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PRESENT

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Governor

HONORABLE NANCY KOPP

Treasurer

HONORABLE PETER FRANCHOT

Comptroller

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GOVERNOR HOGAN: Good morning.

ALL: Good morning.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Welcome, everyone. Thank you very much for joining us this morning. We've got a packed house. We've got a long Agenda ahead of us today. So I'm going to go ahead and get started and turn the floor over to my colleagues for any opening comments. Madam Treasurer?

TREASURER KOPP: Governor, it's good to be here.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Good to be here with you. Mr. Comptroller?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Thank you, Governor. And Madam Treasurer, good morning. Yesterday, actually the day before yesterday, marked the beginning of this year's tax filing season. And once again the dedicated men and women of my agency will work diligently to provide efficient and effective service to Maryland taxpayers.

Last year my office collected more than \$16 billion in revenue, processed more than three million individual tax returns, and disbursed \$2.6 billion worth of refunds in less than three business days. As part of our commitment to providing first class service, we've hired additional staff including 25 new employees to work in our first remote call center in Salisbury on the Shore, which we officially opened yesterday, to reduce call wait times and

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enhance the agency's ability to provide superior customer service. And over the next few months my office will keep a watchful eye for fraudulent returns submitted by criminals who seek to compromise the financial integrity and security of innocent Maryland taxpayers.

I'd like to once again personally thank Governor Hogan for agreeing to introduce my agency's Taxpayer Protection Act as part of his administration's legislative package. This critically important piece of legislation will strengthen my agency's ability to protect Marylanders from these increasingly sophisticated fraud schemes and go after the fraudsters who are becoming more brazen everyday.

Last week, my agency held our first ever Taxpayer Security Summit in Baltimore. Madam Treasurer, I was so glad that you were able to attend. I'd also like to thank Mark Newgent for representing the Governor's Office. The summit highlighted the need for cross-sector collaboration and the need for tax administrators to have the appropriate statutory and legal powers to address these financial crimes. So I look forward to working with the Legislature to enact these much needed reforms to fight fraud and identity theft.

And Governor, let me just close by expressing my gratitude to the hardworking men and women of the Comptroller's Office for the exemplary public service they provide on a daily basis. Whether it's protecting citizens from tax fraud or providing taxpayers with respect, responsiveness, and results, my

team continues to go above and beyond to provide the best service to Marylanders. Thank you, Governor.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you, Mr. Comptroller. I want to thank you for your leadership on the Taxpayer Protection Act. I mean, the Comptroller has been at the forefront of this issue, protecting taxpayers from and educating them about tax fraud. And I very much look forward to working with you to see if we can't get this vital legislation passed. So thank you.

TREASURER KOPP: And I'd like to thank you for inviting me to your summit. It really, it was very enlightening and very helpful and if there's a way to spread that message I would be delighted to help.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: I also gave the Treasurer one of my medallions.

TREASURER KOPP: Yes.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yep.

TREASURER KOPP: Yes, you did.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Wow.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: In front of the audience, and the U.S. Attorney, and all these muckamucks that were there. And so.

TREASURER KOPP: Thank you.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Very good.

TREASURER KOPP: I wondered who it was actually meant for but --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Well I'm delighted you were there.

TREASURER KOPP: Okay.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: All right. We're going to go ahead and get started with the Secretary's Agenda. Good morning.

SECRETARY MCDONALD: Good morning, Governor Hogan, Madam Treasurer, Mr. Comptroller. We have 14 items on the Secretary's Agenda. There are seven reports of emergency procurements. Item 14 is the proposed Capital Improvement Program for the school construction so we will hold that until after the whole meeting is over. But we will take your questions on the first 13 items and the emergencies.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: I'd like to start, if we could, with Item 11. This is the Maryland Stadium Authority is requesting Board of Public Works approval to enter into an agreement with the Baltimore Ravens which will provide enhanced game day amenities and infrastructure improvements at M&T Stadium. I see Dick Cass, President of the Ravens, is here with us. And Dick, if you could come forward and maybe say a few words? Just let me say while he's on the way up here that M&T Stadium was recently ranked the number one in the NFL for a game day experience. So let me give congratulations --

(Applause.)

MR. CASS: Thank you. Well we're number one but we want to stay there --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Right. Exactly.

MR. CASS: -- so we're working hard to keep it going. So we've got a plan to spend \$120 million over the next three years on various improvements at the stadium. And we've worked closely with the Maryland Stadium Authority to get it into shape and we're ready to go. You'll see some improvements next season. So thank you.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Well thank you very much. Go ahead, sir.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: I wonder if your general counsel could come up, too?

MR. CASS: Yes, please. Brandon?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yep.

MR. CASS: Brandon Etheridge is our new general counsel. And he's worked on this as well, so we've worked on this together.

MR. ETHERIDGE: Good morning.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Good morning.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Well I'm very pleased to have President Cass and General Counsel Etheridge here. I want to echo what the Governor said about this consumer group coming up with a new ranking where --

MR. CASS: We didn't actually pay them, either.

(Laughter.)

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah. Exactly. No, this thing has credibility. And it's, as far as the fan experience, you, the Ravens, are I think distinguished for being number one in the NFL. And I will also mention, just because I know it's getting warmer these days --

MR. CASS: Indeed.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: -- I believe the Orioles' stadium was voted number one in Major League Baseball.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: It's true.

MR. CASS: They are actually number one overall.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Yes.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Number one overall. But congratulations --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: We're very proud to have both the number one in the NFL, number one in the MLB, and number one overall. So Maryland ought to be pretty proud of its stadiums.

MR. CASS: Should be.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: We're going to try to make, continue to make you the number one for fan experience. And the only thing besides these improvements that I can think of is just let's win some more games and that would be --

MR. CASS: That's --

(Laughter.)

GOVERNOR HOGAN: That would improve --

MR. CASS: That's a very good point. Our fan ratings would go much higher if we won a few more games.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Much higher.

MR. CASS: There's no doubt about that.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: All right. Well thank you.

MR. CASS: Thank you.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: We want to make sure you stay number one.

TREASURER KOPP: Can I say, are you going to look at all at the possibility of a retractable roof?

MR. CASS: It's not, I don't think it's realistic. It's so expensive to do that. It just, I don't think, it's just not really feasible.

TREASURER KOPP: I have to tell you that the Comptroller and I were among the half dozen Montgomery County legislators who supported the stadium. I --

MR. CASS: Thank you.

TREASURER KOPP: -- and I still think it was an excellent move. But I really regret we did not do that at the beginning.

MR. CASS: Well you know it's interesting when you look at the cost. Our stadium cost \$220 million to build. When we finish this new capital improvement program we will have put another \$220 million into the stadium on improvements. But when you look around the country right now, the stadium in Atlanta is approaching \$2 billion. The stadium in L.A. is \$2 billion. Jerry's World in Dallas is about \$1.3 billion. Meadowlands is \$1.7 billion. So it's hard to, even and the Meadowlands does not have a roof over it.

TREASURER KOPP: Yeah.

MR. CASS: So you really, the costs really begin to rise.

TREASURER KOPP: Well it's a great stadium.

MR. CASS: It is a great stadium.

TREASURER KOPP: We're very proud of it.

MR. CASS: It's a great game day experience. It's a great place to watch a football game. And hopefully we'll have a few more concerts this summer.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Would you ask, tell Mr. Bisciotti I'm glad he's writing a check for \$120 million.

MR. CASS: I will.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: And --

MR. CASS: He will be --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: -- I'm happy to have built the stadium, I guess --

MR. CASS: We --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: -- with public dollars, but delighted, or delighted to see him --

MR. CASS: It's really --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: -- stepping up and --

MR. CASS: It's really important to keep your stadium fresh and new. And keep it a good place to come.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah, but it's unusual to have someone --

TREASURER KOPP: Yeah.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: -- of his stature and acumen step up and say I'm going to put my own money into this.

MR. CASS: It's a commitment to Maryland. You know, at the same time we're spending \$45 million to improve our facility in Owings Mills.

So it's a major commitment we're making to the State of Maryland. So thank you very much.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Dick, I don't want to give you any heads up on how we might vote on this --

(Laughter.)

(Applause.)

MR. CASS: Thank you very much.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: All right. Thank you very much. I'd like to move to Item A7.

SECRETARY MCDONALD: That is an emergency report from really the Department of General Services. Secretary Churchill talking about the -
-

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Yeah, this is --

SECRETARY MCDONALD: -- Frederick County lease that we discussed last week.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: This is the Department of Human Resources lease in Frederick County. And I know we have representatives from both departments here to just talk about, update us on where we are with the plan from when we left at our last meeting.

TREASURER KOPP: I see the County Executive --

MR. CHURCHILL: Yes, Assistant Secretary Wendy Scott-Napier.

MS. SCOTT-NAPIER: Good morning --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Good morning.

MS. SCOTT-NAPIER: -- Madam Treasurer, Governor, and Comptroller.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Good morning. So we're looking for an update from our last meeting as to the work that you did with the local government to try to address some of their concerns.

MS. SCOTT-NAPIER: Yes. The very following week that we met our Deputy Secretary Nelson Reichart attended with Deputy Secretary Gregory James a meeting in Frederick County with the County Executive and Delegate Krimm, as I understand it. I was not at the meeting but I was told that there was good discussion on transportation issues and analyzing what could be done by DHR to look at the programs and see if they could possibly do some satellite locations at other county offices. I know Deputy Secretary James is here. Good morning. He might have more information than I do.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Good morning.

MR. JAMES: Good morning. I'm Acting Secretary James from the Department of Human Resources. As Deputy Secretary Scott-Napier mentioned, the Monday following our last Board of Public Works meeting we had

a very productive meeting in Frederick County. I had the pleasure of attending that. We met with the County Executive as well as representatives from DGS. The Department of Transportation, who is also here with us and can provide an update as well, were not there but they have been in constant conversation. And since that meeting our local Department of Social Services has been in constant communication with the County Executive's office exploring a variety of different strategies that we can look at to mitigate any impact that this move would have on our clients, which is of course our primary concern.

What we have come up with is a combined strategy of a number of things. But I also want to stress we want to see what the impact is going to be as we move through this transition. And so we're going to watch what strategies have worked. And if we need to alter our approach, we're going to do that. So we'll be watching not just for the first few weeks but for the first couple years to see what we're doing.

So in anticipation of that move we will have an extensive outreach campaign to our existing clients and our community partners to let them know about our new location and make sure they have that information. One of the other things we are planning to do is enhance the outreach that we already have to go out into the community and meet with our clients directly, especially those who may have transportation issues that would limit their ability to come into the department.

And we are also going to be out-stationing two computer kiosks, along with scanners, at the offices of two of our primary community partner organizations in Downtown Frederick so that our clients can fill out their application for benefits there. We'll provide training and support to those organizations so that they understand and as necessary will adjust our staffing to support those activities. And our local director, Martha Sprow, is also with us here today. I'm sorry --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Well let's wait until the MTA Director addresses, then we'll bring the county folks --

MR. JAMES: Sure.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Yeah. Thank you very much, Secretary James. Good morning. Paul Comfort with the MTA.

MR. COMFORT: Good morning, Governor, good to see you, Comptroller Franchot, Treasurer Kopp, great to be with you. So we're happy that MDOT was able to be so responsive and nimble in helping to provide extra service. As you know, we have a program called the Locally Operated Transit Service, LOTS, where we help fund and provide technical assistance to all the county transit systems in Maryland. And so we were able to work with them to provide, basically they already had a route that was going basically to this area but we're adding an additional shuttle that will originate at the transit center in Downtown Frederick, at the MARC train station where it can connect with seven

other routes. And it would be bidirectional and provide a circulator service to connect with northbound and southbound stops. So we'll provide, basically every 30 minutes there will be a bus going to the new DSS building. There will be 22 stops daily northbound and 24 daily coming southbound. And we're able to do this by flexing federal funds and the local funds that Frederick had already put in to make this happen. And so we're going to be able to make all this happen by January, July 1st, when this starts.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Wow. Great. Well thank you very much. Let's hear from the local folks, maybe. Maybe the County Executive first, should we do that? That's the right order. County Executive Gardner, thank you for joining us.

MS. GARDNER: Thank you for having us today. I'll be quick. We did have a very productive meeting. I do want to thank you and your staff for really the great cooperation. While we still think having a downtown location would be ideal, we've made great progress to mitigate both transportation and trying to have an intake downtown in the City of Frederick.

So as just told you, we do have an added shuttle every 30 minutes to the new location. We think that's very good. And I will say the Community Action Agency, which is actually a city agency and the mayor did attend this meeting, they also have a shuttle van. And they have agreed to provide some

shuttle service in addition to that. So I want to, you know, thank the city and the Community Action Agency for that.

We do have one other community request that is not agreed upon at this point, and that is for a small amount of paratransit funding, about \$42,000, so that seniors and people with disabilities would have that option available.

In terms of access to services in the core of downtown, DHR has offered us as many as ten kiosk locations support. We're going to start with two, one at the Community Action Agency and one at the Religious Coalition. They are both relatively close to the downtown location. They are staffed. They do intake for other programs. We'll have training support from DSS. And I will say in addition to that the community does believe that there should be enhanced staffing to help, at least on a temporary basis, to help downtown residents transition to the new office. And so there is a request from the community for some additional staff report that is in the letter that has not been agreed to.

We're going to do a survey. We're going to investigate telephone recertification of some of the services so people can do that remotely. And so all in all, I think we've had a very productive conversation. And we've made good progress and we thank your staff and all of you at the Board of Public Works for your support.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you very, very much. Delegate Krimm? Good morning.

DELEGATE KRIMM: Thank you, Governor. Good morning. I wanted to thank you and also the other members of the Board of Public Works for supporting us in trying to mitigate this move. And it's going to be difficult but I think as the County Executive has said, we have made great progress. And that is because of your staff, Governor, and of all the financial support that you're going to provide to us. So we would request that you look at our other requests and consider them also. Thank you very much.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: We certainly will. And I want to thank both you and the County Executive for taking the time to come down and make us aware of the concerns and the suggestions for how we might mitigate some of the concerns. And you brought all of these issues to our attention so we appreciate that, and your cooperation and working together. And I really want to thank you for saying it, but I'm going to say it too, I want to give a shout out to Secretary James, and from MTA with Paul Comfort, from, you know, the Secretary of DGS, everybody, I think it's only been two weeks since we talked.

DELEGATE KRIMM: Yes.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: And a lot of progress has been made. So

--

DELEGATE KRIMM: Yes.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: -- I want to thank everybody involved from the State, the county, and even the city and the local partners. So thank you very much.

DELEGATE KRIMM: Thank you.

TREASURER KOPP: Could I just say from what started as though it looked like it might be a very bad situation, I think this has developed into exactly the way the different governments should get together and work in order to solve a problem. I understand it's not entirely solved. But sometimes you have to let it go and see how things work out and then come back.

DELEGATE KRIMM: Mm-hmm.

TREASURER KOPP: But I'm just very impressed by the goodwill and determination and joint purpose on everybody's part. And I think --

DELEGATE KRIMM: We are --

TREASURER KOPP: -- Carol, in all candor, it wouldn't have happened if you all hadn't raised the issues.

DELEGATE KRIMM: We are very good collaborators in Frederick County. And we work for the best for our constituents. So thank you.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: I think it's a great example of different levels of government working together to get something done for the people. So I want to thank everybody.

DELEGATE KRIMM: Thank you.

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GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you. Are there any other questions on the Secretary's Agenda?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yes.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Yes?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Is this DBM? Oh sorry.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Not yet. We're still on the Secretary's Agenda. Any other questions other than --

SECRETARY MCDONALD: Other than 14.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: -- Item 18 --

SECRETARY MCDONALD: Fourteen.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: -- which is the approval of the School Construction Capital Improvement Plan, which we'll be hearing testimony on and voting on separately today? So excluding Item 18 --

SECRETARY MCDONALD: Fourteen.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: -- are there any other questions on the Secretary's Agenda? Is there a motion?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Move approval.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Second?

TREASURER KOPP: Second.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Three-nothing on the Secretary's Agenda. We're going to move on to the DNR Real Property Agenda.

MR. BELTON: Good morning, Governor.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Secretary Belton, good morning.

MR. BELTON: Good morning, sir. Madam Treasurer, Mr. Comptroller, for the record, I'm Mark Belton, Secretary of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. We have seven items on our Real Property Agenda for your approval this morning.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Okay. Any questions on DNR?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Move approval.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Second. You're off the hook.

MR. BELTON: Yes, sir.

(Laughter.)

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Three-nothing on DNR. Up next, Secretary Brinkley, the Department of Business and Management Agenda.

MR. BRINKLEY: Good morning, Governor, Mr. Comptroller, Madam Treasurer. I'm David Brinkley, the Secretary of the Department of Budget and Management. We have submitted 13 items for today's Agenda and I have representatives here to address any concerns or questions.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: I'd like to discuss Item 2, if we could.

MR. BRINKLEY: Item 2, Jamie?

GOVERNOR HOGAN: So this is the State Medical Director contract which was deferred by this Board back in September. And I want to get a status update from the department on it --

MS. TOMASZEWSKI: Good morning, Governor, Madam Treasurer, Mr. Comptroller. For the record, Jamie Tomaszewski, Chief of Procurement for the Department of Budget and Management.

We're pleased to present for the Board's approval today the new State Medical Director and Occupational Medical Services Contract. As you stated, this item was deferred from the September 7th Board meeting after hearing testimony from our incumbent, Concentra, that it was appealing DBM's award recommendation to WorkPro for the new contract.

DBM extended the current contract with Concentra to allow time for the Maryland State Board of Contract Appeals to hold a hearing and make a decision as to the actions of DBM's procurement officer during the procurement for these services. All parties worked expeditiously, at the Board of Public Works' request, to submit all required documentations and reports prior to the hearing that was held for two full days on December 8th and 9th.

The ruling by the Board of Contract Appeals was that DBM's procurement officer did not act in any way that was arbitrary, capricious, or contrary to the law or regulations. Furthermore, the Board found that the procurement officer correctly determined that the recommendation of award to

WorkPro was in the best interest of the State. So at this time, we're back to make that award approval, to get that award approval. And I'm here to answer any questions you may have.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Okay. Thank you very much. So this Board voted to send it back to give them time to have their decision heard, their protest to be ruled on by the Board of Contract Appeals. The incumbent has since lost that protest at the Board of Contract Appeals. They had asked us to give them a chance to have their day in court and this Board did grant that request and their case has now been heard and the appeal was denied.

MS. TOMASZEWSKI: Correct.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: And we now need to move forward with the approval of this contract that the Board delayed last time.

MS. TOMASZEWSKI: Yes.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: So any other issues or questions on this? Okay.

MS. TOMASZEWSKI: Thank you.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you very much. Any other questions on the DBM Agenda? Is there a motion?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: No, I have a couple of questions.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Questions?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: On Item 8 and Item 9, please.

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MR. BRINKLEY: Okay. Claudine Williams, Associate Director of HSCRC for both items.

MS. WILLIAMS: Good morning.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Good morning.

MS. WILLIAMS: My name is Claudine Williams. I'm the Associate Director of Data Management Administration. I have with me our Executive Director, Donna Kinzer, who is going to say a few words before.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Good morning.

MS. KINZER: Thank you and good morning. I'm Donna Kinzer, the Executive Director, and also Secretary Schrader is here with us today. We are working with the Secretary and DHMH to modernize the hospital payment and delivery system under a new waiver that brings \$2 billion in federal dollars to Maryland. And we have several contract modifications today related to monitoring and policy development under that waiver, as well as modernizing some of our data and collection systems that have been in place for decades. And we appreciate the opportunity to present these items to you today. Ms. Williams?

MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you. So the first one, eight, is for LD Health. This contractor is assisting HSCRC leadership with analyzing and evaluating Maryland performance on our all-payer model, particularly around the total cost of care.

During the SSS contract, the one that they are helping us with --

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COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Can I just interrupt for one second?

MS. WILLIAMS: Oh, I'm sorry.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: And I don't mean to interrupt. But we do have a big schedule --

MS. WILLIAMS: Oh, sure. Yeah.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: -- that's going to go on. And I appreciate the explanation. But I just had a couple of specific questions.

MS. WILLIAMS: Oh, sure. Mm-hmm. Oh, perfect.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: And I don't mean to cut you off.

MS. WILLIAMS: No problem.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Because, but you're right, this is taking a \$3 million contract from the incumbent Social and Scientific Systems and giving it to two companies. And I have a couple of questions. Number one, the, apparently you are doing this because the incumbent company did, basically did not perform the work?

MS. KINZER: They failed. They produced reports for us that didn't add up, that didn't tie in. They did this repeatedly. I met with the executives from the company. We had a remediation plan. They failed in the remediation plan. And they continued to have turnover and produced people without supervision to do the work. So we're requesting to transition the work to

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two vendors that we're very happy with, who have done excellent performance for the State, and who are doing it at fair and reasonable rates consistent with the rates or lower than the rates of SSS.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Okay. So that explains why with the performance quality being very low by the incumbent, you waited until the last minute because you were trying to get them to --

MS. WILLIAMS: Do the work.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: -- remediate their --

MS. WILLIAMS: Yes.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: -- poor performance.

MS. KINZER: Yes.

MS. WILLIAMS: Yes.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Okay. I can see that. Why do you enter in, though, to a 504 percent increase on one contract, or 167 percent increase on the other? Why are those numbers so high?

MS. KINZER: So the work is split between two contractors. The reassigned work, the first one LD Consulting, had a smaller contract with us and they were helping us to actually supervise some of the work of the other contractor as we were preparing work for the commission. And so as we found that we needed to change contractors they were performing extremely well and had access to our data sets and they were the best vendor to take over some of the

analysis. So that is why we chose to increase that Maryland Small Business contract significantly. And also to put some of the work which is more routine in nature with the other contractor.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: So you believe, despite the significantly higher cost for the same service, that the taxpayers are getting a reasonable deal?

MS. KINZER: We believe that the cost is comparable for the same service. It's the same or lower hourly rates and the same amount for the time frame.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Okay. Fine. Thank you for that.

MS. KINZER: Thank you.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: And then I had a question, Governor, on Item 10. I think it's the same group.

MS. WILLIAMS: Yes.

MR. BRINKLEY: Yes, it's the same group.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: I don't know why I'm focused on you guys. But aren't you the people responsible for maintaining the waiver?

MS. WILLIAMS: Yes.

MS. KINZER: Yes.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah. Tell me about that. That's pretty important, don't you think?

MS. KINZER: Yes, absolutely. It's essential to maintain the waiver. It brings about \$2 billion into the State of federal funds. And Governor Hogan just submitted a proposal to extend it for another five years to the federal government. So we are in a very significant period of change. It's good for Maryland citizens with the delivery system changes and it's very important to businesses in Maryland, too.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Okay. So in this particular item you're asking for a two-year extension of a contract with The St. Paul Group for hosting and processing of data --

MS. WILLIAMS: Mm-hmm.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: -- at a cost of more than \$1.5 million. Why are you waiting until the last moment to do this?

MS. WILLIAMS: So we had two option years with the St. Paul contract. In the last option year we were going to bid out both the contracting, I mean, the processing and the hosting as we have now. In consultation with DoIT they told us in September that we would, they recommended that we separate those two contracts. And so in order to give us enough time to transition our large data sets to a different hosting firm and then procure for the processing as we normally would have done, we need that extra time to ensure that we don't lose that data.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Okay. That's fine. Thank you very much, Governor.

MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you.

TREASURER KOPP: Could I just ask a question? And I don't know if you're the ones to build on that. There are a lot of changes, potential changes, regarding Medicaid, the waiver, who is going to be covered by what. Do you have a special unit in the department? Or how are you keeping on top of how the changes in Washington from day to day are going to impact us?

MS. KINZER: We have a collaborative team that works with the Secretary's office. We have four different agencies in the State and we all collaborate to monitor policy. And we meet with the Governor's Office and the Legislature to update them and to work with them relative to the policy changes and the rapidly changing environment.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: We just had a --

TREASURER KOPP: Do you watch through the Governor's Office on the Hill? Or --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Well we have a Governor's Office in Washington. But we also had a, really very productive two- or three-hour meeting with our entire delegation two days ago, with all eight congressmen and both senators to talk about a couple of priorities. This was at the top of the list.

We don't believe, it's hard to speculate on what may happen and what changes are going to, but we're all on top of it. And our number one issue is to try to protect this waiver, which as was mentioned is \$2 billion for the State.

TREASURER KOPP: Yeah. Well it, and things seem to be moving so quickly and rather inconsistently --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Yep.

TREASURER KOPP: -- it's hard, it's hard to know.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Well we're just trying to stay on top of it.

TREASURER KOPP: Thank you. Thanks.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thanks. Any other questions on the DBM?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yes. No. No, I don't.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Yes or no?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Let's see, no.

(Laughter.)

TREASURER KOPP: Maybe.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Sorry, I got a head of myself a little bit.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Okay. Is there a motion?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Move approval.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Second?

TREASURER KOPP: Second.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Three-nothing. We'll move on --

MS. KINZER: Thank you.

MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you. We'll move on to the University System Agenda.

MR. EVANS: Good morning. Joe Evans, representing the University System of Maryland. We have eight items on the Agenda. We are withdrawing Item 1-S-MOD, 2-S, and 8-RP.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Okay. Thank you, Joe.

MR. EVANS: We're here to answer any questions.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: I just want to point out Item 7. I'm really happy to see the sale of this property, which I believe will help enhance our redevelopment efforts on the west side of Baltimore City. And I spoke with the Mayor about this last night. You know, this project will complement, it's right adjacent to, I believe, the Lexington Market redevelopment.

MR. EVANS: The Market.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: And we're putting \$2 million in funding in our capital budget to try to help with that. So I just wanted to give you a shout out and say that I'm glad you're moving forward with this item. I don't have any questions. Any other questions?

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COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah. I would like to hold off on at least one of these construction risk at management proposals. I mean, I don't know whether my concern about whether the State is getting a good deal has resulted in this avalanche of requests to approve the very thing that I thought was going to be looked at. And so I'd like to delay some of these construction risk at management items, like Item 3-C, to find out what exactly the Gilbane Building Company, based up in Rhode Island, is going to be paid if we approve a \$147 million building that they are the construction risk management folks for. Because it brings up my still unresolved issue that your system is, you know, overbalanced in these contracts. So here's a \$147 million project. How much is, and when we approve this, that Gilbane is the construction management at risk service provider, how much are we paying Gilbane for that out of this \$147 million?

MR. EVANS: Their fee is for, administrative fee for the CM is less than one percent of the total.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Well I'd like to see that in writing. And for the other contracts also. Because that doesn't comport with exactly what some folks are saying about what the percentage is.

MR. EVANS: There was a meeting yesterday, Mr. Comptroller, with USM, DGS, and the Lieutenant Governor. And it's my understanding that that was a very productive meeting about the CM process versus design bid build.

And it was my understanding that the Lieutenant Governor was going to get with you to give you his observations of that meeting. I don't know --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: I think actually that was the request that we made of them at the last meeting two weeks ago.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah. No. That's --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: And they followed through. I wasn't at the meeting. Neither one of us was, but you can certainly get that report and talk with them.

MR. EVANS: And with regards to Item, I'm thinking you're talking about 3-C-BP?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Mm-hmm.

MR. EVANS: This is for a bid packet. The Board had already approved this contract. We're bringing a bid packet back now up under that approval.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah. But it's not just that item. It's four other items on here that have got these things on them. I don't mind being briefed by the folks about the meeting. And if there's some resolution, terrific. Because I'd love to see the design bid build used more frequently. But it's the first I've heard of the meeting and I'm just wondering if, what bad things would happen if one or two of these were held up for a couple of weeks?

GOVERNOR HOGAN: What I would like to suggest, Mr. Comptroller, if I could --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Sure.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: -- is we have the Secretary of DGS and with the Lieutenant Governor, perhaps with the University, brief you on the last meeting and then if there's an additional meeting maybe the Comptroller and I will be invited to the meeting.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Sure. I mean, I'm happy to do that.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Rather than holding these projects up.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Okay. I will defer to the Governor on that. But I look forward to the resolution of this --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Yeah, I share the same concern. But I think let's sit down and talk about that without holding up these particular --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Good. I'll listen to the voice of reason here. And --

(Laughter.)

TREASURER KOPP: And I think, I would point out that both Cole Fieldhouse, that was one of the ones that was mentioned, and the Universities at Shady Grove are important buildings. They are in process. It's a process that is under scrutiny all the time. And I'm sure that it would be good to

get a briefing on where we are with both Cole Field House and Shady Grove and its buildings --

MR. EVANS: We can do that.

TREASURER KOPP: -- as well.

MR. EVANS: We can do that.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Mark, will you follow up to make sure we follow up and get another meeting together? I want to thank you guys for following up so quickly from the last meeting. But we just didn't get the invite.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: That's okay.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Yeah. Great. Thank you, Joe. Any other questions on the University System? Is there a motion?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Move approval.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Second? Three-nothing.

MR. EVANS: Thank you.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you. We're going to move on to Information Technology.

MR. BULLOCK: Good morning, Governor, Mr. Comptroller, Madam Treasurer. For the record, I'm Albert Bullock, Assistant Secretary with the Department of Information Technology. Today we have six items on the Agenda. We are withdrawing Items 3-IT-MOD and 6-IT. And I have agency representatives here to answer any questions you have.

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GOVERNOR HOGAN: Any questions on IT? Is there a motion?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Move approval.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Second? Three-nothing. We're going to move on to the Department of Transportation.

MR. RAHN: Good morning, Governor --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Good morning.

MR. RAHN: -- Mr. Comptroller, Madam Treasurer. For the record, I'm Pete Rahn, Secretary of the Maryland Department of Transportation. MDOT is presenting four items for your consideration today.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Four items? That big huge department and you've only got four items?

MR. RAHN: And, and I would add, Governor, that any questions you have might take us an hour apiece to be able to answer them and --

(Laughter.)

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Well you're going to have to find a way to be a little bit more concise. But are there any questions on Department of Transportation?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yes. I see Mr. Comfort standing there, if I could get him to just give us an update on the paratransit --

MR. COMFORT: Yes.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: -- on the on call versus scheduling? And whether Uber, a wonderful company, providing employment for thousands and thousands of Marylanders, whether they are going to be able to participate in this program? And what exactly the situation is with Yellow Transportation, taxicabs, etcetera --

MR. COMFORT: Very good.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: -- and on time service.

MR. COMFORT: Great comprehensive question. Thank you, Mr. Comptroller. Great to be with you again today, Governor, Comptroller, Madam Treasurer, representing MDOT's MTA. We're very excited about the improvements that we've been able to make over the last 18 months at our paratransit services.

As you know when we, when Secretary Rahn and I got here we were under a lawsuit. The paratransit services, which serve the most vulnerable citizens that we serve, were getting not very good service. And we've been able to make dramatic improvements over that time. Part of it has been an improvement in our on time performance. We are now, yesterday I think we were at 97 percent on time performance, hauling almost 10,000 passengers with disabilities. Some of the best in the nation, those numbers are. We are now answering our phones 77 percent of the time in ten seconds and we're meeting our

standard 97 to 98 percent of the time answering the phones within three minutes on the reservations, people calling in.

You might see today in the newspaper, in the *Baltimore Sun*, the folks that were suing the MTA and MDOT have settled the lawsuit. They are happy for the improvements we've made in the service. And as I mentioned, we're now leading the nation. We're being invited to national conferences to talk about how we've turned around services to people with disabilities here.

And what we're doing today is we're asking you to extend the contract we have with our three service providers: Transdev, MV Transportation, and First Transit, the three largest companies in America that do this, for the final option year while we're readying to put an RFP on the street. We also had on one of the other agendas the Call A Ride service. And there is a Senate Bill 25 to allow us to even cut those costs even more by allowing us to use taxicabs, as you mentioned, Yellow Taxi.

The Call A Ride service is half the price of our traditional van service and it is very popular with our passengers. And so we want to continue to do that as well. And so --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: And aren't, let me interrupt, aren't, doesn't Call A Ride basically use taxicabs now?

MR. COMFORT: Well there is a section in the law which says that taxicabs are not considered public transportation. We need them to be

allowed to be called public transportation so that they can officially be used. Right now, the RFP as it's designed is only for sedan service because we need that language changed. The Public Service Commission has done their part on the regulatory side of things. We just need that section changed. And actually we have a hearing --

SECRETARY MCDONALD: Today.

MR. COMFORT: -- tomorrow?

SECRETARY MCDONALD: Today. This afternoon.

