

The Power of Partnerships

2025-2026
ANNUAL SNAPSHOT





Message from the Superintendent

William J. Barnes

As Superintendent of Howard County Public Schools, I see firsthand the invaluable impact the more than 1,000 community partners have on our students, staff and families.

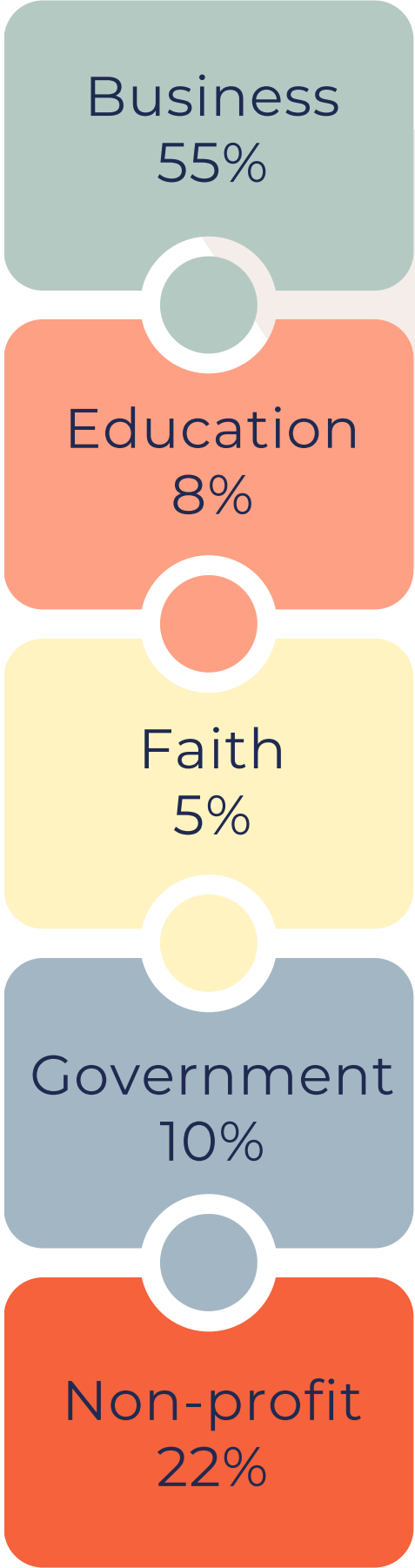
The generosity, ingenuity and support that our partners extend is vital to ensuring the students we serve can have the resources and opportunities they need and deserve to achieve their dreams, and that staff have the tools they need to thrive.

We continue to emphasize the importance of being a great school system for all students, and each and every partner is essential to that work.

Together, we can continue building strong relationships, expanding opportunities, and ensuring every student, staff member and family feels supported, valued and empowered to succeed.

