

August 2009

Re: *Notice of Services for Home-School Students*

Dear Baltimore County Parent/Guardian of Home-School Student:

The intent of this notice is to notify Baltimore County Public Schools' residents who have elected to implement home-school instruction for their children about the services Baltimore County Public Schools (BCPS) will provide during the 2009-2010 school year to eligible students with disabilities.

The provisions of 34CFR §§300.450-300.462 and COMAR 13A.05.01.16B that apply to students with disabilities enrolled in private schools by their parent/guardian do not pertain to students with disabilities receiving home-school instruction. While special education services are not required, a local school system may, at local discretion, provide services to students with disabilities receiving home instruction.

As a result of discussions at June 26, 2009, meeting with key community stakeholders, BCPS agrees to continue to provide services to Baltimore County resident students with disabilities, receiving home-school elementary and secondary instruction as outlined in this notice. Services documented on the student's Service Plan will be provided according to the BCPS' school calendar from September 2009 through May 2010. The student's Service Plan will be reviewed on a yearly basis.

For the 2009-2010 school year, BCPS will provide:

- *Child Find*: BCPS will continue to locate, identify, and evaluate all students who may have a disability, and who are home-schooled and live within Baltimore County, as required by Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE). Families may call the Office of Child Find at (410) 887-3017. Child Find services are available twelve (12) months of the year.
- *Speech-Language Therapy*: Speech-language therapy will be provided up to one (1) hour per week. The service will be provided up to thirty (30) weeks per school year.
- *Occupational and Physical Therapy*: Occupational therapy and physical therapy will be provided up to one-half (1/2) hour per week. The service will be provided up to thirty (30) weeks per school year.
- *Itinerant Services*: BCPS will provide itinerant services for visually impaired, hearing-impaired, and deaf students up to one (1) hour per week. These services will be provided up to thirty (30) weeks per school year.

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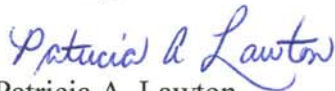
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BCPS will provide the services listed above at public school sites unless alternative arrangements are deemed reasonable by BCPS.

BCPS reserves the right to modify the provision of services, as appropriate, in the future. BCPS' staff will not write 504 plans or provide special education or related services to students with 504 plans receiving home-school instruction. BCPS' staff will revisit this *Notice of Services for Home-Schooled Students* annually and will reissue this notice each year with any necessary changes.

Thank you for your collaboration in serving the students of this county. Please contact the Office of Special Education at (410) 887-3660 if you have questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Patricia A. Lawton

Director, Office of Special Education

pl/mc

- c: Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent
Dr. Judith Smith, Executive Director, Department of Liberal Arts
J. Stephen Cowles, Esq., Associate General Counsel, Office of the Superintendent
Donna Sochurek, Specialist, Home-Schooling, Student Support Services