



June 9, 2018 Public Policy Committee Meeting Summary

Judy Center Early Learning Hubs

The Judith P. Hoyer Early Child Care and Family Education Centers (or "Judy Centers") engage in a variety of efforts to provide access to early childhood education and family support programs for children and families in or near Title I school districts throughout the state.

Steven Hicks provided an overview, and Judy Center Coordinators Bonnie Mitrega (Magnolia Elementary, Harford County) and Maureen Creitz (Campfield Elementary, Baltimore County) talked about how they serve children birth through age 5 and their families in an effort to increase the number of children entering school ready to learn.

Discussion centered on the unique ways they promote school readiness through collaboration with community-based agencies, organizations, and businesses.

Update: [On June 26](#), MSDE awarded \$15.7 million in the form of 24 Judith P. Hoyer Early Care and Education Grants to serve 54 elementary schools. Each of the state's 24 jurisdictions has been funded for one or more Judy Centers. Both Magnolia and Campfield received grant awards. Campfield's grant is in collaboration with the other Judy Center in Baltimore County, which is located at Hawthorne Elementary school.

Legislative Update

On May 8 and May 15 the Governor signed a number of MFN priorities into law including:

- SB 379 / HB 430 "Education – Child Care Subsidies – Mandatory Funding Levels"
- HB 1415 "Education – Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education"
- SB 373 / HB 547 "Education – Head Start Program – Annual Funding (The Ulysses Currie Act)"
- SB 912 / HB 1685 "Maryland Prenatal and Infant Care Coordination Services Grant Program Fund (Thrive by Three Fund)"
- SB 859 "State Employees – Parental Leave"

Other Announcements & Future Meetings

The next meeting of the Public Policy Committee will take place in the fall.