MR. COMFORT: Today, that Jim's going to be testifying on in the Senate, Senate Bill 25, to have that. And we think that will go a long way to helping us even improve services even more for people with disabilities with our paratransit.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: So does the current service use sedans or taxicabs?

MR. COMFORT: We use sedans and -- we officially use sedans.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: State law prohibits --

(Laughter.)

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah, well --

MR. COMFORT: Car service.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: That's terrific.

MR. COMFORT: Yes.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: And so what, how much are these contracts for?

MR. COMFORT: So the total amount is a little under \$100 million, I think, for the extension. Let me take a look here. Yeah, \$94,602,000, around \$30 million to each of them. Paratransit service, as I'm sure you are aware, is the most expensive out of all the services that the MTA provides. And the costs are growing across the country. But we've been able to improve our service so much that actually ridership has increased as well. When we got here we were having around 7,000 passengers a day. Now we're topping 10,000 passengers a day using this door to door service. We're the fourth largest paratransit service in the nation now in the Baltimore region. And this again is helping our most vulnerable citizens get to their appointments and to employment, etcetera. And we're happy that we've been able to improve service but there are costs associated with that. More people want to ride it.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Good. And thank you for that. The charts you brought before were very persuasive and the progress that you're making because this area is the most complaint sensitive service that government provides. People are on a, understandably, on a very, very quick response when something doesn't happen. So the fact that you're able to, well, answer the phone is a big step forward. And what is the phone number?

MR. COMFORT: That is a good question. I don't know that right off the top of my head, but I will email it to you as soon as I sit down.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: So --

MR. RAHN: Hey, Paul, look behind you. I have the --

MR. COMFORT: Oh, you know what? I would love to, could I introduce our new director?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Absolutely.

MR. COMFORT: So Marlon Bates and I go back a long way. We recruited him to work with us here at the MTA. Marlon is one of the leading national experts on paratransit service and has worked around the nation, came to us from Houston where he was helping to lead their paratransit service, and he has got our on time performance numbers up from 94 to 95 to now 98 percent one of the days this week. Marlon, why don't you say a few words, buddy?

MR. BATES: Good morning, everyone. How are you?

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Good morning.

MR. BATES: Thanks for having me. Yeah, as Paul said, I mean, we are very proud of the progress we've made. We know there's improvements that in any agency or any service that you offer, there are services that can be made. But we are definitely on the right track. You know, we, the providers are working well with us lock step. I have backgrounds with two of the three

providers, know them well. I know their management staff. I know their culture. And we have a, the culture that they have works seamlessly with our culture, which puts safety first. We are working on efficiencies moving forward. We're working of course on making sure that we're reliable and making sure that the customer service is one of our primary goals as well. So I'm very happy to be here. I mean, it's one thing to learn it from the private side but then to apply it on the public side it's come full circle for me. So I'm very grateful for this opportunity and look forward to continuing the progress and the great success that we've had to this point.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Well my definition of good government is answering the phone and being on time.

MR. BATES: Yes.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: And thank you for, Mr. Comfort, and also Governor Hogan, frankly. You are the, this is your agency. But this is a government service which has suffered for many, many years from lack of management and administration. And the fact that you are able to make these improvements is, hey, I've died and gone to heaven. This is good stuff.

MR. BATES: Well thank you. Thank you very much.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: And --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Well welcome to our team. Thank you for your joining us. And Mr. Comfort, thank you for all your great work. We appreciate it.

MR. BATES: Thank you very much.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you. Any other questions on the DoIT Agenda? Or the Transportation Agenda, I'm sorry.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Move approval.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Second?

TREASURER KOPP: Second.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Three-nothing on Transportation. We're going to move on to the Department of General Services.

MR. COMFORT: 410-764-8181.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah, I'm calling that.

MR. COMFORT: MDOT wants to be responsive. 410-764-8181.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: -- he's going to test to see if they answer in ten seconds.

MR. COMFORT: Yeah, one more time.

MR. CHURCHILL: Good morning, Governor, Madam Treasurer, Mr. Comptroller. For the record, Ellington Churchill, Secretary of General Services. The department has 17 items on our Agenda today and we are

withdrawing Item 8-RP, 10-RP, 11-LL, and 17-CGL. And we have representatives available to answer any questions.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Any questions on DGS? Is there a motion?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: I move approval.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Second? Three-nothing. Well that concludes the first part of our little experience this morning. So thank you again for coming. We're going to take just a very short break in order to rearrange the room for our hearing on school construction and funding requests. And we'll be right back with you.

(Short recess taken.)

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Good morning, everyone.

ALL: Good morning.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you very much for joining us. Welcome to the Board of Public Works hearing on school construction funding requests. We are here this morning to approve or disapprove the first 75 percent of the fiscal year 2018 capital improvement program, which totals \$213 million. Our Fiscal Year 2018 capital budget provides for \$334 million in total for school construction and we're going to take 75 percent of that today.

The State of Maryland has borrowed so much and racked up so much enormous debt that unfortunately we're now in a position where, we're

approaching the point where our debt service will soon exceed how much we're able to spend on school construction. So we're going to continue to practice fiscal responsibility, a more prudent borrowing policy. And we're, that's why we're focused on finding cost savings on school construction so we can build more schools. We want to seek alternative means for school construction in order to find value added methods that can generate more bang for the buck in order to help meet the growing demands on both State and local dollars.

We're really pleased that school superintendents and local officials from around the State have joined us today. We welcome you to Annapolis and we look forward to having a constructive and productive conversation with all of you about your capital improvement programs. With that, Madam Treasurer or Mr. Comptroller, any remarks before we get started? Madam Treasurer?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: I have some.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: I figured you would.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Sure, I'm happy to go first. I just want to personally thank Governor Hogan for his staunch support of this review of school construction. All we're talking about, whatever you want to call this annual gathering, is more accountability and transparency and oversight of the taxpayers' money. And none of this would be happening if, without the staunch support of the Governor.

And I want to say how grateful I am because on behalf of the taxpayers it means we have a voice for some of the communities that feel they don't have a voice. We have progress on issues such as air conditioning of schools. We have a new focus on school maintenance, taking care of the buildings that the taxpayers have paid for. I mean, we weren't even getting the annual reports under the previous Governor. Now we're getting the reports and we're taking action.

So hats off to this gathering. And it's an important one. I hope it expands and I hope everyone that appears today will take this in the spirit that certainly I look at it as which is that of open government. And I think you'll see as the day goes on that enormous progress is being made in some of the areas I mentioned. So thank you very much. I'm delighted to, well I don't know whether I'm delighted to be here for the next six hours. But --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Come on, it's going to go faster than that.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah. This is --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: These guys are going to get right down to business.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah, no, I'm very, very pleased that this Board of Public Works oversight has not been reduced.

TREASURER KOPP: Just I, after a rather heated discussion actually three weeks ago that I'm sure you recall --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: It wasn't that heated.

TREASURER KOPP: -- I too think that this has always been an opportunity to update the Board and through the Board to the public on the accomplishments and the challenges that the school systems are meeting, the needs and the outstanding progress, as the Comptroller pointed out, that has been made. I, whenever I think of classrooms I think of my mother. And my mother always said, it's not what you say, it's the way that you say it. And I believe that, too.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: I believe that as well. Well thank you. So good morning, everybody. Up first is going to be Allegany County. I think they came pretty far but they get to go first on the Agenda.

DR. COX: All right.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Good morning.

DR. COX: Good morning, Governor Hogan, Comptroller Franchot, Treasurer Kopp. I'm David Cox, Superintendent of Schools in Allegany County and I'm joined here by Board President Laurie Marchini. We also have our Commission President Mr. Jake Shade in the audience; and Board Member Tammy Fraley; and our Director of Facilities Mr. Vince Montana.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Wow, you brought the whole team.

DR. COX: We did. And members of our legislative delegation, Senator Edwards; Delegates Buckel, McCay, and Beitzel were planning to be here at 11:20 to support our request too, but so they may be coming in.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Sorry, we're too efficient around here.

DR. COX: Okay. But we've been in touch with them. They will be on their way if their schedules will allow.

But we just want to thank you for your continued support of our projects and we have two that we wanted to speak about this morning and to share a little bit of information. We are asking for full support of second year funding for the Allegany High School replacement project in the amount of \$12 million; and then also for the Mt. Savage Elementary and Middle School roof replacement in the amount of \$873,000.

As you know, we are replacing a 1926 high school, Allegany High School. We think it's the oldest maybe, or if not the oldest one of the oldest continuously operating high schools in the State. And this is something that should have been done many years ago. We pledged to you that any public funds entrusted to us are going to, we're going to be good stewards of that. And I think the Comptroller knows that, having awarded our system several Silver Hammer Awards and recognizing that we have some very old schools that are in very good shape. And so --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Even when you're not there to listen, he has brought you up a number of times.

DR. COX: Okay. Well that's encouraging. And I did bring some family photos briefly to share with you to show you your tax dollars at work. This --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Wow.

DR. COX: -- is the school that, it doesn't quite look like that now because they've enclosed it in plastic now because they are pouring concrete. But I thought it would be better for you to see that than the plastic. And this is just another photo of the school going up with the stair tower as it was being constructed. There are several others and I think you have some at your place --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Yeah, we sure do.

DR. COX: -- some additional photos. But we wanted to thank you for your support. And we would entertain any questions that you would have for us. And Mr. Montana can speak to the technical aspects.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Well I just want to congratulate you on moving forward. It looks like great progress being made. Obviously this was one of the top priorities. And I think it is the oldest school. I'm not positive about that. But you certainly did a good job maintaining it for all those years. But it's going to be exciting to see the new school.

DR. COX: Thank you.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: I don't have any questions. Anybody else?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah. Wasn't this school built during Franklin Roosevelt's first term?

DR. COX: Before.

TREASURER KOPP: Before.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Before his first term?

DR. COX: It opened in '26, I think. The first --

MR. MONTANA: 1925.

DR. COX: 1925. And so it's been built onto five times and I always say there are three third floors, none of which connect to each other. So it's quite difficult to get around and we have a lot of freshmen that get lost the first few days. And parents.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: And the Comptroller and I were both very young when this was built.

(Laughter.)

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah. Can I just ask about your success in holding down the cost of the new construction? What lessons do you have to give to fellow systems about --

DR. COX: Well we --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: -- the significant cost reductions through value engineering, redesigning --

DR. COX: We did --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: -- keeping --

DR. COX: -- work very hard during design to value engineer as much as we could. And the first bid, as you know, came in over budget. We went back and worked collaboratively with our county government. They have lent us two of their engineers, who have been a part of the design process all along. So we rolled up our sleeves, sharpened the pencils, and just worked very hard to do a lot of additional cost savings. I mean, like I said, Mr. Montana can speak more specifically to that. But it was truly a collaborative effort with the firms that actually bid. We listened to their suggestions, what kind of design changes might lower the cost in a rebid.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Okay.

DR. COX: So we took all that information.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: And then a quick question on phase two of the Mt. Savage School roof replacement or improvement. That was installed in 1993. It's in poor condition despite good maintenance efforts. How many years are your roof replacements lasting? I know it's a tough climate out there but --

MR. MONTANA: We look at, of course we specify a 20-year warranty as required. But we look at 25 years, a 25-year life for the roofs.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Okay. Well great. I am a big fan of your system and was delighted to come out and tour and happy to revisit you down the road.

I do have a generic question I'm going to ask most of the systems, and this is a little bit off script because it pertains to the politics of Washington right now with all the incendiary and intimidating comments about immigration that have been made over the last year or so. I understand that a lot of our children who are in our schools who may not have documents have been subjected to all sorts of concerns about whether or not they are going to be separated from their families or deported. And I'm wondering what the school system is doing to both protect its students from any bullying by other kids and most importantly what are you doing to prepare for whatever eventuality comes out? And I hope it's not a draconian executive order, etcetera. But you can never tell these days. So what are you doing to protect your kids, if any, that are in this situation?

DR. COX: Well I think, you know, the Supreme Court has been pretty clear. I believe that the case *Plyler v. Doe* speaks to that. That we really are not allowed to ask for social security numbers and that sort of information.

So our attitude is when kids come to us, our job is to teach them. In our county specifically we don't have a lot of immigrant students. So that's really not a very significant issue in Allegany County. But our pledge is every student that comes through our door, we try to do our very best to give them what they need to be successful.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: I'll point out that Senator Edwards and Delegate Buckel just joined us.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Oh boy.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: And we apologize for changing the time around on you. But it looks like you're a little out of breath. Do you want to catch your breath there, Delegate? The Senator made you run over?

(Laughter.)

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Well we were just saying some nice things about your school system and we're excited about the new high school being built.

DELEGATE BUCKEL: Thank you.

SENATOR EDWARDS: Well we appreciate that and apologize for being late. I was talking to the press so --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Oh boy.

SENATOR EDWARDS: -- sometimes we've got to give them some answers.

TREASURER KOPP: You shouldn't do that.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: I try to avoid that if at all possible.

SENATOR EDWARDS: Sometimes you can't, you know?

GOVERNOR HOGAN: I like to focus on the work.

SENATOR EDWARDS: Well we're here, and Delegate Buckel can say, to support the two projects, the replacement of Allegany High School and the roof I think at Mt. Savage. They've done a great job. This school is much needed. You've been supported in the past. And yeah, I went up the steps kind of fast, too. So we ask you to continue to support what they're doing. They're doing a good job.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Senator, I understand you were in the very first class there in 1926?

(Laughter.)

SENATOR EDWARDS: Actually not quite. I went through Grantsville Elementary School. But I did tour Allegany and I had to have a tour guide because I didn't know how to get from one part of the building to the other. You needed a map to get from one part to the other because of all the pieces that have been put together since 1926. So it still uses coal, too. One of the few places in the State that's still heats with a coal boiler.

MRS. MARCHINI: We have four.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Four coal burning schools?

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MR. MONTANA: Right.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Wow.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: I want to thank Senator Edwards for his leadership. And Delegate Buckel, maybe come on up and say a word.

DELEGATE BUCKEL: Thank you. I don't want to take up as much of your time. I don't have anything more to say other than to thank the members of the Board of Public Works. As I'm sure Dr. Cox and Mrs. Marchini have indicated, this is an extremely important project for Allegany County. This is one of the oldest, if not the oldest, operating school facility, referring to Allegany High School, in the State. It is transformative for our county to have the support of the State and all the folks, the Treasurer, the Comptroller, and certainly the Governor who supported the project and we're extremely appreciative, the folks who live and work in Allegany County, to have this school for the betterment of their children for decades and decades to come. So thank you --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: The only bad part of this, Delegate, is that you've had these bragging rights about the oldest school.

TREASURER KOPP: Right.

DELEGATE BUCKEL: Oldest school, right.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: And now you're just going to have a new one, just like a bunch of other people.

DELEGATE BUCKEL: That's right. Hopefully we'll have one of the best schools now. I'll take it, the switch. So thank you very much --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you.

DELEGATE BUCKEL: -- for your continued support of the project.

TREASURER KOPP: Now I --

MR. MONTANA: We're one of the youngest schools.

TREASURER KOPP: I have to say, Governor, it was because Senator Edwards some years ago started the discussion here about Allegany and Garrett schools, where they were, what were needed, and introduced us all to them. I remember going out there some years ago. And I really think he deserves some public acknowledgment of that.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: There's no question about that. And --

SENATOR EDWARDS: We served on the same committee --

TREASURER KOPP: It was a while ago.

SENATOR EDWARDS: -- school construction back many years ago.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Well I can tell you long before I ever became Governor, and back when no one ever thought I would be Governor, he was lobbying me already about the need for this school replacement. So he's a great advocate.

SENATOR EDWARDS: We appreciate all your support.

DELEGATE BUCKEL: Smart man. Thank you.

SENATOR EDWARDS: Thank you all very much.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you, everybody.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Can I ask a quick question, though, of you?

DELEGATE BUCKEL: Sure.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Because I see these per square foot costs are going up, down, up, down. I see in 2016 it was \$233 a square foot. This is overall. \$282 in 2017. And \$265 a square foot. And that's not for your building. It's just for the school construction allocations. Do you guys experience a lot of competition among your contractors? And what was the square foot cost out there?

DR. COX: Well let me do the first part of that and I'll ask Vince to address the second part. One of the things is we don't probably have as many people bid on our projects because we don't have a lot of companies that are very close to us. So we do experience a little bit more cost because of the mobilization to come to do a project for us. So.

MR. MONTANA: Mr. Comptroller, first I want to thank you for stopping at Allegany. I wish we would have had better weather that day but --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Okay.

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MR. MONTANA: -- Allegany. No, we don't have a lot of local contractors of adequate size to do a project like this. So we're looking at Pennsylvania, three bidders from Pennsylvania, and only one from Frederick that bid on this job. So and prices have increased. We talked earlier, or you talked earlier, about costs, the escalation of costs. And we really began to control costs at the first design meeting with the architect, when we told the architect we couldn't afford to build a monument to them. That went over rather well, I'd say. But I hope we've hit the high point, at around \$300 a square foot, and see those costs start coming down now.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: No, that's very helpful information. I just want to hear from the IAC at some point about the square foot costs and make sure that communities like yours where there's not as much competition as some of the Washington area systems, that you're not getting, given less money than you are going to need for some of these projects. So thank you for --

MR. MONTANA: Thank you.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you. Thank you all very much.
Thanks for coming down.

DR. COX: Thank you.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you, Senator, Delegate. Next up we have Anne Arundel County. And I see County Executive Steve Schuh is here along with representatives of the school system. Good morning.

DR. ARLOTTO: Good morning, Governor Hogan, Treasurer Kopp, Comptroller Franchot. I'm George Arlotto, the Superintendent of Anne Arundel Public Schools. And I'm pleased to be joined this morning by our Chief Operating Officer Mr. Alex Szachnowicz; as well as our County Executive Mr. Steve Schuh; as well as members of our board and other members of our community in support of Anne Arundel County Public Schools.

We'd like to thank the Board of Public Works, the IAC, and the public school construction program staff for making prudent investments in support of our past and current capital improvement programs. We are here today to ask for your approval of the IAC's fiscal year 2018 funding recommendations for Anne Arundel County Public Schools and to advocate for our remaining projects that are awaiting approval.

The mindful approach we have taken towards our FY 2018 capital budget and CIP integrates the plans for capital improvements and maintenance activities. It also reflects our educational mission, goals, and programs over the coming decade. We along with our local government are dedicated to and focused on strategic implementation of this balanced plan. To remain on task, we

are requesting your continued support and funding approval for the following projects.

Our first appeal is for funding of the three remaining FY '18 systemic renovations: the balance of funding for roof replacement at Meade Middle School; and electrical systemic projects at Four Seasons and Broadneck Elementary Schools. Our systemic projects are the cornerstones of our CIP. Each funding request we receive extends the useful life of our facilities while allowing us to balance the resources that we have available.

Next we are appealing your local planning for a six-classroom addition at Solley Elementary School. This attendance area is growing rapidly due to the increase in targeted residential construction and we project a steady increase in enrollments as the developments continue to build out.

We are asking for the balance of construction funding for Jessup Elementary School and first year construction funding for Arnold Elementary School. Both projects were approved last year for local planning and are in the process of being bid.

Additionally we are appealing local planning approval and first year construction funding for George Cromwell Elementary School. The design is on schedule and we are anticipating a spring bid date.

Also among our requests is local planning authority for Edgewater, Tyler Heights, and Richard Henry Lee Elementary Schools. Feasibility studies

are complete and the renovation option was approved by our board for all three schools. Design has commenced and we will be submitting a final scope and budget once the schematic design is approved.

Finally we're asking for local planning authority and construction funding for a new Crofton area high school. This project was reviewed by the State clearinghouse and all outstanding issues are being addressed. We have begun the final phase of design and expect to have this project out to bid in the fall of 2017.

On behalf of our more than 81,000 students, their parents, our employees, our Board of Education for Anne Arundel County, and the community that we serve, I thank you for the opportunity today to discuss our FY 2018 capital improvement program and how it supports Anne Arundel County and the State of Maryland. Following remarks by our County Executive Mr. Schuh, we would be pleased to answer any questions that you might have.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you very much. Mr. County Executive, welcome.

MR. SCHUH: Thank you, Governor, Madam Treasurer, Comptroller Franchot. Thank you for giving me this opportunity this morning. And before I get into my remarks, I just wanted to thank the Governor again for not only his leadership on this heroin crisis but the very significant important steps that you announced yesterday. Great news.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Well, and vice versa. You've been a real leader on this yourself. And I want to thank, Anne Arundel County has done terrific. We're both in this fight together, as is every other jurisdiction --

MR. SCHUH: Yep.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: -- across the county. So thank you for your help.

MR. SCHUH: Thank you. We are, as Dr. Arlotto said, incredibly proud of our school system here in Anne Arundel County and we want to do everything we can to make it a great school system in support of our 81,000 students. And I pledged that my administration will do everything it can to support our public school system. And I believe Dr. Arlotto and I have established a really strong working relationship that will enhance that effort.

With regard to capital construction, the huge backlog is no secret. You've been hearing about it for a long time. I'm committed to accelerating school construction in Anne Arundel County. And as a demonstration of that commitment to these projects is the fact that we are forward funding projects in our capital budget and are utilizing 30-year bonds to finance our portion of these projects thereby increasing the county's capacity to fund public school construction. Our county is planning to spend \$1 billion over the next ten years on school construction, including \$650 million on high school construction. And as I think you're aware we in Anne Arundel County have not built an

incrementally new high school since 1982. We've replaced them. We've fixed them. But we've been stuck at 12 since 1982. So this is historic. The Crofton High School that the Superintendent just mentioned along with the incremental new Old Mill and West County High Schools will keep us busy for about the next ten years.

I would recommend that the State consider a constitution amendment to extend the maturity of its bonds for school construction. I believe the current 15-year limit is a straitjacket on school construction funding.

Dr. Arlotto has laid out our school construction priorities very well. I'm proud to stand here today with Dr. Arlotto and his team and members of our school board. I know we are competing for scarce dollars across the State. Difficult decisions will have to be made. I was very pleased to see in your budget proposal, Governor, that you did set aside \$290 million for school construction. And I think I heard in your introductory remarks that you had a little bit more maybe coming down the road, which is very exciting to hear. And my administration is committed to doing everything it can to maximize every dollar we see. Our taxpayers deserve that and that goes for school construction, and I appreciate your consideration of our requests.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you very much.

MR. SCHUH: Thank you.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Both of you. Any questions?

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COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah, I just want to thank the County Executive for being here and obviously Dr. Arlotto. And Mr. Szachnowicz is an iconic figure in the, my little universe of school maintenance because he understands the values of all of that.

I just wanted to comment that your CIP, Dr. Arlotto, looks very well balanced. I think you've got a range of systemic renovations as well as additions and new schools to accommodate what can only be described as surging enrollment. And kudos to you for being ahead of this.

I'm particularly happy to see the inclusion of three of your older schools that had deficiencies noted in the recent maintenance reports. And I appreciate that.

I see that Shadyside Elementary School will receive a kindergarten addition and open space conversion. How many more schools are there that are in this open space conversion?

DR. ARLOTTO: So we have four that are remaining that, so we had several dozen and we're down to four that still have open space that we are either going to go through open space enclosures or that building will be on the renovation and will happen at that time.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Excellent. And then I just want to thank the County Executive again. You mentioned Severna Park High School. I've been a long time advocate of the project. I think the community was very

excited to tour the new facility. And I think it's going to be an exceptional learning facility as well as accommodating the increased enrollment. I think you're going tom 1,800 to 2,141 students. And you mentioned Crofton. Is Crofton going to have Severna serve as a prototype? Or is there something different that you're anticipating for Crofton?

DR. ARLOTTO: Well it's, so as the County Executive referenced, it is incrementally, it's going to be what, our first brand new since the early eighties. We have recently renovated within the last several years Northeast High School and then now rebuilt Severna Park. And so we've learned a lot through that process. High schools are very different, as you know, from middle schools and certainly elementary schools. So we've learned a lot through that process.

The design will be very different in Crofton because of the topography of the piece of property. So we're going to be working on a fairly unique design that our board has seen that we've taken out to the public just because of the topography. But we're very excited about breaking ground on that project.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Great. And I'm the last person to bring up politics. But I had commented earlier about the atmosphere surrounding some of the incendiary ideas about immigration. And I'm just curious as to what you or the County Executive might be doing to protect any

children in the Anne Arundel system that happen to lack documents? And please update me.

DR. ARLOTTO: Certainly. I'll allow Mr. Schuh to speak for the county government. As far as the schools, I'll echo what my colleague from Allegany County said. For us in Anne Arundel County, all means all. So I don't have, I'm not asking for documentation. As students enter our building we register them as they are residents within the county and we're going to educate them. And so we are working, we have a number of bilingual facilitators in some of our high needs areas with many of our immigrant families as the families and those children certainly are learning English. We've deployed a number of what we call bilingual facilitators out into the neighborhoods to meet with parents to reassure them that schools are safe places to be. And we're going to continue. So in my, in the budget that I've submitted, or will be submitting to my school board and then hopefully to the County Executive, we'll be asking for more of those folks. And they're really going to help us calm the waters with our families because there is some fear in our neighborhoods, in our high needs neighborhoods. And so they've been able to calm some of those fears that schools are a safe place to be. And so that's how we're operating on a day to day basis.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Mr. County Executive?

MR. SCHUH: Our administration believes that the United States should enforce its border laws and we believe that citizenship should mean something in this country. We believe that local jurisdictions should cooperate with federal authorities in enforcing our immigration laws.

That being said, I wholeheartedly support the policy of the school system. These young children from wherever they came are here. They're in our care. They have to be educated and we have to provide for their healthcare needs. If they present themselves at one of our hospitals or any medical facility, any human being deserves to be cared for. So I support the policy but I also very much support the current administration, the federal administration's approach to border control. Thank you.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you. Any other questions for Anne Arundel County?

TREASURER KOPP: I do have two questions.

DR. ARLOTTO: Yes, ma'am?

TREASURER KOPP: One of which, just congratulations on all the great work you've done, including the great maintenance work. Looking at the maintenance report this year, does the, after the State does the study, does it come to you for review and action?

DR. ARLOTTO: It does, indeed. I get the report and I read through it, and then I meet with our facilities team.

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TREASURER KOPP: And let me say, Alex has been a great help to all of us. Most particularly now on the School Construction Task Force.

DR. ARLOTTO: Indeed.

TREASURER KOPP: When there are things like cluttered -- this was not your county, but cluttered and therefore a safety hazard. Do you then, or the school board, then go out and look at it and unclutter it? Or I mean that doesn't seem like real heavy lifting.

DR. ARLOTTO: Yeah, no. So I am not, I'll admit that in front of this room, I'm not going out and looking at the clutter myself. I don't know that any of my school board members are looking at the clutter --

TREASURER KOPP: This was not your, I didn't see --

DR. ARLOTTO: Right. Right. Just to use that as an example.

TREASURER KOPP: Yeah.

DR. ARLOTTO: Yes, ma'am. But certainly that's what Alex and his team are doing. So they are taking that report, and whether it is clutter or it is fire extinguisher logs that have not been completed in a timely fashion or appropriately, or ceiling tiles being replaced, are two of the ones that are common for us that we've seen in the last two years in the reports that I've read as the Superintendent.

TREASURER KOPP: Yes, everywhere the ceiling --

DR. ARLOTTO: Yeah. Yeah. So I'm just using those as an example and that's what the team takes underway. They take that on --

TREASURER KOPP: That's great.

DR. ARLOTTO: -- and that's for us to correct internally.

TREASURER KOPP: That's great. I mean, that's what one would hope. But --

DR. ARLOTTO: Yeah, that's exactly --

TREASURER KOPP: -- to know that it really closes a loop.

DR. ARLOTTO: Right. The report does us no good if we don't take action.

TREASURER KOPP: And --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: One of the --

TREASURER KOPP: I'm sorry.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: I'm sorry. Go ahead.

TREASURER KOPP: The, you said you would appreciate funding for some planning projects. And I assume some of that planning was in the B category because of insufficiency of funds. And if not this, some other planning projects because as I understand it there's a longstanding concern on the part of the State that if you fund planning but you don't get to construction for some years you have to redo the planning, it's out of date --

DR. ARLOTTO: Correct.

TREASURER KOPP: -- it's more expensive, etcetera. But if you're dealing with a situation where the local LEAs in fact are funding, are forward funding, and prepared to forward fund, I wouldn't think that would be such a barrier. Is that right? Or is that wrong?

MS. SCHAEFER: If I could speak to that? What we tried to do is just keep a lid on how much we are on the hook for, in a sense. So our list is roughly about \$500 million.

TREASURER KOPP: Yes.

MS. SCHAEFER: We don't go up above that. But we evaluate every year. So I mean, it fluctuates and it is a philosophy that can change.

TREASURER KOPP: I understand that. I asked a specific question, Joan. If the county is going to do the construction, prefunding, and I understand that down the road --

MS. SCHAEFER: Right.

TREASURER KOPP: -- they are going to seek --

MS. SCHAEFER: Right.

TREASURER KOPP: -- reimbursement. But they want to get going because it will cost less than if they postpone --

MS. SCHAEFER: Right.

TREASURER KOPP: -- it significantly.

MS. SCHAEFER: Mm-hmm.

TREASURER KOPP: Isn't there some way that to take cognizance of that fact?

MS. SCHAEFER: Well --

TREASURER KOPP: You were a local superintendent, Madam Superintendent.

DR. SALMON: Yes, Treasurer Kopp, I agree that we should look at being able to streamline some of these issues. And I think we will be doing that with going forward with our new director and I think we'll hopefully come up with some very proactive streamlined approaches to this whole process.

TREASURER KOPP: That's great. Thank you.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Great. I just have one small question. I noticed that the last two maintenance reports noted a staffing shortage, a maintenance staffing shortage. And I was just wondering how the school system is addressing that.

DR. ARLOTTO: Well it's a, it's a well known fact. We are, we're short some of our maintenance and facilities staff. We have, as Mr. Franchot alluded to, we've had some significant enrollment increases over the last six years, almost about 1,000 students a year. About 763 this year but almost 1,000 a year. And so with the limited dollars that we've got, the money that we've got, we have to take, and my predecessors included, have had to take, and our board, some, make some difficult decisions. When those dollars are there,

those competing dollars, I'm putting money into the classrooms, where the enrollment growth is, where I would like to add some maintenance and facilities staff. Certainly our custodians in our buildings I'd like to add. We have added some in last year's budget but it is, when I have those competing dollars, Governor Hogan, I'm putting the money into the classrooms.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Got you. Thank you very much. Any other questions?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Could I ask Alex to come up? Because your name has been mentioned a few times. This gentleman is an iconic figure in the area of school construction and maintenance. Please come and work for the State of Maryland if you ever get released from Anne Arundel County.

(Laughter.)

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: But can you just help me understand the per square foot costs from a local perspective of what you're seeing? Because I see that we're, I mentioned the up and down numbers of the per square foot average. And I'm just concerned that some of the regions will be left short as far as the estimate.

MR. SZACHNOWICZ: Certainly. Well we have the great fortune but also the byproduct of being located right down the, right up and down the I95 corridor. And as the economy recovers there is a lot of construction activities going, in particular in Anne Arundel County with both the Airport and the Fort

Meade complex being situated right there. So we are fortunate that there are, there is a good cadre of good, qualified, competent contractors. And yet with the volume of projects that are coming forward there's a lot of competition for those resources.

Unfortunately going back in time past seven, eight years, a lot of the contractors downsized or went out of business, etcetera. So now the economy is recovering a little bit ahead of the industry's ability to fill that. And we're feeling some of that effect.

But Mr. Comptroller, we're obviously doing things to counter that. So things like continuing to utilize, aggressively utilize repeat designs. I think we're the leaders in the State in that to try to curtail costs, speed up construction activities, eliminate change orders, etcetera. So we're doing everything within our power, with our architects and engineers, to sort of be a counter force against some of the market forces that we're currently --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: And how do you see the square foot costs for Severna versus the new high school in Crofton?

MR. SZACHNOWICZ: Actually I think it's going to be a little bit lower, in that we were doing a ground up construction project there. Severna Park High School obviously we had to deal with the old 1953 structure, deconstructing the old stadium, creating a new stadium. So the cost will be lower because we're simply not dealing with the legacy facility there.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Okay. Great. And the Governor noted your maintenance reports. I really like the three superior ratings you got. Those are very difficult to get. And the fact that you've got three and then five good, that shows even with a reduced staff you're doing most of the jobs so keep up the good work.

MR. SZACHNOWICZ: Yes, sir. Thank you very much for your support.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you very much.

DR. ARLOTTO: Thank you.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Next up we have Baltimore City. Good morning.

