

FY 2027 Budget Adoption

Dr. J. Scott Smith
Superintendent

May 20, 2026

Ms. Tammy McCourt
Deputy Superintendent



Budget Priorities

Negotiated Agreements (includes Payroll Tax)

- Steps = \$4.7m
- 2% COLA = \$3.5m
- National Board Certification \$.3m
- Health Insurance, Pension



\$8.5M

(for 2,300 SMCPs employees)

Transportation

- Contracted bus driver/attendant wage increase
- Bus driver retention stipend
- Contract increases: PVA, operations, maintenance



Unrestricted Fund Revenue Budget

	FY 2026 Adopted Budget	FY 2027 Adopted Revenues	\$ Change
Summary of Revenues - Recurring			
Local	\$137,469,907	\$145,893,800	\$8,423,893
State	146,576,785	149,598,050	3,021,265
Federal	2,706,000	1,671,000	(1,035,000)
Other	<u>3,459,092</u>	<u>3,745,500</u>	<u>286,408</u>
Subtotal Unrestricted Fund Revenues - Recurring	\$290,211,784	\$300,908,350	\$10,696,566
Summary of Revenues - Nonrecurring			
SMCPS Fund Balance	7,722,231	5,030,088	(2,692,143)
SMCPS Fund Balance - CPCS	<u>137,201</u>	<u>224,548</u>	<u>87,347</u>
Subtotal Unrestricted Fund Revenues - Nonrecurring	\$7,859,432	\$5,254,636	(\$2,604,796)
Total Unrestricted Fund Revenues	\$298,071,216	\$306,162,986	\$8,091,770

Supported



Updated State Aid Revenues Released 5/19/26

	FY 2027 SMCPS Estimate As of 5/15/26	FY 2027 MSDE Final As of 5/19/26	\$ Change
State Funding			
Foundation	\$89,426,105	\$89,421,636	(\$4,469)
Transition Grant	1,625,591	1,625,591	-
Special Education	12,472,582	12,470,970	(1,612)
Transportation (Student)	9,481,437	9,481,437	-
Compensatory Aid	24,216,667	24,214,172	(2,495)
Special Education Tuition	800,000	800,000	-
Limited English Proficiency	2,341,158	2,340,841	(317)
Career Ladder	609,824	609,400	(424)
Full Day Pre-K	4,556,999	4,437,477	(119,522)
Post College & Career Ready	732,254	732,219	(35)
Transitional Supplemental Instruction	-	-	-
BluePrint Coordinator	85,689	85,685	(4)
Comparable Wage Index	3,249,744	3,249,582	(162)
State Total	\$149,598,050	\$149,469,010	(\$129,040)



Unrestricted Fund Revenue Budget – Updated 5/19/26

	FY 2026 Adopted Budget	FY 2027 Adopted Revenues	\$ Change
Summary of Revenues - Recurring			
Local	\$137,469,907	\$145,893,800	\$8,423,893
State	146,576,785	149,469,010	2,892,225
Federal	2,706,000	1,671,000	(1,035,000)
Other	<u>3,459,092</u>	<u>3,745,500</u>	<u>286,408</u>
Subtotal Unrestricted Fund Revenues - Recurring	\$290,211,784	\$300,779,310	\$10,567,526
Summary of Revenues - Nonrecurring			
SMCPS Fund Balance	7,722,231	5,030,088	(2,692,143)
SMCPS Fund Balance - CPCS	<u>137,201</u>	<u>224,548</u>	<u>87,347</u>
Subtotal Unrestricted Fund Revenues - Nonrecurring	\$7,859,432	\$5,254,636	(\$2,604,796)
Total Unrestricted Fund Revenues	\$298,071,216	\$306,033,946	\$7,962,730

Reduced
by
\$129,040



Unrestricted Fund Expenditure Budget

	FY 2026 Adopted Budget	FY 2027 Adopted Budget	\$ Change
Summary of Expenditures by Category			
Administration	\$5,001,804	\$5,168,751	\$166,947
Mid-Level Administration	21,294,257	21,925,241	630,984
Instructional Salaries & Wages	103,821,728	106,749,828	2,928,100
Textbooks and Instructional Supplies	5,491,364	3,939,312	(1,552,052)
Other Instructional Costs	2,702,322	2,221,320	(481,002)
Special Education	25,951,034	27,763,126	1,812,092
Student Personnel Services	1,862,980	1,938,544	75,564
Student Health Services	3,595,242	3,763,760	168,518
Student Transportation	25,697,113	26,934,397	1,237,284
Operation of Plant	23,397,160	23,953,402	556,242
Maintenance of Plant	6,152,686	6,417,491	264,805
Fixed Charges	70,635,938	73,074,217	2,438,279
Capital Outlay	2,467,588	2,184,557	(283,031)
Total Current Expense Fund	\$298,071,216	\$306,033,946	\$7,962,730

