



# CALVERT COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## ANNUAL REPORT

| 2025



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# Message from the Superintendent

December 2025

Greetings CCPS Family,

I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to all teachers, staff, and administrators for your continued dedication and hard work. Your commitment to our students' success is inspiring, and the positive impact you make every day is commendable. Our district continues to celebrate notable accomplishments and points of pride.

## CCPS POINTS OF PRIDE

### Leading the State in Newly Appointed Purple Star Schools

Ten CCPS schools earned the Purple Star School Designation from the Maryland State Department of Education for 2025 - the most newly appointed in the state.

### Academic Achievement Above the State Average

CCPS students consistently exceed MSDE MCAP scoring averages, demonstrating academic excellence.

### Commitment to Excellence and Growth for All

The CCPS Strategic Plan underscores our dedication to safe learning environments, continuous improvement, and collaboration.

### Celebrating Musical Excellence

CCPS was named one of the "Best Communities for Music Education" by the NAMM Foundation, recognizing our strong commitment to music programs across all grade levels.

### Innovation in Digital Learning and Partnerships

CCPS continues to expand dual enrollment options, STEM opportunities, and partnerships that promote digital safety. Providing AI guidance and resources, CCPS helps prepare students for success in an ever-evolving digital world.

### More Five-Star Schools

The number of CCPS schools earning a Five-Star rating increased in 2025 - a testament to the hard work of our students and staff.

### Outstanding Athletic Achievement

So far this fall, CCPS teams earned two SMAC championships, three regional team titles, and two individual regional championships.

### Thriving Visual and Performing Arts Programs

Our arts programs continue to shine at the district, state, region, and national levels. CCPS has a long tradition of providing curricular and co-curricular experiences where students engage with a diverse group of the Arts community members. Students learn from community artists, premier military performance ensembles, and leaders in the field who share a belief that the Arts are for all.

**Recognition on the National Stage**

CTA students earned national honors at the *SkillsUSA Championships*, showcasing their technical expertise and career readiness. CCPS Students shined at the *FBLA National Leadership Conference*, receiving national recognition for their achievements in business and leadership.

**Commitment to Sustainability**

The newly constructed Beach Elementary School earned *LEED Green Building Certification*, reflecting CCPS's ongoing commitment to healthy, energy-efficient learning environments.

Thank you for your unwavering dedication and commitment to excellence. Together, we continue to make CCPS a place where students thrive, educators lead with passion, and our community celebrates success. I look forward to all we will accomplish in the year ahead.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marcus J. Newsome". The signature is written in a dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Dr. Marcus J. Newsome  
Interim Superintendent

## **About Us**

Calvert County Public Schools (CCPS) serves a vibrant community located 35 miles southeast of Washington, D.C., and 55 miles south of Baltimore. Although Calvert County is Maryland's smallest county by land area at 213 square miles, it is home to more than 90,000 residents and a thriving school system recognized among the state's highest performing districts.

CCPS includes twelve elementary schools, six middle schools, four high schools, a career and technology academy, and a special education center. The Calvert County Board of Education works in partnership with families, staff, students, and the community to uphold a shared commitment to educational excellence.

## **Mission of CCPS**

Our Mission for Calvert County Public Schools will raise the bar for excellence in education by empowering students with a rigorous academic and career foundation.

## **Values of CCPS**

- A safe learning environment and well-being for all
- Growth, achievement, and excellence for all
- A culture of collaboration and creativity
- Acknowledging diverse perspectives
- Responsible and ethical stewardship of all resources

# Who We Are – 2025

## The Board of Education

The Board of Education sets district policy, oversees the Superintendent, engages the community, and advocates for student-centered decisions. The Board serves as a liaison between CCPS, Calvert County citizens, and the Maryland State Department of Education.



*Left to right: (back row) Joseph L. Marchio; Paul E. Harrison; Mellisa M. Goshorn (front row) Jana L. Smith-Post, President; Marcus J. Newsome, Superintendent; Lisa M. Grenis, Vice President*

## Our Students

- **Enrollment:** 14,849 students (PreK–12)
- **Attendance Rate:** 93.4%

## Special Services

- ≤5% of students participate in English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)
- 10% of students receive special education services
- 22% of students receive special services free or reduced-price meals



## Demographics

- 65% White
- 14% African American
- 11% Two or More Races
- 9% Hispanic
- ≤5% Asian
- ≤5% American Indian
- ≤5% Hawaiian/Pacific Islander





## Our Teachers

- 1,075 licensed educators
- 69% hold advanced degrees
- 42.5% have 20+ years of experience; 11% have 30+ years
- 3.6% are in their first year of teaching
- 58 National Board Certified Teachers; 59 currently pursuing
- Starting salary: \$62,226 (Bachelor's) / \$66,817 (Master's)

# 2024-2025 Employee Recognition

CCPS proudly honored educators and staff for exceptional dedication, service longevity, and professional excellence. Highlights include:

- 167 employees recognized for 20–45 years of service
- Teacher of the Year: Mr. William Voshell, Calvert High School
- Educational Support Professional of the Year: Mrs. Wendy Badgley, Plum Point Elementary
- Washington Post Teacher & Principal of the Year honorees

**Employee Service Awards:** In February 2025, Calvert County Public Schools proudly recognized the exceptional commitment of 167 employees during the annual CCPS Service Awards ceremony. The event celebrated staff members who have dedicated 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, and 45 years of service to the district. This meaningful celebration highlighted the invaluable contributions of educators, support staff, and administrators whose long-standing dedication has shaped the success and growth of CCPS.

