

EDUCATION

Description

The Henrico County Public School system is responsible for the construction, operation and maintenance of educational facilities and programs in the County. The School Board, elected by the voters of Henrico County by magisterial district, is charged with providing a total educational environment to prepare the students of today for the world of tomorrow. The Superintendent, appointed by the School Board as the Chief Administrative Officer, is charged with establishing and supervising the policies of the Henrico County Public Schools in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia, the regulations adopted by the State Board of Education, and the directives of the Henrico County School Board, which are guided by the mission statement: *Henrico County Public Schools, an innovative leader in educational excellence, will actively engage our students in diverse educational, social, and civic learning experiences that inspire and empower them to become contributing citizens.*

The Divisions of Instruction, Administrative Services, Operations, Finance, and School Board and Superintendent have been established to accomplish the educational objectives of the County. A description of each follows.

In FY2015-16, the Division of Instruction will provide instructional programs to 23,166 elementary school students (grades K-5); 11,413 middle school students (grades 6-8) and 15,647 high school students (grades 9-12). This Division includes the departments of

Elementary Education, Secondary Education, Career and Technical Education, Exceptional Education, Technology and Information Services, and Staff Development.

The Division of Administrative Services provides support to instructional and non-instructional programs through recruitment, selection, assignment, and evaluation of personnel. Additionally, this Division provides support to the other Divisions in the School system. This includes educational research, evaluation, student testing and assessment, program audit services, curriculum development, records management, facility monitoring, system-wide planning services, and coordination of programs promoting International Education. Finally, the Division provides support systems for employees in Human Resources and Student Health Services; and analyzes current regulatory/legal and economic development for their affect on schools.

The Division of Operations provides support for building construction and maintenance, warehousing, pupil transportation, and the student breakfast and lunch programs for all schools.

The Division of Finance includes the areas of School Finance, Budget, Payroll, and General Services. The Division of the School Board and the Superintendent is responsible for compliance requirements of Federal and State laws, regulations, and standards.

Annual Fiscal Plan

Description	FY14 Actual	FY15 Original	FY16 Approved	Change 15 to 16
Personnel	\$ 398,002,203	\$ 413,725,743	\$ 425,894,525	2.9%
Operation	53,758,920	65,458,504	63,255,830	(3.4%)
Capital	11,289,890	13,291,837	15,545,030	17.0%
Debt Service	35,565,166	35,799,793	35,411,580	(1.1%)
Total	\$ 498,616,179	\$ 528,275,877	\$ 540,106,965	2.2%
Personnel Complement	6,642.25	6,677.05	6,736.55	59.50
Average Daily Membership	49,343	49,812	50,226	414

*The personnel complement in FY2014-15 reflects the Superintendent's Proposed Budget.

Education (cont'd)

Objectives

- To strengthen instruction across the curriculum and improve student performance at all grade levels in reading, writing, math, and analytical skills.
- To meet safety and security guidelines to foster an environment where all members of the HCPS community can safely learn, work, and play.
- To ensure a level of staffing consistent with programmatic and support service needs.
- To provide additional teacher training opportunities.
- To meet compliance requirements of Federal and State laws, regulations, and standards.
- To operate and maintain all facilities and equipment in a manner to ensure optimal returns on the public investment.

Budget Highlights

The total budget for Henrico County Public Schools (HCPS) in FY2015-16, which includes the General Fund budget, School Cafeteria Fund, State and Federal Grants Fund, and the education portion of the Debt Service Fund, is \$540,106,965. This reflects an increase of \$11,831,088 or 2.2 percent when compared to the FY2014-15 approved budget. Included in the increase is funding for a partial year salary adjustment.

Of the total \$540,106,965, \$441,171,628 of that amount is the General Fund budget for HCPS. Put another way, the General Fund budget consists of 81.7 percent of the total HCPS budget. The General Fund reflects a \$10,385,968, or 2.4 percent increase when compared to the FY2014-15 budget. Of the General Fund total, State revenues fund \$239,009,800, or 54.2 percent of the FY2014-15 budget. Federal revenues account for \$350,000, while the remaining \$201,811,828 comes from local resources.

There are two items of note that are worthy of mention. First, the General Fund budget for HCPS accounts for 56.1 percent of the total General Fund budget. Second, three-fourths of new revenues in the FY2015-16 County General Fund budget are being dedicated to HCPS. Both of these statistics, combined with the fact the entire incremental budget increase in FY2014-15 was dedicated to HCPS, exemplifies the commitment

the Board of Supervisors makes to education as it is the largest funding priority on an annual basis.

In an effort to improve test scores at 28 schools that failed to fully meet State accreditation, an additional \$1,150,000 in local resources was provided for school improvement efforts in the FY2015-16 General Fund budget. The FY2015-16 cost center for School Improvement is \$1,815,588 and includes 15.5 FTEs, of which 13.5 are instructional positions to provide individualized instructional assistance to students who require it in subjects such as reading and math. Not included in the cost center are additional supports redirected to assist with the 28 schools, including additional classroom teachers to reduce class sizes. Included in the new resources for school improvement is \$150,000 for a pilot program for afterschool academic enrichment, which will provide incentive payments for teachers to participate at a number of schools. The total for the pilot program is \$300,000 as HCPS was able to redirect \$150,000 to match the County's additional resources.

