



**Committee:** Directly to Council  
**Committee Review:** N/A  
**Staff:** Nicole Rodriguez-Hernandez, Legislative Analyst  
**Purpose:** To receive testimony/final action - vote expected  
**Keywords:** #MCPS

AGENDA ITEM #8  
October 13, 2020  
**Public Hearing/Action**

## SUBJECT

Supplemental Appropriation to the FY21 Operating Budget, Montgomery County Public Schools, \$374,031 for Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund—Innovative Approaches to Connecting with Students Project Grant (Source of Funds: Federal Grant)

## EXPECTED ATTENDEES

None

## COUNCIL DECISION POINTS & COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

None

## DESCRIPTION/ISSUE

The County Council will receive testimony and consider action on a supplemental appropriation to the FY21 Operating Budget, Montgomery County Public Schools, \$374,031 for the Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund—Innovative Approaches to Connecting with Students Grant. The source of funds is a Federal grant.

## SUMMARY OF KEY DISCUSSION POINTS

- The Board of Education requested this appropriation on September 10. The County Executive recommended approval on September 24. The Council introduced the appropriation on September 29.
- This supplemental appropriation is needed because MCPS received funding from the Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund—Innovative Approaches to Connecting with Students Grant.
- MCPS plans to use these grant funds to implement professional development to maximize student learning and instructional impact during remote/online school. Program participants include district leaders, administrators, teachers, paraprofessionals, community partners, and family members.

### This report contains:

County Executive Recommendation (Sept 24, 2020)	©1
Draft Supplemental Appropriation Resolution	©2-3
Board of Education Request (Sept 10, 2020)	©4-6

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OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE  
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND 20850

Marc Elrich  
County Executive

MEMORANDUM

September 24, 2020

TO: Sidney Katz, President, County Council

FROM: Marc Elrich, County Executive *Marc Elrich*

SUBJECT: Supplemental Appropriation #21-486 to the FY21 Operating Budget  
Montgomery County Public Schools  
Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund Grant, \$374,031

I am recommending a supplemental appropriation to the FY21 Operating Budget of Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) in the amount of \$374,031 for the Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund Grant, funds made available as a part of the CARES Act. This appropriation will provide funds for MCPS to implement a professional development program for administrators, teachers, staff, and other stakeholders to ensure online instruction is offered with equity in mind. The program will include research on distance education on highly impacted and historically marginalized students, self-assessment tools, and increasing student engagement.

This supplemental appropriation is needed to provide spending authority for grant funds received from the Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund Grant. As a grant award, there is no effect on the County's current or future maintenance of effort requirements.

I recommend that the County Council approve this supplemental appropriation in the amount of \$374,031 and specify the source of funds as Federal Funds.

I appreciate your prompt consideration of this action.

ME:rh

Attachments

Resolution No.:  
Introduced: September 29, 2020  
Adopted: \_\_\_\_\_

COUNTY COUNCIL  
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

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Lead Sponsor: Council President at the Request of the County Executive

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**SUBJECT:** Supplemental Appropriation #21-486 to the FY21 Operating Budget  
Montgomery County Public Schools  
Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund Grant, \$374,031

Background

1. Section 307 of the Montgomery County Charter provides that any supplemental appropriation shall be recommended by the County Executive who shall specify the source of funds to finance it. The Council shall hold a public hearing on each proposed supplemental appropriation after at least one week's notice. A supplemental appropriation that would comply with, avail the County of, or put into effect a grant or a Federal, State or County law or regulation, or one that is approved after January 1 of any fiscal year, requires an affirmative vote of five Councilmembers. A supplemental appropriation for any other purpose that is approved before January 1 of any fiscal year requires an affirmative vote of six Councilmembers. The Council may, in a single action, approve more than one supplemental appropriation. The Executive may disapprove or reduce a supplemental appropriation, and the Council may reapprove the appropriation, as if it were an item in the annual budget.
2. The County Executive has requested the following FY21 Operating Budget appropriation increases for Montgomery County Public Schools:

<u>Personnel Services</u>	<u>Operating Expenses</u>	<u>Capital Outlay</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Source of Funds</u>
\$155,400	\$218,631	\$0	\$374,031	Federal Funds

3. This increase is needed to provide spending authority for the use of grant funds received from the Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund Grant. As a grant award, there is no effect on the County's current or future maintenance of effort requirements.
4. The County Executive recommends a supplemental appropriation to the FY21 Operating Budget in the amount of \$374,031 for the Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund Grant and specifies that the source of funds will be Federal Funds.
5. Notice of public hearing was given, and a public hearing was held.

