



# Education Advocate

January 2016

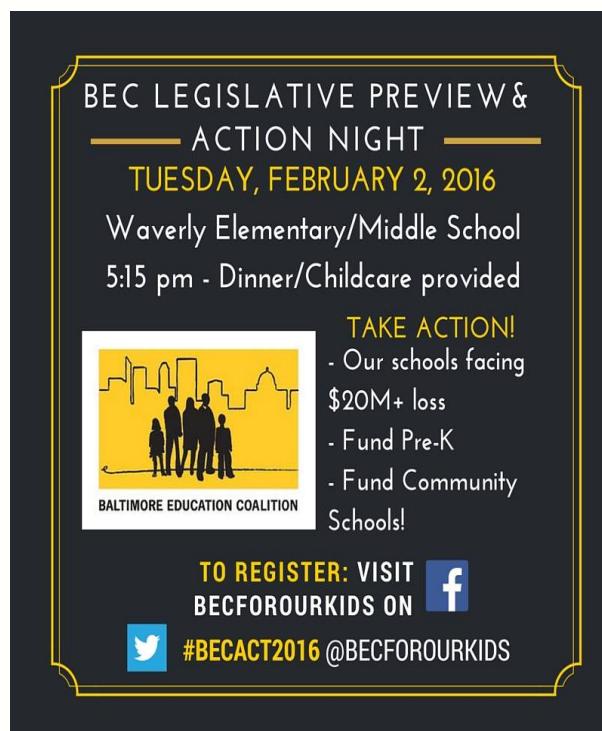
## Education Mandates Funded but Baltimore Schools Could Lose \$24 Million

City Schools will lose \$24 m. in state aid below prior year if the budget proposed this week passes as-is.

Unlike last year, when the Governor cut two key parts of the education budget (Inflation and GCEI), the proposed budget funds the education formula as required by law. The \$150 m. budget surplus this year and our collective strong opposition to last year's education cuts likely led to the Governor's decision to fund the formula. Increased state enrollment and a small inflation factor drives the state education budget up by 1.9%. All counties, save Baltimore and Worcester saw increases. [See education funding chart from the Governor's budget here.](#)

Baltimore's problem seems to be twofold. An enrollment drop of 1,920 students - which the system is still analyzing - and another increase in the assessed wealth of the City seem to be the cause of the proposed \$24 m. loss of funding. For Baltimore, though the GCEI and inflation were funded, these increases were not sufficient to offset enrollment and wealth. When the City's wealth goes up relative to other counties, state education aid goes down.

City schoolchildren will need strong advocacy to get both the State and the City to step up to contribute to the solution to avoid a cut of this size. There is precedent: the Governor's proposed budget includes extra funding for 3 rural/suburban counties that had enrollment loss. [Join us on Feb. 2 to hear how you can help!](#)



The poster is black with yellow text and graphics. At the top, it says "BEC LEGISLATIVE PREVIEW & ACTION NIGHT" and "TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2016". Below that, it lists the location as "Waverly Elementary/Middle School" and the time as "5:15 pm - Dinner/Childcare provided". In the center is a yellow square containing silhouettes of three people standing in front of a city skyline. Below this graphic, the text reads "TAKE ACTION!" followed by a bulleted list: "- Our schools facing \$20M+ loss", "- Fund Pre-K", and "- Fund Community Schools!". At the bottom, it says "TO REGISTER: VISIT BECFOROURKIDS ON [f](#) [t](#) #BECACT2016 @BECFOROURKIDS".

[Click Here to Join Us on February 2nd to Fight for City Schools!](#)



## Mayoral Candidates Forum at the Impact Hub

Wednesday, January 27, 5:30 to 8pm  
10 E. North Ave, Baltimore, MD 21218  
[FREE | RSVP HERE](#)

The Baltimore Education Coalition is partnering with the Impact Hub to question mayoral candidates on their priorities for education next Wednesday night. Candidates will also answer questions on economic opportunity, social justice, and other issues that are paramount to the city's progress. Hear about the Impact Hub's ideas on civic engagement, entrepreneurship, and social innovation and the role that they could play in moving Baltimore forward.

Confirmed candidates to date:

Sheila Dixon  
Elizabeth Embry

Nick Mosby  
Catherine Pugh  
Carl Stokes

## Agenda

5:30 - 6:00 P.M. - Opening Reception  
6:00 - 7:30 P.M. - Moderated Panel Discussion  
7:30 - 8:00 P.M. - Meet & Greet w/ Candidates

**Visit the Impact Hub's [Facebook Event Page](#) for more information**

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Upcoming events, lobby nights, live tweeting from important briefings, budget explanations  
- hear about Baltimore & Maryland education issues here!

**Join us! Maryland's children need you!**

American Civil Liberties Union of Maryland | Education Reform Project

Bebe Verdery, Director  
Frank Patinella, Senior Education Advocate  
Kimberly Humphrey, Legislative/Education Advocate  
Gary Therkildsen, Education Advocate  
Jana Lee, Education Intern

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