



## Why BCPS endorses the Kirwan Commission:

Supported by Superintendent Williams, the Board of Education, and leaders of the Baltimore County Delegation to the Maryland General Assembly

### **Kirwan recommendations that prepare our students for the future**

- Expand PreKindergarten to all 4-year-olds, as well as 3-year-olds from families living in poverty.
- Increase teacher certification standards and raise teacher salaries.
- Offer vocational certificates during high school for well-paying jobs with a high school diploma.
- Establish more Community Schools that offer supports to students, families, and communities.
- Target more resources for students receiving special education services and schools with concentrations of families living in poverty.
- Create accountability for education funding.

### **How much will it cost?**

- Maryland and its school systems will contribute about \$4 billion per year for the next decade.
- Over 10 years, the share for Baltimore County will be about \$88 million.

### **How we will pay for Kirwan?**

- The state legislators in the Maryland General Assembly will determine funding formulas.

### **Background on Kirwan**

- The Maryland General Assembly created the commission in 2016 with the charge of making recommendations on how to prepare students for college or the workforce so they can “meet the challenges of a changing global economy” and “be successful citizens in the 21st century.”
- William E. “Brit” Kirwan, a former chancellor of the University System of Maryland and former president of the University of Maryland, College Park, is the chairman of the 26-member Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education. He was appointed by Governor Larry Hogan, the state Senate president, and the state House speaker.

### **Useful links**

- [Priority Issue: The Kirwan Commission & the Blueprint for Maryland's Future](#) – Maryland Association of Boards of Education
- [Blueprint for Maryland's Future – Implementation](#) – Maryland General Assembly
- [Statement on the Release of Blueprint for Maryland's Future Legislation](#) – Maryland State Education Association
- [Board County Board of Education endorses Built to Learn Act and Kirwan Commission recommendations](#)