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## FY 2017 Proposed Q & A

# Questions from the Prince George's County Advocates For Better Schools

Received: February 3, 2016

Prince George's County Public Schools  
Business Management Services  
**FY 2017 Proposed Operating Budget**

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Question #	Additional Questions from the Prince George's County Advocates for Better Schools Received February 3, 2016
1.	How much money has PGCPs been able to "save" on gasoline and heating oil since the costs of oil have plummeted and have those savings been put into the budget?
2.	Are the additional bus drivers which are in the 2017 Budget going to be full time or part time?
3.	How many walking students will become bus riders with the new boundaries and reassignments due to school closures?
4.	How is the work of the Director of Health Services in PGCPs being done since the Budget shows that the position has not been funded?
5.	How sure is PGCPs that the 2017 Budget will receive all of the funding from the Federal, State and County government sources?
6.	How is the budget for Home and Hospital and Health Services changing? We noticed that there is not money allocated for a Health Services coordinator. Is that position restructured? Do we have the same funding for home and hospital tutoring?
7.	It seems that the TAG administrative support is now cut back. We always have needed more administrative staff in the TAG program. How is that need going to be met?

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- 1. How much money has PGCPs been able to “save” on gasoline and heating oil since the costs of oil have plummeted and have those savings been put into the budget?**

Expenditures for gasoline as of January 2016 have decreased by (\$526,728) compared to January 2015 due to a decrease in prices. Fuel oil expenditures as of January 2016 have decreased by (\$850,918) compared to January 2015. These savings will be realigned on the upcoming Financial Review to other areas with budgetary shortfalls.

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- 2. Are the additional bus drivers which are in the 2017 Budget going to be full time or part time?**

The 25.00 additional bus drivers included in the proposed budget will be full-time positions. These positions will be assigned to vacant/open bus routes. The number of hours these positions work each day will depend upon the duration of the routes assigned.

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- 3. How many walking students will become bus riders with the new boundaries and reassignments due to school closures?**

As a result of new boundary changes and reassignments due to school closures, 49 current walkers at Forestville High School will become bus riders and 106 current walkers at Skyline Elementary will become bus riders.

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- 4. How is the work of the Director of Health Services in PGCPs being done since the Budget shows that the position has not been funded?**

In the proposed operating budget includes \$20,082,702 for Health Services. The responsibilities of Health Services including the funding and FTE have been reassigned to the Department of Student Services. Student Services begins on page 290 in the proposed budget document.

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- 5. How sure is PGCPs that the 2017 Budget will receive all of the funding from the Federal, State and County government sources?**

School systems in Maryland have no taxing authority. All revenue comes from the Federal Government, State and County sources, and Board of Education generated revenue or Fund Balance from a prior fiscal year.

All budgeted revenue is estimated based either on historical amounts or relevant data received during budget production. PGCPs administration is confident that the funds estimated for federal and state revenue, as well as Board generated revenue and Fund Balance will be realized. It is the County source revenue that will likely vary greatly from the proposed amount before the approval of the budget in June 2016.

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- 6. How is the budget for Home and Hospital and Health Services changing? We noticed that there is not money allocated for a Health Services coordinator. Is that position restructured? Do we have the same funding for home and hospital tutoring?**

The funds, programs and responsibilities of Health Services have been reassigned to the Department of Student Services under the direction of the Executive Director of Student Services. The proposed operating budget includes \$236,022 to support additional work hours prior to the start of school to allow nurses the opportunity to perform critical data entry of student immunizations and other health record information.

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There are no changes proposed for the Home and Hospital Teaching budget for 2017. However, we will utilize our current funding source to support On-line Virtual Licensure for students receiving home instruction. No other programmatic changes are anticipated.

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**7. It seems that the TAG administrative support is now cut back. We always have needed more administrative staff in the TAG program. How is that need going to be met?**

In fiscal year 2015, the Deputy Superintendent for Teaching & Learning took a comprehensive look at his division and reorganized departments to better focus the work within and between offices to maximize central office supports for all instructional programs.

This reorganization went into effective July 1, 2015. Under the reorganization, the Talented & Gifted (TAG) Office along with Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, SAT, PSAT, and AVID were consolidated in to one office, the Office of Advanced & Enriched Instruction. The administration is confident that this reorganization will provide more effective and efficient oversight of the TAG program.