Reduced
by
\$129,040



Planned Use of Fund Balance

FY 2027 Use of Fund Balance:

Bus Driver retention	\$	1,220,725
Maintenance		1,000,000
Technology		809,363
OPEB		2,000,000
Total	\$	5,030,088



Blueprint Funding

Three tiers of new required financial reporting and allocation of resources to programs:

- Funding tied to students – total enrollment & demographics
 - Funding tied to schools
 - Funding tied to Blueprint program



75% Minimum Blueprint Funding Distributed to School

Blueprint for Maryland's Future

The Blueprint for Maryland's future calls for increased state funding, designed to transform the state's public schools, close achievement gaps, and accelerate employment opportunities for all Marylanders, regardless of income, race, ethnicity, or ability.

Funding for local education agencies will be provided through a weighted per-pupil amount, based on program-level funding. Funding will be distributed through a wealth-equalized formula that ensures that all students have access to a high-quality education. At a minimum, counties will be required to maintain or increase their per-pupil spending to ensure that the total per-pupil spending for each county is at least equal to the state average one year to the next. The Commission will monitor the maintenance-of-effort requirement.

Article 55 of the Maryland Constitution requires that the state provide a sufficient amount of funding to the local education agencies to ensure that all students have access to a high-quality education.

Maryland Education Article 55
 amount applicable to the
 concentration of poverty
 under

For the programs listed under
and (AIB) in FY 2025. The da
requirements. MSDE
The revis

funding requirements for FY2026 are
on March 26, 2026. The Board will review the funding requirements at all
requirements for FY2026 are

requested but not received for engagement and support of MCPS projects that it was presented, how

budget priorities. SMCPS continues to explore all possible options to maintain the quality of education for all students in FY 2027 and beyond.

The final ...
the school-level.

Summary of Expenditures
02 Mid-Level
Instructor

03. ☐ Other
04. ☐ Textbook
05. ☐ Other
06. ☐ Special
07. ☐ Other

08 50
09 1
10
11

Total U

1

St. Mary's

Blueprint for Maryland's Future

[illegible]

Special Education Populations	
1998 Extended IFSP	
2008 Non-Public Placements	
Total	

*Transportation costs in excess of designated transportation funding

FY 2027 Board of Education
Approved Budget

§5-234 “For each school, the county board shall distribute the minimum school funding amount for the applicable program multiplied by the school enrollment for the applicable program.”



Blueprint Funding Reporting

Per §5-234, LEAs were required to begin reporting to the Accountability and Implementation Board (AIB) in FY 2025.

- This data serves as a baseline for FY 2026 minimum school funding requirements (MSF).
- Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) & AIB issued Joint Implementation Policy #2 on May 16, 2024.
- This policy sets a requirement for FY 2026 in which LEAs must reduce by half the number of students at schools not meeting MSF.
- ~~For FY 2027, all LEAs are required to meet the minimum school funding requirements at all schools and for all programs.~~
- Policy #2 was amended on January 29 and again on March 26, 2026, whereby for FY 2026 and FY 2027, LEA's are expected to demonstrate progress. For FY 2028, LEA's must meet the minimum school funding requirements at all schools and for all programs.



FY 2027 Budget Timeline



Date	Description of Activity – St. Mary's County Public Schools
January 8, 2026	Superintendent's 2027 proposed budget presented to Board of Education
January 14, 2026	Board of Education 2027 budget work session
January 21, 2026	2027 proposed budget public hearing
January 28, 2026	Board of Education budget work session and direction on budget
February 3, 2026	Board of Education approval of recommended budget for submission to the Commissioners of St. Mary's County
April 21, 2026	Commissioners of St. Mary's County public hearing on recommended budget
May 12, 2026	Commissioners of St. Mary's County provide final direction on their operating budget
May 20, 2026	Board of Education adopts final 2027 operating budget.



Date	Description of Activity – Commissioners of St. Mary's County
April 21, 2026	Budget public hearing
May 19, 2026	Budget approval, setting of tax rates
June 9, 2026	Commissioners approval of Board of Education budget



Recommended Action

- That the Board of Education approve this agenda item as presented.