**Employees of the Year:** Calvert County Public Schools celebrated the exceptional contributions of its staff in April of 2025, honoring Mr. William Voshell of Calvert High School as Teacher of the Year and Mrs. Wendy Badgley of Plum Point Elementary as Educational Support Professional of the Year. Both recipients were selected through a rigorous nomination and review process, where candidates from each school were considered by a district-wide selection committee. All nominees attended the celebration in April and were recognized for their outstanding contributions to the district.

**Retirement Ceremony:** In June 2025, Calvert County Public Schools hosted a Retirement Ceremony at Rod ‘N’ Reel to celebrate the careers and contributions of 89 total retirees; 69 of whom were able to attend the dinner. Surrounded by colleagues, family, and friends, the evening was filled with warm reflections, expressions of gratitude, and well-deserved recognition. Each retiree was honored with dinner, kind words, and gifts of appreciation, acknowledging their years of dedication to students, schools, and the community. The event served as a meaningful farewell and a celebration of the lasting impact these individuals have made throughout their careers with Calvert County Public Schools.





**Mr. William Voshell**  
Calvert High School  
Teacher of the Year



**Mrs. Rachel Novick**  
Plum Point Middle School  
Washington Post Teacher of the Year



**Mrs. Wendy Badgley**  
Plum Point Elementary School  
Educational Support Professional of the Year



**Mrs. Rebecca Bowen**  
Calvert Middle School  
Washington Post Principal of the Year

# SMECO 2025 AWARDS



SMECO’s Outstanding Mathematics teachers from Calvert County. From left are Tammy Gastensky Wright, Windy Hill Elementary School, and Ashely Knight, Patuxent High School, not shown is Laurel Newcomer, Plum Point Middle School



SMECO’s Outstanding Science teachers from Calvert County. From left are Sherri Welcher-Brown, Mt. Harmony Elementary School; Jessic Bright, Northern High School; and Amy Harris, Windy Hill Middle School.



SMECO’s Outstanding CTE-STEM teachers from Calvert County. From left are Meagan Jeffries, Sunderland Elementary School, and Mickey Norfolk, Northern High School

# Blueprint for Maryland's Future

## Overview

The Blueprint for Maryland's Future is a landmark education reform law enacted in 2021. Its purpose is to transform Maryland's public education system into a world-class model that prepares all students for college, career, and life in an increasingly competitive global economy. The Blueprint is structured around five pillars:

1. Early Childhood Education
2. High-Quality and Diverse Teachers and Leaders
3. College and Career Readiness
4. More Resources for Students to Be Successful
5. Governance and Accountability



The legislation includes significant policy changes and increased funding, overseen by the state's Accountability and Implementation Board (AIB) and the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE). Funding and program requirements are being phased in over time, impacting local school system budgets and requiring adherence to defined timelines for salaries, staffing, and resource allocation.

## Benefits of the Blueprint

The Blueprint is designed to deliver broad and lasting benefits for students, communities, and the state. Research indicates that higher levels of educational attainment contribute to improved societal outcomes, including reduced crime, lower health care costs, increased civic engagement, and greater economic stability. For individuals, increased access to high-quality education is linked to higher earnings and improved quality of life. Economically, a well-prepared workforce strengthens business growth and Maryland's global competitiveness.

## CCPS Progress and Highlights

CCPS continues to make strong progress on the Blueprint for Maryland's Future, expanding opportunities and excellence for all students. Recent highlights include:

- **Pillar 1 - Early Childhood:** Expanded full-day Pre-K and stronger collaboration with partners and families.
- **Pillar 2 - High-Quality Teachers & Leaders:** Career ladder development, National Board Certification support, and enhanced mentoring programs to elevate teacher leadership and retention.
- **Pillar 3 - College & Career Readiness:** Implementation of the Science of Reading best practices, targeted math interventions, and expanded CTE and AP opportunities to boost achievement.
- **Pillar 4 - More Resources for Students to be Successful:** Enhanced ESOL programming, trauma-informed practices, and a multi-tiered system of supports for student success.
- **Pillar 5 - Governance & Accountability:** Improved financial tracking, community engagement, and alignment of resources with student needs.

Through strategic investment in educators, programs, and systems, CCPS is advancing the goals of the Blueprint for Maryland's Future and preparing all students for success in college, career, and life.

**View the AIB Data Dashboards:** [Blueprint Progress - AIB](#)

**Learn more:** [Blueprint for Maryland's Future - Calvert County Public School District.](#)

**View the CCPS Blueprint progress report:** [CCPS Blueprint for Maryland's Future Progress Report October 2025](#)

The Lighthouse Ledger – Volume 1, No. 1, Aug. 2025: <https://app.smore.com/n/r4s70>

The Lighthouse Ledger – Volume 1, No. 2, Nov. 2025: <https://app.smore.com/n/dska8>

## CCPS Career Exploration Camp

Calvert County Public Schools welcomed 42 rising 7th and 8th graders to its inaugural Career Exploration Camp, held July 28–31 at the Career & Technology Academy. Over four days, students explored local industries, participated in hands-on activities, and connected classroom learning to real-world careers. Highlights included field trips, live demonstrations, CPR training, a “Shark Tank”-style pitch, and a scavenger hunt along Main Street in Prince Frederick. Thanks to the support of numerous community partners, students gained valuable insights to help shape their future career paths. Be on the lookout this spring for information about Summer 2026 Career Exploration Camp!

