

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

March 27, 2019

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Board of Education  
From: Jack R. Smith, Superintendent of Schools  
Subject: Per-pupil Allocations for Art Supplies (02-25-19-01)

**Question**

During Public Comments, Board members requested budget information regarding the per pupil allocations for classroom art supplies.

**Response**

Funding for program supplies for all classrooms is included in the per-pupil instructional materials allocation (\$55 for Grades K–5, \$81 for Grades 6–8, and \$94 for Grades 9–12) provided to schools each year. As such, each school determines the materials and funding necessary to meet the requirements of their respective art program based on the curriculum. This approach makes it challenging to track art expenditures from a district level; however, schools create and maintain their own tracking systems.

Per my request, the Office of the Chief Academic Officer has convened a group to focus on art funding in elementary schools. Specifically, the group will perform a current state analysis to understand how and how much schools are allocating and spending for art programs and research best practices in art funding allocations. The group will bring forward recommendations in June and begin working with schools to implement the guidelines in Fiscal Year 2020.

If you have questions, please contact Dr. Maria V. Navarro, chief academic officer, at 240-740-3040.

JRS:ND:MVN:ss

Copy to:

Dr. Navarro  
Dr. Statham  
Dr. Zuckerman  
Mr. Civin

Dr. Johnson  
Ms. Diamond  
Mr. Turner  
Ms. Webb