DR. SANTALISES: Good morning. I want to say good morning to Governor Hogan, Lieutenant Governor Rutherford, Treasurer Kopp, Comptroller Franchot, State Superintendent Salmon, and members of the Governor's cabinet. I just want to thank you for the opportunity to come today to discuss City Schools' 2018 capital improvement priorities. I am the Chief Executive Officer of Baltimore City Public Schools Sonja Santalises.

I first want to thank you for the current recommendation of \$25.4 million for 18 projects for City Schools' 2018 capital improvement program. I also think it's important to note that the district's overall 2018 request of \$74 million only begins to address our true facilities needs.

I would like to discuss the second round of funding recommendations for City Schools. My request also provides an overview of the improvements that we have made at City Schools to better equip our facilities staff for the management and maintenance of ongoing capital projects.

First, City Schools would like to ask your consideration, your additional consideration, of 21 systemic renovation projects that were deferred, many of which carry a high priority for our district. I just want to point out three of those. We are requesting full funding for the roof structure and heating system projects at Furley Elementary School. These are essential to City Schools' plans to temporarily relocate Furley Elementary program to Thurgood Marshall because that structure really does need some emergency repairs and structural safety improvements.

Second I would also like to request consideration of the deferred local planning request for the renovation and addition of Armistead Gardens. And this is really to address critical overcrowding in the southeast section of Baltimore.

And then I would also like to just request consideration of our partially funded projects because, as many of you know, if a project is not fully funded we will have to rescind that just based on the timeline and our local funding.

We also really present this with the understanding that you will consider it in light of the larger cost that the State is facing. But I would like to share with you some of the strides that City Schools has made in the past year. First, City Schools has a drafted plan to provide a five-year plan to provide portable window units, air conditioning units, in high schools without air conditioning currently, and split unit air conditioning systems to all elementary and elementary/middle schools that are currently without air conditioning. The plan is contingent on the availability of the CIP funding that you have before you and the Board of Public Works' approval of projects. As part of implementing the first phase of this plan in our FY '18 CIP, we request the ability to use Baltimore City Schools' contingency reserve funds for portable window units in high schools. Portable window units have always been part of our strategy just due to the cost and the size of our high schools. We also understand that heating is a challenge and so we will just have to continue to address those concerns as part of our ongoing maintenance of those buildings.

You'll also note that our plan provides split unit air conditioning systems in elementary and middle schools to address both heating and cooling concerns by also being able to provide supplemental heating. So we do know that again this plan will help us achieve this within five years totally. We would begin immediately. We have added this year, even with our limited funding, when I arrived in Baltimore City we added air conditioning to four schools this year.

And again with continued, we would begin the additional work immediately once approved.

Based on the IAC's 75 percent recommendation, \$3.7 million is recommended for window unit projects for six high schools and one split unit AC system for Lakewood. I also do just want to point out in the spirit of transparency that we will be deferring critical projects, like fire safety and roofs, in order to implement the AC plan. But again, upon approval we are committed to implementation.

In terms of City Schools --

TREASURER KOPP: Excuse me, you are committed to implementation of what?

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Let me -- the air conditioning plan.

DR. SANTALISES: Of the plan. Of the plan.

TREASURER KOPP: Of the air conditioning?

DR. SANTALISES: Of the air conditioning.

TREASURER KOPP: But not of the fire safety?

DR. SANTALISES: Well but the reality of our fire safety needs is that we will have to defer some of those projects in order to fully fund our air conditioning.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: So we're very pleased to see that the City has come up with this plan for the window air conditioning units and the couple

of split units. I think it's going to immediately help 300 classrooms in seven different schools, is that correct?

DR. SANTALISES: Yes.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: I want to thank Mayor Pugh and the City Schools and your efforts, Dr. Santalises, for your leadership on this, in taking this action to bring this relief to these students.

The request from the City is for \$3.7 million. However, since the City has really taken seriously the advice of the Board of Public Works and made a real effort to try to correct and address this issue, I would like to -- you could finish the rest of your presentation. I just want to jump in on this one.

DR. SANTALISES: Sure. Please.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: And I'm going to make a motion to release the entire \$5 million in 2017 funds which this Board deferred from Baltimore City last May so that you can spend that all towards this and the rest of your air conditioning plan as possible, and maybe take care of some of those other maintenance issues that you had to defer. So if we do a motion now and then finish the discussion is that okay with you, Madam Secretary?

DR. SANTALISES: Can I say thank you before you make the motion, or should I wait until after?

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Let's wait. So I just made a motion --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: I'm happy to second it.

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GOVERNOR HOGAN: Is there a second?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: And what a breath of fresh air.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Yeah. Thank you very much for taking --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: To come in and direct something that's going to, I take it rather immediately, help the kids. We're talking about, the Governor mentioned the 300 sweltering classrooms. That's going to provide climate relief for 7,200 students. And let me just ask a quick question about the anticipated timeline for installation. I see that the bids are going to go out in May. I'm hoping that the cool air will be flowing by the time these 7,200 students return for the new school year after Labor Day this year. Is that the anticipated timeline?

DR. SANTALISES: That is the anticipated timeline.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Well you just --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: And I had a great conversation. Last night I met with the Mayor --

DR. SANTALISES: Okay.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: -- who is 100 percent supportive of this project and excited about it. And I leaked to her my secret plan for today. So she was thrilled with the additional \$5 million.

DR. SANTALISES: I clearly went to bed too early, Governor.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Yeah, it didn't leak out. So that's good.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah. Yeah. Good.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: I wanted to have the element of surprise.

But so there is a motion on the --

TREASURER KOPP: Could I just say --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Yes.

TREASURER KOPP: -- this is a motion which I am delighted to join you.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you.

TREASURER KOPP: I think it was a mistake to hold it up in the first place. But obviously we're getting --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: We're making progress.

TREASURER KOPP: -- where people want, with the understanding that we're not going to be ignoring fire safety. I find it difficult to believe that it's legal to stand there and say we're going --

DR. SANTALISES: So --

TREASURER KOPP: -- to not do fire safety correction. We're going to do something else instead. So hope it incorporates that.

DR. SANTALISES: So Treasurer Kopp, the transparency was to note that there are fire safety projects, right, that we would have been able to do clearly sooner that would be put off. But I would never stand for keeping City Schools students in unsafe conditions. So but it does mean that there will be a

deferral. For some projects that are on a routine basis we monitor them regularly and it just means that it will take some of those longer. But in any situation, and again Furley is close to that, we take the necessary actions when there is immediate threat. But it does mean that there will be a delay in the cycle of the projects that we would be addressing.

TREASURER KOPP: (Indiscernible).

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Maybe with this additional funding released today from last year, the \$5 million, you may be able to speed them up.

DR. SANTALISES: Sure. And I am more than happy to get back to you all on what that looks like based on new information.

TREASURER KOPP: I think that would be very helpful because if I were a parent reading that we're postponing --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Yeah, we wouldn't want to see that.

TREASURER KOPP: -- fire safety --

DR. SANTALISES: Oh, no, no. I understand.

TREASURER KOPP: That would not, in Montgomery County we'd head for the courts. But --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Yeah. So there's a motion on the floor. It's been seconded. And that's to release \$5 million to the City of Baltimore and thank them for their great work on this air conditioning plan. There's a second. All those in favor, say aye.

TREASURER KOPP: Aye.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Aye.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Three-nothing.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Sorry to interrupt your presentation but --

DR. SANTALISES: No, not at all.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah.

DR. SANTALISES: Thank you all --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: It's probably worth it for the \$5 million.

DR. SANTALISES: No, no, no. And I would just like to say thank you on behalf, we have two of our School Board Commissioners, Berkeley and Commissioner Chinnia here. On behalf of the Mayor and the City of Baltimore, I want to thank you for that.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Is Mr. Scroggins right behind you there, or not?

DR. SANTALISES: Yes, he is.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Could he come up and --

DR. SANTALISES: Would you like to speak to him directly?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: I --

DR. SANTALISES: Absolutely.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: -- please and --

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GOVERNOR HOGAN: He was hiding behind you. I didn't even know he was there.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah. Yeah. So --

MR. SCROGGINS: Good morning.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: -- Mr. Scroggins, could you just help me with where this leaves us as far as the Baltimore City Schools, the action we just took, as far as the window air conditioning units or split systems? How many again have been put in over the last year? The last figure I have is 1,940 classrooms --

MR. SCROGGINS: Yes.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: -- that need either heat or air conditioning. Where does this, what's happened in the last year and where are we with the action we took today?

MR. SCROGGINS: Well we have completed this year four schools. I don't have the exact number of classrooms for those schools. But we each year are making progress in putting in air conditioning in schools. This action, you know, particularly helps us because there are a lot of important projects that were put on hold. Although we've tried to, you know, gradually work on them, put out the design just in case that money was released, we were certainly hoping that that would happen and we're very pleased that it is. But it

allows us to really complete some very important projects that have been in the planning stages for quite some time.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Excellent. And I noticed, I read in the paper some time ago, that the New Era Academy in Cherry Hill was visited by Senator Bill Ferguson I think July of 2015 and within two weeks 32 window air conditioning units were installed in his school. Are you going to I guess that was due to the fact you had some air conditioners there. But are you going to take care of the other seven classrooms in the Senator's school?

MR. SCROGGINS: Absolutely.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: With, is this the alcohol tax funds you're going to use? Or the funds we just released?

MR. SCROGGINS: Probably just from the general funds, which is where the funding came for the other window air conditioners.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Okay. And then just once again, because you have been on the front lines of this maintenance issue, I'm very pleased to see that after having eight schools rated not adequate two years in a row, the number of schools with that rating dropped to three in the fiscal year 2016 inspections. So congratulations for making progress. Only five schools earned good ratings in fiscal year '14 and '15 combined, only five got good ratings. And you've got nine receiving the good rating in fiscal year '16 alone.

So congratulations on that trend. And I hope anything we can do, or I can do, at the Board that, to support that focus, I guess, on maintenance, I really salute you.

And then quickly, Madam Superintendent --

MR. SCROGGINS: May I offer a comment, sir?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah, go ahead.

MR. SCROGGINS: I just want to indicate that of the three schools, one of those schools has already been closed. It's part of our 21st Century project. So that's being rebuilt at this time. Another one is scheduled to be closed in a year and a half when Forest Park is completed. And the final school at this particular point it's underutilized. We are looking to decide what will be done with that school. It was built in 1926. But we are, you know, making every effort to maintain that building properly.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: I see the City Council President just joined us.

MR. YOUNG: Good morning.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Do you want to come up and --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Hey, Jack.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Do you want to come up and say a word?

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Do you want to come up and say anything? Or just tell, we're just happy to have --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: -- the President of the City Council with us.

MR. YOUNG: Good morning, honorable Board members. I'm Council President Jack Young from Baltimore City. And you know, we have a lot of challenges in Baltimore City with our school system. And all the assistance and all the help you can give us, we greatly appreciate it. Thank you.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you very much, Jack.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: One of your colleagues is here, I think, Jack.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Do you want to say anything? Or -- thank you both for joining us.

MS. MIDDLETON: Good morning. Thank you so much for allowing me to speak. I'm here on behalf of the Baltimore City Public School System, as a former educator and just wanting to share the importance of the help that we need in our City. And thank you so much, Governor Hogan, for what you are doing. But we need a continuation of a lot of stuff. So please listen to our school leaders and try to assist and help the best way you can.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: We certainly will. Thank you very much.

MS. MIDDLETON: I'm still trying to catch my breath from the steps.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Yeah --

(Laughter.)

MS. MIDDLETON: -- you did pretty good for running up there.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah. Yeah.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: You know, Anne Arundel County was just up just before you. And last year we were, they did a tremendous job with this air conditioning situation. You know, they went, they switched to these kind of units. And they were able to speed up their time frame by like seven years and fix all their schools in one year. It was cost efficient, both for the installation and for the monthly cost. And they are thrilled that they did it. So if, they offered to provide assistance to both you and to Baltimore County if there were any questions. They have real expertise and they did the entire school system. So if you want, I'm sure they'd love to provide any advice or assistance. But we really appreciate the effort. And I don't have any further questions.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: I just had a quick question, if I could, about the 21st Century Schools.

DR. SANTALISES: Sure. Yes.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: What, I understand that the Stadium Authority is moving forward and it's a large \$1.1 billion project. What is the transition plan from Stadium Authority to City management once we approach the timing for occupancy?

DR. SANTALISES: So I just want to make sure, Comptroller Franchot, that I understand fully. Do you mean once the buildings are built in terms of the maintenance of the buildings? Is that the oversight that you're referencing?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah. Are you going to take over maintenance and oversight immediately? Or is there some kind of phase in that you are negotiating with the Stadium Authority?

DR. SANTALISES: No. We assume, and I'm just looking at Mignon, but no, we assume that oversight in terms of maintenance as soon as the buildings are complete. So we have our first two new buildings opening this summer --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Mm-hmm.

DR. SANTALISES: -- that we're very, very excited about. The community is excited. But we are preparing and have prepared even budget-wise to assume that cost, both in terms of fiscally as well as staff responsibility.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Great. And then I just have a quick question about the politics of immigration --

DR. SANTALISES: Sure.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: -- which I understand it's very uncertain what's going to happen. But I just wanted to hear from you as to the City School System and perhaps the Council President could say a word about the

local elected officials. What is it that we're doing if something draconian arrives? Are we going to be able to provide protection for our kids who innocently may be lacking documents?

DR. SANTALISES: Yes, so again, you know, as a number of my superintendent colleagues have said before, we do not require, you know, any citizenship documentation to serve young people. We have a long history of working with local community partners to make sure that we are linking our families, our recently arrived families together. And I frankly I think it was two days after our national election when some of our immigrant community was feeling very uneasy, at that next Board meeting I declared publicly, made it as part of my statement, that we would make sure that our young people are safe, that they are cared for, and that they, that our schools will remain open to all as we are charged to do. But I, in terms of the school system, but I will turn it over to the Council President. There you, Mr. Council President --

MR. YOUNG: I missed the question because I was engaged in another conversation.

DR. SANTALISES: Oh --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: So Jack, the question is, who knows what's going to come out of Washington on immigration. But a lot of the language during the campaign was very draconian, incendiary, intimidating. And it scared a lot of people. So I'm just curious as to your approach should

something negative come out of Washington next week, or this week, concerning these innocent kids who are here, lacking documents. Is the City prepared to step up and protect them, as I think everybody thinks you should, from having their families torn apart?

MR. YOUNG: Well I'm sure that we will work with our Baltimore City Public School System to ensure that our children, she already stated what she put in her address, and we believe that we have the necessary documentation for most of our kids in our schools. And if they don't have it we're going to try to work hard to make sure that they get it. Like you said, they are innocent kids. They were born here, most of them. So as far as I'm concerned, they are citizens of the United States of America. Plus they are residents of Baltimore City. So Baltimore City, being a sanctuary city, I think that protection is right there for all of our immigrants who does not have legal documentation.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Great. And I don't want to end on a concerned point about that. I want to thank you, and thank the Mayor, and thank the other elected officials in Baltimore City for coming forward with a reasonable response on the inhumane conditions that a lot of kids suffer in these classrooms due to lack of air conditioning. And I want to just applaud everyone involved for making a big improvement. And I particularly want to thank, once again, Governor Hogan. Because none of this would happen if frankly there

weren't two of us sitting here on the Board that are demanding that it happen. And I think it's the right direction. So kudos to Baltimore City.

MR. YOUNG: Okay, if I might respond? As you all know that it's mandated by the State for us to close schools. And keep in mind when we're talking about air conditioning that we're not talking about putting in air conditioning in schools that are slated for closure. And also, I'd like to work with the Governor and yourself and the rest of the Board members, because when we are mandated to close schools they have bond debt on it that we have to repay. And Baltimore City being a poor city, we would like for you all to consider, you know, forgiving those bonds. Thank you.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you.

TREASURER KOPP: I actually just to come back to --

MR. YOUNG: For me?

TREASURER KOPP: -- well, Jack, I think probably in the end the question was the City, the closures. And at some point if you could give us some sort of progress report on where you are --

DR. SANTALISES: On school closures?

TREASURER KOPP: -- in terms of school closures. Yeah. So I'm a big, I know how difficult it is.

DR. SANTALISES: It is difficult.

TREASURER KOPP: We went through this several times. But to the extent that you can move kids into a school that is not --

DR. SANTALISES: Mm-hmm. Yes.

TREASURER KOPP: -- underutilized --

DR. SANTALISES: That's right.

TREASURER KOPP: -- you can provide a much better education at less cost. So I think that would be very helpful.

DR. SANTALISES: No, can we can definitely, Treasurer Kopp, provide you with a more detailed report on that.

TREASURER KOPP: Yeah, thanks.

DR. SANTALISES: But just so that you know, City Schools is actually ahead of schedule in school closings. And the investment that the State has made in 21st Century Schools has allowed us to close schools but then be able to provide families and children with new buildings. So we are --

TREASURER KOPP: That's great.

DR. SANTALISES: -- actually a bit ahead of schedule.

TREASURER KOPP: That's super. That's super. I would, and the other thing is, and I think it is the Council and the Mayor, following up on the Comptroller's issue, there are going to be a lot of families in Maryland, not just in the City, who are going to be split apart. The children are citizens. The parents

are not. And the question is how we are prepared to deal with the children who will be our children. Not just in education but --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: I would hesitate to speculate

MR. YOUNG: Yeah. Well --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: -- on what might happen. And why don't we wait and see what actually really is going to happen.

TREASURER KOPP: Absolutely. But there will be a speech today --

MR. YOUNG: Yeah. Well whatever --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Because the latest stuff that we heard was that they were solely going to focus on people with past criminal, multiple criminal records and so it's not like we know the families are going to be torn apart.

TREASURER KOPP: We don't.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: And it's going to be a small --

TREASURER KOPP: Absolutely. I just want to know that our State --

MR. YOUNG: Well the answer --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: So I understand the concern and I share the concerns. But I don't want to spend all day talking about something --

MR. YOUNG: Right.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: -- that might never happen. And that's not really, you know, it's just all speculation. I'd like to focus on actually the school systems and what we're doing here today.

MR. YOUNG: Well Madam Treasurer, we are prepared to protect our children.

TREASURER KOPP: Thank you.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you.

DR. SANTALISES: Thank you very much.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you very much. Now we're onto Calvert County, or Calvert County depending on how long you've been there.

(Laughter.)

SECRETARY MCDONALD: Baltimore County?

GOVERNOR HOGAN: I'm sorry. I jumped ahead. Baltimore County. I certainly did not mean to --

SECRETARY MCDONALD: Dr. Dance is here. Here he is.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: -- to, I got Baltimore City and Baltimore County confused on my notes. But we're happy to have you here, Baltimore County.

DR. DANCE: Thank you, Mr. Governor, Comptroller Franchot, Treasurer Kopp, members of the Board of Public Works, and to the IAC, Dr. Karen Salmon, our State Superintendent, members of the Governor's cabinet,

thank you so much for the opportunity to come and just talk a little bit about Baltimore County Public Schools. But if I may take a moment of personal privilege and just share you with you news. If you heard yesterday, the Maryland State Department of Education announced that Baltimore County has a nearly 90 percent graduation rate, the highest graduation rate in history.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Wow.

DR. DANCE: And gaps are closing. And particularly what I'm most proud of, and it goes to the Comptroller's last question, African American students and white students in Baltimore County statistically have no achievement gap when it comes to graduation. So thank you for your support, to our State Superintendent. And to this Board, for your funding of education in Maryland. I certainly do appreciate it.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: That deserves a round of applause, I think.

(Applause.)

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Great job.

DR. DANCE: I sent a message to our team yesterday. I'm here delivering that news. But we have some dynamic members of Team BCPS. But thank you for your support for education --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: That's fantastic.

DR. DANCE: -- in the State of Maryland. I am here to talk about our fiscal year '18 capital improvement budget for Baltimore County Public Schools, which is a pretty ambitious budget and we completely understand it. But it does have three priorities that are priorities for everyone within this room.

First, the installation of air conditioning in Baltimore County Public Schools. We have 173 schools, centers and programs. When I began the job just a little bit less than five years ago, we had 68 schools that did not have air conditioning. I'm excited to say that at the end of five years of my tenure that number will be down to 13, Mr. Governor, Mr. Comptroller, and Madam Treasurer. We do have a plan that's in front of the Board of Public Works already that will get that number from 13 ultimately down to three, and ultimately down to zero in less than four years. So thank you for your support of that.

It also looks at, though, looking at overcrowding within our school system. We do have overcrowding in our school system. We're projecting about 1,000 students every single year, including another 1,000 students next year. So the budget that's in front of you right now does particularly target the northeast area of our school system where with this budget we will be adding roughly around 1,100 seats, with the new elementary school for Victory Villa, which is a replacement school that allows it to get air conditioning, but also looks at how do we balance enrollment. But also a new 700 seat elementary school in the northeast area, as well, too.

This budget also has replacement schools for the southeast area of our county, looking at a replacement for Dundalk and Berkshire Elementary Schools. Again, adding air conditioning but adding seats as well.

This budget in front of you also tackles four high school projects, and I should say it's six high school projects. Two of those projects are air conditioning projects. But we're looking at four that are renovation projects: Woodlawn High School, Patapsco High School, Lansdowne High School, and Dulaney High School. And I'm joined here today by a member of our board but also advocates from the Dulaney High School community who've been working with us not just on Dulaney High School but on capital improvement projects around Baltimore County Public Schools.

And last thing, it does look at the modernization of our facilities as well, too. So with the support of this Board we will be able to tackle air conditioning projects within our county, again ultimately getting that number to zero which is what we all want. It looks at overcrowding within our school system, and also modernizing our facilities. So with that, with the Board of Public Works, I will take any questions on Baltimore County Public Schools' capital improvement projects budget for FY '18.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Well thank you very much for the presentation. Congratulations on the, those are terrific numbers.

DR. DANCE: Thank you, Mr. Governor. Thank you for your support.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Closing the achievement gap and being at 90 percent.

DR. DANCE: Nearly 90 percent, 89.2.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Nearly, okay, well nearly. That's, you know, your entire team should be congratulated and thank you for your efforts.

You know, Baltimore County's request for the, in the preliminary allocation includes \$21 million I guess for State funding for air conditioning projects in 12 schools, as you mentioned.

DR. DANCE: Yes, sir.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: We really are pleased that the county is focused on this and we appreciate you taking this issue seriously and that you're working on installing air conditioning, trying to get students out of these sweltering conditions. We also appreciate the fact that we've been getting more information to the Board which we've been requesting for a long time, which is helpful. We appreciate that as well. I know that the week after this Board took action on this issue to make air conditioning a priority a decision was made by the system to spend \$20 million out of the county's nearly \$70 million surplus, the county school system, to accelerate the air conditioning projects, which is terrific. And we applaud you for that. But unfortunately it sounds like even with these

really positive steps, and we want to commend you for them, that more than 13,000 students will still be left without air conditioning for the next several years. And, you know, many of which won't get cooling until 2020 or '21. And you know, there are two schools with no plan whatsoever for air conditioning at all, ever. I mean, maybe that's because those schools are being torn down. I'm not sure.

But first, you know, congratulations on the efforts. Congratulations on the investment and speeding up the process. And your request to us, which I think, you know, I'm inclined to want to support. The only question I have is are there any plans or could you consider other plans for speeding up the relief for those additional schools and students so they don't have to wait four years?

DR. DANCE: Absolutely. And Mr. Governor, before I begin let me just say a special thank you to the IAC. The members of the IAC allowed us a waiver that allowed us to bid projects so we could actually accelerate even faster. So I'm excited that out of the air conditioning projects that we have right now we are actually on schedule, as a matter of fact, two to three weeks ahead of schedule and under budget for those projects. So thank you to the members of the IAC for allowing us that waiver.

I will tell you, and I can follow back up with this Board in terms of the actual number of students in those 13 schools that will begin the '17-'18

school year. However, we're taking a very similar approach to what the City did. What we wanted to do is tackle overcrowding and air conditioning at the same time. So if you think about Dundalk Elementary School, Berkshire Elementary School, and Colgate Elementary School, those are three of our elementary schools in the southeast area of our county that do not have air conditioning. But as opposed to putting air conditioning in them, we are doing replacement schools for them.

We also are tackling the fact that Dundalk Elementary School will go first, followed by Berkshire, followed by Colgate. So we're using our funds that way, Mr. Governor, to make sure that we can accelerate our projects within fiscally responsible reasons but also balance the fact that we want replacement schools for their communities, too.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: That makes total sense. But are there ones that aren't slated to be replaced that are still waiting until 2020 or 2021?

DR. DANCE: The ones that are not slated to be replaced should, they are going to be in our FY '19 capital budget. So those will be right on target right after that one. That goes to our 13 to three ultimately to zero schools. So we have balanced out our schedule to make sure that we can tackle those that we know are sort of low hanging fruit, followed by our high schools. We look at our high school projects, and again the four high schools that are renovation projects that are you in front of you, followed by Kenwood and Franklin High School. We

know those are going to take two years because we are installing air conditioning in large high schools. But over the next three years you will see that list go to three, and then ultimately those three replacement elementary schools.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Great. Well I want to thank you for addressing our concerns and you know I'm still concerned about the health of these 8,400 students and 561 teachers in those schools that have to wait. I'd like to see if you can't find a way to speed that up as other jurisdictions have done. But we do congratulate you on the effort. So number one, I'm going to support you on the \$21 million. I'm also going to make a motion that we release \$5 million that we had withheld because of the great efforts you've been making, to help pay for that in addition. And would love to have you come back with a plan before our May meeting when we do the rest of the thing to see if we can't address it with additional funds in releasing the other \$5 million. If we can take care of those other 8,400 students maybe with window or split units like we've done in Baltimore City and Anne Arundel County and most other places around the State so they don't have to wait for four years.

DR. DANCE: Yes, sir.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: And then we'll release the rest of the money. But we'll, I'm making a motion that we release the \$5 million today. Is there a second?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah, no, I second that. And I applaud the Governor, once again, for moving the ball forward on this. I appreciate the work that you've done, Mr. Superintendent. But the fact that there are 8,400 students, 561 teachers, and 320 classrooms that are going to be left without climate control year after year after year.

I started this issue with Baltimore County six years ago. And the solution was right in front of everybody's nose then, which is put window air conditioning units in and provide immediate relief. And all we got was a lot of foot dragging and stuff. And now we've got you with this plan. Believe me I'm going to be all over this plan. Because I question, frankly, some of the reality of making these 21 school renovation projects that you've got moving forward in the short term. But I'll support the \$5 million give back on good faith. But to get the other \$5 million you've got to produce a plan to bring immediate relief to these thousands of kids. And if you could please focus on the kids and realize that a year, two years, three years, possibly four years without climate control is inhumane. And I'm delighted to join the Governor in giving some back here. But this is, and I know this should be a victory lap I guess, but I'm walking around the victory lap. Because I'm concerned for the kids that are left out. And the Governor mentioned your own statistics. But are you planning to close Campfield Early Learning Center or Catonsville Center?

DR. DANCE: Within our Schools for Our Future program we are looking at how do we redistribute those seats throughout our county. Campfield is a school that has Pre-K through Kindergarten. I've always been wanting to get students within one transition, of course, and not have to do two. Catonsville Alternative School is an alternative school that we have within our school system that we're looking at doing the same thing in terms of combining with other programs.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Okay. And I see Dulaney, Lansdowne, Patapsco, Woodlawn did not qualify for State funding last year because feasibility studies were incomplete. This year they are not high priority projects. Patapsco is at 18, Dulaney is at 25. The Lansdowne community tells me that their school continues to, this is why I've got some concerns about your plans, the Lansdowne community tells me their school continues to sink into a pond while the geotechnical study that was supposed to carry on for six months was cut short at two. I've heard concerns from the Dulaney community that they strongly prefer a replacement facility because they don't think the renovation plans address many of the school's structural and mechanical deficiencies.

So I guess I have some healthy skepticism as to whether the plan is going to work. But I think the Governor is making a very good proposal. I'm happy to second it and support it. But I think the jury is still out on whether

Baltimore County can do what it promises and what it should do for these kids that are currently not covered.

DR. DANCE: And Mr. Comptroller --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: I'm going to hope that they do. And I'm a trust but verify guy. So --

DR. DANCE: And I appreciate that. And I will tell you we did present to our board last night, Mr. Comptroller, information on Lansdowne High School. We did have the architects from Rubin & Associates (phonetic) come out, too, and they did a geotechnical study of Lansdowne High School. This is all available on our website that basically the school is not sinking into the pond. The IAC does have that information. We've shared it with them. But that is posted on our website and --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: But did you cut it, did they cut it off at two months?

DR. DANCE: No, it was a six-month study, sir. They had been studying it since May. And then for the Dulaney community and really for all four of our high schools we posted again on our website --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Could we just hold off one second? Because there is a motion on the floor --

DR. DANCE: Okay.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Thank you.

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GOVERNOR HOGAN: -- to give you \$5 million today.

DR. DANCE: And we would like that.

(Laughter.)

GOVERNOR HOGAN: And let's focus solely on air conditioning and then we'll talk about the other issues so --

DR. DANCE: Unless you want to change that to ten.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: -- so that's been, the motion is seconded.

And is there a vote on --

TREASURER KOPP: I do, I do support it. I take whatever I can get. I think it should be ten also.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Well I want to do it as well. So I believe if you can, as the Comptroller and I have talked, come up with some way as the other jurisdictions have to speed up, not the ones that are closing, but those other schools that are going to have to wait for four years, a way to get this done. And we have another round coming up in May --

DR. DANCE: And (indiscernible).

GOVERNOR HOGAN: -- and we can come back and say maybe we can find a way to take care of these 561 teachers and these 8,000 kids and then we'll release the rest of the money.

DR. DANCE: Yes, sir.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: In fact, look to Baltimore City. I mean, they gave excellent testimony.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Or Anne Arundel County, who did their entire school system that way and is very pleased with the cost savings and the fact that they sped up their program by I think six or seven years.

DR. DANCE: And I appreciate it. And I just heard my colleague from the City, who and I have a very solid relationship. And I know that their plan is five years. We will complete this in four. Yes, sir.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Great. Thank you. Now there are other questions other than that motion. That motion passed three to nothing. Other topics or issues? And I know we have a couple of people signed up to speak as well that if --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Okay, let me, I have a quick question about Patapsco. Because despite worsening overcrowding of the school, they've got nine trailers I think there over the past 15 years. So Patapsco was 165 students over capacity. Rapid growth is projected. Is an addition being considered? And how is the overcrowding issue being addressed?

DR. DANCE: Very good question, Mr. Comptroller. An addition within this budget is not being considered for Patapsco High School. I am reviewing all of our high school projections in Baltimore County right now. In looking at our preliminary draft that we will release probably within the next three

weeks, we're going to be looking at all of our high schools except for five at or above capacity within the next five years. And so what I'm going to be anticipating doing starting this summer is having community conversations with all of our high school communities and presenting to our County Executive and county administration a plan to address high school enrollment overall. Because the biggest concern in Baltimore County for high school seats right now is Towson High School.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Okay. And I brought up concerns last year about renovation projects being too limited. What about Woodlawn Middle School 2010 renovation was characterized as excessively limited despite costing \$20 million? Are you weighing the long term costs and benefits of these renovations given the limitations that are being talked about?

DR. DANCE: So if we go back to the four high school projects that we have on our FY '18 capital improvement program, we've actually compared those projects to similar projects we've done at Hereford High School and Pikesville High School within our county. We've done side by side comparisons and even though it's listed on our request as a limited renovation, I've been able to work with our county administration and say we're going to fully fund everything that's in the feasibility study. Those four bids are out right now. When they come back we anticipate having conversations to figure out what's the best alternative going forward, whether it's to continue with the

renovation or to make an alternate decision. But I think that is going to be driven, Mr. Comptroller, by the market. And then having a critical decision to make whether you do a renovation versus something else.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Okay. And so Lansdowne Middle School and Sparrows Point Middle School, that got renovations in 2008 and 2009, now apparently are only receiving adequate ratings with multiple categories rated not adequate. So you're looking at the long term cost situation with pluses and minuses. Thank you, and congratulations on half a loaf, I guess.

DR. DANCE: Thank you to the members of the Board.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: I would say thank you for all of your efforts, and congratulations on the great scores and on all the progress that you're making.

DR. DANCE: Thank you, Mr. Governor. Thank you, Mr. Comptroller and Madam Treasurer.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you.

TREASURER KOPP: Just one question, Dr. Dance.

DR. DANCE: Yes, ma'am?

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Almost.