Also included in the FY2015-16 budget for HCPS is an additional \$100,000 for residency enforcement. These funds will be utilized to ensure that all students in Henrico County Public Schools meet residency requirements.

The staffing level for FY2015-16 will reflect an average class size of 21.4:1 for elementary schools, 23.1:1 for middle schools, and 23.1:1 for high schools. This reflects no change when compared to staffing levels in the current fiscal year. To maintain these staffing levels, a total of 37.0 FTE positions are being added for teacher positions at a cost of \$2,331,300. 16.0 of those will go towards a teacher reserve and allocated to schools when needed. 1.0 FTE position will be dedicated to CTE for a heavy equipment repair class while the remaining 20.0 FTE positions will go towards elementary and secondary education positions. It should be noted the position for the heavy equipment repair class is a collaborative effort between HCPS and Central Automotive Maintenance (CAM). The class will be taught at the western CAM facility.

In order to provide a 21st century education to the students in Henrico County, Education's FY2015-16 General Fund and Special Revenue Fund Budgets includes \$15,093,642 for technology. Included in this amount is funding for the laptop leases. The laptop initiative began in FY2001-02 when the School system

Education (cont'd)

entered into an agreement to provide laptop computers to all high school students and 7th and 8th graders. In FY2002-03, the agreement was amended to include 6th grade students. The projected cost for the laptop initiative in FY2015-16 is \$12,782,979 with an additional \$1.3 million allocated for lease payments associated with middle school laptop computers and elementary school laptops and print management systems.

There are two components of the HCPS budget that are in the Special Revenue Fund. Those are the School Cafeteria Fund and the State and Federal Grants Fund. Both funds do not have any local tax dollars allocated in them. In the case of grants in the State and Federal Grant Fund that require a local match, those dollars are provided through utilization of General Fund expenses.

The FY2015-16 budget for the School Cafeteria Fund is \$23,772,232, which reflects an increase of \$2,348,486, or 11.0 percent when compared to the FY2014-15 budget. Of this increase, \$1,754,657 is supported by increased revenues from the Federal Government as School Nutrition Services is a National School Lunch Program (NSLP). No local tax dollars are allocated to this program. The increase will go towards increased food costs as well as the replacement of kitchen equipment.

The FY2015-16 budget for the State and Federal Grants Fund is \$39,751,525, which is a decrease of \$272,723 or 0.7 percent when compared to the FY2014-15 approved budget. This fund is where HCPS accounts for grant funds, mostly from the Commonwealth of Virginia or the Federal Government. Examples include the Title I-A program, the Algebra Readiness Grant, and the Head Start Program. The FY2015-16 budget includes an additional \$753,000 in Medicaid reimbursements that will be applied to school improvement efforts.

The amount budgeted for debt service related to education is \$35,411,580, which is a decrease of \$388,213, or 1.1 percent as a result of a reduction in the amount of interest paid on outstanding debt. The debt service paid for education is for outstanding debt related to the issue of General Obligation (GO) bonds and Virginia Public School Authority (VPSA) bonds. More information on debt issued and total debt service can be found in the debt service fund narrative within this document.

As a result of the approval of the referendum in November, 2013, the FY2015-16 budget continues to

reflect the inclusion of revenues to be generated from the food and beverage tax, more commonly referred to as the meals tax. In FY2015-16, \$20,000,000 is projected in meals tax resources. Of this amount, \$9,000,000 will continue to be allocated to the operating budget, \$9,000,000 will continue to be allocated to the capital budget for deferred maintenance projects, and \$2,000,000 will be allocated to a reserve for capital needs to be identified for the FY2016-17 capital budget. In addition to the \$20,000,000 projected to be collected in FY2015-16, the amount of meals tax collected in June, 2014 of \$1,990,470 will also be allocated for deferred maintenance projects in the FY2015-16 capital budget. The combined \$10,990,470 of meals tax resources are in addition to the \$2,500,000 allocated in the capital budget for mechanical improvements and roof replacements.

The School Resource Officer (SRO) program provides a safer environment to the students and staff of the schools while also providing a positive role model and adviser to the students. As a joint effort with the Division of Police, there is assigned to each middle and high school in the County a uniformed Police Officer. A total of 34 Police Officers participate in the program.

The new effort for the heavy equipment repair class is the latest in a number of collaborative efforts where, in order to provide more resources to student instruction, the County's General Government provides services to HCPS. Included in these are:

- Consolidated financial operations;
- Consolidated human resources management systems;
- The provision of the County Attorney's staff;
- A consolidated self-insurance health care system;
- The provision of School Resource Officers (SRO), including SROs at all elementary schools funded by the Division of Police;
- Centralized Purchasing, Risk Management, and CAM functions; and
- Collaborative efforts with the Division of Recreation and Parks related to programs and field maintenance.

In order to continue to provide a premier education to the children who attend one of the 72 schools in Henrico County at the most efficient point possible, more collaborative efforts with General Government will be explored.