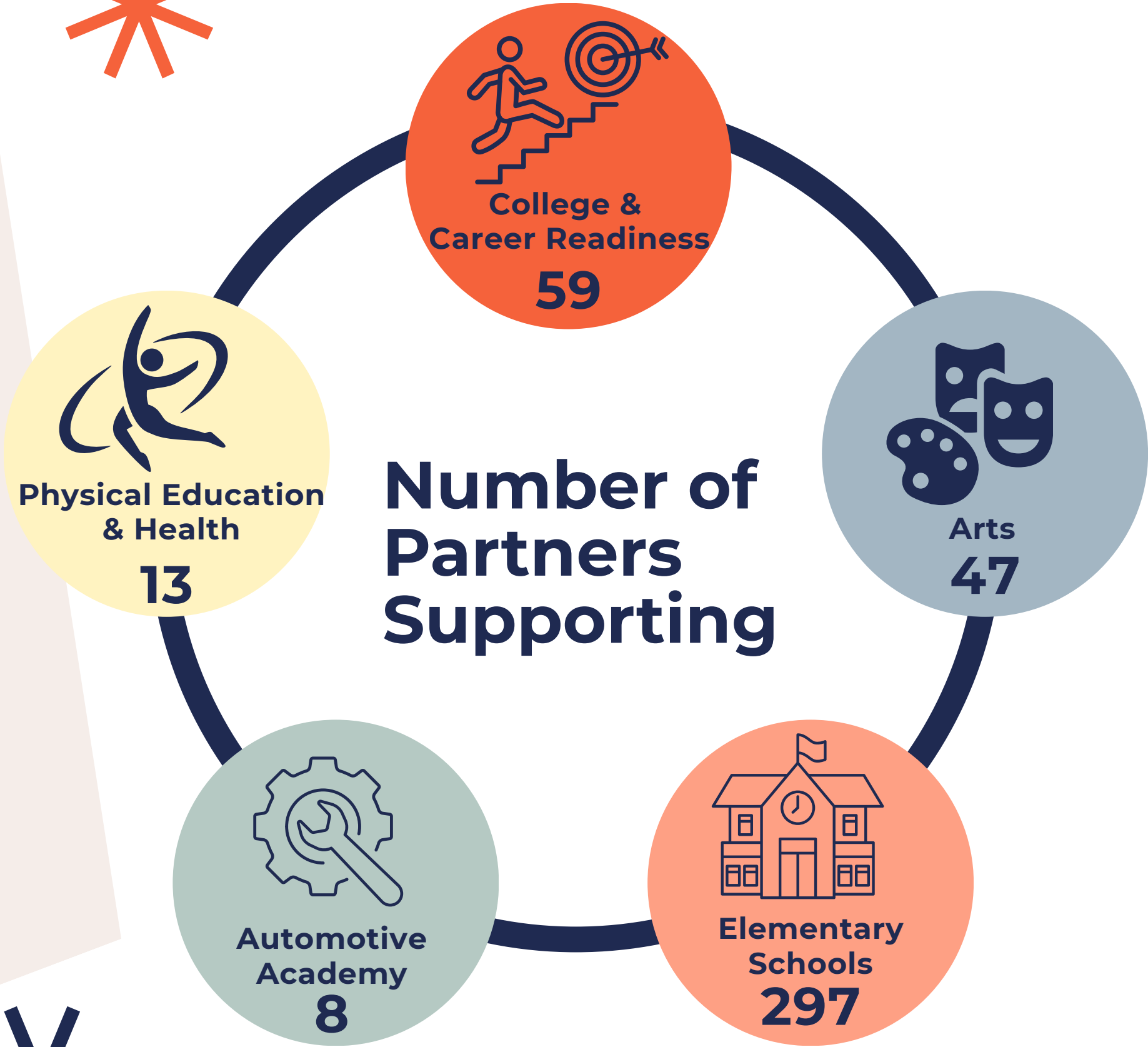
- William J. Barnes

Partner Support by Type



\$7,045,660
Estimated
Annual Value

1,329
Partners



Community Ecology Institute



supports
Nourishing Gardens at
37%
of schools



300

Community Ecology Institute

volunteers

assist with

40

pollinator and food gardens





120+

middle and high school students
listen to authors
Ashley Woodfolk and Dhonielle Clayton

Howard County Library System

3rd Annual
Bauder Book Talk
celebrates voices of
Black teenagers in literature



**Each student
received a
free signed book**





 bright
MINDS
HOWARD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
EDUCATION FOUNDATION

\$29,000+
grants fund
27 innovative
school-based
projects

From Soup to Nuts
Students with visual
impairments learn life
skills: use of hand tools,
cooking and more



Insects Don't BUG Us!
Cedar Lane's
Horticulture Program
uses ladybugs in
school greenhouse
instead of pesticides



* The Links Incorporated

\$130,000

expand access to
high-quality
apprenticeships



Apprenticeship Maryland Program

Maryland State Department of Education,
Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing and
Regulation and local employers support

104 HCPSS student apprentices



Howard County Arts Council ARTsites

HCPSS participating

10 years

in annual
public art exhibition

HCPSS graduate's
14-foot tall
“Dragonfly” sculpture
at Department of
Education Building