TREASURER KOPP: First of all, congratulations also on all of the great work you've done. My understanding is that the county's project for the \$1.3 billion and going forward with the central air conditioning on all these other

schools, is going to some extent be forward funded by the county, not by the State?

DR. DANCE: Yes. The county has forward funded roughly \$166 million for these projects.

TREASURER KOPP: And that's on the assumption that you will be reimbursed by the State?

DR. DANCE: Reimbursed by the State, yes, ma'am.

TREASURER KOPP: And what sort of insurances have you been given?

DR. DANCE: We have a very close relationship with the IAC. As those projects become completed and we submit future year requests we'll be working directly with them to seek that reimbursement when possible.

TREASURER KOPP: All right. Just so it's understood --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Just so you know the IAC simply makes recommendations.

TREASURER KOPP: Right.

DR. DANCE: Yes, sir.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: And we make the decisions. But we appreciate you tapping into your surplus.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: So Dr. Dance, you mentioned your, I think you made some statements after the election about immigration and

the concern you had with your students. Is that, you heard my question of the other systems?

DR. DANCE: Yes, sir, and similar to my colleagues, and I think everyone who knows me knows I represent this, but we will make sure that every single kid, regardless of race, gender, or ethnicity, in Baltimore County, they feel safe, secure. We can support our communities with whatever concerns they may have.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Excellent.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Great. Thank you very much.

DR. DANCE: Thank you.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: And now we have a couple of speakers, if they are still here. We have Yara Cheikh, who is a Dulaney High School parent. Am I saying that right? Is she here? I guess it's afternoon now. Good afternoon.

MS. CHEIKH: Good afternoon. Thank you, Treasurer Kopp, Governor Hogan, and Comptroller Franchot for the opportunity to speak, if I can get this to turn. Okay.

My name is Yara Cheikh and I'm on the League of Women Voters Baltimore County Education Committee and the proud mother of four students in the Baltimore County Public School System. But before I begin I want to add a personal note of thanks to the Comptroller. As the child of immigrants I

appreciate the concern I'm hearing today for all our student population. Thank you.

When I began advocating for school construction dollars over a decade ago, our school system was the second oldest school system in the State; less than 50 percent of our schools were not air conditioned; we had aging infrastructure and overcrowded schools. Today we've air conditioned schools at an unprecedented rate, built and renovated schools for overcrowded schools in the northwest, central, and southwest areas. While there is more to do, we have made tremendous progress. By the State's measure we now have the sixth oldest school system in the State.

Much of this success is due to Baltimore County leadership and their commitment to funding school construction and our school system for requesting relief and developing long term planning. I'm very grateful for Baltimore County's investment.

I must add much of this is also due to our Comptroller's diligent efforts to highlight critical infrastructure needs across our county. I know personally he has been instrumental in bringing projects like renovations to Hampton Elementary, Stoneleigh Elementary, our new West Towson Elementary to completion, and most recently drawing attention to the needs of Dulaney High School. Thank you.

I'm here today to discuss the high school renovations on the current capital improvement plan submitted by Baltimore County Public Schools. While we have made progress, we need to consider what surrounding counties are doing. This year Severna Park High School opens in Anne Arundel County, and Howard County just opened a net zero energy efficient middle school. As the IAC has stated, Baltimore County has utilized limited renovations for schools in order to address the crisis that our system faced in terms of overcrowding and non-air-conditioned schools. But now is the time to reconsider the use of limited renovations as the IAC has stated this has kept our system from having schools in good and superior status in our inventory. And while comprehensive renovations often meet the infrastructure needs of schools, this is not the case for Dulaney High School.

BCPS has judged the Dulaney High School renovation to cost \$45 million in its IAC application and is waiting for bids. This is a cost of less than \$183 a square foot. As you may know, the most recent renovation of Pikesville High School and Hereford High School, both of which are smaller than Dulaney High School by over 800 and 600 students cost \$50 million and \$51 million respectively. The break down of cost was \$308 a square foot for Pikesville High School and \$272 a square foot for Hereford High School. This clear inequity of funding is generating significant concern within the Dulaney community.

We're almost double the size of those other two high schools. Furthermore, the estimated cost of air conditioning Dulaney High School is \$19 million, almost half the cost of the entire renovation. Dulaney High School is in dire condition. A limited renovation will not meet the needs of our students. As we move forward, we must address the needs of our high schools and replace our 60-year-plus high schools when necessary. It is the economically responsible measure.

As we move forward to work with the Baltimore County administration and BCPS, we ask that you consider the considerable need of our high schools and advocate with us for replacement high schools when necessary. Thank you.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you. Next we have Lily Rowe, Baltimore County parent. Good afternoon.

MS. ROWE: Good afternoon. I would first like to thank the Board of Public Works for having excellent constituency services, both with your office staff and with allowing members of the public with as little as one email to be able to be put on the Agenda to speak before the Board of Public Works. I've come a number of times and I'm very pleased with the ease with which this is done. And I'm also very happy with all of the questions I've heard thus far, in that they're very poignant and they address some of the questions that we as parents have been asking the school system, which the school system seems

reluctant to answer or simply stonewalls us and doesn't really properly answer the questions.

So one of the things that, I'd like to address a couple of things, is that you continue to supervise the installation of air conditioning in Baltimore County and ensure that it actually happens. The plan is very aggressive. And in some cases we're not told whether design work is even complete. And it's one thing for the school system to say we're on schedule but when asked for details by the Board of Education those details are not provided.

The Board of Education has asked for a list of schools also that have had air conditioning installed but that air conditioning is non-functional, either intermittently or permanently, or that there's HVAC systems, like today I received an instant message from parents at Baltimore Highlands that they have no heat today. And this seems to be a frequently occurring thing, where my Facebook group for Baltimore County facilities of over 3,000 members gets a lot of activity surrounding schools that have installation of AC but the AC is not functional and they are not included in the heat closure policy for Baltimore County Public Schools and the school system has not released information about which schools have non-functioning AC. Based on crowd sourcing it may be as many as 30. So if there's anything that you can do to help to obtain the data for parents and the Baltimore County Board of Education, I would really appreciate that information.

I'm also very concerned and many people in our group are very concerned about the renovations for the four high schools. These four high schools are well into their replacement life cycle, where any money put into them is pretty much a waste. And it is money that will have to be respent because these schools do need to be replaced. Lansdowne High School has seven different level changes and is overcrowded and narrowing the hallways in order to make it ADA compliant is going to constrict the hallways, which is both a safety issue for students and I don't know how children in wheelchairs are going to be able to use restricted capacity hallways, ramps over seven different level changes, and two separate elevators to get to class on time. And they will miss instruction time leaving classes early and coming back to classes late.

In addition the geo survey said that while the school is not sinking directly into the pond, it is sinking. And when you have a school that is sinking, and it's within 15 feet of a body of water, it does stand to reason that since water does diffuse through soil that that school will continue to take on water. And I don't appreciate the very technical ways in which the school system is attempting to avoid full transparency and accountability through their manipulative use of data and actually giving the public the correct interpretation of the situation.

Because these four high schools are the worst high schools in Baltimore County. It would be a vast inequity not to rebuild these high schools and to spend almost 50 percent of the cost on renovations only to then have high

schools that are in better condition in some cases but overcrowded get brand new schools simply because of the overcrowding. And to have 21st Century schools means more than air conditioning, HVAC, and wiring. It's important that these schools actually be well maintained. And there comes a point in the life cycle where the school system decides that the cost of maintenance is too high on the school and they just really slow down what they're doing because they know in the future they are going to put money into renovations. And the poorer condition the school is the more likely they feel they are to get money and State funding and whatever.

And I would really like to see from the IAC more stringent standards on these maintenance audits that they do. For instance, Reisterstown Elementary and several other schools have had sewage floods because the sewage backs up through the bathrooms and into the hallways and into a kindergarten classroom. And I was informed by BCPS facilities, parents, and janitorial staff that they do not use disinfectant in those schools at all and are not permitted to and teachers are not permitted to. Now it's one thing to use a cleaner, it's another thing to have feces saturating kindergarten classroom rugs and you do not use any disinfectant that would kill any of the viruses or anything contained in feces. And an entire day Reisterstown Elementary School parents and teachers, parents were not informed, that for the entire day their students could not wash their hands or flush the toilets.

So these are the kinds of problems that get covered up that the Baltimore County Board of Education is not able to get accountability from the school system because the school system simply does not answer questions they don't really want to answer, or they answer them in a way that's incomplete, or not supported by documentation or parent experiences. And I would like to see that if the IAC is doing these maintenance audits of the schools that perhaps it might be a good idea to require documentation of all maintenance work orders that have been requested by the schools to the school system that have not been completed. Because this is also something that parents don't have access to, is work orders that are incomplete. And I know that schools submit these work orders but that does not necessarily mean that they are being fulfilled or fulfilled in a timely fashion. And when you have schools that have sewer backups and plumbing problems and non-potable water and these are recurrent problems, these is an indication that these schools need to be torn down and replaced. And in the four high schools these are all problems in these high schools. And these high schools are being given limited renovations that will not address all these problems. Which means that these high schools are going to continue to eat up large quantities of maintenance funds as these recurring issues that the renovations will not account for continue to be a problem. And we need to rebuild all four of these high schools.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you very much.

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MS. ROWE: Thank you.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: You know, you are the most passionate parent advocate that I've ever seen. You've been here before us a number of times. I'm sure you, they love to have you at the Baltimore County Board of Ed meetings and I appreciate you trying to keep everybody honest. But it's great input. And I just want to thank you, you know, for caring and for coming with all this information. It's great suggestions for us and for the IAC. And thank you for caring enough as a parent.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: And no notes. And she got up there and talked about --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: -- about the school and every problem --

MS. ROWE: I had a couple bullet points. But I mean, I'm on my Facebook group, the BCPS Parents and Teachers for Equitable Facilities and Portable AC, everyday. And parents talk to me and teachers message me things, usually with the first line being, please don't release my name, because they are terrified. BCPS Public Schools has almost a cult-like atmosphere for having conversations about anything. And so I --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: We'll make sure our guys, you know, escort you on the way out so you don't have --

MS. ROWE: That's all right.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: I think they all left.

MS. ROWE: You know --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: That was a joke.

(Laughter.)

MS. ROWE: It's important for people to be able to talk about things. And I appreciate the fact that you are willing to allow that and to listen.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you very much.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah, I just wanted to thank Lily Rowe because I agree with the Governor. I think she's a passionate and very intelligent and articulate observer. And the data backs you up, Ms. Rowe. In three fiscal years of inspections by the IAC of the 162 schools in Baltimore County, one, one inspection got a superior rating. Three fiscal years.

MS. ROWE: That's appalling.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: And so I share your concern about the ability of the school system to do what it's saying it's going to do as far as, for example, the air conditioning issue and the fact that some of the units that are put in may or may not be functioning. I have great skepticism as to whether they are going to even begin to accomplish what they have articulated. And then this second issue, which is very important to Dulaney and other schools, of whether we're rushing, for political purposes, rushing forward with \$20 million,

\$30 million, \$40 million renovations of schools that should be torn down and replaced is a compelling issue because it implies that the whole county system is just governed by I don't know what. But it certainly isn't the kind of management and administration of the taxpayers' dollars that makes sense if we're rushing to spend tens of millions of dollars on renovations simply to say, oh, we covered that.

MS. ROWE: May I ask, was the superior rating on one of the brand new schools?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: I have no idea.

MS. ROWE: It's very easy to call a brand new school maintained.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: I don't have it. Maybe my assistant has it there. But that's the reality of, you know, the administration of this issue of are we taking care of the facilities we have? And to go up and walk through Dundalk, Yara Cheikh, thank you for coming down and raising the issue of Dulaney. I mean, it is a nightmare to walk through that school right now and say anybody has their kid in that school or any elected official in that county permitted that school to get into that condition. I mean, it is just a raging irresponsible illustration of what I believe government should be doing, which is taking care of what it has. And the fact that that school has been allowed to get into the condition it has with, you know, you know the many, many things. Yara,

I'd hate to get you going on what the problems with the school are. But it's far beyond what any reasonable person would say, oh, let's just do a renovation.

MS. ROWE: I think that some of the conditions of our schools, given the wealth of our county and the assistance from the State that we get, does warrant institutionalized child abuse. Because some of these schools, I mean, like it's a hazard if you can't plug something into a wall without a potential outlet fire. So thank you.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: All right, Lily. Thank you very much for joining us. But we've got three more schools. We're behind schedule.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah. Okay. Okay.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: We've got three more before anyone eats lunch. So I see people starting to fade out there in the audience. But thank you again for coming down. We're going to move on to Calvert County.

DR. CURRY: Treasurer Kopp, Governor Hogan, Comptroller Franchot, my name is Dan Curry. I'm School Superintendent for Calvert County Schools and we will try to get you to lunch more quickly.

I want to bring you greetings from the Calvert County Board of Education and the faculty and staff there, and especially Comptroller Franchot from Mutual Elementary. They very much welcomed your visit of last month and the awarding of the Silver Hammer Award. And Governor Hogan, the folks from Mt. Harmony Elementary really enjoyed your visit in November. We appreciate

that. We appreciate the opportunity to appear before you to discuss our CIP request for FY '18. The level of support you've provided in the past has been truly appreciated.

Our appeal today concerns the second year of funding for Northern High School replacement project. You may recall this project was originally bid in 2015 and the bids were rejected and construction costs were beyond our budget. As a result we reevaluated the project and the scope and went through various cost containment exercises so the new school could be aligned more closely with the overall budget and we were successful this summer with the Northern High School replacement project and awarded a bid in July and we are currently under construction.

So this brings me to our appeal today. We are respectfully requesting the \$6,575,000 balance of the total requested allocation of \$14,575,000 in State funds. To date the recommendations from the IAC total \$8 million. The funds we are requesting today are critical to the continuation of the project and represent a minimum allocation as required to do so to stay on schedule next fiscal year. The total construction budget for this project is \$71 million with \$34.2 million in State funds. The funding is being requested over a four-year cycle of a multiphase construction replacement.

We take very seriously the enormous task before the IAC and the Board of Public Works in allocating funding for public schools in Calvert County.

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We take great pride in being good stewards of the schools that you have helped us build. Our buildings consistently rank among the highest in Maryland in State building inspections with an average score of 91.4 for those inspected in 2016. And even Northern High School that we are about to replace scored an 89.69 in 2016, which is a strong indicator of our commitment to maintaining our buildings at the highest possible level. We appreciate your consideration.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Well first of all, thank you very much for joining us. And I want to congratulate you. I'm going to beat the Comptroller to the punch. Because normally he's the maintenance guru and he's done a great job getting everyone focused on that. But you know, you have, I want to congratulate you because you consistently, over and over again, continually got excellent maintenance reports on all of your facilities. And it's a good example for some other school systems. And we want to congratulate you on that.

DR. CURRY: Thank you.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: I don't have any other questions. I think this is a good one.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: I think it's absolutely appropriate what the Governor said. Because we just had Baltimore County, 162 schools. You have 26 schools. Big difference. Same three-year period, inspections made by the IAC. Baltimore County, one school rated superior. Calvert County, four schools rated superior out of 26. So congratulations. God

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bless you. Keep up the great work. And you're exactly what, frankly, I think most Marylanders want to see, which is a responsible oversight of public resources. And thank you for taking good care of what we --

DR. CURRY: I appreciate that. We have a lot of support from our county commissioners --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: I'm sure. Are they here?

DR. CURRY: -- and our delegates and from our maintenance folks in particular. They own those buildings. That's their house.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Yep.

DR. CURRY: They take care of it.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Well tell them all we said congratulations.

DR. CURRY: Thank you very much.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: We appreciate their efforts. Thank you. Next we have Caroline County. I see we have the leaders from the county and we've got some folks from the school system. We're happy to have you.

DR. SAELENS: We'll go as quickly as possible. So good afternoon, Governor Hogan, Treasurer Kopp, and Comptroller Franchot, and Dr. Salmon, the State Superintendent, and the other committee members. I'm Patty Saelens, Interim Superintendent for Caroline County. And with me today I have Mr. Milton Nagel, Assistant Superintendent of Schools for Administrative

Services, and he's here to answer any technical questions. And we also have Mr. Larry Porter, who is one of our Caroline County Commissioners. And he's honestly here in support of our county's commitment to our capital projects.

We are here today requesting full funding for the roof replacement of Colonel Richardson High School. The first page of your handout that you have that we provided for you is documentation of the history of that roof. The State participation for this project is \$1,606,000. We believe that a picture tells a thousand words there. So on the back of your first page you'll see that we have the current roof, the patches that we've done to preserve the structure, and the ongoing cracking issues that we've had with that roof. We also had an independent roof study prepared by Brannan Roofing Supports and this report supported the need for this project. So if you have any questions about the actual project itself?

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Commissioner, do you have anything you want to add? Thank you for coming down.

MR. PORTER: Well thank you. It's always a pleasure to come across the Bridge, although I don't stay over here very long. But we --

(Laughter.)

GOVERNOR HOGAN: You ought to just grab some lunch or something before you head back.

MR. PORTER: Yeah, we may. I just wanted to mention the bedrock of our relationship, or our governing, is our relationship with our Board of Education. We're local people. We know each other. We work together. We certainly appreciate the effort for you to keep our feet to the fire when it comes to maintenance. I know we got the Silver Hammer Award. The Comptroller came over. We appreciate that visit. I think our names are still on the beam at Preston Elementary School where we got raised up on the truck there.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yep.

MR. PORTER: But --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: You know getting presented the Silver Hammer from the Comptroller is much better, occasionally some school systems get beaten with it.

(Laughter.)

MR. PORTER: Well we made them put it away so he couldn't use it on us. But we appreciate it and look forward to having you come over and see us. It's always a great pleasure for you to come --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: We'll be back.

MR. PORTER: -- to Caroline County. Thank you very much.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you very much.

DR. SALMON: Governor? May I make a comment, Governor?

May I make a comment?

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GOVERNOR HOGAN: Absolutely.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah.

DR. SALMON: I just wanted to say that I have special affection for this project because I started teaching at Colonel Richardson --

MR. PORTER: Yes.

DR. SALMON: -- 41 years ago --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Wow.

DR. SALMON: -- and spent five wonderful years there. And it's a great building. I had a chance to go back and visit it since, although my classroom is now a bank of lockers --

MR. PORTER: I understand.

DR. SALMON: -- I still think the other renovations were very wonderful. And so I hope that we can support that project.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yes.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you very much. I didn't realize, Doctor, that you had started teaching at the age of four but --

(Laughter.)

DR. SALMON: Thank you, Governor.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah but --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: That's incredible.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: -- I want to just recognize Assistant Secretary Nagel for his resourcefulness and the ingenuity really that he showed at Federalsburg Elementary School. I had the opportunity to see that project firsthand in October, as the Commissioner said, when I was presenting the Silver Hammer Award. But what I was particularly interested in was that for \$2,300 per classroom Mr. Nagel had supervised putting in units that provide not just cooling, but also heating and also humidity control. And that included \$1,400 for the price of the product, which is very sophisticated equipment, and \$750 for some electrical contractor to put it in. But the reason I thought these things were, other than their low cost, were so impressive is that teachers love the system, even more than a traditional box air conditioning unit. They love these new high quality split units because each unit can be programmed independently, the units are quieter than the existing HVAC system. And I just hope that other school systems, obviously it's not immediately exportable perhaps from Caroline County, but I hope that the other systems that need from time to time some interim heating or cooling, particularly Baltimore City and Baltimore County, will come over and look at what you've done. Because there's no reason that this problem that we associated with the other two counties can't be fixed literally in a matter of a couple of months. And I know we're making some progress on it. I appreciate Baltimore City, Baltimore County we'll see, but Caroline County is leading the way.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Congratulations.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you all very much.

MR. PORTER: Thank you very much.

TREASURER KOPP: Could I just add a personal note that I had forgotten until the Superintendent mentioned it? But some point in the 1975 to '79 legislative term, and I don't remember when it was exactly, the House Appropriations Committee under the leadership of John Hargraves, a citizen of Caroline County --

MR. PORTER: Yes, ma'am.

TREASURER KOPP: -- and a great, great spokesman for Caroline County --

MR. PORTER: Yes, ma'am.

TREASURER KOPP: -- marched the entire Appropriations Committee over to this high school --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Wow.

TREASURER KOPP: -- just as an example of what was going on in Caroline. He of course took all responsibility for it.

MR. PORTER: I knew him well. He hollered at me a lot of times. So -- but yes.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: But could I just get you to send to the Superintendent the information about the heating the cooling?

GOVERNOR HOGAN: That's a good idea.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Because I mean, it's just, I love these other jurisdictions. But you guys and Anne Arundel really have shown the way forward. And Madam Superintendent, if you could help us? Because the kids need immediate relief.

DR. SALMON: Absolutely.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: I'm probably beginning to sound like --

DR. SALMON: I look forward to getting the information and sharing it with the other superintendents.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: That would be great.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Thank you.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: And I don't want to make myself seem too young, but I was still in school back then when you took that trip over there with the committee. So --

DR. SALMON: I was there.

(Laughter.)

GOVERNOR HOGAN: But thank you very much.

MR. PORTER: Thank you very much.

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GOVERNOR HOGAN: And I appreciate you coming. Now last but not least before we take a break, we have Carroll County. Good afternoon.

MR. GUTHRIE: Good afternoon. Governor Hogan, Comptroller Franchot, Treasurer Kopp, it's good to see you all again. I simply have four roofing replacement projects that I'm asking your support for. The IAC has recommended full funding for two of them, which is Carrolltowne and Runnymede, partial funding for Robert Moton, and I would hope that you would allocate the funds we need to replace the roof at Elmer Wolfe Elementary School.

All the projects are similar so I'll just talk about them in a group. They are all roofs that have outlived their useful life. They need to be replaced. We're going to replace them with multiple ply roofs, which have a 25-year guarantee is what we're looking for. They've reached beyond the point of repair. We're getting water into the building which of course, as you know, causes indoor air quality issues.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Great.

MR. GUTHRIE: Those are my capital requests.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Any questions on the request from Carroll County?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: No, just one quick one. What are you doing with the three schools you closed? Can you give us an update --

MR. GUTHRIE: Sure.

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COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: -- on the facilities? And how the county might be planning or actually utilizes them?

MR. GUTHRIE: Two of those schools have been turned back to the county, North Carroll High School and Charles Carroll. The county is currently engaging with the community on the disposition of those schools. They have had several public hearings, have garnered input from the counties. They have not made any decisions yet but they are certainly out there and have requested that we be a part of it. In fact, tomorrow I have a joint work session with the commissioners to discuss one of those schools, North Carroll High School.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Okay. And the four roof replacement projects, you're getting, I'm sorry, how long did you say the warranties are on the replacements?

MR. GUTHRIE: Twenty-five years.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Twenty-five years, good. And then my question of protecting kids that are innocently here and may not have been born in the United States but were brought here as, once again, children without documents, what is Carroll County's approach to this issue? Not that it's a major one but perhaps, I don't really know what your population is made up of right in some of the schools. But --

MR. GUTHRIE: Thankfully nothing has been reported to me. We have no incidents or issues with any of that. So it has not been an issue at all in Carroll County.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Thank you.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: I just want to make a comment that your last maintenance report was pretty good, in spite of the fact that you have a shrinking maintenance budget. So you've been able to somehow do a pretty good job with less resources.

MR. GUTHRIE: Yes and I, thank you, Governor, one of those schools that received a good rating was built in 1938 during the Roosevelt Job Corps --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Wow.

MR. GUTHRIE: -- project. So we are very happy with that report.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: That's pretty good.

MR. GUTHRIE: And again, the credit goes to my maintenance and operations staff who do an outstanding job with our schools.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Well congratulate them for us.

MR. GUTHRIE: I will. Thank you.

TREASURER KOPP: Can I just ask a question about the water situation, the lead, and the kitchens?

MR. GUTHRIE: Yeah, we --

TREASURER KOPP: Are these things you found because you did a separate inspection? How was this discovered?

MR. GUTHRIE: Yes, I'm happy to talk about that. We wanted to be proactive. As you know, the State only requires water testing on schools with well, of which we only have five. I made the decision with the support of my Board of Education to test all 5,000 or so water fountains across the system to make sure that my staff and my students were getting good clean water and safe water. And 99 percent of those water fountains tested within the limits set by the EPA, the recommended limit set by the EPA. The 12 or so that we found that were above in lead we took out of service right away. So this was something we did exceeding the standards that were required.

TREASURER KOPP: That's what it looked like. That's very impressive.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Great.

TREASURER KOPP: Good.

MR. GUTHRIE: Thank you.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you very much. We're going to take a very short break for lunch. We will take it back up at 1:30 with Cecil County being next up.

(Short recess.)

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Welcome back, everybody. Thank you so much for joining us. We're going to get back to our school construction funding hearings and we're going to pick up where we left off. Next up we have Cecil County. Good afternoon.

DR. DEVINE: Good afternoon, Governor Hogan, Treasurer Kopp, and Comptroller Franchot. It's a pleasure to be here today. I'm D'Ette Devine, Superintendent of the Cecil County Public Schools and with me is Mr. Perry Willis, our Executive Director for Support Services. Our Manager of School Construction is currently still driving around looking for a parking spot.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: That's the difficulty of Annapolis.

DR. DEVINE: So on behalf of the Board of Education of Cecil County we submit these comments to you in support of our fiscal year 2018 capital improvement plan. We do want to say how much we appreciate your continued efforts to help those of us particularly in low wealth counties. The following projects that I'm about to mention either received partial funding or no approval in the second round. So we would like to make an appeal for each one of those to decrease our ever increasing deferred maintenance list.

The first project we are very appreciative of the current funding for the replacement of our Gilpin Manor Elementary School, a school that had been on our CIP for ten years. Finally we do have significant county support for our capital program. And so we are asking that the additional \$1 million be allocated

to this project so that we can continue the project and keep the cash flow and project on schedule.

The Conowingo Elementary School boiler project, these are two boilers of unequal size, one installed in 2006, but the other in 1992. We want to replace the older one so it's a better match with the boiler installed in 2006. So we ask for \$187,000 to do so.

The Providence School is a single story school and it was, the original section of the roof was built in 1923 and subsequently the last time in 1954. We are asking to replace that roof, actually it was last replaced in 1993, for a cost of \$218,000.

Our Rising Sun Elementary School boiler we're asking for consideration there, once again, installed in 1991 and at the end of their useful life. And we ask for the \$313,000 so that this project can proceed.

And so for the projects I've just mentioned, the vast majority there other than our Gilpin Manor project, are systemic projects that we need in order to keep our schools functioning.

Finally we just ask for the permission to go ahead and use local dollars for the planning of Chesapeake City Elementary School, a school that was built in 1939.

And so we wish to again recognize the significant commitment of the State of Maryland and Cecil County, of our local board of education, to

improving Cecil school facilities. We commend you for the financial commitment, especially since we know that there are a lot of competing fiscal needs. And we do want to thank you very much for the completion of Perryville Elementary School. I know our Comptroller has visited that brand new renovated school and it's been well received by our community.

And so we are, as I mentioned earlier, a low wealth county. We do need the State's support in keeping the investment into our infrastructure. And I believe that our record of 28 superior ratings in school inspections over a ten-year period speaks to how well we maintain our school facilities and the State investment in Cecil County.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: I want to congratulate you on that. I mean, the 2016 maintenance report noted exception maintenance effort by custodial staff and excellent leadership of your building services staff.

DR. DEVINE: Thank you very much, sir.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Congratulations. I know that's something that the Comptroller --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: -- takes very seriously and we love to see.
So --

DR. DEVINE: Yes. One of our schools --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: -- pass on that to your team.

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DR. DEVINE: I will, I certainly will.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: We appreciate all their efforts.

DR. DEVINE: They will be most appreciative. They work very heard.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Any questions on Cecil County?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yes. I have a question about prototypes. Because I see not only do you have an excellent record of taking care of what you have, but you also have a tremendous reputation for using money efficiently to build new projects.

DR. DEVINE: Yes.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: And I guess my question is I'm going to go up and visit Gilpin Manor Elementary School's construction site next month.

DR. DEVINE: Yes, that's been scheduled.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: And is it correct that you are going to use that school's design as a prototype for the Chesapeake City Elementary School's replacement?

DR. DEVINE: That is correct. In fact there was a meeting as late as yesterday. What we would be doing is use the prototype of Gilpin to build this new school on the same site as our Bohemia Manor Middle and High Schools. But we will customize it for that community. So it will not look identical to

Gilpin Manor but it will have, I believe Mr. Willis told me it's a 98 percent match with the prototype. And we've done this in the past in Cecil County and we find that a great way to save money.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Well I hear --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: We were just having this very conversation at lunch, about how much money you can save rather than --

DR. DEVINE: To reinvent it. Right.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: -- designing from scratch each school. So that's terrific that you've had that good experience. And you get, and they look completely different. You have a different --

DR. DEVINE: That's correct. That's right.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: But it's 98 percent the same?

DR. DEVINE: Correct.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Yeah.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Do you have a ballpark estimate of what might be saved using prototypes?

DR. DEVINE: Mr. Willis, savings with the prototype?

SECRETARY MCDONALD: Can you come up to the podium, please? And introduce yourself, please?

MR. WILLIS: My name is Perry Willis. I'm the Executive Director for Support Services at Cecil County Public Schools. At the current time

given the bidding climate we're projecting that the construction budget will come in at the allotted, the State allotted funding, which could in turn be about a 20 to 25 percent savings probably for the prototype. So that's an estimation.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: That's terrific.

MR. WILLIS: We're a couple of years from bidding, though --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Yeah.

MR. WILLIS: -- but that's the estimate.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Okay. Thank you.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Can you, if I could just keep you there for a second, sir, can you use the prototypes even when you've got schools of different size?

MR. WILLIS: Well what we're doing right now, as Dr. Devine mentioned to you, the meeting took the education specification and looked at the function of how to deliver education in the preschool to fifth grade environment. And then we basically matched that with the Gilpin Manor design. And we felt that we could implement the function of those, the delivery of that instructional program inside that envelope. So basically we've taken that floor plan, obviously the sites are different, we'll have to do some different grading and different parking and different stormwater applications so that's a new design. But the actual layout and floor plan will be almost identical. The outside skin we may

change to accommodate what Chesapeake City's community needs. But for all intents and purposes, when we saved about \$400,000 in design fees.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Yeah.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah.

MR. WILLIS: So, and we had the same architect obviously. We negotiated that fee early in the process when we designed Gilpin they gave us the fee to do Chesapeake City at the same time.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Great job.

MR. WILLIS: Thank you very much.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: And --

TREASURER KOPP: Could I just put in a word? You know there's a task force on school construction sort of midway through its life on which the County Executive sits, the Superintendent sits, Alex from --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Mm-hmm.

TREASURER KOPP: -- from Anne Arundel --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Szachnowicz.

TREASURER KOPP: And it's clear, as you indicated, that one of the major issues that is coming up is the use of first of all value engineering, prototype schools where appropriate, and perhaps the delegation or devolvement of greater authority to those jurisdictions which have experience or adequate staffing and resources to do some of the work themselves under the guidance or

supervision. And it seems to me that the questions that both the Comptroller and the Governor are asking, the answers we've heard so far, all point to this sort of discretion and ways of becoming more cost effective and efficient.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: And I mentioned at the beginning of our meeting this morning when we were talking about the fact that we've only got limited dollars and next year actually our debt service will surpass what we have available for school construction. And we want to build as many schools as possible. So we've got, if we're not building as cost efficiently as possible that means we're not building as many schools. So we're rather spread those dollars and get the biggest bang for the buck by doing things like you're doing. We'd like to build more schools for the same money.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: So I just want to follow up on what the Governor mentioned with your fiscal year '16 maintenance report. It's got a sentence in it that I've never seen in any other system's report. It says the maintenance and custodial staffs do a laudable job of meticulously maintaining the conditions of their mechanical equipment and the equipment rooms that house them. So congratulations. Whatever oversight --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: They should get a Silver Hammer Award.

DR. DEVINE: Yeah.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah, I should get back up there with maybe a real silver hammer. But congratulations on your leadership, Madam Superintendent.

DR. DEVINE: Thank you very much.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you.

MR. WILLIS: Thank you very much.

DR. DEVINE: Thank you for your time.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you. Next up we have Charles County. Welcome. Good afternoon.

