



The State of Maryland

Executive Department

EXECUTIVE ORDER
01.01.2014.06

Public School Construction Financing Study

- WHEREAS, School facilities are critical to a strong education system and a strong community;
- WHEREAS, Building on the record school construction funding provided through the O'Malley Brown Administration and the General Assembly, continued investment in school facilities is needed now to ensure that 21st century teaching and learning environments are available to prepare our students for the future;
- WHEREAS, Investment in school facilities is in the interest of the State as a whole, as it will help ensure a prosperous economy, strong business growth, and our students' ability to compete for good jobs in the global, high-technology economy;
- WHEREAS, A robust program of school construction will further State policies on high performance building design, community revitalization and stabilization, emergency preparedness, and Minority Business Enterprise participation; and
- WHEREAS, If the State intends to continue to position itself as a global leader in education, the State and counties must collectively pursue a path forward by looking at all available options for meeting the financial demands of public school construction.
- NOW THEREFORE, I, MARTIN O'MALLEY, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, BY VIRTUE OF THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME BY THE CONSTITUTION AND LAWS OF MARYLAND, HEREBY PROCLAIM THE FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE ORDER, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY:
- A. The Interagency Committee on School Construction, in collaboration with the Department of Budget and Management and the Department of Legislative Services, shall conduct a study and make recommendations consistent with the goals of maintaining a structurally balanced State budget and sound debt management practices on:

(1) Developing creative means, financing or otherwise, to increase funding for public school construction;

(2) Creating more reliable revenue streams that could include leveraging funds by counties to meet public school construction needs;

(3) The use of lease payments or other alternative financing methods for public school construction; and

(4) Local funding for public school construction, county tax capacity, and county tax effort.

B. In conducting the study, the Interagency Committee on School Construction, Department of Budget and Management, and Department of Legislative Services shall:

(1) Examine how other states fund public school construction, including the use of alternative financing mechanisms; and

(2) Solicit input from the State Treasurer's Office, county boards of education, and county governments.

C. On or before September 1, 2015, the Interagency Committee on School Construction shall submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor.

GIVEN Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland, in the City of Annapolis, this 6th Day of May 2014.



Martin O'Malley
Governor

ATTEST:

John P. McDonough
Secretary of State