a grassroots organization that promotes quality classroom instruction, teacher leadership skills, and advocacy for public education. Ms. Perry will go on to represent Cecil County in the Maryland Teacher of the Year process. She will be honored with other county Teachers of the Year by the Maryland State Board of Education at their meeting in May and will be recognized at the Maryland Teacher of the Year Gala in October.

A special thanks to our event sponsor, Aberdeen Proving Ground Federal Credit Union.

Congratulations to each of the following individuals who were nominated for 2019 Cecil County Teacher of the Year:

- Jennifer Barry, Elkton Middle*
- Sarah Bitel, Perryville High*
- Morgan Cooper, Perryville Middle*
- Tahiya Cooper, North East Elementary*
- Catherine Edgecomb, Perryville Elementary*
- Sara Evans, Rising Sun Elementary*
- Stephanie Hartman, Elk Neck Elementary*
- Amy Holmes, Bainbridge Elementary*
- Afton Kreush, Bohemia Manor Middle*
- Shanea Mifflin, Elkton High*
- Tabitha Orner, Bay View Elementary*
- Josie Perry, Rising Sun High*
- Wendy Reyes, Holly Hall Elementary*
- David Rhoades, Elkton Middle*
- Lia Smith, Thomson Estates Elementary*
- Kelly Strawbridge, Gilpin Manor Elementary*

# Teacher of the Year



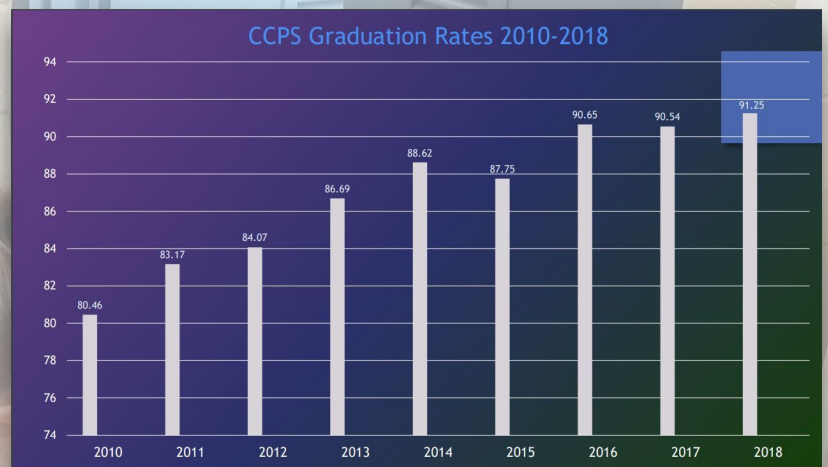


# Graduations Rates Continue to Rise

The data for the Class of 2018 reflected an all-time high graduation rate of 91.25%, breaking the 91% mark for the first time ever. The CCPS rate exceeds the state average of 87.67% by almost four points. In addition, CCPS reached an all-time low dropout rate of 6.59%, a drop of eight percentage points since 2010. The CCPS rate is lower than the state dropout rate of 8.38%. View the presentation from the board meeting [HERE](#).

In addition to the overall rates, CCPS saw additional positive trends in subgroup data. Students receiving

free and reduced meals (FARMS) saw an increase in graduation rate from 80.92% in 2017 to 81.73% in 2018. Special education rates have also increased by almost twenty percentage points since 2012. Class of 2019 data will be officially released in early 2020.



## CCPS Develops New Strategic Plan

In June 2019, the Board of Education voted to approve the new CCPS Strategic Plan, including a new mission and vision statement. The new strategic plan is for 2019-2024. The purpose of the strategic planning process is to set the course for the future of Cecil County Public Schools by refining the vision, mission, and values, as well as articulating the school system's priorities. The priorities will provide the guidance necessary to align programs and resources in a way that promotes student achievement and well-being as well as strengthening the entire Cecil County Public School system and community.