## Career Advising

Through the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future, in partnership with the Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland and the College of Southern Maryland, all CCPS students in grades 6–12 now receive individualized career advising each year. This program pairs one-on-one guidance with real-world experiences to help students identify their strengths, explore interests, and prepare for success in an evolving world of work.



## Next Level Leaders Academy

The Next Level Leaders Academy is an extended professional learning experience developed by Calvert County Public Schools to prepare the next generation of school and teacher leaders. It is intentionally designed to meet the leadership development needs of educators within CCPS and aligns to broader system priorities, including the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future. This “grow your own” leadership pipeline supports teacher career pathways (Blueprint levels 3 & 4), preparation for instructional coach, lead teacher, assistant principal, and principal roles, and systemwide capacity-building by grounding leadership growth in real CCPS contexts and priorities.

This experience builds practical, action-oriented leadership skills through simulations, coaching, problem-solving scenarios, and exposure to district leaders. Participants not only learn theories but practice real leadership behaviors they can immediately apply in their schools. School culture and instructional improvement is strengthened through activities to improve communication, to support colleagues with emotional and instructional needs, to analyze data and address student learning gaps, and to engage in shared decision-making and innovation. The Next Level Leaders Academy provided high-quality professional networking and supports recruitment and retention.

# Student Achievement

## Maryland's Accountability System

Maryland's accountability system measures school and school district performance. It provides information to educators, parents, and the public about each school and paves the way for improvement. Through a strong accountability system, stakeholders gain an understanding of how schools are doing and where support is needed for schools to perform better. Every school in the state is assigned a star rating, which highlights the overall performance of the school on academic performance and school quality indicators.

The results of CCPS can be found: [Maryland Report Card - ReportCards - ReportCardSchool](#)

## Celebrating CCPS Student Growth on 2025 MCAP Assessments

CCPS students continue to demonstrate impressive progress on the Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program (MCAP), with results that reflect both strong achievement and meaningful growth across grade levels. The 2024-2025 school year was marked by rising proficiency rates, strong state rankings, and significant gains that showcase the district's commitment to student success.

- **Elementary:** Students built a strong academic foundation, especially in literacy and math. 3rd grade ELA proficiency rose five points to 68% (2nd in the state), and 5th grade ELA reached 60%. Math also improved, with 3rd grade proficiency climbing to 60% (3rd in the state). In science, 5th graders ranked 3rd statewide, well above the state average. These results highlight the effectiveness of CCPS's elementary literacy initiatives and math supports, ensuring that students are well prepared for middle school success.
- **Middle School:** Growth was especially strong in literacy and science. ELA proficiency increased six points in grade 6 and seven points in grade 7, with both reaching 66%. Math showed positive gains, and 8th grade science jumped eight points to 41% (ranking 6th in Maryland). Social studies also stood out, with 8th graders earning a 53% proficiency rate—ranking 4th statewide. These outcomes reflect meaningful progress in literacy and science while underscoring the district's continued focus on strengthening mathematics performance at the middle school level.
- **High School:** Students achieved some of the top results in Maryland. 10th grade ELA soared nine points to 81%, placing CCPS 1st in the state. High school Government, which has ranked first in the state for three consecutive years, increased its proficiency rate to 73%. Science also grew, nearing 60% proficiency. These results confirm that CCPS students are achieving at high levels and competing among the very best in Maryland.

While the district recognizes areas for continued growth, Calvert scores exceeded state averages and earned top Maryland rankings in several areas - showing steady gains across elementary, middle, and high school levels. CCPS is proud to celebrate the collective efforts of educators, families, and most importantly, our students.

## SAT Scores

According to the College Board Annual Report, the Average SAT Score is 1024 with a score of 519 on the Evidence-Based Reading and Writing section and 505 on the Math section. Calvert County students remain in the top scorers even with a decline over the past three years. Each of the two sections of the SAT is scored on a 200- to 800-point scale.

Average Scores of the Graduating Class for the past three years:

	2023	2024	2025
Evidence-Based Reading and Writing	531	579	578
Mathematics	516	564	560



## Graduation Rate

2025 graduates and families were able to celebrate with families, friends, and peers at the Show Place Arena in Upper Marlboro, Maryland.

The four-year adjusted cohort graduation rate has remained consistently high in Calvert County Public Schools. We are committed to graduating students with the skills and knowledge necessary to be successful in college and careers.

Year	2021	2022	2023	2024
Rate	94.72	≥ 95	93.54	94.30

## Multilingual Learners

- 18% of Multilingual Learners (MLs) exited ESOL by “testing out” on the WIDA ACCESS assessment.
- 13 Multilingual Learners graduated from high school in June.
- A new regional location is opening at Huntingtown Elementary to support the growing ML caseload previously concentrated at Mount Harmony Elementary.



# Instruction

The Department of Instruction drives curriculum development, assessment, professional learning, and policy implementation.

