

Board of County Commissioners

**Doug Howard,
President**



Carroll County Government

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Funding Challenges Facing Education Today

Westminster, Monday, September 28, 2015 –

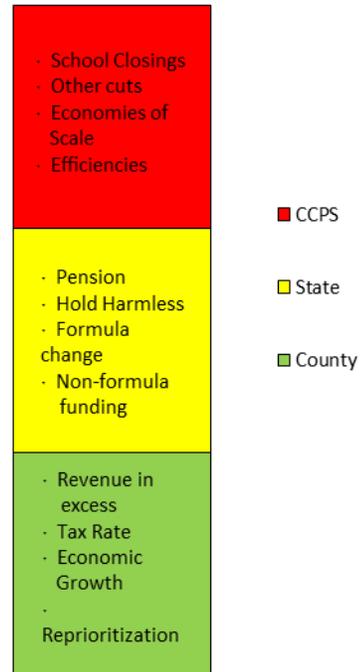
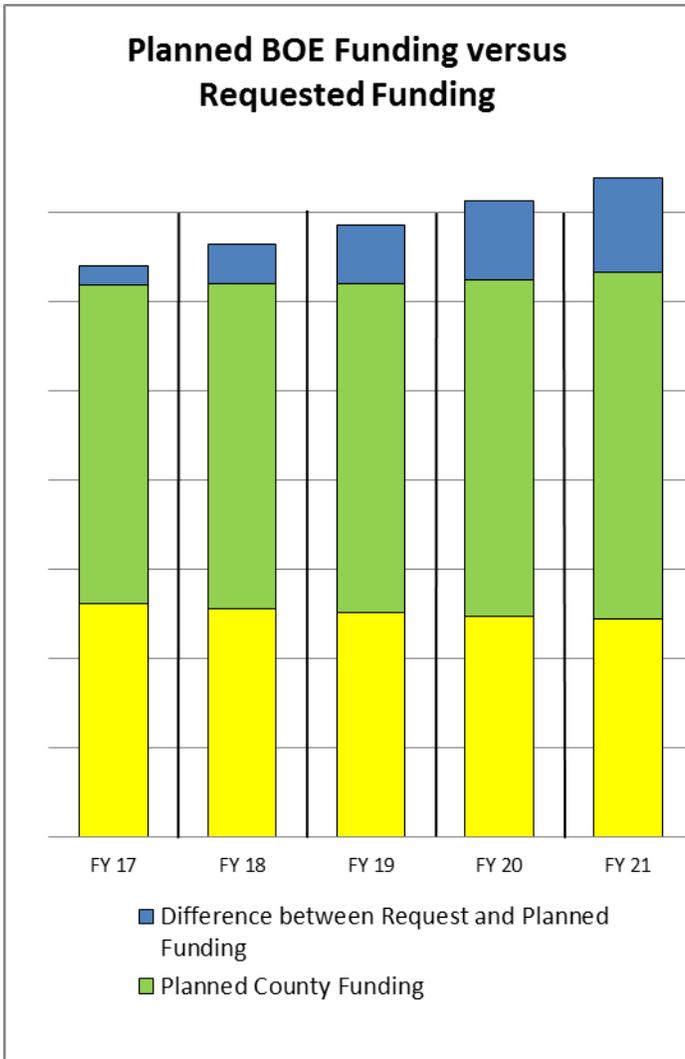
On Tuesday, September 22nd Commissioner Howard outlined the funding challenges facing the Board of Education in a joint meeting with the members of the State Delegation. He also shared a framework from which to begin working to meet these challenges and continue to provide the excellent school system Carroll County has today.

The graph is designed to show current levels of state and county funding along with the anticipated funding gap based on anticipated funding requests from the Board of Education. It also shows opportunities to improve the funding situation that each party to the equation may be able to bring to the table.

Funding for education is derived from three sources – County, state, and Board of Education. The Board of Education controls which schools buildings are utilized, implements various economies of scale and efficiencies, and may choose to enact various cuts. The Commissioners are responsible for allocating funds to the Board of Education as well as all county needs, and is charged with anticipating economic growth and needs for future years. The state contributes to education funding by formula and may choose to modify the formula or hold counties harmless when changes adversely affect state funding. These are only some of the tools that may be used to bridge the gap between anticipated funding needs and projected funding shortfalls.

CARROLL COUNTY

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These are tremendous challenges, but the best opportunity we have is working together and recognizing that a shortfall from one adds an additional burden on the other partners in the total funding equation.

“If decisions by the Board of Education help fill the red bucket and the hard work of our delegation in Annapolis helps fill the yellow, then the Board of County Commissioners can work together to see what can be reasonably done to increase the green bucket. Through these combined efforts we can continue to provide the quality school system Carroll County deserves,” said Commissioner Doug Howard.

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