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JANUARY 2023

ESMEC *focus*

MISSION: BE THE ECONOMIC ENGINE FOR THE EASTERN SHORE OF MARYLAND BY GRADUATING STUDENTS WHO ARE COLLEGE AND CAREER READY.

2023 LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES

THE EASTERN SHORE SUPERINTENDENTS OF SCHOOLS HAVE ADOPTED THE FOLLOWING FOUR LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES FOR THE 2023 MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION:



- **ESTABLISH RURAL BROADBAND:** With a high level of reliance on broadband to deliver instruction into student homes, we continue to struggle to meet the needs of all of our students.
- **SUPPORT KIRWAN FUNDING:** Provide additional state funds to continue the initiatives outlined in the Blueprint for Maryland’s future.
- **TEACHER SHORTAGE:** Institutions of higher education (IHE) in Maryland do not graduate sufficient numbers of teachers to address school system needs.
- **SUPPORT LOCAL CONTROL:** Oppose any legislation that negatively impacts the authority of the local boards of education and superintendents of schools.
- **SUPPORT CAPITAL PROJECTS:** Seek state funding for the capital requested capital projects. See FY '24 Capital Project requests below.

BLENDED VIRTUAL PROGRAM – UPDATE

The ESMEC Blended Virtual Program (BVP) is the first multi-district virtual public school program in Maryland. The 2022-23 school year began with over 200 students in grades 6-12 from eight Eastern Shore counties – Caroline, Cecil, Dorchester, Queen Anne’s, Somerset, Talbot, Wicomico, and Worcester – enrolled as full time BVP students. All ESMEC BVP students are enrolled in their local public school but receive their daily academic instruction virtually and they do not have to report in-person to a school. All BVP teachers are Maryland-certified and teach utilizing a blend of synchronous and asynchronous instruction. BVP students are eligible to receive any services that in-person students at their local school have access to, including food and nutrition services, health care services, special education and English language learner services, and technology support. Many BVP students are also taking advantage of the opportunity to participate in athletics and other extracurricular activities with their local school. The BVP team is currently focusing on improving the student success rate and planning improvements for the upcoming school year. The ESMEC BVP has received a lot of positive feedback from both students and families with 81% of families indicating a desire to continue in the BVP for the 2023-24 school year. ESMEC BVP ended the 2021-22 school year with an 84% student pass rate.

2023 MARYLAND SUPERINTENDENT OF THE YEAR

DR. PATRICIA SAELENS



Please join us in *congratulating* Dr. Patricia Saelens, Superintendent, Queen Anne’s County Public Schools as Maryland’s 2023 Superintendent of the Year. Dr. Saelens will now go on to represent Maryland in the 2023 National Superintendent of the Year program.




AN HONORARY AWARD OF THE MARYLAND SUPERINTENDENTS' ASSOCIATION OF MARYLAND (PSSAM)

Selected in November 2022 by the Public School Superintendents’ Association of Maryland (PSSAM), Dr. Patricia Saelens will go on to represent our state of Maryland in the National Superintendent of the Year program.

Born and raised on the Eastern Shore of Maryland Dr. Saelens received her bachelors and master degrees from Salisbury University and her doctorate in Leadership and Innovation from Wilmington University.

Dr. Saelens is the past present of PSSAM and the Eastern Shore of Maryland Educational Consortium (ESMEC). She conducted a three year term as a member of the Governor’s Professional Standards and Teacher Education Board (PSTEB) and continues to promote leadership throughout the state of Maryland in her role as board member of Leadership Maryland. Most recently, she planned and implemented as Aspiring Superintendents’ Academy for the State of Maryland.



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FY '24 Capital Improvement Project (CIP) - State Funding Requests

Project Title	Type of Project (addition and/or renovation)	Total Projected Project Costs	Anticipated State Share of Project:	Anticipated Local Share of Project:
CAROLINE COUNTY				
Federalsburg Elementary	Full Roof Replacement	\$2,368,035	\$2,083,871	\$284,164
CECIL COUNTY				
North East Middle/High School	Combined Replacement School	\$178,583,000	\$102,737,000	\$75,846,000
Cecil Manor Elementary School	Systemic Renovation – HVAC	\$4,755,000	\$3,045,000	\$1,710,000
DORCHESTER COUNTY				
Cambridge South Dorchester High School	Roof Replacement	\$2,079,750	\$1,705,387	\$374,363
Choptank Elementary School	Roof Replacement	\$1,995,000	\$1,558,000	\$437,000
Cambridge South Dorchester High School	Fire Alarm Replacement/Mass Notification Installation	\$1,321,000	\$1,000,000	\$321,000
KENT COUNTY				
Kent County High School	Roof Replacement	\$7,016,000	\$1,434,000 (remaining balance)	\$1,434,000 (remaining balance)
Kent County Middle	Planning Funds for School Replacement	\$120,000	\$60,000	\$60,000
QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY				
Kent Island High School	Roof Replacement	\$9,785,000	\$4,845,000	\$4,940,000
Centreville Middle School	Design & Planning	\$4,000,000	\$1,841,000	\$2,159,000
Kennard Elementary School	Fire Alarm Replacement	\$283,000	\$140,500	\$142,500
TALBOT COUNTY				
Chapel District Elementary School	Planning Request for Replacement Building (Design Cost)	\$2,502,000	\$1,251,000	\$1,251,000
White Marsh Elementary School	Systemic Renovation – Roof Replacement	\$1,878,600	\$891,000	\$987,600
WICOMICO COUNTY				
Mardela Middle & High	Addition/Renovation	\$82,196,000	\$54,935,000	\$27,261,000
Fruitland Primary	Replacement	\$86,415,000	\$36,986,000	\$49,429,000
Parkside High	Roof Replacement	\$12,900,000	\$11,692,000	\$1,208,000
WORCESTER COUNTY				
Buckingham Elementary	Renovation/Addition or Replacement School	\$575,197,000	\$17,182,000	\$558,015,000
Buckingham Elementary Design Funding Request	Renovation/Addition or Replacement School	\$75,197,000	\$17,182,000 (FY24 CIP Design Funding Request = \$1,494,000)	\$58,015,000
Snow Hill Middle/Cedar Chapel Special Design Funding Request	Roof Replacement	\$4,040,000	\$1,926,500 (FY24 CIP Design Funding Request = \$59,500)	\$2,113,500

October 2022

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