



# Howard County Council

George Howard Building  
3430 Court House Drive  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043-4392

## COUNCILMEMBERS

Calvin Ball, Chairperson  
District 2  
Jon Weinstein, Vice Chairperson  
District 1  
Jennifer Terrasa  
District 3  
Mary Kay Sigaty  
District 4  
Greg Fox  
District 5

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## School System Budget Review Committee to Convene and Begin Their Work

*Ellicott City, MD (August 16, 2016)* – Members of the County Council's School System Budget Review Committee, which was created by CR88-2016, will convene for their first meeting on August 30, 2016 at 6pm, in the George Howard Building's Bancker Room. The Committee will assist the County Council in understanding the current and any proposed operating and capital budgets of the Howard County Public School System.

On June 6, 2016, County Council Chairperson Calvin Ball introduced CR88-2016, which creates a School System Budget Review Committee and directs the County Auditor to conduct a financial audit of the School System, with the hope that it would provide a first step in a more transparent process, improved communication, and being able to work more collaboratively. The Council later adopted CR88-2016 on July 8, 2016.

"The bottom line is that we can all benefit from more information, greater transparency, stronger oversight, and clearer communication," said Dr. Ball. "These efforts will help ensure that we once again feel more confident that our resources are being used effectively and efficiently to support our shared priorities."

The County Auditor has met with Howard County Public School System officials and is awaiting financial records in order to begin the financial audit. The completed audit report will be made available to the School System Budget Review Committee after being presented to the Council.

According to CR88-2016, members of the Committee will analyze the operating and capital budgets for at least fiscal years 2014 through 2017, review each audit of the Howard County Public School System for at least fiscal years 2014 through 2016, review amendments to the operating and capital budgets while they are before the County Council, review any proposed transfers between major categories of the operating budget, review deferred capital maintenance funding and its potential impact on future budgets, review any projects or activities that were not fully funded, review preliminary plans for new school sites, and provide recommendations for any improvements to the fiscal year 2018 budget.

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The following members have been appointed to the School System Budget Review Committee:

- **Joshua Kaufman**, Former member of the Howard County Board of Education (appointed by Council District 1)
- **Olga Butler**, Active parent in the Long Reach High School PTA and Boosters (appointed by Council District 2)
- **Bill Woodcock**, Community advocate and financial manager (appointed by Council District 3)
- **Ellen Flynn Giles**, Member of the Howard County Board of Education (appointed by Council District 4)
- **Sheila Bishoff**, Active parent and former River Hill High School PTSA President (appointed by Council District 5)
- **Ananta Hejeebu**, Managing Partner of Howard Tech Advisors (appointed by the County Executive)
- **Ann De Lacy**, Member of the Howard County Board of Education (appointed by HCPSS Superintendent)
- **Jason Werther**, Co-chair of the Special Education Advisory Committee to the Board of Education (appointed by organization)
- **Paul Lemle**, President of the Howard County Education Association (appointed by organization)
- **Robert Coleman**, President of AFSCME Council 67 Local 1899 (appointed by organization)
- **Ron Caplan**, Executive Director of Howard County Administrators Association (appointed by organization)
- **Reg Avery**, President of the PTA Council of Howard County and Oakland Mills Representative on the Columbia Association Board of Directors (appointed by PTA Council of Howard County)
- **Ryan Sturm**, CPA and financial advisor (appointed by Howard County Chamber of Commerce)
- **Larry Twele**, CEO of the Howard County Economic Development Authority (appointed by organization)

All Committee meetings will be open to the public and materials will be available on the Council's website at [http://cc.howardcountymd.gov/School\\_System\\_Budget\\_Review\\_Committee](http://cc.howardcountymd.gov/School_System_Budget_Review_Committee).

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