Action

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland, approves the following action:

A supplemental appropriation to the FY21 Operating Budget of Montgomery County Public Schools is approved as follows:

<u>Personnel Services</u>	<u>Operating Expenses</u>	<u>Capital Outlay</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Source of Funds</u>
\$155,400	\$218,631	\$0	\$374,031	Federal Funds

This is a correct copy of Council action.

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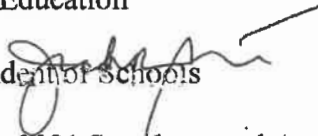
Selena Mendy Singleton, Esq.  
Clerk of the Council

Office of the Superintendent of Schools  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
Rockville, Maryland

September 10, 2020

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Board of Education

From: Jack R. Smith, Superintendent of Schools 

Subject: Recommended Fiscal Year 2021 Supplemental Appropriation for Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund – Innovative Approaches to Connecting with Students Program Grant

**Recommendation in Brief**

Authorization is requested to receive and expend, subject to County Council approval, a Fiscal Year 2021 supplemental appropriation of \$374,031 for the *Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act* Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund – Innovative Approaches to Connecting with Students Program grant. Under this GEER Fund grant, the U.S. Department of Education awards grants to governors for the purpose of providing local educational agencies with emergency assistance as a result of the Novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19).

**Background**

The outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic has had a major impact on Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) and its ability to provide teaching and learning to its students. As a result of the pandemic and in compliance with Governor Lawrence J. Hogan Jr. and Maryland State Superintendent of Schools Karen B. Salmon's direction, MCPS closed its school buildings beginning March 16, 2020, and did not reopen buildings for the remainder of the 2019–2020 school year. MCPS instituted a Continuity of Learning plan that has relied on distance learning for the remainder of the 2019–2020 school year, summer school, and the first semester of the 2020–2021 school year. The purpose of the GEER Fund – Innovative Approaches to Connecting with Students Program grant is to provide unique or innovative approaches to engage students, teachers, and school communities that address academic accessibility brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Support of Board of Education Mission**

MCPS will use the GEER Fund – Innovative Approaches to Connecting with Students Program grant funds to implement professional development that will be delivered to all MCPS stakeholders including district leaders, administrators, teachers, and paraprofessionals with the goal of maximizing student learning and instructional impact. The instruction also will be delivered to additional stakeholders such as family members and community partners.

The professional development explicitly infuses equity with online instruction and also will:

- Provide self-assessment and reflection on individual privilege and its impact on teaching and learning;
- Analyze current research on distance learning and the impact on highly impacted and historically marginalized students; and
- Introduce and explore a minimum of seven online applications and strategies designed to provide active learning opportunities to increase student participation and engagement through the lens of equity.

**Use of Funds**

Funds will be used to provide for:

- Non-position instructional salaries;
- Associated employee benefits
- Instructional materials;
- Contractual services; and
- Equitable services for non-public schools.

**Recommended Resolution**

WHEREAS, Montgomery County Public Schools has received notification from the Maryland State Department of Education that it will receive \$374,031 for the *Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act* Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund – Innovative Approaches to Connecting with Students Program grant; and

WHEREAS, The Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund grant requires that local education agencies provide equitable services to students and teachers in non-public schools based on provisions included in the *Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act*, now therefore be it

Resolved, That the superintendent of schools be authorized to receive and expend, subject to County Council approval, a Fiscal Year 2021 supplemental appropriation of \$374,031 for the Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund – Innovative Approaches to Connecting with Students Program grant in the following categories:

<u>Category</u>	<u>Amount</u>
03 Instructional Salaries	\$ 155,400
04 Textbooks and Instructional Supplies	72,946
05 Other Instructional Costs	133,175
12 Fixed Charges	12,510
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$ 374,031</u>

and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the county executive and County Council; and be it further

Resolved, That the county executive be requested to recommend approval of this resolution to the County Council.

JRS:DKM:AMH:jp