

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing to urge you to accept the Washington County Public Schools' recommended 2024 budget, rather than go with the funding at the "maintenance effort" level your body is proposing.

For too long the Board of Commissioners has resisted funding public education in our county higher than at the minimum mandated by state law. This is not the way to support our growing community and population. Not only does WCPS need their requested funding due to inflation, post-COVID student needs and to enact the "Blueprint for Maryland" education plan, but your investment in public education means you're investing in a community that will attract homeowners and businesses, and thus more revenue along with a more educated, productive citizenry.

Thank you for your consideration of my concerns.

Sincerely,

Paulette Lee