

BALTIMORE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Brandon M. Scott, Mayor
City of Baltimore

Ronald S. McFadden, Chair
Board of School Commissioners

Sonja Brookins Santelises
Chief Executive Officer

March 5, 2024

The Honorable Jill Carter
Senate Chair, Baltimore City Delegation
11 Bladen Street, Room 422
Annapolis, MD 21401

The Honorable Stephanie Smith
House Chair, Baltimore City Delegation
6 Bladen Street, Room 314
Annapolis, MD 21401

**Re: Report Required by Education Article § 4-318(h) (MSAR # 11238)
House Bill 52: Baltimore City School Police Force – Vehicles and Firearms**

Dear Senator Carter and Delegate Smith:

As per House Bill 52, I am writing to report on the condition of vehicles and firearms of the Baltimore City School Police Force and the anticipated needs for vehicles and firearms for the next two years.

In FY24, we do not anticipate a need for additional vehicles as Baltimore City's School Police Force currently maintains 38 leased SUV vehicles. Leasing vehicles presents a cost-effective option for reducing the amount of time vehicles spend in the shop undergoing repairs, and consequently reduce the amount of money the district spends on maintaining and repairing older vehicles. In addition, because newer leased vehicles are much less likely to break down, we have improved our response time to schools where officers are not assigned, while allowing officers to spend more time patrolling schools during evening and nighttime shifts.

With regards to weapons, Baltimore City's School Police Force has 152 Glock pistols, 14 Beretta pistols, and 4 shotguns in our inventory.

We appreciate the delegation's attention to the needs of our school police force. Please do not hesitate to contact me if additional information is needed.

Sincerely,



Alison Perkins-Cohen
Chief of Staff

Cc: Members of the Baltimore City Delegation
Sarah Albert, Department of Legislative Services