



MEDIA ADVISORY

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Input sought on staffing plan through five special education community forums

Meetings to be held at 5 schools on March 9

What: Five community forums have been scheduled to give parents and the public an opportunity to provide feedback regarding the proposed Baltimore County Public Schools Special Education Staffing Plan for 2009-2010. These meetings will also serve as opportunities for parents to share opinions and viewpoints on other special education issues.

When: All meetings will take place from **7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Monday, March 9, 2009.**

Where: Meetings will be held at the following five locations:

- ◆ **Charlesmont Elementary School**, 7800 W. Collingham Drive, Dundalk
- ◆ **Church Lane Elementary School**, 3820 Fernside Road, Randallstown
- ◆ **Dogwood Elementary School**, 7215 Dogwood Road, Woodlawn
- ◆ **Padonia International Elementary School**, 9834 Greenside Drive, Cockeysville
- ◆ **Vincent Farm Elementary School**, 6019 Ebenezer Road, White Marsh

Background:

The annual staffing plan is designed to document information and procedures used by Baltimore County Public Schools to recommend the number and types of service providers needed to ensure the provision of Free, Appropriate Public Education (FAPE).

Appendix C

Parents who cannot attend the community forums may still provide feedback by sending an e-mail to staffingplan@bcps.org, or by mailing their written comments to the BCPS Office of Special Education, 6901 Charles Street, Towson, MD 21204.

To preview the current BCPS Special Education Staffing Plan for 2009-10, visit the following Web site after March 5, 2009:

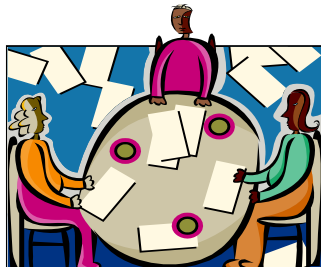
www.bcps.org/offices/special_ed/staffing_plan.html.

As the nation's 26th largest school district, Baltimore County Public Schools educates nearly 104,000 students each year. Over the past several years, BCPS has increased academic rigor – creating a culture of higher expectation and broader opportunity for all. As a result, BCPS has consistently raised student achievement. Supporting this success is the *Blueprint for Progress*, a foundational document developed under the leadership of Superintendent Dr. Joe A. Hairston, which unites staff and stakeholders with common beliefs, priorities, and goals. In addition, BCPS continues to garner national and international recognition for its use of technology to support and enhance teaching and learning, commitment to making all students college-ready, and the excellence of its high schools and fine arts instruction.

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YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE UPCOMING
SPECIAL EDUCATION COMMUNITY FORUM

Monday, March 9, 2009



7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m

The Office of Special Education and the Special Education Citizens' Advisory Committee (SECAC) are asking for your input on the proposed *Baltimore County Public Schools Special Education Staffing Plan for 2009-2010*. These community sessions also provide an opportunity for parent input on other issues regarding Special Education.

What is a staffing plan?

- The staffing plan documents the information and procedures used by BCPS to recommend the number and types of service providers needed to ensure the provision of FAPE (free, appropriate, public education).

Where are the community forums being held?

- *Charlesmont Elementary, 7800 W. Collingham Drive, Baltimore, MD 21222.*
- *Church Lane Elementary, 3820 Fernside Road, Randallstown, MD 21133.*
- *Dogwood Elementary, 7215 Dogwood Road, Baltimore, MD 21244.*
- *Ridge Ruxton School, 6916 Charles Street, Towson, MD 21204.*
- *Vincent Farm Elementary, 6019 Ebenezer Road, Baltimore, MD 21162*

Why is community input needed?

- To provide comments/recommendations for changes to the draft of the *BCPS Special Education Staffing Plan for 2009-2010*.
- To give parents an opportunity to express opinions about the delivery of special education services in BCPS.

If I can't attend the meeting, are there other ways to provide input?

- The community can provide written comment through March by sending an email to: staffingplan@bcps.org or by writing to the Baltimore County Public Schools, Office of Special Education at 6901 Charles Street, Towson, MD 21204

To preview the current *BCPS Special Education Staffing Plan for 2008-2009*, visit:
www.BCPS.ORG/OFFICES/SPECIAL_ED/STAFFING_PLAN.HTML after 3/5/09

For more information contact the Office of Special Education, 410-887-3660.



Baltimore County Public Schools
(BCPS)

Special Education Community Forum

*On behalf of the
Office of Special Education,
please accept this invitation
as an opportunity to:*

- ❖ Provide comments and recommendations for changes to the draft *BCPS Special Education Staffing Plan for 2009-2010*.
- ❖ Express opinions and discuss issues regarding special education services provided by Baltimore County Public Schools.

If you are unable to attend but have information you would like to share, please send an e-mail to:

STAFFINGPLAN@BCPS.ORG

or write to us:

Baltimore County Public Schools Staffing Plan
Office of Special Education
6901 Charles Street
Towson, MD 21204-3711

When?

**Monday, March 9, 2009
7 p.m. to 8 p.m.**

Where?

*Choose one
of five
convenient
locations*

Charlesmont Elementary (Library)
7800 W. Collingham Drive ▪ Baltimore, MD 21222.

Church Lane Elementary (Library)
3820 Fernside Road ▪ Randallstown, MD 21133.

Dogwood Elementary (Gymnasium)
7215 Dogwood Road ▪ Baltimore, MD 21244.

Padonia International Elementary (Library)
9834 Greenside Drive ▪ Cockeysville, MD 21130.

Vincent Farm Elementary (Library)
6019 Ebenezer Road ▪ Baltimore, MD 21162.