

# ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

2644 Riva Road · Annapolis · Maryland · 21401

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**BILL:** SB359 EDUCATION - MARYLAND MEALS FOR ACHIEVEMENT IN-CLASSROOM BREAKFAST PROGRAM - ADMINISTRATION (MARYLAND MEALS FOR ACHIEVEMENT FOR TEENS ACT OF 2017)

**HEARING DATE:** MARCH 21, 2017

**COMMITTEE:** WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

**POSITION:** SUPPORT

**CONTACT PERSON:** JEANETTE ORTIZ, ESQ., *LEGISLATIVE & POLICY COUNSEL* (410.703.5352)

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The Anne Arundel County Board of Education **SUPPORTS Senate Bill 359 Education - Maryland Meals for Achievement In-Classroom Breakfast Program - Administration (Maryland Meals for Achievement for Teens Act of 2017)**. This bill would allow secondary schools operating Maryland Meals for Achievement to provide meals in any part of the school after the arrival of students to school.

Anne Arundel County Public Schools (AACPS) currently offers the Maryland Meals for Achievement (MMFA) in-classroom breakfast program in 47 schools. The program has been credited with improving academics, behavior, and the well-being of students. This program provides all students with a free breakfast regardless of student eligibility, although, for a school to qualify, at least 40 percent of its enrolled students must be eligible for free and reduced-price meals.

All AACPS schools eligible for MMFA, with the exception of Glen Burnie High School, participate and are currently enrolled in the program. Glen Burnie High School provides in-classroom breakfast after first period classes, which prohibits students from participating in MMFA. Additionally, the school layout and number of students prohibits the original MMFA model from being implemented. **Senate Bill 359** would ensure that eligible students at Glen Burnie High School and all Maryland high schools can participate in the MMFA program.

Accordingly, the Anne Arundel County Board of Education respectfully urges the Committee to issue a **FAVORABLE** committee report on **Senate Bill 359**.