



FALLS CHURCH CITY  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

April 23, 2020

*Via electronic mail*

Re: FCCPS Budget for Fiscal Year 2021

Dear Mayor Tarter, Vice Mayor Connelly, and Honorable Members of City Council,

On behalf of the Falls Church City School Board, I am writing to you regarding the School Board's Adopted Budget for Fiscal Year 2021. As an initial matter, I wanted to thank you, on behalf of the School Board and FCCPS leadership and staff, for the strong relationship that our Board has been able to build with you all as we work together to serve our Falls Church City citizens and students. We appreciate the relationship that we have been able to build, including the revenue sharing arrangement that we have been working toward for the past year or so.

We recognize that the revenue picture has changed dramatically due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. The School Board is committed to continuing its strong partnership with City Council. Just as we were happy to share with the City in the good times when there was unanticipated higher revenue, we are resolved to share our portion of the costs during these lean times. Put simply, we understand the downturn in the financial outlook since we submitted the School Board's Adopted Budget to the City Manager, and we want to continue to work collaboratively for the good of our community.

FCCPS Superintendent Noonan, FCCPS Chief Operating Officer Michael, Falls Church City Manager Shields, and Falls Church City Chief Financial Officer Bawa have extensively discussed the current fiscal outlook. We are grateful for their collaboration and candor. Based on their guidance, the Board agrees to amend its Adopted Budget for Fiscal Year 2021 to be in line with Ms. Bawa and Mr. Shields' "Moderate B Scenario" - which equates to a reduction of the City's transfer to the School Operating Fund by \$500,000 to \$42,755,777.



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This amendment to our earlier Adopted Budget for Fiscal Year 2021 would allow the School Board to share in the loss of revenue, recognizing that the Board desires to continue to work collaboratively with the City Council and wants us to collectively stay “Better Together.”

Through our continued partnership, the School Board remains hopeful that, over time, as the revenue picture gets more clear - and the financial situation improves - the School Board and the City can continue to both benefit from increased revenues, just as we now share the burden of decreased revenue.

Thank you, again, for your partnership - for your commitment to our community and our students - and for your hard work for the good of our Little City during this challenging time.

Sincerely,

Greg Anderson

Chair, Falls Church City School Board

cc: Peter J. Noonan, Ed.D.  
Wyatt Shields, Falls Church City Manager  
Kristen Michael, FCCPS Chief Operating Officer  
Kiran Bawa, Falls Church City Chief Financial Officer