MR. LUKAS: Good afternoon, all of you. Good afternoon, Governor Hogan, Comptroller Franchot, Treasurer Kopp, my name is Mike Lukas. I'm Chairman of the Board of Education for Charles County. Before I begin I'd like introduce Charles County Schools Superintendent Dr. Kimberly Hill; Assistant Superintendent of Supporting Service Michael Heim; Director of Planning and Construction Steve Andritz; and Supervisor of Planning and Construction Mr. Dave Clements. We thank you for the opportunity to update the Board of Public Works on our comprehensive capital improvement plan.

In 2014 following the counsel of the Interagency Committee on School Construction, our board contracted a facilities study to provide suggestions for a ten-year capital improvement plan. The board has used the results of this study to develop long range plans and to move Charles County

Public Schools from a reactionary to a proactive mode with a clear vision for future capital projects.

The plan includes some new buildings for growth but confirms the need for an aggressive renovation schedule with programming for new capacity and special programs. Twenty of our 36 schools, or 56 percent, are at least 30 years old. And this year's CIP includes funding for a new elementary school to address capacity needs, a renovation and expansion of one of our aging elementary schools, and two full day kindergarten additions.

The IAC and the Board of Public Works have been supportive of our efforts in Charles County and we appreciate all that you do to help us maintain quality facilities. Already the IAC has recommended \$7 million for Charles County Public Schools. However, we are here today to ask you to consider funding the remaining \$10 million of our request. On behalf of the Board of Education we thank you for the opportunity to update you on the facilities plan and we pledge our commitment to working with you and our local and State officials. And furthermore, we do appreciate your commitment to education and for recognizing that education is the key to the civic and economic vitality of not only Charles County, but also the State.

Now Superintendent Dr. Hill will outline more specifics of our plan.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you very much.

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DR. HILL: Thank you, Mr. Lukas. Good afternoon, everybody. Thank you for allowing us this time to talk about the plans that we have in Charles County Public Schools.

As Mr. Lukas said, our capital improvement plan blends new construction with renovations, which often includes adding capacity for students. We use our buildings for a long time. Some have been serving as schools for more than half a century. So we know we need to build and renovate structure that are built to last.

Our new elementary school --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: You know, we've been using this building for more than 260 years --

(Laughter.)

DR. HILL: We were just talking about that. We --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: We do a pretty good job of maintenance.

DR. HILL: We were talking about what has gone on in this room and the amazing stories that must be out there.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Uh-huh.

DR. HILL: But our new elementary school addresses growth and will relieve overcrowding in seven neighboring schools in the development area of our county. We currently have an overcrowding of 541 elementary students in that section of our county.

We also want to renovate Dr. Mudd Elementary School to bring that building to the same level of education and building performance as in our newest schools. And renovation and expansion supports population growth as well as modernizing a 50-year-old facility, enhancing community use space allocated by the Judy Center, and providing classrooms for our growing special education population.

During the past five years Charles County Public Schools has enrolled 600 additional special education students with an increase of 200 more students this year than last year. We are the second fastest special education population in the State when it comes to growth. The needs of our special education students are outpacing our abilities to provide adequate space at schools that are a reasonable distance from students' homes. Both the new elementary school and the Dr. Mudd renovation include the addition of three specialized classrooms for regional special education programs that support students with significant disabilities. Adding regional special education programs reduces transportation costs and lengthy travel times and maximizes time for teaching and learning.

Kindergarten additions are another way that we address overcrowding. These additions provide permanent space for the increase of students created when we had full day kindergarten for all kids and the two

schools in this year's CIP funding help complete 12 of the 18 schools that we still need to complete kindergarten additions.

Our facilities plan also addresses 11 Charles County school buildings with open space layouts. An innovative idea from the 1960s, open space schools take a toll, as you know, educationally and financially. Over the years we have retrofitted many of these schools with temporary walls but permanent solutions are necessary to eliminate distraction and noise. Two of our renovation planning requests, Stoddert Middle School and Turner Elementary, remove open space and planning request for a graduated renovated project at Maurice J. McDonough High School begins to close that school's open space layout.

Charles County Public Schools, as you have mentioned and I'm very jealous of the maintenance scores that Cecil County got but we're heading in that direction. We're committed to high standards for maintenance and upkeep of our buildings. Most recently North Point High School, which opened with State funding and approval in 2005, received a Silver Hammer Award from Comptroller Peter Franchot for posting an almost unprecedented, in his words, unprecedented score of 96 on the rigorous State inspection. Our philosophy is that safe, clean buildings are a must and maintaining high maintenance standards saves tax dollars in the future.

Our supporting services team has built a collaborative culture where planning and construction, operations, and maintenance work together to find the best, most cost effective ways to keep our buildings in top shape. Recently we've been standardizing purchases of equipment and maintenance materials, which ultimately saves time and money.

On behalf of the 26,400 students in Charles County Public Schools, we appreciate your support of our capital improvement program and would be happy to entertain any questions that you have.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Well thank you very much. And you don't have much to be jealous of Cecil County about, because you received some pretty high excellent maintenance and excellent custodial attention to your schools and do a great job.

DR. HILL: Thank you, Mr. Governor.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: The report also noted your high level of professionalism and pride that the school system encourages in its building services staff. And I hadn't heard that a lot. So your team is excited about what they are doing and they are taking it seriously and we congratulate you for maintaining these schools so well.

DR. HILL: Thank you, Mr. Governor.

TREASURER KOPP: Can I ask one question? It was a great update and I also congratulate you on it. It's a great system, a wonderful

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paragraph here that I'm going to be quoting about the integration of planning building and maintenance.

DR. HILL: Yes, ma'am.

TREASURER KOPP: The James Richmond Science Center, is it being used to the extent that you had hoped by the schools and the community?

DR. HILL: By the schools, yes. By the community, honestly we still have work to do. And we're working on that daily. But what we do programmed into our curriculum is a, I don't want to call it mandatory but it's mandatory, field trip each year for grade levels kids to come over to the Science Center to experience that as part of their curriculum. And we have financed that within our transportation budget to be able to provide to all of our students for free of cost.

TREASURER KOPP: Well I just, I just thought it was brilliant. It blew me away.

DR. HILL: Thank you. Thank you.

TREASURER KOPP: I loved it. If there's anything I can do to help you --

DR. HILL: Come down and see us.

TREASURER KOPP: -- get it better known.

DR. HILL: All three of you.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Maybe there should be a mandatory field trip of the Board of Public Works.

TREASURER KOPP: I'd love to. It is a great --

DR. HILL: Come down and see us, absolutely. We will work our schedules around yours.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Great.

TREASURER KOPP: Outstanding.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you very much.

DR. HILL: Thank you.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: So take this with a grain of salt, but I noticed you haven't selected a name for New Elementary School Number 22.

(Laughter.)

DR. HILL: Mr. Comptroller, things were going so well --

(Laughter.)

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Peter Franchot Elementary.

(Laughter.)

DR. HILL: That's a board decision --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: I was kidding. But I did have one question about Samuel Mudd Elementary, you mentioned it.

DR. HILL: Sure.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: And apparently you put the kids in swing space while you are renovating that.

DR. HILL: Yes, sir.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: And do you find that to be an effective way to complete the process?

DR. HILL: We are currently finishing the building of that swing space. The swing space was in existence for a renovation years ago and then was struck by lightning. And so half of the building completely burned. So this school year we are completing that swing space and then the entire Dr. Mudd staff and students will be moved into that swing space next school year. So I can give you a better update next school year, once they are moved in. But with our CIP plan once the Mudd kids move out, then we have another set of kids who will move in after that. So we are very pleased about the thought that went into planning that space.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Excellent. And I just wanted to ask you quickly about the issue, I heard what the Governor said and I'm very sensitive to anything about what might happen. But we have had this situation with immigration. And are you prepared to protect your kids that are, I'm not talking so much about the citizens who were born here, I'm talking about the kids that through no fault of their own are here. And --

DR. HILL: Mm-hmm. I'm not sure whether Board members know, but Charles County Public Schools is the fastest growing English language learner population in the State. So we are very sensitive to the needs of the kids as well as the families. And we don't ask questions when we enroll and educate kids. That's, our goal is to keep them safe and keep them secure. But, you know, we did have some concerns from that population recently. And we're out to protect their best interests.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Excellent. Thank you.

DR. HILL: Okay?

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you very much.

DR. HILL: Thank you.

MR. LUKAS: Thank you for your time.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: We're going to move on to Dorchester County. Good afternoon.

DR. WAGNER: Good afternoon, Governor Hogan, Comptroller Franchot, Treasurer Kopp, Dr. Salmon, and staff. I am Dr. Henry Wagner, Superintendent of Dorchester County Public Schools and I appreciate this opportunity to speak with you this afternoon on behalf of the Board of Education, the County Council, the Dorchester delegation, and most especially the students of Dorchester County.

Today we are seeking your support for the balance of second year construction funding in fiscal year 2018 for a critically important project, the replacement of the 62-year-old North Dorchester High School.

In attendance with me today are from our Board of Education President Glenn Bramble; Vice President Glen Payne, from the Dorchester County Council our County Manager Jeremy Goldman. By the way, President Travers extends his regrets that he could not be here today. And from staff Dr. Lorenzo Hughes, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction; Mr. Dwayne Abt, Assistant Superintendent for Administration; North Dorchester High School Principal Ms. Lynn Sorrells; Mr. Chris Hauge, School Facilities Engineer; and Mr. Tim Brooke, our Comptroller.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you for bringing the whole team out. We appreciate you doing that.

DR. WAGNER: Well, in case you had questions. I didn't want to be up here --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Where was the Comptroller? I missed him. Oh, good. Thank you.

DR. WAGNER: Before delivering my prepared remarks, I'd like to share some really good news that we got yesterday. Our overall graduation rate rose to 86.5 percent in 2016. But we're very excited to also say that the gap

between our African American and white students that was over 16 percent in 2011 is now 0.44 percent in 2016.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Wow, congratulations. Let's give them a round of applause for that --

DR. WAGNER: Thank you.

(Applause.)

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Great job. Good news.

DR. WAGNER: Thank you. That's a team effort, overall community effort.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Great.

DR. WAGNER: Our county is a very small system but we have been fortunate to have been able to replace or renovate several facilities in recent years thanks to the funding partnership between the State of Maryland and the Dorchester County Council, and we continue to grateful for that partnership. Specifically in the last 15 years we have completely renovated our 57-year-old Judy Hoyer Center; replaced our two comprehensive middle schools; and constructed an expanded Dorchester Career and Technology Center with nine new high tech career completer opportunities. We appreciate the combined efforts made by the State and our local County Council to provide these state of the art facilities.

However, we continue to have a great many needs at other schools in our county which require that we advance our long range capital improvement plan. Furthermore, as you are aware, Dorchester County faces a variety of economic challenges that rival those of more prominent school districts in Maryland. We continue to experience both a decline in our local tax base and a high unemployment rate. Indeed two of every three of our students are eligible for free and reduced meals.

Now given all these challenges we were thrilled to break ground for this replacement facility on September 29th. Thank you, Comptroller Franchot, for joining us. We are now completing the first phase of the project by installing the geothermal infrastructure and constructing new athletic facilities. We will rapidly be moving into the building construction of the actual school in August. This means that construction costs will rapidly escalate in fiscal year 2018.

Before articulating our specific capital requests for fiscal year 2018, we would like to remind the Board of Dorchester's exemplary stewardship of taxpayer resources. This is reflected not only by our track record of managing capital funds but also by our tradition of exemplary maintenance. We were awarded the Governor's Citation for Sandy Hill Elementary School in 2008 and for North Dorchester Middle School in 2009. Comptroller Franchot presented the Silver Hammer Award to Hurlock Elementary School in 2011 and to Cambridge-

South Dorchester High School in 2016. Our average maintenance inspection score over the last eight years is 85.62 out of 100. And according to the Department of Legislative Audits we have the second lowest plant operations and maintenance costs of comparable schools in the entire State of Maryland.

So all of this compels us to state our specific requests. We are seeking from the Board of Public Works the final \$5,321,000 of the total Dorchester request of \$10,021,000, of which \$4,700,000 has already been recommended for the North Dorchester High School project. This request is in addition to the forward funding provided by Dorchester County government for this fiscal year, as well as next fiscal year.

In addition to the high school we are also requesting State funding support for two projects in our innovative alternative funding program that will vastly improve energy efficiency and occupant comfort across our district. The two eligible projects are HVAC improvements to Cambridge-South Dorchester High School and HVAC and lighting improvements at the first geothermal school in the State that was ever built, the now 20-year-old Choptank Elementary School. Our share of these alternative funds is being generated without any additional burden to Dorchester taxpayers.

So in conclusion we wish to thank you for the opportunity for advocacy and for your support on behalf of our children. Should you have any questions for me or the legion of staff I've brought with me, please feel free.

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GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you very much. Sir, did you have something you wanted to add?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Mr. Bramble?

MR. BRAMBLE: No, I think our Superintendent has said it all and for those of you who don't know, Dr. Wagner has decided to retire this year. So --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Did you tell him no?

(Laughter.)

MR. BRAMBLE: I can't much blame him. I sent my retirement out from the school system several years ago myself. But we are in the process of trying to find a replacement. We won't find one to match him but hopefully we can find somebody close.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Well let's congratulate him for all his good work --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yep.

(Applause.)

MR. BRAMBLE: -- on behalf of the board that he has done an excellent job and we're going to miss him but he's not going yet.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you very much.

MR. BRAMBLE: So we thank you and hope that you will provide what we need. Thank you.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Could you just tell me what the HVAC contracts, how they produce revenue? And --

DR. WAGNER: Tim? Yes. We have partnered with ABM for an alternative funding contract. Tim, do you want to come up and introduce yourself and say what that is?

MR. BROOKE: Good afternoon. Timothy Brooke, Comptroller, Dorchester County Board of Ed. We have entered into a contract, performance guarantee contract with ABM. They have done an energy audit of our district and have recommended a number of changes, putting in new equipment for old equipment, more energy efficient equipment. And this will give us saving in our utility bills and we will utilize those savings to actually pay for the financing for this equipment.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Excellent.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Okay. Any other questions?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Just quickly on North Dorchester High. Thank you for asking me down to it. You could just see how the design of the school with the horseshoe and the students running to get to classrooms and the kids eating out in the hallway for lunch, how important it is that that project move forward. And I congratulate you all on bringing everybody together. I know that the council, I know well Ricky Travers has spoken about it

many times to me, Hurlock Mayor Joyce Spratt has grabbed my, buttonholed me a number of times on it. Frankly everybody at the Board of Education, County Council, delegation, frankly the education department, I just want to applaud everybody working together and bringing this project to fruition. I'm delighted that the sixth grade class is going to be the first to graduate from the new high school and the ninth grade class will be the first to spend their entire high school careers in the new facility. It's money well spent.

DR. WAGNER: Everybody is very excited. Thank you for your support.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you so much.

TREASURER KOPP: Could I just ask, I'd like to learn more specifics about the alternative funding program.

DR. WAGNER: Sure.

TREASURER KOPP: Do we contact you? Or --

DR. WAGNER: Yes, absolutely. Contact me --

TREASURER KOPP: Great.

DR. WAGNER: -- and I'll explain our process.

TREASURER KOPP: Terrific.

DR. WAGNER: We vetted it thoroughly over the course of a year.

We have installed guarantees such that the school board is not at risk, which was

critical to us because we're encumbering funds from future budgets. But it's a way of advancing the capital improvement plan --

TREASURER KOPP: Oh yeah.

DR. WAGNER: -- without burdening the county.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Great.

TREASURER KOPP: Sounds great. Thank you.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you.

DR. WAGNER: Thank you.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you. Next up, we have Frederick County. I see our County Executive Jan Gardner, she's had a long day here too.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yep.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: She started out with us early this morning.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yep.

MR. YOUNG: Yes. Good afternoon, Governor Hogan, Treasurer Kopp, and Comptroller Franchot. I'm Brad Young. I'm here today as President of the great school system in Frederick County, Maryland. As you said, Governor Hogan, I'm accompanied today by our County Executive Jan Gardner; by our Maryland Superintendent of the Year Dr. Theresa Alban; and also today we brought our student member, Carter Gipson, who recently was admitted to Princeton.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Oh.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Welcome. Wow.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Gee.

TREASURER KOPP: Wow.

MR. YOUNG: So he will be heading off --

(Applause.)

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Very good. Congratulations. Thanks for bringing him.

MR. YOUNG: I'm sorry, and our new Chief Operating Officer Paul Lebo, who just started with our school system in January. We're very excited to have Paul on board.

On January 5th we received a letter from the Public School Construction program outlining the recommendation of the Interagency Committee on School Construction for allocation of 75 percent of the Governor's preliminary capital budget. We're here today to appeal for additional funding for our fiscal year '18 school construction program. In a moment Dr. Alban will outline some more specifics on that.

First off I would like to take the time to thank the Board of Public Works for the State's ongoing support to our school construction program. In Frederick County we're fortunate to have a strong partnership with our county government to address our capital budget needs. Frederick County has

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consistently forward funded the funds needed for us to move our highest priority school construction projects forward. To date the State has been able to reimburse the county for your share of those projects, and again we thank you for doing that.

The continued commitment from the State to fund projects in a timely manner is necessary so the county can maintain its ability to forward fund our capital program. We ask that you continue that level of commitment so that we can meet the school capacity needs in a fast growing community.

FCPS is also doing our part to be good stewards of taxpayer dollars, as we've heard from previous school systems. We take good care of our buildings. We make sure that they are presentable. We know that our students and our staff have a good learning environment and also to be responsible to the taxpayers for those buildings. Our approaches to school construction are consistently applauded by State officials, and Governor Hogan, we also use the same prototype for many of our projects.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: That's great.

MR. YOUNG: You will note that Frederick High, because of the constraints in being on a property already we couldn't do that. We're very excited that that project will open this fall and we hope that you all can be out there.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Love to.

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MR. YOUNG: And Governor Hogan, I also wanted to thank you for your commitment to the LYNX program in your budget to that school. That will be extremely beneficial --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Great. Thank you.

MR. YOUNG: -- to our Frederick High students, as well as the students in Frederick County.

We've worked through these prototypes, value engineering, and partnerships within our community and are consistently recognized for the excellence in our maintenance programs and appreciate Comptroller Franchot's many Silver Hammer Awards for our schools in Frederick County.

We strongly feel that our ability to provide a proper academic and instructional program and our students' ability to achieve high standards depends on adequate school facilities. Towards this goal we ask that the State continue to be an active partner with FCPS and Frederick County Government to meet our school construction capital funding needs.

With that, I'm going to turn it over to our County Executive Jan Gardner for some more comments.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you very much.

MS. GARDNER: Okay. It's nice to see you twice in one day. I'm pleased to be here to join Superintendent Dr. Alban and Brad Young, who is the President of our Board of Education.

We do have a very excellent working relationship between Frederick County government and our public school partners. And this really has allowed us to do some creative problem solving and some innovative thinking to make sure that we can keep our school construction program on track. You may remember last year when we were here we were facing the challenge of rising costs, particularly with Frederick High School. So I want to share a little bit about what we've done to try to control costs.

The school system value engineered Frederick High School after it was bid and came up with \$2 million of savings.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Wow.

MS. GARDNER: We also value engineered the next two projects after that, coming up with \$2 million of savings. The County Council approved an increase in development impact fees to help generate some revenue. And I'm very pleased to say we got our first AAA bond rating from all three rating agencies in June, and that actually allowed us to tweak up our debt capacity a little bit which did help us keep our school construction schedule on track.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Congratulations on all those achievements.

MS. GARDNER: Thank you. We did enter into a creative partnership last year with two local developers who actually helped us to forward fund the State share on a couple of projects. Basically they pay the bond interest

on that State forward funding and allow us to not have to use that against our debt affordability.

But probably most importantly I appointed a local school construction work group that's comprised of industry professionals, school system representatives, county staff, local developers. And I tasked them with making recommendations on how to save eight to ten percent on the county's elementary school prototype design without compromising educational needs. Their report is due to come out in a few weeks on February 23rd, and I believe they will achieve that goal. So I look forward to sharing those recommendations with all of our county and State partners and with the 21st Century School Construction Commission.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: That's great.

MS. GARDNER: They are recommending both some legislative solutions and some construction solutions.

So I want you to know that in Frederick County we're doing our part. We're committed to providing the county's share of all the projects that are in our fiscal year '18 request. And that an investment in Frederick County Schools is money well spent. Frederick County has a proven track record of responsibly managing our projects, meeting our timelines, using proven prototype designs over and over again, forward funding the State share, and maintaining our schools to meet the State's strict maintenance standards.

And again, like many others, I thank Comptroller Franchot for coming up and recognizing our schools and really recognizing those maintenance employees who really do that day to day job to make sure we maintain that investment that we collectively have in our infrastructure.

So thank you for supporting our students and our schools. And with that, I will turn it over to our Superintendent Dr. Alban.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Well thank you very much. And I liked everything you had to say, especially about saving \$2 million on three different, you know, projects. And that's phenomenal with the value engineering. Pretty soon you've got a whole other school, if you save that on a couple of others. So that's great work.

DR. ALBAN: Good afternoon. We appreciate the opportunity to come before you and request additional State construction funding for our highest priority projects. I'm going to step a little bit outside of my testimony so that I can address some of the questions I've heard you ask of previous districts in my remarks as well.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Thank you.

DR. ALBAN: So we are asking that you accept the IAC recommendation for the remainder of the State's share of funding for the Frederick High School replacement project. Construction began on this project in 2015 and it remains on schedule. We will open the new school in the Fall of 2017

when we will also kick off LYNX. And I want to join in thanking you, Governor Hogan, for putting funding for LYNX in your budget. We are hoping that will become the prototype design for 21st Century high schools across the State and we are really excited to have you come out and see what happens there.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: I'd love to see it.

DR. ALBAN: Parts of Frederick High are older than 75 years and so this new school will replace the oldest high school that was in our county. By funding the remainder of the State's financial commitment to this project our county government will be able to forward fund our next two highest priority projects.

I do want to let you know that at Frederick High School, that is our high school that has the largest percentage of students who qualify for free and reduced meals. It also has the largest percentage of our English language learners.

To give you a sense of some of what has been happening, since September 30th we have had 115 new English language learners enter Frederick High School this year. That has required us to provide additional staffing to support their needs. Many of these students when they come to us and they are in middle or high school already have gone through very traumatic experiences in their journey to the United States. And so one of the supports that we have put in place is we have identified one of our school psychologists to work specifically

with our English language learners who are new to the country. That psychologist is bilingual and has been an incredible asset, not only to the students but to their family members in grappling with some of the issues that they faced.

The next two priorities are the two new elementary schools that we are ready to begin construction this spring, Sugar Loaf and Butterfly Ridge Elementary Schools. In order to reduce costs we are using our prototype elementary school design. This will be the second and the third elementary school using that design, and the replacement for Urbana Elementary School will use that design as well. Our construction director said --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Are you finding that is helping you save a considerable amount of money?

DR. ALBAN: Our construction director said we save ten to 15 percent on all of our design work when we use the prototype.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: That's great.

DR. ALBAN: The other thing that has proven really valuable is when you have students and staff living in the building they can point out the tweaks that will make it even better for schools to come. And so we've been able to do modifications with the interior, with cabinetry, things like that, to benefit the next generation that moves into that building.

Both of these elementary schools are located in two of the fastest growing areas of Frederick County. We urge you to continue to fund these two

projects so that they can remain on schedule. Sugar Loaf Elementary is in the Urbana community. It's on the I270 corridor where residential development has outpaced construction of new schools. This new school will primarily relieve Centerville and Urbana Elementary Schools. Centerville is currently operating at 148 percent of State rated capacity with 18 portable classrooms while Urbana is operating at 137 percent with 14 single classroom portables.

Butterfly Ridge is located on the west side of Frederick City. Butterfly Ridge will serve a community that includes the highest percentage of students living in poverty and English language learners. The existing schools that will be relieved by Butterfly Ridge are Hillcrest Elementary School, operating at 135 percent of capacity with 32 portable classrooms; Waverly Elementary, operating at 143 percent with 17 single portable classrooms; and Orchard Grove Elementary, operating at 104 percent of capacity with six single portable classrooms. Nearby the schools in the area are also near or over capacity. And again, that is an area that has been impacted by recent enrollment growth.

I would also note that we are requesting funding for several important systemic renovation projects, several of which the IAC has recommended for funding. We ask that you fund these projects as well as fund the remaining systemic renovation requests. And I won't read through the list. But again, these are all critically important to maintaining our aging buildings in

our school system. And as has been noted before, with good quality maintenance and keeping our systems running these buildings will serve our taxpayers for many, many years.

Frederick County has a positive track record of budgeting, design, and construction. And that should give the State confidence that the funding provided will be efficiently and effectively used to construct new schools and maintain our existing schools. We thank you for your time and consideration and urge you to fund our FY '18 school construction funding request.

And we're happy to take any questions you may have about our projects.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you very much. Any questions?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Sure. Thank you. I share the Governor's, and I'm sure the Treasurer's, recognition of your generally good maintenance reports. I did see some issues with roofs in the fiscal year '15 report and that report said that a large number of adverse roof conditions were found on older roofs, such as leaking seams, damaged gutters, and flashing separation, indicating the need for roof replacements. And I see you've got three roof replacements in your request but they seem to be pretty far down the priority list. Are, do you think that the roofs that are referred to in the inspection report of 2015 are going to be repaired?

DR. ALBAN: I believe some of the work has already been done on some of those. We sometimes will fund projects from our operating budget to support when we have a high need. While these may be down the list, I wouldn't say they are less of a priority. Our systemic renovations are a very high priority for us. At this point, however, getting those schools built, you could hear about the capacity issues, were identified as the three key priorities for our board. But we always do keep our systemic renovations front and center when we submit our capital improvement request.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Didn't you correspond with us last year, or the year before?

DR. ALBAN: In my role as President of PSSAM, yes, I did.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Right. Because that was a rather extraordinary letter that was written to us. And, you know, I hope that the progress that has been made on the air conditioning in the schools, I hope the progress that's been made with starting school after Labor Day, all of which are entirely appropriate questions and things that we can ask about, caused the superintendents to realize that we are an oversight panel that is interested in progress and improvement. And I was, well I responded, I guess, in kind with my own letter back. But that was I think a very unfortunate letter.

DR. ALBAN: Comptroller Franchot, I appreciate the fact that you can separate out my standing here today as the Superintendent of Frederick

County Public Schools from my role last year as the President of PSSAM and my role this year as the Past President of PSSAM.

That letter was a unanimous decision by our superintendents. I can tell you that we appreciate and understand the importance of this process. We are willing to accept accountability and happy to answer questions. After last year's proceedings there were some concerns expressed by superintendents which prompted the letter. But I can tell you that everything I have heard from my colleagues today has been how pleased we have been with how the process has gone today, the types of questions that we've been responding to. And so I thank you for your willingness to look at continuous improvement. We will do the same.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Good. And I don't --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: -- I don't detect any difference between this time, and last year, and the year before. But that's okay. We'll let that grind because we're all on good terms right now.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: The only difference is that the folks who were complaining are the ones that fixed all the problems we asked them to fix.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Well that's, I'd like, I'm focused on the kids. And I know you are too.

DR. ALBAN: Absolutely.

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COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: But sometimes other forces intervene and I think you may have gotten caught up in that, unfortunately. And let me ask about this subject of immigrants, because Frederick is obviously very involved in this because of your population. And I want to make sure that you and the County Executive also, feel free County Executive Gardner to come up and chime in. But I hope people are ready to provide whatever protections these innocent kids, who through no fault of their own end up in our school system, are experiencing because of, you know, both rhetoric that's out there and possible stuff that's going to happen. And I, once again I'm sympathetic to the Governor saying don't get involved in hypotheticals. But nothing surprises me these days. So are you guys, do you have a policy as far as your undocumented --

DR. ALBAN: Our board has made it very, very clear, as have staff, that once a student enters our schools, they are our student. That's what being a public school system is all about. We meet regularly with leaders in our community, our Hispanic leaders, our Muslim leaders, our faith leaders, ministers of churches in the area. We want the families and the students to know that we will do everything we can to support them. We try to provide those wrap around services, as I indicated earlier, for mental health issues. But also pointing them in the right direction for support, for food, for clothing, to learn English. Frederick High School offers adult education English classes for the community.

So I believe that as a community, from our county government to our board of education, to the teachers who are standing in our classrooms right now, we do what we can to embrace and welcome those students and provide them with the same quality of instruction that any student entering our building will receive.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Great. And I refer everybody to today's Washington Post. B3 has an article about an African American waitress at a restaurant in Maryland, I think, who served three gentlemen from Texas, white males who were, she thought, Trump supporters there in town for the inauguration. And everybody went through the whole, whatever it was, lunch, etcetera, and I guess there was, I'm not sure there was any tension or anything. But for a \$67 lunch for the three individuals they left her a \$450 tip. And they said, you know, we're different gender, different race, we're all Americans. And it kind of brought tears to my eyes when I read that because we are all in this together, despite whatever differences.

DR. ALBAN: That is a very heartwarming anecdote and a very positive one. Because as you said, there were a lot of issues in our schools that we had to deal with. And I think one of the ones that was very sad for me was the little elementary student who expressed to her teacher that she was very, very afraid because she was told her family was going to have to go back to Mexico

and they didn't know anyone in Mexico because they had immigrated here from Puerto Rico.

So young children don't understand but yet are still impacted by that. And so there are a lot of incredible resources out there to help teachers and administrators in how to talk about these difficult things with children and we made sure those were in the hands of all of our staff as well.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Excellent.

DR. ALBAN: So we appreciate your support in that area.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Okay. Thank you very much.

DR. ALBAN: Thank you.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Next up we have Garrett County.

SECRETARY MCDONALD: Is she here, did she say? Is Dr. Baker -- oh.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Maybe Garrett and Allegany should have rode in together from the mountains.

MR. SWIFT: Opposite ends of the day, I think. We'll work on that next time. Good afternoon, Governor Hogan, Comptroller Franchot, Treasurer Kopp. Greetings from the students, the staff, and the teachers of the Garrett County Public School System. I'd like to begin by thanking you for the opportunity to address this Board to discuss our impending capital improvement plan and the needs of our school system. I'd also like to thank the Interagency

Committee on School Construction and the Public School Construction Program staff for their guidance and their support to get us where we are today in preparation for our 2018 capital plans. So thank you all.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you for coming.

MR. SWIFT: My name is Bill Swift. I'm the Director of Facilities, Maintenance, Operations, and Security for Garrett County Public Schools and I'm joined here with our Interim Superintendent Ms. Barbara Baker. Thank you.

If you recall, we stood in front of this Board last year requesting State funds to totally renovate the Southern Middle School in Oakland, Maryland. Our request for State funds was approved last year and for that we thank you. Unfortunately local funds were not available to proceed with the project. As a result, the funding request for a total renovation was rescinded in March of 2016.

Since total renovation of the school was not financially viable, we are here today to request funding for three systemic renovation projects to further maintain the school for the foreseeable future. We initially identified 11 building systems in need of replacement for the school. Over the past nine months each system has been thoroughly reviewed, analyzed, and prioritized by our facilities and maintenance staff, the school staff, contracted architects and engineers, by the board of education and the board of county commissioners. Priority was assigned based on the age and condition of the building systems, safety concerns, impact of

the building systems on other systems, cost of the renovation, and the impact to the residents of the school.

As a result of this analysis we have identified the following systems for restoration in fiscal year 2018. First a complete roof replacement for the middle school, a fire alarm replacement, and a sanitary line replacement.

Before we go into the details here I would like to just give you a little background on the school. Southern Middle School was built in the southern part of Garrett County in 1977. The school serves 544 students, 40 faculty, in a six through eight grade band configuration. At 40 years old, many of the building's systems have exceeded their useful life expectancy. However, the building has been well maintained over the years and we believe the ratings of good for the last 20 years on the educational facilities master plan demonstrates the excellent standard of care provided by our maintenance and custodial staffs.

In order to maintain this facility for future use as a middle school we have identified the following projects and request funding to complete the following. The most urgent request is to replace the entire roof system on the school, which is 92,000 square feet. This is the original roof and will celebrate its 40th year on the school. Over the last ten to 15 years small sections of the roof have been patched, repaired, and reflooded multiple times. There are still leaks in the roof and key components are very brittle. Leaks are becoming more frequent and severe in the past several years.

The second building system in need of replacement is the fire alarm system. The plan is to upgrade the existing panel and all related devices, incorporate the new Code requirements, install a new addressable voice evacuation system, coordinate all activities with the State Fire Marshal's Office, and to incorporate the system into the existing sprinkler and HVAC systems.

And the third building system identified for replacement is the sanitary line that serves both Southern Middle School and the adjacent Broad Ford Elementary School. This system is also original. It was been repaired multiple times. Due to the nature of the existing line, the depth of the line, and the complexity of replacing or relining the existing system, we feel it's most cost effective to abandon the existing line and install a new line, manholes, and the related equipment.

