



METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY

Burkley Allen
Council Member At-Large

METRO COUNCIL
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Dr. Adrienne Battle
Metro Public Schools
2601 Bransford Ave
Nashville, TN 37204

Dear Dr. Battle,

Thank you for taking the time to make a special presentation to the Metro Council regarding the MNPS budget. It is important for us to fully understand the implications of the changes in the state's budget projections as you have planned the school budget and what Metro's expected share should be. We appreciate the difficulty of planning when information is delivered late in the process.

As we move forward, the council is committed to finding a solution to rebalance the budget now that there is a \$22.6 million deficit. We will need some help from your team as well. I know that there is a schoolboard meeting on May 24, and I'm requesting that a goal for that meeting be to settle on some general scope of how MNPS might reduce the deficit from \$22.6 million down to \$10 or \$12 million.

It would work with the council budget schedule to have some relatively firm numbers, prioritizations, and impacts from any shortfall by the MNPS presentation to the Budget Committee on Wednesday, May 25. That will give the council time to figure out our end before we start the budget wish list process and to have the preliminary plan publicly available on our budget website on June 3 before the council's public hearing on the budget. This will keep us on track to pass our budget June 21 so that your board will have time to finalize your budget before your July 1 deadline.

Educating our children is the most important thing this city does, and we must invest the resources to do that well. I am sure that together we can find a solution to this challenge, and I look forward to working with you and the school board.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Burkley M. Allen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized.

Burkley M. Allen
Metro Council At-Large
Budget and Finance Committee Chair