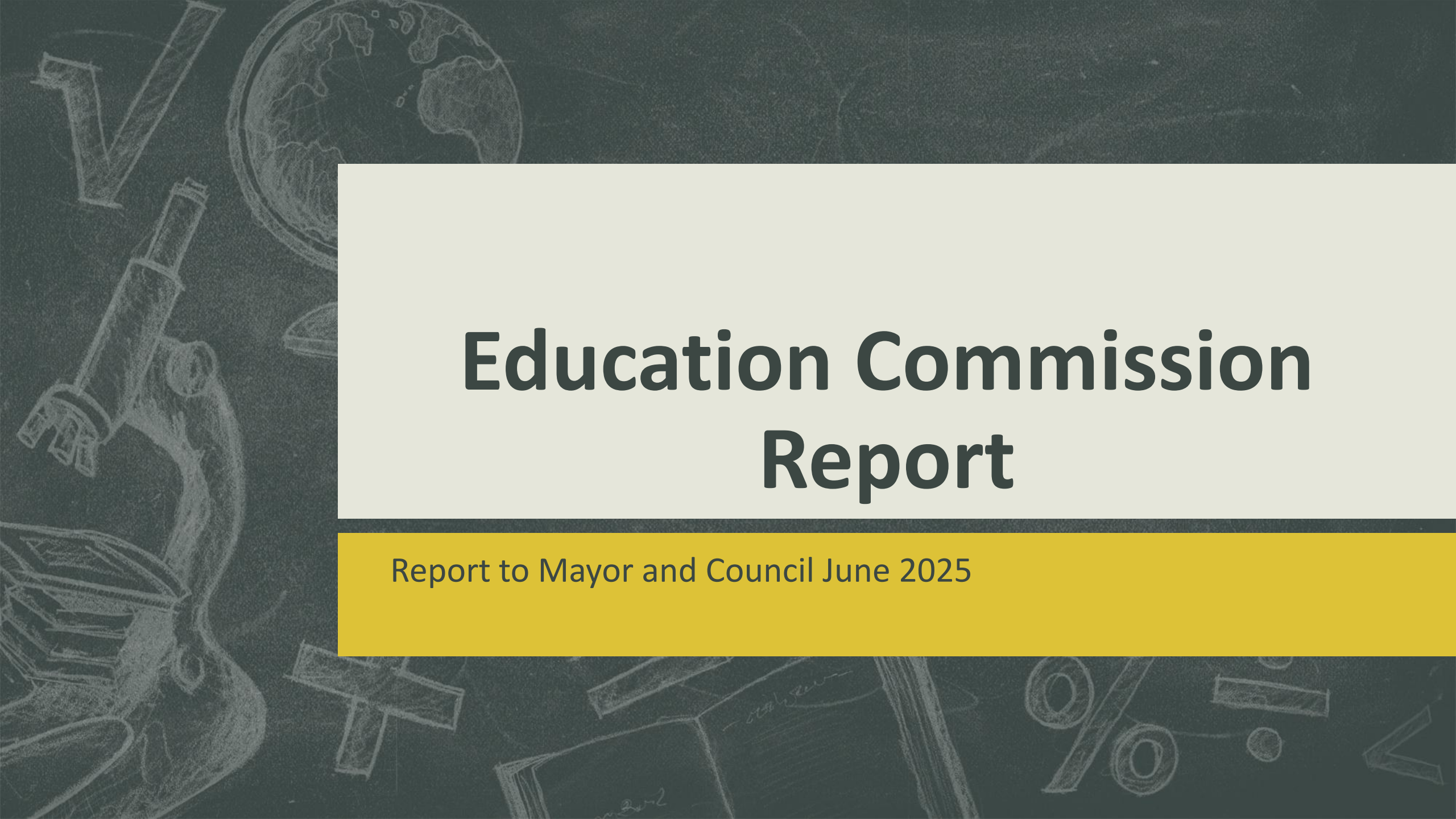


A dark grey background featuring a collage of white, chalk-like sketches. These include a globe in the upper left, a large letter 'V' in the top left, a microscope on the left side, a stack of books at the bottom left, a plus sign at the bottom center, an open book with handwritten text at the bottom center, a percentage sign at the bottom right, and a less-than sign at the bottom right.

Education Commission Report

Report to Mayor and Council June 2025

Members

Commission Members

- Co-Chairs
 - Lisa Kehayias-Farhi, Edward Reed
- Secretary
 - Wendy Whitaker
- Commissioners
 - Tanya Aquilar, Michael Berman, Xian Lu, Jacqueline Renfrow, Shauntae Spaugh, Nicole Stone, Chelsea Zhu

City Staff Liaison

- Cecil Rucker

Mayor and Council Representative

- David Myles



Who We Are

Mission

To maintain and grow collaborative relationships among the county's board of education, Montgomery County Public Schools, private and nonprofit schools within Rockville, Montgomery College-Rockville campus, parent-teacher associations, private and nonprofit school boards, home-school communities, and providers of early childcare in the Rockville community. Members are parents or guardians representing public and private education or are education professionals.