So in closing the importance of these projects cannot be overemphasized. Southern Middle School provides heating and cooling to the adjacent Broad Ford Elementary School. Both facilities serve a population of 1,119 students, which represents nearly 30 percent of the entire Garrett County student enrollment. The heating and cooling systems at the middle school were recently upgraded in 2007 and 2011, and in 2012 the HVAC controls were upgraded using local funds.

The existing physical plant will remain intact and operational throughout these renovation projects to support the needs of Southern Middle and Broad Ford Elementary.

And lastly these projects have received favorable recommendations from the IAC staff and Public School Construction Program. The Garrett County Board of Commissioners and the Board of Education recognize and support the need of these systemic renovations. We respectfully request that the Board of Public Works approve total funding for the projects for fiscal year 2018.

Thank you for your time and your support of these important initiatives. Thank you.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you very much. You mentioned that we put the money in and the county could not come up with their end of the money, and it had to be rescinded? Is that what you said?

MR. SWIFT: Yes, sir.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: What was the total amount of money that the county was unable to come up with? And what were the circumstances behind that?

MR. SWIFT: The county allotment after we took out all the add alternates was approximately \$21 million, which would be about \$7 million to \$8

million per year. And they felt that their budget just would not be able to absorb that type of commitment.

TREASURER KOPP: What proportion of the total cost would that have been?

MR. SWIFT: That's about 75 percent of the total cost of the project that the local would have to pay for.

TREASURER KOPP: Including the things that, including the things that are not eligible for --

MR. SWIFT: That did include the ineligible items, yes.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: What about on the eligible items? What percentage would it be? Do you know?

MR. SWIFT: I don't know that offhand, sir.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: I'm just trying to see if it makes, if it's more cost effective to consider doing the total renovation and have the State kick in more money rather than to have us fund all these, you know Band-Aid approaches. Even if the county can't come up with the money maybe we can find another way around that. Is anybody from the County Commissioners here with you today?

MR. SWIFT: No, sir.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Okay.

MS. BAKER: They were here last year in support of the project.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Yeah. I'm not saying we're not supportive of this request. I'm just saying --

MR. SWIFT: Mm-hmm.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: -- we might like to help more.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah.

MS. BAKER: That would be wonderful.

MR. SWIFT: Sure.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: And also because your overall rating for maintenance has got to be one of the top two or three in the State.

MS. BAKER: Thank you.

MR. SWIFT: Thank you.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: So I'm happy to concur with the Governor on the item --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Maybe it's something we can go back and take a look at. Thank you very much.

MR. SWIFT: We will certainly do that, sir.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: I don't have any other questions.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: No.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you.

MR. SWIFT: Okay. Thank you.

MS. BAKER: Thank you.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Next up we have Harford County. I know we have a number of our elected officials from Harford County. My friend County Executive Glassman wanted to be here, I know, but I understand that he may be up in New York meeting with the bond rating agencies. And but we had a very productive discussion with him about the Havre de Grace Middle and High School which we've got lots of other folks here to talk. But thank you very much for joining us.

MS. CANAVAN: Good afternoon, Governor Hogan, Comptroller Franchot, Treasurer Kopp, esteemed members of the Board of Public Works, and I'd like to recognize our State Superintendent Dr. Karen Salmon and also Mrs. Joan Schaefer. I am Barbara Canavan, Superintendent of Harford County Public Schools. And I'm here to thank you for your continued support to provide sound education in our district.

Today I am here to appeal the IAC recommendations to the Board of Public Works for the Harford County Public Schools FY 2018 capital improvement program. Without the support of our board of education, our County Exec Mr. Barry Glassman, our County Council, and our delegation, Harford County Public Schools would not be able to deliver quality educational programs or maintain school facilities for the students and staff of Harford County.

Joining me today representing the County Executive, who is indeed in New York City, in support of this appeal is Ms. Cindy Mumby, the Director of Governmental and Community Relations. Also present are Delegates Mr. Andrew Cassilly; Ms. Mary Ann Lisanti; Senator Bob Cassilly; Kathy Carmello, who represents government relations in Harford County; and Mike Mason, who also represents government relations for Harford County government. Did I miss anybody?

GOVERNOR HOGAN: I think you need another delegate back there.

MS. CANAVAN: My goodness.

(Laughter.)

MS. CANAVAN: What can we say here? And Delegate Reilly. Would some of you like to, like, move over here?

(Laughter.)

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Okay. Thank you.

MS. CANAVAN: I guess we're all friends in Harford County. Everybody has got to come.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: You've got a big group here. That's nice to have that kind of support.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah.

MS. CANAVAN: All right. Maybe they want to raise their hand when they call their name.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: It's hard to say no when you've got this many people --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah, geez. More than anyone else.

(Laughter.)

MS. CANAVAN: No, we're not going to do that. Also with me today to answer any questions you may have are Ms. Nancy Reynolds, the President of the Board of Ed; Mr. Joe Licata, Chief of Administration; Mr. Tom Fitzpatrick, who serves on the Board of Ed and represents Havre de Grace; Mr. Cornell Brown, Assistant Superintendent for Operations; Ms. Patti Jo Beard, Executive Director of Facilities Management; Ms. Chris Morton, Supervisor of Facilities Management --

TREASURER KOPP: You guys are really serious about this.

MS. CANAVAN: -- and Ms. Missy Valentina, Facilities Planner. I'm a New Yorker, so.

Okay. It has been a productive year in Harford County since last year's appeal hearing. At the beginning of 2016-17 school year, kindergartners, first, and second grade students were able to move into the new two-story gorgeous Youth's Benefit Elementary School. The project is scheduled for full

occupancy by the start of the 2017-18 school year. When completed the Fallston community will have a new single building elementary school facility in lieu of the three buildings and seven relocatable classrooms that comprised the Youth's Benefit program prior to this project. And we thank everybody that supported us on this project.

Prospect Mill Elementary is undergoing an open space enclosure project. Churchville Elementary has undergone roof replacement projects. Also after the past year we have added air conditioning to the Center of Educational Opportunity so now all Harford County public schools are air conditioned.

We are in the process of completing design efforts to bid and award a roof replacement project at Joppatowne High School; an HVAC system renovation at Riverside Elementary School; and two open space conversions, William S. James Elementary and William Paca/Old Post Road Elementary. With the two open space enclosure projects scheduled to start in June and the projects already in progress, all but one of our schools with open space classrooms are being addressed. The last school, Bel Air Elementary, is included in our FY 2018 request.

We continue to work collaboratively with our county government and our delegation as we evaluate the comprehensive needs of our school system, strive to meet the needs, and balance our needs with the limited fiscal resources available. We believe that with your financial assistance and our focus on long

term master planning, Harford County will continue to successfully identify and address long term deferred maintenance and the needs of an aging infrastructure.

Please know that your assistance over the years has had much to do with the progress we have made. With this in mind we are here today to seek your continued financial support. During this year's capital budget process the IAC has graciously recommended the partial funding of two of our project requests. The partial funding requested in the amount of \$5,500,000 for the Havre de Grace Middle/High replacement project, and the partial funding requested --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Can I interrupt you right there?

MS. CANAVAN: Yes, you may.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Because you're on a roll but I don't want to stop the roll --

MS. CANAVAN: Okay.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: -- but I just wanted to touch base on that. Last year we, at this hearing, we had a really productive conversation with your County Executive about, regarding Havre de Grace Middle and High School which is slated, as you said, recommended for \$5 million in funding this year. And I know that you're looking at funding the project using both a traditional model and a value engineered --

MS. CANAVAN: Correct.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: -- alternative approach. And we think that's terrific. You know, the Comptroller made an excellent suggestion at the hearing last year about making this kind of a pilot program, like a Monarch Academy style project.

MS. CANAVAN: Mm-hmm.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Where we can see how we can get more bang for our buck. And you know, I just think this dual approach is a good thing to see where you can find savings. And if we can deliver a product at a lower per square foot number like they did it's something we'd certainly love to see more of. And you may be able to build two schools instead of one --

MS. CANAVAN: Yeah.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: -- with the same money. And so we appreciate your efforts with that. I don't mean to interrupt.

MS. CANAVAN: Well we're committed to doing that. Can I get back on the -- okay.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Sure. I'm sorry. I hope I didn't make you lose your place.

(Laughter.)

MS. CANAVAN: I want to make sure.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Yeah, I interrupted the teacher. Uh-oh. I hope I don't have to stay after school, it's been a long enough day already.

(Laughter.)

MS. CANAVAN: Yeah. I didn't teach that way, but that's beside the point.

Okay. Additionally the IAC has recommended the deferment of two of our project requests, the deferment of funding requested in the amount of \$569,000 for the roof replacement project at North Harford Elementary, and the deferment of funding requested in the amount of \$5,510,000 for the HVAC systemic project at Roye-Williams Elementary. We appreciate the IAC recommendation of \$7 million for these much needed projects and we thank you for your support.

Governor Hogan, Harford County Public Schools is appealing the IAC recommendation to partially fund the Havre de Grace Middle/High School replacement project and the Bel Air Elementary HVAC open space enclosure project. \$4.5 million represents the balance of the funding required to start the replacement of the three buildings making up the current Havre de Grace Middle and High School with a single, more efficient, effective, and safe facility for the community of Havre de Grace.

\$2,091,000 represents the balance of the funding required to address our last open space enclosure project at Bel Air Elementary School, resolving the associated safety and security concerns. Additionally, Harford County Public Schools is appealing the IAC recommendation to defer funding the

North Harford Elementary roof replacement project and the Roye-Williams Elementary systemic renovation. Harford County Public Schools would like to replace one roof a year to maintain the roofing systems and replacement requirements of our 54 schools. \$569,000 represents the funding required to address our most critical roof replacement need, North Harford Elementary. Additionally the \$5,040,000 represents the funding required to replace and upgrade the declining Roye-Williams Elementary School HVAC system. The project will also address much needed upgrades to life safety components, such as sprinkler heads, fire alarm control panels, fire alarm devices, and adding a generator which will comply with MEMA requirements.

In closing, I would like to thank you and express our sincere appreciation for all your support. It is our hope that you will continue to endorse our efforts by upholding our appeal to fully fund the replacement of Havre de Grace Middle/High School, the open space enclosure project at Bel Air Elementary, and the roof replacement project at North Harford Elementary, and finally the systemic renovation at North Harford Elementary.

At this time I would like to ask Cindy Mumby to come forward. She will be representing Barry Glassman today. And then we are more than happy to entertain any questions or comments that you might have.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: And you might ask if any of your other distinguished panel here would like to say anything.

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MS. CANAVAN: I'll, yeah you can, any of my other distinguished guests are welcome to make comments.

MS. MUMBY: Good afternoon. Well, Governor, you sort of stole my thunder. I wanted to bring up Havre de Grace, the Havre de Grace Middle School/High School project, and indeed we are we believe among one of the first counties to pursue this dual track with --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Unfortunately your County Executive spilled the beans and he and I talked already, so.

MS. MUMBY: He did? I'll have to speak to him about that.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: I didn't mean to steal your thunder.

MS. MUMBY: But he did want me to emphasize his appreciation for your support for this approach. In addition, as you noted, he could not, he would very much like to be here today but could not because he is at a previously scheduled meeting with the bond rating agencies in New York. We're trying to maintain our AAA bond rating again this year. But I am here to represent his support for our Board of Education's Capital Improvement Program and to say that the county is prepared to fund our local share of these projects. Thank you very much.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Okay. Thank you. Would any of our elected officials or anybody else like to --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah.

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GOVERNOR HOGAN: -- chime in?

VOICE: Absolutely. As a graduate of Havre de Grace High School, I couldn't take this opportunity but to thank you all for your past support and most importantly for the visits that all of you have had to our beautiful waterfront community. It's one thing to sit here and make decisions about our community and give financial support but it's another thing to actually come to our community and face our people and give them your support in person. So I want you to know how important it is and I want to thank you for that personally.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you very much. And I mean as young as you are, doesn't it feel kind of bad that your high school is going to be torn down --

VOICE: Well actually --

(Laughter.)

VOICE: I preserve, you know, when you live by the water you preserve well.

(Laughter.)

VOICE: Governor, Ms. Kopp, Mr. Franchot, I thank you all. I know both the Governor and Mr. Comptroller have been in both Havre de Grace and Bel Air over the last, several times over the last year and a half or so. So you are familiar with these areas. These are great schools and we look forward to your support. Thank you very much. This is, these are great communities. They

are, it's a particularly, the schools they are talking about are very mixed in their population, minority majority, just it's a really healthy environment. And we look forward to your support. Thank you very much.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you very much.

VOICE: Governor, Comptroller, State Superintendent, just briefly again to reiterate I think on behalf of our entire delegation, we are incredibly appreciative of what we've received. We're also appreciative of your attention. Because of our high attention to the design, construction, and operation of our schools we're able to really operate with minimal requests coming to you. Because of our top notch program we were honored to receive not one, but two Silver Hammer Awards from the Comptroller and we're very much appreciative of that. And again, we very much appreciate any consideration you can give to us. Thank you very much.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you. Anybody else want to say anything? I want to thank all of the elected officials for coming out. I think this is the most support --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Mm-hmm.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: -- we've had from the whole county all day today. So thank you all for being here. I know you have busy schedules and thank you all for the presentation.

TREASURER KOPP: I have one question, just a confusion. First of all, thank you all for your hospitality over at the Calvert House last week, too. It was very nice. The alternative funding for Havre de Grace, is the alternative, there was a newspaper article that you're looking at alternative funding. And it wasn't clear to me what that was talking about.

VOICE: Good afternoon. What we're looking at is different delivery strategies as well as -- there's kind of two parts to it. The delivery of the building in terms of the bricks and mortar and the delivery system to try to save as much money as we can. So --

TREASURER KOPP: Okay.

VOICE: -- we had the unique opportunity to work on parallel tracks --

TREASURER KOPP: That's the value engineering?

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Yep.

VOICE: That's correct.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Yep.

TREASURER KOPP: It's not an alternative financing mechanism?

VOICE: No, no. That's correct.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: They're not sure of the final cost because they are going to look at --

TREASURER KOPP: Got it. Got it. Great. Thank you.

VOICE: Senator Rosepepe is looking ahead a lot so he is dragging me to some of these schools --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yep. Good.

TREASURER KOPP: Monarch.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Monarch Academy. They built a beautiful new school for one-third of the cost of what anybody else is going. And we're thinking if you could find a way to do it you could build two or three schools instead of one and everybody would be better off, so it's worth taking a look at.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yes, so I just wanted to follow up on the Governor. Because this is not value engineering. This is revolutionary engineering in thinking. It's bigger, bolder, better, but also cheaper. And I would really encourage everyone in Harford County to rally around the County Executive, who I think has visited Monarch Academy and wants to explore these ideas. And you can easily get thrown off track by the kind of mind set that a lot of folks have as far as school construction. And I urge everyone here to think really innovatively. And I would, I applaud the Governor to the extent he suggests that there might be some merit to giving extra support to your efforts because it's not easy to get outside of the comfort zone. Instead of building a

school for 100 years, which is kind of crazy, but why not build one for 50 years, that will last 50 years, and be, have significant savings?

So to the extent you come out with these proposals, I hope that you'll share them with at least the three members of the Board and other, Senator Cassilly, other elected officials, and reassure them. Because I guarantee you there's a big push back from the, you know, status quo kind of approach. I happen to think there's enormous potential in it. I applaud the County Executive. I hate to kill the idea by saying it's associated with Senator Rosapepe, but it's a, he's just a catalyst.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Well, I mean, it says something. I mean, with all due respect to Jim Rosapepe, who is a good friend of mine, he's not what most people would consider to be a fiscal watchdog or a, he's somewhat of a big spender. And he wants us to save money on schools.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah. But seriously, I really hope that you'll keep us informed. And is the idea here that you're going to possibly put two different projects out to bid? Is that the plan?

VOICE: Yes, sir. We're trying to go down a parallel track because we think that's really the only way to get a true picture, apples to apples, on these various methods. It's a middle/high school, which is unique in and of itself, and so how that would work under these circumstances will be something

that we're going to watch very carefully. And then we'll be in the position to make an informed decision as to which --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: That's a great idea. Well, I don't have any other questions. Anybody else?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Nope.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you all very much for being here. Thank you. Next up we have Howard County. Good afternoon.

DR. FOOSE: Good afternoon. Governor Hogan, Comptroller Franchot, Treasurer Kopp, Superintendent Salmon, I'm Renee Foose, Superintendent of Schools for the Howard County Public School System. We're here to request an increase in the allocation to the Interagency Committee on School Construction's recommendation for fiscal year 2018 capital projects.

We'd first like to thank the Board of Public Works for their participation and funding in the Wilde Lake Middle School replacement project. Funding for this project allowed us to successfully open Maryland's first net zero school on time as scheduled.

For fiscal year 2018, thank you for the approval of \$14.8 million out of our total request of \$39 million. As you continue to review public school construction capital improvement requests, we'd like to make you aware of some of our local concerns. The school system continues its efforts to reduce construction costs. We've begun to perform value engineering on each project at

the planning stage with a focus on changes that reduce costs while meeting building requirements and instructional needs. We are hopeful that these efforts will lead to much needed savings.

We've also been exploring alternative approaches to providing educational space to free up existing school capacity and defer the need for new construction. These efforts highlight our commitment to fiscally responsible capital planning.

As noted recently by the State, Howard County was the fastest growing county in the State last year. We've been among the fastest growing for some time and enrollment projections indicate that we'll continue to see significant enrollment growth over the next decade. The fiscal year 2018 and future State funding requests will respond to the projected student capacity needs by preparing the county with new capital projects and facilities, additions, and renovation projects when they are most needed. We continue to balance the need for classroom seats with maintaining the condition of our existing physical plant and continue to make capital investments that will reduce our life cycle operating costs, as the systemic projects in this year reflect.

We ask that you reconsider and fully fund the status A projects, including the HVAC projects at Mount View Middle, Pointers Run Elementary, and Rockburn Elementary, as well as the RTU project at Burleigh Manor Middle School. Fully funding each of these requests will allow the replacement of

systems that have reached the end of their serviceable life and can no longer be efficiently maintained.

At this time due to the lack of local funding match, we will not proceeding with status B projects in fiscal year 2018. We will request State funding in 2019 submission as local participation becomes available. This change reduces the total Howard County request to \$21.1 million. The remaining State funding requested for status A projects is \$6 million, \$6.2 million.

The taxpayers of Howard County have historically supported school construction, funding more than 70 percent of the total capital requirements for the school system each year. In recent years, however, county funds have not kept pace with the growing projects and maintenance projects needed for the school system. While we understand the constraints that factor into the calculation of funding eligibility, we would ask that you consider the declining local investment prior to making your final decisions.

We appreciate the support and cooperative relationship we've developed with the Public School Construction Program staff, and we'll continue to work closely with the Public School Construction staff regarding the challenges and issues facing us today and in the future. We thank you for the opportunity to present our views and we look forward to receiving favorable support for the increased funding for the Howard County Public School System.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you very much. Is anybody here from the county government? You've made some pretty --

DR. FOOSE: No.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: -- strong statements about their lack of support for the schools. I'd like to hear directly from them.

DR. FOOSE: We don't have any county officials with us today, elected officials. This is Beverly Davis, our Chief Financial Officer.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Hi, Beverly.

MS. DAVIS: Hello, Mr. Governor. I don't want to give the impression that we're making any negative comment towards our county government. We highlighted their high level of commitment year in and year out. We, all of those phase B projects had final cost estimates that would significantly increase, that would require us to increase the FY '18 request by \$9 million at the local side. To increase that is what we don't think the county could bear so we don't want to have to go back and ask for more on those. That's where we're saying they would need to be deferred.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Okay. Thank you. I notice that so part of the recommendation here today before us is \$9.7 million for significant renovation projects for four of the schools. And these renovations include replacing the HVAC, entire HVAC systems, ceilings, light fixtures, fire alarms. And one of those schools, Pointers Run Elementary, is getting major duct work as

well as several heating and ventilation systems. And I know last year we had kind of a spirited discussion about concerns from some folks about mold issues in some of the schools. Are these projects part of a plan to try to mitigate and rectify that situation?

DR. FOOSE: I believe we have mitigated and rectified the situation that we discussed here last year, Governor. But all of these projects that we have on our list, safety and security of students is our foremost concern. And so we take into consideration all of the outlying factors and the community concerns as we're moving forward with all of these. So the answer to your question is yes.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Okay. Great. Is there anybody else in the group that wants to testify here, or say anything?

DR. FOOSE: This is my staff that does an amazing job --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Staff? You've got the whole staff?

DR. FOOSE: -- to keep Howard County highly rated, academically the highest rated in the State, I might add. And it is also this staff behind me that has made it so that our average score on the annual school construction annual inspection has been an average of 92 percent over the last six years.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Not bad.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah.

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GOVERNOR HOGAN: Do you have any questions?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah, no, I just noticed that Burleigh Manor is one of nine schools requesting this year's new project category, the HVAC/ceiling and above interior systems. I take it this is a new category that's been added?

DR. FOOSE: This is Herb Savje, our Director of Facilities.

MR. SAVJE: I believe this is a category that was added by the State. What we've taken on is we've taken a look at what we can do to fulfill what the State has asked for multiple systems in these projects. So that's why you're looking at ceilings and lighting and duct work, and while we're in there we might as well do the ceilings and the duct work and the lighting. It makes sense, bring them up to LEDs and all that.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: But I think it's fair to speculate that the new category is a systemic response to the mold issues raised at last year's meeting regarding Glenwood Middle and that this solution to a mold problem that landed, I guess, landed students and teachers and staff members in the hospital. Is that what we're dealing with here in this new category?

DR. FOOSE: No, that's not at all what we're dealing with. And I have some documentation that clarifies some misunderstandings about that. Last year we did not have students and staff members in the hospital because of mold related injuries. And I wish I would have had the documentation with me last

year when we discussed it. I could have presented it at that time to clear up any misunderstandings that existed at that point.

We also were recently recognized by the EPA Administrator for --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Just to be clear, I mean, it wasn't a misunderstanding on our part. It was a misunderstanding --

DR. FOOSE: I understand. On the community part, understood. Agreed.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: -- on all the people in Howard County, which is why I think they replaced the entire school board. It was a pretty bad communications problem, if nothing else.

DR. FOOSE: Well I have my Communications Director here with us today to speak to what we have done to improve communications.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: I just didn't want anybody to get the impression that we were confused. It was everybody in the county that thought this was a problem.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: I was just trying to make the point that the Board of Public Works has a role in providing scrutiny and accountability to some of our elected citizens where it's appropriate. And I don't mind having all the information so that we get a balanced view of what's going on. I just think it's, to the extent you have a new category, it certainly seems appropriate given the concerns that were raised and I frankly applaud the fact that

you're listing some of these things so that, you know, concerns about ceiling stains that I guess were observed in a couple of schools in the 2015 maintenance report, and minor ceiling stains in six schools. You know, I'm not sure which schools those are. They didn't list them. But I assume that, you know, you've --

DR. FOOSE: Yes.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: -- taken care of them and that they are able to indicate that they need some maintenance help in the appropriate capital category. And so I applaud that. And just if there's some whispers in the woodwork about the fact that we don't need the Board of Public Works to look at these school construction proposals. And --

DR. FOOSE: I value the role.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: -- I happen to think that we're the only transparent accountable oversight of this that frankly occurs. Everybody else is just trying to cram more potatoes into the sack and get more money. And we're actually sitting up here asking about let's make sure the potatoes are properly taken care of.

DR. FOOSE: Agreed. And thank you for the compliment. And we've actually reduced our request in the appeal.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you very much.

DR. FOOSE: Thank you.

TREASURER KOPP: Can I just --

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GOVERNOR HOGAN: And we have some speakers that are signed up to talk.

TREASURER KOPP: Can I just ask one question, since the Comptroller mentioned the maintenance? On the, this is not a, this is just drilling down a bit. The maintenance 2016 sanitation, there is something about the kitchens. Maintenance of kitchen equipment isn't sufficient, deficiency identified in a majority of the schools. The onsite staff reported insufficient support from the firm that is responsible for contractual maintenance.

DR. FOOSE: Yes.

TREASURER KOPP: My question is, this issue has come up, I think, at least in the press, in Carroll County also. Do the systems, the superintendents or the appropriate people, ever drill down to things like that to exchange information?

DR. FOOSE: Yes, we do. And to that piece, when it shows up in these reports we certainly address it. Oftentimes that's the first we're made aware of it.

TREASURER KOPP: It just hit me, that it was kitchens in both.

DR. FOOSE: I'm going to let Bruce Gist, our Executive Director for Planning and School Construction address it directly.

TREASURER KOPP: It's not that I'm not interested in kitchens.

DR. FOOSE: Well we are.

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TREASURER KOPP: I was more interested in the coincidence and the question of whether you exchange information at that level, that sort of thing.

MR. GIST: As a matter of fact, we've made that a part of our capital budget request to start taking a look at our kitchens on an annual basis and start approaching them tactically. We have 76 schools. We try to address them whenever we have a renovation or addition or modernization. And in addition to that we've now added a consideration in our capital budget request to address the kitchens. I'm not sure, I believe it's about half a million dollars a year that we're going to look into putting into our kitchens. That was a discussion that I had with our Director of Food and Nutrition Services and he thought that was a good amount to start with to see where this whole thing plays out.

TREASURER KOPP: And do you look into things like the contractors, whether the contractors are doing all they should be doing?

MR. GIST: What we found in that statement, ma'am, was we were having a problem with the contractors that we did have because they could simply not locate parts. And they were literally, in their words, having to cannibalize other parts to make parts to fix the kitchen equipment. That has been maintained well but it eventually reaches an end of life use. And they've had to go around, and it took a lot of work just to find little parts.

TREASURER KOPP: Okay.

MR. GIST: So now we're looking to replace the parts.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Great. Thank you very much.

TREASURER KOPP: Thank you.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Could I just comment, Dr. Foose, your county is fourth best in the State as far as overall maintenance --

DR. FOOSE: Thank you.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: -- ratings so you can put that in your category. Could you just comment briefly on my concern about innocent kids that are, happen to be here with no documents because their parents brought them when they were young and all of a sudden they end up in our schools?

DR. FOOSE: It's quite unfortunate that we find ourselves in that situation.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Well the unfortunate part is the atmosphere --

DR. FOOSE: Yes.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: -- that hopefully will not gel and take any action. But --

DR. FOOSE: In Howard County, all of our students are in a safe place. We don't seek out the information to determine status of students. We're legally not allowed to ask that. And we have begun looking at how we're going

to provide training, since this has become such a contemporary issue within our schools.

So our students are safe. They are protected. They are welcomed. And it is not common knowledge, or even in some cases our knowledge, as to which students are documented or undocumented.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Excellent. Thank you.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Great. Thank you.

DR. FOOSE: Thank you.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: We have a number of speakers signed up. Thank you all very much. Representing the Howard County School Board we have Cindy Vaillancourt. Good afternoon.

MS. VAILLANCOURT: Good afternoon. I just wanted to let you all know that we are working very hard to use your funding wisely and to thank you for your support. I was wondering if you all had any questions about what you just heard?

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Well I mean, if you have any comments, we're anxious to hear it.

MS. VAILLANCOURT: Well I think that your continued concern about the mold issue is well placed. I continue to get comments on a daily basis about people who are having issues. I'm not sure whether we've gotten to the

bottom of it yet, but we are I believe trying. And it's a little bit frustrating for me to hear that it's all resolved when it just pretty clearly isn't.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Well actually what we heard was it never was a problem and we just made it up.

MS. VAILLANCOURT: It, I think you have another speaker who will be able to tell you more details. I find myself in an awkward position here.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: I'm a little bit confused, and maybe it's a little bit different in your county, but doesn't the Superintendent report to the Board of Education? I mean, aren't you supposed to be the ones overseeing what goes on?

MS. VAILLANCOURT: Yes, we are. We are supposed to be --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: And you're not happy with the progress?

MS. VAILLANCOURT: Well as you've pointed out, before you can really make good progress you have to acknowledge that there's an issue. And we still seem to be unable to acknowledge what the issue specifically is. The, I mean, I just heard from parents yesterday about an issue that is at the same school that has had ongoing issues. And it's extremely frustrating. As a taxpayer in Howard County it's extremely frustrating to me that we keep spending money trying to fix an issue and we're not, we don't seem to be making the kind of progress that you would like to with the amount of money we've spent on it. I think that we are trying to address the moisture issues and the leaks and the, all of

the things that contribute to having mold and mold related illnesses, air quality, whatever euphemism you want to use for it. We have people who have become highly sensitive to their indoor air environment. And the indoor air environment that we are providing for a number of our schools is harmful to some of the kids and the staff that are in those schools. We have been trying to be able to, we've been trying to give transfers where, when they are requested. You know, if you don't have an allergy, you don't have a problem. If you do, it's a big problem. And I think we still have a problem.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: And has the board been trying to address this with the staff?

MS. VAILLANCOURT: The board is currently trying to address a number of issues. The question of mold has been an ongoing issue. It has, it has become part of the MPIA issue. It has become part of the dispute between the different supervisory groups. We, the board, the current board, the new board believes that it has a role to play in making sure that these issues are promptly and adequately addressed and we are working very hard to make sure that that role is respected and is able to be effective.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Well, I mean, I don't want to misquote the Superintendent. But I asked if this was related to the discussion we had last year about mold, and I think she said there wasn't a mold problem. And he asked about people that were getting sick, and she said it's not true, none of them were.

And then she said she had documentation. Basically it sounded like we were just confused last year. But it's a huge concern among the residents of Howard County. And it sounds like nobody has accepted responsibility for it or is willing to fix it. Is that true?

MS. VAILLANCOURT: It's an awkward position that I find myself in, standing here. But I agree. I believe that we have a serious issue and I do not believe that it has been acknowledged or appropriately responded to. And the new board intends to make sure that it is. And to the extent that that has created a dispute between the new board and the Superintendent, that's a matter of public record at this point that we're working on resolving that. In the end --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: I guess we would like to have the communication and whatever information you have shared with the Board staff so that we can stay on top of the issue. Because we do have an obligation to the taxpayers. We are reviewing a request, it was \$39 million, it's now down to \$21 million because the county didn't agree to some of it. But you know we have ways to make sure that they pay attention. We certainly got Baltimore City and Baltimore County to address the concerns of the citizens and we may have to do the same thing in Howard County.

MS. VAILLANCOURT: Well as much as you can help us make sure that that happens, that's great. I am all, I agree 100 percent with what you

just said. But for those of us who are standing here, our main concern is to make sure that that stack of potatoes is in a safe environment and that we are not --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: That's the most important responsibility that we have.

MS. VAILLANCOURT: -- creating lifelong, potentially lifelong health issues for them. I am personally not convinced that that's the case right now.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Okay.

MS. VAILLANCOURT: And it is my deepest commitment in spite of any other obstacles that are thrown at us that that situation will be resolved for the health and welfare of our students and staff as one of our very, very top priorities.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you very much. We have Linda Brown, who is a Howard County teacher, I think, that wanted to speak.

MS. VAILLANCOURT: I think she decided it was --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: She's not? Anybody else that, with your group that wanted to speak? We have Vicky Cutroneo, a Howard County parent, is also with us. Good afternoon.

MS. CUTRONEO: Good afternoon, Governor Hogan, Comptroller Franchot, and Treasurer Kopp. My name is Vicky Cutroneo and I

would like to say a few words about the capital improvement projects that are before you from Howard County.

First I would like to make it clear that I fully support the funding for these HVAC renovations. I wish you could do more.

I've spent the last two years engaged in advocating for healthy air quality at Glenwood Middle School. It's become clear that it was not just isolated incidents of mold outbreaks, it's been a chronic five, at least five-year issue that has never really gone away. And I think my concern with future HVAC renovations is we're going to get to a point, like we are at Glenwood, where maybe we weren't honest with how bad the building was.

We didn't have the whole history. I've spent a lot of time collecting emails and documents and it shows the breadth of the issue. And if we had that information to consider before proceeding with expensive HVAC renovations, maybe we would have thought differently and taken a different direction. Because as it stands now the building is not fixed. Despite what the school system says, it's not.

I hear everything. My own daughter is starting to become sensitized. She's actually getting sick in a room that my oldest got sick in four years ago. And it's incredibly frustrating. I'm glad that we only have four months left. But it's difficult when you get a text from your daughter that she's having stabbing pains in her head and blurry vision and it's the same room your

18-year-old had issues in. So despite what is said, I believe that Glenwood, and a lot of people, if you ask staff, honestly, it's a sick building. And we've spent a lot of money, over \$10 million probably, on two different HVAC renovations.