The Coordination Team began meeting in the summer of 2018 with assistance from consultant Michael McSheehan, Researcher/consultant from the University of New Hampshire, to guide the process. In addition to the leadership of the coordination team, a focus in the strategic planning process was community input. Several focus groups of over 250 individuals comprised of students, parents, educators, administrators, community members, and business leaders were convened three times each. These groups provided feedback on current strengths and potential future opportunities. The public also had several opportunities to provide input through surveys, which totaled over 5,600 responses.

### The Strategic Plan Coordination Team consisted of the following individuals:

Dr. Jeffrey Lawson, Superintendent  
 Ms. Dawn Branch, Past President, Board of Education  
 Mr. William Malesh, President, Board of Education  
 Dr. Carolyn Teigland, Associate Superintendent, Education Services  
 Dr. Robert Buckley, Associate Superintendent, Administrative Services  
 Ms. Lisa Lowe, Principal, North East Elementary School  
 Ms. Erin Lewan, Teacher, Perryville High School  
 Mr. Ryan North, Parent Area Feeder  
 Mr. Michael McSheehan, Consultant

## CECIL COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

### STRATEGIC PLAN

#### MISSION STATEMENT

CCPS serves equitably through positive relationships as a safe, collaborative community. We will ensure all learners acquire the knowledge, skills, and qualities to be responsible, caring, and ethical citizens.

#### STRATEGIC THEMES

- Safe Schools
- Equitable Rigorous Learning Opportunities
- Communication & Trust
- Recruitment and Retention of a High-Quality Workforce
- Community and Engagement

*Serving  
LEARNERS,  
FAMILIES,  
and the  
COMMUNITY*

#### OUR VALUES

**EQUITY**  
We promote fairness, access, opportunity, and inclusion.

**INTEGRITY**  
We practice honesty, trust, and transparency.

**HIGH STANDARDS**  
We meet each learner with expectations for growth and accountability.

**COLLABORATION**  
We work together to strengthen our communities.

**WHOLE LEARNER**  
We address the academic, behavioral, and social-emotional needs for each learner.

#### VISION STATEMENT

To educate and empower every Cecil County learner through equitable opportunities to build and strengthen our community.



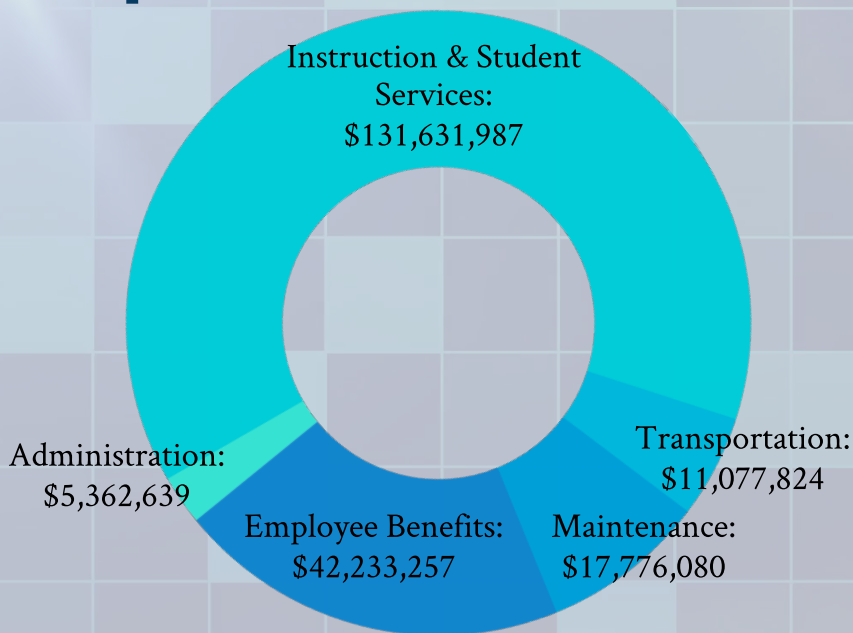
# FY19 Financials

Fund Balance Beginning 7/1/18: \$17,448,897

Fund Balance Ending 6/30/19: \$12,637,280

Expenses Over Revenue: (\$4,851,617)

## Expenses



## Revenue