FY2025

Focus Areas

1. Keeping Rockville schools safe and secure.
2. Improving teacher retention and recruitment.
3. Strengthening partnerships between businesses and schools.

Goals

- Listen and Learn
- Advocate
- Strengthen Communication and Collaboration

FY2025 Accomplishments

School Safety & Security

- Learning from MCPS Board of Education

Teacher Retention & Recruitment

- Supporting Rockville Housing Initiatives

Business Partnerships

- Business Partnerships Tool

General

- Principal Roundtable
- Commissioner Recruitment
- Cross-Commission collaboration
- Promoting scholarships



School Safety & Security

- Discussed the MCPS safety plans and vision with Julie Yang, President of Montgomery County Board of Education.
- Education Commission Student Representative connected with Youth Commission to share perspectives and priorities, including bringing youth voices to the table, combatting online bullying, and strengthening communications and plans during an emergency.

Teacher Recruitment & Retention

- Explored recruitment and retention themes with invited guest Laurie Ainsworth, IB Coordinator, Rockville High School.
- Discussed MCPS recruitment and retention needs with Julie Yang, President of Montgomery County Board of Education.

Business Partnerships

- Launched a tool designed to identify opportunities for local business, nonprofit, and government organizations to partner with Rockville area schools.
- Serves as a connection point for parent-teacher organizations to local organizations.
- Contributions could span a wide range, from providing school supplies and one-time event sponsorships, to establishing fundraising partnerships and collaborative programs.

Educational Partnership Opportunities

The Business and Community Partnerships Subcommittee of the Education Commission has launched an initiative designed to identify educational opportunities for local business, nonprofit, and government organizations to partner with Rockville area schools to help provide important resources for Rockville students and programs.

This initiative serves as a connection point for parent-teacher organizations to local organizations eager to fulfill community needs. These contributions could span a wide range, from providing school supplies and one-time event sponsorships, to establishing fundraising partnerships, internship programs, and collaborative after-school activities.

Please see below for a list of needs identified by Rockville area schools. PTA members and school representatives seeking resources for Rockville students and programs, as well as local organizations interested in providing them, should email educationcommission@rockvillemd.gov to participate in this initiative.

Resources Needed for Rockville Area Schools

	Description	Contact
Headphones	Headphones for Chromebooks during independent work time.	Jessica Jackson Community Liaison Meadow Hall Elementary School Jessica_E_Jackson@mcpsmd.org
Winter Clothing	Jackets, mittens, hats, etc. for winter, as many families can't afford to buy them for their students.	Jessica Jackson Community Liaison Meadow Hall Elementary School Jessica_E_Jackson@mcpsmd.org
Food Pantry	Shelf stable items that can be replenished in intervals to help families at the school.	Jessica Jackson Community Liaison Meadow Hall Elementary School Jessica_E_Jackson@mcpsmd.org
Coffee, Breakfast, Snacks, and Catering	The school offers English lessons for parents twice a week so looking for someone to supply snacks for kids and adults during these sessions.	Jessica Jackson Community Liaison Meadow Hall Elementary School Jessica_E_Jackson@mcpsmd.org

Principals Roundtable

- Hosted Principals, Mayor and Council Roundtable April 9, 2025
- Purpose: To hear about Rockville public and private school priorities, accomplishments and needs
- Attendance: More than 25 Principals, Commissioners, Mayor and Councilmembers
- Needs Identified: Ongoing attendance crisis, ESL outreach and programs during school, business internships, extracurricular and mental health services resources, increased awareness of Rockville City programs and services



Other General Accomplishments

- Welcomed Student Representative, Chelsea Zhu, to Education Commission
- Cross-Commission Collaboration with Human Services Advisory Commission & Youth Commission
- Promoted Senatorial Scholarships available in District 17, arranged short lunch and learn sessions at Rockville high schools.

Future Plans

- Adjust Subcommittee Topic/Scope:
 1. School Safety and Wellness
 2. School Outreach
 3. Business Partnerships
- Promote Business Partnerships Tool with communications plan
- Host a follow-up Principal Roundtable
- Recognize Rockville Teachers; Engage Teachers
- Hear from students about wellness needs
- Engage with families at Back to School Night and PTA meetings
- Share about Rockville City resources with Principals



The background is a dark chalkboard with various white chalk sketches. On the left, there's a globe showing continents. Above it, a ruler and two circular objects, possibly coins or wheels, are sketched. In the top left corner, there's a sketch of a book. On the right side, a microscope is sketched vertically. At the bottom, there are sketches of what look like test tubes or small containers. The overall theme is education and science.

**“Education is the key to
unlocking a better
future for all. ”**

Julius Rosenwald

Thank you for your time!

Contact us: educationcommission@rockvillemd.gov