I think if we had the information, if staff were free to speak, and building and maintenance, the experts of the building, the custodians, the HVAC techs. They know those buildings. If we had their input and, I'm, you know, with the four projects upcoming I want to see that we can do it differently and maybe take, get the whole story of the buildings, get the history, talk to staff. Make sure it's buildings that can be rectified. Make sure we, you know, we're doing the right thing. Because what's more important than the indoor air quality? We shouldn't be shortchanging it.

I've totally gone off. I have five pages of notes and I have not read one thing.

Also, I want to make sure, you know, the money is spent wisely. Are we just low bidding everything and not getting the higher quality because we want to, you know, come out under budget? Are we more apt to have shoddy construction and less qualified companies doing these projects? We have roof replacements done and then just chronic roof leaks. I don't know what's going, that shouldn't be happening. And you know, also the Office of Legislative Audits found that the way that we bid construction projects is through a consortium which is not, which is against Code. And I think that lends to, you know,

companies not really having to be competitive with their bids or do high quality work because they know they are always going to be getting the opportunity to work on a project for the school system.

So I guess that's why I'm here today, is just, first of all thank you for continuing to allow the public to come in and speak to you because when we can't be heard on the local level, this is so helpful to feel like we're being heard. And all of the staff members really appreciate it too, that they don't feel like they can come up here and speak and I'm speaking for them. So we really appreciate this opportunity. And I think that's really, and to speak to, when you say children's hospitalizations, they weren't over, admitted, they were taken to the hospital from the school in an ambulance. So that's just semantics, if you call that a hospitalization or not. But they were sick enough to be taken in an ambulance from the school. So one student twice. So do you have any questions?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: How big is the group of parents that you communicate with and stay in touch with?

MS. CUTRONEO: Tons. Tons. I just heard from a staff member and a parent at Pointers Run Elementary, which is one of the schools, nosebleeds, certain areas of the school, chronic sinus infections, there's, you know, humidity, because the malfunctioning HVACs are just repositories for mold. And I heard from Rockburn Elementary also. Mount View has had a lot of issues. I think taking out the carpeting has really helped and I haven't heard, and I even reached

out to a few people and they said everything, it's much better there. So you know, I don't think all these buildings are too far gone to be remediated. But Pointers Run and Rockburn have had years-long mold intrusion issues and health complaints.

The problem is, you know, we send the school-based staff out to assess health issues but they don't have medical backgrounds. And they discard it. They think we're all crazy, we're all making it up. And they're not a doctor. They can't say whether something is related to the building or is an allergy or not. So staff don't feel like they are heard, they feel like, you know, what's the point really?

So I mean mold happens. It's what you do with it and how honest you are. You know, no one wants to see their school system and I think the school system has been operating, you know, to mitigate responsibility or liability when at the expense of being honest and giving parents the information they need to make decisions for their kids. If they knew there was mold at a school maybe they could, you know, not, they could transfer, or you know, instead of exposing them to, the two paraeducators who filed workman's comp claims, they are still having to medicate heavily to be in the buildings.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Well keep up the great work. Because if you don't speak up no one will. And Dr. Salmon --

MS. CUTRONEO: Sorry. I went completely over my time, I'm sure.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: -- maybe you can help navigate some of this. It just seems very unfortunate. And I just want to say, hey, people thought I was crazy a while ago. So --

MS. CUTRONEO: Yeah, crazy mold lady.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: -- things happen. Things get better. So don't doubt yourself.

MS. CUTRONEO: Oh, I won't. Thank you. But this is very helpful to be, at least feel like somebody is paying attention. So thank you. Any questions?

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Dr. Salmon, you had something --

DR. SALMON: Yeah, I just wanted to say that we will, I think we do have a report on this issue and we will make sure that your office gets a copy of that report as soon as possible.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: It's already completed? Or --

DR. SALMON: As far as I know. But I don't, I can't really say until I reread it.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Sure.

DR. SALMON: But we do have some information that we can certainly share that --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Well that's good. I was going to suggest

--

DR. SALMON: -- may enlighten the situation.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: We'd love to take a look at the report.

And you know, we have an obligation as the chief fiscal officers of the State and we're dealing with hundreds of millions, in fact billions of dollars in funding we're passing down to these school systems --

MS. CUTRONEO: We are not unique. I'm sure that there are many schools in this position.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: -- and people thinking that they don't have to answer questions or be accountable is unacceptable. And look, if we have a whole group of people in the Board of Ed saying there's a problem and we have staff saying there's no problem, we're going to have to have an independent group like the State Board and/or the IAC, which is an agent of the Board of Public Works --

MS. CUTRONEO: I like the word independent.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: -- go out and do an independent review of this to see if it's a problem and see if it needs to get fixed.

DR. SALMON: All right.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: And if it means we've got to hold up money in order to make sure it happens then we'll certainly talk about doing that.

DR. SALMON: Okay. All right.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you.

MS. CUTRONEO: My daughter will be here next week as a page so if somebody comes up to you and says, I'm the mold lady's daughter, that's her. So thank you.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you very much. Any other questions on Howard County? We're going to move on to the Maryland School for the Blind.

SECRETARY MCDONALD: Dr. Bina is here.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Good afternoon.

DR. BINA: Good afternoon. Good afternoon, and thank you, Governor Hogan, Comptroller Franchot, Treasurer Kopp, and Superintendent Salmon. My name is Mike Bina, President of the Maryland School for the Blind. MSB requests full funding for the preschool and the Newcomer Hall projects. These two critical projects are the third and fourth phases of the MSB campus master plan.

MSB is most grateful that two years ago our facilities for multidisabled students, the first phase of our campus master plan, were opened and these programs or facilities have been transformative and very innovative. And in addition this past August we began the new school year in the newly constructed phase two autism blind facilities. And I might point out as a metric

change orders on this project were .75 percent and I believe the industry standard is if you are around three to five percent you are still good. So we surprised ourselves but that was with good stewardship of public funds, good value engineering, a good contractor, a good design, and careful attention to detail.

These specialized facilities are meeting our students' needs. We are substantially enhancing their safety and achievement. Parents throughout the State, I might point out to the Board, are especially thankful and appreciative. And one parent told me, Dr. Bina, the facilities you had before were a bigger barrier to my son's disability, multiple disabilities, than his multiple disabilities he was born with. So we have many parents who are noticing the big difference. And we thank the Board of Public Works for the support.

The preschool project is on schedule to be completed this August in time for the start of the new school year, at which time we hope to begin the essential renovation of Newcomer Hall. The school respectfully requests the Board of Public Works approve full funding to benefit Maryland's 24 local school systems that MSB serves based on the critical importance of preschool programming, the unsuitability of the current facilities, and the 78 percent increase in preschool enrollment in the past five years. And we did save \$1 million by combining this preschool program with the outreach program and this eliminated the need to build two separate buildings. And this also reduced our

ten-year campus master plan to nine, which results in saving of money and also reduces program disruption.

So thank you to you, Governor Hogan, Treasurer Kopp, and Comptroller Franchot for your consideration and your demonstrated support for the Maryland School for the Blind efforts to provide quality programs for blind and visually impaired students from throughout the State of Maryland.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Well I just want to thank you very much. I don't have any questions or concerns. I fully support the request and the recommendation. And I just want to commend you for the great work that the Maryland School for the Blind does in meeting the educational needs of your students. And I know it's a difficult job but day in and day out you do a great job meeting those challenges. So I just want to say thank you.

DR. BINA: We would love for visitors to come to the school and see the facilities. I think you would be impressed with what your support is doing. It's more than a building. It is a place where quality programs can be implemented.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: I understand you had some recent visitors from Vietnam?

DR. BINA: Vietnam, yes we did.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: What did they think of you?

DR. BINA: If I could tell a quick story? They came here to look at our facilities and they went home and they are going to benchmark our facilities. But what they were most impressed with, that Maryland takes care of its students with multiple disabilities. And they said when we go home, we think we are going to maybe not just take care of them, to meet their daily needs, but we are going to educate them. Because all students can learn and all students do learn. And we are also getting other schools for the blind and schools for the deaf around the country coming to visit our program because they have seen what Maryland is doing. And they are very pleased with the support that we're getting in the State from the IAC, the State Superintendent, Maryland State Department of Ed, and the Board of Public Works. So thank you.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Well thank you very much.

DR. BINA: Thank you.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Next up we have Montgomery County.

MR. DURSO: Good afternoon. I'm Michael Durso, President of the Montgomery County Board of Education. Here today also is Dr. Jack Smith, our Superintendent; Dr. Andrew Zuckerman, Chief Operating Officer; and Mr. James Song, Director of the Department of Facility Management. We'd like to thank you for your past support and ask that you fully fund our current request.

The Interagency on School Construction has recommended funding \$26.78 million of our \$119 million request and we are here today to

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appeal for the balance of those funds. Before you is our written testimony and the list of projects included in our appeal, which only begin to illustrate the depth and breadth of those needs.

Our appeal includes planning approval for 16 projects, planning approval and construction funding for an additional six projects, and construction funding for seven. Completed projects are indicated as priority numbers one through four and 21. Construction projects have been awarded and construction has actually begun for projects listed as number 17 to 20, 22, 23 to 26, and 31 to 34.

With the need to provide permanent seats for our student population and address the aging inventory of older school facilities, funding for our capital improvements program continues to be a critical issue. Our county continues to provide substantial financial support in our efforts to increase the capacity of our schools and maintain and improve older school facilities. However, even this commitment of local funds is not sufficient to address those needs.

In order for us to meet our obligations to our students, we depend on the State and our partnership to provide quality facilities through the School Construction Program. Additional funds are essential to meet the need for more classrooms and better schools. Improving the teaching and learning environment

in our schools is an important step towards ensuring that Maryland remains the number one state in education nationwide.

State aid in recent years has fallen behind Montgomery County School Construction Program. MCPS students comprise 17.9 percent of the State's total student enrollment and therefore we believe at a minimum a fair share of State school construction funding should be on par with the share of the State's students.

We will continue to do our part to keep our construction program cost effective and implement those best practices to deliver high returns on investments. We know the importance of our fiduciary responsibility with State construction dollars and I can assure you we continue to utilize State construction funding efficiently and effectively.

We urge you to consider our appeal for funding. Thank you for your past support and for the opportunity to appear before you today. And next is our Superintendent Dr. Jack Smith.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you very much. Thank you, Dr. Smith. Good to see you back.

DR. SMITH: Nice to see you, sir. Good afternoon, Montgomery County.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Montgomery County's gain is our loss. We thank you for your job as, helping us at the State level.

DR. SMITH: Thank you. It's good to be back and thank you for this opportunity, Governor.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Congratulations on your appointment as Superintendent.

DR. SMITH: Thank you.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Now I also want to, before you start, I want to commend you on your swift, immediate action to remediate some of the deficiencies in your roof inspection program that the IAC noted. I understand, you know, that you guys are faced with incredible enrollment challenges, moreso I think than anybody else in the State. And while some of our systems have, you know, seriously declining populations you have just the opposite problem, kind of bursting at the seams, I guess.

DR. SMITH: Yes.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: So I just wanted to commend you on that. And I want to just say that, you know, as we talked earlier today, I'm not sure how long you've been here, but several times we've talked about Harford County, for example, is doing a dual approach where they are looking at the possibility of some considerable cost savings in construction. Other people had different ways of going about that. But with your price tag of all the school construction needs that you're going to have, we really would, you know, like to make sure that you guys are taking a look at ways to build schools cheaper so we can get more bang

for the buck and get more schools built in Montgomery County for the same dollars if we can.

DR. SMITH: Absolutely, Governor. And if I may respond? We're going to have to look at things differently. In fact, I was just talking to Senator Serafini out in the hall about the alternative, and we don't have very many of them in Maryland as you know, but the alternative ways of thinking about the use of space. And I've shared with our County Council that there are opportunities in commercial space for specialized programs for 11th and 12th graders, for example, which would mitigate some of the data I have on my page about 10,000 more secondary students in the next five years. So I, we completely agree and we're going to work a lot in the coming year and we're eager to engage with the State --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you.

DR. SMITH: -- on that effort.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you. I didn't mean to interrupt your --

DR. SMITH: That's okay. But as you just said, we have a, you know, we have 159,022 students this year and we expect to grow to 168,000 students in the next five years. We've gained 21,000 students, mostly at the elementary level. That would be 28 elementary schools since 2007. The growth is pushing into our secondary schools. In fact, the good news is we hope to be

level in elementary enrollment next year. So that's good news. But our secondaries continue to grow. And when you consider 10,000 students over five years, that's the equivalent of two middle schools and three high schools. So it's significant. Thirty-five percent of our students qualify for free and reduced price meals and that's 55,000 students right now today in Montgomery County.

We also continue to enroll almost half of the English for speakers of other languages students, providing services to 23,000 students. And I know it's an area for you, Mr. Franchot, that you have been asking about today.

While the county has provided substantial support and we're grateful to them, we have to address this growth in a number of ways. And we depend on the State aid that you provide. We appreciate it. And I recognize personally as someone who has worked in other states that not everyone does it the way Maryland does it. And so I really appreciate everything that's done here to increase school capacity and keep state of the art facilities.

We certainly want to close the gaps that we have in facilities and we certainly also want to take this chance to say thank you to Dr. Salmon, the IAC, and the Public School Construction staff. They, I've worked with them about 12 years, 13 years, and they are excellent.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you for recognizing their hard work.

DR. SMITH: Absolutely, they really are. And so we really appreciate your concerns and your willingness to partner with us on these things. And we respectfully ask that you consider our appeal today. And we stand ready to answer any questions that we can answer.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you. Any questions?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yes, I had a couple of questions. The fifth priority on the HVAC replacement projects, I see four are recommended but I have a question about priority order number five, Silver Spring International Middle, which is the old Blair High School.

DR. SMITH: Yes.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: That is such a famous location in my old legislative district but now has been moved over to Four Corners --

DR. SMITH: Yes.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: -- a fabulous school that is. Congratulations on all that. But there's just one piece of unfinished business over there at the old Blair School, which is that auditorium.

DR. SMITH: Auditorium.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: And I wonder, since apparently it is involved or responsible for three consecutive not adequate ratings --

DR. SMITH: Yes.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: -- in the original, in 2012, 2013, 2014, I wonder what we could do to deal with the fact that this I guess basically abandoned auditorium is now affecting the health of the building?

DR. SMITH: It's a very strange circumstance. The old Blair High School became Silver Spring International Middle School and Sligo Creek Elementary School --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Correct.

DR. SMITH: -- with an unused auditorium in the middle of it.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Mm-hmm.

DR. SMITH: So you have one continuous building with a space in the middle. That was causing us roof problems that we've worked on those to cure those right away. Even though the space is unused we don't want it to contaminate the rest of the building. And so we've not only done roof work but we also need the HVAC for that entire space to change the air handling and all those qualities. And Mr. Song can certainly give you additional technical information about that. It's been something that's been going on for more than ten years. And it needs to be fixed, that's what it amounts to. We need to fix our part and we're asking you to work with us on the HVAC.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Okay. Mr. Song?

MR. SONG: Sure. So the auditorium is a place that has been abandoned in place. Again, it's not programmatically required nor is it logical for

State funding because it's not a part of the middle school or elementary school program. But to give you some brighter outlook, we conducted a feasibility study last year to look at converting that space into the classroom spaces, because Silver Spring International has been growing quite rapidly among all the other schools. So the study is there so it will be considered as part of the upcoming capital budget to see whether that can qualify for an addition. If it can do so, our plan is to look at converting that auditorium space into classroom spaces in the very near future.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Okay, great. I --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: If it's cost effective that certainly would be worth looking at instead of an empty space.

DR. SMITH: Absolutely.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Otherwise you might look at demolition of that space instead of building a new roof and see if that makes sense.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Could I while I've got you up there, Mr. Song --

MR. SONG: Sure.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: -- just ask about the infrared moisture detectors that you were researching and possibly procuring to help us with our roof moisture inspection results?

MR. SONG: Sure. It is one other part of our action plan that we listed among many in terms of being proactive and focusing on preventative maintenance of our roof program. And since the dialogue began last April and May with the Public School Construction staff we have moved very swiftly into a lot of these action plans and that is one of the technologies that we are benefitting from. And there are multiple levels of types and including aerial photographs using infrared technology to detect where the potential moisture protection failures are. So we are utilizing some of these technologies to pinpoint some of these roof leak areas.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Good. And the training program for the private sector, is that moving forward?

MR. SONG: That is absolutely moving forward. We have a great partnership with some of the manufacturers of the roof, as well as the local contractors, and we are completing either annual or semiannual training programs to keep up with the latest materials and technologies. It's valuable to bring our staff up to date in terms of how they are maintaining our roofs.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Great. And if I could just thank Mr. Durso. I know the Board of Ed decided to start school after Labor Day. I understand that's a difficult thing that you guys had to swallow a pill there that you didn't want to. But personally I'm grateful because without Montgomery County looking at it and saying let's try it for a year it would have been, you

know, a little more chaotic. So thank you for doing that. And if you could keep us all in the loop as to the glitches and problems you come into as maybe there's something that can be smoothed out.

MR. DURSO: Sure. No, I, well obviously we will. We'll see how this plays out. But we're glad to be cooperative.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: And Dr. Smith, could you just comment on the issue of immigrants?

DR. SMITH: Absolutely.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Or undocumented kids, or whatever, however --

DR. SMITH: Sure. Yes.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Innocent people.

DR. SMITH: It's certainly an area of extreme concern for us. We've been using many prongs of response, especially since earlier in the Fall when the level of anxiety that was already there went up. And what we've done is reached out directly to the students and the families through meetings and videos. We've reached out to all students through our curriculum. We have parent community coordinators that are multilingual that go into our communities. We have pupil personnel workers that work with them. And for example, you know, in the last two months we've sent information to our principals weekly and

the other staff I just named around how to make sure that we're preventing problems as well as responding to them. An area of extreme concern for us.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Thank you very much. Thank you, Governor.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you.

TREASURER KOPP: Has, I trust, has the incidence of, they're not hate crimes because I don't think people are being prosecuted. I don't know. But have incidences been reduced at all?

DR. SMITH: Yes, they have. They continue to happen intermittently and in small ways, drawings on bathroom walls and things like that. But they've definitely been diminishing over the weeks.

TREASURER KOPP: If they're not hate crimes, they're close to it.

DR. SMITH: Well they are certainly hateful and inappropriate and wrong. And we've made that clear in our community.

TREASURER KOPP: That's --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you. Any other questions for Montgomery County?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: No.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you all very much.

DR. SMITH: Governor Hogan, if I could I'd like to thank you for the operating budget as well. Very much appreciated in public education.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: On the operating funds?

DR. SMITH: Yes.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Yes. Well we, you know, we were very pleased to for the third year in the row to have record funding for education. And we fully funded 100 percent of every single penny in every single jurisdictions according to the formulas set by the legislature.

DR. SMITH: It makes an important positive difference.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: We're happy to do so.

DR. SMITH: Thank you.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you very much.

TREASURER KOPP: Can I say, Dr. Salmon, this is another instance where the question arises to me about --

DR. SALMON: Yes?

TREASURER KOPP: -- planning funds being constrained when actually the locals are forward funding construction.

DR. SALMON: Right. I agree. Again, it's part of the review process we're going to undertake with the new director.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Oh, good.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: We have Prince George's County up next. Good afternoon.

MR. WATTS: Good afternoon, sir. Good afternoon, my name is Wesley Watts. I'm the Chief Operating Office of Prince George's County Public Schools. I'm here today with Mr. Mark Fossett, the Associate Superintendent of Supporting Services, and supporting staff from our organization representing the team of planners, architects, engineers, and educators who developed the FY 2018-2023 capital improvement program.

We appreciate --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: The Superintendent is not able to join us today?

MR. WATTS: No sir, he's not. We appreciate the 75 percent recommendation from the IAC to fund \$20.7 million of the original \$91 million request. And thank you for the initial commitment. However, we appear today to emphasize the urgency of our request and appeal for the full funding and planning approval for all of these critical projects.

Our FY '18 CIP continues the implementation of our first cycle of projects established in the 2017 educational facilities master plan, which was presented to our Board of Education on May 12th, 2016 and earned the congratulations of the Maryland Department of Planning on September 14th, 2016. Our master planning efforts were informed by an impartial full scale

assessment of 2015-2016 called the Master Plan Support Project. The groundbreaking work of this study developed a plan to bring every school in our portfolio into a state of the art facility; prioritized the deficiencies most critical to student well being; ensured that each school would be fully supportive of modern education; and examined utilization and enrollment projects resulting in a plan that would right size the inventory of our buildings.

The Master Plan Support Project set the framework for the 2017 EFMP resulting in the strategic plan divided into three six-year cycles with the projected cost of \$8.5 billion over a 20-year period. This significant cost more than triples the initial, the current annual capital budget of our system. And although the whole of this funding has not wholly be identified it is essential that PGPCS moves forward and adopts this long term vision. We must invest in the smart, holistic EFMP projects that have been identified to maximize the impact of capital dollars and deliver comprehensively modern facilities to our students, staff, and community.

Our FY '18 CIP includes the major projects weighted towards addressing middle school deficiencies and significant overutilization concerns, plus the system replacement projects necessary in the fleet of buildings where more than 50 percent of our buildings are 40 years of age.

Our total request is for \$91.5 million, reflecting the use of \$11.8 million reserved in the contingency account for Prince George's County and

includes \$28 million for the completion of three previously approved renovations; \$5 million for the planned construction start of two replacement major renovations; \$43 million of our most important systemic replacement projects; \$9 million for reimbursement of four forward funded projects; and planning approval to renovate or replace four middle schools, two high schools, and one environmental center.

Specifically we hope to obtain the full balance of funding for all previously approved projects, such as the Bowie High School Annex limited renovation and the William Wirt Middle School replacement projects that were approved in FY '17 so we can continue imminent plans to start construction in FY '18. Likewise we request the approval of all major projects presented in the local planning approval so we can fully pursue the design of these needed new and replacement facilities as well as full funding of the critical systemic replacements included in the CIP.

In closing I hope this testimony has provided you with a clear picture of the needs of Prince George's County Public Schools and a justification for the level of funding requested in our FY 2018 CIP request. I want to thank you for the opportunity to speak with you today and appreciate your continued support in enabling us to provide our county students with efficient and sustainable schools that are bright, inviting, safe, and fully supportive of today's and tomorrow's educational programs.

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GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you.

MR. WATTS: Yes, sir.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Anybody in your group have something to say? Or are they just there for questions?

MR. WATTS: Questions, sir.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Anybody have any questions?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah, I have some questions. Where's the Superintendent?

MR. WATTS: I'm sorry, he's not available today.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: What does that mean? Is he just not interested?

MR. WATTS: No, I don't think that's the case --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Nobody knows where he is?

MR. WATTS: -- we had a planned County Council meeting this morning. We've gone through that. Part of that meeting was canceled this morning at 11:30. Excuse me, 10:30, we had a meeting.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: You know, following up on the Comptroller's comment there --

MR. WATTS: Yes, sir.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: -- Prince George's County receives the most money for education of any jurisdiction in the entire State.

MR. WATTS: Yes, sir.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: And they were fully funded again this year. You're asking for \$90-some-million from us today.

MR. WATTS: Yes, sir.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: And the fact that the County Executive and the Superintendent and none of the Council members, nobody felt it was important to show up is a little bit discouraging. That's my first comment.

MR. WATTS: Yes, sir.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: You might want to pass that on to them when you get back. Next time they ask for \$90 million they might want to come and address us themselves.

MR. WATTS: Yes, sir.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Secondly, I noticed that your top 12 priorities were rejected or deferred by the IAC for several reasons, lack of design progress, lack of feasibility studies, and lack of planning approval.

MR. WATTS: Yes, sir.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: And given that you just spoke about the enormous need for renovations and new buildings in your updated master plan, I guess my question is why didn't you do all the work on these 12 projects? What was the problem?

MR. WATTS: So some of the projects we are still in the planning phases. Stephen Decatur Middle School, we are there, we are ready to move forward with this project. Tulip Grove Elementary, we are going out to bid in the next month. And some of these other projects, as you stated, we are still in the planning process and we are a little behind on some of them.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: So you are asking for the money but you haven't done the planning?

MR. WATTS: We had asked initially at the beginning of this year, yes sir, we did.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Are you having difficulties getting that work done? Because, you know, we have the Secretary of Planning and the Secretary of the Department of General Services here. If you need assistance in and advice on technical or design or planning issues, the State would be happy to help the county if they can't get it done themselves.

MS. CHAISSON: We're actually in the throes of designing most of these. We might be a little bit behind in our designs in terms of DDSO submissions, but they are moving right along on schedule at this point.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: So they were just prematurely requesting the money before they got them done?

MS. CHAISSON: Well we're requesting the money for finishing the design and hiring the architects for the newer projects but we're using our own money to design --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Well I just know that the IAC deferred them because you didn't have the work done. I'm not, I'm just reading the report.

MS. CHAISSON: I know. The comments are a little old.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Okay. Any other questions?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah, I have a couple of questions. Because we have been hearing, or I have been hearing, a lot from parents and community members about unacceptably cold classrooms in Bowie and I hear that you are providing space heaters in some of those classrooms, which bring the temperature up into the low sixties. I read an article in the Capital Gazette where the Director of Building Services Sam Stefanelli, is he here?

MR. WATTS: Yes, he is.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Sam, how are you? I'm going to get to quote you in the newspaper. Like me, sometimes you may be misquoted but that's okay. But the quote is, the county doesn't have the money to replace all the failing heat systems at its schools so, quote, his department must do the best it can to provide temporary fixes. Those are the space heaters, I guess.

MR. STEFANELLI: Yeah, that didn't come out in the newspaper like it was told to the parents at the school.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Articulated --

MR. STEFANELLI: What we were talking about we had some issues and they were talking about Band-Aid approach to fixing heating units. What I was explaining to them is I'm trying to do this out of my operating expenses to keep the heat running. I don't have enough money in the operating expenses to replace --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Why is that, do you think?

MR. STEFANELLI: Because that's a capital, that's a capital expenditure. We use the capital program to replace equipment. That was the conversation we were having. And it was actually a very good conversation about the capital progress. And we're still working with the parents in Bowie. I was explaining the capital process so we can move forward. The issue was at I think Whitehall Elementary is where we're having the issue. There were several units that we're having trouble with. And I'm actually replacing two of those out of our operating budget because I have no other choice. However, that puts a damper on what we can, what we have left for preventative maintenance and the normal maintenance of our schools. But it wasn't that we don't have the funds to replace the equipment. I just can't replace equipment with operating costs.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Okay. So then --

MR. STEFANELLI: And I'm --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: -- somewhere else in the article there's some mention of 20 schools that don't have any heat at all. Where did that come from?

MR. STEFANELLI: That's not true.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: That's not true.

MR. STEFANELLI: Well what the conversation was about that if we get up in the morning and I have, I may have said 20, if I have 20 schools that heat is not on at this time my mechanics are going there first. Then they will work their way through other processes to get to schools, such as Whitehall, who had two classrooms. So we may not get there until later in the morning but we are coming.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Okay. So --

MR. STEFANELLI: Yeah.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: -- it went on, and this may not be accurate also. It said that you have 800 open work orders for heat related problems inside 230 school buildings.

MR. STEFANELLI: Yes. At the time that's what we had.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: What is it now?

MR. STEFANELLI: It, that changes daily.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Okay. So I'm glad to see the HVAC replacement projects being requested. That's terrific. But I guess I'm

having trouble understanding why if Caroline County can figure out how to put split systems in to heat and cool their classrooms for a de minimus amount of money, \$2,400 per classroom --

MR. STEFANELLI: And that's what we're looking to do at Whitehall. That's, what you --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah, but what about the other 229 schools, etcetera?

MR. STEFANELLI: Well the two, the issue with the heat is not necessarily that it needs to be replaced. It's just old. A lot of it is past its life expectancy. And when we get temperatures in the ten, 15 degrees, it struggles and it's a lot of care to keep the equipment operating. So we start, my staff starts at 4:00 in the morning every school morning to make sure that the kids have heat when they come, when they get there. But we do have issues with some of the older equipment overnight and in the morning. But we are there everyday to take care of these issues and to do our best to provide heat for the students.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Okay. So I have a little bit of concern because Prince George's County is a place that I go to a lot and visit, make a lot, it's a wonderful part of our State. Everybody there, all the elected officials claim that education is the top priority, one, two, three, four, five. You have Dr. Maxwell over there as the Superintendent, who, you know, is a tremendous asset. You've got Rushern Baker, the County Executive. Where the

heck is everybody? Nobody, you've got a delegation downstairs which is fabulously powerful. And all we hear is education is everything over there. Well where are some people that would stand up and say, yeah, this is a priority for us? And maybe they could listen to the fact that you have to send your people out at 4:00 in the morning to get some basic service provided. God knows what goes on with the air conditioning when it's hot. So who's in charge? Who's administering? Who's managing? Who's overseeing? I criticize Baltimore County for being negligent, why isn't Prince George's subject to that?

MR. STEFANELLI: All I can tell you is I'm a lifelong resident of Prince George's County, I take my job very seriously. My staff starts at 4:00 a.m., not because it's required to keep the equipment. We're there to ensure that when the kids start to arrive at school at 7:00 or 8:00 a.m., that we've got a three or four-hour window to make sure that we're not interrupting the educational process. That's something I decided to do on my own. It's not required by anybody. But sometimes there is no need for it. But we're there and we start our day that early just to assure, because the educational process is what's most important in my opinion.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Yeah. I don't think the Comptroller was directing that at you.

MR. STEFANELLI: Oh --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yes, God knows.

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GOVERNOR HOGAN: I think the staff is probably working very hard. I think he was directing it at the officials who didn't show up today.

MR. STEFANELLI: Well I didn't want you thinking --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: And quite frankly it is a little bit insulting because I heard some of your folks in Prince George's County say, including your County Executive say something about us cutting education funding for Prince George's County, which is complete nonsense. We fully funded every single penny according to the formulas. It's an increase over last year. It's every cent that you could possibly have been expecting. And they get more than every other jurisdiction in the State, including Baltimore City. And to say we don't get any support for education is ridiculous. And then to not show up here, none of them, no County Executive, no Senator, no Delegate, no Council member, no Superintendent to ask for \$90 million on top of the number one pile of money that anyone gets that they are complaining about? It's really insulting. And I think you should go back and tell them that. Hopefully they will watch this video, too.

MR. STEFANELLI: We will.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: And I'm tempted to hold up all the money until they show up to come talk to us but that probably wouldn't be fair to you and your students.

MR. STEFANELLI: We start getting up at 3:00 in the morning.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Yeah, I don't want to stop you from getting up and going to work.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah, but let me just ask you to call over to Caroline County and go over and check, unless you have some of those split units, they work beautifully.

MR. STEFANELLI: We actually, I met with our contractor yesterday about the Whitehall situation and that's exactly what we're looking to get.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: And how are you going to pay for that?

MR. STEFANELLI: I'm paying for that out of my operating. I have no choice. I'm providing electric heat right now. I have to provide a system for those two classrooms. So we're going to provide it out of operating costs.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Well the great news is we got you 100 percent of your operating funds.

MR. STEFANELLI: Thank you.

MR. WATTS: Thank you, sir. Thank you for listening.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: All right. Thank you very much. Next we've got Queen Anne's County.

MR. PILEWSKI: Good afternoon, Governor Hogan, Comptroller Franchot, and Treasurer Kopp. My name is Greg Pilewski. I'm the Interim

Superintendent for the Queen Anne's County Public Schools. Joining me today are Mr. Sid Pinder, our Director of Operations; and Ms. Carla Pullen, our Facilities Planner.

The Board of Education of Queen Anne's County wishes to extend our thank you to you and for the support and the generosity that you provide to us and our school system facilities and our needs. The State has provided millions of dollars for renovation and construction of our school buildings and our community is very appreciative in the investment in our county. In fact, this last year we have conducted a facilities assessment report which actually arms us with 20 years of data to be able to work with our local officials on our capital projects.

In summary our FY '18 projects include Grasonville Elementary School addition; the Kent Island High School fire alarm upgrade; the Kent Island High School energy management system; the Sudlersville Elementary School partial roof replacement; and the Sudlersville Elementary School exterior door replacement; and Bayside Elementary School generator.