Notable achievements for 2025

- Growth in 5 of 7 ELA and 5 of 9 math MCAP assessments
- Positive gains in all MCAP science assessments
- Positive gains on the High School Government assessment
- Significant ELA literacy improvements through LETRS implementation
  
- Students identified as at-risk for reading difficulties (Grade K-3) dropped from 31.4% (Fall) to 16.3% (Spring).
- 73% of K-5 students scored Early, Mid, or Above Grade Level on the i-Ready diagnostic. Students achieved 133% of typical annual growth.
  - Domain-Specific Success:
    - 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade: 96% proficient in Phonological Awareness
    - 3<sup>rd</sup> grade: 97% proficient in High-Frequency Words
    - 4<sup>th</sup> Grade: 92% proficient in Phonics
    - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade: 95% proficient in Phonics
- For each domain Numbers and Operation, Algebraic Thinking, Data Analysis, and Geometry all grades Kindergarten through fifth grade are greater than five percent above the national norms in performance.
- All Schools are in the upper right quadrant for high performance and high growth on end of year i-Ready Diagnostic.
- Math proficiency and AP participation growth across multiple advanced courses
- Nearly closed access gaps in upper-level mathematics

### Seniors successfully completing Algebra II during CCPS career

	2006	2011	2016	2021	2025
All Students	67%	84%	82%	83%	100%
African American Students	51%	78%	76%	79%	99%
Students with Disability	20%	44%	54%	74%	94%

We have nearly closed the access/opportunity gaps for upper-level mathematics in CCPS!

### Seniors successfully completing post-Algebra II, University System of Maryland approved senior mathematics course(s) during CCPS career

	2006	2011	2016	2021	2025
All Students	40%	67%	63%	75%	99%
African American Students	22%	54%	53%	69%	98%
Students with Disability	0%	15%	12%	61%	94%

# Special Education

The Special Education Department provides comprehensive services, ensures compliance, and prioritizes inclusive practice.

## Priorities for 2025

### Communication Enhancement:

To streamline messaging across schools, SPELT will launch a SMORE newsletter, featuring updates on FAPE delivery, compliance, and disproportionality trends. School-based liaisons—Special Education Leads and IEP Chairpersons—will act as communication bridges, with supervisors guiding Lead Teachers and SPELT collaborating with IEP Chairs. Monthly meetings will reinforce expectations, and feedback loops via newsletter reminders will help assess communication clarity.

### Service Delivery for FAPE:

Instructional fidelity will be monitored using the Guide for Specially Designed Instruction, supported by Sherry Mansfield and IEP Chairs. Professional development will expand under Gregory, Nancy, Janet, and Nicole, covering FAPE, compliance, culturally responsive practices, and brain-based strategies for dysregulated students. Teacher voices are now included, with Jessie Reid presenting case management tools. Nicole Ayres and Margo Gross will continue enhancing PD offerings, with a new supervisor to be hired soon. Supervisors will attend complex IEP meetings alongside advocates to ensure safeguards, with Sherry Mansfield consulting as needed—but not replacing supervisors.



### Disproportionality Reduction:

Quarterly data reviews will analyze discipline, identification, and placement by race, ethnicity, and disability. Inclusive education facilitators will lead equity audits, and targeted interventions—led by Brandi Taeshner and Lisa Yankanich—will align with school improvement efforts through coaching and resource allocation.

### IDEA Compliance:

The MDIEP dashboard will track evaluation and IEP timelines, with non-compliance alerts shared with leadership. Mock audits will be conducted using updated documents from Sherry Mansfield and SPELT. Quarterly Facilitated Conversations webinars will provide IDEA updates and policy refreshers.

# Student Services

CCPS remains committed to student safety, well-being, equity, and engagement.

## Notable Achievements for 2025

- Sense of Safety:
  - Over two-thirds of students reported that they “always” or “often” feel safe at school (70%).
  - 77% of students indicated there is at least one adult at school who cares about them, reflecting positive student-adult relationships.
- Respectful and Supportive School Culture:
  - 78% of students feel their teachers treat them with respect, and 73% feel their teachers care about them.

## Notable Improvements for 2025

- Sense of Belonging:
  - Less than two-thirds of students reported feeling like they belong (64%)
  - 61% of students feel their teachers listen to their ideas.

While most students feel supported by adults, only about 43% feel that students treat each other with respect “always” or “often,” highlighting an area for continued focus on peer relationships and school culture. Restorative Practices Facilitators will support implementation of school – wide restorative practices to build relationships, resolve conflict, foster community building, and repair harm when community expectations are not met. Student comments frequently mention a desire for more consistent discipline and anti-bullying efforts.

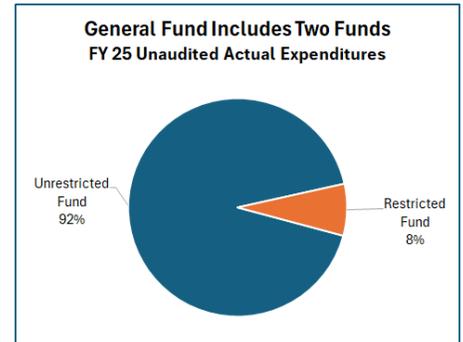


# Operations and Finance

The 2025 financial summary outlines changes in restricted and unrestricted funds, food service trends, and ongoing recovery from pandemic-related funding shifts.

