

The Education Advisory Council of Baltimore County

Mission Statement

To improve the quality of education in Baltimore County and to strengthen the relationship between the school and community by serving as informed advisors to the Board of Education on issues that affect students, families, communities, and schools.



2011-2012 Joint Meetings

November 10, 2011, 7-9 pm

January 26, 2012, 7-9 pm

Meetings will be held on the Greenwood Campus in the ESS Building, Room 114.



The Education Advisory Council Area Chairs for 2011-2012

Council Coordinator: Jasmine Shriver
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Southwest Area: Beverly Coleman
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Northwest Area: Clifford Collins
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Central Area: Laura Mullen
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www.bcps.org/community/edu_advisory_council

Community Liaisons to the Baltimore County Board of Education

*Advisory Council Members Appointed by:
Board of Education of Baltimore County
6901 Charles Street
Towson, MD 21204
410-887-4126*

The Education Advisory Council of Baltimore County

**Strengthening
the relationship
between the
school system
and the
community**

Education Advisory Council of Baltimore County

The Education Advisory Council of Baltimore County is made up of five area councils and serves a unique and important role in our school system. Recognizing the essential role parents and community members play in supporting our public school system, the Advisory Council was established in 1972. Since that time, the Advisory Council members have served as both informed advisors to the Board of Education and as liaisons to the communities they represent.

As an informed advisor to the Board, the Advisory Council provides the Board with community input and advises the Board about concerns and issues. The information comes directly from you—the



parents and community members the Council represents—and it helps the Board conduct business in a manner that is sensitive to the needs of our children in the context of their communities.

As community liaisons, we hold local meetings to provide information about new initiatives, goals and plans, new policies and curriculum, opportunities for advocacy, and legislation affecting the schools. We also take public comment and suggestions at meetings and hearings to bring directly to the Board. In addition, we are available to help people navigate the school system and find answers to their questions and concerns.

Membership and Responsibility

Advisory Council members are appointed by the Board of Education of Baltimore County. They are parents, students, community members, and business people. The term of office for council members may be no less than three (3) years. Duties of an advisory member are to:

- Attend advisory council meetings.
- Be a liaison to designated schools in his or her area.
- Participate in committee work of the council.
- Stay connected to his/her communities.
- Be informed about issues and policy changes.
- Participate in advocacy efforts.

Anyone interested in becoming a member of the council may submit his or her resume to the appropriate Area Advisory Chair. The resume will be reviewed and forward to the Board of Education for consideration and approval. For more information or to apply, contact the Coordinator or your Area Chair, or visit our website www.bcps.org/community/edu_advisory_council.

Meetings of the Advisory Council

Meetings are held monthly and are open to the public. The majority of the monthly Advisory Council meetings are held locally in each area, but some meetings are joint meetings of the entire Education Advisory Council. Meetings are held at local schools, but locations vary from month to month. For a schedule of local and joint meetings with dates, topics, and locations, please visit our website or contact the Coordinator or your Area Advisory Chair.

Functions of the Advisory Council

- We provide a forum for interested citizens and community groups to bring forward issues and concerns.
- We hold annual pre-budget hearings to solicit comments from the public about budget priorities.
- We function as a sounding board for proposed policy changes.
- We advise the Board of Education about community opinions and reactions to issues and policy.
- We bring together policymakers and experts to interpret and educate the community about new legislation, Board of Education policy, and new school initiatives.
- We meet with elected officials to advocate on behalf of public education.
- We provide information that is used in the development of the school system's educational program.
- We are available when community members have questions to direct them to the appropriate school officials.
- We monitor and have input in areas such as facilities issues, including architectural planning and design.

