

TAAAC FY26

EXAMPLE BUDGET WRITTEN TESTIMONY

Use this sample language as a guide to create your own budget advocacy message, focusing on staffing for the FY26 AACPS budget.

Know the Facts

Here are the positions the County Executive cut from the Board of Education Budget

Funded

- 28/129 Special Education Staff

UnFunded

- NBC School Counselor Stipend
- 16 Academic Specialist & Early Intervention Teachers
- 3.5 School Counselors (elementary)
- 4 School Counselors (Secondary)
- 2 Social Workers
- 2 Psychologists
- 1 PPW
- 26 Birth-Five Services Staff

Introduction

Dear Council members, my name is _____. I am a [position] at [school]. Please amend the education budget to increase staffing to...

Examples

- support the social-emotional well-being of all students, regardless of race, gender, or zip code
- decrease staff burnout, improve morale, and prevent vacancies
- ensure we retain our dedicated staff rather than losing them to surrounding counties that can better sustain their workloads

Make your ask clear and specific

Tell the County Councilmembers why not having these critical staff has negatively impacted your workload, and your students learning conditions. Then, tell them what it would mean to your school to have those positions added. Remember, you are the expert and they will take your advice seriously when you tell them what is best for your students, school and community.

Provide a sense of urgency

Whether you know staff who are considering leaving the county or the profession, tell the County Council that this funding cannot wait, your students deserve services now.

Restate your ask

Tell the County Council exactly how many staff in each position you believe they should amend the budget to fund, so they know how to best prioritize spending.

Submit testimony to: <https://www.aacounty.org/county-council/fy26-budget/proposed-budget-testimony-form>