Blossoms of Hope



hosts

Semi-annual Mental Health Summits

for youth & parents to

empower students and families

to build stronger mental health foundations

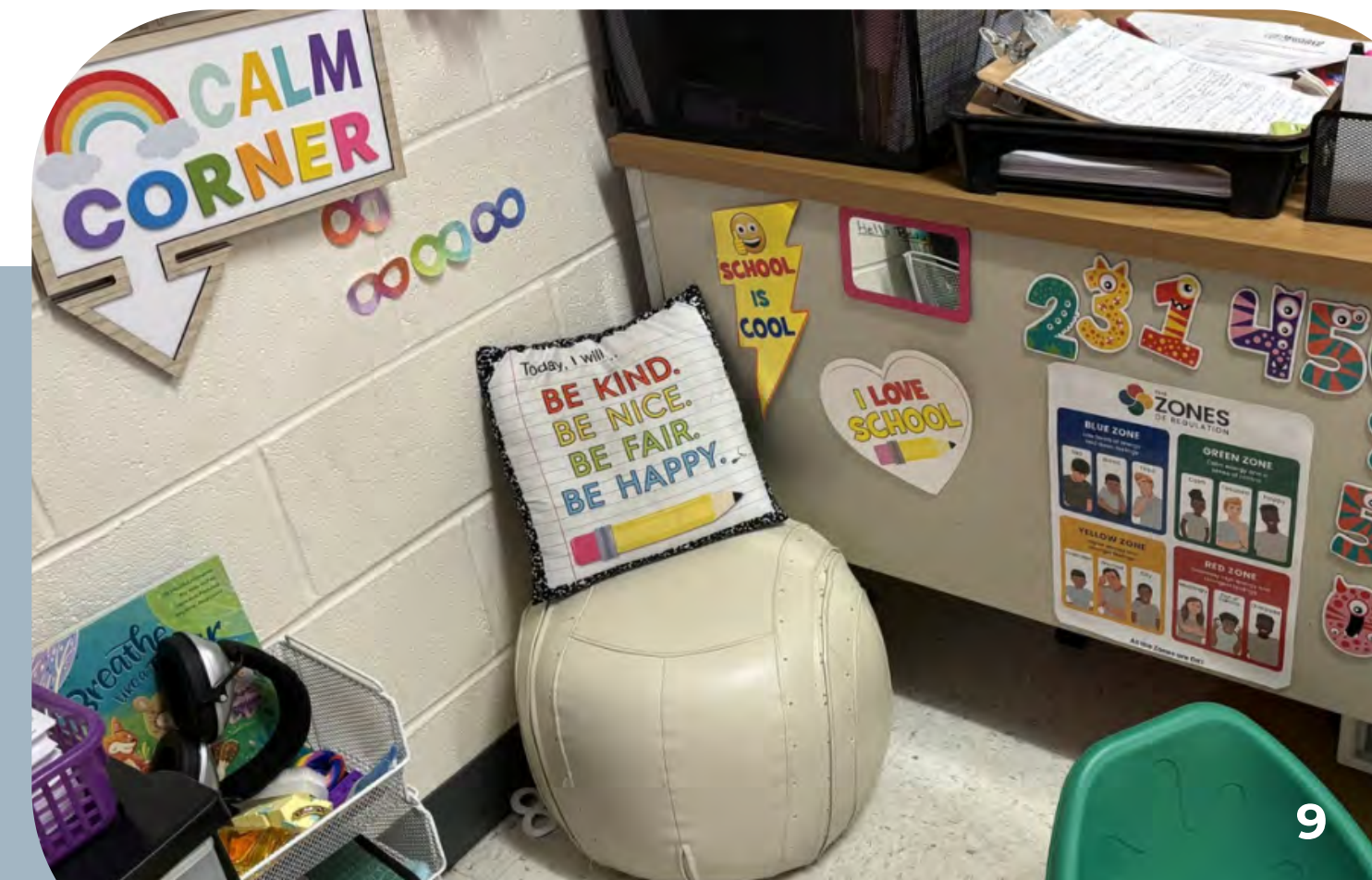


Calming Corners

at **7 schools**



A safe spot for students to pause & reset when they are experiencing strong emotions or need a break



