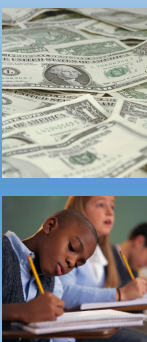


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ESMEC *focus*

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

2020 LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES

THE EASTERN SHORE SUPERINTENDENTS OF SCHOOLS HAVE ADOPTED THE FOLLOWING FOUR LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES FOR THE 2020 MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION:



- **TEACHER SHORTAGE:** Declare the teacher shortage in Maryland a crisis and adopt initiatives to encourage more people to become teachers.
- **FUNDING:** Support additional state funds for pre-kindergarten programs and meet the needs of student who live in households of poverty (FARMS), students with special needs (IEP), and student whose primary language is not English (ELL).
- **CAPITAL PROJECTS:** Support the state share of funds for the FY '21 Capital School System Projects. (See page 2 for list of projects)
- **LOCAL CONTROL:** Oppose any legislation that negatively impacts the authority of the local boards of education and superintendents of schools.

MARYLAND TEACHER SHORTAGE CRISIS

Historically, Maryland Institutions of Higher Education (MIHE) have not graduated enough teachers to meet the needs of Maryland public school systems. This trend continues. With the retirement of veteran teachers and the lack of teacher candidates, the teacher shortage has reached a critical stage. It is estimated for the 2020-21 school year, Maryland will need to recruit and hire approximately 8,000 new teachers. During the 2019–20 academic year, MIHE will graduate approximately 2,600 teacher education majors.

On the Shore, we continue to struggle to recruit and hire new teachers. As an example, as of November 1, 2019, approximately 150 teaching positions were filled by staff identified as not highly qualified and 64 teaching positions were not filled. In some areas, such as school psychologists, chemistry, physics, foreign languages, and special education there are no candidates. To address this challenge, Shore school systems have implemented Teacher Academy Programs and adopted 'grow our own' teacher scholarships. However, to make sure that every student has a highly qualified and dedicated teacher, we will need a concerted effort of state and local officials and the leadership of our MIHE's. The success of our students directly depends on the quality of the teacher.

ESMEC Energy Trust

With yearly uncertainty and significant increases in the cost of electricity, in 2001, the Eastern Shore Superintendents of Schools formed the ESMEC Energy Trust. The purpose of the Energy Trust is to limit, to the extent possible, the yearly increases in energy costs and for budgeting purposes, stabilize the cost of electricity. Growing from the original membership of the nine public school systems on the Shore, currently a total of 26 organizations are members including institutions of higher education and county and town governments. Through bulk purchasing and using the futures market, when compared to the standard rate of offer, over the last 19 years, the Energy Trust has provided a cost avoidance of over \$21 million.

Digital Divide: High-Speed Internet

On the Shore, we have a digital divide. Many of our students on the Shore reside in remote areas without access to high-speed internet. As our schools move to more "cloud-based" instructional materials and activities, access to high-speed internet is critical. Due to return on investment concerns, some high-speed internet providers are unable to meet the needs of households located in rural areas or the cost to the household is prohibitive. Providing a solution to the digital divide, Choptank Electric Cooperative has developed a plan to deliver high-speed internet. The Eastern Shore Superintendents of Schools endorse the Choptank Electric Cooperative proposal as another potential pathway to provide high-speed internet to our rural communities.



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FY '21 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				
Greensboro Elementary School	Replacement School	\$50,455,000	\$11,603,000 - FY20 \$16,885,000 - FY21 \$28,488,000 - Total	\$21,967,000
CECIL COUNTY				
Chesapeake City Elementary School	Replacement School	\$26,560,000	\$10,437,000	\$16,123,000
Cecil Manor Elementary School	Systemic Renovation – HVAC	\$2,419,000	\$1,597,000	\$822,000
Leeds Elementary School	Systemic Renovation – Boiler Replacement	\$530,000	\$350,000	\$180,000
Bohemia Manor MS/HS	Systemic Renovation – Cooling Tower Replacement	\$505,000	\$333,000	\$172,000
North East Middle School	Replacement School	\$48,387,000	\$27,636,000	\$20,751,000
DORCHESTER COUNTY				
Vienna Elementary School	Roof Replacement	\$1,074,000	\$729,600	\$344,000
Sandy Hill Elementary School	Roof Replacement	\$1,995,000	\$1,444,000	\$551,000
Cambridge South Dorchester High School	Roof Replacement	\$5,040,000	\$3,648,000	\$1,392,000
South Dorchester K8	HVAC/Life Safety/Above Ceiling	\$7,837,500	\$5,130,000	\$2,707,500
Choptank Elementary School	Roof Replacement	\$1,500,000	\$1,140,000	\$360,000
Warwick Elementary School	Renovation/Addition/Replacement	\$32,012,350	\$16,767,000	\$15,244,470
Sandy Hill Elementary School	Renovation/Addition/Replacement	\$36,181,615	\$18,964,157	\$17,217,458
KENT COUNTY				
Rock Hall Elementary School	Systemic Renovation – Interior Renovation	\$2,378,000	\$1,060,000	\$1,318,000
Galena Elementary School	Addition/Renovation	\$6,218,000	\$2,731,000	\$3,487,000
QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY				
Bayside Elementary School	Exterior Window & Door Replacement	\$328,000	\$148,000	\$180,000
Sudlersville Elementary School	Chiller Replacement	\$337,000	\$153,000	\$184,000
Sudlersville Elementary School	Fire Alarm Replacement	\$332,000	\$150,000	\$182,000
Kent Island High School	Roof Replacement	\$4,480,000	\$2,040,000	\$2,440,000
SOMERSET COUNTY				
Crisfield Academy & High School	Roof Replacement	\$3,045,000	\$2,900,000	\$145,000
Ewell Elementary School	Replacement School (Local Planning Request)	\$5,185,790 (FY'23)	\$4,589,000	\$596,790
TALBOT COUNTY				
Easton Elementary School	Replacement Construction	\$52,748,000	\$21,097,000	\$31,651,000
WICOMICO COUNTY				
Beaver Run Elementary	Replacement School	\$49,180,000	\$27,399,000	\$21,781,000
Mardela Middle & High	Addition/Renovation	\$71,815,000	\$36,540,000	\$35,275,000
Westside Intermediate	Systemic Renovation – Roof Repair/Replacement	\$2,035,000	\$1,754,000	\$281,000
WORCESTER COUNTY				
Pocomoke Middle School	Roof Replacement	\$2,794,500	\$1,275,000	\$1,519,500
Stephen Decatur Middle School	Addition (Planning Request)	\$9,349,000	\$362,000	\$8,987,000

November 11, 2019

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