

Office of the Superintendent of Schools
MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Rockville, Maryland

February 13, 2023

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Board of Education

From: Monifa B. McKnight, Superintendent of Schools

Subject: Assignment of Security Assistants (1-24-2023-02)

During the Operating Budget Work Session, Board members requested the following information:

Question

Ms. Wolff would like to know if MCPS can look at the assignment of security assistants differently to include the possibility of developing a formula that considers the assignment of security assistants based on incidents per school.

Response

The safety and well-being of students are a priority in Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS). MCPS is committed to providing a safe and conducive learning environment for all students and staff.

The current staffing allocations for security assistants are determined by the following factors:

- Student enrollment
- Square footage
- Portables
- Consideration of programming and serious incidents

The review and distribution of security allocations is a collaborative process with schools, the Department of Systemwide Safety and Emergency Management, the Office of Human Resources and Development, and the Office of School Support and Well-Being.

At the February 9, 2023, Budget Accelerator work session, Mrs. Dana E. Edwards, chief of district operations, shared that the formula to allocate security staff to schools will be reexamined and revised this year. Secondary principals and school-based security will provide input regarding the criteria to determine if an allocation should be provided. This will help to develop a criterion that matches the current context and needs of schools.

While physical security, consisting of protection and mitigation, is one aspect of the larger holistic framework, it must be a complement to efforts surrounding prevention, response, and recovery.

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Edwards via email.

MBM:MBH:DEE:lh

Copy to:

Executive Staff

Mr. Clarke

Ms. Webb