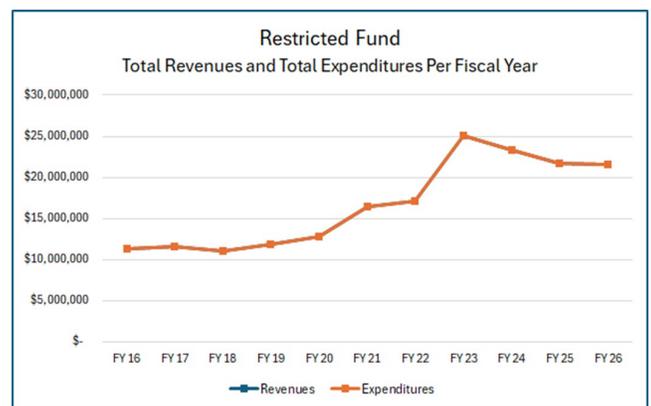
## General Fund

1. Restricted Fund - To record revenues and expenditures for *grant and other restricted funds*
2. Unrestricted (Operating) Fund - To record revenues and expenditures for *operating expenses*.



## General Fund: Restricted Fund and Unrestricted Fund

Covid-related grant funds have ended, so total grant revenues have declined the past three years.



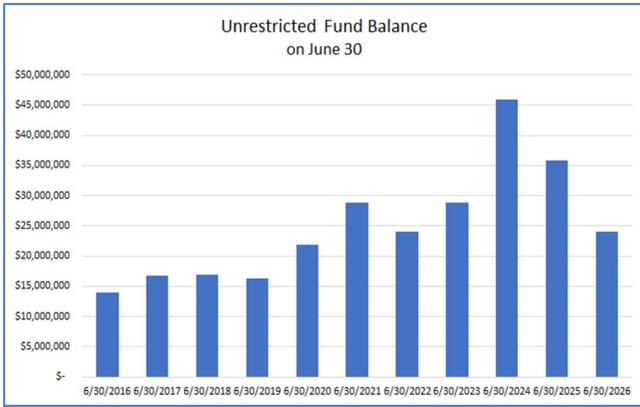
	Final Budget	Actual
	FY 25	FY 25
Revenues	\$ 23,500,000	\$ 21,706,522
Expenditures	23,500,000	21,706,522
<b>Revenues Over (Under) Expend.</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>

## General Fund: Unrestricted Fund

Fund’s purpose: To record revenues and expenditures related to the district’s operating purposes.

	Final Budget	Actual	Variance	Variance
	FY 25	FY 25	in Dollars	in Percent
Revenues (excl. FB use)	\$ 254,525,000	\$ 255,081,707	\$ 556,707	0.2%
Expenditures	271,525,000	261,851,470	(9,673,530)	-3.6%
<b>Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures</b>	<b>\$ (17,000,000)</b>	<b>\$ (6,769,763)</b>		

The District’s primary fund is also called “operating” fund.

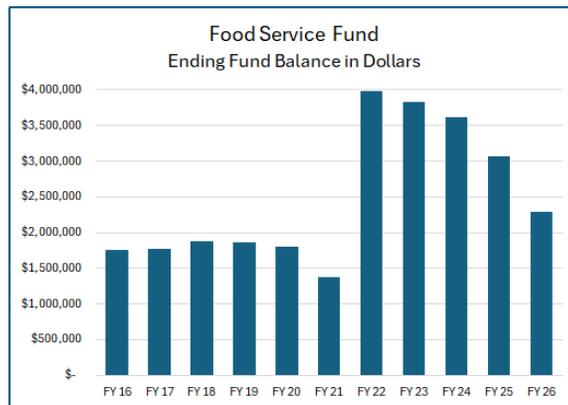


- Fund balance declined in FY 25. Most of the reduction was in unassigned fund balance
- District ended FY 25 with fund balance level over 0% of total unrestricted and restricted fund expenditures.

### Food Service Fund

	Final Budget	Actual
	FY 25	FY 25
Revenues	\$ 6,757,000	\$ 6,108,126
Expenditures	7,250,000	6,661,975
<b>Profit (Loss)</b>	<b>\$ (493,000)</b>	<b>\$ (553,849)</b>

Fund Balance spiked upward with Covid-related revenue and is gradually returning to pre-Covid levels.



# Planning and Construction

The department oversees long range planning, design, and construction of facilities in support of the educational mission of Calvert County Public Schools. We seek to accomplish these objectives through development of the Educational Facilities Master Plan, preparation of the 6-year Capital Improvement Program, programmatic development with CCPS stakeholders, and management of design and construction activities.

