

Statement: PGCPSS Statement on GCEI Funding

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For Immediate Release

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UPPER MARLBORO, MD - GCEI is a critical funding source that acknowledges that we have jurisdictions--big and small--where it costs significantly more to educate children than it does in other parts of our State. We are disappointed and mystified by Governor Hogan's decision to reduce funding by half for GCEI, especially after the General Assembly worked so hard to restore this funding. Whether this decision is due to a desire to play politics, misplaced priorities, or poor advice, what the Governor should know is that the children and families of PGCPSS will be the ones punished by this very unfortunate action. 20 million dollars is the equivalent of removing over 240 teachers from our classrooms and simply put, places the district at a further disadvantage. Beyond the very serious implications for our school district, the Governor has sent a clear message of his disdain for public schools, which is a disastrous change of course for a state that recognizes education is an economic driver and has always shown unwavering support for our schools and our children.

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Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPSS), one of the nation's 20th largest school districts, has 201 schools and centers, more than 133,000 students and nearly 20,000 employees. The school system serves a diverse student population from urban, suburban and rural communities located in the Washington, DC suburbs. PGCPSS is nationally recognized for college and career-readiness programs that provide students with unique learning opportunities, including dual enrollment and language immersion.

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