In conclusion we hope that you find our projects sufficient for your consideration and our much needed funding request. Our staff is here to answer any questions or concern that you may have. And we thank you for your time and consideration and look forward to your continued partnership to improve our facilities in Queen Anne's County.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you very much all of you for coming. Any questions on Queen Anne's County?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: I'd like to just salute you for the Grasonville Elementary School. I went there in October to give them a Silver Hammer Award.

MR. PILEWSKI: Yes, that's right.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: But four years before you got barely an adequate report from that school and then all of a sudden you're up at 95 percent, which is up on Mount Olympus as far as taking care of the school. So it's a complete turn around and just, you know, kudos to whoever is sending the messages down as to what the proper management oversight should be.

MR. PILEWSKI: Certainly.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Job well done. And I'd like to see the, you know, the Sudlersville Elementary School get a new roof. I understand that it was built in 1914, the school.

MR. PILEWSKI: Yes, sir.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: So it probably isn't the first roof but give my hats off to your maintenance staff, particularly that, whoever turned around Grasonville.

MR. PILEWSKI: Thank you, sir.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you all very much.

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MR. PILEWSKI: Thank you.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Next we have Somerset County.

DR. GADDIS: Good afternoon. John Gaddis, Superintendent of Schools. Before I begin I'd like to introduce a number of people that came with us, who made the trek from Somerset County. We have Mrs. Danielle Haley, who is our Supervisor of Facilities and Capital Planning; we have Mrs. Tracie Barnemy, who is our Director of Schools; behind them we have our Board Chairman Retired Brigadier General Warner Sumpter; we have a Somerset County Commissioner Mr. Jerry Boston; over here we have Mr. Tom Davis, Deputy Superintendent of Schools; and Mr. Charles Fisher, Somerset County Commissioner Vice President, Vice Chair.

So Mr. Governor, we want to take the opportunity to thank you, to be able to talk to you today. You have our letter. I instead am going to talk to you about this project.

We've been here for a number of years. You know the importance of this project. The J.M. Tawes Vocational School is over 40 years old. The building that we have does not meet the needs of our students. Our county government, and thank you to our commissioners and the rest of the commissioners back home, were able to secure a \$7.4 million loan to be able to match the local portion of the project. I know that doesn't seem like a lot of money. But in Somerset County that is a tremendous amount of money. That

shows their commitment to the project but it shows their commitment to the board and our students. And so we are here to appeal the one project. We have worked very closely with all the agencies to make this happen. And we are looking forward to being able to offer a school that will help our children and our students become college and career ready and one that will be comparable to what is being built around the State.

We have done a lot of things. The Comptroller was just down at Deal Island Elementary School in December. And Governor, we appreciate you coming down. We have seen you more than any other Governor in a long time down in Somerset County and we appreciate that. Because we like to see --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: You're probably going to see me a few more times, too. I love it down there.

DR. GADDIS: Yeah, it's great. And I said to you two years ago, I pointed out the Governor J. Millard Tawes to your right and I asked you to come down besides the third Wednesday for the clam bake and you have. And --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: I've been down there probably more than anybody except Governor Tawes.

DR. GADDIS: Probably you have. You have. You have.

(Laughter.)

DR. GADDIS: So I'm not going to belabor the point. This is a very important project to us. And we need to move forward on this project and hope to have shovels in the ground in September.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: I just want to thank you for coming in today. And you know, I know that the IAC recommended deferring this request, \$14.7 million to replace the J. Millard Tawes Technology and Career Center. And you know, I don't want to see your only request be deferred. And I know they cited a lack of design progress. You know, I understand that Somerset County doesn't possess the resources that some of the large school systems do and what they have at their disposal. And you know, I just want to reiterate that whatever assistance we can provide if the IAC, if the State Board, if our Planning Secretary, if our Secretary of DGS or any of the design, if we can help you with that so we can get the thing up to speed. Because I'd really like to see this approved. And I understand their concern of the IAC. But you know, it's, we have a lot of expertise at our disposal. We want to help you. I absolutely would love to see this project move forward. And I'm not sure exactly what we can provide. But I want to get it done. In the worse case scenario if we can't get this thing done now if we come back in May we have another round. And I want to get everything completed so we can get you approved by then at the latest.

DR. GADDIS: Well our big issue was waiting on the county funding, and we had to wait and they worked with USDA.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Yeah, I got you.

DR. GADDIS: Once we got that we were able to move forward.

That's been the last thing.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: I see. So you didn't have the county funding to do all the --

DR. GADDIS: Exactly. We had to wait on --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: And now you got the county funding you're catching up.

DR. GADDIS: And I have been told that would be done, we're on track for everything.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: All right.

DR. GADDIS: For February.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Well that's terrific. And you know, I'm 100 percent in favor of the request and --

DR. GADDIS: Well we appreciate that. We appreciate the support.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Yeah. Thank you.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: So I happen to think it's a terrific project also. So you're saying it can be, the design can be prepared for documents in time for it at least to be considered for -- okay, great.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Perfect.

TREASURER KOPP: The day before Valentine's Day.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: What?

TREASURER KOPP: It's the day before Valentine's Day.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Oh, wow.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Maybe Somerset County is going to feel
the love.

DR. GADDIS: There you go.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah.

(Laughter.)

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Let me ask about, I'm glad that
you're here, Dr. Gaddis, because I just wanted to ask you about your concern that
the process whereby the IAC has determined what the per square foot
reimbursement rate is going to be.

DR. GADDIS: Right.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: It's six percent lower than the
fiscal year 2017 figure which, you know, that's even with a four percent year to
year cost escalation factored in. Obviously that's good news. But I think there
are some concerns about whether the figures are accurate for a community like
yours where there's not a lot of competition.

DR. GADDIS: That has been, and thank you for bringing that up,
that has been one of our concerns. And we have talked about that with the,

number one, this has been a double, well we've been hit twice. With the reduction to 315 per square feet, that's cut about \$2 million off the project. So from the top we had to cut that. Ms. Haley has looked at projects that have been on the Shore. We're coming up with a number closer to \$400 a square foot because of the travel time to the Shore. A lot of the work that has to be done is by companies across the Bay. There is a significant cost to house, to travel, and to bring materials down. So we are very concerned about that square foot rate and what it means to us, especially on the lower, lowest part of the Shore which is where they are going to have to come to do this project.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Well there's no question that's a concern. But I can't imagine it's \$100 a square foot to take things all the way down to Somerset.

DR. GADDIS: Well we've --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: I'll drive them down there for that.

MS. HALEY: I think another issue, or a bigger issue, is a lack of competition. As we know construction is coming back --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Yeah. Nobody is bidding. That's a bigger problem probably.

MS. HALEY: -- so why would they travel? So that's more of a problem --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Because you don't have the construction companies nearby and they don't want to go all the way down there.

DR. GADDIS: Exactly.

MS. HALEY: And we've reached out. I mean, we run into this all the time. We reach out as much as we can but we still, it's hard to get --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Yeah.

MS. HALEY: This is an appealing project.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: I understand.

MS. HALEY: So we're hopeful and we're employing every strategy possible to help, the Department of Planning and the IAC, to help --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Good.

MS. HALEY: -- DGS, everyone, every strategy we can --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: That's wonderful.

MS. HALEY: -- to cut costs. So we are --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Maybe we'll have to find some contractors we can lean on to go down there and get you a better price.

MS. HALEY: -- construction management materials and keep this thing as affordable as possible. Because we can't afford to go --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Can I ask Dr. Salmon, were areas like Somerset, did they have, when you looked at the recent bids that were

used to make your determination of the square foot reimbursement, were areas like Somerset included as far as bids? Or was it just --

DR. SALMON: I'm going to have to let Joan answer that question. That's not my expertise.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Oh good. Fine.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Yeah.

MS. SCHAEFER: We looked at what bids we had available. And we did say all along that we would come back as we got further down into the process to see if we could get a better handle on costs.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Okay.

DR. SALMON: And we did have a conversation about this issue and our concern about the two things that we just, that John just talked about. So we'll definitely revisit it all. And we had anticipated with their guarantee of getting the planning to us that we would be ready for the next round.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Yeah, it's a real concern. I understand completely the problem. We had a similar discussion earlier today, this morning, with Garrett and Allegany --

DR. SALMON: Right.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: -- but they are getting bids from Pennsylvania and West Virginia are close by. But you are kind of at the end of the road there and it's difficult to get somebody.

DR. GADDIS: We are. We've even talked about the Tidewater area. But again, we're two and a half, three hours away.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Yeah. All right. And I don't have any more questions. Do you?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: When they told me I was, I asked about how to get to Deal Island Elementary School, which by the way one of the all time, if you ever look on my Facebook I've got right up there the kids singing thank you to the custodians.

DR. GADDIS: Mm-hmm. It was terrific.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: I mean, it was a real unbelievable event. Anyway, I was told to cross a bridge, turn right, head south, and drive to the end of the world. And I finally made it down there.

DR. GADDIS: That's about it. That's fine.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: You know, that's the way you get to Deale in Anne Arundel County also.

DR. GADDIS: Exactly.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: All right. Thank you all very much.

DR. GADDIS: All right. Thank you very much.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Next up we have the mother county, St. Mary's County. I see Delegate Ray has joined us, some of the folks from the county, the school system. Good afternoon.

MR. SMITH: Good afternoon. And from Somerset to St. Mary's, similar directions but just --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Yeah, you have a similar problem.

MR. SMITH: -- just keep on going. My name is Scott Smith. I'm the Superintendent of the St. Mary's County Public Schools. And joining me today is our delegate, Delegate Deb Ray. Also with me is Dr. Jeff Walker, who is the Assistant Superintendent of Supporting Services; Ms. Kimberly Howe, who is the Director of Capital Planning; and Ms. Mary Hayden, Capital Planning Project Analyst. And so good afternoon, Governor Hogan, Comptroller Franchot, and Treasurer Kopp.

I want to begin by thanking the Board of Public Works, the Interagency Committee on School Construction, and the Public School Construction Program for your continued support of our facilities. Our 2018 State CIP request includes two projects. They are Park Hall Elementary School roof and HVAC systemic renovation and sewer lift station project, and Hollywood Elementary School roof and HVAC systemic renovation and emergency power project. Each of these projects address the need to maintain existing infrastructure.

While we track all of our building components for repair or replacement via the comprehensive maintenance plan, we additionally track work orders as a way to further document the need for projects and adjust the capital

project schedule as necessary. And we provided you with a handout of the details of this tracking and justification with regard to each of these requested projects.

Each of these projects span two fiscal years of State funding. Our fiscal year 2018 State CIP request includes \$415,000 for Park Hall Elementary School roof and HVAC systemic renovation and sewer lift station for \$400,000 for Hollywood Elementary School roof and HVAC systemic renovation and emergency power project. At this time we've received a recommendation from the IAC for 100 percent of the requested funding for 2018. And so we thank you absolutely for that. We respectfully request that you approve this recommendation and we're here to answer any questions you may have.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Well I support the request. I don't have any questions. But I do want to give you a shout out because the reports from the IAC note that you do a great job of maintaining your older schools and that you demonstrate both good planning and excellent maintenance. So I want to thank you for that.

MR. SMITH: Thank you very much.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: And these requests are very well justified.
Any questions?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Are you going to prepare for the enrollment increase that --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: So we have about 190 students that came in this year and we were forecasting about 160 students next year. The wonderful thing about the enrollment increases is that they have been spread across all grade levels and so it's easier for us to absorb. But we're in very good stead and we're happy to be growing the way we are.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Great. Thank you very much. Delegate Ray, anything you wanted to add? Or --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah.

DELEGATE RAY: Well I just want to say thank you for this and when you come down be sure to visit Spring Ridge Middle School.

MR. SMITH: Spring Ridge Middle School, yes.

DELEGATE RAY: And you will see how far they can stretch a dollar. They do a fantastic job on keeping our schools --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Where is Spring Ridge Middle?

DELEGATE RAY: Down by my house. It's just south of the base. About three miles south of the base.

MR. SMITH: Again, just keep on going.

DELEGATE RAY: Yeah.

MR. SMITH: Keep on going.

DELEGATE RAY: Almost to Ridge.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Go down, turn left, to keep on going --

DELEGATE RAY: Yes, sir.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: All right. Thank you all very much.

MR. SMITH: Thank you.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Next up, Washington County. From one end of the State to the other. I see Senator Serafini is here, some representatives from the county, the school system. Good afternoon.

DR. WILCOX: Good afternoon. Governor, with me today is Senator Serafini. Thank you for that introduction. Also Dr. Boyd Michael. Dr. Michael is the Deputy Superintendent, and with him is Rob Rollins who is our Director of Facilities. They weren't going to come up but they decided since some groups kind of got grilled for not having an entourage, we brought ours. So thank you. Thank you very much.

Governor Hogan, Comptroller Franchot, Treasurer, State Superintendent Salmon, thank you very much for having us here today. We're honored to be in front of you. Our board of education, our county commissioners, and most importantly the students of Washington County respectfully request your consideration of our WCPS appeal for additional funding to support the capital improvement program, our CIP program, for 2018. But most importantly we want to say thank you for your past support.

We want to thank the Governor for spending time in Hagerstown helping to support some of the initiatives we have going on there, helping to

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actually revitalize the City of Hagerstown. We want to thank the Comptroller for his continued support. He has been in our district so much that we have a parking space reserved for him at some of our newer facilities. We want to thank you very much for that. You are the only Comptroller that I know where students actually stood up and cheered for you and saying, you know, it was a little actually embarrassing because I thought they were going to stand and cheer for the Superintendent. But instead they kept, kept saying, Franchot, Franchot, Franchot.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah, they must have made a mistake.

(Laughter.)

DR. WILCOX: It was a little bit scary.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: That is kind of scary.

(Laughter.)

DR. WILCOX: I will also say thank you -- I know, it really is. He was handing out medallions right and left.

(Laughter.)

GOVERNOR HOGAN: That usually gets them chanting.

DR. WILCOX: Also, Treasurer Kopp, thank you for your wise counsel and advice. Every time we come down for legislative day we stop by, she

makes time for us, and actually talks to us about innovative ways to fund our programs and our schools.

So I would simply like to say to each of you, thank you very much for all that you do. What we're asking for is just the full funding of two projects. In fact, I would say to you this is the lowest request that we've made in the last ten years. I think it's primarily because we are doing a very good job of taking care of our facilities. The two gentlemen behind me from the school district have designed a program to maintain our facilities in a way that I think is exemplary. I think most recently we had a 92.45 composite rating for our control of our facilities, which I believe is the third highest ranking in the State. So we're very proud of what we do. We take care of the resources that you've bestowed upon us and that our community has supported over the years.

We're asking for \$700,000 to fully fund our Fountaindale Elementary School HVAC program. We're also asking at Northern Middle School for an electrical switch gear replacement. That appeal is for \$146,000, which brings our total request to this Board to \$846,000 in full funding our projects.

And again, we want to say thank you very much. We think in Washington County we're doing a great job on behalf of our kids, we're doing a great job on behalf of our taxpayers and our community. And we stand ready to answer any questions that you have about the things that we're trying to do.

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GOVERNOR HOGAN: Well thank you, Dr. Wilcox. And you know, I just want to congratulate you for all of your great work on behalf of Washington County and congratulate you, reluctantly congratulate you on your new appointment as Superintendent of Charlotte-Mecklenburg School System. It's going to be a big loss for Washington County and for the State of Maryland, but I want to congratulate you. Actually I have a niece who is a teacher in your new system and eight family members that go to school in your new system. So I know they are going to be in good hands.

DR. WILCOX: Thank you.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: You know, by all accounts your team has done an outstanding job on maintenance. Your reports consistently show that you're, you know, giving considerable attention to maintaining facilities. Your staff works really collaboratively to ensure that all the support is given. And I just want to congratulate you and thank you for everything you've done there. I see the former Senator from Washington County is also here to lobby on your behalf, which I don't think he should be doing because he's a senior member of my team. But I see him staring at me in the back of the room.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: But we appreciated working with your team. And of course, you know, we just committed \$7 million to the revitalization of Downtown Hagerstown and which includes enhancing

educational opportunities in the city's core. And I want to thank you for your outstanding leadership in that regard as well. And I wish you the best of luck.

DR. WILCOX: Well thank you very much. And you know, Senator Shank, I know --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: We still call him Senator.

DR. WILCOX: Well, thank you. We still, he has been a constant source of inspiration to us. He calls on a regular basis to make sure that we know what's going on in the State. He was gracious enough to perhaps forward my name to you to be on the Longitudinal Data Systems Board. I want to thank you for that appointment. It's reluctantly that I had to offer my resignation this week going forward and decline the opportunity to go forward.

But I also wanted to say that Senator Serafini has been really an inspiration to all of us. The way that he has talked to us about fiscal responsibility, the way he's talked to us about making sure that we don't ignore the structural deficit so we have, for example, some more funds like (indiscernible) have really been meaningful to the district. And quite honestly I think behind the scenes most of you should know that Senator Serafini has been a tremendous champion for this innovative new partnership that we have for the classroom space that, Governor, you came down to support.

I think we may be the first school district in the State of Maryland who is actually working with the University System of Maryland, we're working

with the Maryland Theater, we're working with a number of other agencies to build a new school facility for our kids. This facility will serve over 300 kids at a cost to the school district of only \$4 million.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: That's great.

DR. WILCOX: I think it's tremendous when you take a look at this. And so we want to say thank you.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Well thank you very much. And I agree with Senator Serafini, not only did he give you really great fiscal advice but he's doing the same thing with his fellow senators. And we appreciate that. He's the fiscal watchdog down there --

DR. WILCOX: Thank you.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: -- and a great guy to have on our team.

TREASURER KOPP: Could --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Did you want to say anything, Senator? Or anybody else that wanted to make any comments? Or --

SENATOR SERAFINI: I'll try to be quick. So thank you for recognizing Dr. Wilcox. I have to say it's a sad loss for us in a tremendous way. He's been on the --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: That's a little bit bigger school system, though. It's hard to compete.

SENATOR SERAFINI: It is. It actually is. And a little warmer climate some times of the year, too. But it's been, you know, it's been tremendous to work with him. It's been tremendous to try to be a leader in innovation. I appreciate that Dr. Smith earlier mentioned some of the things that we've done and that they want to look at in Montgomery County, which I'm excited for too.

I have to say Dr. Michael is back here. You know, the maintenance that we have in our program is because of him. We put air conditioning in 20 years ago because we saw the problem well ahead and we worked with our people in our community. I was amazed that we had schools that were built for Florida, I thought, not for Western Maryland. We'd have to go outside when it was cold and when it was hot, it was really hot. So I'm thankful that we've done a good job of maintaining the properties.

I just want to say their ask this year is under \$1 million. We've been at \$8 million to \$10 million in previous years. So when people say, gee, how can we come and ask you all for your help downtown? Seven million is still going to be under what our historical ask has been. So we're trying to be as efficient as possible.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: That's because of your fiscal responsibility and restraint.

SENATOR SERAFINI: That's exactly right. No, not mine, it's the people behind me. So I just want to say we're losing a great man but he has brought so much to our community --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Yeah.

SENATOR SERAFINI: -- and I'm glad that you recognize him. Because it means so much to us in our community.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you very much, Senator.

SENATOR SERAFINI: Thank you for your coordination.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank the whole team. Appreciate it very much.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: I wanted to just thank Dr. Wilcox because, you know, I've been here six hours, and you're whatever number, next to last, and it's very clearly the best presentation. And I want to thank you for saying that. And Senator Serafini, I, if you say some more nice things about me, Dr. Wilcox, put another million on there. Because --

(Laughter.)

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: -- I see Senator Shank back there and --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: We'll take it out of Shank's salary.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah. But seriously I did have one question about Western Heights Middle. Are you planning to fix that roof

over there with your own county money? Or are you going to put in a request to fix the roof?

DR. WILCOX: I'm going to defer to Dr. Michael as to what our plan is at Western Heights.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Both the '15 and '16 maintenance reports, I think, said --

DR. MICHAEL: It was heating --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: -- that the roof was a problem.

DR. MICHAEL: Yes. In our out years we're continuing to maintain our roof there at Western Heights. In our out years we have a renovation scheduled for Western Heights. And we'll take care of a massive renovation when we do that on the roof as well.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Great. And just to correct the record, the kids that were singing thank you to the custodians that I have up on my website --

DR. MICHAEL: Clear Spring Elementary.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: -- is Clear Spring Elementary. I apologize. The Deal Elementary kids had something else going on.

DR. MICHAEL: When you said that I thought maybe it happened in two counties. I remember it happened once.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: No, it was you guys. Thanks a lot.

DR. WILCOX: Thank you all.

TREASURER KOPP: Could I just add my thanks --

DR. WILCOX: Please.

TREASURER KOPP: -- to you for all that you have done here. We will miss you significantly in Maryland. My recollection is my county many years ago stole the Superintendent from Charlotte-Mecklenburg. Maybe --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: They're getting back at us?

TREASURER KOPP: Yeah. But it's tough to see you go. I also went with my family a couple of months ago to Bester Elementary just to see what was happening. And you guys did a terrific job out there.

DR. WILCOX: Thank you.

TREASURER KOPP: I congratulate you. It should be a model for the State.

DR. WILCOX: Thank you. One of the things about Bester is that it's aligned with what's called the Community of Hope. And what we have are a number of social agencies that are helping our kids in that school and helping the larger community. The San Mar Children's Home was able to embrace that school so our young people there get everything from, you know, the breakfast is provided through --

TREASURER KOPP: Right.

DR. WILCOX: -- our Fresh Start breakfast program. But all the way through some of the medical services that their families can't afford for them, they get extra support in terms of their educational outcomes as well. We're very pleased.

The Principal there, Kristi Bachtell, Bachtell, I always say that name wrong, Bachtell, is an outstanding educational leader. They were just written up in one of the national foundations for a model for how schools can wrap their arms around kids.

Just one point of personal privilege, if I may? I will tell you that it's wonderful as you get to leave an organization the accolades that you get. But quite honestly, I stand on the shoulders of giants. Betty Morgan, who was the National Superintendent of the Year, was the Superintendent who really set me up for success. Then I have great team members like Dr. Michael, like Rob, and others. Quite honestly, oftentimes superintendents get a lot of accolades for the success of the system when it really is the people who lead them. You are going to meet in just a moment Donna Hanlin, who is the new Superintendent at Wicomico. She was the Chief Academic Officer in Washington County prior to my coming and she served with me for several years. And our support and our success academically is largely at the hands of her. So I want to thank all of those people who have gone before me.

And I will tell you that many of you know that I was a Superintendent in Louisiana, I was a Superintendent in Florida, I went to New York City and worked at Scholastic, but I'm a better Superintendent today for having been in Maryland. So thank you very much for all that you all have done for me and made me a better person and a better man. Thank you all.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you, Dr. Wilcox.

(Applause.)

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Last but certainly not least, it's the problem of having a W before your county, but Wicomico County is up next. I see the good delegate, Delegate Carl Anderton is here as well as the leaders from the county school system. Good afternoon.

DR. HANLIN: Good afternoon. Difficult act to follow, but you are correct, last but not least. Good afternoon, Governor Hogan, Treasurer Kopp, and Comptroller Franchot. My name is Donna Hanlin and I am the new Superintendent in Wicomico County --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Congratulations.

DR. HANLIN: - as of July 1. I'm originally from Salisbury and very glad to be home. So thank you very much. With us I have our Director of Facilities and Planning, or our Director of Planning and Construction, I should say, Leisl Ashby. I have Cathy Townsend, Dr. Cathy Townsend, who is our Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services. I have Matt Auchey, who

is our Facilities Planner. And definitely, again, last but not least Delegate Carl Anderton, who is a huge support to our school system.

So in front of you you have our specific capital project requirements for FY 2018 and supporting project profiles for your consideration. We are very proud to note that Pittsville Elementary and Middle School received a superior maintenance rating, inspection rating, in 2017. And we'd also like to thank Comptroller Franchot for the recent Silver Hammer Award to Northwestern Elementary School.

We believe that both of these recognitions are significant, are a reflection of our judicious ability or our ability or our desire to make sure that our students and staff and community members are, have facilities that are safe and are clean and are equipped for learning everyday.

Wicomico County prioritizes our capital needs based upon an established FQI, our facilities quality index which provides an overall quality score for each of our buildings. And these data also provide our community with a quick easy to understand concept or understanding regarding the current condition and program needs of each of our individual buildings.

We're pleased to share that all of our projects that we're here discussing today are currently in our County Executive's proposed FY 2018 CIP. Of greatest importance is our priority one request, that is construction funding for the West Salisbury Elementary School project so that we can continue

construction in FY 2018 and we can open that new building in the Fall of 2018, for the 2018-19 school year.

We have discussed with the IAC the importance of funding this project within two fiscal years versus three. We're working diligently towards the necessary fast track construction efforts and anticipate achieving LEED Silver certification. We were able to avoid escalation costs by maintaining the project's very tight design schedule and received favorable bids within the overall project budget.

The West Salisbury community is extremely excited for the replacement building moving forward in the future. Even before I was appointed, I came for the groundbreaking before school, on the last day of school actually. And it was so heartwarming to see all of those students with shovels in their hands. They are so excited in that community for a new school.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: That's terrific.

DR. HANLIN: Our next item is priority three funding request for the above ceiling system requirements at Parkside High School. This is integral to our priority two HVAC project at Parkside, which has been fully funded. This project was originally proposed as a limited renovation but due to funding constraints has been restructured as two systemic projects to address the 1974 mechanical equipment and associated systems.

Our next request is priority four, which is the partial roof replacement at Wicomico Middle School. This building's original construction dates back to 1931. The applicable roofing areas are 23 to 24 years old and are part of our roof refurbishment plan. We had to replace a small roof area this past summer due to failure as part of the HVAC renovation and we're really anxious to complete the remainder of this project. Much needed work.

And our final request is our priority five project, which is initial construction funding for a limited renovation to Delmar Elementary School. This project has already received planning approval and schematic design approval. It will address several building systems, including HVAC, ceilings, and lighting to name a few, plus a new elevator to serve the second floor. Architectural improvements include upgrades to the cafeteria and gymnasium as well as enclosing existing open space classroom areas.

We appreciate the continued support of the Board of Public Works as we strive to address the ongoing needs in our capital improvement program. Thank you so much for your time and your consideration and for allowing us to share with you these critical funding requests here today.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you very much.

DR. HANLIN: I'm happy to answer your questions.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: How about Delegate Anderton? Do you have any comments or anything you want to say before we start drilling with questions?

DELEGATE ANDERTON: Yeah, yeah, no, no. Madam Treasurer, Mr. Comptroller, Mr. Governor, you know, first off let me say I appreciate how often you guys come to the Shore. You know. We do have the historical sense of feeling deficient but we don't feel that anymore. And it's great. You know. And I personally have seen you in Crisfield several times and it's always good, you know, down on the lower end of our State.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: I've actually seen you in bars in Crisfield.

DELEGATE ANDERTON: Yeah, I guess so. Yeah.

(Laughter.)

DELEGATE ANDERTON: Yeah, I guess so. Absolutely. So but

--

GOVERNOR HOGAN: You were discussing school funding --

DELEGATE ANDERTON: Discussing schools, absolutely. And the very nuanced nature of that, absolutely. But no, we're blessed, I'm blessed to be here to represent Wicomico County. This is the joy of my life, to be in this position. And so, you know, I'm grateful to everything that you guys do for us. You know, you always come through for us in the end and I rest comfortably knowing that. And so I have no doubt in my mind, you know, the number one

project being West Salisbury. That school, that new construction will be a centerpiece for that community. It will be a community center aside from a school and so, you know, I know that it will be very, I'm very confident, I think we can leave smiling knowing that we'll be okay there. And you know, so --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: I think you might be okay.

DELEGATE ANDERTON: I'm just grateful. And I like hearing that. So --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: All right. Well thank you --

DELEGATE ANDERTON: Absolutely.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: -- very much. Any questions?

TREASURER KOPP: I --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah, I was just going to say yesterday I said, boy, what a nice guy that Delegate Anderton is. And the response was, yeah, I'd kind of like to go have a beer with him someday.

(Laughter.)

GOVERNOR HOGAN: He's fun to have a beer with.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah. Yeah. But I do have a question about the bids that you mentioned, Madam Superintendent.

DR. HANLIN: Mm-hmm.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: For the West Salisbury Elementary replacement. Are those coming in do you think in, down in Wicomico County, anywhere in that six percent savings range that is being --

DR. HANLIN: I'm going to ask Mrs. Ashby to respond.

MS. ASHBY: Six percent, I'm sorry, what are you referring to?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: In other words, there's a six percent drop in construction estimates per square foot, which is great. Because we, that means we can build more with less. But some jurisdictions like yours, I think, would indicate that the competitive bids are not coming in as low as that because of the distance.

MS. ASHBY: That would be correct. Similar to what Somerset is experiencing --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah.

MS. ASHBY: -- we had to make some tough value engineering decisions around the construction document phase because the CD estimate was revised to reflect the fluctuation we were receiving specifically to the Shore. Several millions dollars worth of work had bid in the area, some of which wound up getting canceled. Thankfully within a few months of that when we did go out on the street with the subcontractor bids they came in within our budget. But again, still higher than I think some of the Western Shore counties have been experiencing thus far.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Thank you very much.

MS. ASHBY: Thank you.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you all very much. Thanks for coming down.

DR. HANLIN: Thank you. We look forward to seeing you in Salisbury next month, Governor Hogan and Comptroller.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: We'll be there.

DR. HANLIN: Yes.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: We look -- what's that?

SECRETARY MCDONALD: You just need to vote on Item 14 before you close the meeting up.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: What's that?

GOVERNOR HOGAN: I've got to do what?

(Laughter.)

SECRETARY MCDONALD: Vote on the Item 14. I just want to remind you before you close the meeting up.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: I'm not closing the meeting yet.

SECRETARY MCDONALD: Okay. Good.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Not at all. We're just getting started.

(Laughter.)

SECRETARY MCDONALD: Okay.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: But I want to thank all the superintendents. I guess they're all gone now. But we want to thank them for joining us. I'd like to make a motion before we go with the final motion on Item 14, actually. We had this discussion with Howard County earlier, similar conversation to what we had last year with respect to this mold issue. And the Howard County government leaders and the Howard County Board of Education both have serious concerns and problems. I understand that there's a report that you guys are finalizing that we're about to see. There was a discussion today which I wasn't pleased with the answers on, but I asked about the \$9.6 million of this seems to be related to the mold remediation issue, which the Superintendent seemed to say there wasn't a mold problem ever, which is the same thing she said last year. The County government disagrees. The County Board of Education disagrees. So I'm going to recommend that we pull the \$9.6 million request specifically related to these issues out of the request until we have a chance to review the report that you guys are working on and we can really assess what's going on with this mold issue. Is there a second?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Second.

TREASURER KOPP: Could I -- it looks like the Superintendent -

-

DR. SALMON: No, I just wanted to ask the Governor. I am assuming, we have a report from them that we've requested.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Okay.

DR. SALMON: So that's what I'm hoping to find when we go back. And I think Joan has said there is some kind of a report. So you know --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Well as soon as we can be satisfied --

DR. SALMON: -- we'll get you some kind of information.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: -- on the fact that, I mean, we've actually had discussions from the leaders on the local level --

DR. SALMON: Right.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: -- who are very concerned about the issue.

DR. SALMON: Right.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: And they do not want to let it go unresolved.

DR. SALMON: We'll get you whatever we can find as soon as possible.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: So I'm, before I make a motion on the whole rest of the package, I want to withhold \$9.6 million from Howard County's request until we can get a chance to review this issue.

DR. SALMON: Okay.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: It could be at our next meeting in two weeks, or it could never happen. I don't know.

DR. SALMON: As soon as possible.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: We'll wait and see.

DR. SALMON: We'll get it to you.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: All right.

TREASURER KOPP: Governor, I would not normally agree with this because it's holding up money for school construction that is needed. But if the Superintendent does have some information that she wants to look at --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Yeah.

TREASURER KOPP: -- and come back to us, I, within the next couple of weeks --

DR. SALMON: Absolutely.

TREASURER KOPP: -- I think that's an appropriate and --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Yeah.

DR. SALMON: It will be sooner than that.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Great. So it's been motioned and seconded, and the vote is three-oh to temporarily withhold this money until we resolve that issue. And then I'd also, is there a motion on the remaining issues with respect to --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Move approval.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: -- the preliminary Capital Improvement Plan?

TREASURER KOPP: Favorable.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Favorable? Three-nothing. Are we done now, Madam Secretary? Now can I say it? Thank you very much for coming. It was a great day.

SECRETARY MCDONALD: Yes. Thank you.

(Whereupon, at 4:27 p.m., the meeting was concluded.)