## Notable Achievements for 2025

1. Playground Design Standard that includes inclusivity in addition to accessibility
2. Calvert ES/Calvert Country School RFP for Design Services has been issued.
3. The PFA certification for the CES/CCS Parcel has been approved by Maryland Department of Planning, which is a significant step towards State funding support for project.
4. Stadium Lighting Upgrades at Patuxent High School
5. Kitchen Roof Replacement and Gym Roof repairs at Appeal Elementary School
6. Intercom system replacement at Plum Point Elementary School

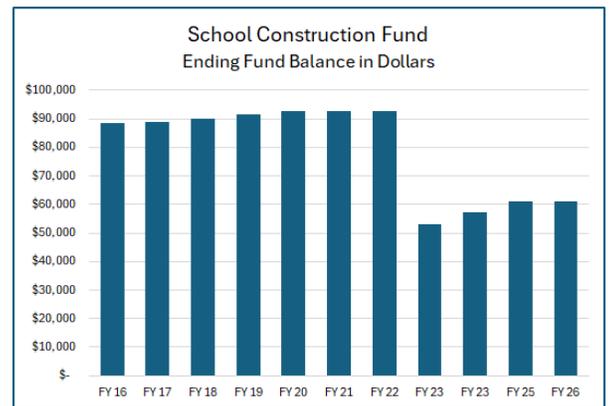
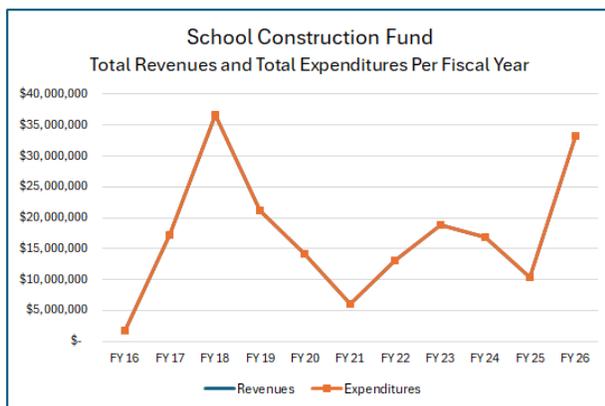
## New or Ongoing Projects

1. Northern Middle School construction.
2. Mary Harrison Center boiler and Auditorium Air Handler replacement
3. Windy Hill Middle School Chiller Replacement (Beginning November 2025)



## School Construction Fund

	Final Budget	Actual
	FY 25	FY 25
Revenues	\$ 15,000,000	\$ 10,336,234
Expenditures	15,000,000	10,332,245
<b>Profit (Loss)</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 3,989</b>



Revenues and expenditure can vary from year to year.

# School Facilities

School Facilities ensures CCPS buildings remain safe, reliable, and fully operational by performing ongoing maintenance and repairs that prevent disruptions, conserve resources, and support an optimal learning environment.

## Notable achievements for 2025

- Zero student days lost to mechanical failures in CCPS facilities.
- Two new maintenance vehicles.
- 100 percent of positions are currently filled.

# Technology

The IT Department delivered significant upgrades in connectivity, cybersecurity, digital learning readiness, and systems modernization.

## Notable Achievements for 2025

**Technology Infrastructure Modernization** - The Technology Infrastructure Modernization initiative included transitioning to UDT for internet service with 99.9% uptime and enhanced cybersecurity at no extra cost, upgrading networks at ChesPax, PPMS, and WHMS to over 20 Gbps—resulting in \$45K annual savings and \$75.4K in E-Rate reimbursements—and modernizing video and security servers, with legacy systems repurposed as backups to improve resiliency.

**Digital Learning and Classroom Technology Readiness** efforts included installing 75 SmartBoards, preparing 1,743 learning spaces, distributing and imaging over 7,500 student laptops, equipping 58 charging carts to support 1:1 programs, and refurbishing 1,000+ iPads for PreK–2 classrooms—all ahead of the new school year. Additional updates will be shared by the Office of Digital Learning.

**Cybersecurity & Data Privacy Leadership** - As chair of the MDK12 Cybersecurity Committee, we led statewide efforts to align digital tool procurement with A4L data privacy standards, responded swiftly to a SharePoint vulnerability confirming CCPS systems were secure, and developed the SY26 schedule for alternating monthly phishing simulations and cybersecurity PD through KnowBe4.

**Instructional & Administrative Tech Support** - We supported schools across all levels with master scheduling, developed new Cognos reports for MSDE chronic absence reporting, assisted Transportation with Bus Planner data and trailer Wi-Fi upgrades, and partnered with Finance to pilot secure printing and streamline copier management. Additional efforts included expanding camera coverage in key areas, updating staff access across multiple platforms with a full eSchoolPlus audit, and automating facility billing through PowerSchool ERP to replace manual Excel processes.



### Innovative Projects and Pilot Programs:

Key initiatives included creating a new IT section in the Employee Handbook, partnering with Construction to design tech infrastructure for Northern Middle School, expanding the district’s social media presence with five new pages and a centralized directory, producing strategic communications like the Opening Day video, onboarding a certified computer repair technician for faster service, implementing App Control to restrict unapproved downloads, and launching the Qustodio Parent App to help families monitor student online activity.

# Transportation

CCPS ensures safe, efficient transportation for students with upgraded GPS, camera systems, and integrated routing software. **CCPS currently utilizes approximately 200 contracted buses. We have 160 routes that run over 3.9 million miles.**

## Route Efficiency

CCPS changed routing software in May. The new software is more compatible with our GPS vendor and also allows us to create and pay invoices for our trips and routes for our contractors, all in one software. The new software is also going to allow us to look a Key Performance Indicators for each bus, each run, each route and our overall system to find ways in which we can become more efficient.

