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# Superintendent's Report To the Baltimore County Board of Education

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December 7, 2010

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I want to devote most of my report this evening to providing an update on the Education, Assessment, Student Information (or easi) System. Members of the Board have received a longer project summary. This is an initiative that I have personally monitored throughout its development. I will touch on some of the highlights of this process.

In March, I established a Technology Integration in the Classroom committee and charged them with examining the school system's reporting mechanisms – paying close attention to their efficiency, depth, and their usefulness in enhancing student learning and teacher effectiveness. The committee's 58 members included teachers, principals, assistant superintendents, central office administrators, and representatives of the PTA, TABCO, and Area Education Advisory Councils.

In May, the committee recommended that Baltimore County Public Schools develop a system that provides students, parents, and teachers with access to student data from a single, user-friendly, input/output source that includes access to longitudinal data and a parent communication tool.

After the Board approved the concept in June, the Department of Technology released a beta version of the easi system in August and hosted a hands-on demonstration. A small group of teachers and administrators were given access to easi in late October so that we could test its effectiveness with daily use.

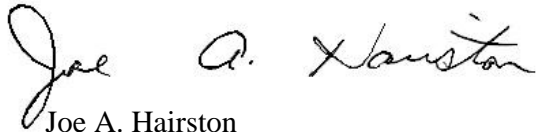
In the easi system, each student profile page includes student grade point average, quality point average, class schedule, grades, assessTrax information, and state assessment scores. Teachers can view these profile pages, and principals and assistant principals can view teachers' sites. In addition, assistant superintendents and their assistants can view information down to the student profile page level for all the schools in their zones.

I approved the easi system last month for professional development purposes only. To ensure its reliability, I will personally make the final test of the system prior to it going live. That is part of my commitment to the workforce. It is consistent with the attention I have given to all our initiatives that have received national attention and acclaim.

Last month, we also requested funds for easi expansion as part of our Race to the Top grant application to the State of Maryland.

As we prepare for easi implementation, a pilot training session was provided to principals, assistant principals, and teachers last week, with assistant superintendent trainings scheduled to follow. After winter break, a systemwide rollout of easi training will be implemented, with principals scheduling training at their schools. Future plans for easi include the expansion of teacher site features.

With this system, Baltimore County Public Schools is proud to remain at the forefront of using data to facilitate more effective instruction for all students.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joe A. Hairston". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and "H".

Joe A. Hairston  
Superintendent

## **Review of Superintendent's Calendar**

### *Past*

- 11/10      **Participated in Maryland Business Roundtable for Education's Annual Meeting, Center Club**
- 11/10      **Attended Veterans Day Commemoration, Patriot Plaza, Towson**
- 11/15      **Offered greetings at High School Honors Concert, Meyerhoff Symphony Hall**
- 11/16      **Interviewed by Patch.com reporters**
- 11/17      **Visited MBE Contractor Meet and Greet event, Maryland State Fairgrounds**
- 11/17      **Participated in Dual Degree Signing Ceremony with State Superintendent of Schools Dr. Nancy S. Grasmick and Community College of Baltimore County President Dr. Sandra L. Kurtinitis, CCBC Essex**
- 11/17      **Attended Principals' Meeting, Crowne Plaza Baltimore, Timonium**
- 11/17      **Attended Central Scholarship Bureau's 85<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration, Suburban Club**
- 11/18      **Visited Patapsco High School and Center for the Arts, Bear Creek Elementary School, and Dundalk Elementary School**
- 11/18      **Presented greetings at Maryland Association of Pupil Personnel Fall Conference, Hilton Garden Inn, White Marsh**
- 11/18      **Hosted meeting of Superintendent's Student Advisory Board, Greenwood Administration Building**
- 11/19      **Met with League of Women Voters, Greenwood Administration Building**
- 11/19      **Visited Catonsville High School, Sudbrook Magnet Middle School, and Pikesville High School**
- 11/30      **Offered remarks and presented award to County Executive Jim Smith at ribbon-cutting ceremony for West Towson Elementary School**

- 11/30      **Presented remarks at meeting of the Baltimore County School Health Council, Greenwood Administration Building**
- 12/1      **Hosted meeting of Superintendent's Educators Advisory Council, Linwood's, Pikesville**
- 12/2      **Presented greetings at Fiscal Services professional development activity, Crowne Plaza Baltimore, Timonium**
- 12/3      **Participated in Public School Superintendents Association of Maryland meeting, Anne Arundel County Board of Education**
- 12/6      **Attended inaugural ceremony for newly elected County Executive and other county officials, Towson Center Arena**
- Upcoming*
- 12/8      **To host meeting of Superintendent's Student Advisory Board, Greenwood Administration Building**
- 12/8      **To attend Northrop Grumman's Community Partners Holiday Reception, CenterStage**
- 12/9-11    **To attend Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) National Conference, Grapevine, Texas**
- 12/14     **To participate in Children's Cancer Foundation meeting, Ruth's Chris Steakhouse, Pikesville**
- 12/15     **To host Legislative Forum, Chesapeake High School**
- 12/15     **To participate in Human Resources Staff Advance, Valley Mansion**
- 12/16     **To visit Sudbrook Magnet Middle School to observe their minimester activities on diversity and tolerance**
- 12/17     **To meet with members of the Secondary Schools Administrators Association, Greenwood Administration Building**
- 12/17     **To meet with Senator Stone, Costas Restaurant**
- 12/21     **To meet with Senator Klausmeier, Double T Diner**
- 1/5        **To visit schools**

- 1/7            **To participate in Public School Superintendents Association of Maryland meeting, Anne Arundel County Board of Education**
- 1/8            **To participate in TABCO/BACE Legislative Breakfast, Crowne Plaza Baltimore, Timonium**
- 1/10          **To visit schools**