2nd Annual HBCU College and Career Fair

800+

students and families
connect with

60+

**Historically Black Colleges
and Universities (HBCU)**

representatives



Fair includes resources, scholarships, voter registration and career professionals to share insights and guidance to help students plan their next steps

7

transportation professionals

visit

Gorman Crossing Elementary
to lead snow

STEM activity

(Science, Technology,
Engineering & Math)



105

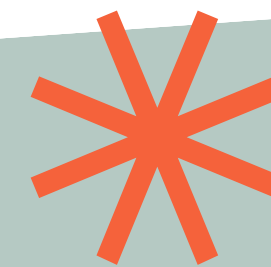
3rd grade

students gain

hands-on experience

and learn how a
snowplow driver
efficiently clears
roads after a
winter storm





2 Judy Centers

- Stevens Forest est. 2025
- Cradlerock est. 2002



Together with
parents, prepare

385
children

birth - 5 years
for success in
school and life



Howard County Medical Center

Small Actions, Big Impact

HCMC
supports
114 interns
across

39 departments
and partners with
24 schools

2026

Friends of Education Award



"HCMC is not just a medical facility; they are an indispensable educational partner."

Jeffrey Fisher, MS, HCPSS Academy of Health Professions



Photo by Howard County Medical Center

Sister Schools

**Gyeonggido Gimpo
District in South Korea
and HCPSS**

Partnering with
South Korean schools
since early 2000s

Korean students come to
Howard County each summer for
English language immersion
and exposure to American schools



Exchange educational
and cultural
experiences and
strengthen mutual
understanding and
appreciation of each
school system's
cultures, communities
and traditions