## Safety Initiatives

1. CCPS recently renewed our contract with CalAmp/Synovia for our GPS system. With this new contract CalAmp replaced all of the GPS systems with new systems and tablets.
2. CCPS recently signed a new contract with 24/7 Security to upgrade and replace the camera systems on every bus in the county. That was accomplished over the summer. Our system has six 4K cameras on every bus. The system has 2TB of storage and also has the ability to look into any bus “live” to see what is taking place if there is an emergency happening.



# Community Partnerships

CCPS celebrated major partnerships including Constellation, Cal Ripken Sr. Foundation, and Freedom Hill Horse Rescue that supported STEM innovation and literacy enrichment.

## STEM Center Southern Middle School

CCPS proudly celebrated the Ribbon Cutting of the new STEM Center, made possible by the generous support of Constellation and the Cal Ripken, Sr. Foundation. This state-of-the-art space will ignite curiosity, inspire innovation, and empower students to dive into science, technology, engineering, and math like never before!

A heartfelt THANK YOU to our incredible community partners, county leaders, and CCPS team members who helped make this milestone a reality. Together, we're creating pathways to bright, bold futures for our students!



## Purple Star Designation for Outstanding Support of Military-Connected Families

Calvert County Public Schools (CCPS) is proud to announce that ten of its schools have been awarded the prestigious Purple Star School designation by the Maryland State Department of Education for 2025. This honor recognizes schools that demonstrate an exceptional commitment to supporting military-connected students and their families.

Established by the Maryland General Assembly in 2022, The Purple Star Schools Program identifies schools that go above and beyond to provide welcoming, supportive environments and smooth transitions for military families. Maryland is one of 42 states to implement a Purple Star initiative, and this year's designation was awarded to only 23 schools across eight local education agencies.

Calvert County leads the state with the most newly awarded Purple Star Schools in 2025:

- Beach Elementary
- Calvert Elementary
- Calvert High School
- Calvert Career & Technology Academy
- Northern High School
- Northern Middle School
- Patuxent Appeal Elementary Campus
- Plum Point Elementary
- St. Leonard Elementary
- Windy Hill Elementary

Additionally, Mount Harmony Elementary School, awarded the designation in 2024, proudly maintains its Purple Star status.

To earn this designation, schools must meet rigorous criteria that demonstrate a comprehensive commitment to military-connected students. This includes appointing a dedicated military liaison to support students and their families, providing accessible digital resources specifically tailored for military families, implementing student-led transition programs to help new students acclimate, and ensuring that staff receive training on the unique challenges military-connected students may face.



*St. Leonard Elementary Awarded Purple Star Designation*



*Windy Hill Elementary Awarded Purple Star Designation*



*Beach Elementary Awarded Purple Star Designation*



*Calvert Elementary Awarded Purple Star Designation*



*Calvert High Awarded Purple Star Designation*



*Calvert CTA Awarded Purple Star Designation*



*Northern High Awarded Purple Star Designation*



*Northern Middle Awarded Purple Star Designation*



*PAC Elementary Awarded Purple Star Designation*



*Plum Point Elementary Awarded Purple Star Designation*

## Read to the Horses Program

Building Literacy, Compassion, & Community: One Story at a Time

Calvert County Public Schools, in collaboration with Freedom Hill Horse Rescue, established the Read to the Horses Program in 2024. This program brings CCPS elementary students to Freedom Hill Horse Rescue to read aloud to rescued horses. Students practice reading in a relaxed environment. Horses benefit from gentle socialization and human voices. Families are able to explore the rescue and learn about horse care and events.

### Goals

- **Boost Student Literacy** – Support confident, fluent readers.
- **Support Horse Rescue** – Help horses rebuild trust through positive interaction.
- **Strengthen Community** – Increase awareness and support of FHHR's mission.

### Practice Matters!

- Children become stronger readers through daily practice.
- Reading supports vocabulary growth and background knowledge – key ingredients for reading comprehension.
- Reading with a purpose (like helping animals) reinforces the idea that reading is meaningful and powerful.



# Directory of Schools

## Elementary Schools

### **Barstow Elementary School**

Principal: Sarah Weisner  
443-550-9510  
Fax: 410-286-4050  
295 Williams Road  
Prince Frederick, MD 20678  
Assistant Principal: Regina Barnes

### **Beach Elementary School**

Principal: Brock Fulton  
443-550-9520  
Fax: 410-286-4014  
7900 Old Bayside Road  
Chesapeake Beach, MD 20732  
Assistant Principal: Alisandra Ravenel

### **Calvert Elementary School**

Principal: Dr. Christy Harris  
443-550-9550  
Fax: 410-286-4015  
1450 Dares Beach Road  
Prince Frederick, MD 20678  
Assistant Principal: Krysten Sneade

### **Dowell Elementary School**

Principal: Jamie Smith  
443-550-9480  
Fax: 410-286-4016  
12680 H.G. Trueman Road  
Lusby, MD 20657  
Assistant Principal: Denise Harbaugh

### **Huntingtown Elementary School**

Principal: Eric Ruffo  
443-550-9360  
Fax: 410-286-4005  
4345 Huntingtown Road  
Huntingtown, MD 20639  
Assistant Principal: Alkeisha Williams

### **Mt. Harmony Elementary School**

Principal: Jason Patton  
443-550-9620  
Fax: 410-286-4017  
900 West Mt. Harmony Road  
Owings, MD 20736  
Assistant Principal: Angelica Van Bavel

