

# **MARYLAND EDUCATION COALITION**

## **Post 2021 Maryland General Assembly Session Briefs and Resources**

The attached document provides its readers some **Post 2021 Maryland General Assembly Session Briefs and Resources** that were of interest and addressed by the Maryland Education (MEC), its 20 individual organizations as well as other partners and friends and only highlights some of the areas of importance to public education and related issues in Maryland with links to additional details or resources.

Please note that this document only focuses on some federal and state public education policy or funding issues that were approved through legislation. Also note that policies are dependent on the effective date of the legislation that contains the policy and in some cases the legislation may have additional effective dates or other conditions that may impact their timelines including the development, review or approval of plans, data collection, reporting, etc.

Similarly, you will find that some funding approved this year was added to the current 2021 Fiscal Year, some funding will be allocated during Fiscal Year 2022 or beyond and some funding has not been specifically allocated to be used within a specific category or program. In addition, some of the federal funding, especially from the most recently passed American Rescue Act has not been distributed to the state or local school systems. This may also impact local school systems proposed Fiscal year 2022 budgets to local governments. (more below)

Also, note that MEC or its organizations also address other issues that may not be included in this document such as Juvenile Services, Family Services, Social Justice, Racial Equity, issues specific to student groups, etc. We may provide more details at a later date. You can also click in the following for more General Assembly details:

- [Bills Passed by Both Chambers](#),
- [Bills Enacted](#), (Chapters),
- [Bills Veto](#)

### **A brief on the Maryland local school system education budget process**

- The state approves the state budget before the end of each General Assembly session or the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday each April.
- Local School Systems develop and submit their proposed budget to local governments for the next fiscal year by the end of April of each year.
- Local Governments update their proposed budgets with additional information from federal, state, and local school systems as well as other local agencies/departments and approve the local government budget by the end of each June. Local governments also have Maintenance of Effort requirements or minimums they must fund for local school systems and can only budget by major categories.
- Local school systems receive the local government budget by the first of June. They must reconcile any differences and approve their final budgets by June 30<sup>th</sup>.
- In Maryland, the Fiscal year is between July 1 and June 30<sup>th</sup>. (Federal is different)

Please note that Maryland school districts received large amounts of funding from the federal government during the past year. It is strongly advised that decisions for their use includes input from stakeholders. In addition, most of the federal funds are for one time uses and it is advised to never use one-time funding for reoccurring costs or new programs that do not have an ongoing funding sources when these funds run out.

Lastly, in between sessions, MEC meets and communicates regularly address the implementation of legislation that passed, to review legislation that may not and to begin considering issues we would like the General Assembly to address next year. We also meet with other state and national stakeholders, collect, and sometimes distribute additional news and resources and meet with various decision-makers.

If you have any questions, concerns, ideas, etc., please contact us at [md.education.coalition@gmail.com](mailto:md.education.coalition@gmail.com) or check out:

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