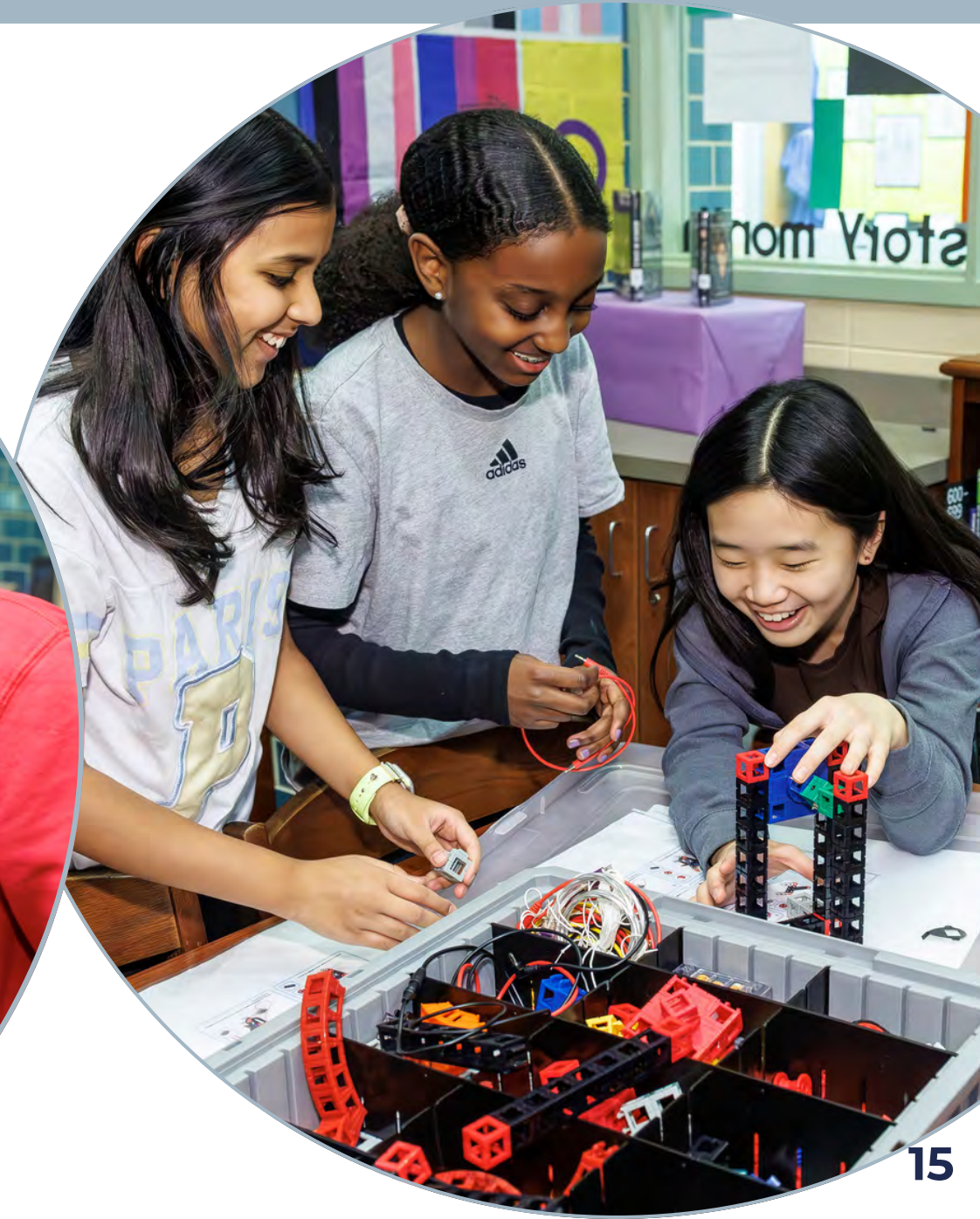
Cal Ripken, Sr. Foundation STEM Centers



in **26** elementary and **15** middle schools

With funding from the **Kahlert Foundation**,
will establish centers in all HCPSS
elementary and middle schools

Science, Technology, Engineering,
and Math (STEM) Centers include
classroom furniture and a wide
range of materials - programmable
robots, snap circuits, 3-D printers,
coding games and more



712 students
earn a
CA family membership



Over
25 years
CA awarded
10,000+
memberships
\$1M+ value

Students earn a one-year family membership by doing well on assignments, improving their grades and having good attendance



Teacher Academy of Maryland



TAM

(Teacher Academy of Maryland)
students may earn
3 college credits
from
9 Maryland
higher education
institutions



TAM participant, Ryan Schwab, plans to study musical theater and teach high school music

2025-2026
school year

697
students taking
TAM courses

20
students in
Education/Early Childhood
Apprenticeships





Grace Community Church

20+ years partner



Supporting
15+ schools
with backpacks and
school supplies,
holiday gift cards,
mentoring & tutoring,
English classes for families,
student incentive programs,
career & life skills development,
clothing giveaway
and more



Howard County Board of Elections



Partners
facilitate
student voter
registration



Youth-led
drive
registered
170+ students
in
2 weeks

"I got involved because I believe it's important for students to understand the value of their voice in a democracy." *Long Reach High School student*





Jazz in the Woods



30+ partners support
music at HCPSS

Inner Arbor Trust
hosts **170 students** from
7 schools and the
High School GT Jazz Ensemble
at the Chrysalis





celebrating
50 years
of
Maryland MESA
(Math, Engineering, Science Achievement)

After-school program
for students
grades 3–12
to spark interest in
education and careers



MESA USA serves
49,000+
students annually



HCPSS
25 participating schools

- 8 Elementary
- 9 Middle
- 8 High



Jeremy Wong
Reservoir High School senior
chosen as **one of 2**
Maryland delegates among
104 delegates nationwide to



U.S. Senate Youth Program



and **one of 105** seniors selected to the
**Maryland General Assembly
Student Page Program**



Thank You

View the complete list of our generous partners by visiting <https://hcpssne.ws/partners>

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Learn how you can help HCPSS be great for every student

Community members are also able to provide input to education in Howard County by joining Advisory Committees



partnerships@hcpss.org
<https://www.hcpss.org/about-us/partnerships/>