### **Mutual Elementary School**

Principal: Stacy Hawxhurst  
443-550-9650  
Fax: 410-286-4018  
1455 Ball Road  
Port Republic, MD 20676  
Assistant Principal: Dona Hook

### **Patuxent Appeal Elementary Campus**

Principal: Michelle Beckwith  
443-550-9710  
Fax: 410-286-4020  
35 Appeal Lane  
Lusby, MD 20657  
Assistant Principals: Rebecca Amstutz, Cristin Williams

### **Plum Point Elementary School**

Principal: Beatriz Gonzalez-Wilson  
443-550-9730  
Fax: 410-286-4021  
1245 Plum Point Road  
Huntingtown, MD 20639  
Assistant Principal: Jenean Deahl

### **St. Leonard Elementary School**

Principal: Tammie Rudzinski  
443-550-9760  
Fax: 410-286-4022  
5370 St. Leonard Road  
St. Leonard, MD 20685  
Assistant Principal: Nicole Jimney

### **Sunderland Elementary School**

Principal: Pamela Myrick  
443-550-9390  
Fax: 410-286-4006  
150 Clyde Jones Road  
Sunderland, MD 20689  
Assistant Principal: Amanda Merillat

### **Windy Hill Elementary School**

Principal: Michelle Schmidt  
443-550-9790  
Fax: 410-286-4023  
9550 Boyd's Turn Road  
Owings, MD 20736  
Vice Principal: Holly Ims

## Middle Schools

### **Calvert Middle School**

Principal: Rebecca Bowen  
443-550-8970  
Fax: 410-286-4007  
655 Chesapeake Boulevard  
Prince Frederick, MD 20678  
Assistant Principal: Chandra Fleet

### **Mill Creek Middle School**

Principal: Dr. Joe Sampson  
443-550-9190  
Fax: 410-286-4024  
12200 Southern Connector  
Boulevard  
Lusby, MD 20657  
Assistant Principal: Matt Deegan

### **Northern Middle School**

Principal: Jamie Webster  
443-550-9230  
Fax: 410-286-4025  
2954 Chaneyville Road  
Owings, MD 20736  
Assistant Principal: Beth Wagner

### **Plum Point Middle School**

Principal: Kelly Cleland  
443-550-9170  
Fax: 410-286-4009  
1475 Plum Point Road  
Huntingtown, MD 20639  
Assistant Principal: Elliott Tyler

### **Southern Middle School**

Principal: Ryan Crowley  
443-550-9250  
Fax: 410-286-4026  
9615 H.G. Trueman Road  
Lusby, MD 20657  
Assistant Principal: Willanette Lohr

### **Windy Hill Middle School**

Principal: Mark Whidden  
443-550-9310  
Fax: 410-286-4027  
9560 Boyd's Turn Road  
Owings, MD 20736  
Assistant Principal: Kristen Ratcliff

## High Schools

### **Calvert High School**

Principal: Andrea Young  
443-550-8880  
Fax: 410-286-4032  
520 Fox Run Boulevard  
Prince Frederick, MD 20678  
Assistant Principals: Kristyn  
Madeja, Vincent Martirano, James  
Rodenhaver, Trey Sirman

### **Huntingtown High School**

Principal: Beth Morton  
443-550-8810  
Fax: 410-286-4011  
4125 N. Solomons Island Road  
Huntingtown, MD 20639  
Assistant Principals: Lynn  
Cunningham, James Carpenter,  
Rob Lawrence, Shaina Brickner

### **Northern High School**

Principal: Dr. Kevin Simmons  
443-550-8950  
Fax: 410-286-4034  
2950 Chaneyville Road  
Owings, MD 20736  
Assistant Principals: Erin Mathers,  
Mark Gladfelter, James Kurtz,  
Darrel Prioleau

### **Patuxent High School**

Principal: Anthony Barone  
443-550-8840  
Fax: 410-286-4036  
12485 Southern Connector  
Boulevard  
Lusby, MD 20657  
Assistant Principals: Michelle Bell,  
Francis Forrest, Lori Pellock, Anne  
Rickwood

## Additional Schools

### **Calvert Country School**

Principal: Racheal Lindauer  
443-550-9910  
Fax: 410-286-4038  
1350 Dares Beach Road  
Prince Frederick, MD 20678

### **Career and Technology Academy**

Principal: Carrie Akins  
443-550-9940  
Fax: 410-286-4039  
330 Dorsey Road  
Prince Frederick, MD 20678  
Assistant Principal: Bryan  
Sammons



# Nondiscrimination Statement



Calvert County Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, ethnicity, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability, or any other characteristic protected by law in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth programs.

Calvert County Public Schools does not refuse enrollment of a prospective student, expel a current student, or withhold privileges from a current student, or prospective student, or the parent or guardian of a current or prospective student because of an individual's race, ethnicity, color, religion, sex, age, national original, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or disability.

Calvert County Public Schools does not discipline, invoke a penalty against, or take any other retaliatory action against a student or parent or guardian of a student who files a complaint alleging that the program or school discriminated against the student, regardless of the outcome of the complaint.

The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:

- Director of Student Services
- Director of Human Resources  
443-550-8000

For further information on notice of non-discrimination, visit the Office for Civil Rights Complaint Assessment System at: <https://ocracas.ed.gov> or call 1-800-421-3481.